

Jackson-Monroe-Vernon County Leadership Program

Group IV - Agriculture

October 20, 2009 – Club 95, Hixton, WI

Objectives:

1. To demonstrate diversity in agri-business and land use in Jackson County
2. To show different examples of leadership in agriculture/land use
3. To better understand how the current economic situation is impacting the future of agriculture in Jackson County, altering short and long term plans
4. To learn about specific land use and management decisions to include: soil and water conservation, competing land interests, community perceptions of agribusiness, changes in land use management, changes in environmental regulations
5. To examine the meaning of family farm and determine if a “typical farm” exists

Resources and Preparation for Agriculture/Land Use seminar:

Read “Economic Impact of Agriculture in Wisconsin” www.uwex.edu/ces/ag/wisag/

Website for visits/speakers:

Northern Christmas Trees: <http://www.northernchristmastrees.com/>

Cain’s Orchards: <http://www.cainsorchard.com/>

Badger Mining Corporation: <http://www.badgerminingcorp.com/modules/web/index.php/id/1>

Badger Mining Plant Information: <http://www.badgerminingcorp.com/modules/web/index.php/id/4>

Heller’s Dairy Farm: <http://www.cowzrus.net/web/>

Foremost Farms USA: <http://www.foremostfarms.com/>

Foremost Farms, Alma Center: <http://www.foremostfarms.com/pdf/Alma-Center.pdf>

Trinity Farms Host Hay Expo: <http://magissues.farmprogress.com/wsa/wa06jun09/wsa005.pdf>

WI State Cranberry Growers Association: <http://www.wiscran.org/>

WI Christmas Tree Producers Association: <http://www.christmastrees-wi.org/>

Paul Olson Re-elected NFO President:

http://www.agrview.com/articles/2008/02/07/capitol_news/news06.txt

National Farm Organization: <http://www.nfo.org/>

USDA Economic Research Service, Wisconsin Facts: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/StateFacts/WI.htm>

Exploring Alternative Farm Definitions, USDA:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB49/EIB49d.pdf>

October 20, 2009 Session Chairs:

Karen Kling, Trisha Wagner, Tracy Madvig

8:00AM Meet at Club 95, Hixton

8:15AM Trisha Wagner, UW Extension Agriculture Agent
Primer on Ag in Jackson Co./Activity

9:00AM Kay Finch, Perry Creek Cranberry Corporation
Paul Olson, Organic Dairy and Beef Farmer, National Farmers Organization President
John or Ginger Ahl, Northern Christmas Trees Wholesale & National Distribution
WI & Nat’l Christmas Tree Association Boards

10:15AM Leave for Badger Mining

10:30AM Visit to Badger Mining-Taylor

11:45AM Leave for Lunch at Club 95

12:00NOON Lunch

12:45PM Panel speakers:
Trinity Farms, 3 partners, 7 different enterprises
Blake and Janelle Heller, The Blue Moo

1:45PM Leave for Heller's Dairy 'Cowz R Us'

2:30PM Leave for Foremost Farms Cheese Factory/Cain's Orchard (split group)

2:40PM Arrive at Foremost Farms/Cain's Orchard-follow a product

3:15PM Leave for Wrap-up at Club 95
Discussion
Evaluation
Reflection
Introduce next session

4:30PM Session dismissed.

Appropriate Dress: "Jean's Day." Please wear shoes appropriate for a visit to a farm. You may want to bring along a second pair for wearing inside Club 95. Also, dress for the weather.