

# Agronomy Notes

Capital Region Extension Agronomy Team

Mark Goodson, Editor

## 2006 Capital Region Agronomy Winter Calendar

### State & Regional Events for Producers and Professionals

**90<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Farm Show**, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, January 7-14, 9AM -9PM.

**Keystone Farm Show** - York Expo Center, York, January 10-12. Pesticide points available.

**Soybean Rust Downlink** - To discuss preparation and response to Asian soybean rust following its first year in North America, and to provide critical updates on disease management through proper application of fungicides (Section 3 full label and Section 18 emergency label products, January 12, 7:00-9:00PM, Pesticide points/CCA points

- **Cumberland County**, Cumberland County Extension Office, Carlisle, (Lower Level Meeting Room) for registration contact : Emily Thomas: 717-240-6500
- **Lancaster County**, Farm and Home Center, , Lancaster, Side entrance: basement meeting room, Jeff Graybill: 717-394-6851
- **Perry County**, Perry County Cooperative Extension Office, New Bloomfield, Dave Swartz: 717-582-5150
- **York County**, Pleasant Acres Annex, York (Meeting Room 1), Mark Goodson: (717) 840-7408

**Pennsylvania Agronomic Education Conference**, Penn State Conference Center, University Park, January 17-18 Pesticide points/CCA points, Contact Mary Johnston (814) 234-9771

**Passing on the Farm Workshop**, Farm transitions and related issues, Pennsylvania Farm Link, Leola Family Restaurant, 9:30 AM-3:30 PM, January 24. Registration required by January 20. Contact Cheryl at Farm Link (717) 664-7077

### **Silage for Dairy Farms: Growing, Harvesting, Storing, and Feeding**

**Conference**, NRAES sponsored program for dairy farmers to improve profitability and reduce environmental impacts related to corn and hay crop production and management. Radisson Penn Harris Hotel and Convention Center, Camp Hill, January 23-25, Contact: NRAES (607) 255-7654

**Pennsylvania Grazing Conference and Hay & Silage Conference**, Holiday Inn, Grantville, PA, February 22-23, Contact: Richard Hann (717) 832-0127.

**Pennsylvania Corn, Soybean, and No-Till Conference**, New Cumberland Holiday Inn, January 27, Contact: Greg Roth (814) 863-1018.

**Pennsylvania No-Till Alliance Educational Conference**, Ramada Inn Conference Center, 1450 S Atherton St, State College, PA, March 15, Contact: Susan Parry, 717-948-6633 or Sjoerd Duiker, 814-863-7637

**Professional Pest Managers School**, Eden Resort, Lancaster, March 14, Contact: Mark Goodson (717) 840-7408.

BETTER CROPS AND PROFITABILITY

PENNSTATE



an **OUTREACH**  
program of  
the College of  
Agricultural  
Sciences

Capital Region Extension  
Agronomy Team  
112 Pleasant Acres Road  
York Pennsylvania 17402  
717-840-7408

