

## Stock and Crops

E - Extension Update

Volume 1, Issue 2, 8/17

### Greetings!

Fall is just around the corner which means harvest is almost upon us. As we send for thoughts of warm, dry days. We should also take a few minutes to prepare for a safe and bountiful harvest.

National farm safety and health week, September 17-23, 2017 recognizes the importance of protecting agriculture's most precious resource - it's people. *Putting Farm Safety into Practice* is the theme of the 74<sup>th</sup> annual event that promotes safe and healthy practices on farms.

So take a few minutes before the real work of fall begins to..

1. Learn about important farm safety and health issues that WI farmers and farm workers face
2. Slow down and watch carefully on roadways for slow moving farm machines and IOH's
3. Make sure you have all the proper, working personal protection equipment your farm needs
4. Make sure all workers are fully qualified and provided with constantly updated training

Amanda

Dr. Loretta

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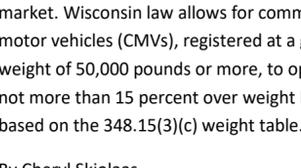
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### Calving Assistance

When you have calving difficulties on your farm, are you assisting calving with the best techniques? UW - Extension Agriculture Agents Sandy Stutgen and Liz Binversie have created a short series of bilingual calving assistance videos. These videos are designed to help farm owners, managers, and herdsman to assist with calving while putting as little stress on the calf as possible.

These English/ Spanish videos can help you and your farm employees assist with a difficult birth while reducing the chance of injury to the calf.



### Seasonal Road Weight Limits for Commercial Motor Vehicles

Wisconsin crops need to be harvested and transported from field to farm or field to market. Wisconsin law allows for commercial motor vehicles (CMVs), registered at a gross weight of 50,000 pounds or more, to operate by not more than 15 percent over weight limit based on the 348.15(3)(c) weight table.



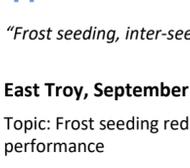
Ag CMV or CMV – the

By Cheryl Skjolaas

[More Details](#)

### Dairy Situation and Outlook - August 18, 2017

By Bob Cropp, Professor Emeritus  
University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension



After taking a dip down in July milk prices will increase again in August. The July Class III price fell \$0.99 from June to July to \$15.45, but may increase about a dollar in August to near \$16.45. The Class IV price did increase \$0.52 from June to July to \$16.60, but may be unchanged for August. Slower growth in milk production, good domestic sales of butter and cheese and higher dairy exports strengthen dairy product prices which pushed milk prices higher in August.

[Continued](#)

### 2017 Cover Crop Professional Development Opportunities

"Frost seeding, inter-seeding, over-seeding and manure nutrient management using cover crops"

**East Troy, September 20** (rain date September 21)

Topic: Frost seeding red clover: agronomic, economic and conservation performance

**Jackson, October 4th**

Topic: Role of Cover Crops in Soil and Water Quality ([more info](#))

**Lancaster, October 10** (rain date October 11)

Topic: Inter-seeding cocktail mixes in corn

**Waukegan, October 19** (rain date October 20)

Topic: Over-seeding cover crops in silage corn

These professional development opportunities are a joint effort of the Michael Fields Agricultural Institute, UW-Extension and the North Central SARE Professional Development Program. They are designed for professionals who advise and will provide an opportunity for in-depth discussion of cover crop management within each of the topics listed. All events are free, will offer 3 CEUs in Crop Management and will be held from 1-4 pm.

### Cover Crop - Fall Field Day

The Dodge County Farmers for Healthy Soil-Healthy Water will be holding their second fall field day on Wednesday October 18<sup>th</sup>. This field day will feature local producer on farm trials and a soil pit. More information will be forth coming.

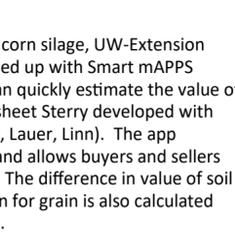


Stay tuned for more information:

<http://dodge.uwex.edu/agriculture-calendar/>

### Silage Pricing

Most corn silage is harvested from late August through early November, when energy, fiber and moisture are at their best, depending on planting date, hybrid variety and growing conditions. A third to three-quarters of the feed consumed by more than 1.2 million dairy cows in WI comes from corn silage, and it's not unusual to find corn silage as the only source of feed for many WI beef cattle. It's a unique and important feed providing a significant source of energy and fiber for dairy and beef cattle across the state and nation.



