

LUNENBURG AG NEWS

Celebrating 100 Years of Service



As the Lunenburg extension office celebrates its one year anniversary of once again having a full office, the Cooperative Extension Service across the nation celebrates a far bigger birthday: it's centennial! On May 8, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed into law the Smith-Lever Act which established extension across the country. Now, 100 years later, we have a lot to



celebrate, and the celebrations have already begun. April 17 and 22, we kicked off the anniversary with our "100 Trees for 100 Years" campaign aiming to help youth across the county plant a total of at least 100 trees in honor of the 100 years of extension, as well as the 100 years of the Department of Forestry. We enlisted the help of our part-

ners at Southside Soil & Water Conservation District and the Virginia Department of Forestry, to share the importance of trees, their life cycles, and all the products which are made from trees with Lunenburg 4th and 5th graders, who each received a tree to plant, so be on the lookout for young River Birch and Bald Cypress trees across the county!

To further celebrate, we will be showcasing Lunenburg extension history at Victoria Public Library for the month of August, and Ripberger Public Library for September, so be sure to check out the displays! ***If you have any items that you would let us borrow for these two months (pictures, workbooks, memorabilia , etc.), please let us know!***

Thank you for making Virginia Cooperative Extension a part of your lives for the last 100 years. Here's to the next 100!

Sincerely,

Lindy C. Tucker

May 2014

Volume 3, Issue 1

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YOUTH

***For more information, to sign up, or to volunteer for any 4-H camp, contact Sarah Crews, 4-H Agent, at (434) 696-5526 or sarahc89@vt.edu.*

Lunenburg Junior 4-H Camp (Ages 9-13): Clover Games

June 9-13, 2014 at Holiday Lake 4-H Center in Appomattox, VA. Registration is technically due by Friday, May 2, but will most likely be extended to the end of May, so don't hesitate to call!

Lunenburg 4-H Shooting Club: The shooting club has officially kicked off the year with their first practice this past weekend, enjoying the beautiful weather.

Piedmont Area Junior Livestock Show & Sale: Will be held at the Blackstone Livestock Market on May 17th. Come on out and see area youth show their animals. The [Halifax County Junior Livestock Show & Sale](#) is also the 17th and will be held at the Halifax County Fairgrounds. Go support our youth!



Forestry Camp

Holiday Lake 4-H Center, Appomattox
June 16-21, 2014

Field experiences for students ages 13-16 with an interest in natural resources. Holiday Lake Forestry Camp is ideal for students:

- to explore and experience activities in forestry and wildlife related careers
- who participate in forestry and wildlife judging teams, Envirothon competitions, or ecology clubs
- to experience hands on learning about natural resources conservation.

Campers must be nominated to attend. Nomination forms and additional info. available at dof.virginia.gov/camp/



Watershed Adventure Camp

Staunton River Battlefield State Park
Clover, VA
June 2-6, 2014

For students currently enrolled in 4th and 5th grade. This weeklong adventure will offer hands-on activities in environmental issues such as: mapping, pollution (point and non-point), agriculture bmp's, soils, stream walks, forestry, wildlife, watershed information, biological and chemical monitoring and a dragon fly pond activity. There will also be an overview of the park and a tour of the Clover Power Plant. A canoe trip down the Staunton River will take place on Friday. The Camp will begin each day at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m. Lunch and snacks will be provided, but transportation is the responsibility of the parent/guardian of the applicant. Carpooling may be helpful. It's a great week! For more information, contact the extension office.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Enrollment Open For Fall Agribusiness Courses at SVCC

Pre-registration for the fall semester is currently underway. New applicants can visit www.southside.edu and apply for admission online. Once a student ID has been received, students can contact Dr. Dixie Watts Dalton (dixie.dalton@southside.edu) to register for courses. Fall semester begin on August 21, and classes can be added up until August 27.

