

Killing Pests at Home Versus on the Farm

By Joe Sigg, Arizona Farm Bureau

New information often force changes in the ways we think about things. New technology forces changes in how we do things.

We have lots of new information and technology in agriculture. Because of this, we're producing more on less acreage with less inputs. For example, cotton is a fruit and like all fruits, it attracts insects. In Arizona we used to spray cotton many times a growing season with insecticides, but now mostly none. Why? Because technology has created seeds which keep insects away.

And About those Pesticides ...

And speaking of pesticides, you and I have complete freedom and randomness to use them at home whenever we want even going beyond the recommended dosages; not so on the farm. Pesticides (insecticides and herbicides of all classes) for agriculture use have a "restricted use" classification which obviously restricts a pesticide product, or its uses to a certified pesticide applicator or under the direct supervision of a certified applicator. Due to product innovations, only 2.3% of the pesticides used today in Arizona agriculture are "restricted use." But, in addition to this limited use of restricted products, agriculture must have a third-party "prescription" for *all* pesticide applications and their application requires licensing, whether they are restricted use or not.

This regulation is not required for you and me, the homeowner. So, you and I can apply the very same products in our homes, gardens

and yards without any form of regulation whatsoever. And, if we are talking non-restricted pesticides there are many more products available for home use containing restricted-use materials for agriculture.

In agriculture, we are not trying to skip out on regulation for our industry; nor are we trying to increase regulatory authority on homeowners, but just pointing out that the world of agricultural pesticides has changed greatly. We handle them with safety for our employees and the environment, and we apply them with pin-point accuracy and only where indicated because they are expensive.

And don't think organic farming is exempt from any of this since you may have heard this method of farming doesn't use pesticides. This is simply not true. The United State Department of Agriculture sanctions a complete list of pesticides and other applications that are approved for us

in organic farming with regulatory oversight.

The agriculture world has changed and we don't stop often enough to explain or talk about those changes, and this is just one small part of it. Not using any pesticides, in the home or on the farm, is another discussion, for another day. These are choices. But if we are going to have differences of views, let's have them over the current and updated circumstances of how commercial agriculture operates today. Let's not use as a starting point how agriculture might have operated decades ago, with different input products. ■



5 Ways to Fit Organic Food into Your Budget

There is no question that buying organic food costs more than buying food that is grown conventionally but that doesn't mean you can't find ways to fill your plate with organic options without breaking the bank. While Arizona Farm Bureau celebrates all methods of farming and no one method is better than another, we know your interest in organic means you want options.

So, below are some helpful tips that can help you make the most of your organic food shopping dollar and get the biggest organic bang for your buck.

1. Shop Farmers' Markets

While you can't often get lower priced organic food options by visiting farmers' markets and farm stands, you might be able to comparison shop since a good farmers' market has more than one farmer serving the market. By cutting out the middle man the farmers and ranchers can sometimes provide the same great product at a lower cost without impacting their ability to be profitable. ■

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Fall Pumpkin and Corn Maze Festivals



Cochise County

Apple Annie's Fall Pumpkin Celebration

Old fashioned family fun picking your own pumpkins, fall vegetables and apples.

U-pick pumpkins and produce for sale. Visit the farm or place an order online. Open Daily 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. beginning October 1.

Farm closes for the season Oct 31st, For more information, call 520.384.2084 or visit AppleAnnies.com.

Admission includes Rides!

Open 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m on Thursdays & Sunday

Open 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m on Friday & Saturdays

Admission is \$17.00 plus tax per person or \$15.00 at any Fry's.

For more information, call 480.987.3100 or visit schnepffarms.com

Tolmachoff Farms Pumpkin Days & Fall Maze

Visit one of the last family farms in the city!

Open every day beginning October 1st - November 9th.

Family Maze, Hay Maze, Petting Zoo and Play Areas

U-pick pumpkins and produce for sale.

