



Agri-Scope

2857 W. State Road 2, Suite A, LaPorte, IN 46350
 (219) 324-9407, (219) 874-5611, Fax (219) 326-7362
www.extension.purdue.edu/laporte

February 2019

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Women in Ag Workshops	2
Beef 101	3
<i>On Local Government</i>	3
Wyckoff Winter Meeting	3
LP Row Crop/SWCD Mtg	3
IN Small Farm Conference	4
Forage Council	4
Pulaski Co Crop Update	4
Irrigated Corn/Soybean Wrkshp	5
Marshall Co Crops Update	5
Greenhouse/High Tunnel Mtg	5
IN Organic Grain Mtg	6
Fruit Pruning Workshop	6
Co-Alliance Grower Meetings	6
Elkhart Co Soil Health Mtg	7
Jasper Co Winter Mtg	7
Backyard Fruit Series	7
Watershed Steward Program	8
Clinton Co Soil Health Wrkshp	8
Mental Health First Aid	8
Boone Co Cover Crop Fld Day	9
FSA MFP Sign-up Deadlines	9
2019 Dicamba information	10
2019 Crop Insurance	10

Gene Matzat, Extension Educator,
 Ag & Natural Resources
 Purdue University
 Cooperative Extension Service

Purdue University, Indiana
 Counties and U.S. Department of
 Agriculture Cooperating
 An Affirmative Action/
 Equal Opportunity Institution

PURDUE
EXTENSION

Midwest Women in Ag Conference – February 20-21

Two nationally recognized speakers who are active proponents for telling the story of agriculture will keynote the **2019 Midwest Women in Agriculture Conference**, Feb. 20-21 at the Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, Indiana. The keynote speakers are Kim Bremmer and social media star Michelle Miller, who is also known as "the Farm Babe." Bremmer, who started *Ag Inspirations*, will share stories and offer ideas to help conference attendees build confidence in how they deliver their message in everyday conversations. Miller will discuss how those involved in agriculture can better tell their story to consumers, many of whom don't know farmers and are several generations removed from any ties to the farm.

The conference agenda has programs on farm financial planning, telling your story and building a social media network. There are also breakout sessions on farm production, diversifying your operation, building an online business presence and utilizing resources available on the farm.

The conference will build around the Purdue Women in Agriculture mission, which includes addressing the personal, family and farm issues that affect women's lives, their families and farm businesses. The objective is to build a network of support for the emotional well-being of farm families and their operations' profitability. A wide variety of topics are addressed and an environment is created that lets women know they are not alone in their farming endeavor.

For more information or to register, go to the conference website at <https://ag.purdue.edu/extension/WIA/>.

Important Dates to Remember

Feb. 14	Beef 101 Series begins	Mar. 5	Marshall Co Crops Update
Feb. 19-21	Women in Ag Conference	Mar. 6 & 7	IN Organic Grain Farmer Mtg
Feb. 19	2019 Crop Insurance Wbnr	Mar. 8	Fruit Pruning Workshop
Feb. 20	<i>On Local Government</i>	Mar. 12	Co-Alliance Grower Meetings
Feb. 22	Wyckoff Hybrids Meeting	Mar. 12	IN Watershed Steward Prgm
Feb. 23	SWCD/Row Crop Meeting	Mar. 12	Elkhart Co Soil Health Mtg
Feb 28 -		Mar. 12	Jasper Co Winter Crop Wrkshp
Mar. 3	IN Small Farm Conference	Mar. 12	Backyard Fruit Production starts
Feb. 28	IN Forage Council Mtg/Sem	Mar. 13	Soil Health Workshop
Mar. 1	Pulaski Co Crops Update	Mar. 14	Mental Health First Aid
Mar. 5	Irrigated Corn/Soybean	Mar. 20	Boone Co Cover Crop Field Day
Mar. 5	Michiana High Tunnel Mtg	May 1	MFP-Deadline to certify prod'n.

