



# UP Ag Connections

725 Greenland Road, Ontonagon, MI 49953

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Published Monthly

## NEWS & VIEWS

By Frank Wardynski, MSU Extension Educator

I hope each and every one of you had happy holidays and are starting the New Year with a positive outlook in both your lives and business operations. The holiday season can bring an incredible mix of emotions and moods ranging from depression to joy and happiness. I personally have spent a fair amount of time pondering the disparity we have between the haves and have nots, both here in the US and the world. When I compare myself with others here in the U.S., I always think of myself as being in the middle. I'm certainly not rich, but better off than many. I know there are people here that are hungry, but nobody's starving to death here in the U.S. That's not the case in too many places. When I compare my income across the world population, I guess I am rich. My new prayers this year will include feeding the hungry and asking that politics and greed be put aside so that farmers can do their jobs and we can feed the world.

I continue to hear complaints of this newsletter arriving late to recipients in the Eastern U.P. I apologize for that and we are still working to resolve the issues. I also apologize to local post offices in that I believed the problem was related to bulk mailings sitting in boxes until convenient for delivery. I believe I'm accurate in this statement; The Western U.P. receives the newsletter in a fairly direct route, while the Eastern third of the U.P. receives the newsletter after it travels south of Lake Michigan and then across the bridge. We're still investigating and looking for an economical solution. Until then, I want to make certain that everyone knows they can receive the newsletter via email and receive it at the same time the printer does.

Please note the two important inserts. Last year I didn't include the phone guide as a cost saving measure to ensure the viability of the newsletter. If you find any mistakes, please be sure to contact us so we can publish corrections. Also you will see the class listing for the Ag for Tomorrow Conference. A common theme this year is focusing on Precision Agriculture. I'm always excited for this conference with futuristic topics for both the small and large producers.

Finally, some months I struggle for the topics to discuss here in my News and Views. I asked my youngest daughter her thoughts on a topic. Her suggestion: the importance of healthy soil to grow good crops. It's one of the hot topics of the times. And please, don't think that I consider myself with any level of expertise in the area just because I am addressing it. One thing I do know is that everyone has their own definition. Holly's science teacher conducted an experiment using all the soils that the kids brought into class by pouring water into the soil and watching the speed at which water passes through the sample. The slower the passage of water: the healthier the soil.

I understand the thought behind it but disagree with the conclusion. My point is that there are so many thoughts of what constitutes healthy soils that we should not talk about healthy vs. unhealthy, but rather identify the components that make up soils and look at how to improve them. Trying to maximize components usually isn't the answer, but rather looking to optimize.

~Frank



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## MARKET REPORT (12/26/2013)

By Frank Wardynski, MSU Extension Educator

### Market Ready Prices

Choice Steers	\$120-\$135	per 100 lbs.
Holstein Steers	\$110-\$125	per 100 lbs.
Hogs	\$70-\$77	per 100 lbs.
Lambs	\$160-\$185	per 100 lbs.
Cull cows	\$65-\$89	per 100 lbs.
Calves	\$65-\$120	per 100 lbs.
Goats	\$70-\$120	per 100 lbs.

### Breeding and Feeder Animals

Grade Holstein cows	\$1200 - 1600	per head
Grade Holstein bred heifers	\$1000 - 1400	per head

### Feed Prices across the U.P.

	Avg. \$/cwt	Avg. \$/ton	Price Range
Corn	\$12.90	\$258.00	\$200-316
Soymeal	\$30.32	\$606.50	\$540-673
Oats	\$15.85	\$317.00	\$260-374
Barley	\$14.27	\$285.50	\$215-356

Average price/100 wt. for 1 ton lots

## Wanted & For Sale Listings

Personal ads will be removed monthly. We reserve the right to edit your ad. Free ads must be no more than 110 spaces. Please respect the space requirements. You can always purchase an ad if more space is required. Please call or email your ad no later than the 15th of each month. Call the Ontonagon County MSU Extension office at 906-884-4386 or email msue66@msu.edu.

For Sale—1st cutting alfalfa timothy mix 1000 square bales.  
Call Duane 906-384-6351

For Sale 30'x44'x16' Clear Span Steel Building Package w/30 year warranty. Call 906-293-1437 or 322-7555.

