

Farm News

Fall 2025

November

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Happy fall and greetings everyone. We are pleased to present the 2025 fall newsletter for your review. The growing season is winding down, crops are mostly harvested and time is near to celebrate the upcoming holidays. Another season, but certainly still plenty to do projects to complete, equipment to fix and hopefully some time to catch up on the latest farm news and information. Don't wait too long--seed catalogs are already showing up in mailboxes for next year and the cycle will begin anew.

2025 Season in review: The area finally received a cold winter with a number of days in the single digits in January of 2025. Spring arrived with very good initial planting conditions. Rains slowed planting progress as we moved into May. Some areas never dried out, making for late planted corn and beans. We ended up with a split planting season- some early planted crops and many late. Striped rust on wheat made an appearance in late May. The wheat crop came off fast this year with excellent yields and good quality, though prices limited profitability. The region experienced a string of high temperatures towards the end of June and into July that stressed crops. Fortunately, the heat came with rain showers in time for pollination. Both beans and corn looked good entering the dog days of summer in late July. However as often is the case, the rains stopped with minimal precipitation throughout August and the first weeks of September. We received rains again in time for the County fair, but unfortunately much damage had already been done. Corn fared better than beans with reported yield at or above average. Beans made a lot of pods but just didn't have the water to fill out. As with wheat, corn and bean prices continue to narrow profit margins. The region had a good hay and pasture growth this year, with many opportunities to make good quality hay. On the vegetable front, the year turned out decent. Tomatoes struggled the most with the heat and intermittent rains causing issues with fruit set and quality resulting and very limited tomato stock in July and August. Peppers, watermelons, sweet corn, and other crops fared better. The cooler fall resulted in good catch up yields on most vegetable crops. The region had a phenomenal pumpkin season with great yields and quality.

As of November 18th, we have received 38.55 inches of precipitation, since Jan 1st, which is 3.95 inches below the historic average of 42.50 inches for the same time period. The daily precipitation and temperature data from the National Weather Service station in Mechanicsville can be viewed on page 2.

Spotted Lanternfly, a new invasive insect first found in 2014 in Pennsylvania, has arrived in St. Mary's County. This summer we confirmed large populations of nymphs and adults on farms in the Charlotte Hall area in Charles County. The adults began migrating out in late summer into fall with numerous sightings of adults throughout St. Mary's County. Those adults will lay eggs that will overwinter and hatch out next spring. I expect the populations to explode over the next two to three years to the point they will become a nuisance. Good news is spotted lanternfly have very little impact on crops and are easy to control. It also appears that the populations in Pennsylvania are beginning to decline as a result of predation by natural enemies and parasites. Read more about spotted lanternfly on pages 12-13.



UME St. Mary's County
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Ben's welcome continued from pg. 1

The Southern Maryland Ag Agent team has a full slate of educational offerings planned this winter. The So. MD Crops Conference will be held December 2nd at the Baden VFD, the LPA Annual Meeting on December 12th in Loveville, the So MD Hay and Pasture Conference will be held on January 20th at the Calvert County Fairgrounds. See page 4 for a full listing of all upcoming meetings.

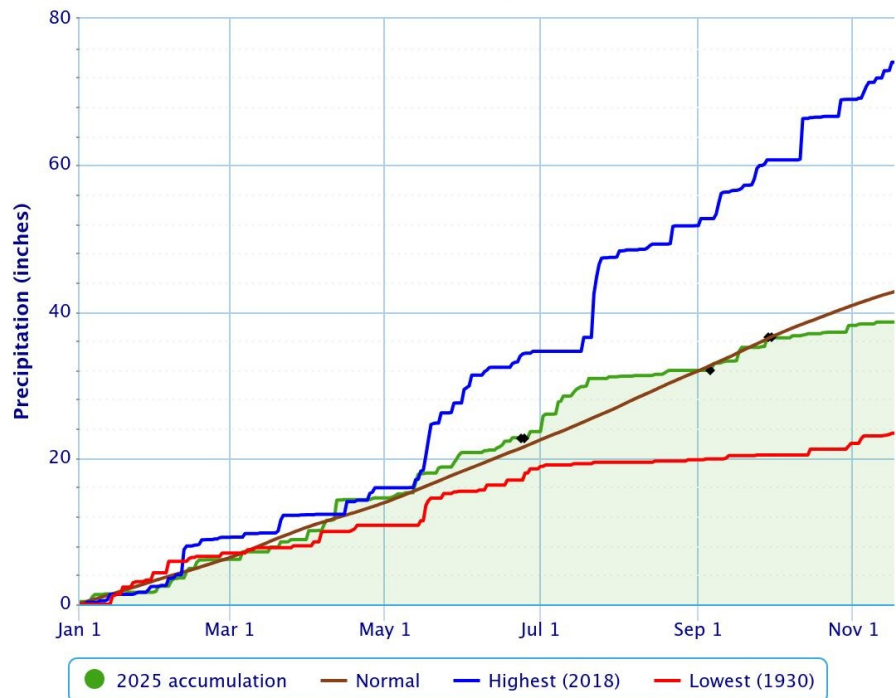
We hope to see everyone at the winter meetings this year.

