UPCOMING TRAININGS: CONSERVATION PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the UW-Madison Division of Extension are teaming up for a series of CAFO Update Meetings to be held throughout the state in late January and early February.

The meetings are specifically designed for WPDES permitted CAFO owners and managers, producers considering expansion, nutrient management plan writers and engineers and will provide updated information on meeting permit requirements while maximizing profitability.

More information is coming soon. In the meantime, click here for the information that is currently available.

2019 WI SOYBEAN YIELD CONTEST FINALISTS ARE ANNOUNCED

SHAWN P. CONLEY, SOYBEAN AND WHEAT EXTENSION SPECIALIST, DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

The 2019 season had below average growing conditions for many growers. We experienced lower entry numbers in the 2019 WSA/WSMB Soybean Yield Contest, likely due to delayed planting and harvest from wet weather causing maturity, time and logistic struggles. The top two entries in each division (in no particular order) were:

Division 4:
Rick DeVoe, Monroe (planted Pioneer P28A42X)
Nick Venable, Janesville (planted Jung 1213R2X)

Division 3:
Tim Gaffron, Twin Lakes (planted Pioneer P24A80X)
Jim Salentine, Luxemburg (planted Stine 19BA23)

Division 2:
David Lundgren, Amery (planted Asgrow AG11X8)
Mike and Dean Wegner, Sparta (planted Pioneer P23A15X)

Division 1:
*No entries were submitted for Division 1

The Soybean Quality Contest was optional for any Soybean Yield Contest entrant. There are no geographical divisions for the Quality Contest. One cash award will be presented statewide to the highest protein plus oil yield per acre (measured in lbs. per acre). The finalists for the Soybean Quality Contest are:

Rick DeVoe, Monroe (planted Pioneer P28A42X)

Jim Salentine, Luxemburg (planted Stine 19BA23)

The final ranking and awards will be presented at the Corn Soy Expo to be held at the Kalahari Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells on Thursday February 6th during the WSA/WSMB annual meeting.

The contest is sponsored by the WI Soybean Program and organized to encourage the development of new and innovative management practices and to show the importance of using sound cultural practices in WI soybean production.

For more information please contact Shawn Conley, WI State Soybean Specialist at 608-800-7056 or spconley@wisc.edu

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**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN HYBRID/VARIETY TRIAL INFORMATION FOR 2020**

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

One of the most important decisions a farmer makes is the selection of high performing, adapted hybrids and varieties. Selecting the correct hybrid/variety can often mean the difference between profit and loss. Increasingly, during the current bio-engineered era, the choice of hybrid or variety that a farmer selects dictates the management style for that field.

Plant breeders and agronomists test thousands of commercial and new experi-
mental hybrids and varieties for several years at many locations over a range of plant populations, other management practices and environments. These crop performance trials determine which hybrids/varieties have yielding ability superior to current commercial hybrids/varieties and estimate disease resistance and other important characteristics.

For a copy of the 2019 crop performance trials see the following links:


Soybean: [https://coolbean.info/soybean-research/variety-trial-results/](https://coolbean.info/soybean-research/variety-trial-results/)

Barley, Oat, and Wheat: [https://coolbean.info/small-grains/variety-trial-results/](https://coolbean.info/small-grains/variety-trial-results/)

These results are a good place to start when evaluating hybrids and varieties to grow during 2020. Certainly, an on-farm test in conjunction with seed company trials, and University trials would probably give the best information, if all hybrids/varieties of interest were in the trials. Since most farmers do not have the resources to conduct on-farm trials at several locations, using unbiased results from other trials to supplement on-farm yield results can increase the chance of picking a hybrid that will do well next year.

### AGRONOMICALLY OPTIMAL SOYBEAN SEEDING RATES AND ASSOCIATED RISK

In a bean pod:

211 field studies were grouped into similar environmental (soil x climate) clusters and into high (HYL), medium (MYL), and low (LYL) yield levels.

Within the two northern most clusters, the agronomically optimal seeding rates (AOSR) were higher in the LYL followed by the MYL then HYL.

Within the farthest south cluster, a relatively small (+/-6,000 seeds/ac) change in seeding rate from the MYL was required to reach the AOSR of the LYL and HYL, respectively.

The increase in seeding rate to reach the LYL AOSR was relatively greater (5x) than the decrease to reach the HYL AOSR within the northern most cluster.

Seeding rates below the AOSR presented a small potential yield loss, while seeding rates above provided slight yield increases.

Specific to LYLs and MYLs, establishing and maintaining an adequate plant stand until harvest maximized yield regardless of the seeding rate.

The economic optimal soybean seeding rate (EOSR) will be below the AOSR and are based on seed input costs and commodity price.

To read the full article, click here.
NEW RESOURCES FOR MAKING ARC AND PLC DECISIONS

DR. PAUL D. MITCHELL, PROFESSOR OF AGRICULTURAL AND APPLIED ECONOMICS, DIRECTOR OF RENK AGRIBUSINESS INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

This new webpage assembles a variety of resources to help farmers (and those working with farmers) make their decisions regarding signup for the Farm Bill commodity support programs ARC and PLC. These materials have a Wisconsin focus, but are not exclusively for Wisconsin, as the programs are national in scope.

https://aae.wisc.edu/pdmitchell/extension/arc-plc-signup

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2019-2020

- **Corn**: Choose PLC: Reference Price is good relative to market expectations
- **Soybeans**: Run Gardner simulation model for your county and payment yields and choose the option (ARC-CO or PLC) with the highest average payments for 2019 and 2020
- **Wheat**: Choose PLC: Reference Price is good relative to market expectations
- **Oats**: Choose ARC-CO, historical prices give high county revenue guarantees

In addition, there are 9 new videos you can watch or listen to and have everything explained in detail. This is a link to a YouTube playlist which has all nine included. (To see all 9 titles and skip to a specific video, click the 1/9 button in the very top right of the video image.)
HELP WITH SURVEY OF HERBICIDE ADOPTION PLANS IN SOYBEAN

Dr. Shawn Conley and team (www.coolbean.info) recently released the 2019 yield data from their soybean variety trials conducted across the state of Wisconsin and concluded that no yield differences were observed across herbicide tolerance traits within nor across regions (Enlist E3, RR2 Xtend and LLGT27; see figure below).

Herbicide Trait Options In WI

E3 vs LLGT27 vs RR2X

The team would like to invite Wisconsin soybean producers and decision influencers to help us better understand herbicide tolerance trait and POST-emergence herbicide adoption in 2019 and their plans for 2020. This information will be of great value to the educational efforts during this Extension season and research efforts during 2020 and beyond. The survey has 30 questions and should take less than 10 minutes of your time. To start the online survey, please click HERE.

Full link to survey: https://uwmadison.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5dOy1FCSlt3EMp7


Please help us get the word out and obtain as many answers as possible! The survey results will be presented during the 2020 Wisconsin Agribusiness Classic and 2020 Corn-Soy Expo, and will also become available in our blog (www.wiscweeds.info).

Thanks for your time and support! Rodrigo Werle & Shawn Conley, UW-Madison
The UW-Madison IPM/NPM video channel regularly posts educational videos for Wisconsin agriculture to view online. The channel hosts over 125 videos that have been viewed over 1.5 million times. Here are the latest subjects, with links below.

- Herbicides and Cover Crops
- Research and Demonstration Plots for Producer-led Watershed Groups
- Interseeding Cover Crops
- Waterhemp Seed Dispersal