Admission is \$9.00 each ages 2 and up

Train Ride \$2.00 each (weekends only)

HAUNTED CORN MAZE: October: Every Friday & Saturday & Halloween Night

7 pm to 11pm (Last ticket sold at 10 pm)

Haunted Maze ONLY: \$10 each (all ages) Opening night Oct 4 and Halloween Night Oct 31!

For more information, call 623.386.1301 or visit tolmachoff-farms.com.



Maricopa County

Mother Nature's Farm

See the world's heaviest pumpkins at the World Pumpkin Weigh Off on October 4th ((winners will be announced at noon)

Enjoy a fall gourd show, U-pick pumpkins, squash, and produce for sale.

Annual Pumpkin Festival Begins October 1 - October 31, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. 7 days a week. Admission and times vary.

For more information, call 480.892.5874 or visit mothenaturesfarm.com.

Rocker 7 Farm Patch

Enjoy a fun, family farm experience as you explore the pumpkin patch, corn maze, sunflower field and many farm-related activity areas for children. Rocker 7 Farm Patch is open to the public the last three weekends of October. Admission is \$9 per person (children in diapers are free)

Friday, October 17, October 24 and October 31, 9am to 6pm

Saturday October 11, October 18 and October 25, 9 am to 6 pm

Sunday October 12, October 19 and October 26, 1 pm to 6 pm

School Tours Tuesday through Thursday in October by reservation only.

Includes educational lesson and mini pumpkin from the pumpkin patch.

Location: 19601 W Broadway Rd, Buckeye, AZ 85326

For more information visit <http://rocker7farmpatch.com>.

Vertuccio Farms

October 1- November 30, 2014

Admission price includes Corn Maze; Extreme Air Pillow; Giant Tube Slide; Mini Hay Maze (for young children); Pumpkin Patch (pumpkins priced as marked); Pedal Race Cars; Barrel Train Ride; Farm Animals; Bounce House; Playground. \$8 per person, ages 2 and younger FREE when accompanied by a paying adult.

A Season Pass is \$20 per person and includes unlimited access to the Fall Festival without black-out dates. Hours are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Location: 4011 S. Power Rd., Mesa

For more information, call 480.650.6611 or visit vertucciofarmsaz@gmail.com.

Pima County

Bucklew Farm Pumpkin Festival & Corn Maze

Enjoy a day at the farm with horse drawn wagon rides out to the

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pumpkin patch to pick your pumpkin off of the vine. We also have a corn maze, haunted cornfield, arts and crafts, petting zoo, pedal carts, food booths and a beer garden. Terror in the Corn (a Haunted Cornfield) Friday and Saturday nights only. Price of admission includes Terror in the Corn and the Corn Maze Open the last three weekends in October, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission is \$4.00 each. Kids in diapers are free. Buckelew Farm is just 30 minutes from downtown Tucson. For more information, call 520.822.2277 or visit buckelewfarm.com.

Pinal County

Rooster Cogburn Ostrich Ranch

Family owned and operated. Stop by and feed the ostrich, deer, miniature donkeys, goats, ducks, and Rainbow Lorikeets.

Current hours are Friday thru Monday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (weather permitting)

Winter season (Sunday before Thanksgiving through April)

Open Daily 9 am to 5 pm

\$7.00 per person, age 5 & under free

Monster Truck Tours on Sat., Sun, and Holidays. Fun for all Ages!

\$15 ages 6 and over

Interstate-10 at the Picacho Peak exit #219

For more information, call 520.466.3658 or visit roostercogburn.com.



Yavapai County

Freeman Farms Pumpkin Festival

Enjoy the scenery of a real working farm. U-pick Fresh pumpkins grown on the Farm! You can wind your way through the corn maze, ride the Hay rides, watch demonstrations about animals, wildlife, farming and more! Fun for the whole family.

Boutique Pumpkin Patch located in Chino Valley.

Open every Saturday, Sunday in October from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Also open Columbus Day.

