

Women in Agriculture News

Looking Back...

2009 Regional Women in Ag Conference

January 22 - 23, 2009 seems like forever ago! Throughout those two days, ag women from the region - including representation from Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia - participated in a variety of agricultural workshops designed to help them manage risk for their agribusinesses.

Participants were offered many choices of risk management sessions. They included production topics such as high tunnel production, goat management, broiler production, and the status of honey bees. Marketing topics included grain marketing, direct marketing, and agritourism. In addition, several business and legal-oriented sessions were offered, including immigration law, employee law, hiring teenagers, business planning, Farm Service Agency programs, estate planning and crop insurance. Other topics included farm-to-school programs, establishing a winery, reading and journaling to capture and track your interests, knowing what is in your market basket, and safe food handling.

Oonna Mathews, keynote speaker, drew from current data and her years of experience as VP of Consumer Affairs at Giant Food to present an interesting talk about consumer trends. Stacy and Troy Hadrick, who are Advocates for Agriculture, encouraged the participants to help keep agriculture in a positive light - inspiring the audience to promote agriculture, emphasizing that by "telling their story" they can play a major role in helping the public understand the many aspects of agriculture.

The Conference was presented by the University of Delaware in collaboration with the Cooperative Extension Services of Delaware State University, the University of Maryland, and Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

2008 WIA Network Visits Lavender Fields

On June 25th and September 11, 2008 women in ag enjoyed tours of Lavender Fields, a 5-acre farm with over 2 acres of lavender. Following the tour, a workshop about the many uses of lavender was offered. As an added benefit, participants were given the opportunity to take a lavender cutting to make a "start" plant to take home.

Lavender Fields was purchased by three friends - Mary Ann Etu, Sharon Harris, and Marie Mayor - about 7 years ago. They grow several varieties of lavender, for which they have found many uses. Farm tours are offered, as are demonstrations, luncheons and teas. In addition, Lavender Fields Farm is highly visible at several Farmers Markets in Sussex County.

Their website is: <http://www.lavenderfieldsde.com/>.



Sharon Harris (above left) of Lavender Fields describes lavender varieties to participants.



Hold the Date!

2010 Regional Women in Ag Conference

February 16 - 17 - Dover Downs Hotel and Conference Center in Dover, Delaware.

<http://ag.udel.edu/extension/kent/womeninag.htm>

We want to be sure that you are getting the most out of your conference experience, so please, if you have a *suggestion for a new workshop*, send an e-mail message to Laurie Wolinski at Lgw@udel.edu.

Women in Ag Tours -

Two Opportunities!

Two tour and workshop events are scheduled for this fall. See pages 3 and 4 for more information. If you would like to host an on-farm tour or have a suggestion for such an event, please feel free to contact me at Lgw@udel.edu or by phone at 302-831-2538.

September...

September evokes thoughts about, among other things, apples....I did a search on September and Apples; one of the sites that was found by my search engine is below. If you are a history or trivia buff, I encourage you to check it out.

<http://www.hort.purdue.edu/newcrop/maia/history.html>

"An apple a day keeps the doctor away...J.T. Stinson at an address to the St. Louis Exposition (also known as the World's Fair) in 1904.

In 1929, Edward Bunyard, author of "The Anatomy of Dessert", comments on apples and the 6th sense - "the *crunch* is the thing, a certain joy in crashing through living tissue, a memory of Neanderthal days". He devotes entire chapters to several different fruits.

Annie's Project

Annie's Project focuses on the many aspects of farm management, and is designed to empower women in overall farm decision making and to build local networks throughout the state. The target audience is farmwomen with a passion for business, agriculture and involvement in the farm operation. Topics for the sessions cover the five areas of Risk Management – Production, Marketing, Financial, Legal, Human Resources. This course is open to anyone interested in farm management practices.

The course runs for 8 consecutive Wednesday evening sessions, starting on January 27, 2010. If you require special assistance to attend the classes, please call 410-822-1244. The registration is \$50 per person; it covers meals and all materials.

For more information, please contact Jenny Rhodes at the University of Maryland - Queen Anne's County Extension Office (410-758-0166), or Shannon Dill at the Talbot County Extension Office (410-822-1244), or Maria Pippidis or Anna Stoops at the University of Delaware - New Castle County Cooperative Extension Office (302-831-1239).

