

COSHOCTON COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES**July 7 Issue (Edition #102)**

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Hello Coshocton County! I hope each of you had a great 4th of July holiday weekend. I saw some families taking a break to visit such patriotic sites as Gettysburg or Washington D.C. While others spent the holiday weekend gearing up for wheat harvest and others were baling either first or second cutting hay.

We had a really good Beef Quality Assurance Re-certification session last week and have 7 more sessions planned locally for the remainder of the year as 199 producers will need to re-certify before the end of the year. As a reminder, the BQA certification needs to be renewed every three years.

In today's issue, there is information on the CORN LIVE session which address fungicide application in corn plus a few good forage articles for our beef producers. Also, I hope you enjoy my Farm & Dairy article titled "Tractor Time is Thinking Time."

Stay safe and well.

Sincerely,

David L. Marrison

Coshocton County OSU Extension ANR Educator



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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BQA Re-certification Sessions Planned



The Coshocton County Extension office will be offering a series of **Beef Quality Assurance (BQA)** re-certification meetings throughout the remainder of this year as a total of 199 producers will need to obtain re-certification before the end of 2021.

To help producers obtain their certification, we have scheduled a series of re-certification sessions for the remainder of the year. These sessions will be held in Room 145 at the Coshocton County Services Building located at 724 South 7th Street in Coshocton County. Producers can choose the session which best fits their

schedule. Sessions will be held on:

- Monday, July 12 (7:00 to 8:30 p.m.)
- Monday, August 9 (7:00 to 8:30 p.m.)
- Monday, September 13 (7:00 to 8:30 p.m.)
- Monday, October 11 (7:00 to 8:30 p.m.)
- Wednesday, November 3 (7:00 to 8:30 p.m.)
- Wednesday, December 1 (7:00 to 8:30 p.m.)
- Tuesday, December 14 (7:00 to 8:30 p.m.)

Pre-registration is required for each session as space is limited. There is no fee to attend. Call 740-622-2265 to pre-register. These sessions also qualify for anyone who is seeking a first time certification. A program flyer is also attached to this newsletter.

Other Ways to Re-certify:

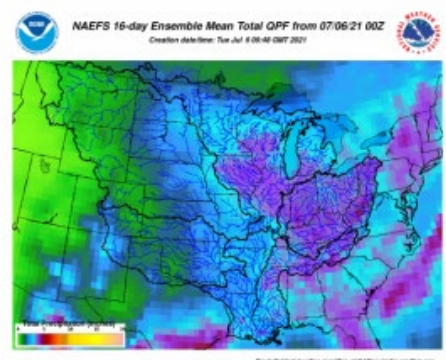
- Online certification and recertification is also available and can be completed anytime at <https://www.bqa.org/beef-quality-assurance-certification/online-certifications>.
- Producers can also attend sessions hosted by the Tuscarawas County Extension office at the Sugarcreek Stockyards on July 21 (1 p.m.), July 29 (7 p.m.), August 10 (1 p.m.) or August 25 (7 p.m.). Pre-registration is requested by calling 330-339-2337 or by emailing Chris Zoller at Zoller.1@osu.edu
- Producers can attend a session at the Muskingum Livestock Auction in Zanesville on July 27 (7 p.m.) hosted by the Muskingum County Extension office. More information can be obtained by contacting Clifton Martin at martin.2422@osu.edu or by calling 740-454-0144.

Growing Season Outlook

By: Jim Noel

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/21-2021/growing-season-outlook>

Conditions are fairly reasonable from the weather and climate front. Nothing is ever ideal but temperatures and rainfall have been reasonable to this point. July will likely go down as a bit wetter than normal with temperatures slightly warmer than normal mostly due to overnight lows being higher. It does not appear we will see maximum temperatures above 95 much in July which is good news. Rainfall is normally 3-4 inches in July across the state and it looks like most places will be in the 2-5 inch range. Isolated higher totals are also possible. So even the locations with below normal rainfall should not be too dry. If anything we may battle the slightly wetter and more humid side of things.



The remainder of the growing season trend looks to continue with slightly wetter and warmer than normal. You can see all the latest outlooks at the NOAA Climate Prediction Center located

here: https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/lead01/off01_prpcp.gif

Harvest Outlook

The autumn harvest outlook indicates the warmer than normal trend will persist with rainfall trending normal.

