



# U.P. Ag Connections Newsletter

May 2024

Agricultural News from MSU Extension and AgBioResearch

Volume 28 Issue 5

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## News and Views, by Frank Wardynski

### Drought Management

I had intended on writing about preparation for potential drought. Rains covered the UP the last week of April and first of May which should alleviate some of the threat; however, the national drought monitor still lists two western UP counties as severe drought, five as moderate drought and three others as abnormally dry. Simple advice today, be aware and start looking at drought management plans now.

### Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) A(H5N1), has infected dairy cattle in several states in the U.S. and has been termed bovine influenza A (BIA). Although HPAI has caused high mortality rates in birds, BIA has primarily resulted in morbidity in dairy cows. It is still unknown how the disease most likely spreads. It is known that the virus is in the milk of infected cows, although, pasteurization inactivates the virus, making milk safe for human consumption. USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service has tested 30 samples of ground beef from states that have dairy cows testing positive for BIA. All samples tested negative and indicate the beef supply is safe.

The most obvious symptoms of BIA in dairy cattle have been reduced feed intake and milk production. Secondary visual signs include fatigue, dehydration, tacky or loose manure, and elevated body temperature. Some of these signs could be confused with common respiratory disease. Producers are encouraged to consult with their veterinarian if they suspect cattle are infected with BIA. Suspected cattle can be tested for BIA at no testing cost to the producer; however, positive cattle will be reported. Also, producers should be aware that BIA has infected humans and they should take necessary precautions to help prevent disease contraction to themselves and workers.

**MDARD Director Tim Boring Signs 'HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order' Determination of Extraordinary Animal Health Emergency in Response to the Ongoing HPAI Outbreak in Michigan.** This order goes into effect on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, and applies to all dairy and commercial poultry facilities statewide.

- The emergency order requires the following measures to be taken:
- All Michigan dairy farms, as well as poultry operations considered commercial by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) must develop and implement biosecurity practices that include:
  - Designation of a biosecurity manager.
  - Designation of a line of separation to represent the perimeter of a secure area, limiting access points.
  - Establishment of cleaning and disinfection practices and procedures at those access points for both vehicles and individuals. This must include deliveries of feed and other supplies, and training for employees.

- Establishment of a log book maintaining a record of all vehicles and of individuals who have gotten out of vehicles and crossed those access points, to be retained and made available for examination upon request by MDARD.
- All lactating dairy cattle, and those in the last two months of pregnancy, are prohibited from being exhibited until there are no new cases of HPAI in dairy cattle in the State of Michigan for at least 60 consecutive days. No dairy cattle of any age from an infected premises may be exhibited until further notice.
- All exhibitions or expositions of poultry are prohibited until such time that there are no new cases of HPAI in domestic poultry in the State of Michigan for at least 30 consecutive days. As defined in the Animal Industry Act, "poultry" means, but is not limited to, chickens, guinea fowl, turkeys, waterfowl, pigeons, doves, peafowl, and game birds that are propagated and maintained under the husbandry of humans (MCL 287.703(iii)).

### **Federal Order Requiring Testing for and Reporting of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Livestock.**

In order to continue to monitor and understand the extent of this virus and reduce the risk of further disseminating HPAI H5N1 virus, resulting in greater threats to poultry and livestock, this Federal Order requires the following measures, effective Monday, April 29, 2024.

- Mandatory Testing for Interstate Movement of Dairy Cattle
- Prior to interstate movement, dairy cattle are required to receive a negative test for Influenza A virus at an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratory.
- Owners of herds in which dairy cattle test positive for interstate movement will be required to provide epidemiological information, including animal movement tracing.
- Dairy cattle moving interstate must adhere to conditions specified by APHIS.
- As will be described in forthcoming guidance, these steps will be immediately required for lactating dairy cattle, while these requirements for other classes of dairy cattle will be based on scientific factors concerning the virus and its evolving risk profile.

#### **Mandatory Reporting**

- Laboratories and state veterinarians must report positive Influenza A nucleic acid detection diagnostic results (e.g. PCR or genetic sequencing) in livestock to USDA APHIS.
- Laboratories and state veterinarians must report positive Influenza A serology diagnostic results in livestock to USDA APHIS.

