

DUBOIS COUNTY AGRI-NEWS

March 2024

Purdue Extension - We transform lives and livelihoods through research-based education.

DUBOIS COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Telephone (812)482-1782

February 6, 2024

To: Dubois County Cattle Producers
From: Dubois County Cattlemen's Association Board of Directors
Re: 2024 Cattlemen's Association Annual Meeting

The Dubois County Cattlemen's Association Board of Directors would like to invite you to our 2024 Annual Meeting. This meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 14, 2024** at the **Southern Indiana Purdue Ag. Center (SIPAC) Conference Room** near Cuzco, with meal and speakers occurring at **6:30 PM EST**.

Our sponsor for this year's meeting is Danko Farm Supply & Feed and Farm Credit Mid America. We wish to thank our sponsors for their involvement with our producers and for their contributions to our annual meeting.

To learn more about *Danko Farm Supply & Feed's* line of feeds and farm products visit or call them at ph. (812)389-2232.

To learn more about the *Farm Credit Mid America's* financial services visit their website at <https://www.fcma.com/> or call ph. (812)482-5417.

After a meal by Arnie's Catering our speakers will include:

- 1.) **Sterling Watkins**, Insurance Specialist, Farm Credit Mid America, "Livestock Risk Program and Beef Outlook"

The cost for the evening is \$10.00 per person for 2024 Dubois County Cattlemen's Association membership dues and \$10.00 per person per meal. **Reservations are not needed, and all fees will be taken at the door.**

The directors hope you will be able to join us for an evening of good food, fellowship, and information!

*Dubois County Cattlemen's Association
Board of Directors*



**Help bring strong,
reliable broadband
to all Indiana.**

Take the free two minute test.



Dubois County: Take Speed Tests with Your Home Internet

Soon, federal money will be available to Indiana counties to address rural areas that have poor internet connectivity. This connectivity is crucial for rural needs such as small businesses operations, farm and precision ag connections to ag service providers, student access to schools, and more. To determine where those areas of need are located, rural residents are asked to take the speed test from home.

The Indiana Broadband Office is launching a final statewide speed test blitz from February through March, urging residents to contribute crucial data for improved broadband access. Despite speed test fatigue, the initiative emphasizes the significance of more data points to address the digital divide effectively.

Reesidents are asked to participate in this last blitz to identify areas in need before the \$870 million funding arrives later this year.

Help the state know how fast your internet is by running a speed test. If you don't have internet available, you can report the lack of service too.

Visit: <https://connectingindiana.com/>



Many promising students will now have the opportunity to take their first steps toward a Purdue degree with the new Purdue Fast Start program. Through Purdue's partnership with ModernStates.org, a website featuring more than 30 free, high-quality courses, you can gain assured admission into Purdue by earning free college credit. This partnership will create new opportunities for Indiana students to take giant leaps in their education with a new pathway to Purdue University.

For more information, visit www.purdue.university/faststart or call 765-494-1776.



SOUTHWEST INDIANA HOMESTEADING CONFERENCE

**MARCH 9, 2024 - FRIEDMAN PARK EVENT CENTER
2700 PARK BLVD NEWBURGH, IN 47630**

A gathering of homesteaders, home gardeners, suppliers and enthusiasts learning and growing together!

Pre- Conference Food Preservation Workshop

Friday, March 8th, 2024 - 12pm-5pm

\$35 per person No Childcare Available

Topics Include: Boiling water bath & pressure canning techniques, fermentation & pickling process, hands-on practice in the kitchen

Main Conference

Saturday, March 9th, 2024 - Registration 7:30am, Sessions start at 8am

\$40 per person Childcare Available \$20 per child

Topics Include: Vegetable Gardening, Fruit Gardening, Soils & Compost, Beekeeping, Farm Tools, Small Business Development Center, Poultry, Insects, Urban Agriculture, Cover Crops, Rainwater Storage, Food Storage and more!

Connect with like-minded individuals who share your passion for homesteading. **Exchange ideas**, stories, and build lasting connections with fellow homesteaders, creating a **supportive network** that extends beyond the conference.

Meet local and regional suppliers offering homesteading essentials, sustainable products, and tools to enhance your homesteading journey. Find the **resources** you need to turn your homesteading dreams into reality!

