



U.P. Ag Connections Newsletter

May 2018

Agricultural News from MSU Extension and AgBioResearch

Volume 22 Issue 5

In this issue:

Page 2
Field Crop ‘Virtual
Breakfast’ meetings
Educator training
Bull Soundness Exams

Page 3
Dairy Margin Protection
Program
Classifieds

Page 4
Pig Health Meetings

Page 5
North Farm Skill-Seeker
schedule
Market report

Page 6
Education on the Farm—
Save the Date!

Page 7
Michigan Ag Mediation
assistance offered

Page 8
Calendar of events

**Follow the farm on
Facebook:**

**[www.facebook.com/
MSU.UPREC/](http://www.facebook.com/MSU.UPREC/)**

Upper Peninsula residents ‘think spring’ while attending Michigan State University Extension’s Smart Gardening seminars at the Escanaba Kiwanis Home & Garden/Pancake Feed

Smart Gardening is an initiative that provide earth-friendly, sustainable practices that homeowners can implement in their own garden and yards.

Perhaps the continued wintry weather helped draw over 4,500 attendees to the annual Escanaba Kiwanis Home & Garden/Pancake Feed held April 6, 7, & 8 at the Ruth Butler Building on the UP State Fairgrounds. Michigan State University Extension’s Consumer Horticulture Program collaborates yearly with the Kiwanis and provides home gardening educational opportunities focusing around Smart Gardening at this venue.

Educational opportunities included an informational Smart Gardening booth complete with more than 25 different topics. Over 2,500 tip sheets were provided to the public. Extension Master Gardeners trained in Smart Gardening Outreach assisted the public with Smart Gardening questions and resources. Over 600 Upper Peninsula and WI residents visited the Smart Gardening booth. Key Smart Gardening messages include smart soils, smart lawns, smart plants, smart vegetables, and smart gardening for pollinators. New messages this year include ‘Smart gardeners improve their soil and weed control with organic mulch’, ‘Understanding and managing invasive plant species’, and ‘Considerations for growing backyard small fruit’. Feel free to access tip sheets at http://www.canr.msu.edu/home_gardening/tip_sheets/.

Additional resources for gardeners include the toll free lawn and garden hotline at 1-888-678-3464. Gardeners can call this number with their lawn and garden questions from 9-12 and 1-5 p.m. EST Monday through Friday and receive assistance from Michigan State University Consumer Horticulture staff and specially trained Extension Master Gardeners. You can also upload photos and questions online with the Ask an Expert resource. Go to http://www.canr.msu.edu/home_gardening/ and click on the Ask an Expert icon.

Free Smart Gardening seminars were offered throughout the show. Over 134 attendees from seven Upper Peninsula counties and Wisconsin attended sessions on Soil Health, Inviting Birds into the Landscape, Gardening with Children, Mason bees, Composting, and Food Preservation. Presenters included Michigan State University Extension Educators, staff, and community professionals.

Featured at this year’s show, an Extension Master Gardener coordinated a birdhouse project. Over 120 free birdhouses were provided to the public along with education on what bird will use the house, how to care for the house, and how to attract birds to your landscape. Many local businesses provided donations for the construction, and volunteered time by the Extension Master Gardener in constructing the birdhouses. Additional Extension Master Gardeners assisted the public in learning more about the birdhouses.

The overall goal of Smart Gardening education is to assist gardeners in making intentional choices concerning nutrients and/or fertilizer application and the use of pesticides. Creating healthy soils and plants are key practices. To learn more about a wide variety of Smart Gardening topics, visit the [Gardening in Michigan website](http://www.canr.msu.edu/home_gardening/) at http://www.canr.msu.edu/home_gardening/ or contact MSU’s toll-free lawn and garden hotline at 1-888-678-3464.

Rebecca Krans, MSU Extension Consumer Horticulture Educator

MSU Extension Field Crops Team 'Virtual Breakfast' Meetings Start April 26th

Join field crop specialists and educators Thursday mornings to talk about in-season production and pest management issues.

