



# U.P. Ag Connections Newsletter

December 2017

Agricultural News from MSU Extension and AgBioResearch

Volume 21 Issue 12

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**Follow the farm on Facebook:**

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

### ***Upper Peninsula farmers encouraged to share experiences with cover crops***

***A survey, administered by Michigan State University Extension staff in the Upper Peninsula seeks to understand current cover crop usage throughout the region, and barriers to increased adoption.***

Despite a tough crop year in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, an increasing amount of green can be seen in the farm fields this fall. Increased adoption of cover crops is a welcomed sight, but there are still many acres to be covered, and much education to be done on the proper implementation, management, and benefits of cover crops. A team of MSU Extension staff and researchers from the Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center have developed a survey to establish a baseline of knowledge on where, how, and why cover crops are being used. This survey, supported by the MSU Project GREEN research fund, compliments ongoing cover crop research conducted by the staff in Menominee County. The 2017 research consisted of species evaluation, forage potential, and a planting date trial.

Surveys will be administered at various MSU Extension events throughout the fall, but farmers can go online now and complete the survey at the link below. Please note, responses from farmers not currently using cover crops is just as valuable as those that do, so all farmers are encouraged to participate. By understanding the challenges that deter adoption, appropriate research and outreach can be developed to respond to those needs.

Follow this link to respond to the cover crop survey:

[Upper Peninsula Cover Crop Survey](#)

Results will be summarized and reported out in early-2018. The data will inform research and outreach potential for ongoing work in the Upper Peninsula and will support a research proposal, to be submitted in spring 2018, to increase capacity for the cover crop team in the region.

If you have any questions about cover crops or would like to complete the survey over the phone, feel free to reach out to Ashley McFarland at 906-439-5176 or [ashleymc@anr.msu.edu](mailto:ashleymc@anr.msu.edu).

Ashley McFarland, UPREC Director

### ***Did you know?***

*Michigan is the third largest Christmas tree producer in the United States, behind Oregon and North Carolina. About 560 farms, farming about 27,000 acres, produce about two million trees annually, for a financial value of about \$30 million. Menominee County is a significant producer of Christmas trees.*

*Brought to you by MSU Extension Forester, Bill Cook*



Michigan State University

AgBioResearch

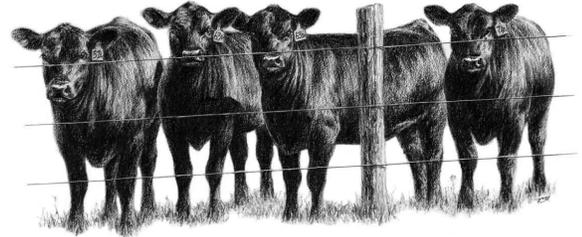
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

## 2017 Bay de Noc Beef Producers Sale

The December sale of the Bay de Noc Beef Producers is on December 13th with the load out December 11th for sale in Waukon, Iowa. All calves should be vaccinated and weaned prior to shipping.

Yearly membership is \$20. When consigning cattle, there is a \$3/head fee that needs to be paid prior to shipping. This is a change from past load outs due to a few members changing their number of head shipping the day of the load out. We need to schedule trucks ahead of time based on the number of calves being shipped.

Call John Rappette @ (906) 399-5510 with any questions.



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## Clare County Livestock Auction, LLC

### 2017 Fall Feeder Cattle Sales

Clare, Michigan

David Clark, Owner/Auctioneer

Contact # 810-441-6191—Sale Barn # 989-386-9256

**Dec. 7th**

All sales on Thursday and start at 1:00 pm

All cattle weighed at sale time

Accepting cattle on Wednesday, all day!

Overnight cattle will be fed and watered!

### Colored and Holstein steers, heifers and calves

(Some cattle pre-conditioned, information available at the time of sale)

Go to [www.davisclarkauction.com](http://www.davisclarkauction.com) for more information!

“Sale every Monday at 3:00 pm”



Cancer Benefit for

# Kathy Lane

Saturday, December 2, 2017

Please note all times are central.