Location: 1096 E Road 3 South

Chino Valley, AZ 86323

For more information, call 928.636.5714 or visit azpumpkins.com.

Mortimer Family Farms

Bring back the rich farming history of Dewey-Humboldt and identifying the traditions of the past in this landmark farming community.

Family Fun Day and Pumpkin Harvest- Begins Sunday October 1 – October 31th

Pumpkin Harvest, Corn Maze, games, food vendors, BBQ, pies, apple cider, corn maze, Barn Dance, Farm Animal Kingdom, Hay rides and more.

Open Friday, 12 p.m. – 10 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. – 10 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Columbus Day 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

For more information, call 928.830.1116 or visit mortimerfamilyfarms.com.



Remember...you can always go to fillyourplate.org for a complete direct-market list of farmers and ranchers.

For more Fall Farm information, go to azfb.org.

Agriculture in the Classroom Has Egg-citing News!

By Katie Aikins, Arizona Farm Bureau

The Arizona Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom Program (AITC) is egg-cited to announce that more teachers will be able to bring chicks to their classroom thanks to a generous donation by Hickman's Family Farms. AZFB AITC's Poultry Curriculum Kit inventory has hovered at five for the past 6 years. But not any longer. There are now 20 Poultry Curriculum Kits that are available to teachers across the state!

Our Poultry Curriculum kits include not only hands-on lessons about poultry production, care and embryology, but they now include lessons on nutrition. In addition to the standards-based lessons, the kit also comes with a classroom incubator and all the required materials and equipment to hatch eggs and care for chicks in the classroom. Look for updates on how our classes are doing with their chicks throughout the year!



Another egg-citing addition to the Poultry Kit this year is the partnership with Arizona Farm Bureau AITC and Hickman's Family Farms. Teachers who reserve one of the many Poultry Curriculum Kits will have the opportunity to have a representative from Hickman's Family Farms visit their classroom for an egg-ceptional presentation. In addition, classes will have the opportunity to Skype with the Hickmans while receiving a personal virtual tour of the hen houses FREE of charge!

As always, AZFB AITC's Curriculum Kits are available FREE to teachers across the state. Visit us on the web at www.azfb.org (click on the tractor and books) for more information on all of the Kits included in AITC's inventory. Contact Katie Aikins at katieaikins@azfb.org, associate Ag Education Director, or call 480.635.3608 to reserve your kit today! ■



Arizona Agriculture's CHOICES

Halloween Spooktacular at Sea World

Weekends Sept. 27- Oct. 26

By Peggy Jo Goodfellow, Arizona Farm Bureau Federation



Weekends Dive in and explore an enchanting underwater fantasy at SeaWorld's Halloween Spooktacular. Enjoy silly spooky shows, fun-fishy activities and photo ops with wacky characters. Grab gobs of ghoulish goodies and come in costume with the kids for trick-or-treating!

To purchase discounted tickets go to www.azfb.org click on member benefits, entertainment then Sea World.

For more information, call 480-635.3609. ■

Member Benefits on the Go!



Maximize the value of your membership with the new Farm Bureau Member Benefits App! With just a few taps you can use your current location to gain quick access to benefits designed specifically for you. Download from the App Store or Play Store today!



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Member Benefits We Have an App for That

New smartphone app helps members take advantage of special discounts

Your Farm Bureau membership just got better! The new Farm Bureau Member Benefits App gives you access to member discounts and special offers right in your pocket.



Available for free on both Apple and Android devices, the free Farm Bureau Member Benefits App includes alphabetical and categorical listings of member benefits available in Arizona. It also features a convenient mapping feature to help you identify member benefits near you at any time.

Farm Bureau members receive benefits at dozens of national retailers, health and wellness companies, and local attractions. Members also have special access to home, auto, farm/ranch, and life insurance tailored to fit their unique needs through Farm Bureau Financial Services.

