

Please review the on-site signage and/or info booth for any schedule changes.

Time	Conference	Description
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM Room: Arnold	Maine Christmas Tree Association Winter Meeting Host: Maine Christmas Tree Association	Come learn how to be a Christmas Tree farmer and get pesticide credits. The pesticide credit session is from 10 to 11AM. What is Required in the Pesticide Applicator Logbook? - Alex Peacock, Manager of Compliance, BPC CEU: Pesticide
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Room: Piscataquis/Sagadahoc	Demystifying Organic Certification & USDA's Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP) Host: Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association	Learn the basics of organic certification process and requirements of becoming a certified organic producer. The USDA's Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP) will also be covered. TOPP, which is part of USDA's larger Organic Transition Initiative (OTI), aims to offer unprecedented support for farms and producers to transition to organic certification. Learn about becoming a mentor, a transitioning producer (mentee) and other opportunities through USDAs OTI.
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Room: Washington/York	Comprehensive Farmworker Safety Training Host: Pathstone	Customized training reviewing Worker Protection Standard, Limiting Exposure Around Families, and Tractor Safety
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Room: Hancock	Farmer Training Session Host: Maine Women, Infants, Children, and Farmers Market Nutrition Program	This session will give insight on WIC's purpose, eligible foods, requirements, and process. Apply to become a Maine WIC Farmer.
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Room: Waldo	Poultry Nutrition: Scratching Below the Surface Host: Blue Seal Feeds/Kent Nutrition	Learn how to navigate feed tags to understand ingredients used and energy provided. We will cover the dietary needs of the birds as well as the nutrition behind the label.
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Room: Kennebec/Penobscot	Drones 101 Host: UMaine Cooperative Extension/Maine Board of Pesticides Control Pesticide	Thomas Massey, Active Intelligence. LLC; John Pietroski, BPC CEU: Pesticide
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Room: Piscataquis/Sagadahoc	Maine Dairy Meeting Host: Maine Dairy Industry Assoc. (MDIA)	All Maine dairy farms welcome to join us for an open forum on current topics from policy to market conditions.
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Room: Somerset	Partnering with Daybreak Growers Alliance Host: Daybreak Growers Alliance	Learn about the process of partnering with Daybreak Growers Alliance, how to crop plan ahead for a fruitful and cooperative season.
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Room: Hancock	Maine Cheese Guild Winter Meeting Host: Maine Cheese Guild	Learn about and discuss Maine cheese making and plans for 2024.

Please review the on-site signage and/or info booth for any schedule changes.

Time	Conference	Description
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Room: Lincoln/Oxford	Composting as a Tool for Managing PFAS Contamination in Livestock Mortalities at a Central Maine Farm Host: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry	Mark A. King, Organics Management Specialist, Maine Department of Environmental Protection; & Mark F. Hedrich, Nutrient Management Program Manager, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. Qualifies for 1 Nutrient Management Recertification Credit. CEU: Nutrient Management
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Room: Auditorium Main Stage	Farmers' Panel - Making USDA Work for You! Host: USDA Rural Development	Learn from a panel of Maine farmers who have used USDA programs to improve their agricultural businesses. USDA Rural Development State Director Rhiannon Hampson, Farm Service Agency Farm Loan Chief Lucia Brown, and Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist Peter Abello will facilitate the discussion and help field audience questions.
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM Room: Kennebec/Penobscot	Potential Changes in Pesticide Uses from the Endangered Species Act Implementation Host: UMaine Cooperative Extension/Maine Board of Pesticides Control Pesticide	-Pam Bryer, Toxicologist, BPC CEU: Pesticide
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Room: Piscataquis/Sagadahoc	Maine Organic Milk Producers Meeting Host: Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association	Updates on organic dairy cost of production, updates from Maine Dairy Industry Association, and updates from MOFGA Certification Services on any changes to rules or processes.
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Room: Waldo	Improving Your Flock - Who to cull, how to decide Host: Maine Sheep Breeders Association	We will share values to help you decide how to improve your flock through purchasing and culling.
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Room: Lincoln/Oxford	Making the Most Out of Your Farm-Grown Crop Nitrogen Sources Host: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry	Nick Rowley, Sustainable Agriculture and Horticulture Professional, University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Qualifies for 1 Nutrient Management Recertification Credit. CEU: Nutrient Management
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Room: Kennebec/Penobscot	BPC Update - Rules, Regulations, and Enforcement Host: UMaine Cooperative Extension/Maine Board of Pesticides Control Pesticide	Karla Boyd and Alex Peacock, BPC CEU: Pesticide

Please review the on-site signage and/or info booth for any schedule changes.