Christmas Market - 11:00am until 4:00pm (est)  
At North Central High School - Powers, Michigan



**Santa Fun Run/Walk 2.8 miles**

(\$25 with \$5 towards Raffle Tickets)

Register 10:00-10:45am (est)

Run starts 11:00am (est)

**Bring your dog along for the run!**

(Leash required per insurance)

**Put A Costume On Your Pet!**

**Wear A Santa Hat! Make It Fun!**

**ARTIST · BAKER · CRAFTER CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
RAFFLES · 50/50 · SILENT AUCTION

**Pig Roast / Spaghetti Dinner**

12:00 Noon to 1:30pm (est)

\$10 Suggested Donation

**Live Auction - 2:00pm (est)**

(Must Register with Buyers Number)

Monetary Donations can be sent to:

[www.youcaring.com](http://www.youcaring.com) Kathy Lane



For more information contact: Chad 906-221-0319. Donations can be dropped off at Positively 1212 Ludington, Escanaba.

 **Kathy Lane Benefit**

## Upper Peninsula Light Processing Facility Assessment

If you are a grower please consider completing this survey. If you are not a grower, please forward this information and link to produce growers in your network.

The Upper Peninsula Light Processing Facility Assessment is a cooperative study involving several stakeholders including Marquette County, MSU Extension, the Upper Peninsula Food Exchange (UPFE), and the Central Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Regional Commission (CUPPAD). Marquette County and CUPPAD have identified an opportunity to advance economic growth in the Central Upper Peninsula with the expansion of light processing capacity for fruits and vegetables. Karen Karp & Partners is performing an assessment of produce production and purchasing dynamics in the Upper Peninsula. They will use that data to determine the optimal crops and processing methods to consider for subsequent facility development plans.

Input from Upper Peninsula fruit and vegetable growers is critically important to this assessment. We need to know the top crops produced in the UP, the volume of specific crops from typical farms and throughout the entire region, any current processing those crops undergo before sale, the types of markets that farmers are using for product sales, and what opportunities and assets would encourage UP farmers to expand production.

The survey will be open from November 1 through November 30, 2017.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UPProduceSurvey>

For additional information about the project contact Michelle Walk at [walkmich@msu.edu](mailto:walkmich@msu.edu) or 906-635-6368 or Thyra Karlstrom at [tkarlstrom@mgtco.org](mailto:tkarlstrom@mgtco.org) or 906-225-8192. For questions about the survey please contact Christophe Hille at Karen Karp & Partners, 212-260-1070 or [christophe@kkandp.com](mailto:christophe@kkandp.com). All responses will be anonymized and no identifying information will be shared with any parties outside of this project.

# Happy Holidays

## Local Research, Local Solutions

MSU Extension had been busy doing research in the Upper Peninsula and we want to share our results with farmers and agribusiness employees! Please join us while we review local solutions for farming issues like variety selection, pest monitoring and fertility management. Our research is diverse covering several commodities like potatoes, peas and oats, alfalfa, hay and novel berries. The Menominee location will discuss composting paper mill residuals.

- Dec. 11th, 1:30- 3pm U.P. Research and Extension Center E3774 University Dr. Chatham
- Dec. 13th, 1:30- 3pm ET Mass City Community Center 1502 Mass Avenue, Mass City
- Dec. 13th, 6:30-8pm CT Felch Township Hall W4243 Highway M69, Felch
- Jan. 4th, 1:30-3pm Delta County MSU Extension Office 2840 College Ave, Escanaba
- Jan. 11th, 1:30-3pm CT Menominee MSU Extension Office S904 US Highway 41, Stephenson
- Jan. 17th, 2-3:30pm Rudyard Township Hall 18725 S Mackinac Trail, Rudyard
- Jan. 17th, 6:30- 8pm Garfield Township Hall N6760 M-117, Engadine



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United States Department of Agriculture  
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[www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov)



*President: Rod Johnson*

*Secretary: Shannon McHugh-Sanders*

**When is it too late to spray glyphosate?**

Christian Kapp, UPREC Research Assistant

Chris, why are you spraying? Isn't it too late? I had a few people ask me this last week when Monica Jean and I were prepping the field site for next year's soybean trial. I confess, after it took us 2 hours to thaw out the sprayer (it had been left outside on a trailer the night before) I myself wondered if it was too late.