Hope you have a safe, productive and bountiful fall.

—Ben Beale

Accumulated Precipitation – MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE, MD

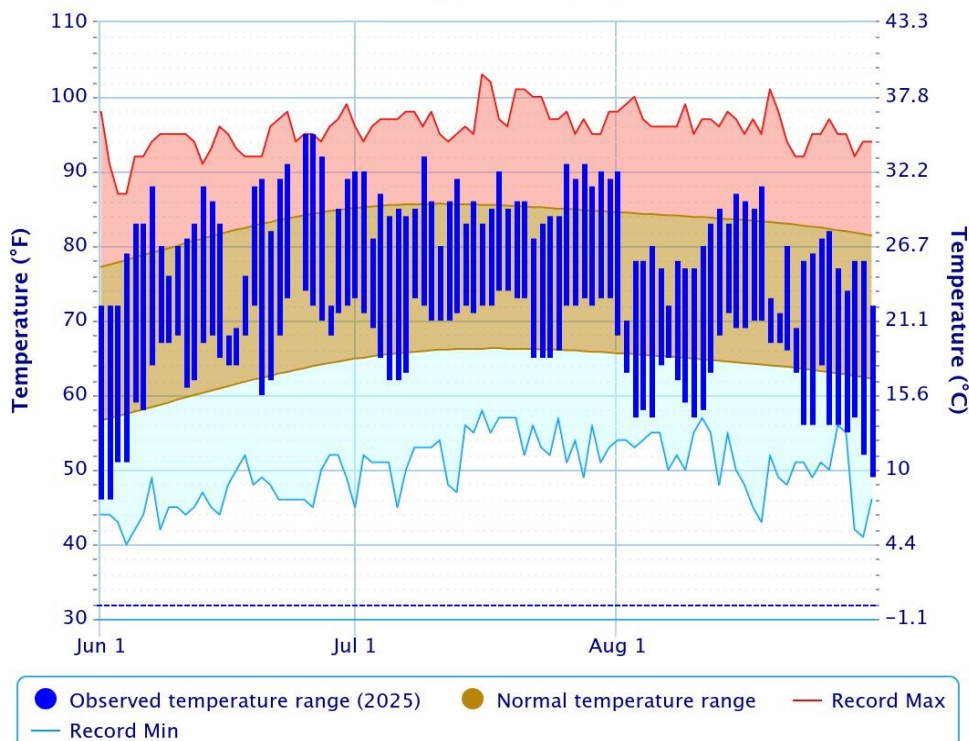
Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



Powered by ACIS

Daily Temperature Data – MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE, MD

Period of Record – 1974-09-01 to 2025-11-17. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACIS

Precipitation Graphs

Above graph: Accumulated Precipitation graph.

Left graph: Daily Temperature Data graph.

Agriculture and Seafood Division Manager

Hi everyone! My name is Sydney Garner, and I'm excited to introduce myself as the new Agriculture and Seafood Manager with the Department of Economic Development.

Before joining St. Mary's County, I served as the Agricultural and Rural Development Manager with Charles County Economic Development. I grew up in Charles County on a grain farm and spent much of my childhood involved in 4-H, which inspired my lifelong passion for agriculture. I went on to earn my Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Ecosystem Sciences from the University of Kentucky, focusing on Crop Production and Agricultural Economics.

Here in St. Mary's County, agriculture is one of our key industries, and I'm thrilled to work alongside our local farmers, producers, and partners to help our community continue to grow and thrive. The County's Agriculture, Seafood, and Forestry Board plays an important role in this mission—supporting programs and initiatives that help preserve and promote agriculture, seafood, and forestry as vital parts of our local economy.

We currently have openings on the Agriculture, Seafood, and Forestry Board, and we'd love to see more community members get involved! If you're passionate about supporting these industries and want to help shape the future of agriculture in St. Mary's County, you can learn more and apply here:

[Apply to Serve on a County Board or Commission.](#)

I'm also excited to share that we recently launched the agriCoast brand—a new marketing initiative designed to help St. Mary's County producers promote and brand their local products. The agriCoast logo celebrates the strength, quality, and authenticity of products grown, raised, and made right here in our community. We're encouraging local farmers, watermen, and value-added producers to use the agriCoast logo to help connect their products with our local retailers, restaurants, and food service industries. By working together under the agriCoast brand, we can help consumers easily identify and choose local, supporting our producers and strengthening our regional food system.