### Save the Date!

2014 U.P. Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference  
The next U.P. Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference will be held at Bay College, Escanaba on Tuesday, March 11, 2014. Agriculture for Tomorrow offers the opportunity to attend educational sessions on a variety of topics, view displays from sponsors and network with others. We are excited about the topics we will be offering this year around farm maintenance, local food systems, livestock and plants/crops. Several sessions will again qualify for MAEAP Phase I credit. New this year is there will be an opening session with the keynote speaker to kick off the day, leaving more time during luncheon to view the displays and network.  
Registration for the conference will open in January. We will again have the option for on-line registration and payment by credit card. You can also register as usual, by sending in your check and registration form or paying by cash or check at the door. Look for more information in the February U.P. AG Connections newsletter. If you would like more information about registering for the Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference, contact the Alger County MSU Extension office at 906-387-2530.

## Michigan fencing requirement for livestock: Part 1

### Legal fencing requirements for livestock operations in Michigan.

Posted on December 12, 2013 by Kevin Gould, Michigan State University Extension

The question often comes into Michigan State University Extension offices about fencing requirements for livestock production from “both sides of the fence”. Hopefully after reading this short article, you will better understand fencing requirements in Michigan for livestock producers and neighbors.

First, a bit of history is necessary to explain how we got here. In the mid-1800s, English Common Law was written requiring livestock containment on the owner’s property. Since those early days, case law or court decisions help set precedence regarding fencing law. These laws are designed to put the responsibility of livestock containment on the domestic livestock owner to prevent their animals from trespassing on neighboring property.

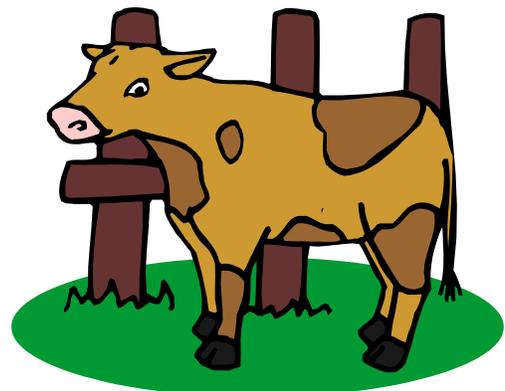
Many questions can arise between neighbors regarding fencing law such as boundary disagreements, legal fence requirements, maintenance responsibility, fence cost, etc. This article will address the current legal fencing requirement for Michigan. The second article in the series will address additional common questions regarding landowner responsibilities.

The Michigan Fencing Law of 1978 defines fence as fence “that is sufficient to restrict the movement of animals”. Animals are defined as cattle, horses, sheep, swine, mules, burrows or goats. Prior to 1978, fence was required to be a minimum of 52 inches. That specific requirement no longer exists in the [current laws regarding fencing in Michigan](#).

When constructing fence, one should focus on building a durable, long-term perimeter fence. From a liability standpoint, it’s always better to construct a minimum of four wires that act as a physical barrier. This is a good investment especially for electric fencing systems so when the power is out, your livestock will likely stay inside your property lines. It’s always a good idea to consult with your local township and road commission to lean if there are ordinance or setback requirements prior to constructing any fence.

If you have additional questions about fencing requirement or construction questions, feel free to contact me at [gouldk@msu.edu](mailto:gouldk@msu.edu).

This article was published by [Michigan State University Extension](#). For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu> or call 888-678-3464.



## *January 2014 – FSA News*

### **NEW COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION BALLOTS TO BE MAILED**

The County Committee Election ballots that were mailed to producers on Nov. 4 were incorrectly printed with the producer's name and address on the back of the ballot. County committee elections must use a secret ballot so the misprinted ballots cannot be used. Please destroy or recycle the misprinted ballot. If you have already voted, your ballot will be destroyed unopened.

#### **New ballots will be mailed to producers on December 20, 2013.**

These ballots will indicate that they are the corrected ballot in several places, including on the outside of the mailing, on the ballot and on the outside of the return envelope.

#### **The corrected ballot must be returned to the Chippewa- County**

**FSA Office or postmarked by January 17, 2014.** All newly elected county committee members will take office February 18, 2014. All county committee members whose term expires on Dec. 31, 2013, will have their term extended to January 31, 2014. County committee members are an important component of the operations of FSA and provide a link between the agricultural community and USDA. Farmers and ranchers elected to county committees help deliver FSA programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on commodity price support programs; conservation programs; incentive indemnity and disaster programs for some commodities; emergency programs and eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm may also be eligible to vote.

