

Agronomy Notes

Edited by Jeff Graybill & Tina Gross

Capital Region Extension Agronomy Team

2007 County Crops and Soils Meetings *No-till Crop Production: Putting the Pieces Together*

Dates and Locations

January 25
Cumberland County
Penn Township Fire Hall

January 26
Perry County
Perry Mennonite Reception Center

January 29
Lancaster County
Farm and Home Center

January 30
Franklin County
Kauffman Community Center

January 31
York County
4-H Center

February 6
Lebanon County
Lebanon Valley Expo Center

February 7
Dauphin County
Upper Dauphin High School

Topics Covered *

- Variety Selection and Considerations for No-till Situations
- Pest Management: Weed, Disease and Insect Control Issues and Strategies
- Cover Crops: Essential Components of Successful No-till
- Panel of Successful No-till Farmers Share Their Insights
- Soil fertility, pH and Nutrient Management for No-till
- No-till Equipment: Attachments, Residue Management, Seedbed Preparation

* Specific program topics may vary by County

Call the local Extension Office for details:

Cumberland County	717-240-6500
Dauphin County	717-921-8803
Franklin County	717-263-9226
Lancaster County	717-394-6851
Lebanon County	717-270-4391
Perry County	717-582-5150
York County	717-840-7408

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BETTER CROPS AND PROFITABILITY

grow

PENNSTATE



an OUTREACH
program of
the College of
Agricultural
Sciences

Capital Region Extension
Agronomy Team
1451 Peters Mountain Road
Dauphin PA 17018
717-921-8803

January 2007

URGENT!

State and Regional Events for Producers and Professionals

91st Pennsylvania Farm Show - January 6-13, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, PA, 9AM-9PM

For more information: 717-787-5373 or farmshow@state.pa.us

Keystone Farm Show - January 9-11, York Expo Center, York, PA, 9AM-4PM

Pennsylvania Agronomic Education Conference - January 16-17, Penn Stater Conference Center & Hotel, State College, PA. 16.00 CCA credits, 2.0 Nutrient Management credits (PDA). Registration fee is \$125 by Jan. 2nd. Walk-in fee is \$145. Contact Mary Johnston at 814-234-8771 or mej6@psu.edu

Southeast PA Crops Conferences - Each meeting runs 9AM-2:30PM and 6PM-8:30PM. "2 x 2" pesticide points. Contact your local Extension Office for more details.

- **January 23** at the Days Inn in Allentown, PA
- **January 24** at the Franconia Heritage Restaurant in Franconia, PA
- **January 25** at The Inn in Reading, PA

Corn, Soybean and No-till Crop Conference - January 26, Holiday Inn, New Cumberland, PA 9AM-3PM. Pre-registration fee is \$25 and \$30 at the door. Contact Lisa Cryster at 814-865-2543 or lac8@psu.edu

Farming for the Future Conference - February 1-3, Penn Stater Conference Center & Hotel, State College, PA. Visit www.pasafarming.org or call 814-349-9856 for more details. Conference sponsored by PASA (PA Association for Sustainable Agriculture)

Passing on the Farm Workshop - February 15, Leola Restaurant, Leola, PA. Contact Lebanon Co. Extension Office at 717-270-4391 or LebanonExt@psu.edu



Making More Money with The Same Number of Cows - Reducing Cow Damage and Death Losses 1-Day Workshops at the following dates & locations:

February 19, Ickesburg Firehall;
February 20, Family Lighthouse Rest., Chambersburg; February 21, Shady Maple Rest., East Earl; February 22, Cabelas, Harrisburg. Call: (717) 840-7408, or your local Extension office.