Producers interested in joining the movement can learn more and register here: [agriCoast Certification](#).

In addition, the Department of Land Use and Growth Management is currently working on the [Comprehensive Plan](#) update, which will help shape the future of land use, development, and resource management in St. Mary's County. Community input is a vital part of this process—especially from those in the agriculture and seafood industries whose work depends on thoughtful land-use planning.

We encourage you to share your feedback and help guide the County's vision for the years ahead by completing the feedback form here: [Provide Your Input](#).

I'm really looking forward to connecting with everyone and continuing to support the incredible work happening across our agriculture and seafood communities!



Sydney Garner

Agriculture and Seafood Division Manager
St. Mary's County Department of Economic Development
240-526-0117 - Sydney.Garner@stmaryscountymd.gov

Events & Information

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION



Upcoming Meetings & Workshops in Southern Maryland

St. Mary's County Events

Friday, December 12, 2025

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

FREE, NM, PVT

Loveville Produce Auction Buyers/Sellers Annual Meeting

Dove Point Variety

25120 Dove Point Lane, Leonardtown, MD 20650

Charles County Events:

Wednesday, December 10,

2025 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

FREE (reg. req.), PVT

Charles County Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification

Charles County Extension Office

9501 Crain Highway, Bel Alton, MD 20611

Regional Events:

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

4:00 pm - 8:30 pm

\$15, NM, PVT

Southern MD Crops Conference and Dinner

Baden Volunteer Fire Department

16608 Brandywine Rd, Brandywine, MD 20613

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

\$25, NM, PVT

Southern MD Hay & Pasture Conference

Calvert County Fairgrounds

140 Calvert Fair Drive, Prince Frederick, MD 20678

*NM – Attendance will provide nutrient management voucher recertification.

*PVT - Attendance will provide private pesticide applicator recertification.

To register for more information please call your local Extension office.

Anne Arundel County: 301-226-7470

Charles County: 301-226-7500

Calvert County: 410-535-3662

Prince Georges County: 301-868-9367

St. Mary's County: 301-475-4484

Events & Information

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

Southern Maryland Crops Conference and Dinner

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

4:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Baden Volunteer Fire Department
16608 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, MD 20613

Sponsored by University of Maryland Extension in cooperation
with local Agri-businesses and organizations.

- Strategies for managing herbicide-resistant weeds
- Latest field crop insect and disease updates
- Latest on the adoption of precision agriculture
- Nutrient management and pesticide updates
- And more!

The registration fee of \$20.00 per person includes a catered dinner. For more information, call 301-226-7500 for the Charles County Extension Office. **Register by November 25, 2025, to ensure dinner availability.** Please fill out and return the registration form below along with your check. Attendance at this program will fulfill the requirements for Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification and Nutrient Management Voucher Training.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the Crops Conference, please contact Hayden Schug, University of Maryland Extension, 301-226-7500, by November 24, 2025.

Southern Maryland Crops Conference and Dinner

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

4:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Baden Volunteer Fire Department
16608 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, MD 20613

Registration/Dinner Deadline - November 25, 2025

\$20/person, there are no refunds

Register using this form or online at <https://go.umd.edu/crops25>

If registering more than one person, please list their names on this form.

Name _____ Telephone _____

Additional Names _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Please make check payable to: **Charles County EAC**

Mail to: UME-Charles County
ATTN: Crops Conference
9501 Crain Highway, Box 1
Bel Alton, MD 20611

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.

La Universidad de Maryland es una institución con Igualdad de Oportunidades de Empleo y con Igualdad de Acceso a Programas.

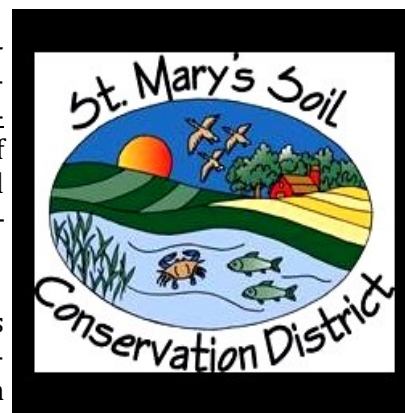
Events & Information

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

ST. MARY'S

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SCD) SUPERVISOR TO BE APPOINTED

The St. Mary's SCD is seeking individuals *with knowledge and sincere interest* in proper land use and conservation of natural resources to be considered for appointment to its Board of Supervisors. Supervisors must be residents of St. Mary's County and are expected to attend monthly meetings of the Board. Interested individuals are strongly encouraged to attend a Board meeting prior to applying. Contact the St. Mary's SCD office for meeting details (301-475-8402, ext. 3).