Download the app today and get the most from your Farm Bureau membership! ■

Three NEW Farm Bureau Member Benefits

LEGOLAND CALIFORNIA - Farm Bureau members can save up to \$34 on adult tickets and \$29 on child tickets, plus the 2nd Day FREE at LEGOLAND when you buy the Hopper Best Value Discount Tickets. These are good at LEGOLAND, SEA LIFE Aquarium and LEGOLAND Water Park.

SAN DIEGO ZOO AND SAFARI PARK - Farm Bureau members can save \$5 off admission to the San Diego Zoo, in San Diego and Safari Park in Escondido, California.

For more information, call 480-635-3609 or visit www.azfb.org and click on member benefits to save!

POLARIS - Eligible Farm Bureau members can receive a \$300 per unit discount on all Polaris Utility and Sport Vehicles, \$200 per unit on all All-Terrain Vehicles and \$300 per unit on all GEM Electric Vehicles.

Program guidelines are as follows:

- You must be a Farm Bureau member for 30 days prior to purchase.
- Members log on to fbverify.com/Polaris where eligibility will be confirmed when you enter your membership number and zip code.
- A certificate will be made available online that must be printed and taken to the dealership of choice at the time of purchase. Certificates expire after 60 days.

For more information, call 480-635-3609 or email peggyjogood-fellow@azfb.org. ■

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Driving the EcoBoost Challenge

By Peggy Jo Goodfellow, Arizona Farm Bureau Federation

I love to drive (my hubby and co-workers can vouch for my claim)! Naturally, I love test driving cars...all types of cars. So when Ford invited me to attend an exclusive media day event prior to the all-day Ford EcoBoost Challenge at the Phoenix Stadium in Glendale...I jumped at the chance!

This Ford event put fun and fuel efficient EcoBoost-powered vehicles to the test in three closed-tract experiences:

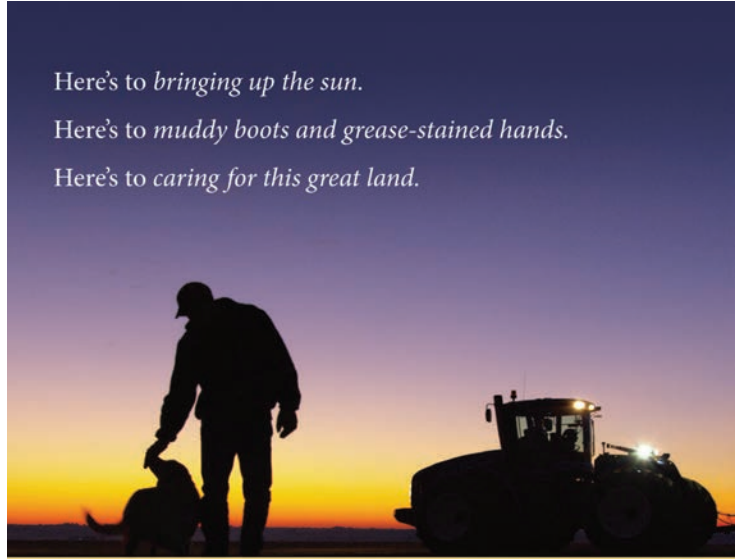


- The high performance drive featured the new Fiesta ST... a pocket rocket! I had the most fun I've had behind the wheel of a small car in a long time. I actually made the tires squeal a few times ... well maybe a bit more than a few times.

- Then I took the hybrid challenge course pitting a C-MAX against the Toyota Prius. This was my first time to drive a hybrid vehicle. I was surprised at the easy handling and the off-the-line speed the C-MAX had to offer. The amount of cargo space in the back is impressive.
- The EcoBoost Challenge course was where we had the chance to take on the Ford F-150 versus Chevy Silverado, Ford Fusion versus Toyota Camry, and Ford Escape versus Honda CRV in head-to-head competition. To make it a fair challenge, I tried to drive each vehicle the same way....fast! Are you sensing a pattern here?
Can I just say....WOW! If you get a chance to test drive a Ford with EcoBoost... do it...you will be amazed!