Pennsylvania Forage and Grazing Conference - February 27-28, Holiday Inn, Grantville, PA. Sponsored jointly by National Grass Fed Beef Conference. Feb. 27 will focus on hay production and harvesting. Feb. 28 will focus on grazing. Contact Richard Hann at 717-832-0127 or Hannr54@comcast.net

Capital Region Farm Management Conference - February 28, 9:30AM-2:45PM, Lebanon Valley Conference Center, Lebanon. This conference is designed to help you grow profits, learn management skills and earn pesticide credits. \$5 registration fee. Contact Norma Swanger at 717-270-4391 or njs14@psu.edu

Capital Region Grazing Schools - March 1, 8, 15, Lebanon Valley Expo Center, 6:30PM-9:30PM. Contact Clyde Myers for more information at 717-270-4391 or cam11@psu.edu

Pennsylvania No-till Alliance Conference - March 14-15, Ramada Inn, State College, PA. Contact Jeff McClellan at 814-863-4260 or jtm23@psu.edu.

Disease, Weed and Insect Management in No-Till Cropping Systems

February 13 - Cumberland County Extension Office

February 14 - Lancaster County Farm and Home Center



9AM-3PM. Cost is \$10. Preregistration requested. CCA points available.
Contact Del Voight at 717-270-4391 or dgv1@psu.edu

Cooperative Extension Meetings Offering Re-certification Credits					
Event	Date	Time	Place	Contact	Core/Cat
Keystone Farm Show	Jan 9 & 10	10:00AM to 3:30 PM	York Expo Center	Paul Craig 921-8803	2+2
Cumberland Crops Day	January 25	9:00AM to 2:30PM	Penn Township Fire Hall	John Rowehl 240-6500	1+1 minimum
Perry Corn Clinic	January 26	9:30AM to 2:30PM	Perry Mennonite Reception Ctr	Dave Swartz 582-5150	2+2
Lancaster Crops Day	January 29	9:00AM to 2:30PM	Farm & Home Center	Jeff Graybill 394-6851	2+2
Franklin Corn Clinic	January 30	9:00AM to 3:00PM	Kaufman Community Center	Jere Wingert 263-9226	2+2
York Corn Clinic	January 31	9:00AM to 3:00PM	York 4-H Center	John Rowehl 240-6500	1+1 minimum
Lebanon No-till Clinic	February 6	9:30 AM to 2:30 PM	Extension Office	Del Voight 270-4391	1+1 minimum
Upper Dauphin Crops School	February 7	6:30PM to 9:30PM	Upper Dauphin High School	Paul Craig 921-8803	2+2
York Pesticide Update	February 14	1 - 3:00PM & 7 - 9:00PM	Extension Office	John Rowehl 240-6500	2+2
Solanco Pesticide Update	February 20	9:30 - 12PM & 7 - 9:00PM	Hoffman Center	Jeff Graybill 394-6851	2+2
Cumberland Pesticide Update	February 27	1 - 3:00PM & 7 - 9:00PM	Extension Office	John Rowehl 240-6500	2+2
Lebanon Farm Management Day	February 28	10:00AM to 3:00PM	County Fairgrounds	Del Voight 270-4391	2+2
York Pesticide Update	February 28	1 - 3:00PM & 7 - 9:00PM	Extension Office	John Rowehl 240-6500	2+2
Upper Dauphin Pesticide Update	March 27	7:00PM to 9:00PM	Upper Dauphin Area H.S.	Paul Craig 921-8803	2+2
Dauphin Pesticide Update	March 28	7:00PM to 9:00PM	Ag & Natural Resource Ctr	Paul Craig 921-8803	2+2
Lancaster Pesticide Update	March 29	7:00PM to 9:00PM	Extension Office	Jeff Graybill 394-6851	2+2
Lebanon Pesticide Update	March 29	1 - 3:00PM & 7 - 9:00PM	Extension Office	Del Voight 270-4391	2+2

“Winning the Game” - Real Life Marketing Decisions

To help farmers put together a winning grain-marketing game plan, Penn State Cooperative Extension is offering a workshop designed to enhance farmers’ grain marketing skills. This course offers practical, easy-to-execute advice to help farmers secure a good average price for the crop.

