



WISCONSIN

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Agriculture &
Extension Committee

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ExtensionSheboyganCounty

sheboygan.extension.wisc.edu/

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United States Department of
Agriculture, and
Wisconsin Counties
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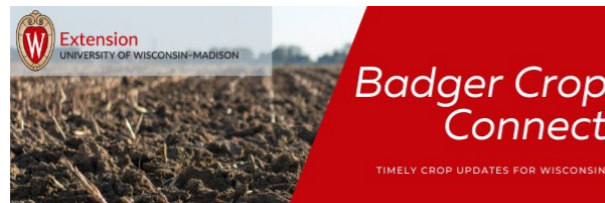
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mike Ballweg, Agriculture Agent

Mike Ballweg provided leadership, within the Extension Crops and Soils Program, to develop a series of Zoom informational virtual meetings (**Badger Crop Connect**) for farmers, agronomists, crop consultants, educators, and other agricultural professionals to learn about a wide range of timely agronomic topics during the 2020 growing season. Since face-to-face meetings were cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Crops and Soils Program, responded with this series of bi-weekly webinars.

During the July 29th Badger Crop Connect Zoom webinar, Mike Ballweg, Extension Crops and Soils Agent discussed: **The Power of Legumes – Their impact on the N Cycle and Subsequent Crop Yields.** A total of 111 individuals logged in throughout the webinar. Evaluation results provided by 42 participants found that 86% either Strongly Agreed or Somewhat Agreed with the statement: **The Webinar Today Was a Valuable Use of My Time.** Nearly 55% strongly agreed or somewhat agreed that they increased their knowledge/understanding of: The Power of Legumes – Their impact on the N Cycle and Subsequent Crop Yields.

This webinar series was shared on the National Certified Crop Adviser Calendar, Wisconsin Crop Manager, various media outlets, and through email lists of county educators and state specialists.



Badger Crop Connect Topics by UW Specialists and County Educators

- Early Season Weed Control – Considerations for Corn and Soybeans
- Assessing and evaluating early season corn stand
- Managing winter wheat diseases
- Insect Development and Current Risks – Culprits to be Watching For
- Post Emergence Herbicide Programs for Corn and Soybean
- Making the Most of Your Side-Dress N Applications to Corn
- Grain Markets Outlook
- 2020 Soybean Disease Updates - Management Strategies
- Moving Toward Soil Health – Maximizing the Growing Season
- The Power of Legumes – Their impact on the N Cycle and Subsequent Crop Yields.
- Harvesting High Quality Corn Silage & Tips on Pricing Corn Silage
- SilageSnap App: Evaluating the Effectiveness of Kernel processing
- Cover Crops after Corn Silage for Spring Forage: Economics and the Environment
- Cover Crop Considerations after Corn and Soybean Grain Crops
- Top 10 Recommendations for Winter Wheat Establishment in 2020
- 2020 WI Winter Wheat Trial Results
- Combine yield monitor calibration
- Compaction: preventing, measuring and reducing
- Fall nutrient management (soil sampling, manure application and preparing for 2021)

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FOODWISE

Amanda Miller & Janeth Orozco, FoodWise

Tasty Tuesdays

Due to COVID, more families are cooking meals at home every day instead of eating out at restaurants. Families are also spending more money on groceries, while experiencing shortages of specific products. This has increased the interest in how to grocery shop for foods, prepare foods, properly store foods, and preserve foods. These are all topics that FoodWise specializes in.

The FoodWise program has a variety of resources that are timely and helpful to families spending more time in the kitchen. Our local Nutrition Educators developed a series of weekly social media posts called "Tasty Tuesdays." A specific topic, usually a cooking or kitchen skill/tip, is focused on each Tuesday. Resources shared include a printable handout, an instructional video, and an easy recipe.

Topics have included: making sheet pan meals, slow cooker meals, food safety during COVID, and healthy breakfasts. For more information, visit:


<https://counties.extension.wisc.edu/fonddulac/tasty-tuesdays/>



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATIONSHIP

Jane Jensen, Human Development and Relationship Educator

The COVID-19 pandemic led to months of "Stay at Home" orders across the country. Now that these locations are slowly opening back up, it may be time to decide how or when to return to these places or who to start engaging with in-person. In response, Jane shared the UW-Madison Extension Decision Guide widely in Sheboygan County through her Human Development Relationships electronic newsletter, with agencies and organizations throughout the county and with family caregivers and others who are making these decisions for themselves and for those they care for. This guide will walk you through the decision-making process. It will help you weigh out your own risks and benefits of interacting with others in public spaces or in your homes again. You can also download a [worksheet](#) or [flowchart](#) to help you think through your decision or use the [online interactive](#) version. (<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/aging/article-topic/covid-19/>)



