

Thursday, January 14, 2016

Organic Dairy with CROPP Cooperative Meeting Androscoggin Room

10:00am-11:00am

Organic Dairy with CROPP Cooperative: Educational info and updates on organic dairy CROPP cooperative and organic industry and market updates. Speaker: Steve Getz Regional Dairy Pool Manager Organic Valley/CROPP Cooperative.

MDACF Meeting Aroostook Room

10:00am-1:00pm

Building a Processor Network: Round table discussion including State, USDA and custom meat processors, to explore collaborative opportunities, identify industry needs and strengthen the current processing network. Round Table Facilitated by: Jessica Nixon, MDACF.

1:00pm-3:00pm

Building on Agritourism Network: Melissa Macaluso, MDACF Discussion on new initiatives for current Agritourism businesses in the State of Maine. A review of needs and best practices will also seek to help those looking to expand their business and service offerings. Speakers: Jessica Nixon, MEDACF and Melissa Macaluso, MDACF.

Maine Pork Producers Meeting Cumberland Room

11:00am-noon

Maine Pork Producers-Business Meeting: Election of Officers. Speakers: Officers/Board.

1:00pm-3:00pm

Swine Health-Speaker: Guest Speaker.

HOSPITALITY ROOM Franklin Room Sponsored by: Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine

Beginning Farmer Resource Network Meeting Hancock Room

9:00am-10:00am

How UMaine Helps Farmers & Food Processors: A review of the many ways that the University of Maine supports the agricultural and food based economy. Participants will learn where within the University of Maine they can turn to get expert information and services to assist their farm or food based enterprise. Speaker: John Rebar, UMaine Extension.

10:00am-11:00am

Guide to Accessing USDA Grants, Loans, and other Programs for Beginning Farmers and Veterans: A session to explain the range of USDA programs available to beginning farmers. Risk management tools such as crop insurance and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, farm loan programs, and incentives that exist for beginning farmers. Speakers: Don Todd, FSA; Erin Roche, UMaine Extension; Juan Hernandez, NRCS.

11:00am-noon

Principles of Holisitic Management: The 4 Ecosystem Processes: In this session, Diane Schivera will use Holistic Management as the lens

through which to learn about the four ecosystem processes: the water cycle, the mineral cycle, the biological community, and energy flow. Learn more about using biomonitoring and different digital tools to improve the health of your land. Speaker: Diane Schivera, MOFGA Livestock Specialist

noon-1:00pm

Do It Yourself Poultry Waters & Feeders: In this session, Gary Anderson will show how to build your own poultry waters using plastic nipples, plastic bucket or PVC pipe. Also, he will show how to make a tube feeder out of PVC pipe. Speaker: Gary Anderson, UMaine Extension Specialist.

1:00pm-2:00pm

Financing your Farm Business: Shark Tank! Come pitch your farm business idea in this interactive session with lenders and investors! Learn valuable tips for increasing your chances of obtaining financing and realizing your farm goals. Speaker: Gray Harris (CEI--Moderator), Sherry Hamel (FSA), John Egan (CEI), Shannon Webber (Farm Credit), Scott Budde (MHCUP), Jacob Israelow (Dirt Capital).

2:00pm-3:00pm

Cover Crops and Soil Health: Cover crops have the potential to provide multiple benefits in a cropping system. They prevent erosion, improve soil's physical and biological properties, supply nutrients, suppress weeds, improve the availability of soil water, and break pest cycles along with various other benefits. Speaker: Tony Jenkins, NRCS.

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

(1 credit for each hour)

9:00am-10:00am

Pollinator Update—Gary Fish, BPC.

10:15am-11:15am

Wild Blueberry Pest Management Update—Seanna Annis and David Yarborough, UMaine.

11:30am-12:30pm

BPC/WPS Update—BPC Staff.

Beginning Farmer Resource Network Meeting Knox Room

9:00am-7:00pm

BFRN Networking Room: Farmers 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

Conservation Easements As A Tool for Farm Acquisition: Learn about the basics of agricultural conservation easements and creative ways to use this tool as part of your strategy for acquiring farmland. Speaker: Adam Bishop, Maine Farmland Trust.