The appointment is a five-year term to expire on **March 30, 2031** and is made by the Maryland State Soil Conservation Committee (SSCC). More information (including *Facts Supervisors Should Know*) and the application form can be downloaded at the website below:

https://mda.maryland.gov/about_mda/Pages/md-soil-conservation-committee.aspx

Completed forms may be emailed (preferred) to loretta.collins@maryland.gov or mailed to: State Soil Conservation Committee, c/o Loretta Collins, Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Room 306, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Statewide Guidance and Analysis: Maryland's Value-Added Agriculture and Agritourism

**Prepared by Maryland Department of Agriculture Martin Proulx, Value Added Agricultural Specialist, MDA
Aidan Boline, University of Maryland Policy Fellow**



We are pleased to share that the Statewide Guidance & Analysis Document for Value Added Agriculture and Agritourism has been completed and is available today. Please call for a copy of the final document or visit www.mda.maryland.gov.

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martin.proulx@maryland.gov
(443) 924-0329 (M)

Events & Information



The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), a division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, is excited to announce the **13th Round of the Southern Maryland Farmer Mini-Grant Program**. This program will award up to **\$60,000 in matching funds** to help both new and experienced farmers start, diversify, or expand their agricultural projects. **Applications open on Monday, November 3rd and will close on Wednesday, December 31st.**

Applications for the mini-grants offer awards of up to **\$3,000** per farmer and require a one-to-one dollar match. These grants are specifically designed to assist new and beginning farmers with small start-up projects, as well as to help experienced farmers (both urban and rural) diversify or expand their current agricultural businesses. All funded projects must be **simple in scope** and be completed within one year.

Grant funds can be used for a wide range of needs, including:

- Equipment and services to transition a farm's sales strategy (e.g., online sales, home delivery, on-farm sales).
- Purchasing foundation livestock and plant stock.
- Marketing and promotion of current farm operations.
- New fencing for enhancement, expansion, or protection.
- Hoop houses and materials for value-added food production.
- On-farm upgrades to enhance food safety, packing, and production, including freezers and refrigeration.

Full details on the SMADC Southern Maryland Farmer Mini-Grant Program, including Round 13 Criteria, Guidelines, Eligibility, and access to the online application, are available on the SMADC website at www.SMADC.com under the "Farmer Resources" section on the Mini-Grants information page or Phone - 240-528-8850.

FARMER MINI-GRANT
 APPLICATIONS OPEN **November 3rd**
 DUE **December 31st, 2025**

Up to \$3,000 awarded
 ALL SoMD Counties Eligible
MORE INFORMATION @ SMADC.COM

Events & Information

Conservation Buffer Initiative Program

FARMERS: GET PAID TO PLANT BUFFERS ON WORKING FARMS!

Program Incentives Include:

- ✓ Receive up to \$4,500 per acre
- ✓ New riparian forest buffers qualify for a one-time bonus payment of \$1,000 per acre
- ✓ Turn crop and/or pastureland next to streams or floodplains into a valuable asset!



Apply now! Contact your local soil conservation district or visit bit.ly/MDA_Buffer for more info.



Streamlined Recordkeeping and Data Visualization for Maryland Grain Farmers

The University of Maryland Extension, along with state and local partners, is excited to introduce the Maryland Agriculture Reporting Tool (MART). This free, secure online platform is designed to simplify record-keeping, improve decision-making, and help Maryland farm producers meet both state and federal reporting requirements. MART can be accessed at <https://mdagreporting.org/>.

Traditionally, many small- to medium-sized farm producers have depended on paper forms or Excel spreadsheets to track crops, nutrient applications, and harvest data across multiple farms. This method can be tedious and time-consuming—especially when calculating totals or preparing compliance reports. MART offers a streamlined, secure alternative that consolidates all this information in one place.

What MART Offers

- **Spatially Enabled Farm Profiles:** After creating a farm profile, users can visualize and manage farm fields spatially. This allows easy tracking of acreage, crop types, harvest amounts, and nutrient applications.
- **Secure Accounts:** Each account is password-protected and role-based, enabling producers and managers to collaborate securely.
- **Automated Totals and Dashboards:** MART automatically calculates totals at the farm and operation levels, displaying them in user-friendly dashboards and charts to support long-term decision-making.
- **Report-Ready Tables:** Data is formatted to align with Maryland's Annual Implementation Report (AIR), making compliance quicker and simpler.

MART was initially designed for grain crop producers and tailored to their reporting needs. However, the development team is exploring the possibility of expanding to include additional commodities and production systems in the future. By improving how data is recorded and visualized, MART can save time, reduce errors, and help farmers make data-driven decisions about their operations. It also supports agencies and conservation partners with accurate, timely information they can use to assist farmers with short- and long-term planning.

