

# Agricultural Newsletter

UW-Madison College of Ag & Life Science  
University of Wisconsin-Extension



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## Organic Agriculture 101

*Kevin Schoessow*  
*Area Agricultural Development Agent*  
*Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Counties*

I recently attended a training session on Organic Agriculture near Stuart, Iowa. The purpose of this training was to help extension educators become more familiar with the methods, certification, research needs, and philosophies of Organic Agriculture. In this newsletter and in future newsletters, I will share with you some of the topics that were discussed at the training. Perhaps they will help you decide whether organic production and marketing is in your future.

### ***What Does "Organic" Mean?***

"Organic" generally refers to a farm production management system that promotes and enhances biodiversity, biological cycles and soil biological activity to promote healthy crops without the use of synthetic pesticides and synthetic fertilizer. Organic agriculture is how nearly all producers farmed prior to the advent of petroleum-based chemicals (fertilizers and pesticides).

### ***What Does "Certified Organic" Mean?***

"Certified organic" means that a product was produced in a system that is in compliance with the organic standards of a designated certifying organization. This system is the combination of farm management practices and an audit trail that ensures the organic integrity of the product.

### ***What are "Certifying Organizations"?***

Private certifying agencies, governed by their membership, were established to verify the authenticity of the organic products grown or processed in their region. Some of the certifying agencies in the Midwest are Organic Crop Improvement Association (OAIC), Organic Growers and Buyers Association (OGBA), Farm Verified Organic (FVO) and Quality Assurance International (QAI).

### ***What is Organic Certification?***

Organic certification is an evaluation system that validates the authenticity of products labeled and sold as organic. It is a process of review and approval by the certifying organization. This process often takes three years to achieve and requires a farm management plan and audit trail that tracks production and processing practices.

### ***Organic Agriculture Statistics***

USDA does not publish systematic reports on organic production in the U.S. The 1994 census identified over 1.5 million acres of organic production and 4,050 farmers report-

*Continued on Page 2*

(cont.)

ing organic acreage. These figures are said to under-represent current production because many organic farmers opt to sell their products as organic without undergoing certification. The U.S. organic industry continues to grow at a rate of 20% annually. The industry was listed as a \$4.5 billion industry in 1998 and is expected to be \$6 billion in 2000. According to industry surveys, the largest purchasers of organic products are young people and college-educated consumers. Worldwide consumption of organic products has experienced tremendous growth, often surpassing U.S. figures of 20% annual gain. Much of the increase in consumption worldwide has been fueled by consumers' demand for GMO (Genetically Modified Organism)-free products.

Much of the reasoning behind certified organic farming is based on biological soil building processes and sound crop rotational principles without the use of synthetic chemicals. How this is achieved can vary depending on the certifying agency. If farmers wish to be certified they must be willing to accept the philosophy and rules of the certifying agency. For this reason, choosing a certifying agency is perhaps the most important decision farmers have to make in becoming a certified organic farm.

## New video and brochure on fish farming

*John Markus  
Area Agricultural Agent  
Bayfield & Ashland Counties*

Two new resources for people contemplating fish farming are now available through Extension offices.

*Fish Farming: Some Industry Perspectives* is a video which explores fish farming in Wisconsin as told by fish farmers themselves. It is an excellent source of information. *Managing Wisconsin Fish Ponds* is a printed publication for those interested in building new ponds or managing existing ones.

## Unique marketing arrangement for small dairy farms topic of farm meeting

*Kevin Schoessow  
Area Agricultural Development Agent  
Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Counties*

Dairy farmers interested in an alternative to selling milk through local creameries may be interested in a unique marketing arrangement which allows dairy farmers to direct market their raw milk. UW-Extension and Clearview Acres Dairy Farm in Hayward are sponsoring an informational meeting to discuss the concept. It's an idea similar to Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farms where consumers purchase shares in the farm in exchange for a portion of the farms production. In this arrangement dairy cows are leased to consumers in exchanged for milk produced by the cow.

The purpose of the meeting is to share information with other dairy producers on how this cow lease arrangement works. Gleta Martin and Tim Wightman from Clearview Acres will explain the cow lease process and describe their story in how they direct market other farm products at their on-farm retail store.

This on-farm meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 4, starting at 11 a.m. For more information and to preregister, call Kevin Schoessow at the Spooner Area Agriculture Agents Office at 715-635-3506 or 1-800-528-1914 or Tom Syverud at the Ashland Ag Research Station at 715-682-7268.

