

Small Farm Program Offers Spring Series

Small farmers on the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland can bank on the benefits a series of events for the month of April are bringing. Saturday, April 2, and every Saturday thereafter until Saturday, April 23, the Small Farm Program at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore is hosting informative, hands-on workshops and field days.

Saturday, April 2, began the soil science long course. The course is designed to increase the farmer's knowledge of soils and the life forms that live in them as well as to show how to improve the quality of the land. Gordon Johnson, farmer and specialist with the University of Delaware Extension office, discussed the basics of soils and soil science in the Food Science and Technology Center on the UMES campus from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. A registration fee of \$10 paid for lunch and educational materials. In addition, follow up sessions will be held every Wednesday thereafter through the month of April.

Ted Wycall, a local farmer, discussed cover cropping systems, how to improve the soil, and how to interpret soil test results from 7-9 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, in the Richard A. Henson Center, Room 1111. Part two of the Wycall session will be held on Wednesday, April

13, from 7-9 p.m. Dr. Bessie Green, UMES researcher, continues the long course on Wednesday, April 20, and Wednesday, April 27, in the same place and at the same time. Her talks will shed a light on the life forms, microbes and animals that live in the soils. She will also discuss methods to increase the beneficial forms and manage the "bad guys."

The economics of growing fruits and vegetables in a high tunnel will be discussed on Saturday, April 9, on a Seaford, Del. farm where one farmer has experienced his first season of growing. The event begins at 9 a.m. and ends at noon at 4091 Woodland Ferry Road. Production issues and crop choices for growing in a high tunnel will also be topics of discussion. In addition, participants will be able to observe a system in active production, and the highlight of the day will be a talk from a Natural Resources and Conservation representative about USDA programs that support high tunnel production.

Irrigation will be the focus of a field day to be held on Saturday, April 16, in the Food Science and Technology Center at UMES. The field day will be held from 9 a.m. until noon. Attendees will receive information

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UME Community Leadership and Civic Engagement Impact Team Sponsors Chick-fil-A Leadercast

Community business leaders can access the knowledge and experience of eleven internationally-acclaimed leaders by attending the Chick-fil-A Leadercast in Princess Anne, Md., on Friday, May 6.

The Chick-fil-A Leadercast is a one-day leadership training event broadcast LIVE from Atlanta, Ga., to hundreds of sites throughout the nation, including UMES. Speakers for the event include:

- Seth Godin, entrepreneur, marketing expert, and best-selling author of 12 books including "Linchpin"
- Robin Roberts, anchor of ABC's Emmy-winning show, "Good Morning America"
- John Maxwell, leadership expert and best-selling author of "The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership"
- Dave Ramsey, personal money-management expert, national radio personality, and best-selling author of "The Total Money Makeover"
- Sir Ken Robinson, best-selling author and leader in the development of creativity, innovation and human resources
- Dan Cathy, president and COO of Chick-fil-A, Inc.
- Muhtar Kent, chairman of the board and CEO of The Coca-Cola Company
- Suzy Welch, best-selling author, television



commentator, and noted business journalist

- Mack Brown, head coach of the Texas Longhorns, 2009 Big 12 Coach of the Year
- Erin Gruwell, founder and president of Freedom Writers Foundation
- Frans Johansson, best-selling author of "The Medici Effect"

The idea for the Chick-fil-A Leadercast was conceived 11 years ago by Dr. John C. Maxwell, "New York Times" best-selling author and speaker. He wanted to combine his influential voice in the community with his desire to reach leaders at the heart level.

What started out as a half day, classroom-format event with John Maxwell teaching has since become a full day, experiential conference featuring 11 authors, leadership experts and practitioners.

"The event was a highlight in my development," said Jennifer Boubel, director of field services for Continental Airlines. "Each speaker brought insights that were inspiring. It is an incredible way to improve upon our leadership so that in turn we can make a difference

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Green Branch Farm Field Day Features Organic Farming

Ted and Julia Wycall will showcase the history and goals of their 80-acre farm and the diverse products they grow and sell through their 300-member CSA and at farmers' markets, restaurants, and their on-farm retail store on Saturday, May 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event takes place on Green Branch Farm at 5075 Nutters Cross Road in Salisbury, Md.

The Wycall's motto is to feed their community as they feed themselves. Topics of discussion will include farming practices, nurturing the soil, animal husbandry, appropriately scaled equipment and tools to farm certified organically, and the day-to-day operations that help the farm run successfully.

The morning will conclude with a roundtable of farmers who direct market their products. Moderated by Matt Heim of LESSON, the roundtable will address the local food movement, its opportunities and what is needed to strengthen its reach. Food from the farm will be served for lunch.

The afternoon will begin with a walking tour that focuses in more detail on each of the farm enterprises, including the vegetables and berries, the heritage breeds for pastured beef, pork and poultry. Participants will also learn about support systems that exist in the region to help producers in their daily work, such as the



I love spring anywhere, but if I could choose I would always greet it in a garden.

