



## North Country Ag Updates From Coös County

February 2017

The Coös County Ag Update is a periodic email to let you know about upcoming events, interesting stories, disease and pest alerts, etc. that are relevant to agricultural producers in the area.

Do you have comments, suggestions for future content? Send us an email, your Coös County Ag Updates team [steven.turaj@unh.edu](mailto:steven.turaj@unh.edu) or [carolyn.mcquiston@unh.edu](mailto:carolyn.mcquiston@unh.edu)



## We Could Use Your Help



### 2016 Ag Needs Assessment

Our State Extension Dairy, Forage Crops and Livestock Team is currently doing a periodic assessment of educational needs, in order to prioritize resources. We are currently approximately 4.25 people, with hopes to re-hire a person with a livestock focus to replace Daimon, now employed by USDA.

Please give this some thought and get it back to us early in the new year.

Return to: UNH Cooperative Extension, 629A Main St, Lancaster, NH 03584

Please complete and return this form

## Workshops & Events

### Discovering Your Best Markets For Sales

Wednesdays, February 1 & 8

Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications,  
Manchester, NH



As markets and customers change, it's important to understand who buys your products and why. Do the same facts hold if you expand and grow your business? Find out the answer to this question and more at this two-day course.

[Learn More & Register Today!](#)



## RMA Organic Growers Winter Workshop

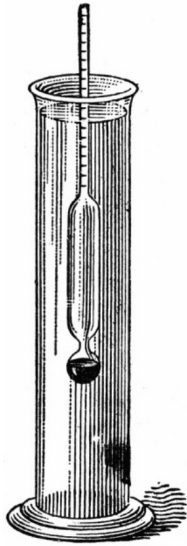
**Monday, February 13**

9:00am-3:00pm

Plymouth

Contact: for more information and pre-register contact Heather Bryant, Grafton County UNH Extension office, 787-6944 or [heather.bryant@unh.edu](mailto:heather.bryant@unh.edu)

[Event Flyer, Learn More](#)



## Hydrometer Testing

**Thursday, February 16**

9:00am - 12:00pm

North Country Resource Center, Lancaster

NH Department of Agriculture - The Division of Regulatory Services will be holding 6 hydrometer clinics for New Hampshire maple producers. Agricultural Inspector, Janis Conner or Alice Tuson, will be present to check the accuracy of hydrometers. In addition, information pertaining to the NH Maple Rules, the Department's Seal of Quality Program, Voluntary Registration, and Organic Certification program will be available. In the event of inclement weather, please call the office at 271-3685, to confirm the clinic has not been cancelled.

[More Information](#)



## NH Farm & Forest Expo

**Friday & Saturday**

**February 17 & 18**

Be sure to watch the website for workshop updates.

[NH Farm & Forest Website](#)



## Forage Crop IPM Risk Management Workshops

2 Locations -

Tuesday, February 21, Lancaster

Wednesday, February 22, Concord

NHDA has awarded 1.5 Pesticide Applicator Credits for these workshops.

Please register before February 13.

More Information  
&  
How to Register



## Dairy Webinar

Save The Date!

Thursday, March 2

10:00am-1:00pm

Please plan to join our two speakers:  
Mike Hutjens, nationally known dairy nutritionist,  
IL College of Agriculture.  
Bob Parson, UVM, Dairy Business Management.

Each of the County Extension offices will provide access to this webinar or you will be able to access this webinar from your own home computer using Zoom software.

This webinar is free, however, we will ask that you pre-register.

(more information, including where to register and directions on how to access this event from home will be available soon)

Questions, please contact Michal Lunak -  
email: [michal.lunak@unh.edu](mailto:michal.lunak@unh.edu) or call the Grafton Extension office 787-6944



## Dairy Practices Committee Sponsors Two Dairy Events in March 2017.

North Country Dairy Seminar & Trade Show,  
Wednesday, March 15, Whitefield

Dairy Management Conference & Trade Show,  
Thursday, March 16, West Lebanon

More Information  
&  
How to Register



## Scale Calibration Clinic

Save the Date!

