



Badger Crops Club



MARCH 2021



Upcoming Meeting: Tuesday, March 16th, 2021 – 6:00 PM

Join us for our upcoming (virtual) meeting which will take place on Tuesday, March 16th, at 6:00 PM on Zoom. We will be joined by Scott Stelpflug, a Lead Discovery Breeder with Syngenta, who will be speaking about breeding in the industry and his journey to his current role. Here is his brief bio:

Dr. Scott Stelpflug is the Head of North America Discovery Breeding at Syngenta, where he leads a team of plant breeders and data scientists focused on disrupting current breeding methods with new technological innovations, based out of Ankeny, IA. He previously worked at Inari Agriculture, a gene editing ag-tech startup, where he started their breeding program from scratch, and prior to that worked at Monsanto as a corn breeder, where he helped co-develop one of the first machine learning-based breeding programs in the industry. Scott loves the Badgers so much that he got two degrees from UW-Madison, having completed his PhD in Plant Breeding and Plant Genetics in 2015 and his BS in Biology in 2010.



Dr. Scott Stelpflug, Lead Discovery Breeder with Syngenta Field Corn

Meeting ID:

<https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/94927511700?pwd=emZzWlhpWlBlcDZxT3VSTmtGR2ljQT09>



February Meeting Review

In February we had the privilege of hosting Jake Standal of Liqui-Grow out of Elkhorn, WI. Mr. Standal, a former agronomy student here at UW-Madison, took the time to introduce us to Liqui-Grow, a fertilizer company he has been with since his graduation. Jake was also kind enough to provide the club with his unique insight and outlook on the industry, new and exciting developments in the agriculture sector, and valuable advice about how to approach employment and other opportunities after our time here at the University of Wisconsin. If you are interested in speaking with Mr. Standal regarding internship opportunities with Liqui-Grow in Elkhorn this summer, call him at 262-441-8314, or visit www.liqui-grow.com.



As agriculture continues to rapidly change, Liqui-Grow strives to provide innovative crop solutions, quality nutrient products, knowledgeable staff, and dependable service to satisfy their growers' needs.

Spring Activities

This past weekend our members headed to Tyrol Basin in Mt. Horeb, WI to hit the slopes and go tubing before all of the snow melted for the year. The club will be covered a portion of the event costs and the member total was only \$15 dollars per person. If you are interested in attending similar events in the future, please continue to actively participate in our club meetings and gatherings.



Members at Tyrol Basin, March 6, 2021.

Looking ahead this semester, we have some ideas for activities to bring the Badger Crops Club together and help us all grow as agriculturalists. However, we are interested in knowing what our members want to do! Please send out officer team any ideas you have, and we will be happy to try to work them into our schedule.

Internships & Scholarships

Internships:

Liqui-Grow | Elkhorn, WI: Liqui-Grow is seeking a qualified intern who is looking to learn about crop production in WI along with fertilizer manufacturing. Crop scouting and customer interaction will be key in part of the internship. This is a great opportunity to experience the retail and wholesale level of agronomy! For more information on the internship or Liqui-Grow, check out the internship description (ask an officer for access), feel free to call Jake Standal at 262-441-8314, or visit www.liqui-grow.com.



AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT | Madison, WI

HOURS: Mid-June through August. During June schedule is flexible, starting July 1 until August 20 full-time. 7:30 AM to mid-late afternoon, M-F and Saturdays and Sundays during July and early August. If advance notice is given, weekend time off is possible for weddings or family functions.



Department of Agronomy
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

JOB DESCRIPTION: Assist the UW Sweet Corn Genetics and Breeding Program at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station located at 8502 Mineral Point Road. Duties will consist of hand pollination of breeding nursery, weed control (hoeing), hybrid evaluation (taste testing and data collection), trial and nursery maintenance, and seed harvest.

QUALIFICATIONS: No experience necessary; training provided. Work/study students desired. Successful candidates must be current and continuing (Fall 2021) undergraduate students. Non-agricultural majors interested in an outdoor experience are encouraged to apply. Affinity for outdoor activities is highly recommended, given that all activities related to this summer job opportunity will involve handling corn plants in a field setting. Applicant must provide own transportation to and from the West Madison Agricultural Research Station.

SALARY: \$15.00 per hour

TO APPLY: Send a resume to pjflanne@wisc.edu containing references and contact information. Questions regarding this position may be sent to email address above, or by calling 608-513-1797.

Scholarships:

[Proven Winners Horticultural Scholarship Program](#)

[Midwest Food Products Association Scholarships](#)

“Where They Are Now”

John Faldet - Class of 2016

1.) What do you do?

- a. “Currently, I am working in Plainfield WI on a large vegetable farm called Mortenson Bros Farms where I help grow a variety of crops such as Potatoes, Carrots, Beets, Peas, Green Beans and Sweet Corn. On the farm, I work in Agronomy, Storage and Shipping. I have been working in this region since the summer of 2016. I hope to continue working as long as I can in this area working in the Agricultural sector while also trying to expand on personal businesses as well.”



2.) What is your favorite memory of Badger Crops Club?

- a. “My Favorite crops club memories were in general any time we got together in school to learn about career opportunities and trips to expand our knowledge on Agriculture.”

3.) How did BCC help you prepare for your future?

- a. “Badger Crops Club, along with other Agricultural Clubs at UW-Madison, created a network of individuals I can reach out to if I am in need of help or agricultural advice to get through a situation.”

Trivia

Can you identify this plant? It is commonly regarded as a weed and is nicknamed “earth almond”.



Clues/Facts:

- This plant has a triangular stem.
- Especially common in poorly drained soils but can also tolerate upland areas as well.
- Root system includes fine fibrous roots, thin rhizomes, hard spherical tubers, and basal bulbs.