Preconference Programs at Midwest Women in Ag Conference – February 19-20

Mental Health First Aid will be offered as a preconference session on **February 19 & 20**. Registration will be from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. EST. You must attend all of session 1 and 2 to receive your certification in Mental Health First Aid.

Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour training to teach participants how to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The evidence behind the program demonstrates that it helps trainees identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. Mental Health First Aid is included on the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices.

If you work with or in the agriculture industry, this may be a valuable course to attend. The agriculture industry can be very stressful with possible on-the-farm injuries, large loans for land and equipment, and volatile pricing. These circumstances lead to high rates of stress and leave individuals looking for ways to cope, which puts a strain on their mental health and overall well-being, as well as that of their families.

Nearly 75% of farmers and farmworkers say they have been directly impacted by the opioid epidemic. Individuals in the farming, fishing and forestry occupational group are statistically more likely to die by suicide than any other.

If you will also be attending the conference, registration is \$35. If you are not attending the conference, registration is \$50. You may register at the conference registration site <http://www.cvent.com/d/hbq3fl>

Produce Safety Rule Training will be offered on Tuesday, Feb. 19 at Pinney-Purdue Ag Center, 11402 S. County Line Road, Wanatah, IN, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST. This program will cover an introduction to produce safety; worker health, hygiene and training; soil amendments; wildlife, domesticated animals and land use; agricultural production water and postharvest water; postharvest handling and sanitation; and how to develop a food-safety plan. In addition to these topics, key portions of the FMSA Produce Safety Rule are outlined in each module.

This training will meet the requirement for produce growers who are covered under the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule. Growers will learn how to safely and effectively manage produce food-safety risks on their farms.

The Produce Safety Rule sets standards to help ensure fruits and vegetables grown for human consumption are safely grown, harvested and packed. It takes a more proactive approach to preventing food safety issues, as opposed to simply reacting to problems.

Registration fee for the training is \$100 and includes a Grower Training manual, lunch and a certificate of completion from the Association of Food and Drug Officials. Registration is due Feb. 14 for the session in Wanatah.

Additional training sessions will be held at various locations around the state of Indiana. To register for any of the upcoming programs, go to <https://ag.purdue.edu/extension/safeproduce/Pages/training.aspx>.

Young Ladies in Agriculture Event will be a special evening program that is part of the Midwest Women in Ag Conference. It will take place on Wednesday, February 20, beginning at 4:30 p.m. EST at the Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, IN. Cost for the event is \$10/young lady. Each group can have one adult attend for free.

This year's theme is *From Food Fears to THE FARM BABE*. Michelle Miller (aka The Farm Babe) will be the evening's keynote speaker. She will discuss how in a world where social media is the #1 source of information nowadays, we in agriculture can better tell our stories? Michelle will share her journey to social media stardom and inspire others to step up to the plate, fight misinformed activists, and proudly communicate tough topics and all the success that is modern farming. If you would like to learn more about Michelle, her website is www.thefarmbabe.com.

The event will also include an opportunity for the young ladies to practice *Fighting Food Fears* through real-life scenarios created by Michelle. The evening will conclude with dinner and presentations from Indiana FFA State Officers.

Registration information is at <https://ag.purdue.edu/extension/WIA/>.



Beef 101 Series – February 14 –March 28

Purdue Extension-
Kosciusko County will be
offering a training series,
Beef 101, to help

individuals who are interested in starting to raise beef animals but need more knowledge for this agricultural enterprise. Having a beef herd can be very rewarding, but to be successful, understanding how to manage and care for that herd is essential. This training series is designed to provide a better understanding of the beef industry in Indiana and will teach examples of successful management styles that can be incorporated into starting up or building a current beef operation.