Fall has always been the optimum time to kill perennial weeds, as the cooler temperatures trigger the plant to start the translocation of carbohydrates (sugars) down into the roots for storage overwinter, then as the plant awakes in the spring, it uses the stored carbohydrate reserves for growth. This movement of nutrients downward in the fall aids in the effectiveness of the glyphosate reaching the growing points of the plant. The latest I have ever sprayed was deer season on my own farm (Alger County), and I achieved excellent burndown and plant death the following spring. I always thought if it was green, it could be sprayed and killed. However, this assumption is not very scientific. Therefore, after a little research, I found the technical bulletin on Post-Harvest Weed Control from Monsanto Canada. The following information is from the technical bulletin and the generic Roundup label Honcho. I spray generic Roundup at home because it's affordable, so I used the 41.0% active ingredient as a baseline.

| Target weed    | Rate (Qt/ac) | Comments  |
|----------------|--------------|---|
| Canada Thistle | 2-3          | Fall treatments must be applied before killing frost                                      |
| Dandelion      | 3-5          | Can also tank-mix 2-4D or dicamba for more effective control and lower glyphosate rate/ac |
| Quack-grass    | 1-3          | Greater than 8 inches tall, use higher rate   |
| Winter annuals | 1-2          | Must be actively growing  |

So was I too late? I think I was for the Canadian thistle, but not for the quackgrass. Next spring will tell the tale. I have set myself a reminder in my calendar to write a follow-up article next June, along with pictures. And yes, I have finally winterized and put the sprayer away for next year, because you shouldn't spray on top of the white stuff.

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**Light frost (32 to -25°F):** Should not negatively affect perennial or winter annual weed control. Spray if the daytime forecast is a minimum of 46°F for at least 2-4 hours after the application and there is no risk of overnight frost.

**Heavy frost (23°F or colder):** wait 1-2 days to assess injury severity; treat only if the majority of target weeds are more than 60% green and show signs of active growth. Spray if the daytime forecast is a minimum of 8°C for at least 2-4 hours after the application and there is no risk of overnight frost.  
(Post-harvest Weed Control, Roundup Ca, 2015.)

## MDARD Announces Grant Opportunity for Rural Development

Proposals due by 3 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Media contact: [Jessy Sielski](#), 517-284-5725

Program contact: [Heather Throne](#), 517-712-0841

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development is offering a competitive grant program to promote the sustainability of land-based industries and support infrastructure benefiting rural communities in Michigan.

The Rural Development Fund grants are available for projects addressing expansion and sustainability of land-based industries; worker training related to land-based industries; and energy, transportation, communications, water and wastewater infrastructure to benefit rural communities and micropolitan statistical areas (defined by the U.S. Department of Management and Budget as an area/county with at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 but fewer than 50,000 population).

Land-based industries includes food and agriculture; forestry; mining, oil and gas production; and tourism. Eligible counties include those with a population no greater than 60,000 residents or micropolitan statistical areas. For a complete list of eligible counties, visit [www.michigan.gov/mdardgrants](http://www.michigan.gov/mdardgrants).

The proposals will be evaluated through a competitive process. The maximum limit on project grant fund requests is \$100,000. The total allotment of funding for the current year is approximately \$800,000. All proposals require at least a 30% cash match.

Applicants for grant funds will be asked to describe how the project will impact and produce measurable outcomes for rural communities.

Those interested in applying for the grant program should visit [www.michigan.gov/mdardgrants](http://www.michigan.gov/mdardgrants) to view the application and program overview.

Any additional communications concerning this Request for Proposal should be sent to [mda-grants@michigan.gov](mailto:mda-grants@michigan.gov). Proposals must be received at the email above no later than 3 p.m. (EST) on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. Proposals received after 3 p.m. will not be considered.

