

# Ag Notes

Harford County Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION



## March 2020

University of  
Maryland Extension

Harford County  
Agricultural Center

Suite 600  
3525 Conowingo Rd.  
Street, MD 21154  
(410) 638-3255

M—F 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Extension.umd.edu/harford-county  
facebook.com/HarfordAg

Andrew Kness  
Ag Extension Educator  
akness@umd.edu

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

EPA Glyphosate Findings	2
Paraquat Training	3
ARC & PLC Deadline	4
Delmarva Power Family Farms Program	4
Scholarships	5
Farmer's Market Conference	5
Beef Producer's Short-Course: Pastures	6
Equine Groom Glass	6
Nutrition Conference	6
Pesticide Training	7

## Hello, Harford County!

If you've driven past or visited the Harford County Ag Center lately, you've probably noticed some construction happening. Harford County is currently initiating the next phase of development for the Ag Center, which includes the construction of what is being called "The Grove."

The Grove is a 16-stall horse barn style building that will not house horses, but local farmers and food processors. The purpose of the building is to "provide an outlet for local area farmers, artists and food processors to sell their products directly to consumers in Harford County to actively promote agriculture commerce and sustainability."

### Site amenities:

- Visible from Route 1
- Adequate Parking
- Access to indoor and outdoor water
- Open 7 a.m.-7 p.m. 7 days a week
- 86 Acres, home of the Harford County Ag Center & Joesting Gorsuch House
- Future educational trails & playground

Producers will be able to rent indoor or outdoor stalls, or a combination of both.

### Indoor Rental:

- 8 secured indoor stalls (16x12)
- One dedicated duplex electrical outlet
- Maximum 4.5 cu ft. freezer/refrigerator may be used
- Goods may be left in secured stalls

### Outdoor Rental:

- 8 unsecured outdoor stalls (16x12)
- One dedicated duplex electrical outlet

- Maximum 4.5 cu ft. freezer/refrigerator may be used
- All goods and staging items must be removed daily

### Schedule & Rental Rates:

- Annual (April-March)
- Semi-Annual (April-September & October-March)
- Quarterly (June-August, September-November, December-February, March-May)
- Indoor \$250 per month
- Outdoor \$150 per month
- Indoor/Outdoor \$300 per month
- Rental Rates are due on the 1st of each month commencing on the second month of occupancy

### Security:

- Camera surveillance
- Access control cards with back up key pad

### Cleaning:

- Vendor responsible for their indoor and outdoor area to keep clean and neat.
- County will provide custodial services for common areas

### Application:

- Can be found [online](#) or hard copies are available at the Ag Center.
- Accepted January 15-February 15 of each year (**current application period is still open since this is a new building**).
- Should there be more applicants than spaces, the spaces will be competitively bid.

Until next time,  
-Andy



EPA [press release](#) (abridged)

Glyphosate is a widely used herbicide that controls broadleaf weeds and grasses. It has been registered as a pesticide in the U.S. since 1974. Since glyphosate's first registration, EPA has reviewed and reassessed its safety and uses, including undergoing registration review, a program that re-evaluates each registered pesticide on a 15-year cycle.

In January 2020, after receiving and considering public comments on the glyphosate proposed interim decision, EPA released the interim decision for registration review. As part of this action, EPA continues to find that there are no risks of concern to human health when glyphosate is used in accordance with its current label. EPA also found that glyphosate is unlikely to be a human carcinogen. EPA is requiring management measures to help farmers target pesticide sprays to intended pests, protect pollinators, and reduce the problem of weeds becoming resistant to glyphosate.

#### Basic Information on Uses

Glyphosate targets a broad range of weeds and is important in the production of fruits, vegetables, nuts, and glyphosate-resistant field crops such as corn and soybean. It is effective at managing invasive and noxious weeds. In addition, glyphosate breaks down in the environment, can be used for no-till and low-till farming which can reduce soil erosion, and is useful for integrated pest management.