Beef 101 Sessions will be held at the Kosciusko County Extension office, 202 West Main Street, Warsaw, IN, on successive Thursdays from Feb. 14 through March 28, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Eastern time. Sessions will cover an introduction to the beef industry and basic business management; basic nutrition for the beef herd; pasture management, hay quality and fencing; selection and genetics; herd health; handling facilities and marketing; and successful reproduction.

Registration is \$100 for 1 or 2 people from the same operation (\$25 per each additional person) and includes handouts, resource materials and refreshments. To register, please call Kelly Heckaman at the Kosciusko County-Purdue Extension office at 574-372-2340 or email her at kheckaman@purdue.edu. A registration brochure and more information is available at www.extension.purdue.edu/laporte.



On Local Government – February 20

Folks interested in local government budgeting issues are invited to attend the next **On Local Government** session on **Wednesday, Feb. 20**, from **10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. CST** at the Purdue Extension – La Porte County office located at 2857 W. State Road 2, La Porte, IN. This program will

focus on the 2019 Indiana state budget and current legislative session. Dr. Larry DeBoer, Purdue Ag Economist, will help participants take a look at how the state budget is shaping up and what legislation might impact local government finances.

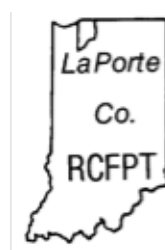
The webinar is free. To register to attend in person at the Extension office or to watch it on your own computer, please contact the Extension office at 219-324-9407 or email kulman@purdue.edu. You can also register at www.cdext.purdue.edu.

Wyckoff Hybrids Winter Meeting – February 22

A workshop focusing on crop production issues will be hosted by Wyckoff Hybrids on Friday, Feb. 22, at their production facilities located at 594 E. 400 North, Valparaiso. A morning session beginning at 9:00 a.m. CST will include a discussion on managing tar spot in corn, effective use of cover crops and soil health, and efficient irrigation of row and specialty crops. An update on dicamba use in 2018 will be given and tips on measuring dry vs. liquid volumes of pesticides will be discussed. PARP, CCH and Certified Crop Adviser CEU credits will be available for those who attend the morning session.

After lunch, a BASF representative will present the 2019 mandatory dicamba training for those wanting to use the new dicamba products. A representative from Bayer Corp. will also conduct “fungicide university” to present information on proper fungicide use in row crops.

RSVP for this meeting by calling Wyckoff Hybrids at 219-299-6001.



La Porte County SWCD/Row Crop Annual Meeting – February 23

The joint annual meeting of the **La Porte County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)** and **Row Crop Producers** will be held on **Saturday morning, Feb. 23**, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Krueger Memorial Hall located at 801 Liberty Trail in Michigan City, IN.

The meeting will begin with a breakfast followed by the screening of a short video, “Hugh Hammond

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)



Bennett: The Story of America's Private Lands Conservation Movement," which describes the efforts of concerned folks in early 20th century to protect and conserve farmland from the problems of soil erosion,

mismanagement and depletion. The featured speaker will be Jeff Dukes of Purdue's Climate Change Research Center, who will review current research on climate change and the impacts on agriculture, forests, aquatic systems and other aspects of local communities here in the Midwest.

Both Row Crop and SWCD will conduct their respective annual business meetings and elections. There is no cost to attend the meeting, but those interested in attending are asked to RSVP to Chris Havens at La Porte County SWCD by calling him at 219-326-6808 Ext. 2116 or email him at chavens@laportecounty.org.



Indiana Small Farm Conference-Feb. 28-Mar. 3

Soil biology and urban agriculture highlight the 2019 **Indiana Small Farm Conference** in Danville, Indiana. The conference begins with a series of daylong workshops on **Thursday, Feb. 28**. Topics include writing a food safety plan, vegetable crop planning, mushroom cultivation, biological orcharding and two tours: on the subjects of agri-tourism and livestock processing.

Educational programs on **March 1 and 2** will cover topics ranging from vegetable and livestock production to farm management and marketing. Participants will also have an opportunity to network with Extension educators, expert speakers, other farmers and vendors. The small farm trade show with more than 50 vendors and poster session on various topics will also take place on these days.