All agribusiness courses at Southside Virginia Community College are offered as both seated and online. For students choosing to take the animal and/or plant science class online, arrangements will be made for equivalent "labs" if students are unable to participate in the Friday visits to farms and agribusiness firms. The following courses will be offered in the fall:

AGR 141 - Introduction to Animal Science and Technology

Introduces the science and technology involved in sustainable animal production and management practices. Includes beef, sheep, horses, dairy, swine, goats, and poultry. Labs every-other-Friday involve visits to operating farms or agribusiness firms.

AGR 142 - Introduction to Plant Science and Technology

Introduces students to plant science, ecology, plant morphology, plant and soil relations and energy conversions. Labs every-other-Friday involve visits to operating farms or agribusiness firms.

AGR 231 - Agribusiness Marketing, Risk Management, and Entrepreneurship

Covers marketing techniques required to create an effective marketing plan addressing product, price, place, promotion, and people considerations of an agribusiness. Emphasizes unique aspects of agricultural products and risk management including price fluctuations. Projects explore entrepreneurship and creative marketing plans for a proposed farm or agribusiness.

AGR 233 - Food Production, Safety, Biosecurity, and Quality Control

Explores food production practices and their influence on food product quality, nutrition, and safety. Covers processing techniques for reducing spoilage, increasing farmer's share of the food dollar and diversifying farm incomes. Explores equipment, packaging, laws, regulations, and standards for on farm and small-scale processing. Class project includes analytical methods for tracking and reporting quality control practices.

Heart of Virginia Buy Fresh Buy Local

The 2014 Heart of Virginia Buy Fresh Buy Local Guides are currently being wrapped up to be sent to the printer. We hope to have the guides in hand within a few weeks to begin distribution. If you have any questions, contact your local extension agent.

Southside Produce Auction

The Southside Produce Auction located at 137 Vincent Store Road in Cullen, VA (Charlotte Court House) opened for it's 2014 season on April 15. Auctions are held on Tuesday and Friday mornings at 10am though produce can be unloaded at 7:30am. This is designed as a wholesale auction but anyone can sell and purchase (make sure to pick up a bidders number if you do not have one). Inventory varies from week to week but generally includes in-season and early local produce of all kinds, vegetable starts, hanging baskets of flowers, and flats of all of the above. Get there before 10 to check it out.

Southern Piedmont Ag Connection

If you have not already checked it out, the Southern Piedmont Ag Connection is a new 20-county extension blogsite for agriculture information, events, and resources. It is designed to keep a running list of area upcoming programs as well as better organize agriculture information for this area. Take a minute to check it out and offer feedback. We'd love to hear your thoughts. <https://blogs.ext.vt.edu/ag-connection/>

Town of Kenbridge Upcoming Events

May 31st—Spring Fling at the town park
June—The 5th Avenue Market opens!
June 7—Relay for Life at the town park.

Town of Victoria Upcoming Events

July 26—Cowboy Day at the Railroad Park
October 4—Autumn Day



VCE Needs Your Help locating items for the Centennial display at the local libraries. If

you have any extension-related pictures, items, workbooks, or stories that you would like to share, donate, or allow us to borrow, please contact us. We very much would like the community to be involved in this.

ORGANIZATION UPDATES

F S A

Cristy Cook

FSA County Executive Director

2014 Farm Bill Information

The Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) programs are repealed and will be replaced by two new programs, Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC). Under PLC, payments are issued when the effective price is less than the respective reference price for the commodity. ARC payments for County ARC are issued when the actual county crop revenue of a covered commodity is less than the ARC county guarantee for the covered commodity. ARC payments for individual ARC are issued when the actual individual crop revenues, summed across all covered commodities on the farm, are less than ARC individual guarantees summed across those covered commodities on the farm. More information as it becomes available.

Other returning programs include Marketing Assistance Loans (MALs) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) for the 2014 – 2018 eligible crops; Conservation Reserve Program (CRP); Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP); Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) which has expanded to include buy-up protection, similar to those offered

under the federal crop insurance program; Farm Loan Programs (operating, ownership, emergency, SDA, youth, microloans).