The candidate in this year's election is:

Max Macaulay is nominated in LAA 1, to serve as a committee member.

More information on county committees, such as the new 2013 fact sheet and brochures, can be found on the FSA website at [www.fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections) or at a local USDA Service Center.

### **2014 ACREAGE REPORTING DATES!**

Producers now have until January 15, 2014, to report crops that have a November 15, 2013, or December 15, 2013, reporting deadline without paying a late-file fee. Crops under this waiver include wheat and native and improved grasses intended for grazing or haying. The Risk Management Agency (RMA) did not grant a waiver so producers need to consult their crop insurance agent for deadlines for insured crops.

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac County:

November 15, 2013:	Perennial Forage, Fall-Seeded Small Grains
January 2, 2014:	Honey (Certifying number of colonies)
January 15, 2014:	Apples, Blueberries, Cherries, Cranberries, Grapes
February 1, 2014:	Maple Sap (Number of eligible trees and taps)
July 15, 2014:	Forage Seedings, Spring-Seeded Small Grains
September 30, 2014:	Aquaculture, Christmas Trees, Nursery (ornamental & non- ornamental)

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting dates:

If the crop has not been planted by the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.

If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.

If a perennial forage crop is reported with the intended use of "cover only," "green manure," "left standing," or "seed," then the acreage must be reported by July 15th.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

Additionally, producers can purchase both NAP and RMA coverage for 2014 annual forage crops. NAP coverage will not be available for 2015 annual forage crops.

Late file fees will be assessed for 2013 crops reported after September 15, 2013, and 2014 crops reported after January 15, 2014.

For questions regarding crop certification and crop loss reports, please contact your local FSA office.

### **FSA ANNOUNCES THE RESUMPTION OF 2013 CROP COM-MODITY LOAN DISBURSEMENTS**

The Farm Service Agency has resumed processing and disbursement of 2013 crop commodity loans. Crop year 2013 commodity loan-making was suspended Oct. 1, 2013, to make changes necessary to accommodate the automatic funding reductions known as sequester.

The commodity loan programs provide interim financing to producers for agricultural commodities stored after harvest and then sold throughout the year. Producers requesting 2013 crop commodity loans on their harvested commodities now will have a 5.1 percent reduction to the loan amount upon its disbursement, due to the sequestration. Commodity loans issued by marketing associations and loan servicing agents are also subject to the sequestration reduction. During the period that loan-making was suspended, producers were still able to submit loan applications to their county FSA offices, marketing associations and loan servicing agents. The processing and disbursement of these applications will begin immediately. For further information about commodity marketing loans, farmers may contact their local FSA office or go online to [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

### **INCREASED GUARANTEED LOAN LIMIT**

The Farm Service Agency maximum loan limit for the Guaranteed Loan Program has increased to \$1,355,000 effective Oct. 1, 2013. The limit is adjusted annually based on data compiled by the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The lending limit is adjusted every year according to an inflation index. The maximum combined guaranteed and direct farm loan indebtedness will also increase to \$1,655,000.

As a reminder, the one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed Farm Ownership and operating loans is 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan.

Producers should contact their local FSA Office with questions about farm loans.

## 2014 Beginning Farmer Webinar Series kick-off

“Getting started with soil improvement on your farm” is the first in a series of 12 weekly on-line programs offered by Michigan State University Extension during January – April, 2014. It will be held on Monday, January 20, 7-9 pm.

A high-speed internet connection is needed.

Why participate?

Because beginning farmers often start out with soils in need of improvement. Development of a practical plan for increasing fertility and productivity of your soils is key to long-term success. This applies to all types and sizes of farms. The goal of this on-line program is to provide information and insights to help you plan affordable, systematic steps to improve your farm soils. This 2-hour Adobe Connect webinar is part of the ongoing "2014 Beginning Farmer Webinar Series". MSU Extension educator Jim Isleib will present information on practical approaches to making farm soils more productive. Prudent use of crop rotation, cover crops, and amendments including livestock manures, compost, lime, and purchased conventional and organic fertilizers will be included.

Questions and discussion will take place through the webinar 'chat' function. Supporting written materials will be available for download during and after the webinar. Participants will receive the webinar URL after their registration and payment is received. A recording of the webinar will be made available to registered participants.