In Support of Our Farmers

Free tools to streamline State and Federal Agricultural Reporting

[Get Started](#)

Developed in partnership

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RMP
Rural Maryland Prosperity
Investment Fund

RMC
Rural Maryland Council

ESRGC

MRC
Mid-Atlantic Regional Council

Tri-County Council
for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland

USRC
Upper Shore Regional Council

Tri County Council
For Western Maryland

Tri-County Council
for Southern Maryland

Maryland's Free Agriculture Reporting Assistant

2025 County Rental Rate Now Available Online

By Elizabeth Thilmany, Affiliated Faculty Specialist, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economic

Cash rent lease agreements continue to be the most common type of agricultural lease agreements in Maryland, offering a fixed annual payment per acre and relieving landowners of operating and marketing decisions. Each year, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) estimates average cash rental rates per acre for irrigated cropland, non-irrigated cropland, and pastureland at the county and state levels based on farm-level survey data.

For 2025, the University of Maryland has updated our Maryland Agricultural Cash Rental Rates Report to provide Maryland-specific insights into these rental rates, supporting producers, landowners, and other stakeholders in making informed leasing and land management decisions. The 2025 report includes rental rate data for non-irrigated cropland, irrigated cropland, and pastureland, organized by county and agricultural regions.

Accessing the Report

The full 2025 report and downloadable data files are available here: <https://go.umd.edu/rentalrate>

Southern Maryland Updates:

- The St. Mary's County average per acre rental rate for 2025 non-irrigated land is reported as \$43.50.
- The Charles County and Calvert County average per acre rental rate for 2025 non-irrigated land is reported as \$50.50 and \$70.00 respectively.

Updates in the 2025 Report:

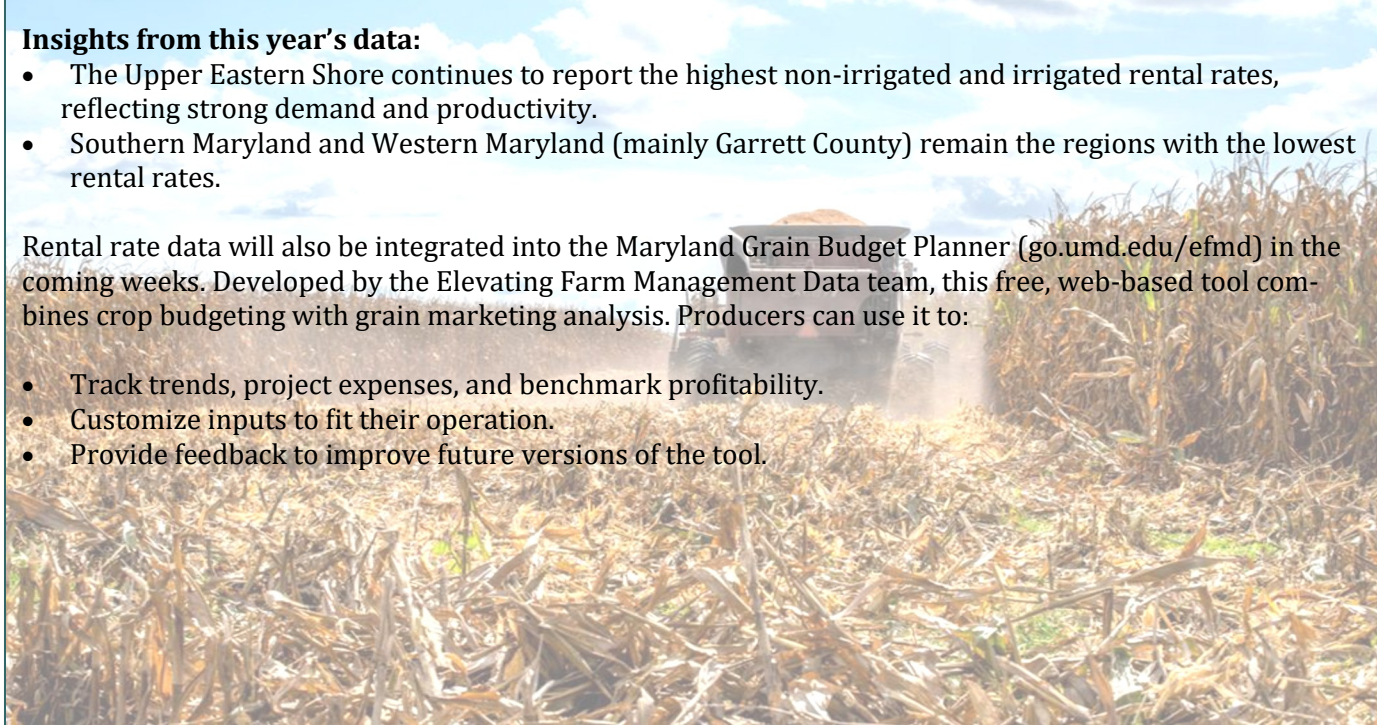
- Updated trend graphs: Visualizations with trendlines show how rental rates have shifted over time, offering a clear picture of recent changes in Maryland's cropland and pastureland values.
- County breakdowns: Detailed rental rate tables highlight variations across counties and agricultural regions.
- Static maps: 2025 maps illustrate county-level rental rates for non-irrigated cropland and pastureland, allowing producers to quickly compare rental conditions statewide.

