TO BT OR NOT TO BT: IS THAT YOUR QUESTION?

BRYAN JENSEN, DEPT. OF ENTOMOLOGY, BILL HALFMAN, DIVISION OF EXTENSION MONROE COUNTY

A new publication, To Bt or Not to Bt: Is That Your Question?, is available online. It is intended to help people progress through the decision-making process if they are considering a switch to conventional, non-Bt corn hybrids. There are a variety of reasons why people may be considering switching to conventional hybrids. Some of these include: local opportunities to capture a price premium for conventional grain, lower primary insect pest numbers in recent years provides an opportunity to save money on seed costs. It is not a simple or straight-forward yes/no decision. Rather a process that takes time to consider all the pros and cons and to locate those resources which can help.

WEATHER 2019, UW ARS AT ARLINGTON AND MARSHFIELD

DR. JOE LAUER, UW-MADISON AGRONOMY AND EXTENSION STATE CORN SPECIALIST

Data Source: Midwest Regional Climatological Center

Click here for the latest weather summary for 2019 and the Normal (30 previous years – 1989 to 2018) at Arlington and Marshfield from April 1 to October 31.

You can also download graphs for the current year and other years at http://corn.agronomy.wisc.edu/Season/. Links to current and previous season weather summaries are located on the left of the web page.

CROP PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT MEETINGS 2020

DR. JOE LAUER, UW-MADISON AGRONOMY AND EXTENSION STATE CORN SPECIALIST

The Department of Agronomy will offer Crop Production and Management Meetings at eight locations during January of 2020. Joe Lauer and John Gaska will present the latest information on hybrid/variety performance, an analysis and discussion of last year’s growing season, and updated recommendations.
for field crop production.

The registration fee includes a meal and materials. Please pre-register with the Host Agent. A “walk-in” fee will be charged to those who have not preregistered. Additional information packets will be available for $21.00 each.

Certified Crop Advisor CEU credits have been requested (3.0 hours in Crop Management). Below is a list of topics, meeting sites, dates and times. Please join us at meeting in your area.

2019 Wisconsin Corn Hybrid Performance Trials: Grain – Silage – Specialty – Organic (A3653)

2019 Wisconsin Soybean Variety Performance Trials (A3654)

2019 Wisconsin Winter Wheat Performance Trials (A3868)

2019 Wisconsin Oat and Barley Variety Performance Tests (A3874)

Extension publications

Agronomy Advice articles

Wisconsin Crop Improvement Association updates

**Corn**

Post-mortem of the 2019 corn planting and harvest seasons

Variability of the 2019 trials and what it means for selecting hybrids.

Corn nutrient uptake during grain filling

The corn stover project

**Soybeans and Small Grains**

Variety trial overview with trait analysis

Sulfur and micronutrient trial updates

Yield gap planting date results

Cover crop termination timing

Intensive cereal management for wheat

**Forages**

Milk2020: The next step in evaluating corn silage quality

********************

Location, date and time

********************

**Janesville** Monday, Jan. 6 at 12:00

**Madison** Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 7:30 am

**Fond du Lac** Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 12:00

**Kimberly** Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 7:30 am
**Wausau** Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 12:00

**Chippewa Falls** Thursday, Jan. 9 at 7:30 am *** New Location ***

**Sparta** Thursday, Jan. 9 at 12:00

**Darlington** Friday, Jan. 10 at 12:00 *** New Location ***

******************************************************************************

**Wisconsin Agribusiness Classic**

January 14-16, 2020

Alliant Energy Center, Madison

**CORN / SOY EXPO**

February 6-7, 2020

Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells

**Forage Production and Use Symposium**

February 17-19, 2020

Chula Vista, Wisconsin Dells

******************************************************************************

We hope to see you at one or more of these meetings.

---

**SOIL, WATER, AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT MEETINGS**

The schedule for the 2019 Soil, Water & Nutrient Management Meetings is listed below. Presentation topics will include: Comparing tillage practices and nitrogen rates for corn: early corn development and yield impacts (Francisco Arriaga); Evaluating corn N management decisions (Carrie Laboski); Profitability of P and K fertilization of no-till corn and soybean (Carrie Laboski); Badger Ag. Tech. Lab Update: Planter aftermarket closing wheels (Brian Luck); Wheel traffic effects on alfalfa (Brian Luck); Wisconsin nutrient management update (Sue Porter); Cover crops, fall manure, and nutrient management (Matt Ruark); Biological indicators of soil health (Matt Ruark). Presentations will begin at 10 am and run until 3 pm, with a lunch break from 12 to 1 pm. Lunch is included in the $45 fee. The flyer is attached at the end of this pdf; please read carefully and make sure you contact the appropriate person at your desired location.