By James DeDecker and Monica Jean, MSU Extension Educator Michigan State University Extension specialists and educators that work with field crops are teaming up to bring agribusiness professionals and farmers a series of "Virtual Breakfast" meetings. These 30-minute online meetings will start your day off right with discussion of current field and weather conditions, timely crop production tips, and the latest information on emerging issues likely to affect growers across the state. The live online meetings will run 6:30 - 7:00 am every Thursday April 26 – June 21, and every other Thursday July 12 – August 30, 2018. Participants can join using their computer, mobile device or regular phone line. Either follow

the Zoom link <https://msu.zoom.us/j/552324349>, or dial +1 669 900 6833, Meeting ID: 552 324 349.

If you can't join at 6:30am on Thursdays, the presentations will be recorded and made available through the MSU Extension Field Crops website for on-demand access (http://www.canr.msu.edu/field_crops/). You can also stay up-to-date on what is happening in Michigan field crops by liking the MSU Extension Field Crops Team Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/MSUEFieldCrops/>), or by following us on Twitter [@MSUEFieldCrops](https://twitter.com/MSUEFieldCrops).

Bull Breeding Soundness Exams—Western U.P.

Dr. Renee Coyer will be conducting Breeding Soundness Exams on bulls in the Western UP on May 11, 2018. To schedule an appointment for testing bulls, Contact Frank Wardynski with Michigan State University Extension at 906-884-4386 or wardynsk@anr.msu.edu.



Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association

WAUKON, IOWA
Feeder Sales Schedule

• 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

(563) 568-4501

www.equitycoop.com



At the heart of growing America
100 years of Ag Experience

Loans, ag taxes, farm records, consulting

1801 N. Lincoln Road, Suite A, Escanaba, MI
(906) 786-4487 Fax: (906) 786-3450

Johnson Brothers Livestock

3740 18th Rd. Escanaba, MI

Buying or Hauling Cattle

St. Louis—Mondays, Gaylord—Wednesdays

Call Gary Johnson

Office (906) 786-4878 Gary Cell (906) 235-0099

Steve Cell (906) 399-2858

Educator Workshop Project Learning Tree and Project WILD, K-12

WHEN: Monday, May 14, 2018, 9 am - 5 pm

WHERE: Clear Lake Education Center, Manistique

WHAT: Professional development for formal and non-formal educators that will provide hands-on experiences using the Project Learning Tree and Project WILD activity guides to engage K-12 youth in the natural world. These award-winning guides contain over 200 proven interdisciplinary lessons to take back to the indoor or outdoor classroom.

7 SCHECH hours available for teachers.

COST: \$20, check payable to MAEOE (Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education)
NOTE: Free for K-12 teachers

REGISTRATION: Contact Rob Wiener at wienerr2@anr.msu.edu or 906-387-2530 to register by May 7

BRING: Lunch, snacks, water and outdoor clothing



This workshop is sponsored by:



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Margin Protection Program—Dairy

Date/Time: April 30th, 2018—10:00-11:30 a.m. Central Time

Location: Menominee County MSU Extension, S. 904 Highway 41 Stephenson, MI 49887

This meeting will provide information about:

- Overview of MPP-Dairy and changes to the program
- Decisions for 2018: whether to sign-up, what margin coverage level and how much milk to cover

Speakers:

- Dr. Chris Wolf, MSU Extension Dairy Economist
- Monica Jean, MSU Extension Educator
- Mathew Ross, USDA Farm Service Agency CED

Registration: There is no charge for this meeting. However, RSVPs are requested by contacting Monica Jean at atkinmon@msu.edu or (906) 786-3032.

