

June 7, 2010

From: Roy Ballard, Purdue Extension Educator, ANR, Hancock County

To: Purdue Extension Educators and other Indiana Agricultural Professionals

Re: 2010 Sustainable Agriculture Professional Development Tours

It's my pleasure to announce 2 upcoming training opportunities that you might be interested in. Both take place in September 2010.

Within the numbers allotted below **Indiana Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Professional Development Program (PDP)** funding will cover educator registration and mileage.

Regardless of which tour you are interested in attending...please be sure to read the NOTES section at the bottom of this e-mail.

Tour #1

August 31-September 2- Food, Fuel, and Fiber Tour

This is a multistate Tour involving participants from all of the North Central Region.

Greg Bossaer (White County, ANR) and his committee have done a great job of pulling together this tour for educators which will take place in the Tippecanoe/White County area.

This tour will allow for up to 25 Indiana educators to have the opportunity to see firsthand and learn from a number of experts about an amazing array of facilities and topics to include but not limited to:

- Switchgrass and Miscanthus Fertility Research
- Cover Crops for Weed Control
- Organic Vegetable Production
- Organic Apple Production
- High Tunnel Vegetable Production
- On Farm REAP Grant – Grain Dryer Installation (Tip Top Farms)
- Horizon Wind Energy Farm – (Construction vs. Finished Phases)
- Gary Freymiller, WISER & Peter Park, Horizon Wind Energy
- Western Indiana Sustainable Energy Resource (WISER)
- Controlled Sub-Surface Drainage
- Algae Wheel (Sewage Processing)
- Biotown Ag (4,500 head feedlot, composting operation, and anaerobic digester)

- Technologies for Generating Power from Biomass
- Climate Change in the Midwest
- Fine Tuning Nitrogen Management for Corn Production
- Tour Purdue Aquaculture Facilities

To access the full agenda and registration materials go to White County CES website and click on the Food, Fuel, and Fiber Tour, located under hot topics, and at the end of the agenda you can click on the registration link. (<http://www.ag.purdue.edu/counties/white/pages/default.aspx>).

I appreciate the incredible amount of work that Greg and his team have put into developing the Food, Fuel, and Fiber Tour to provide you with a great learning opportunity.

Tour #2

Ohio Small Farm and Sustainable Ag Summer Tour- September 8-9

This tour will allow 25 Educators the opportunity to see current research studies and on-farm practical applications of a variety of small farm/Sustainable Agriculture production and marketing practices that are underway in Southern Ohio.

Business incubator, Israeli drip irrigation project, soil and water quality work, direct marketing, farmer's market network, cover crops, bioenergy, rotational grazing, strawberries on plastic, vineyard, pumpkins, heirloom tomatoes, high tunnels, livestock entrepreneurship and much more

Tour will include:

- Piketon and Jackson Research Centers

Farms, Forests, and Streams

Aquaculture, Watershed Management, Management & Marketing, Forestry and Wood Products, Horticulture, Soil and Water Quality, Livestock Entrepreneurship & Value added Markets

Individuals, Families, and Communities

Family and Consumer Sciences, Community Development, Ohio Family & Children First, 4-H Youth Development

Business and Economic Development

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Manufacturing SBDC, The Ohio Cooperative Development Center, The OSU Learning Center South, Direct Marketing, Endeavor Center

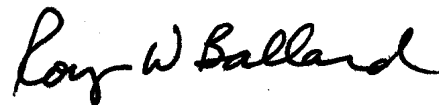
- Bainbridge Produce Auction
http://www.brightdsl.net/~fwo/other_auctions/bainbridge/img23.html
- A variety of farm visits to see sustainable practices in action and learn from successful small farm operators
- Hopefully (time permitting) a stop at Jungle Jim's International Market
<http://www.junglejims.com/in> -Fairfield, Ohio

We are currently working with our friend in OSU Extension to refine and finalize this agenda...We expect the full program to be available in the next couple of days...

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NC SARE) Indiana Professional Development Program (PDP) funds will cover most educator expenses to attend (including registration and mileage)
- SARE funded attendance at each of these tours is limited.
- Participating educators need to fill out and return the Travel Scholarship form (attached) to me ASAP. **You will be eligible for SARE \$\$\$ only if the travel scholarship form is completed and turned in.**
- **VERY IMPORTANT:** Participating educators will be asked to consider ways that they will share this information when they return to their county and what kind of **IMPACT** that they saw as a result...
These are learning experiences with the primary goal being that you will return to your county to share at least some of what you have learned with your clientele in hopes that they will integrate it in a manner that will improve their lives and/or community...
How will you plan to do that?
Newsletter, factsheet, display, local meetings, news release, one on one consultation, regional /multicounty program??Other? How will you measure the impact? Please think about this...
- Double occupancy and ride sharing are **HIGHLY** encouraged to the extent possible.
- If you sign up ...plan to attend.
- Form 17s and 25s (to recoup mileage) are in order for the Ohio Tour and only a form 25 will be necessary for the Indiana tour.

We hope that you will consider participating in these tours and they will be of value to you and the clientele you serve.



Roy W. Ballard
Purdue CES Educator
Hancock County Office



PURDUE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
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