---

**2019 WISCONSIN SOYBEAN VARIETY PERFORMANCE TRIALS**

SHAWN P. CONLEY, SOYBEAN AND WHEAT EXTENSION SPECIALIST, DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
The Wisconsin Soybean Performance Trials are conducted each year with the producer's needs in mind. Our objective is to give producers the information to select varieties that will satisfy their specific goals and are most likely to perform best under their management practices.


---

**2019 WISCONSIN CORN HYBRID PERFORMANCE TRIALS**

**DR. JOE LAUER, UW-MADISON AGRONOMY AND EXTENSION STATE CORN SPECIALIST**

The 2019 UW Corn Hybrid Performance Trials have been posted and are available at http://corn.agronomy.wisc.edu/HT/2019/2019Text.aspx or http://corn.agronomy.wisc.edu/HT/Default.aspx

---

**SEEDLING DISEASE WEBINAR**

**DAMON SMITH, EXTENSION FIELD CROPS PATHOLOGIST, DEPARTMENT OF PLANT PATHOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON**

Soybean seedling diseases are a major yield-reducing factor in soybean production. In 2017 alone, it was estimated that over 50 million bushels of grain were lost in the U.S. as a result of seedling diseases, and nearly 2 million bushels were lost in Ontario, Canada. As weather patterns — such as the one much of grain belt experienced in summer 2019 — continue to become more variable, the potential for soybean seedling diseases will continue to increase. This means that farmers and agronomists need to be more prepared to properly diagnose and manage seedling diseases.

In an effort to adequately prepare growers for the potential challenges in future growing seasons, Alison Robertson, Iowa State University professor and extension field pathologist, will host “Seedling disease of soybean and using seed treatments to reduce losses.” Sponsored by the United Soybean Checkoff, Robertson will share datasets, science-backed management techniques, and additional resources available to stakeholders to help make more economical decisions in soybeans, in the field.

The webinar will be held on Friday, December 6, at 9 a.m. CT/10 a.m. ET, and registration is required. This is a free webinar, and all those who advise and/or make crop management decisions are encouraged to listen. To register, follow this link. In addition, for those in need of Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) credits, attendance of this webinar can count towards continuing education units (CEUs) should patrons pass the short quiz following the presentation. The link for the quiz will be made live just prior to the webinar’s start time.

This webinar will be presented by the Crop Protection Network (CPN), a multi-state and international partnership of university and provincial extension specialists, and public and private professionals that provides unbiased, research-based information. Hosting the webinar will be the Southern Integrated Pest Management Center, a USDA-NIFA program that leverages grant dollars...
and collaboration amongst regional states to increase the efforts of Integrated Pest Management.

https://southernipm.org/projects/webinars/cpn-soybean-seedling-disease

For more information, please see the flyer attached at the end of this pdf.

---

**2019 OAT AND BARLEY PERFORMANCE TESTS**

**LUCIA GUTIÉRREZ, PABLO SANDRO AND SHAWN CONLEY**

The Wisconsin oat and barley performance trials are conducted each year to serve Wisconsin farmers. Trials include released varieties, experimental lines from Wisconsin and Midwestern States, and lines from private companies. The main objective of these trials is to obtain data on how varieties perform in different locations and years. Farmers can use this data to help choose the best varieties to plant, and breeders to decide on whether to release a new variety and to select parents to make new crosses.

[View Article Here](#)

---

**2020 IPM FIELD SCOUT TRAINING CLASS**

**BRYAN JENSEN, UW EXTENSION AND IPM PROGRAM**

A friendly reminder that the Madison Field Scout Training Classes will be held on the UW Madison Campus from January 6-10, 2020. The course is designed to provide profession development including the skills necessary for proper pest identification, crop scouting techniques as well as provide complimentary baseline information for people preparing for the state CCA exam. Additional information such as crop growth and development, pest life cycle, pest damage symptoms and economic thresholds will be covered. Pest control recommendations, although discussed, will not be highlighted in detail during this course. Crops covered will include, corn, alfalfa, soybean and wheat. [Click here for the course syllabus.](#)

Non-student registration fee is $225/person but does not cover campus parking. [Online registration (preferred) for the Field Crop Scout School can be made online.](#) Checks should be made payable to University of Wisconsin-Madison and sent to Bryan Jensen, Dept. of Entomology, 1630 Linden Dr., Madison, WI 53706. On campus parking is the responsibly of the student.

For more information on this course, please contact Bryan Jensen at:

Dept. of Entomology

1630 Linden Dr.

Madison, WI 53706

(608) 263-4073 [bmjense1@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:bmjense1@facstaff.wisc.edu)
Crop Protection Network
Webinar Series
Presents:

Seedling Disease of Soybean and Using Seed Treatments to Reduce Losses

Friday, December 6th
9 am CT / 10am ET

Speaker: Dr. Alison Robertson
Iowa State University
Plant Pathology and Microbiology

Sponsored by the United Soybean Board