## Ringworm in cattle is common in winter months

*Tom Syverud  
Extension and Outreach Educator  
Ashland, Douglas, & Iron Counties*

Ringworm is a common disease in calves and heifers, especially in winter confinement situations. It is a pathogenic fungus that infects the skin, hair and nails of many animals, including man. One form is athlete's foot. The amount and severity of an infection depends upon the age, immune status and nutritional status of the animal. Recovery from this disease usually gives immunity to further outbreaks. The first infection occurs through the coat hairs. The fungus then grows down the individual hair to live tissue. After a two to four week incubation period, the hair breaks off and eventually the gray-white, raised crusted lesions are evident. These lesions expand somewhat, usually on the neck, head and face. Diagnosis is based on these typical signs; however, diagnosis can be confirmed by culture.

Many topical medications are available for treatment of this disease. However, the main reason for treatment is to stop the spread on an individual animal and to limit transmission to other animals. This disease can be highly contagious. The thick crusts should be removed by gentle washing with soap and water. Dispose of the contaminated material. Apply the medication over all infected areas for five days, then weekly until controlled. A search of Dairy-L gave many additional farmer recommendations, such as: treat with high doses of vitamin A, mix Captan with petroleum jelly and apply the paste to washed areas, use Iodine on washed areas, and use Ivermectin as directed for parasites, it has an anti-fungal component as well.



## New agent Bill Saumer replaces Russell Kiecker



*Bill Saumer  
Area Agricultural Agent  
Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Counties*

Some of you may have already met me or read some of my articles that have appeared in the Spooner area newspapers. I will try to not repeat some of the less-than-exciting information which has been previously reported. Hopefully, that will make this report interestingly enough for everyone to want to read every word!

I grew up on a dairy farm near Pine City, MN, which later turned into a beef and crop operation as my father neared retirement. I then attended the University of Minnesota and received my bachelor's degree in Animal Science. My interests have always revolved around dairy farming and related agricultural businesses. I worked for many years for a dairy equipment company and also worked with livestock producers with their nutritional programs. My work areas included east central Minnesota and Polk and Burnett counties in Wisconsin.

I then enrolled in a post-baccalaureate program at the University of Minnesota and

received my master's degree in Agricultural Education. After that I taught high school agriculture for a time and operated the family farm. In early 1998 I accepted a University of Minnesota Extension Service position as the Agriculture Agent in Otter Tail County. I wanted to be able to do similar work in my home area, and the Spooner Area Ag position allows me to do just that.

I enjoy many outdoor and family activities, which does include hunting. If anyone reading this article knows of some problem deer that need to be controlled, I will gladly be willing to help out!

I have a total of 5 children and they also enjoy hunting and fishing as much or even more than I do. On several occasions when I was ready to relax for the evening, I was coerced into taking them fishing!

Otter Tail County is similar to NW Wisconsin in that there are many people attracted to the area for their vacations, recreational activities, and lake homes. These areas have also had strong agricultural and forestry industries. These enterprises combined with other businesses and industries have set the stage for concerns and conflicts with the growing populations of other people coming here.

My job in Otter Tail County addressed the ever-increasing needs of agricultural producers to become profitable and sustainable, while at the same time employ best management practices to minimize conflicts and maintain or improve the quality of our environment, communities, homes, families and personal lives. I will continue in this direction with the residents in my NW Wisconsin area.

I also hope that if I do not call on you first, that you will not hesitate to call me with your concerns or questions. I want to make sure that nobody will think they have a silly question or idea. After all, several bankers turned down the loan application requests of Bill Gates when he wanted to borrow something like \$15,000 because they thought his ideas were silly and not worth the effort. In a few months, things started to happen for him and everyone knows the rest of the success story! What I am trying

to say is that if you have an business idea, don't let someone else discourage you from at least asking some questions and gathering information on the potential success of your adventure. Most of my background is with agricultural and related enterprises, but even if your thoughts exceed these boundaries and I can not answer your questions, I will find someone who can. My phone numbers again are; 715-635-3506 or 1-800-528-1914.

## Ventilation is a concern with coming cooler temperatures

*Bill Saumer  
Area Agricultural Agent  
Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Counties*

This is not a special news item, but a timely tidbit to point out the obvious. With the temperatures dropping, farmers will be putting animals in a variety of buildings to help them deal with the cold. Often times these buildings are less than desirable for the animals, especially if they are overcrowded. Poor ventilation has caused thousands of animals to not grow or produce very well and even led to disease and death.