Classifieds

KEMCO-PRO IN-LINE BALE WRAPPER Purchased new in 2014, heaviest made in-line wrapper on the market, 5800 lbs. Self-propelled with remote operation and steering. "Auto" tailgate, standard push-off arms. 3 plastic film dispensers. Complete with all auto sensor shut off and on. 20 hp Honda engine with complete lighting package. (818) 299-0405

REGISTERED BLACK ANGUS BULL. 2 year old. Very gentle. Been to the UP State Fair. (906)644-2107

FARM FOR SALE by owner. 278A / 200 tillable, 160A adjacent to farm buildings, some woods for harvest/hunting. Includes 96' barn, 6 buildings, 2 wells. All structures have metal roofing. \$382,000. [Visit FB Link](#) - Brimley Sales for pics/details. Contact Melvin Schwiderson @ (906) 248-6633 or northwind906@icloud.com

SHEEP HERD DISPERSAL SALE Call or text (906) 280-3269 or call (906) 238-4468; 28 Suffolk/Polypae ewes; 8 young stock lambs; 2, 4-year old Suffolk rams.

GREENLAND RANCHETTE FOR SALE, secluded home with great view, pole barn, corral, bunkhouse, well fenced, pond, creek, deer, bear, goose, & bird hunting, major snowmobile trail access, all season highway. Adjoining 100-acre pasture with creek, pond, & gravel pit available. clarencwilbur@gmail.com, 616 443 6066

JD 16' flex head (model #216), \$1,900 OBO. **Beautiful property** in the Upper Michigan, 130 acres for sale or pasture for rent for livestock for the 2018 season. Beautiful river running through it. Great for hunting, building or developing, or simple grazing livestock. Land is divided into 9 paddocks with high tensile electric fence and 5 stock watering ponds. **Herd dispersal** 11 black Angus bred cows, 5-8 years old, 1100 lbs., start calving April 15th. Rock, MI (906) 359-4825.

S&R Angus  **Weston, WI**
(715) 573-4924
www.srangus.com

Service age bulls, open females and show prospects for sale private treaty. Bulls are fertility tested and bred for calving ease and performance.



Marquette, MI
(800) 427-0980
(906) 225-1363

Buying top quality milk to produce the U.P.'s finest dairy products.

Are you getting the most for your quality?



Skidders

Pickford, MI
(906) 647-5655 or
(877) 647-2500

Kubota, AGCO, Massey-Ferguson, New Idea, Hesston, Gehl, Bush Hog, H&S, and Kverneland

Pig Health meeting offered in 2 U.P. Locations

MSU Extension, Michigan Pork Producers Assn and Purdue Extension are offering a pig health meeting "Protecting and improving pig herd health and your farm investment" in 2 locations. This meeting is free and open to all pig producers of any size or type, including commercial (large and small), hobby farms, 4-H families and fair exhibitors. Dinner is sponsored by the Michigan Pork Producers Assn. Presenters include swine specialists from MSU and Purdue. Some presentations will be via 'live' internet connection. There will be ample time for your specific questions.

Registration is required by May 12. Minimum registration of 15 people for each site is required for these events to be held. Register on-line at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/Swinehealthchampions2018/>. If you have trouble with on-line registration, or for more information, contact the local extension educator contacts listed below:

Escanaba, Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 6-9pm
Delta County MSU Extension Office
2840 College Ave, Escanaba, MI 49829

Local MSU Extension contact: *Monica Jean, 906-786-3032 or atkinmon@anr.msu.edu*

St. Ignace, Wednesday, May 16, 2018, 6-9pm
St. Ignace Public Library
110 W. Spruce St., St. Ignace, MI 49781

Local MSU Extension contact: *Jim Isleib, 906-387-2530 or isleibj@anr.msu.edu*

Agenda:

- Breeding without a boar, Dr. Kara Stewart, Purdue University
- Alternative feedstuffs, Dr. Dale Rozeboom, MSU
- Disease management, Dr. Madonna Benjamin, MSU
- Assisting the farrowing sow and newborn piglet care, Beth Ferry, MSU Extension
- Direct marketing options, Dr. Jeannine Schwehofer, MSU Extension
- Management options for parasite control, Dave Thompson, MSU Extension



Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association

*Collecting Cattle on Tuesdays at the
Larry Linsmeier Farm north of Menominee, MI*

(906) 863-8123

www.equitycoop.com



President: Dennis Hanson

Secretary: Shanon Zawacki

**GINOP
SALES
Inc.**

Alanson, MI (800) 344-4667
Williamsburg, MI (800) 304-4667

Hillman, MI (877) 334-4667

www.ginopsales.com



*Working to build
a vibrant U.P. food
economy since 1971*

Open Daily, 8 to 9 - Everyone Welcome
906-225-0671 · 502 W Washington St
www.marquettefood.coop

United

Producers, Inc.

