

Garrett County Ag Newsletter



August 2024

Nutrient Management Update



Nutrient management planning is complete for 2024 spring planted crops.

Andrea is working diligently to complete nutrient management plans as we begin planning for the 2025 growing season. She will be reaching out to producers with outstanding plan requests throughout the summer and fall months to advise them of any information needed to complete a 2025 plan.

Please remember, a nutrient management plan is required before any nutrients can be applied to fields for farmers grossing over \$2,500 or livestock producers with over 8,000lbs or more of live

animal weight on their operation.

If you are not already on our contact list for this year and are in need of a nutrient management plan, please contact our office at 301-334-6960 or email Andrea at auphold@umd.edu to make an appointment with her to discuss your nutrient management plan.

Click on the flyer below to see what services Andrea offers regarding your nutrient management plan.



Nutrient Management Services

Cambria Snyder Reflects on Summer Internship



Hi all, I'm Cambria Snyder. I am an undergrad at West Virginia University-Davis College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; studying Horticulture. I am a member of Gamma Sigma Delta, which is the honor society of Agriculture. This summer I had an amazing opportunity to intern at the Garrett County Extension office. I had the wonderful experience of being a mentee to Willie Lantz and Jennifer Bentlejewski. Each week I met with the other

eleven interns across the state for a weekly connections meeting via zoom. This was a great opportunity to meet other college aged individuals across the state who all are working towards similar goals and have involvement in agriculture. Through the summer I was able to connect with so many talented UME agents across that state that encouraged me, poured into me and strived to help me grow. I am so grateful for all the learning experiences, eye-opening opportunities and connections with outstanding extension agents that I made this summer. For those of you that didn't keep track of my adventures through my blog, here's a little insight of what I got myself into this summer.

This summer Ashley Bodkins; home horticulture educator, master gardeners and I educated our community on backyard gardening. We set up and planted community gardens in a few places throughout our county. This was a great opportunity for people to learn about gardening and reap the benefits of the harvest. We also operated an apprentice garden. Apprentices were individuals who were inquisitive and eager to learn how to garden with none to minimal experience. It's so important to educate our community on gardening and teach them that they can be self-sufficient and provide for their families from their own backyard.

Willie Lantz instructed a no-till workshop and a high tunnel construction workshop. The no-till workshop aimed to educate people on no-till practices and encourage the implementation of these practices. The high tunnel construction workshop was an excellent opportunity for people who are interested in having their own high tunnel to come out and learn and experience putting one together. These workshops were a great opportunity for me to connect with farmers in our area and learn about their varying operations.

I was fortunate enough to spend a day at the Western Maryland Research and Education Center and assist agents in gathering data for their research. I assisted Amanda Grev and Jeff Semler on taking fecal samples from their cattle and sheep herds. The samples were to test the feces for egg count to see how many parasites the animal had obtained on either annual or perennial pasture grasses. The aim of this research was to see which group



of livestock were more resistant to parasites due to their diet. I was then honored to work with

Joe Fiola on his research with harvesting, evaluating, and weighing peento peaches. I then also got the neat experience of evaluating the maturity and verasion of his vineyard. Joe is heavily involved in research and crafting of wines so I was also able to assist him in his work on wines.

A portion of my time was also spent doing activities with our 4-H youth. I was able to work with the youth and encourage them along in their varying pursuits. I have delighted in being able to connect with our 4-H youth and use my time with them to help encourage and teach them. I hope I was able to leave a positive impact on the youth I encountered and they continue in their ambitions.

I had the wonderful privilege of connecting with Sarah Llewellyn; home horticulture educator & agricultural educator from Allegany County. Sarah and I worked on providing Barton youth with kid's gardening classes. Each week we taught the kids a new lesson and checked the progress of their raised garden beds. Week after week the kids were so eager to check their raised beds and see what they could harvest. Being able to get the kids to be engaged and excited about gardening was so hopeful for the future of agriculture.



Maryland FSA Reminds Farmers of Drought Assistance



This summer has been extremely dry and hot, with little to no end in sight for the counties of Allegany, Garrett, Washington, and Frederick. Farmers are extremely worried about the D3 (extreme) drought conditions as indicated on the US Drought Monitor (USDM). A drought resulting in devastating crop losses, pasture losses and water restrictions.

Fortunately, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers relief for local drought-impacted livestock producers through the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) and Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm Raised Fish Program (ELAP), the Tree Disaster Assistance Program (TAP), and the Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP).

