



U.P. Ag Connections Newsletter

March 2019

Agricultural News from MSU Extension and AgBioResearch

Volume 23 Issue 3

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Ag for Tomorrow Conference

When:
 March 12, 2019
 9:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (EDT)

Where:
 Bay de Noc Community College Main Campus
 Joseph Heirman University Center
 2001 N. Lincoln Road
 Escanaba, MI 49828

Registration:
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/Agfortomorrow2019/>
 Or call 906-387-2530
 due by March 4, to get the reduced registration cost of \$25, or pay at the door for \$35

Why is everybody so excited about the Ag for Tomorrow Conference this year?

- **Opening Comments** – Randy Showerman, Director of MSU Institute of Agricultural Technology is going to be speaking about the MSU Ag Tech Program starting at Bay College
- **Young Farmer Coffee Klatch** – Starting at 8:45, before the conference agenda begins, offers an opportunity for young farmers, professionals and youth interested in farming across the U.P. to converse about agriculture and Ag Tech Program starting at Bay College. Sponsored by MI Farm Bureau Young Farmers
- **Reintroduction of Smaller Diversified Farming Topics** – topics include starting value added enterprise, non-timber forest products, marketing farm product, food safety of small farms
- **Speakers from Ag Industry Companies** – many of the speakers are industry reps from Merck Animal Health, Arrowquip Livestock Equipment, Superior Livestock Video Auction, and New Holland Agricultural discussing topics of animal health and breeding, livestock handling, minimizing risk with forward cattle sales, best baling practices and making quality hay
- **Farm Business Management for Everybody** – regardless of your finance skill level, there is a session for you. Novice topics of organizing the accounting and record keeping, starting with the balance sheet and more advanced topics of developing financial analysis, tax management and more
- **Research Updates** – MSU crops in the U.P., improved forage varieties, and from the Grass-finished beef herd at Chatham
- **Probably the most useful topic for majority of farmers** – farm tools to reduce joint pain and dealing with arthritis

Please note: In the previous publication, yield data was correct, but the forage yield data was not. Please dispose of the previous version.

2018 Upper Peninsula Pea and Small Grain Variety Trial

Small grains like oats and triticale are grown with peas as an alternative forage to alfalfa or silage corn. This alternative forage is planted widely across the Upper Peninsula region as a stand-alone annual forage crop and as a nurse crop for perennial forage seedings.

In 2018, Michigan State University Extension received funding through Project GREEN to evaluate small grain varieties with and without peas at the Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center in Chatham, MI. Our objective was to inform farmers about species and variety performance to optimize forage yield and quality.

Twenty-two entries donated by seed dealers in Northern Michigan were planted at Chatham, MI on May 8, 2018 (Table 1). Growing conditions across the region exhibited higher than normal temperatures and below normal rainfall when compared to a 5-year average.

Table 1. Summary of entries received for 2018 pea and small grain variety trial

Variety	Species	Source	Seeding Rate, lbs/ac	Grain/pea, % of mix
Jerry	Oat	Public	96	
Milkmaker	Triticale/Pea	Cisco	100	50/50
Partner	Oat/Pea	Cisco	100	50/50
Trical 2700	Triticale	Wolf River	100	
Everleaf 126	Oat	Wolf River	96	
Tritlage Pro	Triticale/Pea	Byron	100	
Elevator/Haywire/Stockade	Triticale/Oat/Pea	Cisco	100	
T100 facultative/Survivor	Triticale/Pea	Cisco	100	50/50
Laker	Oat	Wolf River	96	
Laker/Fergie	Oat/Pea	Wolf River	100	60/40
Laker/Arvika	Oat/Pea	Wolf River	100	60/40
Tritcal 2700/Fergie	Oat/Pea	Wolf River	100	50/50
Tritcal 2700/Arvika	Oat/Pea	Wolf River	100	50/50
Everleaf 126/Fergie	Oat/Pea	Wolf River	100	60/40
Everleaf 126/Arvika	Oat/Pea	Wolf River	100	60/40
Goliath/4010	Oat/Pea	CPS	100	60/40
Ogle/4010	Oat/Pea	CPS	100	60/40
Ogle	Oat	CPS	96	
Goliath	Oat	CPS	96	
Forage plus	Oat	Wolf River	96	
Forage Plus/4010	Oat/Pea	Wolf River	100	



President: Stanley Johns

Secretary: Shannon McHugh-Sanders

PURPOSE:

Evaluate species, variety and mixture effects of pea, oat and triticale on forage yield and quality

TRIAL LOCATION:

Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center, Chatham, MI

SOIL TYPE:

Well-drained Eben Very Gobby Sandy Loam

EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN:

Randomized complete block with four replications.

