

November 2017



From Field to Barn

UW-Extension Fond du Lac County

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Fond du Lac, WI 54935
Phone: 920.929.3171
Web: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/fdlag>

Fond du Lac County Educators:

Tina Kohlman
Dairy & Livestock Agent

Amanda Miller
FoodWise Coordinator & Family Living Educator

Pam Nelson
FoodWise Nutrition Educator

Dr. Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing
Area Crops & Soils Agent

Araceli (Shelly) Oswald
4-H Youth Development Assistant

Patty Percy
Community Garden Coordinator

Denise Retzleff
4-H Youth Development Educator

Shelley Tidemann
Family Living Educator

Diana Hammer
Community Resource Development Educator

Cindy Sarkady
Area Extension Director

Program Assistants:

Tina Engelhardt Angela Folske
Ann Kaiser Kelly Lamb

Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so as early as possible prior to the program or activity so that proper arrangements can be made.

Thanksgiving- A Time for Food, Family, & Meetings!

Thanksgiving is an opportunity to slow down after the fast past harvest season, and to take time to enjoy family and friends, and to reflect on the past year. It is also the time of year the pace picks up with extension programs and "meeting season".

Enclosed, please find several flyers regarding upcoming December and early-January meeting opportunities, as well as the calendar. Some December meetings to take notice of are:

- December 4 Soil, Water & Nutrient Management Meeting
- December 14 & 15 Intro and Advanced Snap + Nutrient Management Training
- December 15 Fond du Lac County Forage Council Dairy Forage Day
- December 20 Better Heifers, Better Cows Dairy Replacement Seminar

Since newsletters are printed once a month, don't forget to visit on web calendar at <https://fonddulac.uwex.edu/uw-extension-fond-du-lac-county-calendar/> for all our upcoming winter extension programs!

May this Thanksgiving be a bountiful one in feast, friends, family, and fun!

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UW-Extension Fond du Lac County
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Dr. Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing
Area Crops and Soils Agent
UW-Extension Fond du Lac & Dodge Counties
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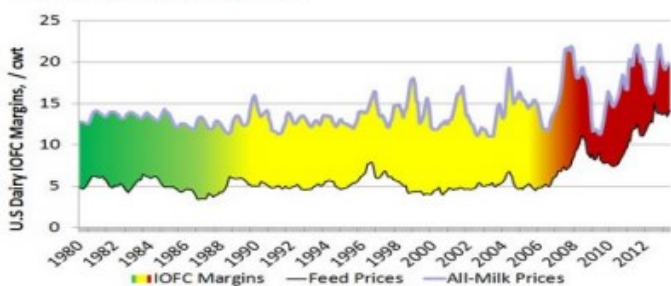


Is Your Feed Cost Per Hundredweight Less Than \$10?

Is your feed cost for all animals on your farm less than \$10 per 100 pounds of milk produced? This includes calves, heifers and dry cows in addition to your milking cows. In the Midwest, it probably is. In other parts of the country, it may not be; but knowing that cost is extremely important in making good decisions about the Milk Margin Protection program. As shown in Figure 1, the margin between milk price and feed cost can become very tight.

forage may have little to do with current market price of hay or corn. You may be able to grow corn for silage or alfalfa and grass for forage at a lower cost than you would have to pay in today's market. This is one advantage to upper Midwest dairies. You are choosing to make your crops a cost center, not a profit center, thereby putting the profit potential in your dairy operation or in the net farm profit if the dairy is your main enterprise. Being in the dairy business does not allow us a lot of flexibility of enterprises or rotations. 🐮

Figure 1. Historical margins between the price of milk and the cost of feed. Source: dairymarkets.org



Consider some quick calculations: For every 100 cows, you have 80 milking and 20 dry cows as well as 100 calves and heifers. Your feed costs are \$0.10 per pound of dry matter for the milking cows and they eat 50 pounds of dry matter per day and produce 80 pounds of milk per cow per day. That equates to \$5.50 per cow per day feed cost or \$5.50 / .8 cwt. = \$6.88 per cwt of milk in feed cost. But that is just for the milking cows.

