



Photo by Tori Lee Jackson



## New Farmer Workshop Series

This workshop series is designed for new Maine farmers who have been in business fewer than 10 years, or haven't started yet. Participants enrolling for all seven workshops will receive a notebook.

### Topics included

### Dates Scheduled (storm date the next day, same time)

#### **Farm Business Basics**

**January 31, 2012 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Business plans, record keeping, farm and crop insurance, value-added products, farm financing and agency & organizational Services and programs

#### **Crop Management**

**February 7, 2012 5:45 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.**

Market potential, management considerations, sustainable farming, soil management, pollination, applicable programs for variety of silage, forage, pasture, vegetable and small fruit crops

#### **Nutrient Management**

**February 14, 2012 6:45 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.**

Nutrient management law and regulations, micronutrients and commercial fertilizer application, manure storage, land application of management practices, applicable agency programs

#### **Pest Management**

**February 21, 2012 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Pest management; vegetable and fruit integrated pest management; organic considerations; pesticide applicator licensing and chemigation; pesticide risks, toxicity and exposure for organic and conventional growers, pesticide storage, safety and emergency planning; organic certification and applicable agency programs *Pesticide Applicator License Exam offered at 2:045p.m.*

#### **Water Management**

**February 28, 2012 5:45 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.**

Irrigation equipment and pumping systems, water sources and budgets, irrigation and crop management, overview of Farm-A-Syst water quality assessment system, timber harvests and stream crossings, livestock fencing and access roads, applicable agency programs

#### **Energy Management**

**March 6, 2012 5:45 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.**

On-farm energy reduction, farm energy audits, landscape and farmstead audits, rebate programs, alternative energy assessments green certification program and applicable agency and organization programs

#### **Farm Safety**

**March 13, 2012 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Safety with tractors, silos, PTO's, and chainsaws; manure, methane, gases and confined spaces; agribility defined (*This workshop will be held at the Barker Farm on Route 106 in Leeds & participants will need to bring a bag lunch and come dressed for weather*)

**Cost:** \$50.00 for all 7 workshops (*maximum of two people/farm*), register by January 17 or

- **Individual workshop costs:** Full-day workshops cost \$15.00 per person and evening workshops cost \$10.00 per person. Registration deadline is one week before workshop chosen to attend. Food will be provided at all workshops with the exception of the Farm Safety Workshop.
- **Location:** Full day workshops will be at Ramada Inn, 490 Pleasant Street, in Lewiston and all evening workshops will be at USDA Service Center, 254 Goddard Road, in Lewiston (*Both locations are within half mile from I95 exit 80*)
- **Registration forms** Call Jane Heikkinen at 753-9400 ext 400 to obtain a form.

*Workshops are open to the public. Pre-registration is required. Please call Jane Heikkinen at 207-753-9400 ext 400 if you have questions or have special needs in order to attend.*