

COSHOCTON COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES**November 20, 2019 Issue**

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Hello Coshocton County! I am glad that this week's weather is more "normal" versus the cold blast we received a week ago. It is great to see our harvest progress—what a difference a year makes!

We were pleased to the response we had to the 3 Farm Bill meetings held earlier this month. Be watching for more Farm Bill meetings as we roll into the winter. Rob McMasters from the Coshocton EMA did a nice job talking about farm safety and being prepared at last week's Farmers Breakfasts. Thanks to all who attended!

Congratulations to the Coshocton County Master Gardeners who won two awards at the State Master Gardener and to Gail Piper who was selected as one of Ohio's Outstanding Master Gardener Volunteers! We are very proud of the work which the Master Gardeners provide to our county!

I hope that each of you have a great Thanksgiving next week. I hope it is a time of great fellowship and laughter with your loved ones. Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

David Marrison

Coshocton County OSU Extension ANR Educator



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity.

Farm Tax Update to Be Held on December 2 in Coshocton

OSU Extension in Coshocton County is pleased to be offering a **Farm Tax Update** on Monday, December 2 2019 from 7:00 to 8:37 p.m. at the Coshocton County Services Building - Room 145 located at 724 South 7th Street in Coshocton, Ohio.

OSU Extension Educator David Marrison will provide a Farm Tax Update. We will examine year farm tax strategies and learn more about the new Section 199A deduction for Qualified Business Income. It is not business as usual in the world of farm taxes. Wrap up the year learning how to better manage your farm taxes. This program is free & open to the public! However, courtesy reservations are requested so program materials can be prepared. Call 740-622-2265 to RSVP or for more information.

Winter Ag Law Update on December 9

Join OSU Extension on Monday evening, December 9, 2019 as we host Peggy Hall (OSU Agricultural & Resource Law Director) for a **“Winter Ag Law Update.”** Attend and learn more about the legal issues impacting farmers. This meeting will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Frontier Power Community Room located at 770 South 2nd Street in Coshocton, Ohio.

Some of the legal topics which will be addressed include: farm leases, grain contracts, line fence law, noxious weeds, Nuisance complaints, surface drainage rights, leasing land for hunting, and the legal aspects of growing hemp. Bring your Ag Legal questions for Peggy to answer! Don't miss this chance to learn more about the legal issues which are impacting agriculture and our local farms/families. There is no charge for this program but reservations are being requested so that adequate program materials can be printed. Call 740-622-2265 or email marrison.2@osu.edu to reserve your spot.



December 10th Farmers Breakfast

OSU Extension, Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District, and the Farm Service Agency are pleased to be offering the **Farmers Breakfast** series once again this winter. These breakfasts will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month (November through March) beginning at 7:30 a.m. The next breakfast will be held on Tuesday, December 10 and will feature OSU Ag Attorney Peggy Hall who will be speaking on Water Drainage Issues (and any other legal issues which you have!)

NEW this year is the location as the breakfasts will be held at the Coshocton Inn & Suites located at 115 N Water Street in Coshocton, Ohio (next to McDonald's). The breakfast buffet will be \$9.00 and no reservations are needed. For more information about the breakfasts, please contact the Coshocton SWCD at 740-622-8087, extension 4

Tick Research in Coshocton County

The Coshocton County Health Department recently announced they are now accepting all types of Ticks for a research project being conducted by Dr. Risa R. Pesapane from the Ohio State University. This research will help Dr. Pesapane identify the diseases which are currently present in Coshocton County. The black-legged tick or Deer Tick can be a carrier of LYME disease. Ticks can be dropped off to the Coshocton County Health Department in Coshocton County Services Building located at 724 South 7th Street in Coshocton. More information can be obtained by calling 740-622-1426.

Thanksgiving Thanks

by Aileen Fisher

T is for time to be together, turkey, talk, and tangy weather.

H is for harvest stored away, home and hearth, and holiday.

A is for autumn's frosty art, and abundance in the heart.

N is for neighbors, November, nice things, and new things to remember.

K is for kitchen, kettles croon, kith and kin expected soon.

S is for sizzles, sights, and sounds, and something special that abounds.

That spells THANKS--for joy in living and a jolly good Thanksgiving season

Coshocton County Master Gardeners Win State Awards

The Coshocton County OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers (MGV) brought back three state awards from the Ohio Master Gardener Volunteer Recognition Banquet held November 11, 2019 at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. These awards included having one of Ohio's Outstanding Master Gardener Volunteers of the Year, one of the State Master Gardener Project of the Year, and for being a platinum 'Standards of Excellence' award winner.

Gail Piper of Warsaw, Ohio was recognized as one of five **"Outstanding Master Gardener Volunteer of the Year"** for the State of Ohio. Gail has been a Coshocton County Master Gardener since 2006 and in her Master Gardener career has volunteered over 2,100 hours of service to Coshocton County. Gail spearheads the Master Gardener phenology garden located at Lake Park, is the co-editor of the Master Gardener's "Keep It Growing" newsletter, and is a regular contributor on the Master Gardener monthly call-in program on WTNS. Additionally, Gail has been a featured speaker for many horticulture workshops sponsored by the Master Gardeners. The Coshocton County Master Gardeners are very proud that Gail Piper was selected as one of Ohio's Outstanding Master Gardeners.