January 2006

Upcoming Cooperative Extension Pesticide Re-certification Meetings					
Event	Date	Time	Place	Contact for info	Core/Cat
Keystone Farm Show	Jan 10 & 11	10 AM – 2:30 PM	York Expo Center	Mark Goodson 840-7408	2 + 2
Franklin Corn Clinic	January 24	9 AM to 3 PM	Kaufman Community Ctr	Jere Wingert 263-9226	2+2
Cumberland Crops Day	January 26	8:15 AM to 12:15 PM	Penn Twp Fire Hall, Huntsdale	John Rowehl 240-6500	2+2
Perry Corn Clinic	January 27	9:30 AM to 2:30 PM	Perry Valley Grange, Millerstown	Dave Swartz 582-5120	2+2
York Corn Clinic	January 31	8:30 AM – 2:30 PM	York 4-H Center	Mark Goodson 840-7408	2+2
Solanco Pesticide Ed	February 1	9:30 AM – Noon	Hoffman Center	Jeff Graybill 394-6851	2+2
Solanco Pesticide Ed	February 1	7 PM – 9:00 PM	Hoffman Center	Jeff Graybill 394-6851	2+2
Upper Dauphin Crops School	February 8	5:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Upper Dauphin High School	Paul Craig 921-8803	2+2
York Pesticide Education	February 9	10 AM – Noon	Pleasant Acres	Mark Goodson 840-7408	2+2
York Pesticide Education	February 9	7 PM – 9 PM	Pleasant Acres	Mark Goodson 840-7408	2+2
Lancaster Pesticide Ed	February 14	9:30 AM – Noon	Farm & Home Center	Jeff Graybill 394-6851	2+2
Lancaster Pesticide Ed	February 14	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Farm & Home Center	Jeff Graybill 394-6851	2+2
Perry Pesticide Education	February 20	10 AM – noon	Extension Office	Dave Swartz 582-5150	2+2
Lebanon Farm Family Day	February 22	9 AM - 3:30 PM	County Fairgrounds	Del Voight 270-4391	2+2
York Pesticide Education	March 7	10 AM – Noon	Pleasant Acres	Mark Goodson 840-7408	2+2
York Pesticide Education	March 7	7 PM – 9 PM	Pleasant Acres	Mark Goodson 840-7408	2+2
Cumberland Pesticide Ed	March 8	1 PM – 3 PM	Extension Office	John Rowehl 240-6500	2+2
Cumberland Pesticide Ed	March 8	7 PM – 9 PM	Extension Office	John Rowehl 240-6500	2+2
Adams Pesticide Ed	March 15	1 PM – 3 PM	Adams County Ag Center	Paul Craig 921-8803	2+2
Adams Pesticide Ed	March 15	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM	Adams County Ag Center	Paul Craig 921-8803	2+2
Upper Dauphin Pesticide Ed	March 28	7 PM – 9 PM	Upper Dauphin Area H.S.	Paul Craig 921-8803	2+2
Dauphin Pesticide Ed	March 29	7 PM – 9 PM	Ag & Ntrl Resource Ctr	Paul Craig 921-8803	2+2
Lebanon Pesticide Ed	March 30	1:30 PM – 3:30 PM	Extension Office	Del Voight 270-4391	2+2
Lebanon Pesticide Ed	March 30	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM	Extension Office	Del Voight 270-4391	2+2
Lower Dauph. Pest Ed	March 30	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Holiday Inn East, Exit 1 I-283 & 441	Paul Craig 921-8803	2+2
Lancaster Pesticide Ed	March 30	7:00 – 9:00 PM	Farm & Home Center Office	Jeff Graybill 394-6851	2+2

## Corn Clinics & Crop Days - County Educational Meetings for Farmers

- Franklin County Corn Clinic, Kaufman Community Center, Marion, PA 9:00AM to 3:00PM, January 24 Contact: Jere Wingert (717) 263-9226, Pesticide points.
- Cumberland County Crops Day, Penn Township Fire Hall, Huntsdale, January 26, Contact: John Rowehl (717) 240-6500, Pesticide points.
- Perry County Corn Clinic, Perry Valley Grange, Millerstown, 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM, January 27, Contact: Dave Swartz (717) 582-5150, Pesticide points.
- York County Corn Clinic, York 4-H Center, Bair, 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM, January 31, Contact: Mark Goodson (717) 840-7408, Pesticide points.
- Upper Dauphin Crops School, Upper Dauphin High School, 5:30 PM – 9:30 PM, February 8, Contact: Paul Craig (717) 921-8803, Pesticide points.
- Lebanon Farm Family Day, Lebanon Valley Expo, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM, February 22, Contact: Del Voight (717) 270-4391, Pesticide points.

## Soil Fertility and Nitrogen Management Workshops for Farmers & Crop Advisers

- **Lebanon County Soil Fertility Workshop**, Lebanon County Ag Center, February 16, 9:00AM-3:00PM, Contact: (717) 840-7408, CCA points. Direct mailing will be sent to farmers in Lebanon County.
- **Franklin County Soil Fertility Workshop**, Franklin Co. Extension Office, February 28, 9:00AM-3:00PM, Contact (717) 840-7408, CCA points. Direct mailing will be sent to farmers in Franklin County.

**Site Specific Nitrogen Management Tools for Corn Producers** – York County farmers will receive a direct mailing for these events.

- York County Nitrogen Management Tools School, Chlorophyll Meter/PSNT/Stalk Nitrate Test, York County 4-H Center, March 22, 7:00PM-9:00PM, Contact: (717) 840-7408
- York County Nitrogen Management Tools School, Chlorophyll Meter/PSNT/Stalk Nitrate Test, Pleasant Acres County Annex, March 23, 7:00PM-9:00PM, Contact: (717) 840-7408
- York County Nitrogen Management Tools School, Chlorophyll Meter/PSNT/Stalk Nitrate Test, Pleasant Acres County Annex, March 24, 9:00AM-12:00 Noon, Contact: (717) 840-7408

## PA Crop Insurance News January 2006

### 2006 Risk Management Planning

Now is the time to start firming-up your risk management plans for 2006. This includes planning for increased profitability as well as managing downside risk exposures when things go wrong. Profit planning for many producers starts with studying 2005 crop year performance records of yields and related inputs (identifying the best performing seeds, fertilizer, chemicals, crop insurance choices, and etc.).