If we add \$3.00 per head of average heifer feed cost per day and \$3.00 per head for the dry cows, we have an additional \$360.00 per day in feed costs. That adds an additional \$5.63 per cwt in feed costs. We now have an actual feed cost per cwt of milk produced of \$12.51.

Feed costs in the Midwest can be lower than the national average due to the fact that we grow a large percentage of our own feed. It is valuable for your business to know what your actual cost is. It may not be simple to arrive at some values of home produced forages. Knowing cost per year, actual yields, and allocated costs in addition to land cost can be challenging. One of the difficult factors in calculating feed costs is coming up with an accurate cost or value of your home grown forages. Your cost to produce your

Feed costs:

Homegrown Feeds	Avg lb/cow	\$/lb	\$/cow/day
Hay		X	=
Haylage		X	=
Corn silage		X	=
Corn		X	=
Other: _____		X	=
Goal >60% of total		Subtotal	=

Purchased Feeds	Avg lb/cow	\$/lb	\$/cow/day
Soybean Meal		X	=
Mineral		X	=
Distillers		X	=
Cottonseed		X	=
Other: _____		X	=
Goal <40% of total		Subtotal	=

Feed \$/cow/day	Avg milk/cow	\$/lb	Feed \$/cwt milk
	÷	X 100	=
			= Goal <\$10.00/cwt

Source: University of Minnesota Extension Specialist Jim Paulson, featured in UW-Extension Kewaunee County September 2017 Foghorn Newsletter.

Doing it Right-Proper Foot Wrap Application

When it comes to health issues on a dairy farm, lameness is usually a main concern along with mastitis and reproductive issues. It can be caused by a range of foot and leg conditions including foot rot, digital dermatitis, laminitis, and claw disease. Not only does lameness cause pain and distress for dairy cattle, but it also has a large economic impact on the dairy operation.

The Disease:

Digital dermatitis is one of the most common foot diseases of the dairy cow and can be found in even well managed dairy herds.

It is an infectious disease caused by a family of spiral-like bacteria called *Treponema*. Special attention must be given to this foot disease in order to treat the animals which serve as a reservoir of infection and to reduce the spread of infection.

Cows affected with digital dermatitis are usually easily spotted by the way they walk or behave. They appear to walk on their toes and they shift weight off the infected foot while standing. Lesions can also be spotted by washing the heels in the parlor and using a bright light to identify active lesions.

Treating Digital Dermatitis:

Footbaths do not cure rather, they are a management practice designed to maintain existing digital dermatitis in an inactive state (Stage M4). Treating infected (Stage M2) digital dermatitis on individual cows reduces the reservoir of infection which in turns reduces the incidence of spreading the bacteria to other herd mates.

Digital dermatitis can respond to topical treatment without foot wraps. The lesion should be wiped clean with a gauze pad or paper towel. An antibiotic powder such as oxytetracycline* should be applied. Oxytetracycline has resulted in remarkable

improvement with the cow showing few, if any, real signs of pain within 24 to 28 hours. A gauze pad held in place by an adhesive bandage is applied to the treated area to ensure the lesion is dry and has contact with the antibiotic powder for a minimum of 30 minutes (see steps to properly apply a foot wrap on page 2).


The prolonged use of foot wraps on individual cows for treatment can cause problems.

If applied too tight, additional trauma can occur to the foot or pastern. Apply wraps loosely to reduce risk of injury.

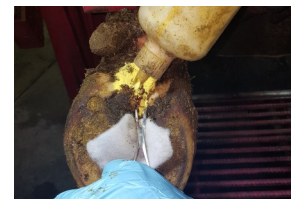


Foot wraps staying on too long can create an environment around the foot which will perpetuate the foot disease, potentially delaying or diminishing healing.

The purpose of the wrap is to ensure the lesion is dry and has contact with the antibiotic powder for 30 minutes. Wraps should be removed within 24 hours after application if they have not fallen off.

