**UW-Extension Education Committee May 6th - June 3rd 2016 Trisha Wagner Agriculture Agent**

**On-farm field work**

*Alfalfa maturity rating* – rating on two-three farms across the county to evaluate alfalfa maturity with PEAQ stick readings. This information is reported to Bob Bosold’s program on WAXX radio along with other county readings across the listening area. Farmers can hear where maturity ratings are at across west central WI on the radio or by visiting the UWEX website.

*Silage bag density survey* – estimating remaining feed quantity is a fairly common question of farmers and requires a calculation including density. Rules of thumb often used to estimate density are fairly old and may be out of date compared to current capacity of today’s packing equipment. Silo bag density surveys will be done on a number of farms across the state to help farmers better estimate feed quantity and assess the impact of packing density on feed quality.

**Meat Animal Quality Assurance programs for JC Fair livestock projects**

This program meets the minimum standards required by the Wisconsin MAQA program. It is required for youth livestock exhibitors of beef, sheep and swine, and small animal projects at the Jackson County fair and Wisconsin State Fair. This year’s workshop requires hands-on activities covering topics on animal care and management (feed ratios, livestock identification, communicating with the public, and ethical treatment of animals). This is the approved curriculum from the national Pork Producers Association and follows the specific key learning objectives. Over fifty youth were in attendance for the first of two large animal programs (5/19) and two programs held for small animal projects (rabbit and poultry) (5/10, 15).

**Add’n programs/projects:**

* TV 13 WEAU news at 5 horticulture interview (soil test report interpretation) 5/5
* JC Fair livestock identification –tag files 5/5, awards, program etc. 5/20, 6/1, 2
* Jackson Count farmers market mtgs 5/11, 16, 6/1, 2
* JC Boys & Girls Club with MGVs – prep for summer garden program 5/11,13
* Coulee Grazier May pasture walk – Wagner Farm 5/12
* JC County employee newsletter - article on JC diary economic impact 5/16
* Professional Dairy Producers of WI – program plan mtg 5/16, grant application 5/12, 25, 27,31
* Jackson Electric Co-op publication - article on farmers market survey results 5/17
* Dairy Partner newsletter – 5/17, 18, 6/1
* Farm Succession program planning 5/9, 20
* UWEX/ANIMART collaboration – dairy cattle heat stress podcast series 5/20
* FARM Team HRM workgroup plan mtg 5/23, 24, 25 and low ag commodity price UWEX response plan mtg 5/26
* JC Master Gardener Volunteer presentations @ Theissen’s 5/28
* Spaulding Rd. Community Garden newsletter 6/1
* Jackson County Dairy Breakfast on the farm – coordination of wagon ride/farm tours, tour hosts 5/24, 6/3, 4

**Farm visits/consults:**

**Add’n meetings/programs attended:**

-Int. programs webinar mtg 5/9

-ANRE Dept. mtg 5/9

-GreenLife Xpo/MGV presentation 5/10

-Livestock edu cmt mtg 5/11

-ANRE Dairy Team mtg 5/18

-ANRE Forage in-service training 5/18, 19

-BRF FFA annual banquet 5/20

* Nelson, alfalfa quality 5/6
* JC LCD, manure mgt 5/6
* Wagner compost 5/6
* Cooper, wages 5/6
* Goplin, PAT 5/6
* Schroeder, Waters, rental 5/9
* Lehymeyer, soils 5/9
* Thompson, horticulture 5/12
* McNulty, poultry 5/13
* Chronicle, crops update 5/13
* Banner Jouranl, freeze impact update 5/16
* Bender, dairy 5/16, 19, 6/1
* Lunderville, horticulture 5/16
* Palmer, horticulture 5/16
* Blair press, crop update 5/16
* Yapp, weed id, row crops 5/17
* Stacy, horticulture 5/17
* Giese, frost 5/17
* McNulty, poultry 5/18
* Stacy, horticulture 3/31
* Zielsdorf, Brauner, blueberries 3/31
* Baraboo, horticulture 6/1
* Neis, horticulture 6/2
* Calloway, horticulture 5/19
* Goodbear, horticulture 5/19
* Call, custom work 5/24
* Schultz, NM 5/27, 31