4-H POSTITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
Sarah Tarjeson, 4-H Youth Development Educator

**Sheboygan County 4-H Renegades Western Drill Team
Persistence pays of in Summer of 2020**

Anticipation, Excitement, Disappointment, Social Distancing, Uncertainty met with Teamwork, Leadership, Perseverance, Practice, Perfection. That's my best effort at describing the Renegades in 2020! The year began with invitations for 2 of our teams to perform in the first ever Drill Team Champion's Challenge at State Fair. More than 40 4-H Youth signed up to participate in this year's drill team. Tryouts began, coaches met, preparations made for the upcoming season. Excitement built. Then everything stopped.

We waited with everyone else - hoping something would be allowed. We met over Facebook posts, trying to keep connected. We had an awesome group participate in a Facebook Scavenger Hunt for donated prizes. State Fair cancelled. Zoom meetings became the norm. Finally, 2 months after our normal practice start, we got the approval to meet in small groups. We lost almost half of our team. We decided to use this year to work on perfecting our technical skills. In groups of 6 to 8 maybe we can find a perfect circle? A perfect pinwheel?

Little did we realize that what would actually develop would be leadership, teamwork, positive attitudes & cooperation! And when you have those things going for you - the technical skills just fall into place. We've seen the very best circles & spirals from our youngest team. We've watched our best teams go from competitive perfectionists to friends who just naturally got better together. Their smiles and laughter flow as nicely as their routines.

There was so much excitement for getting together again that everyone was a little more flexible and a lot less critical. Yes - we have hand sanitizer, social distancing rules that are followed, signs reminding us of the dangers of ignoring the safety precautions. Our youth have quickly learned to adhere to these new procedures and have taken them all in-stride. As we watch patterns unfold and tweaks being made, we see helping hands and soft-spoken explanations. We hear laughter as the youth correct themselves and work through their confusion. We hear suggestions for a different transition from youth who typically went with the flow never voicing their opinions out loud. We see youth not only give suggestions but listen to them as well.

We're seeing growth and friendships develop that will last well past their 4-H years. They have managed to turn hard work into a lot of fun! We are so proud of this group. What a great future they have!

Submitted by Volunteer Coach Sherry Zittel

A Final Drive-In Performance Scheduled is for September 19th from 1:00-3:00 at Beaver Creek Saddle Club.




COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION
Kevin Struck, Community Development Educator

ANALYSIS of FARMLAND PRESERVATION ZONING in TOWN OF SHERMAN

From 2013 - 2015, Kevin worked with Town of Sherman officials to create a custom farmland preservation zoning ordinance. Since the strategies within this new ordinance had not been tried before, the state agency that oversees farmland preservation certification and tax credits for local farmers approved it with a contingency of a 5-year "check in" to see whether the ordinance was working as envisioned.

As requested by the agency, Kevin gathered together records and aerial imagery of rezonings occurring in the farmland preservation district from July 2015 to July 2020. **During that period, no land legitimately zoned A-1, which is Sherman's primary agricultural district, was rezoned out of farmland preservation.** A total of 19.5 acres (0.1% of the 15,800 A-1 acres in the Town) was rezoned to A-2, which is still in farmland preservation but for small farms, such as hobby farms and niche organics. A total of 52 acres was rezoned to A-1-PR, which is a stricter farmland preservation district that prohibits residences and requires a supermajority vote of the Town Board to be rezoned in the future.

Besides any rezonings completely out of farmland preservation, the state agency was especially interested in the conversions from A-1 to A-2. Would the new A-2 lot disrupt the existing larger farm and/or would it contain nothing but a house, with all future agricultural potential gone? An analysis by Kevin of the four new lots, comparing 2009 aerial imagery with 2019 imagery ("before" and "after"), showed the following:

Lot 1 5 acres A-1 to A-2: New home -- 3.5 acres no longer being grazed; 1.5 acres of lot still open
(Also, 15 acres A-1 to A-1-PR)

Lot 2 5 acres A-1 to A-2: New home -- 1.5 acres no longer being cultivated; 3.5 acres of lot still open
(Also, 15 acres A-1 to A-1-PR)

Lot 3 4.85 acres A-1 to A-2: New address assigned but no home yet
(Also, 22.01 A-1 to A-1-PR)

Lot 4 4.66 acres A-1 to A-2: Simply separated off existing farmhouse and farm buildings

All four lots were at the edge of farm fields and in most cases close to the road so as to avoid disrupting the remainder of the agricultural operation. "Lot 2" is shown below. The ordinance seems to be working.

