



Maine Women's Agricultural Network

MAINE

Women's Agricultural Network

University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Highmoor Farm, P.O. Box 179, Monmouth, ME 04259

March 2008

Through a series of educational, technical assistance, and networking opportunities, WAgN works to increase the number of women owning and operating profitable farms and ag-related businesses, as well as their profile in leadership positions throughout the agricultural sectors of business, government and community.

From developing and assessing a business idea through the advanced planning and implementation phases, WAgN offers a program to support and encourage these varying levels.

WAgN Organizational Director:

Susan Watson

susan.watson@me.usda.gov

207-947-6622 ext. 5

Heart of Maine RC&D



WAgN Contact Person:

Pam St. Peter

pstpeter@umext.maine.edu

207-933-2100

UMaine Cooperative Extension

Highmoor Farm



Training DVD – “Entrepreneurial Sustainable Agriculture: Alternatives for Processing, Packaging, Labeling, & Marketing in Retail/ Internet Environments”

The Western Rural Development Center, with funding from Western Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education is offering a training DVD that helps communities enhance the sustainability and viability of their local agriculture producers. FMI go to: <http://extension.usu.edu/wrdc> or call 435-797-9732.

New Conservation Services Website

Resources First Foundation recently released the Maine State Conservation Center website: www.stateconservation.org/maine. It provides a menu of conservation services for private landowners, including a GIS mapping program, allowing visitors to estimate the conservation potential of their property.

WAgN In Transition

Dear WAgN members,

Tori Lee Jackson has taken a new position as Extension Educator for Androscoggin and Sagadahoc Counties, which will not allow her to continue as WAgN co-director. Also, Susan Watson is now the Coordinator for Heart of Maine Resource Conservation and Development, which may lead to a change in her role as Director of WAgN.

Until recently, WAgN has been a collaborative effort of the UMaine Cooperative Extension and the Time & Tide Resource Conservation and Development. On March 26, representatives from the collaborating network agencies will meet to discuss the future of WAgN.

Sometime after March 26, a report on the changes will be posted on the WAgN website: <http://www.umaine.edu/umext/wagn>. During this transition period, please contact me with any questions regarding WAgN.

Best regards,

*Pam St. Peter, Administrative Assistant II
University of Maine Cooperative Extension*

Upcoming Events

New England Spring Flower Show

March 8-16 at Bayside Expo Center, Boston. FMI go to www.masshort.org.

Community Tree Conference

March 11 at UMass, Amherst. FMI go to www.umassgreeninfo.org



Upcoming Events (cont'd)

Perennial Plant Conference – For the Professional Horticulturalist

March 13 at University of Connecticut, Storrs.
FMI go to: www.hort.uconn.edu/2008ppc .

Wool Handling School

March 14-15 at Morris Farm, Wiscasset.
FMI go to www.umext.maine.edu or call 1-800-287-1471.



Pruning Apple Trees

March 16 in Nobleboro, with John Bunker of Fedco Trees. FMI call 549-3836.

Ag Day at the Legislature

March 18 at the Hall of Flags, State Capitol in Augusta. Exhibits by various agricultural industries. FMI go to www.mac.umaine.edu or call 1-800-648-0597.

Maine Vegetable & Fruit School

March 18 at Keeley's Banquet Ctr., Portland or March 19 at the Hutchinson Ctr, Belfast. FMI call: 1-800-924-5258 or 1-800-244-2104.



Online New Farmer Training

March 19 – May 21. The NY Beginning Farmer Project, a collaborative effort of Cornell Small Farm Program and Cooperative Extension, is offering a 9-week online course for those exploring a new idea to those seeking to diversify or expand existing farm operations. Cost is \$200. FMI call 315-788-8450 or go to: www.smallfarms.cornell.edu/pages/news/monthlyupdates/mar2008update.cfm .

Maine Maple Sunday

March 23 at participating sugar houses throughout the state. FMI go to: www.getrealmaine.com/visit/maine_maple_sunday.html .

Introduction to Organic Farming

March 25-26 in Alfred. FMI call 207-568-4142 or go to: www.mofga.org/default.aspx?tabid=417

Maine Farm-to-School Conference

March 28 at Chewonki Center for Environmental Education in Wiscasset. FMI email: farmsmaine@gmail.com or call 882-7552 ext. 172.

Dairy Forage & Grain Conference

March 28 at Governor's Restaurant, Waterville. FMI call: 1-800-287-1426.

Beginner Sheep Shearing School

March 29 in Cumberland. Class is full, but spectators are welcome at no charge. FMI call 1-800-287-1471.

Bangor Flower Show

April 3-6 at the Bangor Auditorium & Civic Center. FMI go to www.bangorgardenshow.com or call 207-990-1201.

Maine Garden Day

April 12 at Central Maine Community College in Auburn. FMI go to www.umext.maine.edu or call 1-800-287-1482.

Maine Poultry School

May 3. Location TBA. FMI call 1-800-287-1471.



Pruning Class at Highmoor Farm

April 26 (rain date May 3), 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at Highmoor Farm, Monmouth, with Dr. Renae Moran. A 1-hour lecture followed by a demonstration on pruning apple, peach, pear and plum trees. No charge. Bring your own pruning tools. FMI call 1-800-924-5258 ext. 105.

Farm Tractor Safety, Operation & Maintenance

April 26-27 at MOFGA Common Ground Education Center in Unity. FMI call 207-568-4142 or go to: www.mofga.org/default.aspx?tabid=417 .



Upcoming Events (cont'd)

Commercial Vegetable & Berry School – Getting Started in Maine

May 3 at Highmoor Farm, Monmouth. FMI call: 1-800-924-5258 ext. 106.

Upland Invasive Plant Species Identification and Control Workshop

May 3 at Bath City Hall or May 10 at Sherwood Elementary School in Auburn. FMI go to: www.state.me.us/agriculture/pesticides/cert/creditcal.shtml .

Carcass Management Workshop

May 14-16 at Highmoor Farm, Monmouth. Cost is \$325. FMI go to: www.composting.org or call 1-800-244-2104.

Northeast Livestock Expo

May 16-18 at Windsor Fairgrounds in Windsor. FMI go to www.northeastlivestockexpo.org .



Is Crop Insurance for you and your farm?

Have you ever wondered if your farm business could benefit from purchasing a crop insurance policy? Does your farm qualify? Visit the Maine Crop Insurance Education website at: www.umaine.edu/umext/cropinsurance/ or by calling Tori Jackson at 207-353-5550.

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