REGISTER NOW [HTTPS://BIT.LY/SWIHC2024](https://bit.ly/swihc2024)

EA/EO

Please request any additional accommodations at least 2 weeks prior to the event by calling 812-385-3491.

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Sulfur Deficiency In Corn and Soybeans

In recent years, sulfur (S) deficiency has been diagnosed in corn, soybean, alfalfa, and wheat in the Midwest, including Indiana and Michigan. There are a number of reasons why S deficiency appears to be more common, including reduced atmospheric S deposition, continued and increasing crop removal of S, higher amounts of crop residues, greater use of no tillage, and earlier planting into cool wet soils. It is wise to consider S deficiency as a cause of crop growth problems where yellowing of the foliage is the primary symptom.

Click here for full publication on sulfur needs and practices:

<https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/AY/AY-379-W.pdf>

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OISC Pesticide Applicator Changes

There were some recent Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC) revisions to the Indiana pesticide rules that affect applicators, particularly those who apply Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs). These revisions have been in process since 2018, and officially became a part of application rules in January 2023.



The biggest change is that **only fully certified applicators** (private and commercial) are now allowed to apply Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs). The previous rule was that RUPs could be applied by anyone who was supervised by a private or commercial fully licensed applicator, but all must now be fully licensed.

So, how do you obtain a Private Applicator license? The most popular way to take the exam has been to obtain the training manual for the CORE exam (PPP-13), study the manual at home, and then take the exam at the Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville (other testing locations available at <https://tinyurl.com/5kb6898w> or ph. 877-533-2900). The test is administered by the Metro Institute, and Ivy Tech merely provides the supervision during the exam.

To prepare for the exam, the study manual can be purchased for \$40 plus shipping at <https://tinyurl.com/yrixswt5> or by calling 765-494-6794. Manuals are available in English and Spanish.

Once you receive a manual, go on-line to <https://tinyurl.com/5yy5xay6> or call 1-877-533-2900 to schedule an appointment to take the exam. Leave a message and let them know when the best time is to reach you. Everyone taking the exam must show a government-issued photo ID. Contact the Indiana State Chemist at 756-494-1492 for alternative identification, if needed. A person is allowed three attempts to take the exam in 12 months' time. There is a \$55 fee for use of facilities through Ivy Tech.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR RURAL FAMILIES

March 5 | March 7 | March 12 | March 14



Emergency Preparedness for Rural Families

An upcoming workshop will focus on emergency preparedness for rural families.

The program will be a four-part series, held at the Gibson County Fairgrounds, 709 Embree Street, Princeton, IN. The workshop will focus on farm and ranch emergency management, first aid, fire protection, and hazardous materials.

Sessions will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Eastern time on March 5, 7, 12 and 14. The program is a collaboration between Purdue University and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, agricultural occupations have high rates of work-related injuries and deaths. While not all emergencies result in bodily injury or death, they also may cost rural families in other ways.

Sessions will be hosted by local extension personnel, with keynote speakers simulcast to each location. Sessions will provide additional speakers and hands-on activities, and dinner will be included.

The workshops seek to help participants initiate preventative practices, set up a plan to deal with emergencies before they occur, and be more comfortable reacting to emergency situations.

There is a registration fee of \$60 per person, and participants should plan to attend each session. **Registration may be completed on the Nebraska Women in Agriculture website, <https://wia.unl.edu/prep> .**

Those with questions or concerns can contact Jenna Nees at smith535@purdue.edu or 765-653-8411.

INTEGRATED CROP-LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS STUDY



Are you interested in integrating livestock with crops on your vegetable farm?

Purdue University's Sustainable Horticulture Lab is leading an Integrated Crop-Livestock Systems study on organic farms and wants to connect with you! The study aims to determine the impact of these integrated systems on soil health, microbial communities, and food pathogens on the farm. The lab will also explore economic feasibility of these systems.

Connect with us in two ways:

- Sign up for e-mails about the project, related events, and study results
- Participate in the research as a participatory farm site



Participating farms would be required to raise chickens or other livestock, but not required to be certified organic. A paired strip trial (at least one strip) with and without livestock would be set up for the collection of soil and crop samples.

Learn more or participate in the study by contacting:



Moriah Bilenky at mbilenky@purdue.edu / 765-496-0368, or
Ashley Adair at holmes9@purdue.edu / 765-496-6362.