Insights from this year's data:

- The Upper Eastern Shore continues to report the highest non-irrigated and irrigated rental rates, reflecting strong demand and productivity.
- Southern Maryland and Western Maryland (mainly Garrett County) remain the regions with the lowest rental rates.

Rental rate data will also be integrated into the Maryland Grain Budget Planner (go.umd.edu/efmd) in the coming weeks. Developed by the Elevating Farm Management Data team, this free, web-based tool combines crop budgeting with grain marketing analysis. Producers can use it to:

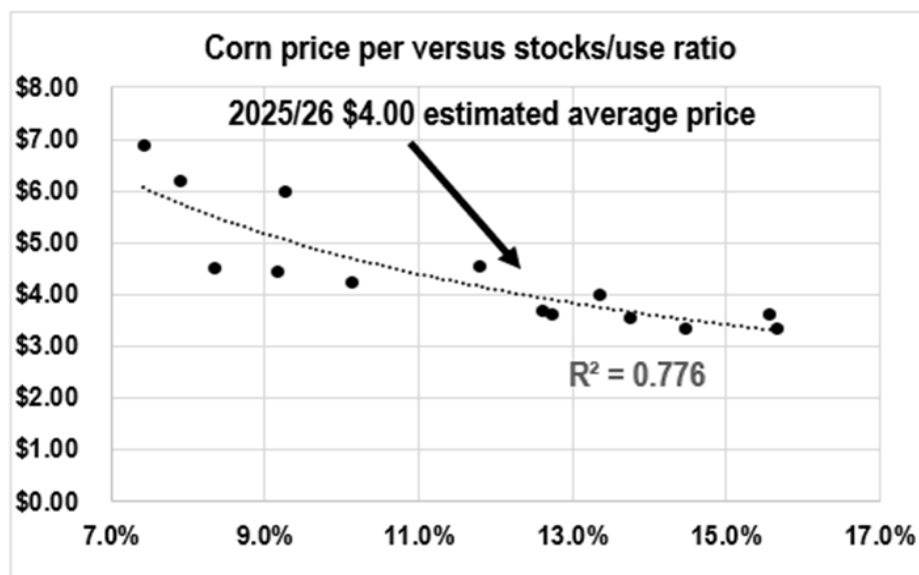
- Track trends, project expenses, and benchmark profitability.
- Customize inputs to fit their operation.
- Provide feedback to improve future versions of the tool.