-Ruth Stout, author, known for her "No-Work" gardening books (1884-1980)



Maryland Grazers Network, Future Harvest CASA's resource pages, topics of interest groups and the NRCS conservation programs in which the farm is enrolled.

The Green Branch Farm Field Day is a collaborative effort sponsored by Future Harvest CASA, LESSON and the University of Maryland Extension (UME) Small Farm Program at UMES. UME programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, gender, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital or parental status or national origin.

Registration, at \$10 per person or \$15 per family, is required for anyone interested in attending the field day. To register online or for more information, visit www.futureharvestcasa.org or www.umes.edu/1890-mce or call 410-549-7878 or 410-651-6206. On-site registration begins at 9:30 a.m. on May 14.

More about Ted and Julia:

Ted and Julia Wycall were new to farming, but their desire to raise particular produce and sell directly to consumers has given them a new direction in life. This young Maryland couple has joined with others in giving new life to their old family farm. They encourage all eaters to learn about where their food comes from and how it is grown.

Maryland Teen Council Visits the Big Apple

by Dr. Lisa Dennis

The Maryland Teen Council members took a January 8 trip to the Big Apple to get to know one another better and to have a fun time. The trip was initially voted on by the members at the monthly meeting in October and was organized by Nicole Welsch, council president. The day started out early for some who were picked up by a coach bus at 4:30 a.m.! After passing through Baltimore, we had a full bus of eager participants. Some had been to the city several times while others had never been out of Maryland. Either way everyone couldn't wait to get there.

Upon arrival we went straight to the Empire State Building and rode the elevator to the top, anxiously awaiting the view. When we got to the top, we walked around the observation deck pointing out buildings we recognized and where we planned on visiting later that evening. It was a good experience because we learned about one another by chatting about the scenery.

We boarded the bus at 1:30 p.m. to move on to our next location by Radio City. From there groups broke off and visited areas that sparked their interest. One group reported going through Times Square visiting all the "fun" stores including the Disney store, Toys R Us, The Lego Store and even M&M World. They also visited St. Patrick's Cathedral, the seat of the Roman Catholic archbishop of New York, which was a beautifully constructed church in the middle of all the city buildings. To complete the New York experience, the group went to the subway



and bought food from street vendors. For dinner, they went to Ellen's Stardust Diner, which is a retro 1950's themed diner with live entertainment. The wait staff actually sang for us while we enjoyed our meal in hopes of being on Broadway one day.

At 6:30 p.m., worn out from shopping and walking, we boarded the bus and headed home. Different groups shared their experiences with one another and laughed about the interesting things they had seen that day. It was definitely something everyone thought should be done again next year, and there was a lot of positive feedback. Teen council is a great opportunity for young 4-H members to get involved, meet others and create new experiences such as the New York trip. Hopefully by next year we can acquire enough participants to fill two buses!

2010 Extension Briefs



Waldo Nelson, left, of Quantico, Md., monitors a ewe who has just given birth.

Nine participants learned how to properly insert feeding tubes to save the lives of their lambs and kids during a recent lambing and kidding roundtable. Discussions centered on how to avoid the pitfalls of lambing and kidding and nutritional and handling questions were answered. During a follow up session on the small ruminant farm, several of the participants returned to further participate in hands-on training and to continue the discussion.

Roundtable discussions spanned 2 1/2 hours, and 45 additional minutes were reserved for working with lamb and kid cadavers and feeding tubes.

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about different kinds of irrigation systems, the cost of running and maintaining irrigation systems and the benefits of using irrigation. A demo of the tape irrigation system will be on hand for farmers who are interested in learning, step by step, how it is set up and how it works. Pre-registration and a \$10 fee are required to reserve a spot for the Irrigation Field Day. Lunch and educational materials will be provided. In addition, one home garden irrigation kit will be given away as a door prize.

A Saturday, April 23, event rounds out the Small Farm Program series. A poultry workshop is planned for farmers who raise turkeys, ducks and chickens. Breed selection, disease management, rodent control and housing are just some of the topics scheduled for discussion. Discussions will also cover the regulations for selling eggs and on-farm poultry processing for off-farm sale. The workshop will be held in the Food Science and Technology Center from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$10, which includes lunch and all educational materials.

The Small Farm Program series is sponsored by the University of Maryland Extension office at UMES. For more information about these events and more, contact Farm Management Specialist Erroll Mattox at 410-651-6206 or by email at eamattox@umes.edu. To pre-register for one or all of the workshops, go to www.umes.edu/1890-mce.

Lambing and Kidding Roundtable Offered



Pictured left to right are James, Margaret and Jeanne Gaetano of Salisbury, Md.