**The use of oxytetracycline for treatment of digital dermatitis is considered extra-labeled prescription drug use. The use of this product in this manner must be done through a valid veterinary-client -patient-relationship (VCPR).* 

Source: University of Extension Dairy & Livestock Agent Tina Kohlman & Agriculture Agent Aerica Bjurstrom from UW-Extension Walking Strong Hoof Health Factsheet series.



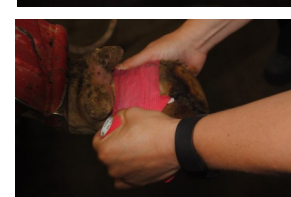
Open area between toes and apply 2 grams oxytetracycline* powder directly onto lesion. Gently slide gauze pad back and forth, working some of the powder in between toes.



Place adhesive wrap in between the toes. Hold free end of gauze pad with one hand to front of foot.



Unwrapping roll, begin wrapping loosely to left of foot making sure gauze pad remains under wrap and over lesion.



While holding starting end of bandage on front of foot, wrap bandage over starting end and continue wrapping around front of foot to back of the heel. Wrap bandage around back side of foot to secure the gauze pad in place. Tear wrap, and secure by rubbing wrap onto itself.

Soil, Water, & Nutrient Management Registration Open

Don't Miss It...The eight-location 2017 Soil, Water, & Nutrient Management Meeting tour will come to Dodge County on Monday, December 4th. Dodge County University of Wisconsin Extension (UWEX) invites area crop consultants, agronomy supply specialists, farmers, and other interested parties to attend the 2017 Soil, Water, and Nutrient Management meeting in Juneau at the Dodge County Administration Building, Rooms F & G located at 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin. The meeting will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m. (registration begins at 8:00 a.m.) and will last until 11:00 a.m. A light breakfast, beginning at 8:00 a.m., will be included with the registration fee (See enclosed flyer).

UW-Madison Department of Soil Science faculty, Drs. Francisco Arriaga, Matt Ruark, and Brian Luck, as well as Sue Porter with DATCP, will discuss and answer questions about the latest soil, water, and nutrient



management research. Specific relevant topic titles are: Building soil organic matter; Nitrogen use efficiency; Cover crop research and survey results; Value of crop residues; Wisconsin nutrient management updates; and Machinery movement for efficient forage harvest and soil health.

A total of 3.0 CEU credits (2 Soil & Water Management and 1.0 in Nutrient Management) have been requested.

The registration fee is \$35 before the early registration deadline on Monday, November 27th, and includes meeting materials and a catered breakfast. A late/walk-in fee of \$10 will apply afterwards.

A registration form can also be found online at: <https://dodge.uwex.edu/agriculture-calendar/> or picked up at the Dodge UWEX office in Juneau. Send your registration to: Dodge County UW-Extension, Attn: Dec. 4th Soil Mtg., 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI 53039.

Information on this program location and other locations can be found online at: <http://soils.wisc.edu/2017-soil-water-nutrient-management-meetings/>.

For more information about Dodge County UW-Extension programs, please visit the Dodge County UW-Extension website: <http://dodge.uwex.edu>, connect with us on Facebook or call the Dodge County UW-Extension Office at 920-386-3790. 🌱

Fond du Lac County Holstein Association Updates



Fond du Lac County Holstein Association will once again offer a \$1,000 interest-free loan to any Fond du Lac County 4-H, FFA, or Jr. Holstein member to purchase a registered Holstein calf. When the calf is 24 months old, or has calved, the \$1,000 loan is to be paid back to the Fond du Lac County Holstein Association.

Also, a scholarship in the amount of \$500 will be given

out to a student enrolled in a four-year, one or two year short course, or ag-related program. All Fond du Lac County Jr Holstein members are encouraged to apply. Students majoring in agriculture degrees are given highest consideration.

To receive a loan or apply for the scholarship, please complete the application at <https://fyi.uwex.edu/flddairyouth/forms/>. Scholarships are due December 31st. 🐄

2017 Dairy Forage Day Registration Open

The Fond du Lac County Forage Council, Midwest Forage Association, and UW-Extension are sponsoring the 2017 Dairy Forage Day on Friday, December 15th at UW Fond du Lac in room UC-114. The day will provide forage producers with the latest information related to forage production and utilization. A short forage council business meeting will follow for all members and participants.

