

COSHOCTON COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES



August 10 (Edition #159)

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Hello Coshocton County! Last Friday evening, our agricultural community came together to offer First Farm Friday in downtown Coshocton. It was a beautiful evening and we all were excited to see the number of youngsters and their parents who took time to participate.

It takes great teamwork and collaboration between the city, farmers, agribusinesses, and industry supporters to bring this event to our community. A big thank you to the Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District for their leadership and to all who made this a great event.

I highly recommend that you will want to grab your coffee tomorrow morning and log on at 8:00 a.m. to participate in the Ohio Farmland Leasing Update. Our Farm Office Team will be discussing Ohio's new statutory termination law for verbal farmland leases. It is a great chance to learn more about this new law.

Have a great week!

Sincerely,

David L. Marrison

Coshocton County OSU Extension ANR Educator

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

First FARM Friday a Success!

Last Friday evening August 5 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. our agricultural community came together to offer **First Farm Friday** on Main Street in downtown Coshocton. It was a beautiful evening and we all were excited to see the huge crowd enjoying First Farm Friday and then staying to hear the music of Earnest.

I know the kids were very excited to climb in the combine, planter and sprayer and to see the impressive load of lumber from Millwood Lumber. Even better was getting up close and personal with a baby dairy calf, sheep, goats, and beef cow. At our OSU Extension booth, the kids got to test their ag knowledge as they spun our question wheel. The kids learned that a cow's stomach has 4 compartments, pigs don't sweat, that we have over 1200 farms in the county, and that pumpkins are 90% water.

It takes great teamwork and collaboration between the city, farmers, agribusinesses and industry supporters to bring this event to our community. A big thank you to the Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District for their leadership and to all who made this a great event



Ohio Farmland Leasing Update is August 11

By: Peggy Kirk Hall, Associate Professor, Agricultural & Resource Law Tuesday, July 26th, 2022

Source; <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/tue-07262022-1246pm/ohio-farmland-leasing-update-august-11>

Is it time to start thinking about your farmland lease for next year? We think so! There are new legal issues and updated economic information to consider for the upcoming crop year. That's why we've scheduled our next Ohio Farmland Leasing Update for Thursday, August 11 at 8 a.m. Join the Farm Office team of Barry Ward, Robert Moore and Peggy Hall for an early morning webinar discussion of the latest economic and legal

farmland leasing information for Ohio.

Here are the topics we'll cover:

- Ohio's new statutory termination law for verbal farmland leases
- Using a Memorandum of Lease and other lease practice tips
- Economic outlook for Ohio row crops
- New Ohio cropland values and cash rents survey results
- Rental market outlook



There's no cost to attend the Zoom webinar, but registration is necessary. Visit <https://go.osu.edu/farmlandleasingupdate> for registration. And if you're already thinking about your next farmland lease, also be sure to use our farmland leasing resources on <https://farmoffice.osu.edu>.

A Guide to Accessing Farm Service Agency Program

By: Dean Kreager, Extension Educator, ANR in Licking County

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/ohioagmanager/2022/08/08/a-guide-to-accessing-farm-service-agency-programs/>

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is one of the agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Originally established in the 1930's to provide a safety net for farmers during the great depression, their services have evolved over the years. The benefits of services offered by FSA are often underutilized. This may be due to fear of difficulty working with a government agency or just not knowing the extent of services that exist. Many do not realize that FSA provides services to all types of farms and farmers and not just large conventional farms and ranches.

The FSA is trying to improve its reach of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. The USDA defines socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (SDFRs) as those belonging to groups that have been subject to racial or ethnic prejudice. SDFRs include farmers who are Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Hispanic or Latino, and Asian or Pacific Islander. For some but not all USDA programs, the SDFR category also includes women.

Often, FSA offices are associated with price support programs and disaster payments, but their services go way beyond that. The agency provides a safety net for farmers of all types and sizes. Loans, conservation practice cost shares and disaster payments are just a few of their services. OSU Extension has been working to spread the word about several FSA programs that can help all types of farmers be successful.

If having a safety net in case of natural disasters or catastrophic events such as COVID, access to very low interest loans even for those that are unable to qualify for conventional loans, or the ability to receive financial assistance for conservation related improvements is important, now is the time to register your farm with FSA. Registering your farm with FSA and signing up for the county FSA newsletters will keep you informed about services that can benefit you.