TRIAL PROTOCOL:

- Twenty two varieties planted, three different species
- Planted May 8, 2018
- Previous crop was crimson clover/oilseed radish.
- Urea applied May 8th at 108 lbs/acre
- Plot size 4 ft wide by 16 ft long (7 rows)
- Borders were planted to minimize edge effect

RESULTS:

- No single entry was superior in both yield and nutrient content
- Consider end-use and cost when selecting variety

Table 2. Summary of harvest time, yield and nutrient content by variety.

Variety	Harvest date (boot stage)	Yield (DM tons/acre)	Crude Protein, %	ADF ¹ , %	TDN ¹ , %	RFV ¹
Jerry	6/22	2.38	N/A			
Milkmaker	6/29	1.46	20.5*	28.5*	67.4*	148.0
Partner	7/2	2.55	16.0	33.2	66.0	120.6
Trical 2700	7/2	1.76	12.4	31.8	66.3	106.0
Everleaf 126	7/11	2.94*	8.3	32.8	66.0	105.5
Tritlage Pro	7/2	1.93	13.8	34.1	65.6	107.6
Stockade/Haywire/Elevator	7/2	2.12	17.5	32.2	66.2	126.7
Survivor peas/ T100/ facultative	6/28	1.17	24.1*	27.4*	67.7*	173.4*
Laker	7/2	2.56	10.0	34.5	65.5	100.2
Laker/Fergie	7/2	2.37	12.3	35.4	65.2	102.2
Laker/Arvika	7/2	2.33	15.3	34.2	65.6	114.0
Tritcal 2700/Fergie	7/2	1.71	12.5	33.0	66.0	109.2
Tritcal 2700/Arvika	7/3	2.26	21.7*	31.5	66.4	135.5
Everleaf 126/Fergie	7/13	2.95*	10.4	36.9	64.8	96.8
Everleaf 126/Arvika	7/13	2.67	12.6	36.1	65.0	102.3
Goliath/4010	6/29	1.97	13.7	29.3*	67.1*	129.7
Ogle/4010	6/28	2.12	16.5	30.3	66.8	132.4
Ogle	6/28	2.34	10.7	31.5	66.4	114.2
Goliath	6/29	2.26	10.1	30.0*	66.9*	118.9
Forage plus	7/2	2.51	10.2	33.5	65.8	108.3
Forage Plus/4010	7/2	2.34	20.0*	32.8	66.0	134.1

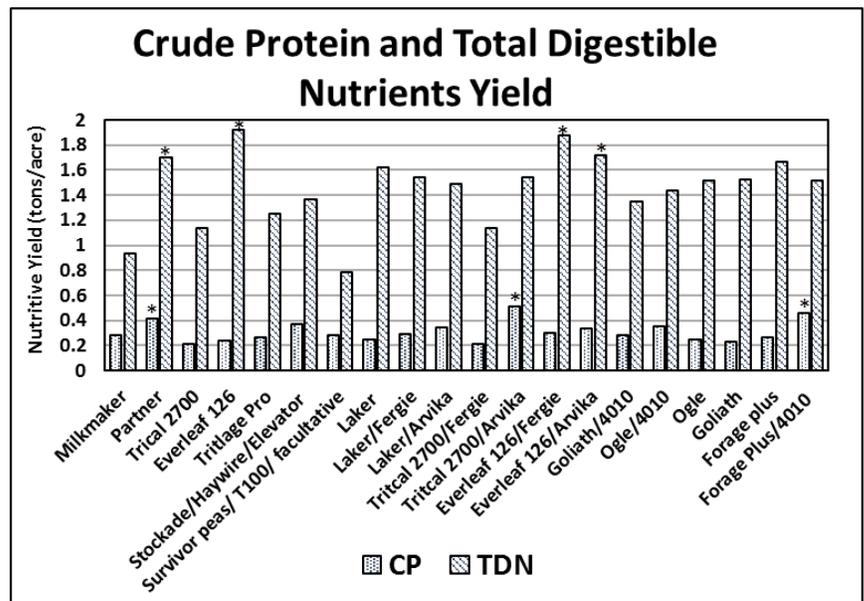
¹ Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN), Relative Food Value (RFV)

* Denotes varieties not significantly different than the best performing variety, per parameter

Varieties were harvested when the small grain species reached boot stage, which resulted in several different dates (Table 2). Three quadrat clippings were taken from each treatment. NIR nutrient analysis was done at Dairyland Laboratory. No pest damage, lodging or significant weed pressure was observed.

Figure 1. Crude protein and TDN yield.

