

Newton County Ag Scene

May/June, 2015

Andrew Martin, Extension Educator, ANR

Email: andrewmartin@purdue.edu



Plant & Pest Diagnostic Lab

The Purdue University Plant and Pest Diagnostic Laboratory (PPDL) specializes in the identification of plant diseases, insects and plants, as well as in the diagnosis of plant-health related problems. The lab is a source of unbiased information regarding pest management strategies and provides training for plant and pest related problems. The lab strives to provide accurate and rapid identification of:

- Fungal, bacterial and viral plant diseases
- Insects and other arthropods
- Insect damage
- Unknown plants, including terrestrial and aquatic weeds
- Vertebrate pests
- Environmental/cultural injury to plants



Per sample handling fee/routine diagnosis/digital images:

- Indiana resident - \$11
- Outside of Indiana - \$22

Additional fees may apply. For more information on fees and services, to download forms, or to submit digital images for diagnosis, visit their website: <http://www.ppdl.purdue.edu/services.html> or call them at 765-494-7071.

Intro to Farm Estate Planning

Are you preparing for changes concerning the farm estate? Do you sometimes worry about getting this started? Are you the only person who knows what is going on for the estate? This program can help you get the process started. Some of the topics that will be covered are communication with different generations, introduction to issues in estate planning, introduction to estate taxes, and contingency planning for your family farm.

This program will be held on Thursday, June 18 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm EDT at the Benton County Government Annex in Fowler. Speakers will be Michael Langemeier, Associate Director at the Center for Commercial Ag at Purdue, Macy Fawns, Extension Educator, ANR, Benton County and Andrew Martin, Extension Educator, ANR, Newton County. The cost of the program is \$15.00, which includes lunch. Please RSVP by June 10 at Andrew at 219-285-8620, ext. 2800.

Plan to Dispose of Unwanted Pesticides

Provided by Office of the Indiana State Chemist, 765-494-1492, www.isco.purdue.edu

The Indiana Pesticide Clean Sweep Project designed to collect and dispose of suspended, canceled, banned, unusable, opened, unopened or just unwanted pesticides (weed killers, insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, matricide's, etc.) is being sponsored by the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC). This disposal service is free of charge up to 250 pounds per participant. Over 250 pounds there will be a \$2.00 per pound charge. This is a great opportunity for you to legally dispose of unwanted products at little or no cost. All public and private schools, golf courses, nurseries, farmers, Ag dealers, cities, towns, municipalities and county units of government or others receiving this notice are eligible to participate. Pesticides will be accepted from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. local time at the following dates and locations in August, 2015: August 18: Miami County Fairgrounds, Peru, IN; August 19: Elkhart County Fairgrounds, Goshen, IN; August 20: Randolph County Fairgrounds, Winchester, IN; August 26: Decatur County Fairgrounds, Greensburg, IN; August 27: Hendricks County Fairgrounds, Danville, IN. To dispose of pesticides, first, complete the Pesticide Clean Sweep Planning Form to the best of your ability found at <http://www.oisc.purdue.edu/pesticide/cleansweep.html>.

Mail, fax or e-mail the completed form to Kevin Neal at OISC, 175 S. University, W. Lafayette, IN 47907-2063, 765-494-4331, or nealk@purdue.edu no later than Monday, July 30, 2015. Then bring your labeled, leak free and safe to transport containers to the collection site. DO NOT mix materials. In case of an emergency, you should bring with you a list of products you are carrying and a contact phone number. OISC reserves the right to cancel this Pesticide Clean Sweep Project if there is not adequate demand. Participants submitting the planning form by August 3, 2015 will be contacted immediately if cancellation is necessary.

Are Your Fields Listed at Driftwatch.org?

Andrew Martin ANR Educator

Vegetable, fruit, and organic farmers can register their production areas on **Driftwatch.org** to let commercial pesticide applicators know where the fields are. Beekeepers can also register sites where beehives are located. Once sites are registered and approved they appear on the Driftwatch registry map and partnering applicators are notified. This helps applicators reduce drift or accidental application to vegetable crops. Registration is free and easy. Why not do it today? Visit **Fieldwatch.org** to find the user guide with instructions. If you registered fields last year you will need to renew the sites in order for them to show up in the registry this year. When renewing, it isn't necessary to reenter all the information, just what has changed for 2015. Instructions for renewal are also online.

Grain: Danger is just seconds away

Do friends who visit know the danger of grain? Kids can be intrigued and investigate the flowing of grain in just seconds! By Andrew Martin, ANR Educator

With today's high-capacity loading and unloading systems, people are helpless in flowing grain within seconds. Workers also may be trapped in grain when a horizontal bridge of crusted grain collapses or in the avalanche of a vertical grain wall inside a bin. Countless people have experienced a "close call," that is, they have found themselves either trapped in grain or swept through an outlet in flowing grain. The most common remark of survivors is that they never anticipated the tremendous force of grain.

Children or guests, who may be intrigued by flowing grain are at risk. If they choose to investigate this phenomenon, they can be trapped in seconds and suffocate. The following are a few rules you may want to implement to prevent your farm guests and farm family from becoming a tragic statistic due to grain incidents.

- Always lock all access doors to grain storage structures.
- Lock out power to all types of grain-handling equipment.
- Use the buddy system when you are unloading or loading grain, notifying a second person where you are.
- Never permit children to ride in grain wagons or enter grain storage areas.
- Always know where ALL family members are (especially children) at all times when grain is being loaded, unloaded, moved or otherwise handled



In the past 50 years, there have been over 900 grain entrapments

It takes 300 lbs of force to free someone from a grain entrapment



FATALITY RATES OF GRAIN ENTRAPMENTS ARE OVER 60%