Getting your farm enrolled in the system is not a difficult process. Call or set up an appointment to visit your local FSA office. Most counties have an office. If you are unsure which FSA office services your county, please visit: <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=oh&agency=fsa>. If you do not have a farm number, they can assign one. You do not necessarily need to own the property to qualify. Leasing may qualify you depending on the program.

During your first visit, be sure to bring:

- Proof of identity (driver's license, social security card, IRS EIN number)
- Proof of Ownership (copy of recorded deed)
- Leases for non-owned land
- For partnerships, entities, or joint operations, bring entity Identification Status (articles of incorporation, trust & estate documents, or partnership agreement to determine who has authority to make decisions)

for the business).

When you go in for your appointment you can expect to sit down with an FSA employee that will verify your paperwork and register your farm in the system. They will talk with you about your operation and possible ways they can be of assistance to help you succeed in meeting your goals. You may learn of options that you did not know exist.

FSA will provide the application and help answer any questions the producer has on the programs. It takes time for the paperwork to be processed and additional information may be needed. Please start this process early in order to ensure you are eligible prior to any program sign-up cut-off dates. Some programs have cut off dates while others have open enrollment throughout the year.

Once you are registered in the system you will receive notifications about new programs and changes to existing programs. Participating in future programs will be much easier. Please contact your local FSA office with questions and to get the process started.

Beef Calf Weaning Management

[Kevin Gould](#) and [Jerad Jaborek](#), [Michigan State University Extension](#) -

By: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/beef-calf-weaning-management-to-prepare-your-calves-for-future-success>

Weaning is a stressful time for calves. Staging preconditioning practices can reduce stress and allow for more successful post-weaning growth.

Ask two or more beef cattle veterinarians about weaning beef calf management, also referred to as preconditioning, and you are bound to get different recommendations for protocols to follow. This does not mean one is right or wrong, it just means there are several options to accomplish the same goals. Recommendations may vary due to calf age, labor, nutrition, facilities, environment, pathogen risk, marketing plans, etc.

Regardless of the approach, the main goal should always be a low-stress weaning and preconditioning protocol that prepares calves for targeted growth and health through the next phases of production.

As you plan for weaning, the first step is to meet the nutritional requirement of the calf at weaning. Milk is rich in protein and energy and is estimated to be about 30% of the dry matter intake of a calf from 6 to 7 months of age. Filling the void left from nursing should be done with high quality forages and/or concentrate supplements with an elevated protein level the first two weeks post-weaning. Additional protein is needed when the dry matter intake of calves is reduced from weaning stress, generally lasting 7 to 14 days.

The second step should be planning a weaning location. Fenceline weaning is a great choice that allows calves to be maintained on high quality pasture directly across the fence from the dams. This will minimize the weaning stress by maintaining the social bond through the first 7 to 10 days after weaning. It also maintains a familiar environment and feedstuffs for the calf during a stressful time. After day 7, the cows can be moved away to remote pastures.

Finally, during weaning, familiar water and mineral/vitamin source is critical to assure all calves have access. Creep feeding calves for a minimum of two weeks prior to weaning will increase bunk familiarity and increase supplement intake during weaning. Locate supplement in bunks near the weaning fence so calves can easily find them and start consuming supplement quickly.



Fenceline weaning is a great choice that allows calves to be maintained on high quality pasture directly across the fence from the dams.

Preconditioning practices including vaccinations are extremely valuable. In general, initial vaccinations should not be given less than 14 days before or less than 8 days after weaning, because stress at the time of weaning may greatly reduce vaccine efficacy. From days 1 to 7 post weaning, calf stress and cortisol level are significantly elevated, so this is a time to avoid vaccinations as elevated cortisol will reduce the calf's immune response to vaccines. To achieve desired immune vaccine response, be sure to follow label guidelines. Always observe calves daily during the weaning phase to evaluate health status and dry matter feed intake.

Avoid other stressful processing tasks like castration and dehorning at vaccination time. Castration is always less stressful when done earlier in life. Horned calves are less common today with the use of polled bulls in the industry but when dehorning is necessary, it should be done a minimum of two weeks ahead of weaning to avoid stacking stressful events and provides adequate time for healing before vaccinations.

Deworming and implanting are often added at weaning time. Again, whenever possible, consider these practices for your calves 60 to 90 days ahead of weaning. Prevention of parasite loads before weaning will likely improve the calf's immune response, and deworming and implanting will each give a boost to post-weaning growth.