November WASDE Summary and Analysis

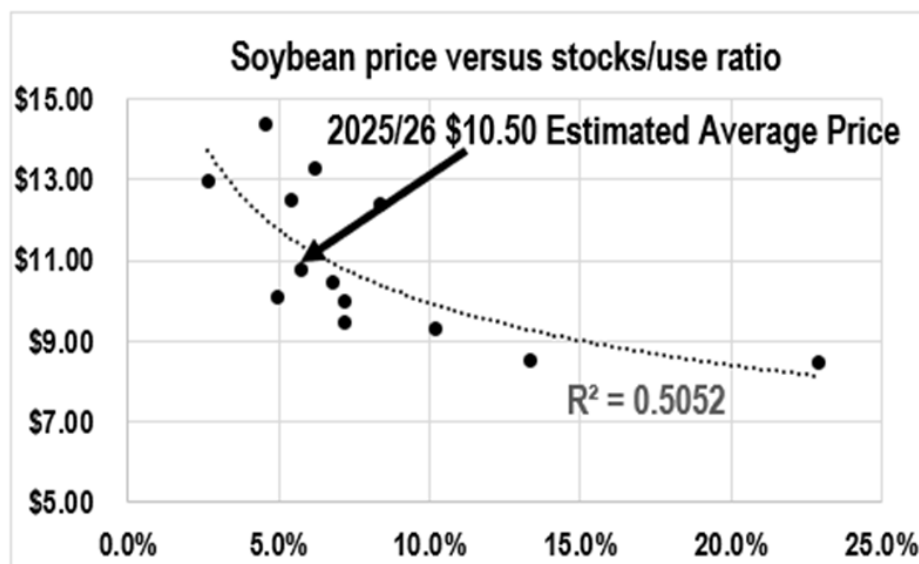
Corn

This month's 2025/26 U.S. corn outlook is for increases in supply, exports, and ending stocks. Total supply is 144 million bushels higher as larger beginning stocks are partially offset by lower production. Beginning stocks are 207 million bushels higher based on the September 30 Grain Stocks report. Corn production is forecast at 16.8 billion bushels, down 62 million from September on a 0.7-bushel reduction in yield to 186.0 bushels per acre. Harvested area for grain is unchanged at 90.0 million acres. Total use is up 100 million bushels reflecting a higher export forecast. Exports are raised 100 million bushels to 3.1 billion reflecting shipments to date. Inspection data imply exports set a monthly record during September and again in October. With supply rising more than use, corn ending stocks are up 44 million bushels to 2.154 billion. The season-average corn price received by producers is raised 10 cents to \$4.00 per bushel.



Soybeans

Soybean production is forecast at 4.3 billion bushels, down 48 million, on lower yields. The soybean yield is projected down 0.5 bushels to 53.0 bushels per acre. Soybean supplies are projected to be 61 million bushels lower than the September forecast, due to lower beginning stocks from the September 30 Grain Stocks report and reduced production. U.S. soybean exports are forecast at 1.64 billion bushels, down 50 million from the previous forecast due to lower supplies and higher exports by Brazil and Argentina. In September, Argentina temporarily reduced export taxes leading to an influx of export registrations during the peak U.S. export season. Further, since the last report, the U.S. entered a trade deal with China, which led to higher U.S. prices and narrowed the price spread between U.S. and other major exporters. While U.S. soybean exports are expected to rise to China for the rest of the marketing year, these higher shipments could be offset by reductions to other markets where the United States no longer holds a large price discount compared to other exporters. U.S. soybean crush is unchanged and ending stocks are forecast down marginally. The U.S. season average soybean price for 2025/26 is raised \$0.50 to \$10.50 per bushel.



Wheat

The outlook for 2025/26 U.S. wheat this month is for larger supplies and higher ending stocks, with no change to use. Supplies are raised on greater production, up 58 million bushels to 1,985 million, on a record all wheat yield based on the September 30 Small Grains Summary. The season-average farm price is lowered \$0.10 per bushel to \$5.00 as larger global supplies reduce price expectations for the remainder of the marketing year.

Spotted Lanternfly

By Madeline Potter, Faculty Specialist for Entomology & IPM



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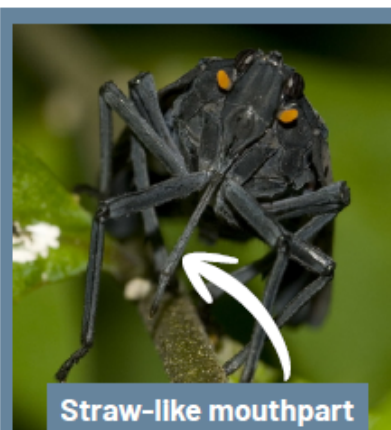
Spotted Lanternfly

In Home and Community Landscapes

By Madeline Potter, Faculty Specialist for Entomology & IPM

Key Information

- **An invasive insect** (planthopper), scientific name: *Lycorma delicatula*, native to eastern Asia that has been spreading in certain areas of Maryland since 2018 (in the U.S. since 2014).
- **Has straw-like mouthparts**, feeding on plant sap (phloem) from a wide range of plants; they can NOT chew plants.
- **Does NOT bite or sting.**
- **Does NOT significantly harm most plants.** Their feeding can stress plants and impact plant health (especially with heavy infestations), but plant death from their feeding has only been seen with some grape vines, young black walnut trees, and the invasive tree-of-heaven.
- **Mainly a nuisance pest** in home and community landscapes. Like other plant sap feeding insects (i.e. cicadas, aphids, soft scale), spotted lanternfly excretes honeydew (a sugary substance) that can stick to any surface below, potentially damaging items, attracting other insects, and resulting in sooty mold growth.
- **Pesticides are NOT recommended** for management of spotted lanternfly in home and community landscapes. These insects are highly mobile and pesticides will only have a small, temporary impact. Pesticides can harm pollinators and other animals, especially longer lasting, systemic products. If you want to use control tactics, more sustainable management options are recommended (see back page).



Straw-like mouthpart

Frontal view of an adult spotted lanternfly, showing its proboscis (straw-like mouthparts).

Photo credit: © donald_mcmunn, some rights reserved (CC BY-NC), iNaturalist.

"But I heard they are really bad insects and should be killed on sight."