Farmer owned. Farmer values.

St. Louis Sale every Monday
Marion Dairy Sale 3rd Friday of each month
For dairy cattle, call Chad @ (517) 294-3484 or
Paul @ (614) 296-5038
Collection point in Escanaba
Call for more information (989) 681-2191

The North Farm Skill-Seeker Workshop Series

Interested in learning about small-scale agriculture in a hands-on, experiential learning environment? Consider the MSU North Farm's Skill Seeker Workshop Series!

By Collin Thompson, MSU Extension Educator

The Michigan State University North Farm will be offering its annual Skill Seeker Workshop series for the 2018 season. These workshops, focused on topics relevant to small-scale farmers, homesteaders and home gardeners, will provide participants the opportunity to learn from university staff, local professionals and seasoned farmers.

Each workshop will consist of a classroom component hosted at the MSU North Farm in Chatham, Michigan, located in the central Upper Peninsula. Following classroom learning, participants go on a field trip to a local farm where they will get to ask farmers questions and see applications of concepts. This year's topics include:

Livestock on the Small Farm · June 10 · 1-5 p.m.

Livestock can be a great addition to the small farm or homestead, providing a wide range of benefits, including land management services, meat, fiber and income. This workshop will focus on the basics of pig and sheep management for the small-scale producer with presentations by Ben and Denise Bartlett, Log Cabin Livestock and Dale Rozeboom, MSU Animal Science.

Plasticulture: Season Extension 201 · July 15 · 1-5 p.m.

Plastic can work to the grower's advantage by extending the production season in cool climates, managing weeds and disease pressure. See season extension using hoopouses, greenhouses, plastic mulch and weed control tarps with Collin Thompson, MSU North Farm.

Flower Production · August 19 · 1-5 p.m.

Flowers are a great addition to any operation, whether for pleasure or profit. Learn about variety selection, production management, bouquet arrangement and marketing with Shailah Bunce, Rock River Farm and Jeff Heidtman, Color Blind Gardens.

Forest Resource Management · September 30 · 1-5 p.m.

Wooded areas can provide food, fuel and habitat for wildlife. Find out about forest resource management, developing a forest management plan and identifying the value of what may lie just outside your back door with Dan and Mary Rabine, Reh-Morr Farm, Holly Wendrick, MAEAP, and Matt Watkeys, District Forester.

Participation fees are \$30 for each course or \$100 for all four courses. Families, couples or farm units can attend for \$45 per course or \$150 for all four courses. [Registration is strongly encouraged](#). Workshops qualify for education hours for MSU Extension Master Gardeners and MAEAP Phase 1 credit.



REGISTERED MAINE ANJOU AND ANGUS

CLAY KNOLL FARMS

OPEN & BRED HEIFERS AND BREEDING AGE
BULLS AVAILABLE

BREEDING CATTLE TO IMPACT THE
PRESENT AND INFLUENCE THE FUTURE.

BREEDING STOCK—BULLS
SHOW PROSPECTS—STEERS

DUANE & LISA SIMPKINS & SONS

DUANE CELL 989-329-6141

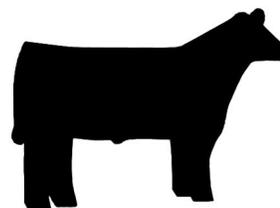
LISA CELL 989-578-0328

GARY & JAN SIMPKINS

HOME 989-426-8185

CELL 989-329-4668

GLADWIN, MI



Market Report

Choice Steers	\$110—\$125 per 100 lbs.
Holstein Steers	\$75—\$90 per 100 lbs.
Hogs	\$46—\$57 per 100 lbs.
Lambs	\$160—\$200 per 100 lbs.
Cull cows	\$45—\$60 per 100 lbs.
Calves	\$80—\$110 per 100 lbs.
Goats	\$140—\$180 per 100 lbs.