Minimizing stress before, during and after weaning will help ensure preconditioning management that will generate added health and value to your calf crop through all production phases. If you have questions, please reach out to your [Michigan State University Extension beef experts](#), including the authors of this article, Kevin or Jerad. We would be happy to help provide you with more information about calf preconditioning programs to fit your goals. Producers should document all preconditioning practices and consider enrolling your calves in the [Michigan Cattlemen's Association STAMP Verification Program](#), a free service to all members.

This article was published by [Michigan State University Extension](#). For more information, visit <https://extension.msu.edu>. To have a digest of information delivered straight to your email inbox, visit <https://extension.msu.edu/newsletters>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <https://extension.msu.edu/experts>, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

Nutritional Considerations for Flocks During Breeding Season

By: Jaelyn Quintana, South Dakota State University Extension Sheep Field Specialist
(Previously published online with [South Dakota State University Extension: November 23, 2021](#))
Source:

Managing nutrition during breeding season is critical for improving lambing rates, but it can often be a challenge. When breeding for spring-born lambs, forages are declining in nutritional value while nutrient requirements for sheep are increasing. Fall lambing requires breeding when heat can challenge conception. Regardless of the time of year, it's important to keep ewes and rams in mind before, during and after breeding season. Prior to and throughout breeding, many producers utilize flushing to increase ovulation rates. During the breeding season, rams are working hard to service ewes in heat while attempting to meet their own nutritional needs. Increasing the flock's plane of nutrition continues to play an important role in ewes by reducing early embryonic death and helping rams recover after breeding.

Ewe Management

Success of breeding is largely dependent on nutrition. Simple management techniques, such as flushing or managing ewe lambs that are still growing separately can boost breeding success. Simply



put, flushing means increasing your flock's plane of nutrition at least two to three weeks before and after breeding. Flushing helps to initiate estrus, improve ovulation and increase conception rates by promoting the ewe's body to signal to the reproductive tract that she is ready to support herself plus a growing fetus or fetuses. Additionally, flushing improves embryonic attachment to the uterine wall, hence reducing the number of early embryonic deaths, which most commonly occur within the first 30 days of conception.

Ensuring that ewes are bred within that first 21 days (the first heat cycle) can help shorten your lambing window. High-energy feeds, such as corn, are commonly used for flushing at approximately one pound per head daily. Moving ewes to a higher-quality pasture or cover crop can also elicit a similar response to flushing. Ovulation and weaning rates are positively influenced when ewes can consume greater amounts of quality forage.

Maintaining an increased plane of nutrition is even more important for first-time mothers. In many cases, young ewes aren't finished growing while also being asked to also carry offspring. However, it has been shown that young ewes that raise offspring their first year may have greater lambing performance as mature ewes. If infrastructure and feed resources allow, increasing supplementation to ewe lambs and having a separately managed breeding group specifically for ewe lambs will promote conception and maintained pregnancy.

Ram Management

Ram care is also important before, during and after breeding and should be monitored. The energy requirement of a ram increases by approximately 9% from maintenance to pre-breeding. This improves semen quality and allows for excess body stores during an energy-demanding breeding season. On average, a ram can lose up to 25% of his own body weight throughout a breeding season.

It's generally recommended to utilize one ram per 30 ewes, but if breeding groups are placed in large pastures, or greater than one ram per 30 ewes, a ram's requirement to travel farther or service more ewes will increase energy expenditures. Additionally, adverse weather conditions and low forage quality further challenge a ram's energy demand. Extra supplementation may also be needed for ram lambs utilized during the breeding season. Improving the longevity of rams is a common concern on range operations, so take care of the rams that play a huge role in conception rates and, ultimately, your bottom dollar.

Body Condition Score Prior to Breeding

Body condition also plays an integral role in improving conception. Body condition scores (BCS) should be assessed at least three weeks prior to breeding to make nutritional decisions, especially because increasing body condition takes longer than decreasing condition. While there may be incidences of sheep maintaining or improving body condition on low-quality pasture, this is extremely difficult when considering the nutritional demands of the breeding season. Both ewes and rams should be in a BCS 3 to 3.5 prior to breeding. Ewes in BCS 3 or slightly lower typically show an improved response to flushing effects. Rapid weight losses after joining ewes and rams should be avoided to achieve maximum conception and pregnancy rates. Therefore, flushing diets should be provided to ewes and rams for two to three weeks before and after breeding. For more information on BCS, check out the article, [Managing Sheep Body Condition Score Throughout the Year](#).