In 2015, nearly a quarter of all four million acres of corn planted in WI were harvested as silage with an estimated market value between a quarter and a half billion dollars. However, like hay, there's no established commodity market for corn silage like there is for corn or soybeans. Pricing standing corn silage is even more difficult than pricing standing hay, because the seller often has the option of letting the corn crop mature and marketing it for grain, but additional costs must be considered as well.

To help determine a fair price when buying or selling corn silage, UW-Extension agriculture agents Greg Blonde and Ryan Sterry teamed up with Smart mAPPS Consulting to develop a new free Android app that can quickly estimate the value of standing corn silage. It's based off a detailed spreadsheet Sterry developed with input from several state Extension specialists (Shaver, Lauer, Linn). The app includes links to current corn and hay market prices and allows buyers and sellers to enter their own yield estimates and harvest costs. The difference in value of soil nutrients removed when harvesting silage versus corn is also calculated helping sellers fine tune their standing value per acre.

### Call 811— Before you dig

The soil on your farm or ranch is rich with nutrients and minerals... AND underground gas, oil and water pipelines.

Excavations, terracing projects, fence post installation, tiling or subsoiling can create safety hazards due to the depth of the excavations.

**CALL BEFORE YOU DIG** in order to notify utility companies who will be affected by the excavation. This service is FREE.

No one digs more dirt than America's farmers and ranchers. Understanding what is below ground will help you DIG SAFELY above ground. CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

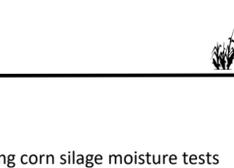
### Dairy Partner/ El Companero

A bi - monthly news letter written in both English and Spanish that address dairy herd issues. This is a great newsletter to print out and put on the break table for all employees to read and enjoy.

[Current Issue](#)

### Watch for Waterhemp - Report it's Presence

Driving through Fond du Lac and Dodge Counties it is obvious that many soybean fields have weed escapes, many of which are in the pigweed family (Photo 1). Wisconsin has several upright pigweeds that are common problems. These are redroot pigweed, smooth pigweed, and spiny pigweed. Unfortunately, it is also becoming home to two additional species (waterhemp and Palmer amaranth) that are much more competitive and difficult to control because they produce more seeds, germinate and emerge over a longer period of time, and readily evolve resistance compared to the other species. Early season detection and identification is best for management options and preventing seed formation. Currently, these weeds are flowering and setting seed, and nothing short of a bean hook and pulling is going to remove them.



Waterhemp in Soybean field

[More Details](#)

### Corn Silage Moisture Testing

Dodge County Forage Council (DCFC) will be conducting corn silage moisture tests in partnership with local businesses. Area businesses will be collecting and sampling corn silage and the DCFC will report the moistures through Dodge County Extension on their UW-Extension website.

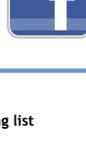
Businesses conducting silage moisture sampling at their plot days are Dairyland Seed & Farmer's Grain and Feed LLC – on September 6<sup>th</sup>; United Cooperative at their Answer Plot Day on September 7<sup>th</sup>; and Prospect Ag Services & Jung's Seed Plot Tour on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

In addition, several other businesses and individuals are running samples anytime they are dropped off. These locations are: Farmer's Elevator in Waupun (contact Ruben Hopp), Masters Choice (contact Brendon Blank), Universal Cooperative in Lebanon, Tilth Agronomy (contact Troy Christensen), United Cooperative, and Insight FS in Waupun.

Producers wanting their silage moisture tested need to bring samples to the plot days or individual business. Each sample should include 4 fresh stalks, taken from representative locations within the field. The stalks should be cut at normal silage harvesting height. Fold or cut the stalks into 2-3 foot lengths and place them into a garbage bag, to prevent dehydration. Label the samples with your name, town, phone number, field location, hybrid name, hybrid maturity, and corn planting date before delivering to the drop-off locations.

Moisture testing results will be made available on the UW-Extension website <http://dodge.uwex.edu/>, as well as through their Facebook page and the Dodge County Forage Council Facebook page. County results will also be posted to the University Wisconsin-Extension state-wide data collection website at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/ag/silagedrydown/>.

**Do not forget to check out our UW-Extension website for the latest information on programs and other pertinent dairy and crop production information.**



Questions or comments? Or to remove your name from our mailing list

E-mail us at [ldel@co.dodge.wi.us](mailto:ldel@co.dodge.wi.us) or call 920.386.3790

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