Conference registration is open now with more information at <http://purdue.ag/sfc>. Registration ends on Feb. 20th.



Indiana Forage Council Annual Meeting & Seminar – February 28

The **Indiana Forage Council's** annual meeting and seminar is **February 28** at Turkey Run State Park,

8102 East Park Road, Marshall, IN. The meeting begins at 4:30 p.m. EST, supper follows at 6:00 p.m. EST, and the awards and seminar program begins by 7:00 p.m. EST. Attendance at the annual meeting is not a requirement for participation in the meal or seminar.

The seminar will feature two speakers. Sara Creech of Blue Yonder Organic Farm in Hendricks County, IN, who will discuss how personal tragedy led to healing through farming and how working with nature leads to restoration and hope.

The second speaker is Jarred Brooke, Purdue Extension Wildlife Specialist, who will discuss common farmland wildlife, their habitat needs, and steps forage producers can take to integrate wildlife that are less common today than they were several decades ago, back into their farms.

The meal and seminar cost is \$20. Please RSVP by Feb. 21 to Jason Tower at 812-678-4427 or towerj@purdue.edu.

Pulaski County Crops Update – March 1

Purdue Extension – Pulaski County will host a **crops update** on Friday, **March 1**, from **9:00 to 11:30 a.m. EST** at Bethel Bible Church, 6966 State Road 14, Winamac, IN (2 miles east of SR 39).

The update will feature Purdue Soils Specialist Jason Ackerson speaking on efficient soil sampling methods for precision agriculture and Purdue Fertility Specialist Jim Camberato presenting the latest research on soil fertility issues, including sulfur and nitrogen management. A PARP regulatory topic covering the updated Driftwatch registry program will also be presented.

Private and commercial pesticide applicators may receive credits for attending the program. Private applicators are asked to bring their license and \$10 for the PARP fee. To register or for further information, please contact Phil Woolery at 574-946-3412 or email him at pwoolery@purdue.edu.



Irrigated Corn & Soybean Production Workshop – March 5

Farmers who irrigate their corn and soybean crops will look forward to the **Irrigated Corn & Soybean Production Workshop** to get the latest university recommendations for managing these crops under irrigation. The workshop is planned for **Tuesday, March 5, 2019**, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EST at the Blue Gate Restaurant in Shipshewana.

Soybean topics will include managing white mold in irrigated fields and sulfur research on soybean in Indiana. Corn topics include irrigation scheduling and soil moisture monitoring for efficient nutrient management and crop watering and dealing with tar spot in corn. sion of projected market and input prices for corn and soybeans, including using the new crop basis tool to assist with marketing decisions.

Registration for this full day workshop is \$15 and will include the delicious Blue Gate family-style dinner complete with homemade pie for dessert. This workshop is partially funded by Indiana and Michigan corn and soybean checkoff programs.

Private applicator (PARP), commercial applicator (CCHs) and Certified Crop Adviser CEU credits will be available for both Indiana and Michigan folks. A registration flyer is available on the Purdue Extension – La Porte County website – www.extension.purdue.edu/laporte.

Marshall County Crops Update – March 5

Purdue Extension – Marshall County will host a **crops update** on Tuesday, **March 5**, from **7:00 to 9:30 p.m. EST** at the Marshall County Building, 112 W. Jefferson Street, Room 304 (3rd floor), Plymouth, IN

The 2019 Marshall County Crops Update will feature an information on 2018 herbicide drift issues and a review of dicamba herbicide label changes for 2019. There will also be a discussion of soybean cyst nematode (SCN) management based on Iowa State

University research. Finally, growers will get updates on two new pests affecting the county's corn fields: tar spot of corn and Asiatic garden beetle.