Optimizing flock nutrition throughout the breeding season can help improve conception rates, lambing percentages and ram longevity. Utilizing high-energy feedstuffs, such as corn supplemented at about one pound per head daily, or the use of nutrient-dense pastures and cover crops make excellent options for both ewes and rams. For the best results, a flushing diet should be made available at least two to three weeks prior to breeding, throughout the season and two to three weeks after breeding. Proper nutritional management is one simple way to positively influence your lamb crop and, in turn, increase the profitability of your flock.

Scouting for Late Season Soybean Diseases

By: Horacio Lopez-Nicora and Stephanie Karhoff

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2022-26/scouting-late-season-soybean-diseases>

Soybean disease levels across the state have been low to moderate so far, but growers should remain vigilant in their scouting efforts. August scouting can guide future variety, fungicide, or seed treatment selections, so it is important to identify and record any of the following mid to late season soybean diseases. For a complete list of soybean diseases, refer to the Corn, Soybean, Wheat, and Forages Field Guide available for purchase at either <https://extensionpubs.osu.edu/corn-soybean-wheat-and-forages-field-guide/> or at your local county extension office.

Sudden Death Syndrome

[Sudden death syndrome \(SDS\)](#) will first appear as yellowing between leaf veins that eventually becomes necrotic while the leaf veins remain green. Foliar symptoms are a result of the toxin produced by the fungus *Fusarium virguliforme* following early season infection of soybean roots. Foliar symptoms of brown stem rot (BSR) can be confused for SDS. Distinguish the difference between the two soybean diseases by splitting the stems lengthwise. The center of the stem or pith will be white for SDS and brown for BSR. SDS is likely to first appear in fields with soil compaction or history of soybean cyst nematode (SCN) infection.

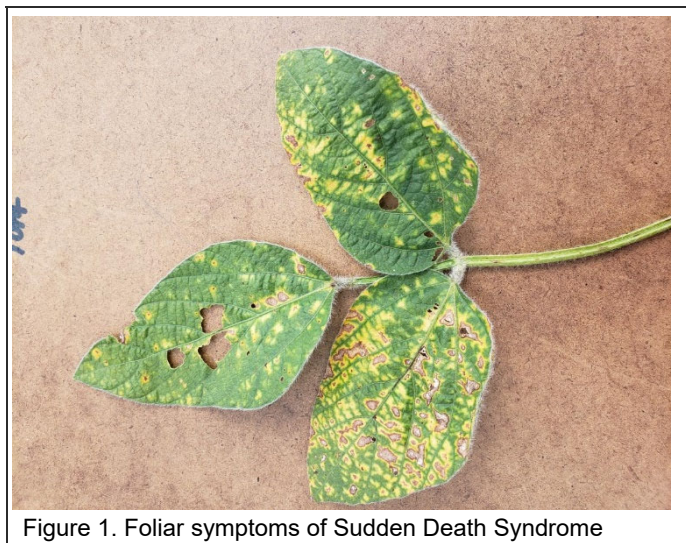


Figure 1. Foliar symptoms of Sudden Death Syndrome

Frogeye Leaf Spot

Warm, humid weather favors [frogeye leaf spot](#) development, but keep in mind visible symptoms will not appear until about two weeks after infection. Younger leaves are more susceptible; therefore, we recommend scouting for frogeye leaf spot in the middle to upper part of the soybean canopy. Look for small dark lesions that will grow and become gray to light brown with dark, red-brown margins. With a magnifying hand lens, diagnostic fungal structures (conidiophores and conidia) that resemble whiskers can be observed. Herbicide damage can sometime produce similar symptoms, but these lesions will not present fungal structures.