The Rural Development Fund grants are funded by the Nonferrous Metallic Minerals Extraction Severance Tax. The Rural Development Fund was created under PA 411 of 2012. Revenue from the severance tax is in accordance with PA 410 of 2012.

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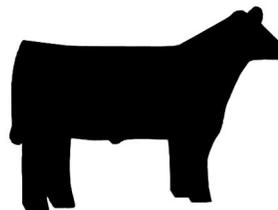
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GLADWIN, MI

## Market Report

|                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Choice Steers   | \$100—\$112 per 100 lbs. |
| Holstein Steers | \$70—\$83 per 100 lbs.   |
| Hogs            | \$57—\$65 per 100 lbs.   |
| Lambs           | \$100—\$130 per 100 lbs. |
| Cull cows       | \$40—\$54 per 100 lbs.   |
| Calves          | \$100—\$125 per 100 lbs. |
| Goats           | \$150—\$225 per 100 lbs. |

### Breeding and Feeder Animals

Grade Holstein cows \$1300—\$1800/head

Grade Holstein bred heifers \$1500—\$2200/head

### Feed Prices across the U.P.

|                                      | Avg. \$/cwt | Avg. \$/ton | Price Range |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Corn                                 | \$10.36     | \$207.25    | \$160-244   |
| Soymeal                              | \$21.50     | \$430.00    | \$375-536   |
| Oats                                 | \$10.15     | \$203.05    | \$190-230   |
| Barley                               | \$9.38      | \$187.50    | \$140-240   |
| Average price/100 wt. for 1 ton lots |             |             |             |

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## Protecting and Improving Your On-Farm Investment

## HEALTH Champions

### Agenda:

- **Alternative Feedstuffs:**  
*Feeding small grains, oats, barley and wheat in my pig diets*
- **Health Champions:**  
*How to manage PRRS, PEDv and influenza in your swine herd, vaccination recommendations*
- **Breeding without a Boar:**  
*Semen management, heat checking without a boar and fixed-time insemination*
- **Assisting the Farrowing Sow and Newborn Piglet Care**
- **Local Slaughter Options**  
*Custom Slaughter, How do you market this? (What does on the hoof actually mean?)*
- **Management Options for Parasitic Control**

### Locations:

Escanaba  
Dec. 18, 6-9 p.m.  
Delta County MSU Extension Office  
2840 College Ave.  
Escanaba, MI 49829

St. Ignace  
Dec. 19, Noon-3 p.m.  
St. Ignace Public Library  
110 W. Spruce St.  
St. Ignace, MI 49781

Lunch and Dinner provided!  
Door prizes!

No cost for attending. RSVP to  
Jim Isleib at  
[isleibj@anr.msu.edu](mailto:isleibj@anr.msu.edu) or  
906-387-2530 or 906-250-9609.

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Extension



### Classifieds

**REGISTERED BLACK ANGUS BULL.** 1 ½ years 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](mailto: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](mailto:clarencwilbur@gmail.com), 616 443 6066

## ***Review sessions and exams for state certified pesticide applicators***

MSU Extension is offering pre-exam study sessions for those seeking state pesticide applicator certification.

### Locations/Dates:

- MSU Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center  
E3774 University Drive, Chatham, MI 49816  
Friday, December 1, 2017, 9am – 1pm eastern time  
State exam offered at 1:15pm eastern
- Marquette County Negaunee Service Center (downstairs meeting room)  
184 US 41 East, Negaunee, MI 49866  
Wednesday, January 10, 2018, 9am-1pm central time  
State exams offered at 1:15 central
- State Office Building  
305 Ludington St, 2nd Floor Conference Room  
Escaaba, MI 49829  
Tuesday, February 6, 2018, 9am-1pm eastern time  
State exams offered at 1:15 eastern

These 4-hour reviews are intended to help prepare for the State of Michigan commercial and private pesticide applicator certification exams. Four re-certification credits toward renewal of current State of Michigan Pesticide Applicator Certification are available for private applicators and commercial applicator 'core', 1A, 1B, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B and 6 categories. The program will consist of chapter reviews of the National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual and an example exam. It is strongly suggested that participants acquire copies of the manual and study it thoroughly before taking the state exam. If seeking commercial certification or re-certification, the study manual for the category(s) desired should also be acquired and studied. This program will cover only 'core' manual material, no commercial categories. Please note that several other state exam opportunities are offered in the U.P. without pre-exam study sessions. Check exam dates by entering as a 'guest' at <https://secure1.state.mi.us/opes/Welcome.aspx>.