*Denotes varieties not significantly different than the best performing variety, per parameter



Variety selection is dependent on one's end goal for the crop. If tonnage is the goal, Everleaf 126 or Everleaf 126/Fergie oat and pea mixture yielded the highest (Table 2). When considering the digestibility and energy content, having low ADF and a high TDN is desirable. Acid detergent fiber (ADF) estimates the amount of plant components that are the least digestible (lignin and cellulose). The Survivor pea mixture had the highest food value due to its high crude protein and digestibility. To further evaluate the nutritive yield of the varieties, we took the concentration of crude protein and TDN and multiplied it by the DM yield (Figure 1). Partner, a pea and oat mixture, yielded a large amount of crude protein and total digestible nutrients per acre. No single entry was superior in both yield and nutrient content. Considering the cost of the seed will also play an important role when deciding what species and variety to select.

Table 3. Nutrient summary of ensiled oat and pea & oat mixtures for demonstration purposes

Variety	Moisture (%)	pH	CP, %	ADF, %	aNDF, %	TDN, %	RFV
Partner	70.3	4.62	9	37.91	54.82	64.45	100.79
Everleaf 126	73.41	4.52	7.45	41.32	68.22	63.4	77.37
Laker	68.82	4.89	9.38	39.72	61.48	63.89	87.61
Everleaf 126/Fergie	70.72	5.27	8.8	43.39	63.07	62.75	81.16
Everleaf 126/Arvika	72.31	4.62	10.45	38.89	54.38	64.15	100.39
Ogle/4010	63.49	4.51	8.75	42.9	61.38	62.91	84.3
Forage plus	66.17	4.39	10.24	39.85	52.9	63.85	101.82
Forage Plus/4010	71.59	4.83	11.34	38.06	51.38	64.41	107.48

Crude Protein (CP), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), ash free Neutral Detergent Fiber, Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN), Relative Food Value (RFV)



Figure 2. Mini-silos used to ensile the oats and oat/pea mixtures

As a demonstration, we selected the top eight entries and ensiled them in mini-silos (Figure 2) for three months. Table 3 is a summary of the nutrient results for the ensiled oats and oat/pea mixtures.

Beef Management Health Meetings – Bovine Leukosis, Parasite Management, Euthanasia

Michigan State University Extension Educator, Frank Wardynski will be hosting beef management educational meetings across three locations of the Upper Peninsula.

Rudyard Twp Hall	March 19
Bay College, Rm 911	March 20
Twilley's, Bruce Crossing	March 21

Each session is from 6:00-8:00pm EDT. Project results of a Bovine Leukosis Virus project conducted by Dr. Dan Grooms and fecal egg count for internal parasite control project conducted by Frank Wardynski will be discussed, including future plans and how to participate in the project. A brief presentation will be discussed regarding euthanasia of terminal livestock. In addition, producers are encouraged to bring topic of interest for group discussion. Producers are asked to call 906-884-4386 to reserve a spot at the meeting.

Beef Quality Assurance Certification

Michigan State University Extension Educator, Frank Wardynski will be hosting Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification meetings across three locations of the Upper Peninsula.

Rudyard Twp Hall	April 15
Bay College, Rm 952	April 16
Twilley's, Bruce Crossing	April 17

Meetings will start at 6:00pm EDT and be concluded by about 9:00. The session will start with a presentation which will last about two hours and conclude with a 15 question test. Producers that do not pass on first attempt are allowed second test. So far 100% have completed certification after the second test and leave with a certificate in hand. Producers are asked to call 906-884-4386 to reserve a spot at the meeting.

Bee Keeping Workshop

Michigan State University Extension Educator, Frank Wardynski will be hosting a bee keeping workshop in the western UP at the Ewen-Trout Creek High School on March 30, from 10:00-4:00pm EDT. The workshop is designed for both the novice people just getting started and the experienced beekeeper. Cost will be \$30 per person which includes a meal. For information regarding registration information call 906-884-4386.

Informational Meetings for Pork Producers

These educational events will focus on herd health and production issues that farmers raising pigs in the UP may encounter.

Michigan State University Extension and Michigan Pork Producers Association have teamed up to address important topics for pork producers in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Educational meetings will be held in two locations of the Upper Peninsula that focus on protecting the health of Michigan's pork industry and production issues that farmers raising pigs may encounter. Michigan State University Extension Pork Educators and Specialists will discuss various topics that pertain to herd health and general production and will host question and answer sessions with meeting attendees.