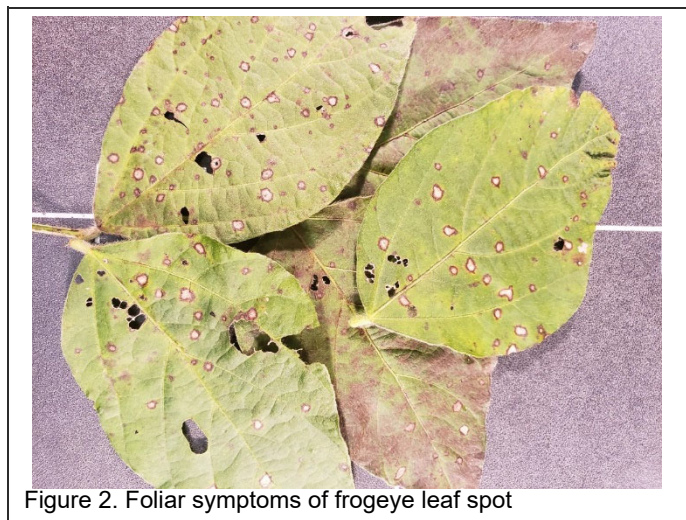


Figure 2. Foliar symptoms of frogeye leaf spot

Severe infection can cause premature leaf drop. If frogeye leaf spot is detected in soybean fields, foliar fungicide application between R3 (beginning pod) and R5 (beginning seed) growth stage will be most effective to manage frogeye leaf spot and protect yield. Foliar fungicide applications should not be made in fields past R5.

Sclerotinia Stem Rot (White Mold)

Target early scouting (R3 to R6) to fields with a history of [sclerotinia stem rot or white mold](#). Varieties with >20% disease incidence should be avoided at these locations in the future. White mold is caused by the fungus *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* and is recognized by white, fluffy growth on soybean stems. You may also notice what appears to be rat droppings on the soybean plant, which are the fungus' survival structure called sclerotia. A tell-tale white mold symptom is wilted, dead leaves that will remain attached to the stem at the end of the growing season.



Figure 3. Signs of sclerotinia stem rot or white mold.



Figure 4. Symptoms of phytophthora root and stem rot. Photo courtesy of Dr. Anne Dorrance

Phytophthora Root and Stem Rot

Thought [phytophthora root and stem rot](#) was only an early season headache? Think again. This disease can occur throughout the growing season in susceptible varieties that have experienced recent flooding. Target scouting to fields with poor drainage 1-2 weeks after a heavy rain. Early symptoms include wilting and yellowing leaves. Eventually, a chocolate brown lesion will form, starting below ground to almost mid-height. Roots of infected plants will be discolored.

Soybean Cyst Nematode

Unfortunately, soybean cyst nematode (SCN) can cause significant yield reduction with no aboveground visible symptoms. In other words, over 30% yield reduction can take place in SCN infested fields and soybean will look healthy. So how do we scout for a disease that we can't see? [Active management of SCN](#) begins by knowing if you have the problem. While plants may look healthy in SCN infested fields, the roots will not lie! [Checking roots for SCN](#) can be done five to six months after planting and throughout September. SCN can interact with biotic and abiotic stressors and compound their symptoms. For example, a field with potassium deficiency and SCN will show more severe marginal yellowing in soybean leaves than if that field was not infested with SCN. Amending potassium deficiency will reduce the symptoms, but not the SCN levels. There is also evidence that SCN will cause more severe SDS symptoms in fields where the fungus and nematode are present. Growers can use these indirect symptoms (nutrient deficiency, SDS, etc.) to target areas and sample for SCN.

If SCN is detected in soybean roots, a soil sample in the fall will reveal the SCN numbers and with this information, the best management strategy to implement. The first line of defense against these diseases is selecting a resistant variety, so refer to your scouting notes when selecting varieties for the 2023 growing season.

Plan Now for Fall Fertilization of Perennial Forages

By: Mark Sulc & Greg Labarge

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2022-26/plan-now-fall-fertilization-perennial-forages>

Early fall is one of the best times to topdress maintenance fertilizer on perennial forages. Soils are usually firm in September, and autumn topdressing provides needed nutrients for good winter survival of the forage stand and vigorous regrowth the following spring. Now is a great time to begin preparations and acquiring fertilizer supplies so timely fall applications can be made.

Remember that hay crops will remove about 50 lbs of K₂O and 12 lbs of P₂O₅ per ton of dry hay harvested. Adequate amounts of soil P and K are important for the productivity and persistence of forage stands. But nutrient over-application harms the environment and can harm animals fed those forages. A recent soil test

should always guide what nutrients to apply and how much. If a recent soil test has not been made, now is a great time to do it. If nutrient deficiencies are suspected, then tissue tests combined with the soil test values can be helpful in the diagnosis of nutrient issues.

When recommendations call for high rates of phosphorus and potassium, there is an advantage to splitting the application, with half applied this autumn and the remainder applied next year after the first cutting when soils are firm.