**Wednesday, May 3**

10:00am-3:30pm

North Country Resource Center, Lancaster

[More Information](#)

## In The News



### NHDA Mini-Grants

**Due February 15**

We are pleased to announce the 2017 Agricultural Mini-Grant Program! This is a matching grant program to provide funds for promotional efforts designed to increase the demand for New Hampshire agricultural products in existing markets, as well as to identify new markets and build product demand. Applications will be accepted from organizations or commodity groups engaged in production, marketing or promotion of New Hampshire agricultural products. Individual businesses are not eligible.

Please share this information with other interested groups. Thanks!

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[NH Dept. of Agriculture, Markets & Food](#)  
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Fax (603) 271-1109  
Email: [gail.mcwilliam.jellie@agr.nh.gov](mailto:gail.mcwilliam.jellie@agr.nh.gov)

[More Information](#)

[Application](#)



### Conservation District Nursery Plants

This is the second in our series of plants that will be established at the Coös County Conservation District Nursery.

Agastache foeniculum - meaning: a much branching, ear-of-grain like flower, with an aromatic (fennel scented) aroma.

This popular perennial plant in the Mint Family has a number of distinctive Common names: Anise hyssop, Blue Giant Hyssop, even Wonder Honey Plant. The latter name

especially earns it a place in our nursery, as it recognizes its potential as a nectar source for bees, hummingbirds and butterflies. In more sedate Victorian times, when bee-keeping on a national scale was less mobile, efforts to find the best bee-keeping plant was a goal. There was a high regard for this plant:

"It (Agastache foeniculum), Wonder Honey Plant, produces honey in the greatest abundance, which possess in a slight degree the same fragrance as the plant, which renders it exceedingly pleasant to the taste... I firmly believe that an acre of this plant well established would be ample pasturage for 100 colonies of bees" Beekeeper's Journal 1872"

Of high sugar concentration, Agastache is said to produce light in color, full-bodied honey with a delicate minty flavor. Important to apiculturist is the - timing - of bloom. That so their hives have a reliable source of nectar after the abundance of pollen and nectar following dandelions and clovers. Flowering from June into early Autumn, this plant helps them get past the dry summer nectar drought. That is probably one of the reasons it also rates so high as a native bee/pollinator plant. Being somewhat deer-resistant is an added benefit.

Although they grow fairly readily from seed, we will be using mostly one-year old plants, many started for us by a local green-house grower. Their vigorous stolons (typical of the mints) should quickly spread into tall clumps which can be divided for transplanting in Spring and Fall. We will be establishing them in moist, fairly sunny woodland edges for best effect. The picture shows one particularly attractive purple-blue flowered clump in front of red Bee-Balm, another good pollinator plant.

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## NH Farm Bureau



### Farmer-Veterans Actions

As regular readers have taken note, various individuals and groups have been discussing ways to help Vets interested in transitioning to a career/employment in agriculture. New Hampshire Farm Bureau has now established an organizational body to help get this accomplished. Please pass this on to any you know who wish to be involved.

In related developments a small group of us will be meeting in early February to put develop workshops in Spring/Summer. Any ideas of subject matter you think should be included is welcome as well as contact info regarding possible participants.

Steve Turaj

### Calling All Veterans!

NH Farm Bureau's new **Veterans in Agriculture Committee** is looking for feedback from our members.

Are YOU a veteran? Would you like to learn more about opportunities for veterans in agriculture? Would you like to be a part of this new committee? Do you know a veteran in agriculture or who is interested in agriculture?

Contact the NHFB Office at (603) 224-1934 or e-mail Josh [editor@nhfarmbureau.org](mailto:editor@nhfarmbureau.org) with your name, county, contact info, and how you would like to be involved.

NH Farm Bureau



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## Questions, The Education Center Can Help



For answers to Homeowner questions, please check our Education Center website

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## Coös Ag Newsletter Archives



**If you missed a newsletter, they can be reviewed in our archive section.**

You can also subscribe here to other UNHCE news letters that may be of interest to you.

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Newsletter Archives

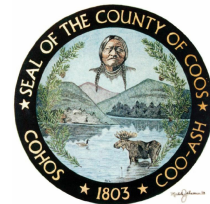
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Coös County Agriculture Webpage

UNHCE Agriculture Webpage

The UNH Cooperative Extension office in Coös County is located in the  
[North Country Resource Center](#)  
[629A Main Street](#)  
[Lancaster, NH 03584](#)

For more information on Coös County UNH Cooperative Extension  
[visit our website](#), [email us](#), or call 603-788-4961



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