Thinking about buying a car? Now is a good time to visit your local Arizona Ford Dealer. Eligible Arizona Farm Bureau members can get a \$500 rebate toward the purchase of new Ford vehicles and \$750 toward Lincoln vehicles.

For more information, go to www.azfb.org. ■



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5 Ways *Continued from page 1*

2. Join an Organic CSA

CSA stands for **Community Supported Agriculture** and it provides an alternative distribution channel for farmers and ranchers. Participants purchase a “share” for the season which entitles them to a certain amount of produce, meat, dairy, etc each week for the duration of the season. Although you cannot pick and choose what comes in your share with most CSAs, buying a share can be a cost effective way to get more organic food options on your plate. And while it’s not always the most economical option, the amount of produce per share usually makes up for the unit price cost. Those who participate in them regularly say their purchased share usually provides more food than they can use which turns into an opportunity to share with neighbors.



3. Join a Co-op

A natural or organic food co-op is different than a CSA. Co-ops are more like a grocery store than a farm stand and you can pick and

choose from the products available. Many co-ops are able to offer lower prices on great local produce, meat, and dairy products because they have lower overhead costs. Joining a co-op is likely to cost you an annual fee and it may also require you to put in some volunteer hours to assist in running the operation.

4. Buy what’s In Season

This is probably the most cost effective method of stretching your organic food dollar since this principle relates to supply and demand. You will always get the freshest food at the lowest price when you buy what is currently in season since what’s in season locally is in abundance therefore a good supply brings price down. This is just as true for organic food options as it is for conventionally grown products. If you aren’t sure what’s in season, check the **Arizona Produce in Season** section of Fill Your Plate.

5. Comparison Shop

Taking a little extra time to compare the prices of organic food options at various venues can save you money over the long haul. Shopping around for the highest quality at the lowest price is the best way to stretch your food dollar and fill your plate. ■

Source: Fill Your Plate blog. To daily check our blog articles go to www.fillyourplate.org.

Farm Bureau Membership Can Save Lives

By Peggy Jo Goodfellow, Arizona Farm Bureau Federation

I think we would all agree that our health is important. As a wife, mother and grandmother, what really matters to me is that the people I love are happy and healthy. Everything else is just sugar on top. George Bernard Shaw once said, “Give a man good health and a course to steer, and he’ll never stop to trouble about whether he’s happy or not.”

Just over a year ago, an Arizona Dairyman and Farm Bureau

member took part in a pilot program with Life Line Screening to see if this member benefit would help our members. He had five screenings that took about an hour. They were held at a convenient location, it was quick and easy, plus the screening staff was very pleasant and professional. Our member had his results back within 21 days and he was healthy!

Since then, over 230 members of Farm Bureau have had these simple, potentially life saving screenings done. Many people who have suffered from strokes, aneurysm or vascular disease have had no prior symptoms or warning signs. Remember, you can’t just walk into your doctor’s office and order these screenings if you don’t exhibit any symptoms.

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Should you take these life saving tests?

- Stroke/Carotid Artery
- Heart Rhythm
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm
- Peripheral Arterial Disease

The answer is yes! The annual report from this Farm Bureau member benefit provider reported the results on each of the five screenings. The results show that 12 members were in the critical or significant risk category. They were encouraged to immediately share the results of their screenings with their doctor. ■



Arizona Farm Bureau

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Arizona Agriculture's CHOICES

The Faces of Agriculture

Young Arizona Agriculturalist Angie Newbold

- Married to Cole, who manages a ranch in Payson
- Coordinator of Town of Payson's Event Center
- Chair of Arizona Farm Bureau's Young Farmer and Rancher Committee
- Former FFAer has always been involved in some type of Agriculture
- Angie loves to rope, loves her animals and cherishes her farm and ranch connections