Four disaster programs have been extended indefinitely: LFP, LIP, ELAP, and TAP.

Livestock Disaster Programs

Signup for Livestock Disaster Programs began on April 15. The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) will provide payments to eligible producers for livestock deaths and grazing losses that have occurred since the expiration of the livestock disaster assistance programs in 2011, and including calendar years 2012, 2013, and 2014.

Enrollment also began on April 15 for producers with losses covered by the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) in 2011, when the programs expired, through 2014. ELAP provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish that have losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, such as wildfires. TAP provides financial assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes and vines damaged by natural disasters. LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock produc-

ers that have suffered livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law. LFP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire. Producers are encouraged to contact their county office ahead of time to schedule an appointment. To expedite applications, all producers are encouraged to bring records documenting losses.

N R C S

Martha Powers

District Conservationist

On February 7, 2014, a long-awaited Farm Bill was passed by Congress and signed by President Obama. Some Farm Bill highlights are as follows:

- 23 programs consolidated to 13 to streamline program delivery
- Funding for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) continued to address water quality issues, soil erosion and other natural resource concerns
- Links conservation compliance to crop insurance subsidies on highly erodible land
- Additional funding for agricultural research

ORGANIZATION UPDATES

- ♦ Eliminates direct payments and continues crop insurance
- ♦ Restores livestock disaster assistance for losses dating back to 2011
- ♦ Establishes a permanent livestock disaster program

If you have questions concerning the Farm Bill or programs authorized by the Farm Bill, please do not hesitate to give us a call. At this time, we have only received limited guidance on the many policy changes which accompany new legislation but we anticipate that guidelines will be forthcoming as the Spring and Summer progresses. Also, we are available for technical assistance for conservation issues you may have on your farm. Please call District Conservationist Martha Powers at 434-542-5442, ext. 3 or Soil Conservation Technician Stuart Ward at ext. 116.

SWCD

Tricia Mays
Conservation Specialist

100% Assistance on Stream Exclusion Projects

Stream exclusion is one of the most successful best management practices for livestock producers, by providing the means for healthier and more profitable herds. Many producers in the area have completed this practice at their farms, but there are still producers out there that haven't taken advantage of this program. Southside Soil and Water Conservation District can provide assistance to these live-

stock producers that need better management for their farms. Currently, Southside SWCD is taking applications for producers who want to take advantage of the initiative to provide 100% reimbursement for stream exclusion practices with rotational grazing. The time to sign up for 100% cost-share ends June 2015!

For more information or a farm visit, contact Tricia Mays, SSWCD Conservation Specialist, or Jonathan Wooldridge, SSWCD Conservation Technician, at 434-542-5405.

DGIF

Katie Martin
District Wildlife Biologist

Being Bear Aware

With the growing bear population in VA, most rural residents now live in bear country. For information on how to prevent potential problems and solutions to common situations, visit: www.dgif.virginia.gov/news/release.asp?id=361
<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/bear/>

Feral Hogs Reporting

Feral Swine can be reported by calling 1(855) 571-9003.

Folks can also visit our feral hog webpage at: www.dgif.virginia.gov/



[wildlife/feral-hogs/](#)

DOF

Gale Washburn
Lunenburg Forrester

Cost Share Assistance Available for Pine Reforestation

Cutover timberland can be converted to a fast growing, productive pine stand by planting loblolly pine seedlings. For best results and optimum growth the project should be carefully planned and site preparation should be done to remove logging debris and competing growth before planting. Site preparation includes burning, spraying with herbicides, and dozing. Contact your local forester for site preparation and for information on the Department of Forestry's state cost share program that will reimburse part of the cost of site preparation and planting.

