

DUBOIS COUNTY AGRI-NEWS

February 2021

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



ANNIE'S PROJECT
EMPOWERING WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

Why Annie's Project?

This six-week course is a discussion-based workshop bringing women together to learn from experts in production, financial management, human resources, marketing and the legal field.

There's plenty of time for questions, sharing, reacting, and connecting with your presenters and fellow participants.

It's a relaxed, fun and dynamic way to learn, grow and meet other farm women.



Annie's Project – Level I VIRTUAL Offering

February 23, 2021

- Introduction
- Real Colors – Personality Assessment

March 2, 2021

- Farm Business Planning
- Succession Planning

March 9, 2021

- Grain Marketing
- Farm Stress
- Crop Insurance

March 16, 2021

- Computer Software Recordkeeping
- Ag Lender's Perspective

March 23, 2021

- Farm Finance
- Local Resources

March 30, 2021

- Farm & Family Insurance
- UAV & Ag Tech
- Web Soil Survey



Empowering farm women to be better business partners through networks and by managing and organizing critical information.

"I took the class to gain a better understanding about agribusiness and how financial decisions impact our farm operation.

I have a better understanding of balance sheets and the futures market... this class has improved communication with my spouse on concerns he works with on a daily basis." – Linda



Only \$65.00 for all six virtual sessions!
Register at
<https://tinyurl.com/PUAP21>
by February 9th

Choose from 2 virtual offerings!

Tuesday Mornings from 9:00am – 12:00pm EST
OR
Tuesday Afternoons from 1:00 – 4:00pm EST

For more information contact Jenna Nees at 765-653-8411 or email at smith535@purdue.edu or Bryan Overstreet at 219-866-5741 or email at boverstr@purdue.edu

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.

Annie's Project - Designed For Women in Agriculture

Annie's Project empowers farm women to be better business partners through networks and by managing and organizing critical information. This six-week course is a discussion-based workshop bringing women together to learn from experts in production, financial management, human resources, marketing, and the legal field.

Register by February 9 at: <https://tinyurl.com/PUAP21>

On-Line Exams for Private Manure & Chemical Applicators (PARP)



Due to decisions by the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC) who issues pesticide and fertilizer licenses for Indiana, there are no longer regional private applicator exams for farmers wishing to test for private pesticide or fertilizer (manure) use. Instead, farmers can either attend exams and training at West Lafayette, or take exams through one of several computer host sites throughout Indiana (the nearest are at Ivy Tech College in Evansville and Bloomington).

To sign up for on-line exams through Ivy Tech, you must register for an account at <http://indiana.metrosignup.com> . After setting up an account, you can then sign up for any exam needed. The entire process takes only a few minutes and can be done entirely on-line. The charge for use of the Ivy Tech facilities and staff is \$50.00 (there is no fee for the OISC exam, but you will be charged \$20.00 for the license after you pass the test). To schedule and sign up for the private applicator exam you can do so at: <http://indiana.metrosignup.com> , or by phone at (877)533-2900 (leave a message for staff to get back with you).

Each exam is a multiple choice exam taken from the pesticide applicator core or private Category 14 fertilizer manuals, and each takes approximately 60 to 90 minutes to complete. Contact any local Extension Office to purchase your Category 14 or Core study manual, or order by phone by calling Purdue Extension at 888-398-4636 or on-line at: <https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/> (type "Core Training Manual, PPP-13", or "Category 14" in the Store Search box at the website).



2021 DUBOIS CO. REGIONAL MEETING

Friday, February 26th

Dubois County Fairgrounds

11:00 a.m. EST

Indiana Pork Regional Meeting

Indiana Pork will be hosting regional meetings throughout the state for local pork producers.

For southwest Indiana, the meeting will be held on February 26, 2021 at 11:00 AM (EST) at the Dubois Co. 4-H Fairgrounds at Bretzville, IN.