Private and commercial pesticide applicators may receive credits for attending the program. Private applicators are asked to bring their license and \$10 for the PARP fee. To register or for further information, please contact Robert Yoder at 574-935-8545 or email him at ryoder@purdue.edu.



Michiana Greenhouse & High Tunnel Growers Meeting – March 5

Vegetable growers who use high tunnels and greenhouses will be interested in a meeting on Tuesday, **March 5**, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EST at the Elkhart County Community Center. The **Michiana Greenhouse & High Tunnel Growers** meeting will focus on issues and challenges faced by these growers. A trade show will also be featured.

Sponsored by Purdue Extension and Michigan State Extension, expert speakers will provide information on current research on new and emerging practices for greenhouse and high tunnel growers. Topics will also include efficient greenhouse lighting to improve produce quality, irrigation and nutrient management in high tunnels, diseases and other plant disorders from seed to transplant time and insect pest controls including use of predatory insects. Growers will learn about Driftwatch, a voluntary registry program that helps reduce damage from chemical drift.

Registration is \$30 for first person from an operation and \$15 for each additional attendee from the same operation. Registrations are due by Feb. 26. Registration includes resource materials, lunch and trade show opportunities. A registration flyer is available at www.extension.purdue.edu/laporte.

Private applicators may get recertification credit for attending the entire meeting. Please bring your license and \$10 PARP fee.

The Elkhart County Community Center located on the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds, 17746 County Road 34 in Goshen, IN.



Indiana Organic Grain Farmer Meeting – March 6 and 7

Save the date for Indiana’s *only* conference focused on organic grain production! It’s Wednesday and Thursday, **March 6 and 7, 2019**, at the **Beck Agricultural Center** in West Lafayette, IN. This 4th annual meeting has expanded to a two-day conference with additional education and networking for organic grain farmers, ag professionals, and those considering a transition to organic grain. Participants have the option to register for one or both days of the program.

Day One (March 6): Curious about organic grain production or how to get started? Engage in a full-day workshop on transitioning to organic grain production.

Day Two (March 7): Expand your knowledge with general and breakout sessions (weed & fertility management, grain storage, livestock integration, soil health and value-added production), networking time, and an industry trade show.

Visit www.purdue.ag/organicgrainmeeting for more details and registration info. For more information on organic agriculture, visit www.purdue.edu/dffs/organicag or contact Michael O’Donnell by email modonnel@purdue.edu or call 765-284-8414.



Fruit Pruning Workshop – March 8

A pruning workshop for interested fruit growers will be held on Friday, **March 8**, from 1:00 to

4:00 p.m. EST at the Meigs Horticulture Research Farm located at the Throckmorton Purdue Ag Center, 9101 S 100 E, Lafayette, IN. Check-in starts and 12:30 p.m. EDT. A snow/rain date is March 15th (same time; same location).

The workshop will feature demonstrations of pruning grapes, apples, peaches and brambles. Hands-on experience will be provided for participants, so please dress appropriately. Participants are asked to pre-register by March 6; registration fee is \$10 payable at the event. Please register online at <http://bit.ly/2019PruningWorkshop>.



Co-Alliance Meeting “Piecing Together Farming in 2019” – March 12

Co-Alliance will be offering free grower meetings in northern Indiana on **Tuesday, March 12**, in the morning at their Malden facility located at 210 E 400 S (SR 49) Valparaiso, IN, and in the afternoon at the Rolling Prairie Fire Department located at 3 West Michigan Street.

At Malden, a 2019 mandatory dicamba training will be offered from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. CST for those needing this annual training for using the new dicamba products in soybeans. Then, information will be presented on using data management tools to maximize opportunities while minimizing risks in the crops fields. A session will focus on investment returns using scouting, tissue sampling, fungicides, nitrogen management and understanding different hybrid trait platforms. There will also be an update on the global fertilizer market and its impact on your farm. The morning session will end around noon CST.