Additional webinars in this series for January - February include:

Jan 27 – Getting started with selling to restaurants

Feb 5 – Getting started with organic vegetable pest control

Feb 10 – Getting started with Getting started with selling to schools and hospitals

Feb 19 – Getting started with selling at farmers markets

Feb 24 – Getting started with hops

Mar – April: *look for more info in 'Ag Connections'*

(Registration and payment is separate for each webinar)

**Register and pay ON-LINE for “Getting started with soil improvement on your farm” at**

**<http://events.anr.msu.edu/GSWsoilimprovement/OR> send your name, address, phone and email address with \$10 payment in the form of check or money order, made payable to**

2014 Beginning Farmer Webinar  
Alger Co MSU Extension  
E9526 Prospect St., Suite 1  
Munising, MI 49862  
906-387-2530

## How to effectively calculate grazing land values

### Determining pasture rental rates for 2014.

Posted on **December 17, 2013** by **Kevin Gould**, Michigan State University Extension

Pasture land has been in short supply in recent years throughout the Midwest primarily due to record high grain prices and other commodity pressures. It appears the trend has peaked for corn and is headed back to a “new normal” trading range for grain. Pressure may still be on grazing lands in the short term as live-stock producers looking to expand or find new grazing opportunities stay competitive in the market and bid pasture prices higher than national averages. Over time, pasture values tend to follow cattle and corn prices. Following those prices and local land rent for cropping systems will help determine pasture prices in your region. The main focus when leasing pasture is for both parties to receive a fair value for the land resource and grazing opportunity.

For Midwest producers to prosper in the cow-calf or stocker business, they must have access to reasonably priced pasture lands from May-October. National pasture land prices are generally benchmarked from the Flint Hills area and Kansas State University does a nice job of laying out the prices paid for pasture based on rental surveys. The link to an excellent resource on pasture values from KSU. [http://www.agmanager.info/farmmgmt/land/lease/papers/KCD\\_2012ProjectedPastureRents\(Jan2012\).pdf](http://www.agmanager.info/farmmgmt/land/lease/papers/KCD_2012ProjectedPastureRents(Jan2012).pdf)

Determining the market value for pasture is influenced by many factors. Below are the key factors Michigan State University recommends that everyone should consider when developing a pasture rental agreement.

1. Determine pasture quality and project grazing value with flexibility build into the lease
2. Select a pricing and payment system that both parties agree on
3. Identify who is responsible for checking livestock inventory on a regular basis
4. Identify who is responsible for “problems” with livestock, fences, water systems, etc.
5. Put the entire lease agreement in writing under a contract format with signatures
6. Work toward multiple-year leases that benefit both parties
7. Pasture Lease Agreement, contact Kevin Gould for link at [gouldk@msu.edu](mailto:gouldk@msu.edu) or 616-527-5357.

Anyone wanting to discuss a pasture lease agreement can contact me at [gouldk@msu.edu](mailto:gouldk@msu.edu) or 616-527-5357. For additional cattle management resources, visit the Michigan State University Beef Team website.

This article was published by **Michigan State University Extension**. For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <http://expert.msue.msu.edu>, or call 888-678-3464 FREE.

## What is the risk of the introduction of bovine TB to an area?

**A USDA computer model calculates the risk of TB introduction to herds by county. The steps taken by producers can impact that calculation.**

Posted on **December 17, 2013** by **Phil Durst**,  
Michigan State University Extension

The question of the risk of a beef or dairy herd in an area becoming infected with bovine tuberculosis (TB) is important to beef and dairy producers as well as government regulators. While those groups may view it differently, quantifying the risk by determining a risk level can be an important policy tool.

Therefore, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) developed a risk assessment model that assigns a risk value to counties for which data has been entered and compares that to a baseline county (located in another state). The risk assessment is then used, among other factors, to determine whether or not the TB status of a county may be changed, such as to upgrade a county from Modified Accredited Advanced (MAA) to TB-free status.

In Michigan, an upgrade of status is certainly on the minds of beef and dairy producers in the seven counties currently recognized with the MAA status: Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Crawford, Emmet, Otsego and Presque Isle Counties. They want to be recognized as "TB-free". However, the question of risk is also on the minds of these beef and dairy producers in the four Modified Accredited Zone counties: Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency and Oscoda. Indeed, their livelihood depends on the risk to their herds.

The likelihood of introduction of the disease into cattle herds in a county is calculated as the mean number of possible contacts between cattle herds and infected deer or purchased herd additions. The potential contacts, either direct or indirect, with infected deer is the basis for the Michigan Wildlife Risk Mitigation program.