At this event, Dr. Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing, UW-Extension Crops and Soils Agent will present on assessing alfalfa stand health and discuss the increasing incidence of waterhemp; Tina Kohlman, UW-Extension Dairy & Livestock Agent, will share

how to cultivate the farm business and look at farm succession planning. In addition, Tina will share some preliminary data on the cost of raising dairy calves using automated calf feeding systems.

The program will also feature, Dr. Yoana Newman, Asst. Professor of Forages from UW-River Falls. Dr. Newman will present updates in alfalfa, where are we and where are we going? She will also discuss summer annuals, alternative grass species for grazing.

Cost of the Dairy Forage Day program includes lunch. A meal count is necessary one week in advance, so please preregister for this meeting by Friday, December 8th. 🌾

2018 Agronomy Update Meeting- Register Now

UW-Extension Fond du Lac County will host one of the 2018 Agronomy Update meetings on Wednesday, January 3rd, 2018 at UW Fond du Lac in Room UC-114. The meeting will begin at noon (registration starts at 11:30 a.m.) and run until about 4:00 p.m.

Do not miss meeting the new Weed Scientist from UW-Madison, Dr. Rodrigo Werle, who will speak about new corn and soybean herbicides for 2018, as well as share lessons learned from his work in Nebraska on using cover crops as a weed management tool.

Dr. Joe Lauer will tell how many corn hybrids you should grow on your farms, and how to manage risk with hybrid selection. He will also discuss high input systems for corn and distinguish between maximum yield and economic optimum yield.

Dr. Shawn Conley will revisit soybean phenological development and its role in management. He will also discuss whether strip-tillage is an effective soil management tool for soybean.

Your registration fee includes a meal and packet of materials. Please pre-register online or by phone on or before Wednesday, December 27th to avoid the \$10

“walk-in” (Late) fee. Additional information packets will be available for \$21, if requested. There is NO “meeting only” option.

Certified Crop Advisor CEU credits have been requested (3.0 hours in Crop Management). Please join us for an information-packed meeting. See enclosed flyer.

This Crop Production and Management meeting, is one of eight the Department of Agronomy and UW-Extension will offer during 2018. For other meeting locations visit the UW-Extension Fond du Lac Ag calendar of events webpage at: <https://fonddulac.uwex.edu/events/agronomy-update-meeting/>. 🌾





Fond du Lac County

227 ADMINISTRATION/EXTENSION BUILDING
400 UNIVERSITY DRIVE
FOND DU LAC WI, 54935

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
FOND DU LAC WI 54935
PERMIT 110

Mark Your Calendars for Up Coming Agricultural Events

December 2017

- 4 M **Soil, Water, and Nutrient Management Meeting**, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., UW-Extension Dodge County, Juneau (See flyer.)
- 14 Th **Intro to Snap+** - 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., UW-Extension Fond du Lac County, Room AE-205/206
- 15 F **Advanced Snap+** - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., UW-Extension Fond du Lac County, Room AE-205/206
- 15 F **FdL County Forage Council Dairy Forage Day**, 10:30 a.m to 2:30 p.m., UW-Fond du Lac, Rm UC-114 (See flyer.)
- 20 W **Better Heifers, Better Cows Dairy Replacement Management Meeting**, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Kimberly (See flyer.)
- 31 S **Fond du Lac County Holstein Breeders' Association Scholarship & Herd Builder Applications due**

January 2018

- 3 W **Agronomy Update Meeting**, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., UW-Fond du Lac, Rm UC-114 (See flyer.)
- 6 Sa **Fond du Lac County Fair Market Beef Weigh-in**, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds
- 24 W **Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times Agri-Business Meeting**, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Kiel
- 25 Th **Calf Insight: Automated Calf Feeding Systems**, 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., UW-Extension Fond du Lac County
- 30 W **Pesticide Applicator Safety Training in Spanish**, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., UW-Extension Fond du Lac County

For additional dates and information, visit <http://fyi.uwex.edu/fdlag/calendar>

Cooperative Extension
Dodge County Extension Office
127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI 53039-1379

**2017 Dodge County
Soil, Water, and Nutrient Management Meeting**
Conducted by the University of Wisconsin Soil Science Department along with UW-Extension.