Breeding and Feeder Animals

Grade Holstein cows \$950—\$1450/head

Grade Holstein bred heifers \$900—\$1400/head

Feed Prices across the U.P.

	Avg. \$/cwt	Avg. \$/ton	Price Range
Corn	\$10.49	\$209.75	\$160-244
Soymeal	\$22.90	\$458.00	\$420-552
Oats	\$11.88	\$237.50	\$200-450
Barley	\$9.75	\$195.00	\$160-240
Average price/100 wt. for 1 ton lots			



EDUCATION ON THE FARM



Save this Date!
Saturday, June 9, 2018

2018 Farm Hosts:
Peaceful Acres & Wallis Family Farm
<http://www.clmcd.org/eof.asp>

Upcoming Field Day Opportunities

U.P. Forage Twilight Program

Wednesday, June 13th from 6-9 pm

MSU Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center
MSU forage research and featured speaker,
Mike Buis, Chatham, ON, farmer and forage expert

Fore\$ & Farm\$: Utilizing your Natural Resources to Maximize On-Farm Profitability

Hosted by Hiawathaland Farm Bureau

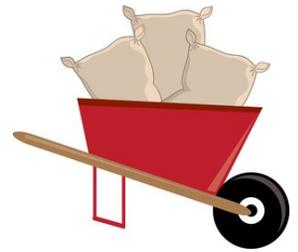
Tuesday, June 26th from 5-9 pm

MSU Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center
Maximizing profitability of your forests, improving
wildlife habitat, and financial assistance
Deer management strategies for crop damage
mitigation

Additional details will be available in the June newsletter!

Ray's Feed Mill

Ration & Crop
Consultants
Feed • Seed • Fertilizer



(800) 832-1822 or (906) 466-2231
Bark River & Norway

FOR SALE

UPPER PENINSULA FARM WITH OVER
1,300 ACRES, WATER ACCESS, MAPLE SYRUP
PRODUCTION, AND MUCH MORE!

SHADY LANE FARMS

[HTTP://SHADYLN FARMS.WIXSITE.COM/
SHADYLN FARMS](http://shadylanfarms.wixsite.com/shadylanfarms)

HENRY DEGROOT - (906) 238-4251
HJDEGROOT@ALPHACOMM.NET

SMC

Stephenson Marketing Cooperative

We want to be your first choice!
Agricultural Services & Supplies

Stephenson, MI

(800) 445-6167

Powers, MI

(800) 962-3008

Aurora, WI

(800) 962-3007

Your source for Polled Genetics

Richlo Dairy Farms

Engadine, MI

*Polled Holstein, Jersey & Norwegian Red Bulls
available!*

Employment Opportunities!

*For all information on polled bulls in AI, call
Jonathan (906) 477-6505*



GREAT LAKES® HYBRIDS Generations Ahead

Corn, Alfalfa, Soybean

Agriculture Plastic for Harvest and Storage
Bale Wrap, Bunker Covers, Grain and Silage Bags

We also carry Hay preservative

For more info call John at 906-399-5510 or e-mail at

john.rappette@yahoo.com

Follow U.P. Agriculture on Facebook!

MSU Extension Upper Peninsula
Agriculture

@MSUEUPAg



Michigan Agricultural Mediation Program offers free services to producers

If issues arise with lenders, creditors, or the USDA agencies over loans, credit, wetland determinations, farm program compliance, crop insurance or other ag-related topics, this program can be very helpful.

By Jim Isleib, MSU Extension Educator

Operating a farm business brings farmer-operators into a number of important relationships with lenders, creditors, government agencies and regulators. Sometimes these relationships result in misunderstandings and problems that become real obstacles to success.