10:00am-11:00am

Balancing Farm and Relationships: How do you do it? Join a conversation about the challenges and joys of balancing the variety of relationships on the farm (including peers, partners, employees, relatives). Consider this session a starting point to think about communication issues and strategies. Speaker: Leslie Forstadt, UMaine Extension.

11:00am-noon

Unlock Your Farm's Potential: NRCS Soil Health: Healthy, fully functioning soil provides an environment that sustains and nourishes plants, soils, microbes and beneficial insects. NRCS soil experts advise how soil health is one of the most effective ways for farmers to increase crop productivity and profitability while improving the environment. Speaker: Tony Jenkins, NRCS.

noon-1:00pm

FarmLink Mixer: FarmLink will host this opportunity for farm owners and seekers to meet each other face-to-face. We'll provide a relaxed atmosphere where folks can connect and explore potential land linking opportunities. Speakers: Maine FarmLink.

1:00pm-2:00pm

Farmer Math: Farmers use math on a daily basis. Figuring out what formulas you need and how to apply them is half the battle of building your own irrigation and heating systems. Speaker: Peter Bastien.

2:00pm-3:00pm

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

WIC Farmer Training Piscataquis Room

1:00pm-3:00pm

WIC Farmer Training: Training for farmers who are wanting to accept WIC checks. Speaker: Ana Scovil, WIC Vendor & Data Specialist.

Beginning Farmer Resource Network Meeting Sagadahoc Room

9:00am-10:00am

Farm Succession and Transfer Planning: Learn of options for transferring your farm to someone in, or outside of, your family. Speakers: Dave Kallin, Sarah McDaniel, Beth Boepple & Ben Tittlebaum, attorney members of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF.

10:00am-11:00am

Employment Law: Untangling the web of labor law regarding employees, interns, apprentices, independent contractors and more. Speakers: Jim Claus from the US Dept of Labor & Ben Tittlebaum, attorney members of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF.

11:00am-noon

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

noon-1:00pm

Free one-on-one consultations with Attorneys: Come in for free, confidential one-on-one time with attorneys of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF. Speakers: Attorney members of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF.

1:00pm-2:00pm

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: Stephanie Gilbert from the Maine Dept of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, and Kevin Haley & Ben Tittlebaum, attorney members of the Legal Services Food Hub, a project of CLF.

Maine Chapter of the Farmer Veteran Coalition Somerset Room

9:00am-10:00am

Farmer Veteran Networking: Free space and time for farming veterans to meet and network with one another and develop the Fellowship Fund application process. This room is open to veterans. No scheduled speaker.

10:00am-11:00am

Meet Your Farmer Veteran: A workshop to help non-veteran farmers and marketers, agricultural service providers, and other industry professionals, learn more about Maine's veterans and the Farmer Veteran Coalition. Panelists include: Walter G. Morse, Patriot Ridge Homestead, Jefferson; Chris Knowlton, Knowlton Hill Farm, Swanville; Lenard Costa, Managerie Farm, Vassalboro; Randy Canarr, Heritage Farm, Hampden; Ben Stern, Sweet Clover Farm, Mt. Vernon.

11:00am-1:00pm

Farmer Veteran Networking: Free space and time for farming veterans to meet and network with one another and develop the Fellowship Fund application process. This room is open to veterans. No scheduled speaker.

1:00pm-3:00pm

Farmer Veteran Coalition - Maine Chapter Meeting: Meeting open to the public. Please come learn about the Maine Chapter of the Farmer Veteran Coalition, a national organization with the mission of "mobilizing veterans to feed America." Speaker: Jerry Ireland, President, Farmer Veteran Coalition - Maine Chapter.

The Maine Nutrition Council Meeting Waldo Room

10:00am-noon

Maine Nutrition Council Presents-Motivating Nutritional Behavior Change: Chris Guild, a Wellness Works™ Program Supervisor, Training Manager, and Health Coach for Occupational Medical Consulting, LLC, is responsible for the oversight of health coaches and client company wellness programs from Maine to Florida. He also trains health coaches in the technique of Motivational Interviewing. He has spoken and conducted trainings across the country and has a passion for helping engage people in improving their quality of life. Free for members, \$15 fee for non-members (includes membership). (Accredited Contact Hours Awarded).

1:00pm-3:00pm

Maine Nutrition Council Board Meeting.