Horticulture and
Landscape Architecture



FRUIT-FUL Lunches



Purdue Extension invites current and aspiring backyard fruit growers to join our 5-session program and learn about ways to improve their fruit production. Educators and Specialists will discuss modern fruit production practices, pest and disease management, and more!



Live, virtual program

Dates: March 7,14,21,28 and April 1, 2024
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm (EST) and
11:00 am - 12:30 pm (CST)

Questions? Please contact Emily Evers at (574) 235-9605 or everse@purdue.edu

To register, visit:
<https://tinyurl.com/56tda6n2>



Extension - Agriculture
and Natural Resources

EA/EOU





PERRY-SPENCER CROP DAY

MARCH 12 - 6:00 PM CDT
ST. MEINRAD, IN



FEATURED PRESENTATION
BIOLOGICAL FUNGICIDES: WHAT ARE THEY? HOW DO THEY WORK? CAN WE USE THEM EFFECTIVELY IN FIELD CROPS?

DARCY TELENKO, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PLANT PATHOLOGY, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

\$5 PER PERSON,
INCLUDES MEAL

PARP & CCH CREDIT
(2 CCHS, CAT. 1, 11, RT)

REGISTER BY MARCH 5: WWW.TINYURL.COM/CROPDAY2024



Indiana Soil & Water
Conservation Districts



Extension



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LANDWISE WORKSHOP

March 13, 2024

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. EST

**Daviess County Produce Auction
5667 N 900 E Montgomery, IN**

Topics

- Interactive Soil Health Demos
- Cover Crops for Small & Row Systems
- Sustainable Amendments
- Market System Weed Control
- Small Ruminant Systems / Fencing Solutions
- Private Applicator / CCH Credits

Lunch sponsored by:



Learn with Us

Elevate your sustainable farming practices by learning from statewide experts at the LandWise Workshop. Tailored for farmers cultivating row crops, specialty crops, and livestock, this event serves as a step in the journey toward water and land stewardship on your farm.

**RSVP by March 4, 2024 to:
Purdue Extension - Daviess County
812-254-8668**

For accommodations to attend, contact the county Extension office noted above. Purdue University is an equal opportunity/ equal access/ affirmative action university.

Daviess County SWCD Presents:

SOUTHERN INDIANA GRAZING CONFERENCE

SPEAKERS:

Dr. Will Winter
Wesley Tucker
Devon Churchill

COST:

\$35 Per Person (postmarked by 3/8/24)
\$70 Meet & Greet
\$45 Per Person (postmarked by 3/21/24)
\$90 Meet & Greet
\$50 Per Person (postmarked on or after
3/22/24)
**Includes refreshments & lunch

TO REGISTER:

Online: <https://sigc2024.eventbrite.com>
***Additional Fees Apply

By Mail: Send form & check to Daviess Co
SWCD @ 2526 E National Hwy.,
Washington, IN 47501

Questions?: Daviess Co SWCD 812.
254.4780 Ext. 3

There will also be a Meet & Greet the evening before the Conference (additional fee required). This includes a homestyle Amish meal & opportunity to talk with SIGC speakers. The Meet & Greet will be held at the Gasthof Amish Restaurant in Montgomery, IN on March 26, 2024, 6-8 pm (EST). You must have a paid conference registration to attend. Seats are limited.



8:30 am-3:45 pm EST

27
March

Shiloh Community Center
8872 E 1000 N,
Odon, IN 47562

Doors open @7:30am EST

Become a Certified UAV Pilot

Purdue Extension UAV Technology Program

FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Test Preparation Course Topics

- ⇒ FAA Test Preparation
- ⇒ Flight Instructions
- ⇒ Camera Settings
- ⇒ Flight Plans and Record Keeping
- ⇒ Data Management
- ⇒ Image Quality & Troubleshooting
- ⇒ Sensors & Artificial Intelligence
- ⇒ Emergency Preparation



Location

Martin County 4-H Fairgrounds & Event Center: Community Building
2668 US Hwy 50 Loogootee, IN
47553

Dates & Time (Eastern)

March 25-26, 2024
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Cost: \$200 per person

Registration due by Mar. 15

<https://cvent.me/8XR4KE>

If you have questions or in need of accommodations to attend this program contact (by Mar. 15):