Products containing glyphosate are sold in various formulations, including as liquid concentrate, solid, and ready-to-use liquid. Glyphosate is used in products such as Roundup® to control weeds in both agricultural and non-agricultural settings. Glyphosate can be applied in agricultural, residential and commercial settings using a wide range of application methods, including aerial sprays, ground broadcast sprayers of various types, shielded and hooded sprayers, wiper applicators, sponge bars, injection systems, and controlled droplet applicators.

Agricultural uses include corn, cotton, canola, soybean, sugar beet, alfalfa, berry crops, brassica vegetables, bulb vegetables, fruiting vegetables, leafy vegetables, legume vegetables, cucurbit vegetables, root tuber vegetables, cereal grains, grain sorghum, citrus crops, fallow, herbs and spices, orchards, tropical and subtropical fruits, stone fruits, pome fruits, nuts, vine crops, oilseed crops, and sugarcane.

Nonagricultural uses include conservation land, pastures, rangeland, aquatic areas, forests, turf grass, residential areas, non-food tree crops (e.g., pine, poplar, Christmas trees), rights of way, commercial areas, paved areas, spot treatments, ornamentals, parks, and wildlife management areas.

#### Human Health

EPA scientists performed an independent evaluation of available data for glyphosate and found:

**No risks of concern to human health from current uses of glyphosate.** Glyphosate products used according to label directions do not result in risks to children or adults.

**No indication that children are more sensitive to glyphosate.** After evaluating numerous studies from a variety of sources, the Agency found no indication that children are more sensitive to glyphosate from in utero or post-natal exposure. As part of the human health risk assessment, the Agency evaluated all populations, including infants, children and women of child-bearing age, and found no risks of concern from ingesting food with glyphosate residues. EPA also found no risks of concern for children entering or playing on residential areas treated with glyphosate.

**No evidence that glyphosate causes cancer in humans.** The Agency concluded that glyphosate is not likely to be carcinogenic to humans. EPA considered a significantly more extensive and relevant dataset than the International Agency on the Research for Cancer (IARC). EPA's database includes studies submitted to support registration of glyphosate and studies EPA identified in the open literature. For instance, IARC only considered eight animal carcinogenicity studies while EPA used 15 acceptable carcinogenicity studies. EPA does not agree with IARC's conclusion that glyphosate is "probably carcinogenic to humans."

EPA's cancer classification is consistent with other international expert panels and regulatory authorities, including the Canadian Pest Management Regulatory Agency, Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority, European Food Safety Authority, European Chemicals Agency, German Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, New Zealand Environmental Protection Authority, and the Food Safety Commission of Japan and the Joint Food and Agriculture Organization/World Health Organization (FAO/WHO) Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR). For more information, read the Revised Glyphosate Issue Paper:

### 3 [Evaluation of Carcinogenic Potential.](#)

**No indication that glyphosate is an endocrine disruptor.** Glyphosate has undergone Tier I screening under EPA's Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program. Based on all available information, EPA concluded, using a weight-of-evidence approach, that the existing data do not indicate that glyphosate has the potential to interact with the estrogen, androgen or thyroid signaling pathways. The screening program did not indicate the need for additional testing for glyphosate.

#### **Food Safety**

Residues of glyphosate on any food or feed item are safe for consumers if they comply with the established tolerances. Before allowing the use of a pesticide on food crops, EPA sets a tolerance or limit on how much pesticide residue can legally remain on food and feed products, or commodities. The complete listing of tolerances for glyphosate can be found in [40 CFR § 180.364](#). If residues are found above the established tolerance level, the commodity will be subject to seizure by the government. The presence of a detectible pesticide residue does not mean the residue is at an unsafe level.

Due to its widespread use, trace amounts of glyphosate residues may be found in various fresh fruits, vegetables, cereals, and other food and beverage commodities. However, these trace amounts are not of concern for the consumer because they are not present at high enough levels.

EPA conducted a highly conservative dietary risk assessment for glyphosate that evaluated all populations, including infants, children, and women of child-bearing age. EPA assumed that 100 percent of all registered crops were treated with glyphosate, that residues were at the tolerance level for each crop, and

that residues in drinking water were from direct application of glyphosate to water. These assumptions would lead to much higher estimated levels of exposure than would be expected to occur with actual use. The resulting conservative estimates of dietary exposure were not of concern.