Indiana Pork will be sharing updates from 2020 and plans for 2021. They will also have a virtual talk by Dr. Clay Eastwood, National Pork Board, on International Marketing. Lunch will be provided.

To attend RSVP Stephanie Schippert at sschippert@inpork.org or call IN Pork at (317)872-7500.



BEEF BASICS

8 Virtual Sessions: Tuesday Nights
January 19 - March 9, 2021
6:30 - 8:30 PM EST

Cost: \$40
Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/PUBeefBasics>
Registration Deadline: January 17, 2021

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Purdue Beef Basics

Purdue Extension is happy to announce a new virtual beef program, which will focus on beef producers with 5 years or less experience called **Beef Basics**. The goals of this program are for beef producers to increase their knowledge, understanding and skills related to beef cattle management, as well as establishing good recordkeeping habits.

The virtual format will allow participants the opportunity to view the sessions from the comfort of their own homes. Session topics will include: an overview of the beef cattle industry; animal behavior, stockmanship and facilities; beef cattle health; forages; nutrition; beef cattle selection and reproduction. Participants will learn directly from Purdue University Professors and Specialists, along with Purdue Extension Educators during each of the eight sessions.

The program is scheduled for Tuesday nights from 6:30 – 8:30 PM starting on January 19 and ending on March 9, 2021. The cost of the program is \$40. The final day to register is January 17, 2021.

Participants are also encouraged to purchase the following optional resources to supplement learning during the series:

Purdue Forage Field Guide, 3rd edition, (ID-317) available from the Purdue Extension - Education Store for \$16 (includes the standard tax and shipping/handling fees). You can select to purchase during the registration process.

Cow-Calf Production in the U.S. Corn Belt (MWPS-66) - \$72.00 (hardcopy) plus shipping or \$51.00 for a downloaded version (272 pages) from this website.

<https://www-mwps.sws.iastate.edu/catalog/livestock-categories/beef-operations/cow-calf-production-us-corn-belt>

For more information on this event or any questions, please contact Purdue Extension – Greene County via phone at 812-659-2122 or email Sadie Davis at davis186@purdue.edu

Because of the popularity of this workshop and slowed postal service times, credit card payment is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**. If registration includes a course material, it will not be shipped until payment is collected. Course materials are non-refundable.

Seasonal Tips for Cattlemen

February

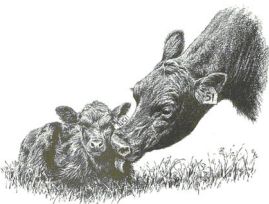
1. Feed late in the day (after dark) to promote day-time calving.
 2. Feed cows in good condition (condition score 5-7) a dry cow ration. Thin cows (condition score 3-4) should be fed a higher energy ration.
 3. Give weak calves colostrum with esophageal feeder within 4 hours of calving. Research has shown that after 4 hours the calf has lost most of its ability to absorb colostrum antibodies.
 4. Identify calves with ear tags. Be aware of cows with aggressive behavior. Commercial operations should castrate and implant bull calves.
 5. Record birth date, calf weight, dam and calf ID, and calving score in record book.
 6. Overseed pastures with desired legume (if needed) before mid-March.
 7. Frost seed clovers.
 8. Purebred and commercial producers should:
 - Put heavy springers into calving pasture and observe them several times a day.
 - Provide extra attention to first-calf heifers.
 - Provide assistance to heifers after 1 hour and cows after 2 hours, if not making progress in calving.
 - Move cows and calves to a clean pasture away from calving pasture after calves are 2-3 days old.
- If moving heavy springers into a calving paddock or pasture and sorting cows and calves to a clean pasture is not feasible, then a large, well-drained calving pasture is needed. This area should be large enough to remain relatively clean for the calving period. Rule of thumb is 0.5 to 0.75 acres per cow.



March

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

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Training



Producers wanting training for **Beef Quality Assurance (BQA)** to sell to local cattle packers can receive instructions for getting their certification on-line by contacting the Purdue Extension - Dubois County office. On-line training usually runs about two hours, with a required exam immediately following.