Valerie Clingerman
812-882-3509 or
clingerman@purdue.edu



Hands-on Experience



Endless Applications

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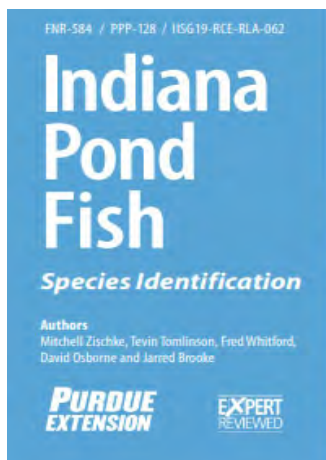
Seasonal Tips for Cattlemen

March

- Handle the first calf heifers separately from the mature cows. Higher quality feed is required unless the forage quality is already excellent.
- Watch for calf scours and provide electrolyte solution with or without antibiotic treatment to dehydrated calves. Consult your veterinarian.
- Vaccinate calves with 7-way clostridial vaccine. Implant heifers that will not be kept as replacements and all steers.
- Continue the high magnesium mineral.
- Deworm cows if not dewormed in the fall and fecal samples indicate a parasite problem.

April

- Continue feeding with high magnesium mineral.
- Get ready for hay harvest.
- If weeds are a problem, spray pastures when wind and weather permit. Consider using goats to help control weeds.
- Freeze brand females for easy-to-read permanent ID.
- Condition score your females. Thin cows (less than condition score will need increase energy rations).
- Start breeding heifers at the end of the month for early February calves.
- Watch for bloat when cattle are on pasture species with a high bloat potential.
- Prepare for the breeding season:
- Order semen and synchronization drugs, check AI equipment, and be sure that the handling and breeding facility is working properly.
- Have veterinarian perform a breeding soundness exam on bulls.
- Heifers should be at 65% of mature body weight at breeding time. Start breeding heifers 30 days prior to mature cow herd.
- Vaccinate open cows and heifers for leptospirosis, IBR/P13, BVM, and BRSV three weeks prior to breeding. Contact your herd health veterinarian for vaccination recommendations.



The “**Indiana Pond Fish Species Identification**” guide will help you identify commonly stocked fish and problem fish that may be encountered in Indiana ponds. Publication is available at:

<https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/FNR/FNR-584-W.pdf>

More information on fish identification and pond management can be found at:

www.extension.purdue.edu/pondwildlife

Winter Garden Calendar

Lawns, Tree Fruits, Landscape Plants, and Woody Ornamentals

March

- Rake to remove leaves, twigs, and trash.
- Mow lawn as needed. The first mowing should be slightly lower than normal to encourage green-up.
- Prune trees and shrubs while plants are still dormant. Those that bloom early in spring should be pruned after flowers fade.
- Fertilize woody plants before new growth begins, but wait until after soil temperatures have reached 40°F (usually in early March in Southern Indiana). Two pounds of actual nitrogen per 1000 square feet should be broadcast over the entire root area.
- Remove winter coverings from roses as soon as new growth begins, but keep mulch nearby for protection from late freezes. Prune and fertilize as needed.
- Apply superior oil spray to control scale insects and mites on landscape plants and fruit trees when tips of leaves start to protrude from buds.

April

- Seed bare spots.
- Apply pre-emergence herbicides to control crabgrass (Before April 4 for Dubois County). The herbicide siduron is the only crabgrass preventer that can be used on newly lawns.
- Bare-root stock should be planted before new top growth begins. Balled-and-burlapped and container stock can be planted later in spring.
- Remove and destroy overwintering bagworms from landscape trees and shrubs.
- Follow home orchard spray schedule to control insects and diseases. While trees are in bloom, use a pesticide containing fungicide only and no insecticide and thereby avoid injury to bees. Read and follow all label directions.

Indoor Plants and Activities

March

- Apply fertilizer to houseplants according to label directions as days grow brighter and longer and new growth begins. Foliage plants require a relatively high-nitrogen fertilizer, while blooming plants thrive on formulations that are higher in phosphorus.
- Remove spent leaves and flowers regularly to improve looks and encourage more blooms.
- Start seeds of cool season plants for transplanting outdoors later in spring (late February for Southern Indiana).