#### **Ecological Health**

The ecological risks identified in EPA's ecological risk assessment included potential risk to terrestrial and aquatic plants and birds, and low toxicity to honeybees. To address these risks, EPA required spray drift management labeling to reduce off-target spray drift and protect non-target plants and wildlife. Learn more about these restrictions in the [glyphosate interim decision](#).

EPA is committed to protecting pollinators, including the monarch butterfly, from pesticide exposure. As with all other herbicides, EPA is requiring registrants to update the label language for these pesticides to raise awareness of their potential effects to pollinator habitat and direct users to instructions on minimizing spray drift. EPA's strategy to protect the monarch butterfly also includes collaborating with federal, state, and other stakeholders on conservation efforts and promoting best management and integrated pest management practices to reduce spray drift and help preserve pollinator habitat. Read more about what EPA is doing to protect the monarch butterfly.

#### **Additional Information:**

[Chemical Search](#) (EPA risk assessments, decisions, and other documents)

[Glyphosate General NPIC Fact Sheet](#)

Glyphosate Registration Review Docket # [EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0361](#)

## Paraquat Training

Changes to the EPA-approved label for paraquat products (ex: Gramoxone) include a training and certification course. **In 2020, anyone purchasing or applying paraquat must meet the following requirements:** 1.) Must be a **certified** pesticide applicator (either private or commercial applicator); 2.) Attend an approved paraquat **training course** once every three years. This training is available [online](#) or in-person (details below). 3.) All users will have to **pass the paraquat certification exam** to obtain their certificate. The exam can be taken [online](#) or during in-person trainings. To access all the training materials and exam online, click [here](#). For in-person trainings and exams, two sessions are being offered locally:

**Carroll County Extension Office:** March 12, 6-9 p.m. will be the training for the Private Applicator. Certification and the training and test for the Paraquat Certification. Call the Carroll County office to register (410) 386-2760.

**Harford County Extension Office:** March 18, 3 p.m. following the Harford County Private Applicator Recertification Training. Call the office and speak to Andy to register (410) 638-3255 or e-mail [akness@umd.edu](mailto:akness@umd.edu).

## Sign Up For ARC or PLC By March 16

*Jim Eichhorst, State Executive Director in Maryland  
USDA Farm Service Agency*

The clock is ticking... March 16 is the last day to make what is likely one of the most important business decisions you will make for your farming operation this year.

If you have not already visited your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office to make your election for either the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) program and to sign your annual enrollment contract, you should call and make your appointment now.

Many of you are gearing up to head to the field for spring planting, but I cannot stress enough the importance of not letting this deadline get lost in the hectic day-to-day obligations of farm life. If you fail to enroll for 2019 ARC or PLC, you will be ineligible to receive a payment for the 2019 crop year. ARC and PLC provide financial protections to farmers from substantial drops in crop prices or revenues and are vital economic safety nets for most American farms. These programs cover 20 commodities produced in the U.S. FSA anticipates more than 1.7 million producers will enroll in ARC or PLC – that's a lot of producers to assist in a short period of time.

Want to maximize your time visiting with FSA? Inquire about deadlines and options for also enrolling in 2020 ARC or PLC and updating PLC payment yields. Our staff will help you make the most out of your visit or set you up with a future appointment to help check FSA programs off your lengthy "to do" list.

If you're still unsure about the choice of ARC or PLC, we offer online decision tools to help you determine the best program election for your farming operation. To access these tools, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc). Call FSA today for an appointment.

To locate your local FSA office, visit [farmers.gov/service-center-locator](http://farmers.gov/service-center-locator). We know that time is money... so make the time to avoid losing the money.

## Delmarva Power Family Farms Program

Maryland has nearly two million acres of farmland, and agriculture is the largest commercial industry in the state\*. Delmarva Power is proud to offer the Family Farms Program to help make energy-efficient upgrades a reality across the state.

