**UW-Extension Education Committee June 6th – July 15th 2016 Trisha Wagner Agriculture Agent**

**On-farm field work**

*Spotted Winged Drosophila-* SWD became an issue for small fruits in WI in 2013. Research is being done to understand phenology of this pest and help fruit growers respond with appropriate control measures. Traps are located at three Jackson County fruit farms, who have asked to participate in the state-wide trap network. Additional farms have asked to be notified with weekly updates.

*Western Bean Cutworm –* a pest to field and sweet corn, this pest is also new to WI, and this research hopes to answer grower questions with regard to identification, timing and control methods. I monitor/report one trap in the county this year.

*Cost of manure handling –* The University of Wisconsin’s Center for Dairy Profitability and UW-Extension created a tool for farmers to calculate their manure handling costs, which will create a database that can be used by farmers to compare manure handling costs on Wisconsin dairy farms. I am working with farms in Jackson County to input their data into the tool and calculate their handling costs. The study tool is currently available for liquid manure handling/storage only.

**Hoard’s Dairyman publications**

Hoard’s editors asked for the UW-Extension Farm human resources management workgroup to respond to reader’s questions and write an article on the topic of employee management issues on dairy farms. I wrote the first of three responses and will be a co-author on the article –publication dates are expect in August/September.

**Wisconsin Safe Operation of Tractor & Machinery Certification Program June 21-23**

This program is intended for youth 12-16 years of age who will be operating tractors or self-propelled implements of husbandry on a public road under direction of their parent or guardian for work related to their family farm operation, or, who will be employed or working without pay on a farm other than their family farm, or, any youth 12 years of age or older that desires tractor and machinery safety instructions. The three-day (24 hours minimum requirement) program is co-instructed with Brad Markhardt and Tom Dobbs. The course includes daily practice driving, attaching implements (PTO, etc.), class room discussion, guest speakers including Sheriff Waldera, Jackson Electric Coop, and a panel of Jackson County farmers who speak to the youth about the hard lessons learned from accidents on the farm,

**Summary of June Master Gardener Volunteer projects…**

* Lutheran Social Services-The Connection garden project with clients;
* Jackson County Boys & Girls Club plot at Spaulding Road Community Garden, weekly garden activities and lesson;
* Monarch habitat project, six milkweed species and other preferred wildflower species being cultivated;
* Jackson County Dairy Breakfast on the Farm – resource booth/display with Q&A;
* 2016 Map of Jackson County Produce Farms with area business sponsorship

**Add’n programs/projects:**

* Professional Dairy Producers of WI – $5,000 grant award
* UWEX/ANIMART collaboration – dairy cattle heat stress podcast series
* Spaulding Rd. Community Garden newsletter 6/1

**Add’n meetings/program participation:**

-FBR mtg 6/8

-JC Fair board mtg 6/9

-JC Jr. Livestock Sale cmt mtg 6/14

-County FSA cmt mtg 6/21

-NW Regional Ag Agents mtg 6/28

-Spring Thaw beef show cmt mtg. 6/30

-JC farmers market cmt mtg 7/6

-UWEX faculty senate mtg 7/7

-JC Beef Cookout 7/8, 9

* Recycling Ag Plastics mtg, 6/14
* WI Agriculturalist, UWEX Dairy Team column 6/15
* Coulee Grazier June pasture walk – Odeen Farm 6/16
* Badger Mining Corp, PAT program 6/20
* MAQA Mel-Min 6/21
* Dairy Partner/El Compañero newsletter – 6/27, 7/5, 7
* Farm Succession program planning 6/30
* Farm HRM workgroup mtgs 6/16, 7/1

**Farm visits/consults:**

* Kinning, hay$ 6/6
* Zielsdorf blueberry 6/6, 13, 29
* Mohorko, herbicides 6/20
* Boehm, wbc trap 6/24
* Tina, horticulture 6/27
* Cain, SWD 6/28
* Laufenberg hay values 6/30
* Arbutus Htl, horticulture 6/28
* Zielsdorf, blueberries 7/5, 6
* D’Huyvetter, custom rates, wetlands 7/6
* Benedict, horticulture 7/6
* Hartley, horticulture 7/7
* People’s Food Co-op LaX, HRM 6/6
* Olson, manure 6/7
* Troutlein, horticulture 6/9
* Rosenbaum, horticulture 6/13
* Murray, cutworm 6/13
* Rodenberg, horticulture 6/13
* Oberlin, corn pests 6/13
* Grahm, horticulture 6/14, 20
* Odeen, soils 6/16, 6/ 24
* HCN, horticulture 6/16,17