At Rolling Prairie, a 2019 mandatory dicamba training will be offered from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. CST for those needing this annual training for using the new dicamba products in soybeans. Then, information will be presented on using data management tools to maximize opportunities while minimizing risks in the crops fields.

(continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

A session will focus on investment returns using scouting, tissue sampling, fungicides, nitrogen management and understanding different hybrid trait platforms. There will also be an update on the global fertilizer market and its impact on your farm. The afternoon session will end around 4:30 p.m. CST.

Private applicator (PARP) credit will be available at either location with a presentation of the updated Driftwatch program as the regulatory topic and payment of the \$10 PARP fee. CEUs will also be available for crop advisers. Those interested for either session are asked to RSVP to Julie Malson of Co-Alliance at julie.malson@co-alliance.com or by calling either the Malden or Rolling Prairie locations.

Elkhart County Soil Health Meeting & Trade Show –March 12

Elkhart County SWCD will be hosting a meeting and trade show on conservation management called “Soak Up Your Resources” on Tuesday, **March 12**, from **9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EDT** at the Elkhart County Community Center located on the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds, 17746 County Road 34, Goshen, IN. The event is free with registration and lunch will be provided.

Presentations (speakers) will be “Resources and Realities” (Dave Brandt, Walnut Creek Seed, Carroll OH); “It’s too wet, It’s too dry” (Bob Clark III, Clark Farm Drainage, Newcastle IN); “Know Your Soil: What is its’ Potential?” (Hans Kok, CCA); and “Can I Afford to Not Plant Cover Crops?” (Ryan Moor, Beck’s Hybrids). A panel discussion with all of the presenters will conclude the meeting.

To register, please contact the Elkhart County SWCD Office at 574-533-4383 ext. 3 or register online at www.elkcoswcd.org.



Jasper County Winter Crop Workshop – March 12

Purdue Extension – Jasper County will host a **winter crop workshop** on **Tuesday, March 12**,

from **1:00 to 4:00 p.m. CDT** at the Jasper County

Fairgrounds Community Building located at 3671 West Clark Street in Rensselaer, IN.

The workshop will include topics covering integrated pest management application technologies, selecting personal protective gear for pesticide applicators, using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to assist with crop scouting in fields (experiences scouting fields in Jasper County from 2018). A special session called “Weathering the Storm in Agriculture: hot to Cultivate a Productive Mindset” will provide information and practical hints on managing stress often associated with farming.

Commercial and private applicators can get their respective credits by attending this meeting. Private applicators need to bring their license and \$10 for the PARP fee. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Bryan Overstreet at the Purdue Extension – Jasper County office at 219-866-4961 or email him at boverstr@purdue.edu.



Backyard Fruit Production – Begins March 12

A webinar-based series of five sessions to help those interested in backyard fruit production will be hosted at various locations around Indiana on 5 consecutive **Tuesdays, beginning March 12**, from **5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Central time** (6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Eastern time). This series offers current and aspiring backyard fruit growers the opportunity to learn from the experts about ways to increase the success and satisfaction of quality fruit production in their home landscape.

Session topics will include a program overview of general fruit culture, site selection, time requirements and sources of fruit information, plants, tools and products; small fruit production (grapes, blueberries, strawberries, brambles, etc.); small fruit pest management, including new invading fruit pests and their control; tree fruit management, variety and rootstock selection, fruit quality and pruning/training; tree fruit pest management including common insects and diseases and organic fruit production.

One of the host sites is Pinney Purdue Ag Center, 11402 S. County Line Road near Wanatah, IN.

(continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

Another local site will be Purdue Northwest – Westville campus, located at 1401 South US 421, Westville, IN. A campus map is available at <https://www.pnw.edu/visitors-guide/maps/westville-campus/>. Additional sites are listed in the registration brochure. Registration for all five sessions is \$40 per person (second person from the same home is free) and includes resource materials and session handouts. Registrations are due by Feb. 26 and may be completed online at <https://tinyurl.com/PurdueFruit2019>. For a registration brochure, please contact Purdue Extension – La Porte County at 219-324-9407 or visit www.extension.purdue.edu/laporte.