LEP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses for covered livestock and who are also producers of grazed forage crop acerage of native and improved pastureland. The grazing losses must occur on land physically located in a county experiencing a qualifying drought during the normal grazing period. A USDM drought intensity level of D3 at any point during the grazing season triggers producer eligibility for LFP assistance to monthly payments.

ELAP covers losses that are not covered under other disaster assistance programs. It covers losses due to an eligible adverse weather or loss condition including drought. ELAP provides eligible producers with compensation for feed and grazing losses and transportation costs associated with transporting feed/forage to livestock and livestock to feed. Eligible producers are required to complete a notice of loss and a payment application to their local FSA office no later than January 30, 2025 for 2024 calendar year losses.

Tree Disaster Assistance Program (TAP). If you have trees, bushes, or vines that produce an annual crop for commercial purposes, they can be eligible for assistance. Ornamental, fruit, nut, and Christmas trees are also eligible for TAP. In order to qualify, you must experience a lose greater than 15% of normal mortality.

The Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) also can provide assistance for drought loss. Eligible crops are those commercially produced for which crop insurance is not available in the county. In most cases a policy must be purchased beforehand. However, if you are a socially disadvantaged producer, you may still be able to qualify for assistance.

If you are a farmer affected by the drought in Garrett County, please contact the FSA Office at 301-501-5857.

Statewide Agriculture Newsletters





Newsletters from UME offer informative, researched-based information that the reader can put into practice. Informative articles include crop production, disease information, animal science, and

upcoming programs. Take a closer look at the newsletters listed below.

The **Agronomy News** is a statewide newsletter for farmers, consultants, researchers, and educators interested in grain and row crop forage production systems. This newsletter is published once a month during the growing season and will include topics pertinent to agronomic crop production. Subscribers will receive an email with the latest edition.

Agronomy News

The **Fruit & Vegetable News** is a timely publication for the commercial vegetable and fruit industry available electronically from April through October. Published by the University of Maryland Extension Agriculture and Food Systems team.

Vegetable & Fruit News

Update AG Client Contact Information

Please <u>click here</u> to update your contact information and to stay updated on everything agriculture-related in Garrett County and the tri-state area.





National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NOTICE TO BENEFICIARIES AND PROSPECTIVE BENEFICIARIES

Name of Organization: University of Maryland



Name of Program: University of Maryland, Garrett County Program

Contact Information for Program Staff: Jennifer Bentlejewski, Area Extension Director 301-334-6960 ithorn@umd.edu

Because this program is supported in whole or in part by financial assistance from the Federal Government, we are required to let you know that:

- (1) We may not discriminate against you on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice;
- (2) We may not require you to attend or participate in any explicitly religious activities (including activities that involve overt religious content such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization) that are offered by our organization, and any participation by you in such activities must be purely voluntary;
- (3) We must separate in time or location any privately funded explicitly religious activities (including activities that involve overt religious content such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization) from activities supported with direct Federal financial assistance; and
- (4) You may report violations of these protections, including any denials of services or benefits by an organization, by contacting or filing a written complaint with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Center for Civil Rights Enforcement, Program Complaint Division by mail, fax, or e-mail at:

Mail:

United States Department of Agriculture Director, Center for Civil Rights Enforcement 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20250-9410

Fax: (202) 690-7442

Email: program.intake@usda.gov

(5) If you would like to seek information about whether there are any other federally funded organizations that provide these kinds of services in your area, please contact Latoya Hicks at lhicks12@umd.edu.

This written notice must be provided to you before you enroll in the program or receive services from the program, unless the nature of the service provided, or exigent circumstances make it impracticable to provide such notice before we provide the actual service. In such an instance, this notice must be provided to you at the earliest available opportunity.

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.

UME Garrett County Agriculture & Food System

William Lantz, Principal Agent Agriculture & Food System wlantz@umd.edu

Office Hours: Monday-Friday

8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Except for Observed Holidays

Faculty/Staff Directory





Email: rcvetnic@umd.edu

Website: https://extension.umd.edu/locations/garrett-county/ **Location:** 1916 Maryland Hwy., Suite A, Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550

Phone: 301-334-6960

Office Hours: M-F 8:30 am-4:30 pm excluding holidays **Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/4HGarrettCoMD

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any event or activity, please contact us at least two weeks prior to the event at 301-334-6960.