GOAT ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION CLINIC

The University of Maryland Extension at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore is sponsoring an artificial Insemination Clinic on May 6 and 7, 2011. Teresa Wade, from BIO-Genics, LTD., will be the instructor for the two-day event. The Artificial Insemination (AI) Clinic students will spend the first day in the classroom learning the following:

- the effects of management, stress and environmental influences on AI success;
- proper feed, care and management of AI candidates and semen donors;
- an overview of semen abnormalities and stress-related conditions of cells and their affects on viability;
- basic instruction on the doe's hormonal process during estrus and the hormonal effects causing the "rut" in the buck;
- basic anatomy of both the female and male caprine reproductive tract and how fertilization occurs;
- the selection of appropriate AI candidates;
- effective record keeping;
- proper storage and thawing techniques of frozen semen;
- available AI equipment, its proper care and suggested use; and
- hands-on training in the operation and practical applications of AI tools and equipment.

The second day, the AI Clinic students will practice artificial insemination with does and will apply the techniques learned the day before. AI students will use does from the herd at the UMES Small Ruminant Farm.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

The number of AI Clinic students is limited to 14 to ensure that the learning experience is a rewarding one for each of the participants, including the hands-on practice on the second day. The registration will be considered complete when payment by credit card or check has been received at the UMES Extension Office. The registration fee is \$175 per student. After the clinic, AI kits used during the AI Clinic will be available for purchase (at a very discounted price) and each kit will be complete with everything a goat producer needs to successfully perform artificial inseminations. The registrant should indicate on the registration form if he or she wants to buy an artificial insemination kit.

The AI Clinic will be held at the UMES Small Ruminant Farm. The precise location will be announced to the AI students in another communication.

CHICK-FIL-A LEADERCAST, continued from page 1

in the lives of those we influence."

This year's program will focus on how individuals and teams can use their voices to create positive change at work, at home and in the community. The speakers will speak on subjects such as leading based on respect and relationship rather than rights and position, the difference between dynamic leadership and mediocre management, creating a culture of servanthood and innovation, how to provide exceptional customer service and the keys to unlocking creativity in your workplace.

"Leadership is about who you are within," said Bill George, Harvard Business School professor and author of "True North." "I think people don't get that. I think it's important to come and listen to leaders to reflect on the kind of leader you want to become."

For more information about the Chick-fil-A Leadercast, visit www.chick-fil-leadercast.com. For local ticketing information, call 410-651-6206.

A note from the administrator



Dr. Henry Brooks

UME offices at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore are gearing up for the newness and the promise of spring.

Over the next few months, we will offer short courses, field days, seminars and webinars as we transfer knowledge to some of the hardest working families and professionals in the nation.

We look forward to interacting with friends of our various programs, and we look forward to making new friends as we further the missions of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and of the

University of Maryland Extension.

One Kenyan proverb says, "He who does not know one thing knows another." While the proverb may sound common, it is actually one of the best ways that I can describe our team here at UMES. Together they are constantly finding solutions to the complexities of everyday living in a resource-challenged society. You will not find a better group of public servants, and among them lies a pool of expertise that is second to none.

Whenever you get a chance, send us a note to let us know how you are doing . . . and while you are at it, let us know how **we** are doing.

Dr. Henry M. Brooks
hmbrooks@umes.edu



University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, gender, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital or parental status or national origin.

2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

University of Maryland Extension

Saturday, April 9

9 a.m. to noon

High Tunnel Field Day

4091 Woodland Ferry Rd
Seaford, Delaware

Wednesday, April 13

7-9 p.m.

Cover Cropping Systems, Part II

Ted Wycall, Soil Science Course
Richard A. Henson Center, Rm. 1111

Thursday, April 14

6-8 p.m.

4-H Volunteer Training Webinar

Registration information at
www.umes.edu/1890-mce

Saturday, April 16

9:30 a.m. to noon

Irrigation Field Day

Food Science and Technology Center

Wednesday, April 20

7-9 p.m.

Life Forms in the Soil, Part I

Dr. Bessie Green, Soil Science Course
Richard A. Henson Center, Rm. 1111

Saturday, April 23

9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Small Flock Short Course

Food Science Building

Wednesday, April 27

7-9 p.m.

Life Forms in the Soil, Part II

Dr. Bessie Green, Soil Science Course
Richard A. Henson Center, Rm. 1111

Friday, May 6

Chick-fil-A Leadercast

Richard A. Henson Center

Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7

Goat Artificial Insemination Clinic

Location TBA

Saturday, May 14

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Green Branch Farm Field Day

Green Branch Farm
5075 Nutters Cross Road, Salisbury, Md

Monday, May 16

6-8 p.m.

4-H Volunteer Training Webinar

Registration information at
www.umes.edu/1890-mce

Monday, June 13

6-8 p.m.

4-H Volunteer Training Webinar

Registration information at
www.umes.edu/1890-mce

Tuesday, June 21 thru Friday, June 24

State 4-H Teen Focus Learning and Leadership Conference

Richard A. Henson Center Ballroom

Friday, November 4

Saturday, November 5

8th Annual Small Farm Conference

Richard A. Henson Center