April

- Pot-up roots of tuberous begonias and caladiums in April for transplanting to the garden later.
- Prune, repot, and clean houseplants as needed.
- Start seeds of warm-season crops for transplanting later to the garden (late March for Southern Indiana).

Flowers, Vegetables, and Small Fruits

March

- Prepare garden soil for planting. Do NOT work the soil while it is wet. Soil should crumble when squeezed in your hand when it is ready to work. If soil forms a solid ball when squeezed in your hand, it's still too wet.
- Follow last fall's soil test recommendations for fertilizer and pH adjustment. (It's not too late to soil test if you missed last year.)
- Start seeds of warm season vegetables and flowers indoors. (In North and Central Indiana, wait until end of March, early April.)
- Watch for blooms of early spring bulbs such as daffodils, squill, crocus, dwarf iris, and snowdrops.
- Remove old asparagus and rhubarb tops, and then side dress with nitrogen or manure.

April

- Plant cool-season vegetables and flowers as soon as the ground has dried enough to work.
- Harden off transplants before planting outdoors by gradually exposing the young plants to outdoor conditions of wind, brighter sunlight, and lower moisture.
- Plant or transplant asparagus, rhubarb, and small fruit plants such as strawberries and brambles. Divide rhubarb and replant, if last year's planting produced seedstalks. Plant sections of certified, disease-free potato "seed" tubers.
- Remove winter mulch from strawberry beds as soon as new growth begins, but keep the mulch nearby to protect against frost and freezes and to help keep weeds under control.
- Remove weak, diseased, or damaged canes from raspberry plants before new growth begins. Remove old fruiting canes (if not removed last year), and shorten remaining canes if necessary.
- Prune grape vines to remove dead or weakened limbs, and repair support trellises as needed.



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Purdue Extension—Dubois County
P. O. Box 588
Jasper, IN 47547
Telephone: (812) 482-1782
Website: <http://www.extension.purdue.edu/dubois>

Return Service Requested

DUBOIS COUNTY
AGRI-NEWS

Purdue Extension - Dubois County
Kenneth J. Eck, ANR Educator
P. O. Box 588
Jasper, IN 47547

Phone: 812-482-1782
Email: kjeck@purdue.edu
<http://www.ces.purdue.edu/dubois/>

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2024

- Feb. 28 Indiana Organic Grain Farmer Meeting (West Lafayette)
- Feb. 29-Mar. 1 Indiana Small Farm Conference (Danville)
- March Indiana Broadband Speed Tests (Your Home)
- Mar. 4,9,11,18,25 Purdue Forest Mgmt for the Private Woodland Owner (Cuzco)
- Mar. 4,11,18,25 Purdue Beginning Farmer Farm Resources Program (Virtual)
- Mar. 5,7,12,14 Purdue Emergency Preparedness for Rural Families (Princeton)
- Mar. 5,7,12,14,19 Purdue Beef Basics in the Eastern Cornbelt (Virtual)
- 21,26 &28
- Mar. 7,14,21,28 Purdue Fruit-Ful Lunch Series (Virtual)
- Mar. 8 & 9 Purdue Southwest Indiana Homesteading Conference (Newburgh)
- Mar. 12 Perry-Spencer Crop Day/PARP (St. Meinrad)
- Mar. 13 Landwise Workshop (Montgomery)
- Mar. 14 Dubois County Cattlemen’s Association Annual Meeting (Cuzco)
- Mar. 22 Purdue Women’s Ag Risk Mgmt.: Weather & Climate Tools (Virt.)
- Mar. 23 Indiana 4-H Livestock Showmanship Clinic (Bretzville)
- Mar. 25-26 Purdue Becoming A Certified UAV Pilot Training (Loogootee)
- Mar. 27 Southern Indiana Grazing Conference (Odon)
- Apr. 8 Total Solar Eclipse (Strip Where Sun’s Not Shining!)
- Apr. 20 Purdue Spring Fling & Fruit Tree Give Away (Jasper)
- Apr. 26 Purdue Wom. Ag Risk Mgmt.: Art. Intel in Farm Mgmt. (Virtual)
- July 15-19 Dubois County 4-H Fair (Bretzville)
- Aug. 2 – 18 Indiana State Fair (Indianapolis)