

**2:45pm-3:45pm**

\*What You Can Do Now to Reduce Disease Outbreaks in Your Bedding Plant Crop: Climate change, increased shipment of plant materials and other factors have changed the mix of insects on greenhouse crops. Sarah and Carole will report what you're most likely to see this spring. Speaker: Dr. Lois Berg Stack, Extension Ornamental Horticulture Specialist, University of Maine.

*\*This session has been approved for one pesticide recertification credit.*

***HOSPITALITY ROOM***

***Franklin Room***

***Sponsored by: Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine***

***Beginning Farmer Resource Network Meeting***

***Hancock Room***

**9:00am-10:00am**

Overview of Farm Service Agency (FSA) Programs: This presentation will provide an overview of available FSA programs for beginning farmers. Speaker: Brenda Wells.

**10:00am-11:00am**

Legal Considerations Essential to Running a Farm Business: No matter how long you have been farming, this workshop will cover the nuts & bolts legal considerations that are essential to your business's success. Speakers: Beth Boepple, Andrew Kraus & Ben Tettlebaum, attorney members of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF.

**11:00am-noon**

Food Safety: Whether you are selling wholesale or retail, this workshop will help you answer, "How will the Food Safety Modernization Act rules affect my farm?" Speakers: Roger Noonan, Linda Titus & Ben Tettlebaum, attorney members of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF.

**noon-1:00pm**

Modern Day Homemakers: Be a part of what's trending!: A model for getting the information you need for your new farm family. Speaker: Debbie Killam, UMaine Extension.

**1:00pm-2:00pm**

Protecting Intellectual Property: Think intellectual property is only for seeds? Think again, protecting your brand is critical to your success. Speakers: Kevin Haley, Hal Bernan & Ben Tettlebaum, attorney members of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF.

**2:00pm-3:00pm**

Legal Structure for Your Farm: Learn about or refresh your memory about the Pros and Cons of various business legal structures. Speakers: Kevin Haley, Nate Huckel-Bauer & Ben Tettlebaum, attorney members of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF.

**3:00pm-4:00pm**

Land Leasing and Purchasing: Whether you are leasing or looking to buy your first property or expand your operations, this workshop will cover most of the key legal considerations when leasing or buying farmland in Maine. Speakers: Seth Kroek, Beth Boepple, Jo Barrett & Ben Tettlebaum, attorney members of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF.

**4:00pm-5:00pm**

Employment Law for the Farm: Untangling the web of labor law regarding employees, interns, apprentices, independent contractors and more.

Speakers: Jim Claus US Dept of Labor, Beth Boepple & Ben Tettlebaum, attorney members of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF.

**5:00pm-6:30pm**

Evening Theme: Land is your legacy/creating a legacy through multi-generational planning: It takes a team to transfer a farm. Come hear from a lawyer, an accountant, a farm lender and other service providers who can help you prepare a sound plan for passing the farm on to the next generation. Speakers: Andrew Marshall: Land For Good; Ethan Robertson: Farm Credit East; Paul Dillon: Attorney; Phil Doucet: Accountant, Austin Associates.

***UMaine Cooperative Extension/Maine Board of Pesticides Control Pesticides Applicator Recertification Kennebec/Penobscot Room***

*(1 credit for each hour EXCEPT 1 credit for attending the entire BPC meeting and forum)*

*\*One credit for attending entire meeting and forum*

**9:00am-10:00am**

BPC/WPS Update—BPC Staff.

**10:15am-11:15am**

Forest Insects: SBW, EAB, ALB, HWA, etc.—Allison Kanoti, MFS.

**12:00pm-1:00pm**

Pollinator Update—Gary Fish, BPC.

**1:30pm-2:30pm**

White Grub Management—Clay Kirby, UMCE.

**3:00pm-4:00pm\***

Board of Pesticides Control (BPC) Meeting.

**4:00pm-5:00pm\***

Open Forum for Growers, Applicators and the Public—BPC.

**5:00pm-6:00pm\***

BPC Meeting, continued.

***Beginning Farmer Resource Network Meeting Knox Room***

**9:00am-7:00pm**

BFRN Networking Room: Farmer's of all levels - aspiring, beginning, established, downsizing, and retiring - are welcome to visit the Networking Room for free, one-on-one assistance from agricultural, business and legal service providers. The rotating schedule of services providers will be posted outside the door of the Knox room.

***Beginning Farmer Resource Network Meeting Lincoln/Oxford Room***

**9:00am-10:00am**

Organic Certification - what it means and how to do it: If you market and sell products as Organic, chances are good you need to be certified by a USDA-accredited certifier to comply with the organic standard. MOFGA Certification Staff will provide an overview of this marketing regulation and explain organic production practices. Information on how to become certified organic will also be presented. MOFGA is the country's oldest certifying body and we certify over 470 farms and processors. Speaker: Mary Yurlina, director MOFGA Certification Services.

**10:00am-11:00am**

Implementing Conservation Programs on Your Farm: Join Abby Sadauckas & Jake Galle of Apple Creek Farm to learn how NRCS Conservation Programs can benefit your farm. Abby and Jake will share their experiences participating in a variety of NRCS programs. From writing a forestry management plan to implementing prescribed grazing, these programs can help build soil health, improve infrastructure and make possible your farm vision. Speakers: Abby Sadauckas & Jake Galle Apple Creek Farm.

