**UW-Extension Education Committee March 7th – April 7th 2016 Trisha Wagner Agriculture Agent**

**Integrated Pest Management programs**

March programs for fruit and vegetable production focused on integrated pest management techniques. Fruit tree management for production of high quality fruit including pruning and training demonstrations was hosted at the Hoefer residence with over thirty small scale fruit growers and/or home gardener. Integrated pest management of insects and disease in fruit and vegetables was held for producers/home growers as well. Speakers Brian Hudelson of the UW plant disease diagnostic clinic and PJ Liesch UW entomologist, discussed what to watch for during the 2016 growing season.

**Farm Record Keeping program**

This program focused on record keeping basics for all farm enterprises. For farmers, maintaining detailed and accurate business records can provide control during challenging economic times. This program for new, and beginning farmers, or farmers who are looking to upgrade or improve their record keeping abilities, covered the following:

· Review of various record keeping systems, different formats, types, and where to find more information.

· Introduction to the use of the paper ledger format and a number of computer record keeping programs available.

· Details of the pros and cons of each system, including farm business suitability, program costs, and support.

**Badger Mining Agronomy meeting**

Badger Mining requested UW-Extension participate in a program on the topic of “sustainable farming” for twenty-five land renters. My presentation focused on UWEX tools and resources to accurately calculate and assign nutrient credits from manure and legume sources, and while acknowledging the interest in cover crops, UWEX research on the challenges for cover crops given west central WI climate, typical cropping sequence, and current crop budgets. I also discussed current economic conditions, outlook, and crop budget tools (for participants on usb drives).

**Master Gardener Volunteer – Level 2 training**

The 2016 Level 2 training focused on sustainable landscape design. Volunteers have two options for participating in the continuing educational program (self-study online, or as a group at the Jackson County UW-Extension office). Eleven Jackson County MGVs participated in the 4-week program at the Extension office on Tuesday evenings.

**Add’n programs/projects:**

* Jackson Count farmers market mtgs 3/11, 18, 23
* UWEX/ANIMART collaboration – calf facilities podcasts 3/9
* Ag plastics recycling meeting 3/17 survey development 4/7
* Dairy Partner newsletter – 3/9, 21
* Farm HRM workgroup meeting 3/21, 4/6
* Pesticide applicator training/certification program 3/22
* Farm marketing webinars: calc costs of prod 3/22, new food safety rules 3/29
* Ag Safety grant 3/25

**Add’n meetings/programs attended:**

-WI Asoc. County Ag Agents mtg. 3/8

-JC Livestock edu. cmt mtg. 3/9

-Jackson County Farm Bureau 3/12

- UWEX/ANRE Team Forage and Nutrient

 Management Team meetings 3/14

-Professional Dairy Producers of WI

 annual conference 3/16

-area soil conservation field day 3/30

-JC Dairy Promotion cmt mtg 3/31

-staff retreat 4/1

-Spring Thaw beef show cmt mtg 4/3

-ANRE coaches mtg 4/7

* Spaulding Rd. Community Garden newsletter 3/28
* Coulee Grazier kick-off meeting 3/31, April planning 4/5

**Farm visits/consults:**

* Boice, cover crops 3/6
* Gonzalez, skid steer mtrls 3/9
* Vazquez, datcp mtrls 3/9
* Laufenberg, IoH 3/11
* D’Huyvetter, comm PAT 3/12
* Kall, forages, pasture 3/12
* Nysven, contract/legal 3/15
* Mann, letter of rec. 3/18
* Seekamp, farm markets 3/18
* Wagge, Olson, Cain, PAT 3/21, 23, 28
* Kall, farm management 3/21
* Johnston, Progressive Farmer, HRM 3/31
* Laufenberg, pest control 4/1
* Busch, nutrient management 4/3
* Sedelbauer, ag grants 4/5
* Janke silo bag density 4/5
* Giese, MRTN 4/5
* Clemons, horticulture 4/6
* Pfost, USFWS 4/6
* Boettcher, poultry startup/budgets 4/6,7
* Shwenneker, oak wilt 3/21
* Ebert, pest management 3/22
* Duerkp, EAB 3/23
* McCan, ag grant 2/24
* Vazquez, feed license 3/28
* Nelson, A., record keeping 3/28
* Odeen, financial 3/29
* Moldenhauer, farm market vendor 3/29
* Banner Journal, farm market 3/29
* Nelson, L., CSAs 3/29