If cost-share assistance is desired, the landowner must sign an application for assistance and receive approval before the project begins. The Virginia Department of Forestry will accept applications for Reforestation of Timberland (RT) assistance starting May 1st. Changes to the 2014-2015 program include an increase in the maximum acreage per landowner per year to 150 acres and increased rates for most projects. For details on this program contact your local Virginia Department of Forestry Office. In Lunenburg, the area office is in Victoria: 434-696-2759.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May

- 13** Brunswick Grant Meeting – [Central Virginia Produce, Livestock, & Feed Storage Systems Program \(CVPLFSSP\)](#): 6:00pm – 8:00pm in Brunswick County Building Auditorium in Lawrenceville, VA.
- 15** VA Small Grains Field Day at ESAREC in Warsaw, VA. Visit www.viriniagrains.com/sgfd/
- 15** Campbell Grant Meeting – (CVPLFSSP): 6:00pm – 8:00pm at the Lynchburg Livestock Market, Lynchburg, VA.
- 14** [Dairy Forage Field Day](#) – Charlotte County: 1:30pm – 4:00pm at the Charlotte County Extension Office, 133 LeGrande Avenue, Charlotte Court House, VA. Please RSVP to (434) 542-5884 or rojones2@vt.edu.
- 15** [Dairy Forage Field Day](#) – Amelia County: 9:00am – 11:30am at Ameva Farm, 1140 Mattoax Lane, Amelia, VA. Please RSVP to (804) 561-2481 or laurab08@vt.edu.
- 20** Pittsylvania & Charlotte Grant Meetings (CVPLFSSP): 2:00pm – 4:00pm at the Olde Dominion Ag Complex in Chatham, VA; 6:00pm – 8:00pm

in the Keysville SVCC Campus Workforce Building in Keysville.

21 Nottoway Grant Meeting – (CVPLFSSP): 6:00pm – 8:00pm at SPAREC in Blackstone,

22 Halifax Grant Meeting – (CVPLFSSP): 6:00pm – 8:00pm in the Mary Bethune Office Complex, Board of Supervisors meeting room, Halifax, VA.

28 [Garden Tour](#) I: Discussion on Soil Health, Bed Prep, & Planting: 11:00am at Raleigh Parish Glebe – 9700 Glebe Lane, Amelia, VA. Free. Contact Laura Siegle for more info or to RSVP at laurab08@vt.edu or (804) 561-2481.

June

2 Begin Receiving Applications for CVPLFSSP grant at 8:00am at your local extension office.

2 – 6 [Watershed Adventure Camp](#): see page 2 Youth for more info.

11 [Garden Tour](#) II: Early Season Management, Pests, and Diseases: 6:00pm.

16 – 21 [Forestry Camp](#): see page 2 Youth for more information.

25 [Garden Tour](#) III: Veggie One-Day Pickling and Children's Garden Session: 11:00am.

July

2 [Garden Tour](#) IV: Using and Drying Herbs and Children's Garden Session: 11:00am .

9 Sports Turf on a Budget Workshop- for athletic directors, parks and rec coordinators, and maintenance managers. This will be held at John Randolph Firehouse in Cumberland. For questions or to offer input, please contact David Smith, Cumberland Agent at (804) 492-4390 or dsmith57@vt.edu.

30 [Garden Tour](#) V: Saving Seeds from Your Garden: 11:00am

August

9-10 Franklin County 1st Annual Open Youth Livestock Fun Show: beef, dairy, sheep, goats. For more information, contact Cynthia Martel, Franklin County VCE at (540) 483-5161 or cmartel@vt.edu.

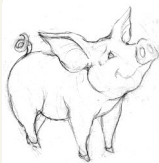
13 [Garden Tour](#) VI: Fall Planting & Cover Crop Options: 11:00am

For further information on any of these events, contact Lindy at the extension office at 696-5526 or tucker07@vt.edu.

If you are a person with a disability and desire assistance or accommodation, please notify Lindy Tucker at the Lunenburg County Extension Office at (434) 696-5526 during business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

LIVESTOCK

Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus
April 8, 2014 Summarized from VDACS
Press Release



Dr. Richard Wilkes, State Veterinarian with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS),

announced today that Virginia has just received laboratory confirmation of its first case of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED). In light of this case, which coincides with the beginning of the exhibit season for 4-H members, FFA students and other livestock exhibitors, Dr. Wilkes says strict biosecurity is the most effective and most practical way to prevent the spread of PED and many other livestock and poultry diseases.