Many farmers have increased herd numbers and some of them have done so without adequately taking into account the building requirements necessary for all of their livestock. This oversight (or lack of funds) has caused many poorly ventilated facilities to be put into use and overcrowding only makes poor ventilation worse. Many publications point out the requirements for adequate ventilation, which include building size, shape, size of animals, type of livestock and number of animals. If you have any questions on a livestock building and/or if you will have adequate ventilation for the number of animals you plan to house in it, call your local extension office for details.



# Harvesting frosted corn and soybeans

Mike Bertram  
Asst. Superintendent  
Spooner Ag Research Station

One challenge provided by a cool growing season with an early killing frost is that crops may not be mature when they are killed. This was the case in 2000 at the Spooner Ag. Research Station and parts of northwestern Wisconsin. A combination of a late spring frost on May 19, cooler summer temperatures, and a killing frost on September 24 left much of the corn in the dent stage. Corn is safe from frost when it reaches physiological maturity, or "black layer". The National Corn Handbook gives some guidelines for handling corn damaged by frost. They are summarized here.

While many factors influence the severity of frost damage, the duration and extent of freezing temperatures are the most important. Substantial frost damage to corn will occur when temperatures drop below 32° F for 4 to 5 hours or when temperatures decline to 28° F for a just a few minutes. Other factors include wind speed, the amount of thermal radiation cooling, and terrain. Frost damage will be greatest on a clear, calm night and in thin stands, at field edges, or low-lying areas. Plant parts also vary in susceptibility. Leaves tend to freeze faster than stalks because they are thin and retain less heat. Stalks and cobs are thicker and more protected from heat loss. Upper plant parts freeze first because they are farther from the soil, which is warmer than the air at night.

As corn plants mature, they redistribute sugars and nutrients to the ears. If the frost is light (leaves only), some of this redistribution may still occur from the stalks and reduce yield loss. If the corn is allowed to mature from a light frost in the late dent stage, yield will only be reduced 4-8%. Yield will decrease 22-31% if frost occurs in the full dent stage and

34-36% if in the soft dough stage. A hard frost will stop this redistribution and kernel weights will not continue to increase. A key to determining if a hard frost occurred is if the cob shank is frozen. If corn is harvested immediately after a light frost or after it matures from a hard frost, yield will be reduced by 11-12%, 39-42%, and 51-58% if the frost occurred in the late dent, full dent, and soft dough stages, respectively. When the leaves of a milk to dough stage corn plant are frosted, it may appear the corn plant is drying down rapidly. However, the leaves are only 10-15% of the total plant weight so whole-plant dry-down rates are not affected. Grain dry-down is also not greatly changed by an early frost. Minnesota studies show that dry-down is temporarily delayed immediately following frost, but then the plant dries normally. This results in about 4 to 9 more days needed to reach an acceptable harvest range. Besides a delayed harvest, may increase field and harvest losses. However, field dry-down rates increase when the frost loosens tightly bound husks.

How to handle frosted corn depends on what growth stage the frost occurs in. If frost occurs in the milk stage, yield potential will be low and grain will be very chaffy. Ears may be difficult to pick and shell. In this case green chopping or silage is recommended. Whole plant moisture is still much higher than the optimum 62 to 68% for fermentation. It is difficult to field-dry the corn this low without rotting, so silage quality problems will likely occur. If the frost occurs in the dough stage, plants should be able to field dry and silage can be made. Harvesting for grain will present some challenges. Yield will be reduced at least 50% and test weight will probably be less than 50 lb./bushel. Corn will need to be in the field for a long time to reach combine harvest moisture, making it susceptible to stalk breakage and mold. When harvested, the kernels and cobs will break easier, causing more foreign material and fines. Kernels may darken during high temperature drying and the grain should be dried 1 to 2% lower than normal for long-term storage. Foreign material and fines should be removed, if possible, to reduce spoilage in storage.

Corn frosted in early dent stage will still have to dry-down before ensiling, but not as much. Corn in the late dent stage is near or at the proper moisture for ensiling, so it should be harvested immediately after frost to ensure that it doesn't dry too much. Corn harvested for grain that was frosted in the early dent stage will have reduced yield and lower test weights. It should be handled similar to corn frosted in the dough stage. Frost in the late dent stage will result in a small yield loss and test weights should be close to normal. Severe frost will not affect grain yield or quality after physiological maturity.