Annie's Project will be offered at the following locations in Maryland and Delaware:

Anne Arundel Economic Development, Annapolis, MD
Carroll Community College, Westminster, MD
Cecil County Extension Office, Elkton, MD
Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD
Garret County Community College, McHenry, MD
New Castle County Extension Office, Newark, DE
SMECO Auditorium, Hughesville, MD
University of Delaware, Georgetown, DE
Washington County Extension Office, Boonesboro, MD

Additional information about Annie's Project can be found at this website:

<http://www.anniesproject.umd.edu/>



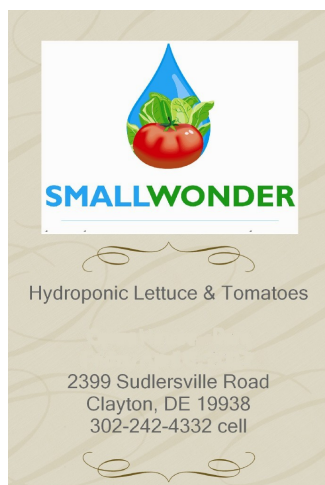
Extension Associate
University of Delaware Cooperative Extension

Women in Ag Network

Small Wonder — Hydroponic Production Greenhouse Tour & Seminar

Clayton, Delaware Tuesday September 15, 2009 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Learn about the Dunning family's transition to hydroponic production. The hour-long session will include a brief video about their farm transition decision, a discussion of the benefits of hydroponic production, and a tour of the greenhouse, which produces cucumbers, tomatoes, and lettuce. Participants will have the opportunity to cut and package freshly grown lettuce to take home.



This event will be limited to 20 participants.

Registration Deadline - September 10th

**For more information contact: Laurie Wolinski -
Lgw@udel.edu or 302-831-2538**

Directions to *Small Wonder* - 2399 Sudlersville Road, Clayton, DE:

From the North: Rt. 1 South to ext 119 A. Take Rt. 13 South to Smyrna. Turn right onto Rt. 300. Follow Rt. 300 (which becomes Wheatley's Pond Road) through Smyrna, Clayton and Kenton. Once through Kenton, Rt. 300 becomes Sudlersville Rd. Drive for 2 more miles, and turn right at 2399 Sudlersville Rd.

From the South: Rt. 1 North to exit 104. Turn right onto Rt. 13 North. Take Rt. 13 North for about 2 miles to Rt. 42. Turn left on Rt. 42. Drive for about 5 miles to Kenton. Turn left onto Rt. 300 (Sudlersville Rd). Drive for 2 more miles, and turn right at 2399 Sudlersville Rd.

Women in Ag Network

Misty Morning Herbs and More Tour & Workshop

Felton, DE

Thursday, October 22, 2009

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Enjoy a tour, demonstration, and workshop at *Misty Morning Herbs and More*. Kathy Brooks, owner and operator, has designed and developed a unique greenhouse heating system – using compost as the energy supply. While visiting her farm, participants will have an opportunity to tour her farm, see a simulated demonstration of her energy efficient greenhouse heating system, her fall and winter crops under row covers, and “start” a rosemary plant from a cutting to take home.

Misty Morning Herbs and More markets 40 varieties of herb plants, a small number of vegetable plants, fresh cut & dried herbs, cut flowers including blooming herbs, herbal vinegars, herbal neck pillows & other pillows, bath salts & other herbal products.

The tour and workshop fee is \$3.00.

Attendance will be limited due to parking limitations; carpooling is suggested.

Registration Deadline - October 19th

For more information contact: Laurie Wolinski - Lgw@udel.edu or 302-831-2538

Directions to the *Misty Morning Herbs and More* Tour - in Felton, DE

Take Rt. 13 to Felton, turn east on Rt. 12 to Rt. 15 (Canterbury Rd); drive north on Rt. 15 to Misty Morning Herbs and More at: 7371 Canterbury Road, Felton, DE (2nd house on left, yellow with blue shutters).

WIA Network - Small Wonder Registration

Return Form to:

Women in Ag Network

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
213 TOWNSEND HALL
NEWARK, DE 19716-2130

Or by:

Fax: 302-338-8096

E-mail: Lgw@udel.edu

For more information,
contact Laurie Wolinski at
302-831-2538

Name

Complete Address

Phone - Home or Cell

E-mail

**Registration Deadline for Small
Wonder - September 10th**

I prefer to attend: 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

WIA Network - Misty Morning Herbs and More

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NEWARK, DE 19716-2130

Or by:

Fax: 302-338-8096

E-mail: Lgw@udel.edu

For more information,
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302-831-2538

Name

Complete Address

Phone - Home or Cell

E-mail

**Registration Deadline for
Misty Morning Herbs and
More — October 19th**

I have enclosed: Cash \$3.00 Check \$3.00

Please make checks payable to Misty Morning Herbs and More.

I have faxed or e-mailed my registration and will send fee separately.

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD &
RESOURCE ECONOMICS
213 TOWNSEND HALL
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
NEWARK, DE 19716-2130



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