The Coshocton County Master Gardeners also won the **2019 OSU Extension Outstanding Master Gardener Volunteer Project for the Year** for small groups (1 to 25 members). The Coshocton County Master Gardeners received this award for the **Horticulture Information Station** which was installed at the Lake Park Complex near the Master Gardener's Phenology Garden. The purpose of this informational kiosk is to provide a place where visitors to Lake Park can receive horticulture and gardening information. This information kiosk was built and installed by the Construction Technologies Class from the Coshocton County Career Center in May 2018. The Master Gardeners appreciate the support from both the Career Center and from Friends of the Park who contributed part of the materials.



And finally, the Coshocton County Master Gardeners also were recognized as a **Platinum Standards of Excellence Award Winner**. The Platinum Standard Award is the highest recognition a County Master Gardener Program can receive from the State Master Gardener Program. This award is based on criteria for volunteerism, continuing education, and program management.

Coshocton County Master Gardeners Hold Recognition Dinner

The Coshocton County OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers held their **Annual Recognition Dinner** on November 13 at Raven's Glenn Winery. The dinner is held each year to celebrate the successes of the Coshocton County Master Gardener Volunteers. The Master Gardener program was started in 2001 to help OSU Extension answer home horticulture questions. There are currently 17 active Master Gardeners.

During the dinner, Gail Piper was recognized for being one of Ohio's five **"Outstanding Master Gardener Volunteer of the Year"** and the group was recognized for winning the **2019 OSU Extension Outstanding Master Gardener Volunteer Project for the Year** for small groups (1 – 25 members).

Members were also recognized for achieving volunteerism milestones. Congratulations to the following Master Gardeners: **50 Hours:** Bob Bigrigg, Brenda Bush, Dallas Lonsinger, Kirsten Ross, & Taylor Silkknitter; **100 Hours:** Jandi Adams, Dallas Lonsinger & Cari Weaver; **300 Hours:** Dianne McCoy Adams; **600 Hours:** Tony Hatem; **800 Hours:** Teresa Donley & Marsha Duling; **1,100 Hours:** Reta Grewell; **1,200 Hours:** Betty Williams; **1,500 Hours:** Margaret Lowe; **1,600 Hours:** Susan McCurdy and **2,100 Hours:** Gail Piper.



Congratulations to the Coshocton County Master Gardeners for a very successful year of outreach and education in 2019.

Also at the recognition dinner, Jandi Adams and Cari Weaver were re-elected to their office positions as Group Facilitator and Secretary/Treasurer for 2020.

The Master Gardeners have combined to volunteer nearly 1,100 hours in 2019 and almost 23,000 hours since 2001. The Independent Sector values volunteer service to be worth \$25.43 per hour. At this rate, the Master Gardener Volunteers have provided almost \$27,000 worth of service this year and over \$550,000 over the history of the program. Thank you to the Coshocton County Master Gardener Volunteers for their dedication to our county!

Join the “Get Your Elves in a Row” Email Wellness Challenge

By: Emily Marrison

Challenge Dates: November 25, 2019 – January 5, 2020

You are invited to sign up for the “Live Healthy Live Well 6-week Email Wellness Challenge.” The goal of this six-week challenge is for you to reduce stress, and simplify your life by practicing wellness habits. Two weekly emails will be sent directly to you our local office.

During this challenge, you will gain ideas to help you: Practice Mindfulness, Simplify your Meals, Organize your Holiday Décor, Embrace Humor and Positivity, Declutter your Gift List and Schedule, Eat more Vegetables and Fruits, and Add more Movement (“Elfercise”) to your Day

There is no cost to register for this challenge. Sign up at:

go.osu.edu/ElvesCoshocton19

or contact Emily Marrison,

marrison.12@osu.edu Registration will close on December 2, 2019.



Corn Stalks Provide Another Grazing Option

By: [Rory Lewandowski](#), OSU Extension Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator, Wayne County

Source: <http://u.osu.edu/beef/2019/11/20/corn-stalks-provide-another-grazing-option/#more-7876>

Over the past several weeks, a considerable amount of corn has been harvested for grain. The corn stalk residue or fodder that remains offers another grazing opportunity for beef cattle or sheep. According to a Penn State Extension publication entitled “[Grazing Corn Stalks with Beef Cattle](#)”, for every bushel of corn there are approximately 18 lbs. of stem/stalk, 16 lbs. of husk and leaves and 5.8 to 6.0 lbs. of cob left as residue.

According to a University of Nebraska beef production site, for a quick estimate of corn stalk grazing days for a 1200-pound non-lactating cow, divide the corn grain bushel yield by 3.5. Corn stalk residue does provide energy and crude protein but is low in mineral and vitamin A content, therefore a well-balanced mineral and vitamin mix should be provided free choice along with salt.

Cattle and sheep grazing corn stalk residue select and eat the grain first, followed by the husk and leaf and finally the cob and stalk. Typically, there is less than one bushel of corn ears dropped per acre unless the field has experienced high winds. One potential issue with selectively consuming the grain first is digestive upset/acidosis, or in severe cases, bloat and even death. Before grazing, scout the field to determine if there are

piles of grain that could cause grain consumption overload. In these situations, and/or if there are more than 8 to 10 bushels/acre of corn on the ground, a good grazing strategy is necessary to limit corn intake. The key is to increase the stocking density. Generally, this is done by limiting the grazing area. Strip grazing works well with corn stalk residue. As stocking density increases, selectivity decreases. Livestock are forced to eat more of the forage portion of the corn stalk residue, and thus dilute the impact of the corn grain.