Agricultural mediation offers an alternative to the formal appeals process to reach a mutually acceptable agreement between the parties in conflict. Michigan State University Extension educators are generally knowledgeable about many issues that may result in these types of conflict, but specially trained mediators are much better equipped to provide the help needed. [The Michigan Agricultural Mediation Program \(MAMP\)](#) has been providing mediations services for agricultural/rural disputes for over 20 years, with many successful outcomes. If mediation is not successful, a person may still file an appeal or seek other legal remedies.

The mediation process is strictly voluntary. A well-trained mediator facilitates the process, allowing both sides to explain their position and offer their views about a successful resolution. The mediator is not a 'judge' and does not act as an advocate for either side. He or she will not decide who is at fault or how the issue should be settled. In more complicated situations, a 'mediation assistant' may be assigned to help the farmer or other person prepare for the process. In some cases, 'impartial experts' can be brought in to provide technical information needed to reach agreement. They serve in a neutral role.

When the mediation process is successful, mediators help the parties agree on a workable solution, then prepare and sign a written agreement.

The benefits of agricultural mediation are outlined in the [MAMP flyer](#) as follows:

- Participants control the outcome.

The people involved in the situation are the ones who create an agreement that works for them.

- Mediation is confidential.

The parties can speak openly and directly to each other and to the issues without the proceedings being a matter of public record.

- Mediation can preserve relationships.

Mediation can help build a framework for future interaction based upon mutual interests and needs rather than adversarial positions.

- Mediation is flexible and creative.

Mediation can be used to discuss creative and individualized solutions. The parties can make virtually any agreement so long as it is not contrary to the law.

- Mediation is quick.

Disputes are normally resolved within a matter of weeks, allowing the parties to maintain schedules and lines of credit.

- Mediation saves money.

Mediation provides a low-cost alternative to litigation. Under the Michigan Agricultural Mediation Program, mediation services are free of charge.

- Mediation is likely to be successful.

In the majority of disputes taken to mediation parties reach an agreement.

It is easy to contact the Michigan Agricultural Mediation Program and submit a request for mediation. You will be contacted by a MAMP representative to explain the process, then send the request for mediation to the other party and inform you whether they accept or not. If accepted, MAMP will schedule a mediation session at a convenient time and place, usually within 45 days of the initial request. There is no charge to the parties for agricultural mediation services.



Rosebush Sale Barn, Inc.



Sale 1st Wednesday of each month
Baby heifer & bull calves sell every Tuesday at noon
Over 40 years experience in Dairy Business
If you're thinking about selling your herd,
or a portion of it, Call us!! We can help!
Hay & Straw available
Robert Filhart (989) 330-6005
www.rosebushsalebarn.com

Michigan State University
Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center
P.O. Box 168, E3774 University Drive
Chatham, MI 49816

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #77
SAULT STE MARIE, MI
49783



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Serving the Upper Peninsula Agricultural Industry

Michigan State University Extension is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or veteran status.

U.P. Ag Connections appreciates the support of this newsletter by our advertisers, however in no way does this imply endorsement of any specific products or services.

If you do not wish to receive this publication, please contact Michelle at colema98@msu.edu or (906) 439-5114

Calendar of Events

Pasture Walk: Feeding Hay on Pasture,
April 28—Dan Dalgord’s Farm, 2944 Il Road, Garden
(2 pm EST)

Bull Breeding Soundness Exams
May 11—Call Frank Wardynski to set-up an appointment

Forage Twilight Walk @ UPREC
June 13th—6-9 pm

Farm Bureau Education Program @ UPREC
June 26th—5-9 pm



**20th Annual
Carney-Nadeau FFA Alumni
Consignment Auction**
Sunday, May 6th @ Noon

**Held at Machalk’s Specialty
River Road, Stephenson, MI**

For more information and to list your items:

Barry Wehner (906) 753-4192

Advertising deadline April 18th!

Sell your used farm equipment, running vehicles, almost anything (except live animals and clothing) at auction. You set the minimum bid. 10% commission on gross sale (maximum commission per item is \$500).

This ad could be yours!

**Paid advertising delivers this
newsletter to your mailbox each month!**

Contact Michelle @ 439-5114 to place an ad (\$30/month)