Making upgrades to energy-efficient lighting and farm equipment helps save energy and money all year long—and now it is easier than ever for Delmarva Power customers whose farms are on residential meters.

Delmarva Power customers who join the program will enjoy a simple application process with minimal waiting and red tape. Participants can get rebates up to \$4,000 on energy-efficient farm equipment like lighting, fans, variable frequency drives, livestock

waterers, and more. These upgrades help customers use less energy each day, saving money at the same time. The rebates help farmers have a quick payback period on equipment upgrades.

Many types of farms are eligible—including poultry, dairy, cattle, swine, row crops, and more. Plus, rebates from Delmarva Power can be combined with many grant programs and other state and federal incentives to make a big impact on a farm's bottom line. Farms can even choose their own qualified contractors or in-house staff to make energy efficiency improvements.

For more information and to check eligibility, Delmarva Power customers can call (667) 786-6320 or visit [delmarva.com/familyfarms](http://delmarva.com/familyfarms).

\*Source: [dat.maryland.gov](http://dat.maryland.gov).



## Scholarships

The Maryland Grain Producers Association will be utilizing \$10,000 of Maryland grain checkoff funds to support four \$2,500 scholarships.

Students must be a resident of Maryland and attending a secondary education institute working towards a degree in agriculture.

The applicant or an immediate family member, must be a member of the Maryland Grain Producers Association, and have not received a checkoff refund in the past twelve months.

Applications are due May 1st and recipients are expected to attend the Maryland Commodity Classic on July 23rd at the Queen Anne's County 4-H Park in Centreville.

[Apply here.](#)

The Master Gardeners of Harford County, part of the University of Maryland Extension, is offering the Andrea Case Memorial Scholarship. This is a \$1,000.00, one time award from the Harford County Master Gardeners to a graduating high school senior who resides in Harford County. The recipient must be a student who plans to attend an accredited college or university to pursue studies in agronomy, botany, landscape, conservation, entomology, environmental science, forestry, horticulture, and/or allied subjects.

Contact Joyce Browning for an application, (410) 638-3255 or [jbrowni3@umd.edu](mailto:jbrowni3@umd.edu). The completed application must be postmarked by April 25, 2020. The winning student will be notified by May 15, 2020. Thank you for your interest and good luck in your future endeavors.

## Farmer's Market Conference

*March 18*

8—4 p.m.

Annapolis, MD

Registration is now open for the 2020 Maryland Farmers Market Conference being held on Wednesday, March 18 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis.

Conference sessions will include topics on merchant services; the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP); the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP); farm to market training; and more. The department's Weights & Measures program will offer equipment certifications for farmers who bring their market scales to the conference. Vendors and sponsors will have booths in the Exhibit Hall.

Interested farmers and market managers are encouraged to register early, as space is limited. Registration costs \$35 and includes a locally-sourced continental breakfast and lunch. Registration information can be found [online](#). In the event of inclement weather, the conference will be rescheduled for Monday, March 23.

For questions regarding registration or the program in general, contact [weida.stoecker@maryland.gov](mailto:weida.stoecker@maryland.gov) or (410) 841-5791.

## 2020 Commercial Vegetable Recommendations

As a reminder, the Mid-Atlantic Commercial Vegetable Production Guide is update for 2020 and available [online](#) through our website. Hard copies are also available for purchase through [Penn State](#).

The Mid-Atlantic Commercial Vegetable Production Guide is a comprehensive production guide update annually by University extension specialists from Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia and includes fertility, insect, disease, weed, and cultural production recommendations for vegetables in the region.