Quality of the corn stalk residue declines over time and is highest in the first 60 days after harvest. The greatest loss of nutrients occurs in the husk and leaf portion of the residue and the decline is hastened by wet conditions. Shortly after harvest, it is not uncommon for livestock to graze a diet with a nutrient content of 65-68% TDN and 6-7 percent crude protein. Corn stalk residue quality declines over time, and without managed or strip grazing, diet quality could fall to a 40-45% TDN and 5% crude protein level. The rate of decline is dependent upon stocking rate, time allotted to graze a given area and environmental conditions. The greatest nutritional benefit from grazing corn stalk residue is generally achieved by planning for a 45 to no more than 60-day grazing period following harvest.

USDA Announces Second Tranche of MFP

Source: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/news-room/news-releases/2019/usda-issues-second-tranche-of-market-facilitation-program>

(Washington, D.C., November 15, 2019) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue on November 15 announced the second tranche of 2019 Market Facilitation Program (MFP) payments aimed at assisting farmers suffering from damage due to unjustified trade retaliation by foreign nations. The payments will begin the week before Thanksgiving. Producers of MFP-eligible commodities will now be eligible to receive 25% of the total payment expected, in addition to the 50% they have already received from the [2019 MFP](#).

“This second tranche of 2019 MFP payments, along with already provided disaster assistance, will give farmers, who have had a tough year due to unfair trade retaliation and natural disasters, much needed funds in time for Thanksgiving,” said Secretary Perdue. “President Trump has shown time and again that he is fighting for America’s farmers and ranchers. While we continue to have confidence in the President’s negotiations with China, this money shows President Trump following through on his promise to help and support farmers as he continues to fight for fair market access.”

Background on USDA’s Support Package for Farmers:

President Donald J. Trump directed Secretary Perdue to craft a second relief strategy to support American agricultural producers while the Administration continues to work on free, fair, and reciprocal trade deals to open more markets to help American farmers compete globally. Specifically, the President authorized the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide up to \$16 billion in programs, which is in line with the estimated impacts of unjustified retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural goods and other trade disruptions. In May, Secretary Perdue announced [these actions to assist farmers](#) in response to trade damage from unjustified retaliation and trade disruption:

- [MFP](#) for 2019, authorized under the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act and administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), is providing \$14.5 billion in direct payments to producers.
- Additionally, CCC Charter Act authority is being used to implement a \$1.4 billion [Food Purchase and Distribution Program \(FPDP\)](#) through the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to purchase surplus commodities affected by trade retaliation such as fruits, vegetables, some processed foods, beef, pork, lamb, poultry, and milk for distribution by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to food banks, schools, and other outlets serving low-income individuals.
- Finally, the CCC has used its Charter Act authority for \$100 million to be issued through the [Agricultural Trade Promotion Program \(ATP\)](#) administered by the Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) to assist in developing new export markets on behalf of producers.

Details Regarding Second tranche of 2019 MFP Payments:

MFP signup at local FSA offices will run through Friday, December 6, 2019.

Payments will be made by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) under the authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act to producers of alfalfa hay, barley, canola, corn, crambe, dried beans, dry peas, extra-long staple cotton, flaxseed, lentils, long grain and medium grain rice, millet, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, rapeseed, rye, safflower, sesame seed, small and large chickpeas, sorghum, soybeans, sunflower seed, temperate japonica rice, triticale, upland cotton, and wheat. MFP assistance for these non-specialty crops is based on a single county payment rate multiplied by a farm's total plantings of MFP-eligible crops in aggregate in 2019. Those per-acre payments are not dependent on which of these crops are planted in 2019. A producer's total payment-eligible plantings cannot exceed total 2018 plantings. County payment rates range from \$15 to \$150 per acre, depending on the impact of unjustified trade retaliation in that county.

Dairy producers who were in business as of June 1, 2019, will receive a per hundredweight payment on Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) production history, and hog producers will receive a payment based on the number of live hogs owned on a day selected by the producer between April 1 and May 15, 2019.

MFP payments will also be made to producers of almonds, cranberries, cultivated ginseng, fresh grapes, fresh sweet cherries, hazelnuts, macadamia nuts, pecans, pistachios, and walnuts. Each specialty crop will receive a payment based on 2019 acres of fruit or nut bearing plants, or in the case of ginseng, based on harvested acres in 2019.

Acreage of non-specialty crops and cover crops had to be planted by August 1, 2019 to be considered eligible for MFP payments.

Per-acre non-specialty crop county payment rates, specialty crop payment rates, and livestock payment rates are all currently available on [farmers.gov](https://www.farmers.gov).

This is the second of up to three tranches of MFP payments. The third tranche will be evaluated as market conditions and trade opportunities dictate. If conditions warrant, the third tranche will be made in January 2020. The first tranche was comprised of the higher of either 50 percent of a producer's calculated payment or \$15 per acre, which may reduce potential payments to be made in tranche three. USDA will begin making the second tranche payments the week before Thanksgiving.