Time	Conference	Description
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Room: Piscataquis/Sagadahoc	Hoping for the Best, Planning for the Worst Host: Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association	Learn about how we expect pests and diseases to change with our climate, how those changes will affect management tools, and how you can build more flexibility and resilience into your pest management systems. CEU: Pesticide
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Room: Auditorium Main Stage	How Co-opetition Can Help You (And Your Competitors) Grow Market Share Host: Maine Tasting Center	Hear from SCORE business mentors, and business owners who share first-hand experiences.
12:45 PM - 1:45 AM Room: Kennebec/Penobscot	A Comprehensive Approach to IPM, Soil Fumigation, Timing, Fertility, and ROI Strategies for Sustainable Potato Production in Northern Maine Host: UMaine Cooperative Extension/Maine Board of Pesticides Control Pesticide	Bee Chim, UMaine CEU: Pesticide
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Room: Piscataquis/Sagadahoc	Managing nitrogen with uncertain weather Host: Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association	Nitrogen is the trickiest nutrient to "get right" on organic farms even in an ideal growing year, and it's more difficult when conditions are less than ideal. Learn about organic sources of nitrogen fertility, and considerations for how to best prepare for uncertain growing conditions. Come learn important insight!
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Room: Somerset	Maine Winery Guild Annual Membership Meeting Host: Maine Winery Guild	Annual membership meeting comprising a business session and a presentation
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Room: Waldo	Maine ESE Trustees Host: Maine ESE Trustees	Annual winter meeting
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Room: Ft. Western	Rural Development's Business and Cooperative Program Grants Host: USDA Rural Development	Come learn about Rural Development's grants to help agricultural producers and rural businesses, particularly our Rural Energy for America Program and Value-Added Producer Grants.
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Room: Hancock	AIIP Grantee Meetup Host: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry	Grantees are welcome to use this time to meet with each other to share updates about their improvement projects.
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Room: Piscataquis/Sagadahoc	Resources for a Climate Resilient Farm	Learn about increasing the climate resilience of your farm through resources like Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) cost-share programs and the Climate Smart Commodities program that provides

Please review the on-site signage and/or info booth for any schedule changes.

Time	Conference	Description
	Host: Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association	farmers with soil health grants, soil health benchmarking reports, and climate-smart marketing support.
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Room: Lincoln/Oxford	Selecting Soil Health Practices to Improve Nutrient Management Host: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry	Matt Boucher, PhD, State Soil Scientist, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry Qualifies for 1 Nutrient Management Recertification Credit. CEU: Nutrient Management
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Room: Kennebec/Penobscot	Worker Protection Standard Host: UMaine Cooperative Extension/Maine Board of Pesticides Control Pesticide	Kerry Bernard, UMaine CEU: Pesticide
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Room: Auditorium Main Stage	Local Agriculture in Our Schools Host: Maine Ag in the Classroom	Celebrate the local agriculture in our schools! Outstanding, award-winning teachers share their Ag education program.
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Room: Piscataquis/Sagadahoc	Using Cash Flow Projections for Forecasting Risks of Crop Failure Host: Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association	Cash flow projections are a common financial tool to help farmers assess risks and anticipate how disruptions, costs, weather, crop failure, and other changes impact the farm business. Step-by-step example of a crop failure on a sample farm will show you how to use spreadsheets and data to understand how to use cash flow projection to help build resiliency into your farm planning.
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM Room: Kennebec/Penobscot	Ag Container Recycling Council Maine Program Summary Host: UMaine Cooperative Extension/Maine Board of Pesticides Control Pesticide	Mark Hudson/Leigh O'Neill, ACRC CEU: Pesticide
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM Room: Piscataquis/Sagadahoc	Research update: OMRI listed fungicide trial, and sweet potato variety trial Host: Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association	Presenting two research trial results from the 2023 season. First: five fungicide treatments and two combinations on delicata squash. Treatments included a bacterial bio-fungicide, a knotweed extract bio-fungicide, copper, sulfur and thyme oil. Second: marketable yields of six different sweet potato varieties, grown with organic management in Maine, and was part of a larger trial in New Hampshire.
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Room: Auditorium Main Stage	National Farmworker Jobs Program Host: National Farmworker Jobs Program	Learn about the National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) a nationally-directed, locally administered program of services for migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their dependents.