The PED virus is highly contagious, and commonly spreads through pig manure. Consuming pork continues to be safe and the disease does not affect humans, but is often deadly to piglets. Practicing and implementing sound biosecurity measures is critical in keeping the state's animals disease free and marketable.

VDACS offers the following guidelines to help minimize risk at events where animals co-mingle. Note that these general recommendations also apply to diseases that can be spread between humans and animals.

- Consult your veterinarian to establish an appropriate vaccination program for your livestock prior to attending an event.
- Before stalling your animal at an event, make sure the stall has been cleaned and disinfected and use clean, fresh bedding.
- Minimize direct contact with other animals.
- Use your own water and feed buckets.
- Avoid letting your animal(s) drink from a communal water trough. Fill water buckets from a faucet, not a shared tank.
- Do not share grooming equipment or tack. If you must, then wash and disinfect it before returning to your own animal(s).
- Wash your hands thoroughly after handling other animals to minimize the risk of transferring a disease back to your animal.
- Before returning home from an event, clean and disinfect your equipment (boots, tack, grooming supplies,

buckets, etc.) to help reduce the risk of transporting an infectious agent back home.

- Isolate your returning animal(s) for 2 weeks or prevent contact with your other animals and watch for signs of illness in all of your animals.

- When you come home from a fair/exhibition be sure disinfect your trailer.

"Livestock exhibitions are an enriching and rewarding experience for our youth," said Dr. Wilkes. "Implementing simple biosecurity measures to prevent disease spread and having an established plan of action to address disease outbreaks if they occur protects that experience for exhibitors and event managers alike."

For more information about biosecurity measures and plans, contact the State Veterinarian's Office at 804.692.0601 or

your local Office of Veterinary Services at the Regional Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory in your area.

Bloat—

Just a reminder after this long



winter to keep an eye out for bloat problems as the grass begins to green and hungry cows begin to indulge on lush legumes like white and ladino clover. There are other causes of bloat such as feeding very fine feeds or respiratory problems. The most recognizable sign of bloat is the large build-up of gas on the left side of the body. Cows are often laid out and struggling to breathe. If you are concerned that an animal may be bloated, please contact your veterinarian.

National Daily Cattle and Beef Summary Des Moines, Iowa Tuesday, April 29, 2014

| DAILY ESTIMATED CUTOFF VALUES | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | Choice | Select | Choice/Select Spread |
| Cutout Values | 600-900# 234.36 | 600-900# 220.42 | 13.94 |
| Change from Prior Day | 1.19 | (1.15) | |
| Primal Rib | 346.47 | 314.47 | |
| Primal Chuck | 186.90 | 180.19 | |
| Primal Round | 194.52 | 192.04 | |
| Primal Loin | 320.99 | 284.36 | |
| Primal Brisket | 209.52 | 211.84 | |
| Primal Short Plate | 176.45 | 176.45 | |
| Primal Flank | 146.45 | 143.89 | |

Fresh 50% Trimmings 6 Loads @ 134.64

| USDA BY-PRODUCT DROP VALUE (STEER) | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------|
| | 15.87 | Change: (0.03) |

| 5 AREA WEEKLY ACCUMULATED WEIGHTED AVG CATTLE PRICE | | | |
|---|------------|------------|-----------|
| | Head Count | Avg Weight | Avg Price |
| Live Steer | 0 | | |
| Live Heifer | 0 | | |
| Dressed Steer | 0 | | |
| Dressed Heifer | 0 | | |

| ESTIMATED DAILY CATTLE SLAUGHTER | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|--|
| Today (est) | 120,000 | | |
| Week Ago (est) | 116,000 | | |
| Year Ago (act) | 125,000 | | |
| Week to Date | 234,000 | | |
| Same Period Last Week | 219,000 | | |
| Same Period Last Year | 244,000 | | |
| Previous Day Estimated | | Steer and Heifer 93,000 | |
| | | Cow and Bull 21,000 | |

| BEEF PRODUCTION | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| | 4/26/2014 | Last Week | Last Year |
| | (Estimate) | (Estimate) | (Actual) |
| Slaughter | 585,000 | 568,000 | 625,000 |
| Live Weights | 1315 | 1317 | 1296 |
| Dressed Weights | 793 | 794 | 780 |
| Beef Production (millions of pounds) | 462.8 | 449.6 | 486.8 |