Virtual Lunch N Learn Series

VUJC Land Stewardship Initiative

Soil Diagnostic Series

Virtual Format:

An email with a Zoom link & detailed login instructions will be sent to registrants prior to each session.

Date / Time:

Wednesdays, February 3, 10,
17, & 24, 2021

11:30AM-12:30PM EST

Cost:

Series is FREE,
but registration is required one
day prior to each session.

Presented by:

Schedule:

February 3:

What is Soil Health?—Measurement and Assessment

See demonstrations on how to identify healthy soil and hear about the benefits healthy soils can bring to your farm.

February 10

Changes to LSI Soil Health

A panel of experts will describe changes seen in the Land Stewardship Initiative's soil health over the past ten years.

February 17

Local Farmer Testimonials

Hear observations from local farmers who have implemented soil health practices on their farms.

February 24

Resources Available to Achieve Changes on Your Farm

Become familiar with local conservation professionals and the technical and financial support their agencies provide.

Speakers:

Dubois County Farmers

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Dubois County SWCD

VUJC LSI Ag Planning Committee Members

Farm Service Agency

Indiana State Department of Agriculture

Registration and Questions:

Online: <https://www.ccsin.org/registration-other-events>

Dubois Co SWCD: 812-482-1171 Ext. 3

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Extension



Pork Quality Assurance (PQA+) On-Line Training Offered

Due to COVID concerns in-person Pork Quality Assurance Plus (PQA+) will not be offered this winter. However, pork producers wishing to receive certification on-line can do so by contacting the Purdue Extension - Dubois County office, where virtual training will be activated through the producer's account for 30 days. Once training is activated, an email with full step-by-step instructions will be sent to the participant.



On-line training is done through video and slide presentations lasting about two hours, with a required exam immediately following PQA+ training.

Wild Eats: Cooking for Flavor and Safety Webinar Series

**January 13:
Venison**

**February 10:
Small Game**

**March 10:
Fish**

**April 14:
Game Birds and
Waterfowl**



Featuring 4 dynamic sessions by Abbi Sampson, Purdue Extension Educator and Registered Dietitian. This webinar will help you understand the ins and outs of cooking types of game, while keeping food safety a top priority.

All Sessions 3:00-3:30 EST

No Cost to Participate

Please register by January 6th at:

<https://tinyurl.com/wildeatswebinar>

By registering, you will receive a link to the live and recorded session(s).



Extension - Putnam County

For more information, please contact Purdue Extension-
Putnam County at sampsona@purdue.edu or 765-653-8411.

Purdue University is an EA/EO/AA institution.

DIY Lawncare Series

Do you want to know how to have a greener, healthier lawn? Join us for this Purdue DIY Lawncare Series where you will receive information on turf basics needed to lay the groundwork for a healthy lawn. You will also learn what insects, diseases, or other pests can be a problem. If you are finding yourself needing to renovate or reseed, there will be information on this as well!

Great
Gifting
Idea*

- Feb 4: Basics of Taking Care of Lawns
- Feb 11: Lawn Pests and Irrigation Considerations
- Feb 18: Weed ID and Management
- Feb 25: Seeding Establishment and Lawn Renovation

All sessions: 5:30pm-8pm Central; 6:30pm-9pm Eastern
Program Cost: \$20

Register at: <https://puext.in/DIYLawncareRegister>
Registration Ends Jan 28, 2021

Questions/Information: Contact Nikky Witkowski
nikky@purdue.edu or 219-465-3555

*Gift Certificate will be emailed with registration confirmation.

Winter Garden Calendar

Lawns, Tree Fruits, Landscape Plants, and Woody Ornamentals

February

- Check mulches, rodent shields, salt/wind screens, and other winter plant protections to make sure they are still in place.
- Prune landscape plants, except early spring bloomers, which should be pruned after flowers fade. Birches, maples, dogwoods, and other heavy sap bleeders can be pruned in early summer to avoid the sap flow, although bleeding is not harmful to the tree.
- Prune fruit trees to control plant size and remove dead, damaged, or weak limbs.

