

# AGRICULTURE FOR TOMORROW CONFERENCE



Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016

9:15 – 4:05 EST

Bay College, Escanaba

Heirman University Center



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

# Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference

Tuesday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Bay College, Escanaba, MI

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## Session A

10:45-11:40

A-1

### What's new in alfalfa: Management for the U.P.

Where soil conditions are favorable, alfalfa is a great perennial forage option on U.P. farms. New developments, including low-lignin and Roundup-Ready varieties, yellow-flowered alfalfa, sulfur fertility issues, stand establishment and management will be discussed.

*Dr. Kim Cassida, MSU Forage Specialist*

A-2

### Beef Feedlot in the U.P.

Given our proximity to markets, the supply of cattle and ability to grow feed, finishing cattle in the U.P. has great possibilities. What are the best management options for feeding cattle in feedlots here in the U.P.

*Dr. Steve Rust, MSU Beef Specialist*

A-3

### How to use Social Media as a way to advocate for agriculture and promote your business.

Get introduced to the many social media platforms and find out what one might be best for you. Learn some tips and tricks for creating memorable and impact content.

*Katelyn Thompson, Farm Business Management Educator*

## Session C

2:05-3:00

C-7

### U.P. Field Crop farmer panel

Four experienced crop growers will discuss their cash crop enterprises. What works, what hasn't, and why. You'll have the opportunity to ask questions.

*Moderator - Jim Isleib*

C-8

### Raising Hogs in the U.P.

Home grown pork sold locally is very popular here in the U.P. but finding reasonably priced, healthy feeder pigs is challenging. Some producers have even started sow herds to meet demand. Learn the basics of raising pigs in our challenging climate. Dr. Gemus-Benjamin will be presenting via Zoom from MSU.

*Dr. Madonna Gemus-Benjamin, MSU Swine Extension Veterinarian*

C-9

### Being Prepared to Apply for Loan Funding

Applying for loan funding for farming can be a trying process. Learn from local lenders and MSUE about how to be prepared to start the process on the right foot.

*Ann Harrington, GreenStone FCS*

## Session B

1:00-1:55

B-4

### Mix it up: How and why forage mixtures can help you

Dr. Cassida will present practical, research-based information on perennial legume/grass mixtures, other alternative perennial and annual forages, and how you can use them to enhance your hay and grazing systems.

*Dr. Kim Cassida, MSU Forage Specialist*

B-5

### Feeding Malting Barley and Distillers Grains to Cattle

Acres of malting barley have been increasing in Michigan targeting the brewing industry. However, not all barley meets specs for the malting industry. Feeding to cattle is logical. Also, distillers grains are available in northern Wisconsin. Learn how these feeds can be used as cattle feed.

*Dr. Steve Rust, MSU Beef Specialist*

B-6

### U.P. Direct Marketing Farmer Panel

Four experienced direct marketing producers will discuss their experiences in getting started and thriving with farmers markets and selling directly to consumers. You'll have an opportunity to ask questions.

*Moderator- Katelyn Thompson*

## Session D

3:10-4:05

D-10

### Sorting out the buzz about soil health: Bringing it home to the U.P.

We're all reading and hearing a lot about soil health and its impact on agriculture and society. But some of the key messages like cover crops and no-till don't seem to fit easily on many U.P. farms. We'll take a step back and discuss the importance of soil organic matter and explore practical ways to build it up on U.P. farms.

*Jim Isleib, MSU Extension U.P. crop production educator*

D-11

### Holstein Calves from Birth to Grass or the Feedlot

Marketing Holstein steer calves from the U.P. is challenging. Farmers across the U.P. have taken the opportunity to start raising these calves. Learn the best management regimes for calves based on their destination of pasture or feedlot.

*Frank Wardynski, MSU Extension Educator*

*Katelyn Thompson, Farm Business Management Educator*

D-12

### Opportunities for beginning and/or young farmers

Farming can be a capital-intensive endeavor and the need for outside funds maybe essential to getting started. Learn from USDA/FSA the varied opportunities available to young and or beginning farmers.

*Mitch Towne, USDA/FSA*

# Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference

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9:15-9:45 (EST)	Registration & Educational Exhibits		
9:45-10:30	Opening session Keynote Speaker: Diane Hanson, Delta County Farmer, MI Ag Commission member, "Advocating for Upper Peninsula Agriculture"		
10:45-11:40	A1 What's new in alfalfa: Management for the U.P.	A2 Beef feedlot in the U.P.	A3 How to use social media for agriculture and your business
11:40-12:10	Visit Exhibits		
12:10-1:00	Lunch		
1:00-1:55	B4 Mix it up: How and why forage mixtures can help you	B5 Feeding malting barley and distillers grains to cattle	B6 U.P. direct marketing farmer panel
2:05-3:00	C7 U.P. field crop farmer panel	C8 Raising hogs in the U.P.	C9 Being prepared to apply for loan funding
3:10-4:05	D-10 Sorting out the buzz about soil health: Bringing it home to the U.P.	D-11 Holstein Calves from Birth to Grass or the Feedlot	D-12 Opportunities for beginning and/or young farmers

## Registration Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of attendance is \$25 pre-registration

(due by Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> - no phone registrations accepted)

After Feb. 24 the registration fee will be \$35 per person at the door

*Fee includes lunch and Materials*

Number of attendees \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_

For more information contact: Nikki (906) 387-2530, msue.alger@county.msu.edu

Please indicate by session number which four sessions you plan to attend:

A \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
MSU Extension

Send check and form to :  
MSUE Alger County  
E9526 Prospect St., Suite 1  
Munising, MI 49862

Receipts will be available at the door

To register on-line go to: <http://events.anr.msu.edu/2016agfortomorrow/>

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# Directions to Heirman Center Parking

**From the North and East:** From highway US 2 & 41 go west past the Travelodge Motel to the stoplight at Danforth Road. Turn right and go about 1/10 mile to first driveway on the right.

**From South and West:** From highway US 2 & 41 go east past KFC restaurant and under the railroad viaduct to the stoplight at Danforth Road. Turn left and go about 1/10 mile to the first driveway.

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