NW LS410

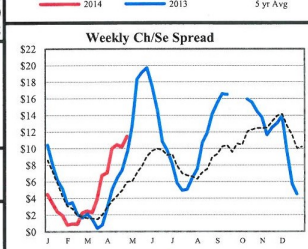
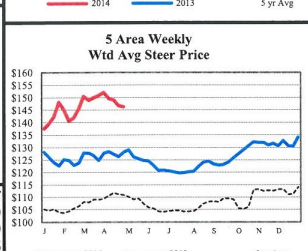
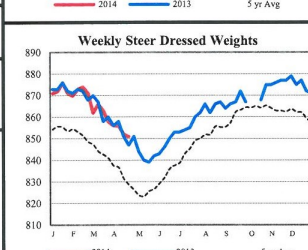
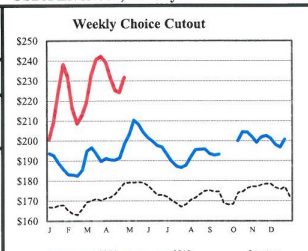
| USDA BEEF CARCASS PRICE EQUIVALENT INDEX VALUE | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|-------------------|--------|
| | Choice | Select | Dressing percent: | |
| | 600-900# | 600-900# | Steer | Heifer |
| | 219.11 | 206.49 | 63.54 | 63.47 |
| Change | 0.62 | (0.55) | | |

| USDA NATIONAL CUTTER COW CARCASS CUTOFF | | | |
|---|--------|-----------|--------|
| | 193.70 | Change | (1.49) |
| | | 90% lean: | 244.17 |

| CME LIVE CATTLE | | | | |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | High | Low | Close | Change |
| Apr | 145.60 | 144.85 | 145.50 | 0.10 |
| Jun | 137.18 | 136.40 | 137.03 | 0.20 |
| Aug | 136.40 | 135.68 | 136.13 | unch |

| CME FEEDER CATTLE | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | High | Low | Close | Change |
| May | 181.43 | 180.38 | 180.58 | (0.53) |
| Aug | 186.98 | 185.75 | 186.55 | 0.20 |
| Sep | 187.23 | 186.08 | 187.05 | 0.25 |

USDA Livestock, Poultry & Grain Mkt News



USDA Livestock Poultry Grain Market News
Des Moines, Iowa
Phone: 515-284-4460
Email: desm.lpgmn@ams.usda.gov
www.ams.usda.gov/LPSMarketNewspage

Kudzu Bug Update

In mid-March 2014, over 50 Virginia Cooperative Extension Agents and Virginia Tech Faculty and Staff began monitoring a 51-county network of sticky traps to determine overwintering emergence of kudzu bug in Virginia. Trap operators were instructed to position the traps in any open area (e.g., open fields or lawns in urban or rural settings). The trap consisted of 4-inch diameter PVC pipe, 18-inch long, with an end cap on top, suspended approximately 6 inches above the ground using a support stake. A 12-inch band of sticky paper (Stable Fly Sticky Sleeve, Great Lakes IPM)



was fitted all the way around the PVC pipe. Trap operators were instructed to check the trap two or three times per week for presence of kudzu bugs

and to change sticky paper weekly. Data, including zeros, are being recorded until the date of first capture of kudzu bugs for each county. Visual reports of kudzu bugs by the trap operators are also accepted for first capture data. To date, 14 trap operators in 13 counties have detected kudzu bugs (see map). Most reports have come from southeast Virginia. Some traps have caught one or two insects, while others have trapped many (Fig. 1). Although it is premature to make any comments about 'trends', traps that are located adjacent to areas (kudzu patches, last year's soybean fields) where kudzu bug numbers were high last year are the traps that have caught insects. Also, generally, traps are catching insects on the warmest days.