Indiana's New Watershed Steward Program – Begins March 12

If you have a keen interest in the environment, a willingness to learn, and most importantly, a strong desire to make a difference in your community, then you may be interested in becoming a **Master Watershed Steward!** Indiana's new program will train volunteers in the basics of maintaining and enhancing community water resources.

The program involves 12 weeks of intensive training, then an exam. Volunteer hours will be required in your community following the training to become certified. There are even CEUs available for educators. **Classes begin Tuesday, March 12, 2019** and will continue weekly on Tuesdays until May 14. Training will take place at The Residences at Coffee Creek in Chesterton, IN, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Central time.

For more information about the program or to register for the training course, which is free, visit <https://indianawatershedprogram.wordpress.com> or contact Leslie Dorworth at ldorwort@pnw.edu. **Please note:** since this is the first time that this training is offered, a one-time **free registration** is being offered to encourage folks to participate!



Soil Health Workshop – March 13

A soil health workshop, *Managing for Healthy Soils*, will be conducted on Wednesday, **March 13**, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EDT in the 4-H Building at the Clinton County Fairgrounds, 1701 S. Jackson Street, Frankfort, IN. Register at 7:45 a.m. EDT.

The workshop will feature James Hoorman, Regional Soil Health Specialist with NRCS and Stephanie McLain, Indiana NRCS Soil Health Specialist. Topics for this workshop include: *Making No-Till Corn a Success; No-Till Drill and Planter Setup; Enhancing Earthworm Populations; Adapting Herbicides to No-Till and Cover Crops; Adapting to Extreme Weather Events*; and will also include Farmer Panel discussion facilitated by the Soil Health Specialists.

The agenda will include credits for private applicator credit; applicators are asked to bring their license and \$10.00 PARP fee. Crop adviser CEUs have been applied for and are pending approval.

There is no cost to attend however space is limited to the first 40 registrants. Lunch will be provided. Register via [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) or contact the Clinton County SWCD at 765-659-1223 Ext. 3 or by email at leah.harden@in.nacdnet.net



Mental Health First Aid – March 14

Mental Health First Aid will be offered in Kosciusko County at the Farm Bureau Insurance Building on Thursday, March 14, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EDT. Mental Health First Aid is open to **any** adult who is interested and wants to learn skills to assist those who may be in need. These courses have been attended by law enforcement, healthcare providers and professionals, school personnel, faith-based leaders, farmers, veterinarians, and concerned family members and friends.

(continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour training to teach participants how to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. Mental Health First Aid courses will educate on signs and symptoms of a variety of mental health disorders such as anxiety, depression, substance use, trauma and deliberate self-injury. Participants will learn how to assist those in need during specific situations in an attempt to get an individual appropriate help from a health professional. Raising awareness and understanding of these disorders can reduce the stigma often associated with seeking resources and care.

If you work with or in the agriculture industry, this may be a valuable course to attend. The agriculture industry can be very stressful with possible on-the-farm injuries, large loans for land and equipment, and volatile pricing. These circumstances lead to high rates of stress and leave individuals looking for ways to cope, which puts a strain on their mental health and overall well-being, as well as that of their families.

Nearly 75% of farmers and farmworkers say they have been directly impacted by the opioid epidemic. Individuals in the farming, fishing and forestry occupational group are statistically more likely to die by suicide than any other.

Registration to attend this all-day event (\$20) is required and includes a training workbook and lunch. For more details and to sign-up, visit: <http://www.cvent.com/d/h6q725>. Deadline to register is Thursday, March 7. If you have questions about this course, please contact Kelly Heckaman at the Purdue Extension-Kosciusko county office by phone at (574) 372-2340 or email at: kheckaman@purdue.edu.