Developed by the University of Minnesota Center for Farm Financial Management, the workshop simulates real-life marketing decisions, enabling farmers to practice marketing without the risk of losing actual money. Participants will put their marketing acumen to work, making marketing decisions based on actual market information. “Winning the Game” participants will get a greater understanding of seasonal grain prices, how to use crop insurance as part of the strategy, and how to develop a marketing plan for their farm. Attendees will also simulate a year of marketing decisions, deciding whether to purchase crop insurance and forward contract their grain. They’ll see the results of the decisions, not just for one year, but against 15 years of actual market prices.

Thursday, February 8, 2007 from 9A-2:30P at Lion’s Pride (Great American Saloon) in Red Lion, PA
To register, call 717-840-7408. For more information, call John Rowehl at 717-240-6500 or jer2@psu.edu
Cost is \$20 and pre-registration is required. (Deadline is February 1)

2007 Crop Insurance News

2007 Risk Management Planning

Now is the time to start firming-up your risk management plans for 2007 spring crops. This includes planning for increased profitability, which includes managing downside risk exposures when things go wrong. Profit planning for many producers starts with studying 2006 crop year performance records of yields and related inputs (identifying the best performing seeds, fertilizer, chemicals, crop insurance choices, and etc.).

Good Records are Valuable

Accurate 2006 production records are very useful in determining your best yielding varieties and are required for updating your actual production history (APH) on which your 2007 crop insurance protection is based. Crop insurance has very stringent record requirements. A detailed system that meets RMA/USDA standards is available at the website: cropins.aers.psu.edu. The guide contains methods of calculating the bushels/tons of farm-stored production. Don't forget to apply "pack factors" to farm stored grains, as it increases the bushels. They are also available at the website.

Risks Increasing

Risk exposures will be higher than normal in 2007. In addition to the abnormal weather and related risks, the expansion of ethanol and bio-diesel may change traditional demand for corn and soybean crops, adding increased price volatility. Meet with a crop insurance agent soon to review the various insurance plans and determine which protection option best meets your 2007 protection needs. Ask for side-by-side comparisons and premium quotes. Federal and \$3 million state premium cost sharing certainly makes the premiums more affordable. Crop insurance works in PA. It increased net farm income over \$100 million over the past 5 years.

Gene Gantz
RMA/USDA
717-497-6398

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.

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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 the host county in advance of your participation or visit.

Crop Meeting Specifics

Cumberland County Crops Day, January 25, Penn Township Fire Hall, Huntsdale, PA 9:00AM-2:30PM, Contact: John Rowehl at 717-240-6500, Cost: \$5.00. Pesticide points available.

Perry County Corn Clinic, January 26, Perry Menonite Reception Center, Green Park, PA, 9:30 AM-2:30 PM, . Contact Dave Swartz at 717-582-5150. Cost: \$6.50. Pesticide points available.

Lancaster County Crops Day, January 29, Farm & Home Center, Lancaster, PA 9:00AM-2:30PM. Contact: Jeff Graybill at 717-394-6851. Cost: \$5.00. Pesticide points available.

Franklin County Corn Clinic, January 30, Kaufman Community Center, Marion, PA 9:00AM-3:00PM. Contact: Jere Wingert at 717-263-9226. Pesticide points available.

York County Corn Clinic, January 31, York 4-H Center, Bair, 9:00AM-2:30PM. Contact: John Rowehl at 717-240-6500. Cost: \$5.00. Pesticide points available.

Lebanon No-till Farmer to Farmer Production Meeting, Lebanon Extension Office. 9:30AM-2:30 PM. Contact: Del Voight (717) 270-4391. Cost \$5.00

Upper Dauphin Crops School, February 7, Upper Dauphin High School, 6:30PM-9:30PM. Contact: Paul Craig at 717-921-8803. Cost: \$5.00. Pesticide points.

Lebanon Farm Management Day, February 28, Lebanon Valley Expo Center, 10AM-3 PM. Contact: Del Voight at 717-270-4391. Cost: \$5.00. Pesticide points available.