MFP payments are limited to a combined \$250,000 for non-specialty crops per person or legal entity. MFP payments are also limited to a combined \$250,000 for dairy and hog producers and a combined \$250,000 for specialty crop producers. However, no applicant can receive more than \$500,000. Eligible applicants must also have an average adjusted gross income (AGI) for tax years 2015, 2016, and 2017 of less than \$900,000 unless at least 75 percent of the person's or legal entity's AGI is derived from farming, ranching, or forestry related activities. Applicants must also comply with the provisions of the Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation regulations.

Many producers were affected by natural disasters this spring, such as flooding, that kept them out of the field for extended periods of time. Producers who filed a prevented planting claim and planted an FSA-certified cover crop, with the potential to be harvested qualify for a \$15 per acre payment. Acres that were never planted in 2019 are [not eligible for an MFP payment](#).

In June, H.R. 2157, the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act of 2019, was signed into law by President Trump, requiring a change to the first round of MFP assistance provided in 2018. Producers previously deemed ineligible for MFP in 2018 because they had an average AGI level higher than \$900,000 may now be eligible for 2018 MFP benefits. Those producers must be able to verify 75 percent or more of their average AGI was derived from farming and ranching to qualify. This supplemental MFP signup period will run parallel to the 2019 MFP signup, from July 29 through December 6, 2019.

Keep in Mind Family Living Expenses When Creating 2020 Budgets

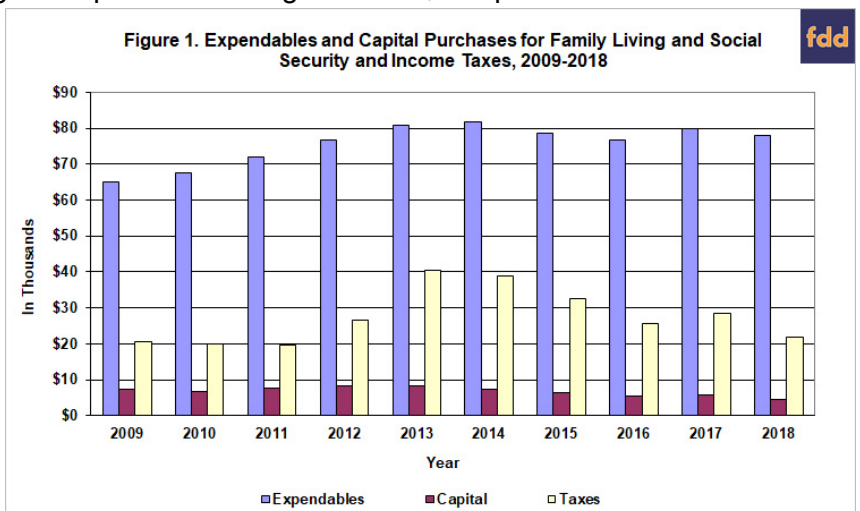
By: [Bradley Zwilling](#), Illinois FBFM Association and Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics

Source: <https://farmdocdaily.illinois.edu/2019/11/when-creating-2020-budgets-keep-in-mind-family-living-costs.html>

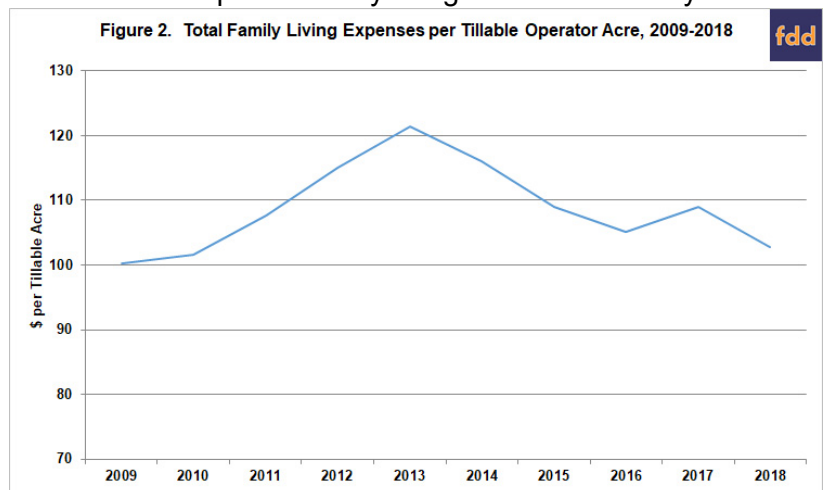
In 2018, the total noncapital living expenses of 1,306 farm families enrolled in the Illinois Farm Business Farm Management Association (FBFM) average was \$77,999—or \$6,500 a month for each family. This average was 2.3 percent lower than in 2017. Another \$4,579 was used to buy capital items such as the personal share of the family automobile, furniture, and household equipment. Thus, the grand total for living expenses averaged \$82,578 for 2018 compared with \$85,542 for 2017, or a \$2,964 decrease per family.

Income and social security tax payments decreased about 23.7 percent in 2018 compared to the year before. The amount of income taxes paid in 2018 averaged \$21,692 compared to \$28,435 in 2017. Net nonfarm income increased, averaging \$44,727 in 2018. Net nonfarm income has increased \$10,160, or 29.4 percent in the last ten years.

In Figure 2, total family living expenses (expendables plus capital) are divided by tillable operator acres for 2009 to 2018. In 2009, all of the family living costs per acre averaged about \$100 per acre. This increased to \$103 per acres in 2018. \$109 was the 10-year average of total family living expense per acre. If we compare this to the 10-year average of net farm income per acre of \$162, then 67% of the net farm income per acre is family living expense. If we look at the average year over year increase for the last ten years for family living per acre, the annual increase was 0.8% per year. The five-year annual increase per year would average negative 2.9%. Therefore, as you work on your crop budgets, keep in mind that a 51 cent price change on 200 bushels per acre corn is about equal to the average total family living expense per acre.