When spotted lanternfly first arrived in the U.S., its potential impact was unclear, so widespread control was urged out of caution. Current findings suggest **most healthy plants are not seriously harmed** and squishing has little impact on populations. Efforts now focus on sharing up-to-date information, reducing the spread by checking vehicles and transported goods, and supporting grape and other growers whose crops could be affected without control measures.



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Spotted Lanternfly

In Home and Community Landscapes

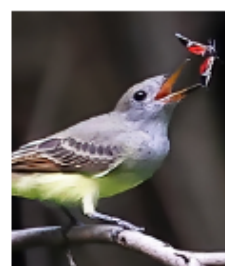
By Madeline Potter, Faculty Specialist for Entomology & IPM

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Sustainable Management Options

- **Leave them for predators** (spiders, birds, bats, praying mantids, and more). Many different natural predators are learning to feed on spotted lanternflies, including bats.
- **Avoid home remedies** (vinegar, dish soap, bleach, etc.). Home remedies like household or cooking ingredients and cleaning products are not designed to be used outdoors for pest control. Ingredients that seem safe to us can harm plants, pollinators, and wildlife, and may pollute waterways. Mixing certain products can also be dangerous to people.
- **Apply exclusionary netting** (<1/8 inch openings) around vulnerable plants like grape vines, young black walnut trees, peach trees, and cucumbers; removing netting during cucumber flowering to allow for needed insect pollination. Periodically check the netting for any trapped wildlife.
- **Physically remove them.** In your own garden, you can choose to remove them by blasting with a strong stream of water, knocking them into a container of soapy water, or squishing them. Always identify the insect before assuming it's a spotted lanternfly. Maryland is home to many different beneficial insects.
- **Remove tree-of-heaven** (*Ailanthus altissima*), a primary host of spotted lanternfly and a widespread invasive plant in Maryland. Distinguish it from native lookalikes and use effective removal methods; it resprouts if only cut. Details at: extension.umd.edu/resource/tree-heaven/.



Bird catching a spotted lanternfly.

Photo credit:
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NC), iNaturalist

Identification (Images not to scale)



EGG MASS



EARLY STAGE



LATE STAGE



ADULT

IMMATURE (NYMPH)

See It, Report It

Maryland Department of Agriculture online reporting form:
<https://tinyurl.com/46nvxyz>



Still Have Questions?

Visit:
go.umd.edu/SLF



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**All the best for a
Productive
Year**



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Nutrient Management Plan Updates

As the 2025 growing season comes to a close it is time to start the process of updating your nutrient management plans for 2026. Please provide the necessary information to the nutrient management advisor by **January 16, 2026** to help ensure that all producers receive their plan before any nutrients have been applied.

For those who miss the recommended date mentioned above:

According to MDA's current policy, if any nutrients are applied prior to the completion of the 2026 nutrient management plan, we must develop a 2-year nutrient management plan covering 2026 & 2027. If a 2-year plan must be written, soil and manure analyses must be valid through the end of 2027. Therefore, new soil and/or manure samples may be needed in order to complete your plan. Soil analyses are valid for 3 years. On-farm generated manure analyses are valid for 2 years and imported organic nutrient analyses are valid for 1 year.

To begin the process for updating your plan:

1. Contact the nutrient management advisor via email, phone call, or office visit to request a plan update.
2. Review your previous plan to see if you will need new soil and/or manure analyses.
3. Review your plan map(s) for any changes.
4. Submit current soil/manure analyses, field by field crop rotation, livestock information, and any changes to farm maps (including any new farms)
5. When your plan is completed, I will contact you to schedule a time to review and pick up your plan.

If you have any questions, please contact the nutrient management advisor at **301-226-7780** or simpson@umd.edu.

On the Lighter Side...

Problem

A farmer lives on a small plot of land next to a river. One day, he travels across the river in a small boat and purchases a fox, a chicken, and a bag of corn from a feed and supply store. When the farmer returns to his boat to cross the river again and go home, he realizes he has a dilemma.

The farmer can only take one item in his small boat at a time, otherwise he risks capsizing. He cannot leave the fox alone with the chicken, because the fox will eat the chicken. He cannot leave the chicken alone with the corn, because the chicken will eat the corn.

How does the farmer successfully get all three items across the river? **SOLUTION:** First, the farmer must take the chicken across the river, leaving the fox and corn alone together on the starting side. Then, the farmer goes back and gets the fox. When he takes the fox across the river, instead of leaving the fox alone with the chicken, he swaps them out and takes the chicken back to the starting side. He then swaps the chicken out for the corn and brings it across, leaving the fox and corn alone on the far side. Finally, he goes back to get the chicken, bringing all three items across the river without letting anything eat anything else.