April 4, 2014. This means that the bugs have overwintered and are expected to be a problem in soybeans this year. Please be vigilant in scouting and monitoring of crop pest populations throughout the season.

VA Small Grains Field Day

Thursday, May 15th 2014

Registration—8:00am

Lunch—12:30pm

Eastern Virginia AREC

2229 Menokin Road

Warsaw, VA 22572

Central Virginia Produce, Livestock, & Feed Storage Systems Program Grant

Livestock producers in fourteen Central/Southside Virginia Counties, including Lunenburg, will be eligible for matching grants this year up to \$3300, under a program funded by the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification & Community Revitalization Commission. Cost-share eligible categories include: hay barns, grain bins and dryers, feed bins, commodity storage bins, bunker silos, produce production structures (such as high tunnels and greenhouses), and livestock shade structures. All structures must be NEW. This program does not fund renovations of existing structures.

Also, producer who have participated in grant programs since 2010 are NOT eligible until second round. Applicants must attend one of the following education meetings (all 6-8pm except Pitt.):

5/13—Lawrenceville, County Building

5/15—Lynchburg Livestock Market

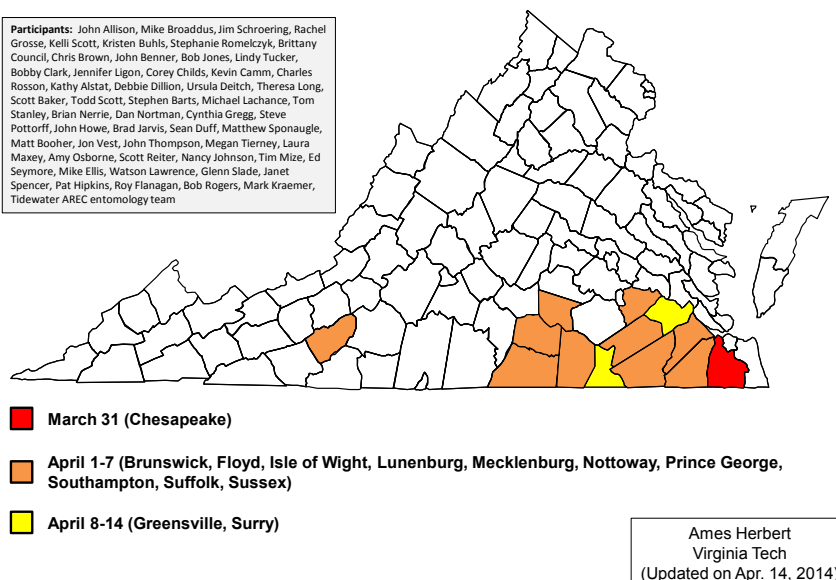
5/20—Chatham Ag Complex (2-4pm);

SVCC Keysville (6-8pm)

5/21—Blackstone SPAREC

5/22—Halifax BOS Meeting Room

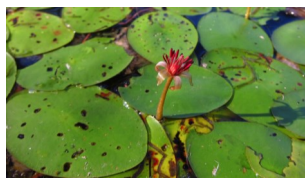
Fig. 2. Kudzu bug date of first occurrence in Virginia counties, 2014.