When you take total family living expenses minus net nonfarm income this equals \$47 per acre in 2018 and was \$55 per acre for the five-year average. This would be the part of family living that is covered by the farm income. In addition, there is another \$27 per acre in social security and income taxes to be covered by the farm in 2018. The five-year average for these taxes was \$38 per acre. A 24 cent price change on 200 bushels of corn per acre is equal to the 2018 family living cost that would be covered by the farm. If you added the amount of social security and income taxes that would be a 37 cent price change on 200 bushel of corn per acre.



More information about Farm and Family Living Income and Expenditures can be found here:

<https://farmdoc.illinois.edu/assets/management/whole-farm/FBM-0190familyliving.pdf>

The author would like to acknowledge that data used in this study comes from farms across the State of Illinois enrolled in Illinois Farm Business Farm Management (FBFM) Association. Without their cooperation, information as comprehensive and accurate as this would not be available for educational purposes. FBFM, which consists of 5,500 plus farmers and 60 professional field staff, is a not-for-profit organization available to all farm operators in Illinois. FBFM field staff provide on-farm counsel with computerized recordkeeping, farm financial management, business entity planning and income tax management. For more information, please contact the State Headquarters located at the University of Illinois Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at 217-333-8346 or visit the FBFM website at www.fbfm.org.

Farm Tax Questions

By: David Marrison

Source: Written for Farm & Dairy- Published November 21, 2019

Hello, Northeast Ohio! During the past month, OSU Extension has been offering a series of two-day workshops across Ohio for Income Tax Preparers. I, along with Barry Ward and Chris Bruynis, have the privilege of teaching the Agricultural & Natural Resources Tax section at these workshops.

As many of you know, 2019 has been a roller coaster year for Ohio farmers. Low commodity prices, historic rainfall, and the trade dispute with China have been huge stressors to farmers. Additionally farmers and tax preparers are still adjusting to the tax changes created by last year's Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. As we have been teaching across Ohio, our team has been asked a variety of questions so today I would like to share a few of these with you.

From a farmer in Williams County, Ohio: The wet spring weather caused us not to plant any crops. We received an insurance check for the prevented plant acreage as well as sold our 2018 corn and soybeans this year. This means we have two years of income bunched into 2019 with minimal expenses to offset it with. Is there a way to delay some of this income?

Generally, you must claim income in the year which it is received. However when disastrous weather strikes, the Internal Revenue Service does allow farmers the option of postponing the reporting of crop insurance proceeds to the next year. This deferral protects farmers from recognizing excessive income in one year, when their regular practice would have been to sell the crop in the following tax year. The key to this deferral is the farmer must normally sell more than 50% of their crops in the year after it was grown.

Farmers who want to defer crop insurance payments should talk to their tax preparer about the I.R.C. § 451(f) deferral. As with anything, there are exceptions and exclusions. One wrinkle is that for revenue based insurance policies, only the amount received for crop failure can be deferred. If a portion of the insurance payment was made for price-loss, that portion cannot be deferred. There are also provisions to delay receipts from livestock sales if the sale was triggered due to weather issues. This deferral is limited to amount which is above what would normally be marketed in the tax year. Bottom line, there are a lot of rules to deferring income so it is very important to consult with your tax preparer.

From a farmer in Coshocton County, Ohio: I received a Market Facilitation Payment (MFP) from the Farm Service Agency for the impact which the trade dispute with China has had on commodity markets. Can I defer this income like the crop insurance payment?

The quick and definite answer is NO! MFP payments are to be claimed in the year which they are received. Depending on when a farmer signed up for the MFP program, they may have received both the 2018 and 2019 payments in 2019. Both would need to be claimed as 2019 income. Other governmental payments such as those received from the NRCS's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) are also reported as income in the year it is received.

From a farmer in Wayne County, Ohio: I heard there is some type of new business deduction as a result of tax reform. Is this true? Also, I was also told this deduction is different if I sell my grain to a cooperative.

Yes to both questions. The 2018 tax reform legislation set a flat rate of 21% for all C-Corporations. Because this flat rate was only for C-Corporations, legislators had to level the playing field for other business entities such as Sole-Proprietorships and Partnerships as their tax rates could be as high as 37%.

This led to the development of the Qualified Business Income (QBI) Deduction. This deduction allows for a deduction of up to 20% of qualified business income. For farmers who sell their milk, livestock, or grain to cooperatives, an additional adjustment has to be made. This adjustment get tricky especially if the farm has W-2 wages. So again, it is imperative to talk to your tax accountant.

Help- OSU Extension is committed to helping farmers and tax preparers answer these questions and many more. In eastern Ohio, a **Farm Tax Update** will be held in Coshocton County on December 2 starting at 7:00 p.m. and then in Tuscarawas County on December 19. Call the Coshocton County Extension office at 740-622-2265 to register for the December 2 workshop and Tuscarawas County Extension office at 330-339-2337 to register for the December 19 workshop.