**11:00am-noon**

Farming with Carnivores: Learn more about the Farmer Network: This presentation is a collaborative effort on the part of leading Maine farmers, an expert on livestock guardian dogs, and a carnivore wildlife biologist. In this session you will meet biologist, Geri Vistein and hear from three members of the Farming with Carnivores Network, a network designed to share experiences, connect farmers and share knowledge about how to farm with carnivores. Speakers: Geri Vistein, David Kennard Wellscroft Farm, Billy Foster, Mary Hughes and Breanna Norris.

**noon-1:00pm**

Institutional Markets - Opportunity and Challenges: The University of Maine System recently committed to using 20% local foods in their next foodservice contract that starts in July 2016, and other institutions are setting similar goals. Come learn about the different institutional markets, stories about farms who work with institutions in Maine, and consider whether they might be a good opportunity for you in the short or long term. Speaker: Riley Neugebauer, Farm to Institution New England (FINE), Maine Farm to Institution (MEFTI).

**1:00pm-2:00pm**

Tools for Managing Conflicts: Workplace, Employee and/or Family: Focusing on skills and strategies for improving communication and listening skills, enhancing self-control and patience, and building stronger relationships. Speaker: Elaine Bourne.

**2:00pm-3:00pm**

SNAP Access 1. Expanding your customer base through low income access (2 HOUR SESSION): Learn about the potential value of expanding access to your products by accepting Supplemental Nutrition Access Program funds on your farm through EBT. This session will cover the size of the market, logistics of accepting EBT payments on farm, incentive programs for EBT payments, and a farmer's perspective who has experience. Part 1) 2:00-2:30 Overview of EBT & SNAP - Leigh Hallett, MFFM 2:30-2:45 Q&A

2:45-3:00 Logistics: FNS Number to Processing Payments - Maria Schamberger, FNS (Not yet confirmed) Speaker: Heather Omand, MOFGA; Leigh Hallett, MFFM; Maria Schamberger, USDA; Reba Richardson, Hatchet Cove Farm; Kim, Wolf Pine Farm; Ernest Rollins, Rollins Orchard.

**3:00pm-4:00pm**

SNAP Access 2. Expanding your customer base through low income access (2 HOUR SESSION): Learn about the potential value of expanding access to your products by accepting Supplemental Nutrition Access Program funds on your farm through EBT. This session will cover the size of the market, logistics of accepting EBT payments on farm, incentive programs for EBT payments, and a farmer's perspective who has experience. Part 2) 3:00-3:10 Options for EBT Service Providers - Leigh Hallett 3:10-3:25 Q&A with Leigh and Maria 3:25-3:40 Incentive Funding Models - Heather 3:40-4:00 The Farmer's Perspective - Reba Richardson, Hatchet Cove Farm; Speaker: Heather Omand, MOFGA; Leigh Hallett, MFFM;

Maria Schamberger, USDA; Reba Richardson, Hatchet Cove Farm; Kim, Wolf Pine Farm; Ernest Rollins, Rollins Orchard.

**4:00pm-5:00pm**

So You Want to Join a Farmers' Market? Steps and Tips to Consider: Farmers' Markets can be an important retail option for farms of all sizes. Learn how to evaluate markets and how to apply, plus gain marketing tips and strategies from seasoned market farmers. Speakers: Heather Donahue (Balfour Farm), Lauren Pignatello (Swallowtail Farm), Ernest Rollins (Rollins Orchard).

**5:00pm-6:00pm**

Beyond the Field Edge: Come hear about farming and Maine's most perennial crop--it's not rocks, it's trees! See how knowledge of soil characteristics can help guide where to farm and where to grow trees; and other good things to know about the wooded part of the farm. Speaker: Andy Shultz, David Rocque.

***Maine Grass Farmers Network Meeting & Maine Poultry Growers Meeting Piscataquis Room***

**10:00am-11:00am**

Weeds in Pasture: Caragh Fitzgerald from UMCE will give you ideas about managing those troublesome weeds. Speaker: Caragh Fitzgerald from UMCE.

**11:00am-noon**

Health concerns for Ruminants on Pasture, Speaker: Home Town Veterinary Care.

**noon-1:00pm**

Maine Grass Farmers Board Meeting.

**1:00pm-1:30pm**

Maine Poultry Growers: Surveillance of AI in the State of Maine.

**1:30pm-2:30pm**

Layer, Broiler, Started Pullets, and Poultry Enterprise Budgetting.

**2:30pm-3:15pm**

Grower to Grower Poultry Forum.

**3:15pm-4:00pm**

Poultry Growers Social: Open to all, bring your questions.

***Maine Beef Producers Meeting Sagadahoc Room***

**1:00pm-3:00pm**

Producer Education and Farm Profiles.

**3:00pm-4:00pm**

Annual Maine Beef Producers Association Meeting.

**4:00pm-5:30pm**

Maine Beef Producers Association, January Board Meeting.

***USDA Farm Service Agency Meeting Somerset Room***

**10:00am-11:00am**

Farm Service Agency: Informational Session for Beginning Farmers. Speakers: Don Todd, SED; Sherry Hamel, FLS; Amanda May, PS.

**2:00pm-3:00pm**

Farm Service Agency: Informational Session on Farm Programs and Farm Loans. Speakers: Don Todd, SED; Sherry Hamel, FLS; Amanda May, PS.