Topics that will be addressed during these meetings include: African Swine Fever, is the UP at risk for infection, Sourcing antibiotics, vaccines & dewormers for the UP farm, Adapting modern technology for small farms: housing & ventilation, Issues and current policy around raising wild boars & feral swine and Easy sampling for disease detection. Pork producers will walk away from these meeting having a better understanding of what will happen if there is a case of African Swine Fever identified in Michigan, how farms will be quarantined and what will be required for a movement permit if you are in an infected area. They will also have a general vaccine schedule that can be used on their farms, along with deworming suggestions, modifications that others have made to new technology for small farms, understand the issues surrounding feral pigs and have tools that they can use to complete diagnostic sampling for their herds.

Meeting will be held April 23rd, 2019 in Delta County at the MSU Extension Office, 2840 College Ave. Escanaba, MI and April 24th, 2019 in Mackinac County at the St. Ignace Public Library located at 110 W. Spruce Street, St. Ignace, Michigan. Both meetings will take place from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and dinner will be served. Michigan Pork Producers Association will sponsor the meal for the Escanaba meeting location and local producer Dan Jere with Jere Farms will provide the meal for the St. Ignace meeting. These meetings are free to all attendees, however you are asked to pre-register to ensure a proper supply of materials and refreshments are provided.

Interested participants can register for these meetings at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/HealthChampionsUP/> or by contacting the meeting coordinators: Jim Isleib— MSU Extension Alger County by email: isleibj@msu.edu or phone: [906-387-2530](tel:906-387-2530) or Monica Jean— MSU Extension Delta County by email: atkinmon@msu.edu or phone: [906-786-3032](tel:906-786-3032). Please note, a minimum of 15 participants will be needed to hold these educational events.

Respirator fit testing will also be offered by MSU Extension at this time for any farmers needing to complete this process. Farmers can come in prior to the pork health meetings and during the meetings. Please contact meeting coordinators for more information and to make an appointment for this process.



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Market Report

Choice Steers	\$105—\$120 per 100 lbs.
Holstein Steers	\$85—\$107 per 100 lbs.
Hogs	\$44—\$49 per 100 lbs.
Lambs	\$135—\$160 per 100 lbs.
Cull cows	\$35—\$55 per 100 lbs.
Calves	\$50—\$75 per 100 lbs.
Goats	\$200—\$300 per 100 lbs.

Breeding and Feeder Animals

Grade Holstein cows \$850—\$1350/head

Grade Holstein bred heifers \$1000—\$1400/head

Feed Prices across the U.P.

	Avg. \$/cwt	Avg. \$/ton	Price Range
Corn	\$10.00	\$200.00	\$155-256
Soymeal	\$19.45	\$389.00	\$359-450
Oats	\$12.00	\$240.00	\$200-300
Barley	\$9.78	\$195.50	\$160-240
Average price/100 wt. for 1 ton lots			

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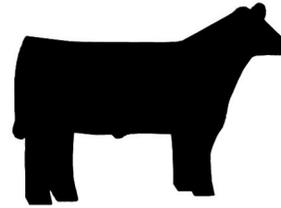
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Calendar of Events

- Great Lakes Forage & Grazing Conference**—March 5—AgroLiquid, St. Johns, 9 am-4 pm
- Ag For Tomorrow Conference**—March 12—Bay College, Escanaba, 9:15 am-3:30 pm
- Christmas Tree Grower Educational Workshop**—March 19—Delta Co. MSUE Office, 1-3 pm
- Beef Management Health Meeting**—March 19—Rudyard Twp Hall, Rudyard, 6-8 pm
- Beef Management Health Meeting**—March 20—Bay College, Escanaba, 6-8 pm
- Beef Management Health Meeting**—March 21—Twilley's, Bruce Crossing, 6-8 pm
- Bee Keeping Workshop**—March 30—Ewen-Trout Creek High School, Ewen, 10 am-4 pm
- FSMA Produce Safety Rule Grower Training Program** —April 9—Menominee Co Extension, Stephenson, 9am-4pm
- FSMA Produce Safety Rule Grower Training Program** —April 11—St. Ignace Public Library, St. Ignace, 9am-4pm
- Beef Quality Assurance Certification**—April 15—Rudyard Twp Hall, Rudyard, 6-9 pm
- Beef Quality Assurance Certification**—April 16—Bay College, Escanaba, 6-9 pm
- Beef Quality Assurance Certification**—April 17—Twilley's, Bruce Crossing, 6-9 pm
- Growing UP Ag Association Annual Meeting**—April 18—Bay College, Escanaba, 11-2:30
- Swine Health Champions UP**—April 23—Delta County MSUE Office, Escanaba, 6-9 pm
- Swine Health Champions UP**—April 24—St. Ignace Public Library, St. Ignace, 6-9 pm

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