HOMEOWNER

Pond Weeds—now's the time to treat! As we come into Spring, pondowners may start to notice those pesky pond weeds from last year once again beginning to take over the pond. Good, because now is the time to treat them. Staying on top of a weed problem is much easier than trying to reclaim your pond mid-summer. The first step is identification. Bring your weed samples by the office or give me a call if you can't get down in there and I will be happy to stop by and identify your weeds and go over the best treatment options. Here are a few of the most common:

Watershield—resembles small lily pads, very slimy stems rooted in the soil beneath the pond



Filamentous

algae, aka pond scum—floats on the surface of the water, often resembles green hair, fibrous/ stringy



Duckweed—tiny leaves that float on the surface, with tiny roots attached to each (shown here on the tip of a finger)



Vegetable Planting

Dates

(based off of an April 25 frost free date, and today being May 1st)

Finish up planting: beets; broccoli; brussel sprouts; and swiss chard.

Continue planting through May: bush, pole, and wax beans (and limas here shortly); cucumbers; eggplant; muskmelons; okra; peppers; pumpkins; summer and winter squash; sweet corn; sweet potatoes; tomatoes; and watermelon.

Insect and Mite Pests of Boxwood

Eric Day, Manager, Insect Identification Laboratory

Three pests, the boxwood leafminer, mite and psyllid commonly attack American and English boxwood in Virginia and cause spotting, yellowing, and puckering of leaves.

GUIDE TO BOXWOOD PESTS AND THEIR CONTROL BASED ON DAMAGE:

Boxwood Mite (A): Leaves of infested plants appear to be pinpricked or scratched with tiny white or yellow marks. The boxwood mite is one of the spider mites and is difficult to find even under a dissecting microscope. Eggshells and cast skins can be important clues but they are not as noticeable as they are with other spider mites species. Boxwood mites can be controlled with dormant oil applications in late winter or insecticidal soap sprays in May.



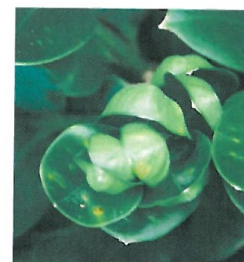
A.



B.

Boxwood Leafminer (B): Infested leaves appear blistered on the underside and are often discolored. The adult boxwood leafminer is a small, delicate fly. Damage when the larvae feed between the upper and lower layers of leaves. Two to six larvae typically occur in a single leaf. With a little practice, they are easily found by breaking open a blistered leaf with your thumbnail. Boxwood leafminers can be controlled with a soil drench of a systemic insecticide such as imidacloprid in April.

C.



Boxwood Psyllid (C): Their feeding on tender new growth causes leaves to cup and stunts the growth of shoots. Although the leaves are cupped in the spring, the damaged leaves remain on the plant for several years. Nymphs cover themselves with white, cotton-like secretions and can be found in April and May. Adults are rarely seen. Contact insecticides or systemic insecticides applied just after bud break provide good control.

April Was All About the Youth!

Local extension agents and AREC personnel have packed the month of April full of youth agriculture



education events. The Southern Piedmont AREC hosted 3rd graders from surrounding counties, including Lunenburg, April 2nd and 3rd for an interactive way to incorporate agriculture into the SOLs with students rotating between stations covering topics such as soil health and critters, simple machines, field crops, and all sorts of livestock. The following week, SPAREC



Above: 3rd graders holding baby chicks as they learn about chickens.

Left: 3rd graders trying their hand at milking the "No-Kick Cow"

Front page: Julie Hamlett (SSWCD), Sarah (4-H), Lindy (ANR), and Gale Washburn (DOF) at KES for 100 Trees

hosted 5th graders from surrounding counties to learn about the plant and animal cells, how to extract DNA from strawberries, the importance of wheat and our wheat products, and more.

To celebrate Earth Day, Arbor Day, and the 100th anniversaries of

Extension and the Department of Forestry, Lunenburg 4-H and ANR partnered with Julie Hamlett of Southside SWCD and Lunenburg Forester, Gale Washburn for a program entitled, "100 Trees for 100 Years." The program educated VES 4th grader and KES 5th graders about the parts of the tree, tree products, the tree lifecycle, importance of trees, and how to plant trees before sending each student home with a tree of their own to plant! Help your student nurture their tree!



Lunenburg Forester, Gale Washburn, demonstrating to KES 5th graders how to plant their Bald Cypress seedlings.



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