### **USDA APHIS continues to receive questions related to the movement of lactating dairy cattle to sale barns and auction markets under the [Federal Order](#) and [associated guidance](#), effective on April 29.**

- This message is to clarify that the Federal Order does not apply to the intrastate movement of a lactating dairy cow to a sale barn. Subsequent interstate movement for a lactating dairy cow from a sale barn directly to a slaughter facility requires only a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) stating that the animal is clinically healthy; no testing is necessary.
- This clarifies the requirements for states where direct to slaughter movements are limited but cattle movements flow through sale barns and auctions for consolidation and movement as a "lot" to slaughter out of state. We are announcing this clarification over the weekend to ensure small farms have the guidance necessary to continue to move cull cattle and limit animal welfare issues.





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Order deadline is May 24th; Pick up date, June 8th, Alger County Fairgrounds 9:30-Noon, or Superior Hardware in Grand Marais 2-4pm.

# FOREST MANAGEMENT FOR BIRD HABITAT

Forest management is one of the ways that we can have a large impact on wildlife habitat, especially for forest birds. Join us to learn about how birds utilize forest habitat, how your management affects that habitat, and what steps you can take to get started. We will be walking around Clear Lake, so dress to be outdoors.

**SATURDAY, MAY 18 from 2-5 PM** at the

**CLEAR LAKE EDUCATION CENTER**  
8025N Clear Lake Road  
Manistique, MI

Free and open to all!



# FIELD CROPS VIRTUAL BREAKFAST

Every Thursday 7:00 - 7:35 am  
Q&A 7:35 - 8:00  
April - September 2024

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



## Virtual Breakfast

Virtual Breakfast is a free weekly series for farmers and agribusinesses that focuses on a wide array of relevant field crop pest and management topics during the growing season.

## Eastern Upper Peninsula Farm Hosts Soil Health Academy

By: Michelle Sweeten

Eastern Upper Peninsula Farm Hosts Soil Health Academy September 10-12, 2024.

Who should attend: Anyone that wants to take their ranch to the next level. This course will examine all aspects of regenerative ranching, soil health, plant health, and animal health. Hands-on experience will be heavily emphasized. This is a power-packed three days that will change your ranch. It is taught by highly experienced regenerative ranchers. Participants will be participating in adaptive grazing practices. The class will be limited to 50 registrants, so don't wait until the last minute to register!

### What You Will Learn

- The Power of Observation
- How to Restore Vibrant Ecosystems through Adaptive Grazing
- Selecting cattle to fit their environment and be low maintenance
- Develop cattle to perform and finish on forage
- Added pasture diversity, yield, and quality through adaptive grazing
- Use of bale grazing to regenerate soils
- Reduce inputs to improve profitability
- Build a more resilient ecosystem on your farm

See website for more information and scholarship opportunities:

<https://soilhealthacademy.org/schools/adaptive-grazing-dafter-michigan/>



## Escanaba Community Garden Plots Now Available!

Are you interested in growing your own food and meeting other gardeners?

The Escanaba Community Garden is located on county/airport property at the corner of Hwy 41 South/ 23rd Avenue South. As part of Michigan State University Extension, the Escanaba Community Garden is a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization. MSU Extension and MSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers help coordinate the garden. There are two Extension Master Gardener Volunteers who help with the operations of the garden and are available to provide gardening education especially for beginning or first-time gardeners.

- The Garden is plowed by teams of horses in early spring. The event is open to all gardeners and the public.
- Water is available for all plots; all the garden membership fees currently go to pay for the city water.
- Compost bins are available and managed by the MSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers.
- Educational workshops and garden grilling parties are planned, and all gardeners are welcome.

### Signing up for the garden includes:

- Attend the MANDATORY Garden Orientation on Wednesday, May 8 at either 2:30 p.m. or 6 p.m. ET at the Delta County MSU Extension Office, 2840 College Avenue, Escanaba, MI 49829.
- Complete the Community Garden Plot Rules Agreement, select your plot location, and purchase your 30'x30' plot for \$40 (Cash or check made out to MSU)

Questions? Contact Rebecca Krans, MSU Extension, 906-875-0606

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# May 18-19 Register Now!



## Manistique, MI

Join us on the shores of Lake Michigan for guided morning bird hikes to a variety of Great Lakes habitats. Manistique and the surrounding areas are a hot spot for spring warbler migration. There will also be afternoon keynote speakers on interesting bird topics such as migration and creating bird habitat.