Monday, December 4, 2017

8 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Registration and breakfast from 8am-8:25 am
Meeting will promptly start at 8:30 am

Registration fee includes materials and a catered breakfast.

Register by November 27th - \$35 per person
Register after November 27th - \$45 per person

- For crop consultants, agronomy supply specialists and other interested parties.
- 3.0 CEU credits have been requested (1.0 NW and 2.0 SW)
- Hear in-depth details about the latest soil, water and nutrient management research from UW-Department of Soil Science Professors Francisco Arriaga, Matt Ruark, and Brian Luck, plus Sue Porter with DATCP.
- Mail your registrations and fees, payable to “Dodge County UW-Extension”, to Dodge County UW-Extension 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI 53039, ATTN: “Dec. 4 Update Mtg.”

This year’s topics will include:

- Building soil organic matter
- Nitrogen Use efficiency
- Cover crop research and survey results
- Value of crop residues
- Wisconsin nutrient management update
- Machinery movement for efficient forage harvest and soil health

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2017 Soil Fertility & Nutrient Management Meeting

Mail to: Dodge County UWEX, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI 53039, ATTN: “Dec. 4 Soil Mtg.”

Name(s): _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ # people ____ x \$35 = \$ _____

If registering AFTER November 27th, then \$45/person # people ____ x \$45 = \$ _____

2017 Dairy Forage Day



Friday, December 15th

UW-Fond du Lac, University Center, Rm. 114

10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



Program:

- 10:30 Registration / Coffee
- 11:00 Welcome & Announcements
- 11:05 Assessing Alfalfa Stand Health & What's Up With Waterhemp?
.....**Dr. Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing, Area Crops and Soils Agent**
- 11:35 Alfalfa: Where Are We and Where Are We Going?
..... **Dr. Yoana Newman, Assistant Prof. of Forages -UW-River Falls**
- 12:05 Cultivating the Farm Business' Future-A Look at Farm Succession
..... **Tina Kohlman, UW-Extension Dairy and Livestock Agent**
- 12:35 Lunch
- 1:15 Summer Annual Alternatives: Teff and Crabgrass
..... **Dr. Yoana Newman, Assistant Prof. of Forages -UW-River Falls**
- 1:45 Cost of Raising Dairy Calves- Automated Calf Feeding Systems
..... **Tina Kohlman, UW-Extension Dairy and Livestock Agent**
- 2:00 MFA Updates
..... **Chelsea Russell, Midwest Forage Association Local Council Director**
- 2:15 Fond du Lac County Forage Council Annual Meeting
- 2:30 Adjourn

Please pre-register by Friday, December 8th

2017 Dairy Forage Day Registration Form

Name(s): _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

Email: _____

_____ Persons x \$20.00/Person = \$_____

Make Check Payable to: Fond du Lac County Forage Council



Return to:

UW-Extension
Forage Meeting
400 University Dr.
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
Ph: 920-929-3171

University of Wisconsin-Extension Dairy Team

Better Heifers, Better Cows

Making Wisconsin's calf & heifer industry strong & competitive through university-based research and education.

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

9:30 am registration, 10 am to 3 pm meeting
Liberty Hall Conference Center, 800 Eisenhower Drive, Kimberly, WI

Better Heifers, Better Cows will provide answers to building and implementing effective management strategies in raising replacement heifers.

Who should attend?

Dairy farmers, custom heifer raisers, veterinarians, nutritionists and anyone with a concern with raising dairy replacements.