The Wildlife Risk Mitigation program breaks down the potential contacts by likely means of contact including feed storage, feeding location and management and water source. The purpose of this tool is to identify risks that can be reduced by a producer by decreasing the likelihood that deer, whether infected or not, will have access to feed and water used by cattle.

Once a producer knows the areas of his or her operation that are high risk, then he or she should develop a mitigation plan to reduce the risk by changing the accessibility of the feed or water to deer. That may involve fencing or enclosure, it may involve development of artificial water sources or management changes to reduce risk. The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) inspects changes made to mitigate, or reduce, risk and verifies a farm as risk mitigated.

As the USDA calculated the risk of farms in counties, one of the factors it used in the calculation is the percentage of cattle herds that are verified as wildlife risk mitigated. The USDA considers all the herds in a county to be at higher risk when the percentage of verified herds is lower. Therefore, all the producers in a county are impacted by the regulations that will apply to that county even though they may personally be verified as wildlife risk mitigated.

Unfortunately, in the four-county MA Zone (Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency and Oscoda Counties) the percentages of herds that are verified are the lowest among the 11 MAZ and MAAZ counties, with only 61 – 76 percent of herds being verified.

The percentage of herds does not likely reflect the percentage of cattle involved as some of these are very small herds, however, the fact that herds have not become wildlife risk mitigated increases the "risk of introduction of the disease" in the USDA model.

The percentage of herds verified is one factor in the model that also includes the deer population and prevalence of TB in the deer herd. Yet, when the model was run, the relative likelihood of cattle infections being introduced was "Extremely High" for Alpena County, "High" for Alcona County and "Moderate" for Montmorency and Oscoda Counties. In this case, Alpena was calculated as 22 percent more likely to experience the introduction of the bacteria that causes TB into a herd than the baseline county, an event that "is almost certain to occur".

The actions of any one producer do impact all other producers in a county just as the actions of one landowner or hunter impacts others. Michigan State University Extension encourages cattle producers across all of the northern Lower Peninsula to become wildlife risk mitigated and verified, whether they are large or small producers of even only a few head, or whether they are beef or dairy producers. Contact MDARD at 989-785-5616 for more information.

Lowering the risk of TB infection to herds requires that everyone take personal responsibility for what is within their sphere of influence. When every producer does that, the likelihood of improving the TB status of a county will be greatly improved.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <http://expert.msue.msu.edu>, or 888-678-3464.

### NRCS Soil Health Webinars

The National Soil Health and Sustainability Team is pleased to offer the following soil health webinars in 2014. Start time for our soil health webinars is 2pm Eastern/1pm Central

2014	Soil Health Webinar Topic
Jan 16	An Experimental Case Study for Soil Health
Feb 11	The Biology of Soil Compaction
Mar 11	Soil Health and Production Benefits of Mob Grazing
Apr 08	Managing for Soil Health on Dryland - A Farmer's Perspective
May 13	Using RUSLE2 to Evaluate Soil Health Planning Principles
Jun 10	Managing for Soil Health in the Piedmont Area of the Southeast—A Farmer's Perspective
Jul 08	Managing for Soil Health when Raising Potatoes - A Farmer's Perspective
Aug 12	Managing for Soil Health on an Organic Farm - A Farmer's Perspective

Webinar topics in partnership with NRCS' National Energy Team and for "Understanding Organic and Sustainable Agriculture" will be released soon! Bookmark Planned Conservation Webinars for the most up-to-date schedule of conservation webinars presented by USDA NRCS Science and Technology.

## 2014 Custom Machine Work Rate summary update available

**Cost of farm machine work rates adjusted to cover current costs update is available in the 2014 Farm Machine Work Rate summary.**

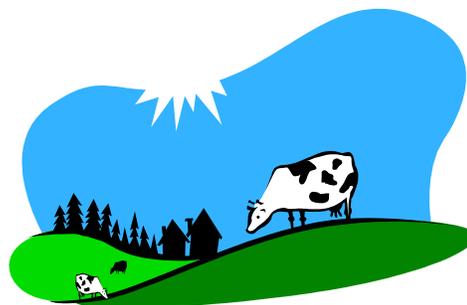
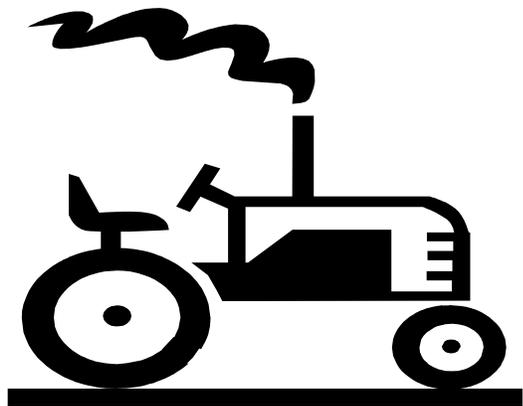
Posted on **December 17, 2013** by **Dennis Stein**, Michigan State University Extension