A State of Michigan official will offer state exams after the review is completed. If you plan to take an exam, register at [www.michigan.gov/pestexam](http://www.michigan.gov/pestexam) and be prepared to pay \$50 for the private exam and \$75 for the commercial exam (including any number of categories) by check payable to "State of Michigan". A waiver from the State of Michigan is offered to honorably discharged veterans seeking private pesticide applicator certification. You must provide a copy of your veteran's federal form DD-214 that indicates honorable discharge status along with your application.

Lunch will not be provided. A 1/2 hour break is scheduled between the review and the exams for participants to have

lunch. If taking an exam, bring your own lunch, or plan for a very quick lunch break.

A \$20 fee, payable at the door, is required for the review. If paying by check, make check out to "Michigan State University Extension". This fee covers program costs and refreshments. (Note: This is a separate fee from the State of Michigan exam fee).

The core manual and other study materials can be purchased on-line at [http://shop.msu.edu/category\\_s/463.htm](http://shop.msu.edu/category_s/463.htm) or ordered through your local county MSU Extension office.

For more information, contact Jim Isleib, MSU Extension, at 906-387-2530 or [isleibj@anr.msu.edu](mailto:isleibj@anr.msu.edu). Additional information regarding registration for State of Michigan pesticide applicator exams and additional training programs for pesticide applicators is available on the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development website at [http://www.michigan.gov/mdard/0,4610,7-125-1569\\_16988\\_35289---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdard/0,4610,7-125-1569_16988_35289---,00.html)



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## **NORTHERN MICHIGAN LIVESTOCK 2017 FALL FEEDER SALES**

All sales on Friday at 12:00

Dec. 8

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## ***Calendar of Events***

### **Ag for Tomorrow Conference**

March 13 – Bay College, Escanaba

### **MSUE U.P. Crop Research Updates**

Dec 11, 1:30 – 3pm – Chatham

Dec 13, 1:30 – 3pm ET – Mass City

Dec 13, 6:30 – 8pm CT – Felch Twp Hall

Jan 4, 1:30-3pm – Escanaba

Jan 11, 1:30 – 3 CT – Stephenson

Jan 17, 2 – 3:30pm – Rudyard

Jan 17, 6:30 – 8pm – Engadine

### **Pesticide applicator core manual training**

*9 am – 1 pm followed by state exams*

Dec 1 – Chatham (UPREC)

Jan 10 – Negaunee (Marquette MSUE office)

Feb 6 – Escanaba (State Office Building)

### **Swine Workshops**

Dec 18, 6 – 9pm – Escanaba

Dec 19, 12 – 3pm – St. Ignace

## ***Changes in Michigan tree species volumes***

Bill Cook, MSU Extension Forester

The U.S. Forest Service recently published a five-year Michigan forest inventory report (2009-2014). Similar inventories date back to the 1930s. Part of the report looks at volume changes for individual tree species. Statewide, there are volume “winners” and “losers”. This list will vary by region, however. And, keep in mind that the report does not reflect changes over the past couple years, when several pests have grown important (such as spruce budworm and emerald ash borer)

“Winners”: sugar maple, red maple, red pine, cedar, red oak, bigtooth aspen, black cherry, hemlock, basswood, black oak, white oak, silver maple, white spruce, green ash, black spruce, beech, white ash, black ash, scrub oak, tamarack.

“Losers”: quaking aspen, balsam fir, paper birch, yellow birch, jack pine, balm, American elm.