Soybean recommendations come from a Grain Quality Task Force fact sheet from Purdue University. Soybeans reach physiological maturity when 90 to 95% of the leaves have dropped and the pods have turned brown or gray. An early frost on soybeans can greatly diminish yield, reduce bean size, and lower test weights because the pods have not completely filled. Harvesting difficulties can be expected, along with lower protein and oil levels in the beans. Field drying is usually enough to reduce the moisture levels in frosted soybeans to a safe storage level. If they must be dried, care should be taken to avoid seed coat cracking. Soybeans frosted when immature may remain green. These soybeans contain chlorophyll, which can oxidize the oil and reduce storage-life. Soybeans that are put into storage green generally will stay green, although they may fade somewhat. A safe storage moisture for soybeans is 13%. Immature soybeans fresh out of the field generally read low in moisture. It is advisable to store them at 11 to 12% moisture or lower to be safe. Green and immature soybeans are included in the total damage factor in the U.S. soybean grading standard. Elevators and processors likely will discount damage over 2% and may reject green soybeans at a damage level over 7 to 10%. Because quality of frosted soybeans may change, producers may want to have samples analyzed for composition before feeding to livestock.

Weather is uncontrollable. The best way to minimize the risk of frost damage is to

match hybrids and varieties to expected seasonal growing degree days. Corn hybrids should reach physiological maturity before the average date when the freeze risk is greater than 50%. Planting hybrids and varieties with a range of maturities will reduce the risk of damage to the entire crop if an unusually early frost occurs. It is true that longer-season hybrids with a high yield potential may be killed by frost at the late dent stage, but still produce more silage or grain than short-season hybrids that reach maturity before frost. However, higher drying costs may negate the value of this yield increase.

More specific information on harvest, handling, and storage can be found from the references listed below.

Carter, P.R. and Hesterman, O.B. 1990. Handling corn damaged by autumn frost. National Corn Handbook NCH-57. Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service, W. Lafayette, IN. Available on-line at <http://www.agcom.purdue.edu/AgCom/Pubs/NCH/NCH-57.html>

Maier, D.E. and Parsons, S.D. 1996. Harvesting, drying, and storing frost-damaged corn and soybeans. Grain Quality Task Force Fact Sheet #27. Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service, W. Lafayette, IN. Available on-line at <http://www.agcom.purdue.edu/AgCom/Pubs/GQ/GQ-27.html>

## Many ways used to price corn silage

*Tom Syverud  
Extension and Outreach Educator  
Ashland, Douglas, & Iron Counties*

There are many ways to calculate the value of corn silage; however, they usually break down into two main categories. The actual value of corn silage depends upon local supply and demand, and transportation and harvesting costs, if necessary. Also, if the corn is poorly eared, take 65 to 90% of the value of good corn.

- 1) Corn silage value is the price of a known feed times a factor.

$1/3$  to 2 the value of a ton of hay = price of corn silage / ton.

Seven to eight times the price of a bushel of corn = price of corn silage / ton.

Six times the price of a bushel of corn + \$6.00 = price of corn silage / ton.

- 2) Corn silage value = what it would cost to feed other ingredients. These are usually based on computer programs.

The value of other forages needed = price of corn silage / ton.

The value of energy, protein and minerals in corn silage = price of corn silage / ton.

## This Quarter's Events

**October 4, 2000** Direct marketing of raw milk on-farm informational meeting, 11 a.m., Clearview Acres, Hayward.

**October 5-8, 2000** World Dairy Expo, Dane County Expo Center, Madison.

**October 6-8, 2000** Bayfield Apple Festival.

**November 7, 2000** Grape pruning workshop, 3:30 p.m., Spooner Ag Research Station.

**November 8, 2000** Wisconsin Pest Management Update, Tilden. Contact Jerry Clark, Chippewa County UWEX, for more information. 715-726-7950.



**November 29, 2000** Area Soil & Water and Soil Fertility Research Update Meeting, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Eau Claire County Center Main Exhibition Bldg. Contact Mahlon Peterson at 715-839-4712 for more information.