**Maryland Beef Producer's Short-Course Series III:  
Pasture Management**

Good pastures are an important part to a successful beef operation. This one-day workshop will cover various aspects of good pasture development and management in both a classroom style and hands-on outdoor environment. Participants are encouraged to bring fresh plants (weeds, forages, etc) that they need help identifying, as well as forage and soil analysis reports that they need help interpreting. This course will be offered at four locations across the state:

- April 3. Washington County Extension Office
- April 17. St. Mary's County Extension Office
- May 1. UMD Wye Angus Farm
- **May 15. Harford County Extension Office**

**Topics covered:** Soil fertility, setting up a pasture system, common forages, weeds and weed management, extending the grazing season - using

annuals and cover crops, matching forages with animal nutrition, cost-share programs. Educational

resources will include all

presentations and handouts as well as useful production resources. ***This program has been approved for 4 CEUs in all categories of Ag Nutrient Management and 4 Credits towards Pesticide Applicator Recertification in the categories of 1A, 3C, 10, PVT.***

*April-May*

8:45—3:30 p.m.

*Four Locations*

**To participate in the Maryland Beef Producer's Short-Course Series III:** Cost \$35, the workshop is open to the first 30 registrations. To register via check, please fill out the [application](#) and mail your check to the address listed on the form. To register online (via debit or credit card), follow [this link](#).

Please contact Racheal Slattery, Beef & Dairy Coordinator at (301) 405-1392 or via email at [rslatt@umd.edu](mailto:rslatt@umd.edu) with any questions or concerns.

**Equine Groom Class**

University of Maryland Extension Baltimore County 4-H is offering a program that will educate, train and prepare youth for college/career options in the equine industry. The course is open to youth aged 14-18 and capped at a class capacity of 12 individuals.

All courses in the program will be led by University of Maryland Extension faculty, as well as industry experts. Baltimore County has a growing horse industry and has a need for qualified persons to fill related careers. The goal of the course is to equip

youth with the skills necessary to groom and maintain horses.

The course will run 8:30 am- 3:30pm from **April 6-10, 2020**. Each session will have a hands-on lecture in the morning and a farm visit each afternoon. Youth that complete ALL sessions of the course will earn a certificate of completion.

Registration: \$15 non-refundable upon acceptance. Register at <https://equinegroom2020.eventbrite.com> or call (410) 887-8090.

**Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference**

You are invited to the upcoming 2020 Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference. This year's meeting will be held on **April 7-8, 2020** at the **Delta Hotels Baltimore Hunt Valley** in Hunt Valley. This conference is a formal collaboration between land grant institutions and industries in Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Delaware and New Jersey. Our commitment is to provide up-to-date application science for the animal feeding industry. New for 2020, a Sheep and Goat session will join our Companion Animal, Poultry, and Equine program on April 8th. We are proud to bring programs that are unique to our region. The Maryland Veterinary Medical Board has approved 6 continuing

education credits to vet and vet tech attendees.

Registration includes admission to all of the sessions, the social hour on April 7th, and a group luncheon on April 8th. A one day registration option is available for April 8th. Hotel arrangements need to be made before March 2, 2020 to ensure the lowest rates. The Delta Hotels Baltimore Hunt Valley (Marriott) has provided a block of rooms at an attractive price. A direct reservation link is available through our [website](#).

Register [online](#) or contact Jennifer Reynolds at (301) 405-1547 or [jenreyn@umd.edu](mailto:jenreyn@umd.edu).

## Pesticide Training

Don't forget to sign up for private applicator pesticide training if you **need recertification credits**. **March 18 from 1-3 p.m.** at the Harford County Extension office will be the last training before the 2020 season. Also, we will do in-person **paraquat training starting at 3:00 p.m.** for anyone who needs the certification and cannot complete it via [online](#) training module.

If you are interested in acquiring a **new private applicator license**, the exam will be offered on **March 18 from 9-11 a.m.** at the Extension office and an optional training course to prepare you for the exam will be offered on **March 11 from 9-11 a.m.** Call the office at (410) 638-3255 to register for any of these trainings.

## HLT Job Opening



Outreach & Administration Coordinator (Full-time preferred)

The Harford Land Trust seeks an Outreach & Administration Coordinator to manage donor data and engagement, outreach activities, fundraising and community events, and support a broad range of administrative and organizational development tasks. Candidates should have outstanding organizational and project management skills and be comfortable straddling a range of detail-oriented tasks. Please apply if you have at least three years of relevant work experience, interest in taking ownership of a role in a self-starting environment, and a passion for land preservation in Harford County. The full position description and application is available [here](#).