For more information:

Tina Kohlman
Dairy & Livestock Agent
Fond du Lac County
tina.kohlman@uwex.edu
920.929.3180

Sarah Mills-Lloyd
Agriculture Agent
Oconto County
sarah.millsloyd@uwex.edu
920.834.6845



Learn and understand current research for creating heifer efficiencies on your farm from well-known dairy professors and researchers.

Topics include:

- Milk quality
- Nutrition
- Economics

Veterinary continuing education credits have been applied for this meeting through the Northeast Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association.

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University of Wisconsin-Extension Dairy Team

Better Heifers, Better Cows

Making Wisconsin's calf & heifer industry strong & competitive through university-based research and education.

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

9:30 am registration, 10 am to 3 pm meeting
Liberty Hall Conference Center, 800 Eisenhower Drive, Kimberly, WI

Meeting Details

Registration: 9:30 am
Meeting: 10 am to 3 pm

Registration Fee:
\$40 per person early registration fee (includes lunch & materials)

\$10 additional fee will be charged after December 13th



- ◆ **Using PCR Tests to Diagnose Mastitis in First Calf Heifers**
Pamela Ruegg, Milk Quality Specialist, UW-Extension
- ◆ **Neonatal Calf Nutrition Implications for Long-Term Performance**
Sonia Gelsinger, Post-Doctoral Researcher, UW-Madison
- ◆ **Calving Healthy Heifers—How to Maximize Udder Health**
Pamela Ruegg, Milk Quality Specialist, UW-Extension
- ◆ **Nutrition and Management for Transitioning the First Calf Heifer**
Noah Litherland, Dairy Youngstock Technical Specialist, VitaPlus & UW-Madison Department of Dairy Science Adjunct/Affiliate Member
- ◆ **Finding the Balance—Management of Calf Health Versus Cost of Production**
Tina Kohlman, Dairy & Livestock Agent, UW-Extension Fond du Lac County
Sarah Mills-Lloyd, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Oconto County

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2017 Better Heifers, Better Cows Meeting Registration

Name(s): _____

Company: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ City/State/ZIP: _____

Email address (for a direct mailing in future years): _____

Registration: _____ People x \$40 per person (includes meals & materials) = \$ _____
_____ **Additional Walk-in/Late Fee after December 13 x \$10 per person** + \$ _____
Total Enclosed: = \$ _____

Make Check Payable to: UW-Extension Fond du Lac County
Mail to: UW-Extension Fond du Lac County
400 University Drive, Room AE-227
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
Or call: 920.929.3171

Credit card payment for registration available, small surcharge applied. Please call for this option.

Registration due Wednesday, December 13th or a \$10 per person Late/Walk-in fee will be added.

2018 Agronomy Update Meeting

Wednesday, January 3rd

UW-Fond du Lac

400 University Dr, Room UC-114, Fond du Lac

11:30 am Registration

12:00 pm Lunch/Meeting

Discussion Topics

Corn

- How many hybrids should you grow on your farm? Managing hybrid selection risk
-What are the odds?
- High input systems for corn: Maximum yield versus Economic optimum yield
- Corn response to Super U

Corn and Soybean Weed Control

- There is a new Weed Scientist in Town
- New corn and soybean herbicides for 2018
- Cover crops as a weed management tool: Lessons learned from Nebraska

Soybeans and Small Grains

- Revisiting soybean phenological development & the role in management
- Is strip-tillage an effective soil management tool for soybean?

Speakers:

Extension Agronomists—University of Wisconsin— Madison
Joe Lauer Shawn Conley Rodrigo Werle
3.0 CEU Crop management Credits will be offered for this program

2018 Agronomy Update Meeting Registration Form
Preregistration Deadline : Wednesday, December 27,

Name(s): _____

Business: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Materials + Lunch: _____ People X \$45.00/Person = \$ _____

Additional Packets: _____ Number X \$21.00/Packet = \$ _____

Total Enclosed = \$ _____

There is no "meeting only" option. A \$10.00 "walk-in" fee will be charged to those who have not preregistered.

Make check payable to: Fond du Lac County UW-Extension

Attn: 2018 Agronomy Update
400 University Drive, Room AE-227
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

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