

Ag News and Notes

For Release: January 4, 2024

Middle Tennessee Grain Conference- Save Tuesday, January 30 for the 18th annual Middle Tennessee Grain Conference at the University of Tennessee Space Institute (UTSI), 411 B.H. Goethert Pkwy in Tullahoma, TN. Reliably one of largest and most comprehensive row crop meetings in the state, the mission of the Middle Tennessee Grain Conference (MTNGC) is to offer practical insights and real-life solutions to emerging crop production issues. From local County Extension Agents to top-tier Extension Specialists, our Extension team leverages hundreds of years of combined experience to bring you un-biased, research-based information you can count on. In addition, the MTNGC will once again offer one of the area's largest trade shows with industry professionals sharing what's new, efficient, and effective.

REGISTRATION INFO: An emphasis is being placed on preregistration with a deadline of January 19 through local county Extension Offices. Preregistration cost is only \$10 per person thanks to the generous support of our sponsors and the participation of our tradeshow vendors. Late registration is \$20 per person. Please preregister. These fees help offset the cost of program materials, equipment, signage, take-home resources, and conference hats (one per person).

Doors will open at 7:30 am for networking and access to the trade show. Opening remarks start at 8:30 am in the auditorium with the "weather talk" (Winter Analysis, Spring Outlook, and Growing Season Predictions) after updates from our partners at the Tennessee Corn & Tennessee Soybean Promotion Councils. Breakout sessions will begin at 9:45 am with topics including Weed Management / Dicamba Update, Agronomics of Cover Crops, Mehlich 3 vs. Mehlich 1 Soil Test Values & Soil Correlation for P & K in Soybeans, Pesticide Application Using Unmanned Aircraft, Value-added Marketing with Barley Production & Distillers Needs, and Grain Marketing / Risk Management.

This year's conference is supported and made possible by several industry partners; of special note, the Tennessee Corn Promotion Council and the Tennessee Soybean Promotion Council. Refreshments throughout the day are being sponsored by Koch Agronomic Solutions. "Weather Talk" courtesy of Nutrien Ag. Solutions. Grain Conference Hats provided by Woodall Grain Company. Lunch provided by "The View" Dining Hall and graciously sponsored by GreenPoint Ag.

Following the scenic meal there will be an opportunity to participate in a Dicamba recertification training. At adjournment, participants will turn in completed evaluations at the information booth to receive a conference hat and take-home resources. Available Credits/Points: Certified Crop Advisor, Commercial Pesticide Applicator, Farm Manager, & Master Row Crop. For more info, contact your UT-TSU Extension Office:

<https://utextension.tennessee.edu/office-locations-departments-centers/>

The University of Tennessee and Middle Tennessee Grain Conference are equal opportunity providers. Through its mission of research, teaching and extension, the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture touches lives and provides Real. Life. Solutions. ag.tennessee.edu.

Master Farm Manager- This spring we are proud to offer the second annual Master Farm Manager class. The master farm manager program was developed by the UT Center for Farm Management that will benefit those new and those more experienced by providing a better understanding of the business side of agricultural enterprises. Successful completion will entitle participants to 50% cost share opportunities with the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program. Since this takes care of the 50% cost share requirement with TAEP, this has taken the place of the spring master beef program. The schedule of the class is listed below:

Feb. 1 - Tax Planning and Documents – Alan Galloway, UT Center for Farm Management

Feb. 8 – Value-added Marketing Pros and Pitfalls - Rachel Painter, UT Center for Profitable Agriculture

Feb. 15 - Managing Inputs and Economic Outlook, Dr. Aaron Smith, Univ. of TN Department of Ag Economics

Feb. 22 - Understanding and Creating Financial Statements and General Farm Economics, Colton McClanahan, Farm Credit Services

Feb. 29 - Planning for the Future, Kevin Ferguson, UT Center for Farm Management.

All classes will begin at 6:00 PM at the Coffee County Farm Bureau Meeting Room located at 225 East Main Street Manchester, TN 37355. Cost for the course is 100.00 and covers all refreshments, materials, etc. To register please come please call or come by the Extension office.

Master Gardener Class- We are very excited to offer the first “synchronous” Master Gardener Class. In addition to our usual classes, participants will be given links to view a set of *Zoom* classes for a more in-depth discussion and beginner’s level information. The goal of the class is to improve your understanding and knowledge of how plants grow and to meet others with similar interests. Graduates of the program are encouraged to give back to the community by participating in some activities of the county Master Gardener Association. Activities include community landscaping, continuing education, and assisting with future Master Gardener activities.

The classes will be at the Warren County Administrative Building Early voting room on Tuesday evenings Feb. 6, 13, 27, March 12,19,26, and April 2,9,16, beginning at 6:00 PM. The cost for the class is \$100 which covers all materials, classes, refreshments, and the Tennessee Master Gardener Handbook widely known as the recognized authority for all thing’s horticulture. For a complete schedule or to register, please call or come by the UT -TSU Extension office at 201 Locust St. McMinnville, TN 37110. Online payment and registration is offered at tiny.utk.edu/2024WarrenMasterGardeners.

Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

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