A state-wide **Farm Tax Webinar** will be held on January 13, 2020 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The registration for the webinar \$35 per person. More details about this webinar can be obtained at go.osu.edu/FarmerTaxWebinar or by calling 614-292-2433. We encourage you to check out the Ohio Ag Manager Website at <http://ohioagmanager.osu.edu> for tax articles and for details on upcoming tax programs.

In Closing- I would like to share a quote from Albert Einstein who stated, "The hardest thing to understand in the world is the income tax." Have a good and safe day!

Help OSU Extension Document the Yield Impacts of the 2019 Planting Delays

By: CFAES Ag Crisis Taskforce

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2019-39/help-osu-extension-document-yield-impacts-2019-planting-delays>

Normal planting dates for Ohio range from mid-April to the end of May. This season was quite different when planting for both crops was delayed until late May and stretched into June and even July across many parts of Ohio. We found ourselves grasping for any information we could find including 1) how much of an effect late planting dates would have on yield, and 2) what, if anything, we should change in management of these late planted crops. The historical planting date information we did have was somewhat helpful, but we did not have any data on what could happen when planting is delayed into the second half of June nor July.

While it may be tempting to write off this year as a fluke from which there are no real lessons to be learned, there is a growing body of data from climatologists that suggest that this is a beginning of a trend. What we have is a giant, unplanned and involuntary trial being conducted by Ohio corn and soybean farmers this year. This experiment can help us understand the ramifications of how planting date and hybrid/variety maturity affected overall yields, as well as pinpoint where further research is needed to fill the gaps in knowledge for future management decisions. To accomplish these goals, we plan to collect a small amount of data on a large number of fields, which can be used to provide baseline information to share how to manage these crops under similar weather events in the future.

To do this, we have a simple request: share your information with us. We ask only for the following information from as many fields as possible:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ➤ County where the field is located | RM); soybean maturity group) of crop planted |
| ➤ Crop: corn or soybean | ➤ Yield |
| ➤ Planting date | ➤ Harvest moisture |
| ➤ Harvest date | ➤ Test weight |
| ➤ Maturity rating (corn relative maturity (days | |

Information on weather or management can be added, but this is optional. The information can be submitted to us in one of two ways: 1. Follow this link, go.osu.edu/yield19, to an online form with which you can report one

field at a time or 2. Print or download a paper form at go.osu.edu/yield19form, fill it out for as many fields as possible, and send a copy via email to Elizabeth Hawkins (Hawkins.301@osu.edu). We will collect this data from farmers until December 31, 2019.

Additional notes:

1. Don't forget to include early or normal planting dates too. This will help us capture the breadth of the crop in 2019. We want data across a wide range of planting dates, not just late plantings

2. If a field has drowned-out spots where there's no yield, either don't use the field average or estimate yield from yield monitor data from parts of the field where stands were representative.

Change Your Employee Recruitment & Interview Mindset

By: Rory Lewandowski, Extension Educator Wayne County
Dairy Excel column for the 10-31-19 Farm and Dairy

Labor is an important component of any farm operation. Beyond just checking the box that a certain task has been completed, farm profitability often turns on how well a task was completed, the attention to detail and protocol. Improving employee recruiting and interviewing skills increases the chance of hiring the right employee for your farm situation. For many farms, employee recruitment, interviewing and hiring requires a mindset adjustment.

How do you attract dependable farm employees? What is your goal and objective when you hire a farm employee? I once heard Bernie Erven, professor emeritus of The Ohio State University, and human resource management specialist, say that too many farms do not manage the employee recruitment and interview process. Desperate for labor, the only job requirement seemed to be that the person could walk and breathe. Interview questions consisted of "Have you worked on a farm before? and Do you want the job?" A management mindset involves developing a recruitment strategy and a process to find employees that are the right fit for your farm. Donald Cooper, an international management consultant, says that businesses become what they hire. If your goal is high performance and excellence, you need to recruit and hire above average, high quality persons.

Employee recruitment starts before there is a job vacancy. Effective recruitment has both an outward and an inward focus. An outward focus is about developing relationships with persons, organizations and institutions that could provide a contact or recommend a potential employee to the farm. Some examples include FFA chapters/advisors, career centers, and farm service persons such as veterinarians, feed and equipment dealers, technicians and ag lenders. In Wayne and surrounding counties, OSU-ATI is an obvious source of potential farm employees. If you run into someone with the potential to be a good employee, even if you currently don't have a vacancy, at least collect contact information. Some farms may even create a temporary position for the person. Inward recruitment focus is about building a reputation as a great place to work. If someone were to drive around the county and ask the question, who is the best farm to work for, would the questioner hear the name of you or your farm?

The next important piece in recruitment and interviewing is the job description. Job descriptions guide the interviewing and hiring process. Specific information included in a job description includes a job title, a short summary of the major job responsibilities, the qualifications for the job including knowledge, education and/or experience necessary, the specific job duties/tasks along with the frequency with which each needs to be performed, who supervises the job and/or supervisory requirements of the job and finally, something about the expectations for hours and weekly or monthly work schedule.

The job description, when well written, helps to provide a prepared list of questions for the employee candidate interview. Questions should provide the candidate with the opportunity to talk about their skills, knowledge, experience, and personal attributes that match the job description. According to Bob Milligan of Dairy Strategies, the interview should be designed to determine the qualifications of the candidate, their fit for not only the job requirements but also their fit within the culture of your farm. The interview should be structured

so that the farm owner or manager is promoting the farm and the position in a positive light so that the candidate is likely to accept the job if it is offered to them.