If you can't participate in this session, please check for a listing of additional workshops at: www.extension.purdue.edu/opioids. Be sure to check the site often as more courses will be added throughout the year.



Boone County Cover Crop Field Day – March 20

Boone County SWCD and Purdue Extension will be hosting a **Cover Crop Field Day** on **Wednesday, March 20**, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. EDT in the Annex Building at the Boone County 4-H Fairgrounds located at 1300 E 100 S, Lebanon, IN.

Topics to be covered are *Maximizing Cover Crops and Building Soil Health; Herbicide Considerations with Cover Crops; 2019 Seed Issues and Pollinator Protection*. A visit to the Boone County cover crop field plot is planned, so please dress accordingly.

The event is free, but people are asked to register by March 18, since lunch will be provided. To register, call the Boone County SWCD at 765-482-6355, Ext. 3 or e-mail svaughn@co.boone.in.us. Credits will be available for private and commercial pesticide applicators. Private applicators are asked to bring their license and \$10 PARP fee.



MFP Sign-up Deadline Information

Agricultural producers have until **Feb. 14, 2019**, to sign up for USDA's Market Facilitation Program (MFP), launched last year to help producers suffering from damages due to unjustified trade retaliation.

Producers can apply without proof of yield but must certify 2018 production by **May 1, 2019**. Since its launch in September 2018, more than 864,000 producers have applied, supporting those hit hard with nearly \$8 billion in estimated payments. Producers in Indiana have received \$525 million in payments so far.

Mandatory Dicamba Training Information

On October 31, 2018, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that registrations for herbicides **Engenia, Xtendimax and FeXapan** were extended through December 20, 2020. This also marks the third time in the last three years that EPA revised the use directions on these labels. Most of the label revisions have been the result of record numbers of off-target movement (drift) complaints filed in major soybean producing states in 2017 and 2018.

Changes for 2019 may be viewed on the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC) website (www.oisc.purdue.edu).

Some of changes include:

- Engenia, Xtendimax and FeXapan are now “Restricted Use Pesticides for retail sale and use only by Certified Applicators.” This means only certified Private Applicators and Commercial Applicators (Category 1) can purchase OR use these products in 2019 and 2020.
- **Annual** “Mandatory Dicamba Training” will be required for all applicators.
- Mandatory training in 2019 will be the responsibility of the product registrants, NOT Purdue Extension. OISC recommends contacting suppliers or product registrants for details. Several of the programs listed in this newsletter include the 2019 mandatory dicamba training.
- Applicator records must be created within 72 hours of application.
- Post-emergence applications in dicamba-tolerant soybeans are prohibited later than 45 days after planting or R1 growth stage (and no later than June 20 in Indiana).

Complete information about dicamba use in 2019 visit: www.oisc.purdue.edu/pesticide/dicamba.html. Review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, which will be updated as new information is received.

Making Your 2019 Crop Insurance Decisions – February 19 Webinar

Please plan to join the upcoming webinar on Tuesday, February 19 "Making Your 2019 Crop Insurance Decisions" hosted by Purdue's Center for Commercial Agriculture. The webinar will begin at 1 p.m. and conclude at about 2 p.m. (EST)

During the webinar, Michael Langemeier and Jim Mintert will discuss the key issues facing crop producers making 2019 crop insurance decisions. Included will be estimated costs for the RP and ARP insurance products, use of enterprise units and coverage levels to consider, all designed to help you make an informed decision regarding your 2019 crop insurance choices. During the webinar, they will also review projections for the relative profitability of 2019 corn and soybean production in the Eastern Corn Belt.

The webinar is free, but you need to register at our website to participate. Visit <https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/> and click on the “Free Webinars” logo (see below) to register now. The morning of the webinar you'll receive a link to view the webinar. Please register in advance to make sure you receive the link. After the webinar, a link to view a recording of the webinar will be emailed.

