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**Pulaski County AG Newsletter**

**FALL, 2019**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

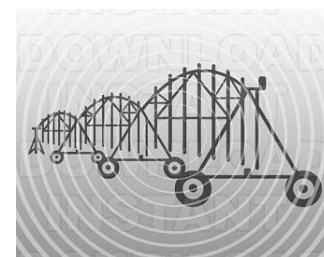
**Sept 26-27:** UAV training at Pinney Purdue

**Irrigation Provides Option for Nitrogen Application**

Irrigated crop production has the advantage of fertigation as an option in nitrogen management. Fertigation is the process of applying fertilizer through irrigation water. Liquid 28% nitrogen is the most common product for applied through irrigation. Fertigation must be applied only when using the proper equipment.

Fertigation allows producers to evaluate nitrogen loss due to wet conditions or heavy rains, crop condition and the current market situation and to adjust their nitrogen plan accordingly to meet crop needs and maximize profitability. The closer the nitrogen fertilizer is applied to the time of peak crop need, the lower the potential for nitrogen loss and the greater the return on your nitrogen investment.

Even if you never fertigate, irrigation still provides the opportunity to water in surface applied, or knifed in nitrogen applications. Incorporation by irrigation reduces nitrogen loss to volatilization, increasing the amount of nitrogen available to the crop. In some situations, UAN is dribbled between rows in wet fields and if rain is not in the forecast, a small irrigation application can be used to reduce the volatilization loss to the air. This technique uses simple, readily available equipment and can cover acres very quickly. In dire situations, dry forms of N (Ammonium Sulfate or Urea) can be applied by air and a small irrigation application can be used to incorporate it if timely rains do not occur.



More information on fertigation equipment can be found at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/irrigation/>

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Check out our web site <https://extension.purdue.edu/Pulaski> for timely articles on current issues and upcoming events. Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Pulaskices> for timely information on local events, webinars, and research from Purdue.

## Purdue is Offering Drone (UAV) Training– September 26-27

Interested in becoming a Commercial Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) remote pilot or already flying a drone without the required Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Certification? You're in luck! Purdue Extension is offering a UAV Signature Program teaching individuals UAV technology legal requirements, FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Knowledge Test preparation, and useful UAV applications. Every participant will get hands-on experience flying both manual and planned UAV flights.



The UAV training will take place at Pinney Purdue Ag Center (PAC), located at 11402 S. County Line Road, Wanatah, on Thursday and Friday, September 26 and 27, 2019. Registration will be \$250 and includes meals, refreshments and an intensive schedule of topics to prepare the participant for getting a pilot's license to fly a drone under FAA rules. Registration needs to be completed by September 19 at <http://www.cvent.com/d/ryqj3>. Payment may be made by check or credit card.

Mark Carter, Purdue Extension educator in Delaware County, said UAV imaging could be much more effective for farmers than satellite imaging. Typically, satellite passes are a subscription base service and results come weekly or bi-weekly. UAVs, however, can produce a continuous series of images to track changes in crop damage, drainage problems, nutrient deficiency and disease over time.

"The exciting thing about UAVs is that they multiply a farmer's ability to collect data on everything from water use to nitrogen deficiency," Carter said. "But the challenge is to effectively collect and process that data so the results are meaningful."

Course topics will include UAV introduction, camera settings, sensors and artificial intelligence, FAA Part 107 test preparation, flight plans and recordkeeping, free flight and planned flight instructions, use of third party applications and processing software, data management, image quality and troubleshooting, and emergency preparation.

The course will be taught by Purdue Extension educators who are part of the "Quad Squad," a group of Extension staff who have received special training for using drones in their communities. If you have questions about the training, please direct them to Nikky Witkowski, Porter County Extension educator, at 219-465-3555 or [nikky@purdue.edu](mailto:nikky@purdue.edu).

## **PURDUE EXTENSION**

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