

GREEN AND GROWING

D. Bruce Bosley
Extension Agent/Cropping Systems
Colorado State University Cooperative Extension
508 S 10th Ave., Ste 1, Sterling Co 80751
(970) 522-3200 Ext. 285
bruce.bosley@colostate.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – January 26th, 2009

There are several upcoming local events that I'd like to highlight in today's news column. I give a very brief paragraph on each of these so that readers can take advantage from learning at those that may suit their needs. Contact me for more information on any of these programs.

From spending a week working cattle on a ranch to getting lost in a corn maze, agritourism activities are popping up across the state. To help farmers and ranchers learn more about agritourism, a workshop is scheduled for January 30, 2009, in Byers, Colo. The full-day workshop is at May Farms in Byers, Colo. The registration fee is \$30 per person or \$45 per couple, and includes lunch and a resource notebook. The workshop features sessions on liability and risk management, marketing planning, community and regulatory issues, and a panel discussion with agritourism business owners.

Each year, producers, agricultural business professionals and educators from States in the High Plains region come together to learn new techniques and the latest technology about products, equipment and research for no-till, minimum till, conservation practices, and discuss current farming issues. The Colorado Conservation Tillage Association's Annual meeting and program takes place of February 3rd and 4th at the Greeley Event Center. Preregister at a reduced rate by January 29th or pay at the door.

Approximately 80% of all Americans experience back pain at some point in their life. Farmers and ranchers are more at risk of experiencing back pain because of the nature of work on farms and ranches that typically includes heavy lifting and repetitive movements such as turning to look behind the tractor that can increase strain on the back. A "better way" to continue farming with back and other problems is introduced through ideas and modifications presented in the Colorado AgrAbility Project. AgrAbility workshops are being held on February 11th at Yuma, and the 12th at Sterling.

The 2009 Irrigation Water and Nutrient Management Clinic will focus on irrigation and nutrient management efficiencies issues. It will be held at the Island Grove Regional Park in Greeley on February 16th and 17th.

–MORE–

Release – Page 2

This year's Agriculture Big and Small Conference will also be held at the Greeley Event Center at Island Grove Park on February 19th through the 21st. An organic Farm Tour scheduled in conjunction with this conference takes place on the 18th starting from Longmont.

Colorado's Governor's Forum on Agriculture's theme this year is "Learning from our Past, Cultivating our Future. It will happen at the Renaissance Hotel, Denver on February 19th. Discussion topics include: Ag labor, Animal Care & Welfare, Credit and Finance, and Advances in Fertilizer Technology.

Please contact me, Bruce Bosley about this or other cropping systems or natural resource topics at 522-3200, extension 285 in Sterling or 542-3540 in Fort Morgan.

#####

Colorado State University Extension provides unbiased, research-based information about family and consumer issues, gardening, natural resources, agriculture and 4-H youth development. As part of a nation-wide system, Extension brings the research and resources of the University to the community. For more information visit < www.ext.colostate.edu >