Exchanging farm machine work between farms has and will continue to be a useful management tool. The "2014 Farm Machine Work Rate" updated summary report has been posted on the [Michigan State University Extension Farm Information Research Management \(FIRM\)](#) web page. This type of information can be useful for farms that exchange equipment to find a starting point for establishing a reasonable value for the machine work being provided. A farm's actual machine cost of operation would require you to develop a more detailed analysis of your equipment and situation. A simple worksheet for this task is also part of this year's report and farms are encouraged to do their own cost calculations.

Information contained in this report is based on several custom work survey reports that have been compiled into this summary. For farms looking back to 2012 and 2013, you can still find copies of the [Farm Machine Work Rate for 2012 and 2013](#).

Many farms use this type of information in developing their farm business plan and enterprise cost estimates for 2014. When farm crops or tillage programs change, the cost of operations can also change the economics of the total farming system. Therefore, having a reference number may be helpful in doing a paper evaluation before implementation is undertaken.

This article was published by [Michigan State University Extension](#). For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <http://expert.msue.msu.edu>, or call 888-678-3464.



### 2014 Feeder Cattle Sales Clare, MI

Clare County Livestock Auction, LLC  
David Clark, Owner/Auctioneer  
**Contact # 810-441-6191**  
**Sale Barn # 989-386-9256**

All Sales on Thursday and start at 1:00 pm  
All Cattle weighed at sale time  
Accepting cattle on Wednesday ALL DAY  
All overnight cattle will be fed & watered

Colored and Holstein  
Steers, Heifers & Calves  
(Some pre-conditioned)  
(Info available at time of sale)

January 9<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, 1:00 pm  
March 20<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, 1:00 pm  
April 17<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, 1:00 pm  
May 8<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, 1:00 pm

Sale every Monday at 3:00 pm

For Market information go to [www.davidclarkauction.com](http://www.davidclarkauction.com)



#### MCA/MSU BULL SALE:

**March 15, 12:30 (EST)**

*Open House at Station: March 1st*  
325 Mount Hope Rd, Crystal, MI  
(Angus, Charolais, Hereford, Red Angus, Simmental)  
Brian Plank: (989) 506-2061  
MI Cattlemen's Association:  
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## Meetings & Events Calendar

### January

**January 9**, 1:00 pm Clare County Livestock Auction, LLC

**January 15**, 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Back to Basics Pig Health Series, Allegan County MSU Extension Office, Human Services Building, 3255 122nd Ave., Allegan, MI Contact: Beth Ferry: 269-445-4438 or [franzeli@msu.edu](mailto:franzeli@msu.edu)

**January 16** Soil Health Webinar 2:00 pm, contact Ashley McFarland 906-439-5176

**January 20** 2014 Beginning Farmer Webinar Series Kickoff for more information or to register call 906-387-2530

**January 21-22** Wine Grape Vineyard Establishment 3 locations

Benton Harbor - MSU Research and Extension Center

Traverse City - Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research

Novi - Tollgate Education Farm Center

**Contact:** Joanne Davidhizar: [davidhiz@anr.msu.edu](mailto:davidhiz@anr.msu.edu) or 269-944-4126

### February

**February 5-6**, Southwest Michigan Horticulture Days, Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, 2755 E. Napier Ave, Benton Harbor, MI

**February 11** Biology of Soil Compaction, 2:00 pm

**February 18-19** MSU Integrated Pest Management Academy 2014, Conference Center, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos, MI

### March

**March 11** U.P. Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference, Bay College Escanaba, MI

**March 11** Soil Health and Production Benefits of Mob Grazing

**March 15** MCA/MSU Bull Sale, Crystal, MI.

Contact Brian Plank (989) 506-2061.

**March 20** 1:00 pm Clare County Livestock Auction, LLC

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