## Milk Price Outlook

With the continued milk production growth and dairy product stock levels, wholesale buyers, end users and traders do not have confidence that cheese prices will increase any more this fall, let alone hold at existing levels. So what does this mean for milk prices?

The August announced Class III price was \$10.13 per hundredweight, down from the \$10.66 for July. September Class III should be around \$10.75. But, unless cheese prices hold at existing levels through mid-October, this could be the high for the year with October Class III no higher, and Class III once again declining for November and December below \$10.50 per hundredweight. -- *Bob Cropp, UWEX Milk Marketing Specialist*

# Johne's disease adds another challenge to dairying

*Bill Saumer  
Area Agricultural Agent  
Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn County*

Much has already been said about Johne's (pronounced "Yo-neese") disease, but the potential long term negative impacts have not yet been experienced. This hidden contagious disease has many farmers asking questions about it and what they should do about it. Every farmer knows that they do not want it in their herd, but the facts are that many of them already have infected herds. Dairy farmers should work out a testing and management plan with their veterinarian. The Wisconsin Johne's Disease Management Market Program went into effect on July 1, 2000, which can help producers control the disease and lower the risk facing their enterprise.

Dairy animals infected with Johne's disease usually acquire it as calves. The disease is transmitted when calves ingest contaminated feces or colostrum. The risk of animals developing the disease can be reduced by focusing on newborn calf management.

First of all, calves should be fed colostrum as soon as possible after birth, ideally within one hour. The calf is capable of absorbing the antibodies in the colostrum for only the first 24 hours after birth. With each passing hour after birth, the calf's ability to absorb antibodies decreases. Colostrum from older, test-negative cows that produce more than is needed for the first two feedings of her calf can be frozen for later use. Freeze one or two quarts at a time in quart or gallon freezer bags. Label the bag with the date and the cow's number. After filling and sealing the bags, store them flat in the freezer. Thaw the colostrum gradually in a pail of warm water or use the microwave on the defrost setting. Do not let hot spots develop during micro-waving because disease-protecting antibodies will be destroyed.

Make sure calves are getting enough calories during the first few days of life. This is especially important in cold weather when calves need the extra energy. As the temperature drops, increase the milk replacer fed per day. When temperatures drop below freezing the increase is 25%, and when they fall below 0 degrees, the increase is 50%. They can be fed a third feeding or just fed more at the regular feedings.

Cleanliness is of extreme importance to control most diseases and is true for controlling Johne's as well. Calves should be born in a clean, dry place. Maternity areas must be kept very clean and as free of manure as is possible. If these areas are dirty, the newborn calves will be exposed to a variety of disease-causing organisms, including Johne's. Other cleanliness tips are:

- Keep calves away from adult animals.
- House calves in individual hutches after weaning.
- Provide good ventilation and a draft-free environment.
- Locate calf housing upwind or uphill from adult animal runoff.
- Clean, wash, disinfect and dry hutches between calves.
- Prevent manure contamination of the feed and feeding area.
- Work from youngest to oldest animals when doing chores.
- Provide individual feed and water pails for each calf.
- Wash and sanitize milk pails and bottles between feedings.
- Provide fresh calf starter, milk replacer and water every day.

Calves need to be kept comfortable. Provide plenty of dry bedding and shelter from drafts and wind. This is especially true during cold weather, which is on its way!

Consistency of newborn protocol and daily calf management is important. Calves should be fed the proper amounts of the same feeds at the same temperature every

day. They should also be observed at the same time by the same person(s) every day. Changes in routine will stress calves and animals that are stressed are more likely to get sick.

Even without the threat of Johne's disease, these calf management techniques and procedures will help every calf raiser to become more successful and have a much healthier and productive herd in the future.



## New dairy brochures available

*John Markus  
Area Agricultural Agent  
Bayfield & Ashland Counties*

Two of the test brochures I have seen on aspects of dairy health and raising calves are now available through Extension offices.

- The Wisconsin Johne's Disease Regulations
- Raising Calves: The 5 C's of a Healthy Start

Both brochures contain the latest up-to-date information on each topic. The brochures were put together by the Wisconsin Herd Health Working Group, which includes members from the UWEX Dairy Team, UW-School of Veterinary Medicine, UW-Madison Dairy Science Dept., UW-River Falls Outreach, WI-DATCP, WVMA, and Wisconsin Agribusiness Council. Each brochure will appear as an insert in upcoming issues of *Hoard's Dairyman*.

