

Field Notes from Purdue Extension – Carroll County



Cass and Carroll Counties to Host North Central IRM Cow-Calf Workshop

The North Central Indiana Cow Calf IRM Workshop is slated for Friday, February 20, 2015, at the Stony Pike Livestock Auction Facility in Logansport, Indiana. Join us for this educational workshop geared to help beef producers improve their operations. Coffee and donuts will be available at 8:30 AM and the program runs from 9:00-11:30 AM.

FEBRUARY 2015

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<http://www.extension.purdue.edu/Carroll>

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

To kick-off the workshop, Dr. Jim Mintert, Director of the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture, will discuss the cattle market trends and expectations for producers in the near future. Dr. Kara Stewart, Purdue Animal Sciences, will then address “The What, When and Why of Breeding Soundness.” This presentation will focus on making sound reproductive decisions for heifers, cows, and bulls.

Dr. Ron Lemenager, Purdue Beef Specialist, and Andrea Brown, Purdue Extension Educator in Carroll County, will present “The Importance of Body Condition Scoring.” Producers will participate in a hands-on exercise to visually appraise a group of cattle for body condition score. This will provide participants with an opportunity to better understand how to body condition score their own cattle. Dr. Lemenager will also provide information on nutritional considerations for cattle as it relates to their body condition scores and stage of production.

This workshop is sponsored by Purdue Extension in Cass, Carroll, and Howard Counties. Register today by calling the Carroll County Cooperative Extension Office at (574) 967-3538 or emailing ahbrown@purdue.edu.

WE HAVE MOVED – Please note our new address and phone number!

102 N. 4th St., Suite B. Flora, IN 46929

Phone: 574-967-3538

Soil Conservation Workshop Offered for Certified Crop Advisors

On February 25th Carroll and White counties will host the annual Bi-County Soil Conservation Workshop at the Wabash & Erie Canal Center in Delphi. Registration with coffee and donuts will be at 8:30 AM and the program will begin at 9 AM. Speakers and topics include: Mike Wigginton, NRCS Resource Soil Scientist and Kerry Smith, NRCS District Conservationist, Howard & Tipton County - "Understanding and Reading Your Soil Health Reports;" Tony Vyn, Purdue Extension Specialist, Cropping Systems - "Spring Tillage Options Following a Wet Fall," and Brad Joern, Purdue Extension Specialist, Nutrient Management, - "Ways to Minimize Phosphorus Loss." CEUs will be available in the area of Soil & Water Conservation for Certified Crop Advisors. Please RSVP to the Carroll County SWCD office at 765-564-4480 ext.3.

Opportunities Available for Farm Women!

Midwest Women in Ag Conference Registration Open

The Midwest Women in Agriculture Conference will be held February 18-19th in Merrillville, IN. There is a pre-conference tour to Fair Oaks Farm offered on February 17th. If you register before February 3, 2015 the conference fee is only \$90! After February 3rd, it goes up to \$140. For a conference agenda and more details, visit <https://ag.purdue.edu/extension/WIA/Pages/default.aspx>.

Empowering Farm Women Series

Carroll and Howard County Extension offices are hosting a new series called "Empowering Farm Women" on February 26th and March 12th. This is a series that brings farm women together to increase their management skills for today's agriculture businesses. The programs will be held 6:00-8:30 pm at the Carroll County Education and Events Center located at the Carroll County Fairgrounds in Flora, Indiana.

The February 26th session will focus on Increasing Farm Income - Adding to an Existing Enterprise and Bringing Another Family Member into the Operation. Andrew Martin, an Extension Educator on the Purdue Succession Planning team will be teaching the session. This session will focus on opportunities to increase farm income to successfully bring another member of the family into the operation.

The March 12th session will focus on Commodity Marketing and consist of Strategies and Tools for Marketing Success, as well as Marketing Tactics for the Current Economic Conditions. Dr. Corinne Alexander from Purdue Ag Economics will be teaching this session. She will focus on commodity marketing and will provide participants with strategies for success in their marketing programs.

There will be a light meal provided at each program and there is no cost to attend. For a brochure and registration form, contact Paul Marcellino at 765-456-2313 or email pmarcell@purdue.edu.

DEER CREEK-SUGAR CREEK COST SHARE PROGRAM REMINDER: The cost-share application period is open from January 1, 2015 through March 2, 2015. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by March 31, 2015. The Cost-Share Program year will run through January, 2016, or until all money is allocated or spent. For more details, visit www.wabashriver.net/deer-creek-sugar-creek.

Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture Offers Programs & Webinars

The Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture will be holding several webinars on timely topics for farmers throughout the spring. Many farmers and landowners have not made decisions related to the 2014 Farm Bill. As a result, the Center has scheduled a second Farm Bill Decisions webinar to be held on February 16th at 9 AM to help farmers sort through the pros and cons of the alternatives available. On March 2nd at 9 AM the Center will hold a webinar focused on 2015 Crop Insurance Decisions. The deadline for most spring crop insurance decisions is March 15th and this webinar will review the alternatives available and help farmers evaluate possible changes in their 2015 crop insurance strategy. For more information, contact the Extension Office or visit www.agecon.purdue.edu/commercialag/index.html.

The Center is also offering programs for farm families on Succession Planning. On March 10-11, 2015, a program will be offered at the White County Extension Office in Reynolds. This two-day program will address the following questions: What alternatives do you have to transfer business assets?; Can your business afford to add another owner?; and How do you structure a management transfer plan?. Registration is \$150 for first 4 family members, each additional member costs \$15. For more information and a registration form, visit www.agecon.purdue.edu/commercialag/resources/succession/index.html.

SAVE THE DATE: The Carroll County Agriculture Association will have its annual meeting on March 9th at the Delphi United Methodist Church at 6:30 PM. The speaker is Ted McKinney, the Indiana Department of Agriculture Director. 2015 CCAA Hall of Fame and 2015 CCAA Scholarship winners will be announced. For more information, go to www.carrollcountyag.com.