

December 14, 2018

'TIS THE SEASON

My sister, this week, sent me the ten reasons why Santa Claus could have been a farmer. It was pretty humorous. He works all year, just to give his stuff away. He knows how to get by with the same equipment season after season! If you need a smile, all ten are at: <https://bit.ly/2SOaFha> The following is some key information on activities in Nebraska Extension that are just around the corner in January. 'Tis the Season.

Three-State Beef Conference: Area beef producers should make plans to attend the fifth annual Three-State Beef Conference, January 15, 16 and 17, 2019 with locations in Iowa, Missouri and Nebraska. The conference provides a forum of specialists from three of the United States' leading beef cattle land-grant universities to discuss where one can reduce winter cow feed costs and improve management of those resources. The theme for this year's conference is "Reducing Cow Feed Costs Using Cropland."

Participants will be able to engage in learning about opportunities to help lower the need for hay, the most common feed resource in winter cattle rations through alternative feed sources off cropland. Additional topics and speakers for the conference include: "Using Annual Forages to Meet Late Fall and Early Spring Forage Needs," Mary Drownoski, beef systems specialist, Nebraska Extension; and "Silage as the Primary Winter Feed for Cows," Eric Bailey, beef nutrition specialist, University of Missouri Extension.

The program in Nebraska will be on January 17, 2019 at the Otoe County Fairgrounds in Syracuse. Registration will begin for each session at 5:30 p.m. with the program starting at 6:00 p.m. The registration fee is \$25.00 per person and it includes a meal and copy of the conference proceedings. Preregistration is requested by January 11, 2019 for meal-planning purposes. Call Nebraska Extension in Otoe County at 402-269-2301 or email kristen.ulmer@unl.edu.

Pesticide Certification in 2019: The Department of Ag is mailing bar code letters this week to those applicators that have certifications expiring to use and apply any restricted use only products. Make sure and hang onto those letters and bring them to trainings held in 2019. I will be sending out a letter to Jefferson and Saline applicators with additional local information after Christmas. Nicole Stoner will send out the Gage County letters. For a look at meeting locations in Nebraska go to: <https://go.unl.edu/pat19> Click on the county at the top and meeting locations are sorted for you. If you want to check your certification status go to: <https://pested.unl.edu/certification-and-training>

Crop Protection Clinics: Commercial and private applicators can renew their certifications at the crop production clinics held in five locations in Nebraska plus at the Crop Management Conference in Kearney. Updates on university research on cover crops, cropping systems, crop residue removal, fertility and soil nutrition, irrigation, and pest management are among the topics to be featured at the 2019 Crop Production Clinics.



New this year there is an opportunity to participate in a UNL research study and be paid for your time. Simanti Banerjee, an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics, is studying producer behaviors in response to farm bill programs. The study will take up to two hours. Average earnings from participating in the study are expected to be up to \$100.

For more information and to register for the crop clinic go to: <https://agronomy.unl.edu/cpc>
You can learn more about what that research study is all about also at the same website.

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