We have heard reports of the added income that some producers realized from preharvest marketing (i.e. \$2.30s and 2.40s vs. \$2 corn in 2005). To keep on top of the tools and strategies, consider getting involved in a marketing club where you'll have the opportunity to interact with other producers and experts to sort out the pros and cons of the various marketing strategies. Be sure to check out how CRC crop insurance protection can reduce your marketing risk exposures too. If you need

help finding a marketing club, ask your county extension agent for help.

### 2006 Crop Insurance Changes

**GRP & GRIP for Corn:** These two new corn crop insurance plans are available in 47 PA counties. They are Group Risk Plan (GRP) and Group Risk Income Protection (GRIP). GRP is yield based while GRIP is revenue based. These programs are based on county NASS data adjusted by RMA/USDA. Producers can purchase a fixed dollar amount of coverage and a percentage of the county yield loss trigger from 70 to 90% (CAT is also available for GRP only). Generally, a yield loss triggers for GRP when the county yield for the year is less than the historical county average (expected) yield times percentage trigger. GRIP works similarly except that the county yield information is converted to dollars using spring and fall CBOT prices. These programs usually provide more dollars of protection at less premium cost...but losses only trigger when the county average declines more than the historical average times the percentage loss trigger. However, reports from the

Midwest are that these programs are gaining in popularity among producers there because producers feel that declines in county average yields adequately reflect their individual farm losses

**AGR-Lite:** Important improvements have resulted from efforts initiated by the PA Dept. of Ag and approved by USDA. These include: increasing the maximum policy size from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000 (producers with annual commodity income of \$2,000,000 or less can qualify), producers with only one commodity revenue source can qualify for all 65% and 75% coverage level choices (only 3 revenue sources are required for 80% coverage), a broader and more clearly defined causes of loss definition, and an extended enrollment period until 3/15/06 for new applicants.

This whole farm revenue coverage provides dollars of protection based on a percentage of the producer's revenue history and projections for the current year, plus

***Capital Region Agronomy Team  
Extension Educators***

Paul Craig, Forages  
Dauphin County  
phc8@psu.edu

Mark Goodson, Soils  
York County  
mwg1@psu.edu

Bill Ferris, Agronomy  
Fulton County  
bferris@psu.edu

Jeff Graybill, Agronomy  
Lancaster County  
jsg18@psu.edu

John Rowehl, Grain  
Cumberland County  
jrowehl@psu.edu

Del Voight, IPM  
Lebanon County  
dgv1@psu.edu

Jere Wingert, Agronomy  
Franklin County  
jlw261@psu.edu

***Landisville Research and  
Extension Center***

Lancaster County  
Dave Johnson, Director  
dhj3@psu.edu  
(717) 653-4728

current year market fluctuations. It includes commodity revenues from almost all farm products. The revenue to count for poor quality and low quantity losses, due to insurable cause, is determined directly from the market place. This program can be used separately or in conjunction with MPCI-APH, CRC and IIP... and AGR-Lite premiums are discounted up to 50% for such combinations.

Producers have numerous ways to insure their farm commodities for 2006 (many corn producers have up to 9). Contact a crop insurance agent for details.

**Gene Gantz  
USDAIRMA  
717-497-6398**

***Penn State Cooperative  
Extension Offices  
Capital Region***

Adams	(717) 334-6271
Cumberland	(717) 240-6500
Dauphin	(717) 921-8803
Franklin	(717) 263-9226
Fulton	(717) 485-4111
Lancaster	(717) 394-6851
Lebanon	(717) 270-4391
Perry	(717) 582-5150
York	(717) 840-7408

Where trade names appear, no discrimination is intended, and no endorsement by Penn State Cooperative Extension is implied. Although every attempt is made to produce information that is complete, timely, and accurate, the pesticide user bears the responsibility of consulting the pesticide label and adhering to those directions.

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

The Pennsylvania State University is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to programs, facilities, admission, and employment without regard to personal characteristics not related to ability, performance, or qualifications as determined by University policy or by state or federal authorities. It is the policy of the University to maintain an academic and work environment free of discrimination, including harassment. The Pennsylvania State University prohibits discrimination and harassment against any person because of age, ancestry, color, disability or handicap, national origin, race, religious creed, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Discrimination or harassment against faculty, staff, or students will not be tolerated at The Pennsylvania State University. Direct all inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy to the Affirmative Action Director, The Pennsylvania State University, 328 Boucke Building, University Park, PA 16802-5901, Tel 814-865-4700/V, 814-863-1150/TTY.

Penn State encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact Mark Goodson at (717) 840-7408 in advance of your participation or visit.