Ask questions that provide you with information about the candidate's knowledge, ability and attitudes. Examples of these type of questions are; what are two practices in the milking parlor that can improve milk quality? Describe an equipment related problem you have solved in the past year. How did you go about solving it? I read an article by the founder of a company called Ag Hires entitled "Top 3 Interview Questions Every Farm Should Ask". They are: 1. In your past jobs, of the various tasks, roles and projects, what have you enjoyed doing the most and what have you enjoyed the least? 2. What is your superpower; what is it that you are naturally good at and bring to the table wherever you work? 3. If we spoke to your co-workers and managers and asked them what's it like to work with you, how would they describe you?

These questions are designed to learn what the candidate is passionate about, what they enjoy, what they have a natural tendency toward, and how they interact with others. Quoting that article, "farm managers have a tendency to place too much emphasis on someone's work history and not enough emphasis on whether the person is the right fit for the farm. Smart people with the right attitude, motivation and natural tendencies that align with the farm culture will get up to speed quickly."

Every farm hire is an important hire. Farm managers with employee recruitment and interviewing skills increase the rate of successful hires.

Ohio Beef Winter Programs- Save the Dates!

By: [Al Gahler](#), OSU Extension Educator, Sandusky County

Source: <http://u.osu.edu/beef/2019/10/30/ohio-beef-winter-programs-save-the-dates/>

Mark your calendars now for the Ohio Beef Cattle Nutrition and Management School, to be held in 2 locations, with 2 sessions at each locale. Session 1 will focus on utilizing small grains in the diets of all ages and production groups of beef cattle, utilizing alternative forages, and managing your herd or feedlot with lower quality feedstuffs. This discussion will be led by our former OSU research nutritionist and current University of Georgia Department of Animal Sciences Chair, Dr. Francis Fluharty. Session 1 will take place from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Sandusky County (location to be determined) on January 29th, and 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the OSU Newark Campus in Licking County on January 30th.



Session 2 will also be from 6-9:00 p.m. at the same locations on February 12th in Sandusky County, and February 13th in Licking County. This session will feature talks by several OSU Extension Educators on marketing strategies, commodity market outlook, feeding for the grids/carcass quality, forage testing, and managing annual forages for grazing and hay.

The Ohio State University Extension Beef Team also plans to hold a hands-on, Ohio Beef Cow/Calf workshop at the Claylick Run Farm Sale Facility outside of Newark, in Licking County. This workshop will be held from 10 a.m – 2:00 p.m., including lunch, with 2 different session, held January 30th, and February 13th. Session 1 will focus on alternative feeds and forages, and managing beef brood cow nutrition, with discussion led by Dr. Francis Fluharty. Session 2 will focus on herd health and reproduction with Dr. Les Anderson from the University of Kentucky, and include live demonstrations from OSU Extension Beef Team members on body condition scoring, bull breeding soundness evaluation, and semen handling. Both sessions of the workshop will be held in a heated barn, with an informal, demonstration and question/answer type setting utilizing live animals and equipment.

More details and information for both of these winter beef programs will be published as they become available

later this fall. For questions, contact Allen Gahler in Sandusky County at 419-334-6340 or gahler.2@osu.edu, or Dean Kreager in Licking County at 740-670-5315, or kreager.5@osu.edu.

Consider Becoming a Coshocton County Master Gardener Volunteer

Do you enjoy gardening? Are you looking for a way to give back to your community? Then becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer may be just the thing for you.

The Master Gardener Volunteer Program trains volunteers for Ohio State University Extension in Coshocton County to help further the mission of engagement and outreach. Volunteers are trained in consumer horticulture including: annuals, perennials, fruits, vegetables, soil, botany, turf, insects, diseases and more! After receiving over 50 hours of education, each intern must complete 50 hours of service to OSU to become fully certified Ohio State Master Gardener Volunteers.

The next training classes in Coshocton County will be held on Monday evenings from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Coshocton County Extension office (724 South 7th Street in Coshocton, Ohio) from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The training dates are February 10, 17, & 24; March 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30; April 6, 20, & 27; May 4, 11, & 18 and June 1 & 8.

An informational meeting will be held to answer questions from potential applicants about the 2020 Training program **TONIGHT - Wednesday, November 20** from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Coshocton County Extension office located at 724 South 7th Street in Coshocton, Ohio.

The cost for this training program is \$135 course fee and applications are due January 8. Attend one of these meetings to learn more about the Master Gardener training program and about the educational outreach the Master Gardeners conduct. The cost for this training program is \$135 course fee. Attendance at one of these meetings is not necessary to apply to become a Master Gardener but it is highly recommended so applicants can get their questions answered. More details can also be received by contacting David Marrison at 740-622-2265 or marrison.2@osu.edu. An application packet can be found on-line at coshocton.osu.edu.

Upcoming Program Dates

- Farm Tax Update- December 2
- Ag Legal Workshop- December 9
- Farmers Breakfast- December 10
- Farm Bill Training at Tri-Valley High School- December 12
- Winter Agronomy School- January 28
- Farm Bill Training in Clark- January 30
- Farm Succession Workshop- February 12 & 19
- Farm Financial Management Series- February 4, 11, & 18
- Mortality Composting Workshop- March 18

**Check out upcoming
programs at:**

go.osu.edu/coshoctonevents



November 12, 2019 7:30 a.m.