Ohio State University Extension has an Excel tool to help you determine the right rates to apply based on your soil test report. The OSU Fertility Recommendation Calculator and a user guide are available at <https://forages.osu.edu/forage-management/soil-fertility-forages>. We highly recommend using this tool to check any fertilizer recommendations you receive, as we have seen some fertilizer recommendations that are too high.

It is crucial not to over apply P and K. For example, many dairies have high levels of soil P, making the expense of fertilizer P unnecessary. When soil test P exceeds the agronomic level of 50 PPM, there is increased potential of P losses into streams and lakes. Applying too much K will result in luxury consumption by the forage plants, leading to excessive levels of K in the forage that can cause animal health problems. Judicious amounts of fertilizer are good for the wallet and our environment.

New Resources for Planning for the Future of Your Farm

By: Peggy Kirk Hall, Associate Professor, Agricultural & Resource Law Monday, August 08th, 2022

Source: <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/mon-08082022-922pm/our-new-resources-can-help-you-plan-future-your-farm>

Farming takes planning. A lot of planning. Whether for next year's crop, expanding a herd, buying land, constructing buildings, starting a new venture, or upgrading equipment, farmers are nearly always engaged in planning for how to keep the farm on track. But farm transition and estate planning—that is, planning for what happens to a farm business and its family from one generation to the next—is a whole different kind of planning. And it's one type of planning farmers often avoid.

Farm transition and estate planning can be challenging and uncomfortable, perhaps because it involves dealing with death, uncertainty, and difficult family decisions. But like planning for the next year of production, farm transition and estate planning is critical to a farm's success. With good planning, a farm family can protect farm assets, implement family and business goals, and ensure a smooth transition of a viable operation to the next generation. It's the kind of planning that can pay off big. That's why we've written the Planning for the Future of Your Farm law bulletin series, a resource that explains the legal tools and strategies that can address a family's goals.



The ten-part series of bulletins in Planning for the Future of Your Farm includes:

1. **Farm Transition Planning: What it is and What to Expect.** The concept of farm transition planning, common terms, what farmers can expect from the transition planning process, and how to prepare for it.
2. **The Financial Power of Attorney.** A Financial Power of Attorney authorizes someone to make financial decisions for another. We explain the different types and how they can help a farm business.
3. **The Health Care Power of Attorney and Advance Directives.** Medical and end-of-life plans can ease decision making uncertainties for families. This bulletin explains the Health Care Power of Attorney, Living Wills, Donor Registries, and Funeral Directives.
4. **Wills and Will-based Plans.** A will is a commonly known tool for distributing property. This bulletin explains different types of wills and how they can be used in a farm transition plan.
5. **Legal Tools for Avoiding Probate.** We review legal tools that transfer assets upon death and avoid probate, including beneficiary designations, payable on death accounts, transfer on death designations,

and survivorship deeds.

6. **Gifting Assets Prior to Death.** Gifting is one way to transfer assets to the next generation. In this bulletin, we discuss how gifting works and when it can be advantageous to incorporate gifting into a transition plan.
7. **Using Trusts in Farm Transition Planning.** Trusts are popular tools in farm transition planning. In this bulletin, we explain how trusts function and highlight how they can meet family and farm planning needs.
8. **Using Business Entities in Farm Transition Planning.** Many farms have business entities for liability or tax purposes, but business entities can also enable transition of a business to the next generation. We explain how in this law bulletin.
9. **Strategies for Treating Heirs Equitably.** Whether heirs should inherit assets equally or equitably is a challenging dilemma for parents. We present strategies for equitable distributions of assets in this bulletin.
10. **Strategies for Transferring Equipment and Livestock.** Equipment and livestock can be more difficult to transfer than other assets. In this bulletin, we review special considerations and strategies that can help minimize the challenges of these transfers.

Find the entire set of bulletins on the Farm Office website law library at go.osu.edu/farmplanning. We also cover these topics in our popular Planning for the Future of Your Farm Workshop, offered online and in person each winter. The next online workshop will begin January 23, 2023--check our [Events Page](#) at farmoffice.osu.edu for workshop registration details. Reading our new bulletins and attending our workshop are two first steps that can help you plan for the future of your farm.

This resource is provided with generous funding from USDA National Agricultural Library, in partnership with the National Agricultural Law Center.