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.

Indoor Plants and Activities

February

- Check water levels daily in cut-flower vases.
- Repot houseplants as they outgrow current pots.
- Early blooms of spring-flowering bulbs can make good gifts for a sweetheart. Keep the plant in a bright, cool location for longer lasting blooms. Forced bulbs make poor garden flowers and should be discarded as blooms fade.

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).

Flowers, Vegetables, and Small Fruits

February

- Prepare or repair lawn and garden tools for the upcoming season.
- Start seeds indoors for cool-season vegetables so they will be ready for transplanting to the garden early in the season. Broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage seeds should be started five to seven weeks prior to transplanting.
- Test leftover garden seed for germination. Place 10 seeds between moist paper toweling or cover with a thin layer of soil. Keep seeds warm and moist. If less than six seeds germinate, then fresh seed should be purchased.

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.

By Rosie Lerner & Michael Dana, Purdue Pub. HO-90-W





FREE INVASIVE PLANT LANDOWNER SITE VISITS

Do you want to learn more about invasive species on your property? Have an Invasive Species Specialist come to your property and identify invasive species that are taking up residence. We can help you learn to identify, prioritize, and control problematic invasive plants. You can even receive an invasive management plan customized to your property. We can also refer landowners to state and federal programs for invasive control cost-share assistance. Help raise awareness about invasive species in your county.

Program provided by the Daviess, Dubois, and Martin County Soil & Water Conservation Districts. With funding from a Clean Water Indiana Grant.



***Available in Daviess,
Dubois, and Martin
Counties***

**Learn about Invasive
Species on Your
Property**

**Get technical
support from an
Invasive Species
Specialist**

**Customized Invasive
Management Plans
Also Available**

CONTACT:

**Emily Finch
Invasive Species Specialist**

**Emily.Finch@in.nacdnet.net
812-482-1171 X3**

**1486 Executive Blvd
Jasper, IN 47546**

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Website: <http://www.extension.purdue.edu/dubois>

Return Service Requested

DUBOIS COUNTY AGRI-NEWS

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2021

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jan.19-Mar.9 | Purdue Beef Basics Series (Tuesdays) (Virtual) |
| Jan. 20 | Purdue First Steps in Succession Planning (Webinar) |
| Jan.21 & 28 | Purdue “So You’ve Inherited a Farm, Now What?” Series (Virtual) |
| Jan.21-Mar.4 | Purdue Beginning Farmer Workshop (Thursdays) (Virtual) |
| Feb.3,10,17 & 24 | VUJC LSI Soil Diagnostic “Lunch & Learn” Series (Virtual) |
| Feb.4,11,18 & 25 | Purdue DIY Lawn Care Series (Virtual) |
| Feb.8,15 & 22 | Purdue Keeping the Farm Resilient in Uncertain Times (Virtual) |
| Feb.10 | Wild Eats: Cooking for Flavor & Safety – Small Game (Webinar) |
| Feb. 19 | Purdue Area Corn & Soybean Day/PARP (Virtual) |
| Feb.23-Mar.30 | Annie’s Project – Women in Agriculture Series (Tuesdays) (Virtual) |
| Feb.25 | Purdue Seed Treatment Program (Virtual) |
| Mar.4-6 | Indiana Small Farm Conference (Virtual) |
| Mar.10 | Wild Eats: Cooking for Flavor & Safety – Fish (Webinar) |
| Mar.11,12,18&19 | “Becoming the Employer of Choice” Farm Hiring Series (Virtual) |
| Mar.31-Apr. 3 | National Farm Machinery Show (Louisville, KY) |
| Apr.14 | Wild Eats: Cooking for Flavor & Safety – Game Birds (Webinar) |
| July 12-16 | Dubois County 4-H Fair (Bretzville) |
| Aug. 6-22 | Indiana State Fair (Indianapolis) |