## FSA committee election

John Markus  
Area Agricultural Agent  
Bayfield & Ashland Counties

### *Nominate and vote for farmers of your choice*

#### You and Your Committee

The election of responsible agriculture producers is important to ALL farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because the county FSA committee is a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Elections for committee membership are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA.

The county FSA committees help run FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will have and how they will be run. They make FSA agriculture programs fit the needs faced by local producers.

Committees make decisions on:

- Commodity price support loans and payments;
- Establishment of allotments, yields, and marketing quotas;
- Farmer loans;
- Conservation programs;
- Incentive, indemnity and disaster payments of some commodities; and
- Other farm disaster assistance.

FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws and committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

#### **Important Dates**

*August 18, 2000*

Request nomination forms from the FSA county office, and begin nominations.

*October 30, 2000*

Last day to file nomination forms.

*November 24, 2000*

Ballots mailed to eligible voters.

*December 4, 2000*

Last day to return voted ballots.

*January 1, 2001*

Elected committee members and alternates take office.

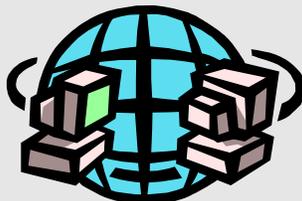
#### **Who Can Vote**

Farm owners, operators, tenants, and sharecroppers of legal voting age can vote if they are eligible to take part in any FSA program. Check with your FSA county office for voting requirements.

#### **Nominations**

A nomination form signed by the nominee is needed to nominate a farmer-candidate. The form includes a statement that the candidate agrees to serve if elected. Nomination forms must be received in the county office by October 30.

### We're on the Web!



You may find this newsletter, our gardener's newsletter, and additional information on our upcoming events by visiting the websites of the **Spoooner Agricultural Research Station:**

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/sars/index.htm>

and the **Ashland Agricultural Research Station:**

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/aars/>

## The 2000 growing season at Spooner

Mike Bertram  
Asst. Superintendent  
Spoooner Ag Research Station

The 2000 growing season came to an end at the Spooner Ag. Research Station and much of northwestern Wisconsin on the morning of September 24. Temperatures dipped below 32° F for seven hours and reached a low of 27° F. Lows in the mid-30s were recorded twice in the previous ten days, which caused light scattered frosts.

A total of 2317 heat units (base 50) were recorded in Spooner for the season. This is much lower than 2563 recorded in 1999 and 2820 in 1998. It is similar to 2267 in 1997, 2208 in 1996, and 2338 in 1995. The killing frost for those years was noted on October 3, October 1, October 10, October 3, and September 20, respectively. The average killing frost date recorded in Spooner from 1970-99 is September 29, so this year was a little early and also cooler than previous years.

The high temperature recorded in Spooner was 88° F on both June 8 and July 10. Temperatures of 80° F or higher were recorded on 50 days in 2000. Sixty days in 1999 reached the 80s with nine in the 90s and a high of 96° F.

Rainfall was plentiful during the growing season and variable through the region. Only 7.07" of precipitation was recorded in Spooner from November 1, 1999 to April 30, 2000, which led to dry conditions at planting. May saw the rain start with 4.45" followed by 4.82" in June, 7.48" in July, and 4.81" in August. The greatest daily amounts were 2.50" on May 8, 2.29" on July 26, and 2.00" on July 8 and August 15. Precipitation was recorded on 21 days in June. This along with high humidity and heavy morning dew this made hay harvest difficult. September has been dry with only 0.65", which has sped up corn maturity.

The 2000 growing season will be remembered for its return to more normal temperatures, along with an abundance of strong storms and heavy rainfall.

# AGRICULTURAL NEWSLETTER

PRODUCED BY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EXTENSION  
AND  
UW-MADISON COLLEGE OF AG AND LIFE SCIENCES

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## BURNETT • SAWYER • WASHBURN COUNTIES

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*University of Wisconsin, United States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperating.  
UW-Extension provides equal opportunity in employment and programming. Including Title IX and ADA requirements.*

*If you have any special needs or require special accommodations, please write to UWEX Area Agricultural Agent, Spooner Ag Research Station,  
W6646 Highway 70, Spooner, WI 54801 or UWEX Area Agricultural Agent, Ashland Ag Research Station, 68760 State Farm Road, Ashland, WI 54806.*



UWEX Area Agricultural Agents  
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