**\$20 per person, includes tour transportation  
and commemorative shirt.**

### Register At:

906-286-2890

[www.schoolcraftcd.org](http://www.schoolcraftcd.org)



SCHOOLCRAFT  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT

- Saturday May 18
  - 7:00 am - various tours depart
  - 3 pm - social hour with highlights
  - 4 pm - keynote presentations
- Sunday May 19
  - 7:00 am - various tours depart
  - 12 pm - wrap up and highlights

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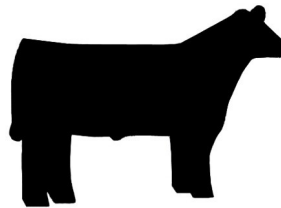
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## Skidders

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(906) 647-5655 or  
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Kubota, AGCO, Massey-Ferguson, New Idea, Hesston,  
Gehl, Bush Hog, H&S, and Kverneland



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### Marlette Livestock Auction

**Monthly Dairy & Feeder Cattle Auctions**

**Sale Date April 13, 2024**

Featuring Dairy Cattle, Cow/Calf Pairs & Bred Brood Cows,  
Breeder Bulls, & Feeder Steers & Heifers

**Hay & Straw Auction - Every Monday @ 12:00 PM**

1000+ Small Squares & 150+ Rounds/Large Squares Weekly

**Livestock Auction - Every Monday @ 1:00 PM**

Including Calves, Sheep & Goats, Feeders, Hogs, Bulls, Beef, &  
Butcher Cows

6381 Euclid St., Marlette, MI 48453

Robert Filhart, Owner (989)330-6005

Haley Filhart, Owner (989)430-2055

### Classifieds

**For Sale:** Red or Black Wagyu Bulls, Call Paul at MSU 906-439-5114 Ext. 2

**For Sale:** Alfalfa Baleage, Contact Jim Dalgord 906-644-2107

**For Sale:** Red Angus Bull, 1 1/2 year old, Great bloodline,  
good disposition, 1832#. Call Don Nault 906-786-3951 Or Cell  
906-398-9865

**Wanted: Pasture** for 25-35 cow calf pairs for the summer of  
2024 in the Eastern UP. Will consider a custom grazing  
arrangement as well. Call Ben (989) 370-3570.

**Straw for Sale:** Small squares or 4x5 Large round bales. Call  
Paul at MSU 906-439-5114 Ext. 2

**FOR SALE: Hay**, mixed round bales, 700# stored inside. Also  
small square bales of straw. Call Jim Myers (906)399-1649 or  
(906) 466-2672.

**FOR SALE: small square bales of straw** and small squares of  
first crop hay. Call Marenger's Farm (906)384-6587.

**FOR SALE: Mixed Hay round bales**, 700#, \$20. Call Alan or  
Karen Raynard @ (906) 647-6697, Pickford.

**FOR SALE:** Black Angus Bull, 16 months old, AI sired by  
Architect. Semen tested and vaccinated. Call or text Tammy  
Klink (906)630-9784

### Market Report

Choice Steers	\$177-\$183 per 100 lbs.
Holstein Steers	\$160-\$168 per 100 lbs.
Hogs	\$59-\$73 per 100 lbs.
Lambs	\$200-\$245 per 100 lbs.
Cull cows	\$100-\$118 per 100 lbs.
Calves	\$350-\$525 per 100 lbs.
Goats	\$250-\$350 per 100 lbs.

#### Breeding and Feeder Animals

Grade Holstein cows top \$2400/head

Grade Holstein bred heifers top \$2800/head

### Feed Prices across the U.P.

	Avg. \$/cwt	Avg. \$/ton	Price Range
Corn	\$15.19	\$303.75	\$220-510
Soymeal	\$27.99	\$559.75	\$440-655
Oats	\$18.20	\$364.00	\$319-416
Barley	\$15.08	\$301.50	\$240-386
Average price/100 wt. for 1 ton lots			

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A graphic for the UPREC 125th Anniversary Celebration. It features a green border with arrowheads at the corners. The text is centered and reads: "UPREC 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration" in large, bold, green letters. Below this, it says "August 10, 2024" in bold, green letters. Underneath, it lists the location: "MSU Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center, E3774 University Drive, Chatham". Then, it asks "QUESTIONS?" and provides contact information: "EMAIL [SANDE638@MSU.EDU](mailto:SANDE638@MSU.EDU) OR CALL (906) 439-5114". At the bottom, it features the logos for Michigan State University, AgBioResearch, and Michigan State University Extension.