"Farm Safety"

Rob McMasters, Coshocton Emergency Management

December 10, 2019 7:30 a.m.

"Water & Drainage Issues"

Peggy Hall, OSU AG Attorney

January 14, 2020 7:30 a.m.

"Growing Hops"

Jandi & Jared Adams, Coshocton Hops

February 11, 2020 7:30 a.m.

"CRP Pollinators & Hunting Preserve"

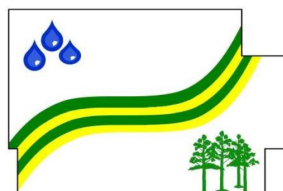
Dean Ringwalt

March 10, 2020 7:30 a.m.

"Streambank Regulations"

Lydia Fach, US Army Corps of Engineers

New Location: Join us at Coshocton Inn & Suites, 115 N. Water Street, Coshocton (beside McDonalds) for the 2019-2020 Farmers Breakfasts. A buffet breakfast will be provided and the cost is \$9.00 per person. Reservations are not required. If you have questions, please call Coshocton SWCD at 622-8087, ext. 4.



Winter AG LAW UPDATE

“Legal Issues Impacting Farmers”

**Monday, December 9, 2019
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Frontier Power Community Room
770 South 2nd Street
Coshocton, Ohio 43812**



Join OSU Extension as we host Peggy Hall (OSU Agricultural & Resource Law Director) for a **“Winter Ag Law Update.”** Don’t miss this chance to learn more about the legal issues which are impacting agriculture and our local farms/families.

Some of the legal topics which will be addressed include: farm leases, grain contracts, line fence law, noxious weeds, Nuisance complaints, surface drainage rights, leasing land for hunting, and the legal aspects of growing hemp. Bring your Ag Legal questions for Peggy to answer!



PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED. There is no charge for this program but reservations are being requested so that adequate program materials can be printed. Call 740-622-2265 or email marrison.2@osu.edu to reserve your spot.





FARM TAX UPDATE

Monday, December 2, 2019

7:00 to 8:37 P.M.

Location:

Coshocton County Services Building
Room 145
724 South 7th Street
Coshocton, Ohio 43812

Details:

This program is free & open to the public! Courtesy reservations are requested so program materials can be prepared. Call 740-622-2265 to RSVP.

OSU Extension Educator David Marrison will provide a Farm Tax Update. We will examine year farm tax strategies and learn more about the new Section 199A deduction for Qualified Business Income. It is not business as usual in the world of farm taxes. Wrap up the year learning how to better manage your farm taxes.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit cfaesdiversity.osu.edu.

Private Pesticide Applicator Re-Certification & Fertilizer Re-Certification Sessions



Coshocton County Dates

Tuesday, February 4, 2020
or
Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Do you have a Private Pesticide Applicator's License and/or Fertilizer Certification which expires in 2020?

If so, the Coshocton County Extension office will be hosting two re-certification sessions. Both sessions will offer 3 credit hours for Private Pesticide Re-certification (CORE & Categories 1-6) and 1 credit for Fertilizer Re-certification (Category 15). Both of these sessions will be held in Room 145 at the Coshocton County Services Building located at 724 South 7th Street in Coshocton, Ohio. The sessions will be held on:

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Pesticide: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Light Lunch: 12:00 – 12:15 p.m.

Fertilizer: 12:15 – 1:15 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Fertilizer: 5:15 - 6:15 p.m.

Light Dinner: 6:15 – 6:30 p.m.

Pesticide: 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Registration Details:

The registration cost will be \$25 for Coshocton County residents (\$35 for out of county residents). Pre-registration is required no later than one week prior to each meeting as space is limited. There are no guarantees that walk-in registrations can be accepted.

Can't Attend?

If you cannot attend one of these sessions additional sessions are being held across the region. Sessions will be held in **Tuscarawas County** on March 19 & 26. Call the Tuscarawas County Extension Office at 330-339-2337 for more information. Sessions will also be held in **Muskingum County** on February 4 & 6. Call the Muskingum County Extension office at 740-454-0144 for more information. **Holmes County** will also be hosting sessions on February 5 & 25. Contact the Holmes County Extension office at 330-674-3015 for more information. Additional times and locations around the region can be found at: <https://pested.osu.edu/privaterecertification>

Registration Form on Back

2020 Coshocton County Pesticide and Fertilizer Re-Certification Registration Form

Name _____
Applicator License Number _____
Phone Number _____ Email address _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____
County _____

I will be attending on: _____ February 4 _____ March 4

Check the Categories Needed for Re-certification

___ Core ___ 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 ___ 6 _____ Fertilizer (Category 15)

Fee Required (check all that apply):

___ Coshocton County Re-certification Fee (\$25) \$ _____
___ OUT of COUNTY Re-certification Fee (\$35) \$ _____

Pre-registration is Requested as seats are limited.

MAIL FORM & CHECK PAYABLE TO OSU EXTENSION TO:

Coshocton County Extension Office

724 South 7th Street, Room 110

Coshocton, OH 43812

A reminder that the registration fee for this program is different than the \$30 renewal license fee which is paid to the OHIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (ODA). Applicators will be invoiced separately from the ODA for the license renewal fee. More information about the \$30 license renewal fee can be directed to the ODA by calling 1-800-282-1955.