## Maryland Breeding Bird Atlas

Volunteers from across the State are beginning an effort to map the diversity of breeding birds in Maryland. This is the third time Maryland has initiated this effort, repeating the data every 20 years to look for long-term trends in native bird species. Harford County's effort is being coordinated through the Harford Bird Club, co-chaired by Dennis Kirkwood and Matt Hafner. Since farmland comprises approximately 50% of the habitat in Harford County, it makes sense to reach out to the farming community for their assistance in this project. Data will be collected from now through the nesting season of 2024. We are particularly interested in information on owls, hawks, eagles, and game birds like turkeys as many of these species have changed in abundance during the past two decades.

There are several ways for landowners and other interested citizens to get involved with this effort. Anyone with knowledge of nesting birds can report their sightings to the Atlas coordinators at [harford@mdbirds.org](mailto:harford@mdbirds.org) giving the species, date, and

location and we will take care of entering the data into the database. Secondly, you can invite a club volunteer to conduct a survey on your property in which case all results would be shared with you. Thirdly, for those who would like to play a more active role, a training session for all potential atlasers will be held on Sunday, **March 22 from 1:30-3:00 p.m.** at the Churchville Recreation Building located at 3023 Level Road (Route 155).

For more information about the atlas project visit the website at <https://ebird.org/atlasmdc/about>. Using the map feature, you can see what was found nesting in your area during the prior atlas conducted from 2003-2008. Approximately 120 species were found throughout the County during that effort and we expect to have another thorough look at our County's diversity in this current project. Thank you in advance for any help you can offer in this volunteer effort.

*Great resources are just a click away!*

Andrew Kness  
Extension Agent,  
Agriculture and  
Natural Resources



[facebook.com/HarfordAg](https://facebook.com/HarfordAg)

[akness@umd.edu](mailto:akness@umd.edu)

[Extension.umd.edu/Harford-county](https://extension.umd.edu/Harford-county)



Back-issues of this publication can be found at: <https://extension.umd.edu/news/newsletters/657>

3525 Conowingo Rd.  
Suite 600  
Street, MD 21154

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION

# Ag Notes

Harford County Newsletter

---

## Dates to remember

- 1 Mar.** Annual Implementation Reports due to MDA.
- 4 Mar.** Dicamba Training. 10-11 a.m. Baltimore County Extension Office, Cockeysville. Free. Call (410) 887-8090.
- 7 Mar.** Gathering at the Community Table: Harford County Ag Symposium. 8:30-3:30 p.m. North Harford High School. \$10. Register [online](#).
- 11 Mar.** Pesticide Training for New Applicators. 9-11 a.m. Harford County Extension Office, Street. \$20 for Core Manual. Test will be at the Extension Office on **March 18, 9-11 a.m.** Call (410) 638-3255 to register.
- 11 Mar.** Women in Ag Webinar: Healthy Soils. 12 noon. Free. Register [online](#).
- 17 Mar.** [Basic GAP Training](#). 8-4 p.m. Baltimore County Extension Office, Cockeysville. \$20. Register [online](#) or call (410) 887-8090.
- 18 Mar.** Private Applicator Pesticide Recertification Training. 1-3 p.m. Harford County Extension Office, Street. Free. Call (410) 638-3255 to register.
- 18 Mar.** Farmer's Market Conference. 8-4 p.m. Annapolis. More information [online](#).
- 23 Mar.** [Integrated Weed Management Workshop](#). 8-1 p.m. Frederick County Extension Office. Free. Call (301) 600-3576.
- 24 Mar.** Second meeting in Chestertown at Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company. Call (410) 778-1661.
- 25 Mar.** Women in Ag Webinar: Smart Phone Movies. 12 noon. Free. Register [online](#).
- 6-10 Apr.** Equine Groom Series. 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Garrison Forest School, Owings Mills. \$15. Register [online](#) or call (410) 887-8090.

# March 2020