La Nina

It appears there could be another La Nina this winter into spring but we will know more in the next few months. We will keep you informed. Typically La Nina has negative impacts on crops in Ohio so it is worth paying attention to.

Rainfall Pattern Across the Corn and Soybean Region

The pattern through mid to late July supports normal to above normal across much of the crop growing states with the exception of the far western areas of the Plains as shown on the graphic above. This would likely be supportive to crops overall.

Thinking about Fungicide Application in Corn? Tune into Thursday's CORN Live Session

By: Mary Griffith, Amanda Douridas, Mike Estadt & Will Hamman

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/21-2021/thinking-about-fungicide-application-corn-tune-thursday%E2%80%99s-corn>

This Thursday, July 8th Pierce Paul and Nate Douridas will join CORN Live to discuss fungicide application in corn to prevent diseases and reduce risk of vomitoxin. The session will also include a crop progress and scouting report from Southern Ohio as well as an update on crop damage from the hail that hit some parts of Ohio last month. All speakers will be available to answer questions from participants.

This session will be online this Thursday, July 8th from 8:00am – 9:00am. 1 hour of PM CCA CEUs will be offered. The webinar is free to attend. Register at www.go.osu.edu/cornlive.



Inaugural Tri-State Precision Agriculture Conference Will Feature Current Trends in Tillage

By: Alan Leininger

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/21-2021/inaugural-tri-state-precision-agriculture-conference-will-feature>

Join OSU Extension Henry County for the inaugural Tri-State Precision Agriculture Conference on August 11, 2021. Speakers will discuss current trends in tillage equipment, and equipment demonstrations will feature high speed tillage, vertical tillage, strip tillage, and cover crop seeding systems. Fertilizer re-certification and CCA credits available.

When: Wednesday, August 11, 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Where: Northwest State Community College, 22600 OH-34, Archbold, OH 43502

Cost: \$20 by August 2, \$30 after August 2 including at the door. Free to all FFA and 4-H members.

Registration includes catered lunch.

RSVP: RSVP is REQUIRED at go.osu.edu/tristate_pa



For more information, please contact Alan Leininger at 419-592-0806 or leininger.17@osu.edu

Longer Days Change the Way Plants Grow & the Way They're Managed

By: Victor Shelton, NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2021/07/07/longer-days-change-the-way-plants-grow-the-way-theyre-managed/>

Suddenly, it's July. We are past the summer solstice – the official start of summer. The summer solstice is best described as the longest period of daylight and the shortest night of the year. The length of the days plays an important role with some plants, because they use the length of the nights to cue the release of hormones for flowering and fruiting – photoperiodism. This topic came up recently and made me stop and think about its possible implications on forages for grazing. Let's ruminate on this a bit.

Photoperiodism basically describes what a particular species of plant does in response to changing day lengths. Plants are classified into three groups according to the photoperiods: short-day plants, long-day plants and day-neutral plants. Plants adapt to seasonal changes in their environment, but photoperiod doesn't change. Day length is pretty much the same for any particular day at the same latitude every year. The closer you get to the equator – the more balanced day and night hours are year around. Ironically, the term photoperiod is misleading because the length of the dark period is what predominantly controls plant growth, not the daylight. Temperature, moisture, growing degree days and air pressure are all very much less regular. It's interesting but shouldn't be too much of a surprise that both plants and animals use photoperiodism to adjust their activities.

Short-day plants require less than 12 hours of sunlight, or more than 12 hours of darkness. Long-day plants require greater than 12 hours of sunlight or less than 12 hours of darkness. Plants that have a flowering process that is not regulated by day length are called day-neutral plants – they bloom when they are old enough. Day length exceeds 12 hours after the spring equinox and then is less than 12 hours starting at the autumn equinox. Most plants won't grow much once daylight is under 10 hours. The summer solstice marks the end of increasing day length and the start of decreasing day length. The winter solstice, likewise, marks the end of decreasing day length and the start of increasing day length.

Indiana is long enough from north to south to have some differences in day length; remember it's about latitude. Right now, the very northern counties have about 25 more minutes of daylight than the very southern counties.

What does this have to do with grazing? Good question! It does impact annuals planted for grazing more than adapted perennials. Changes in day length indicate the season for plants. This helps them to figure out when it is time to start growing, flowering and going to seed.

Turnips, radishes, rapeseed and similar hybrids are often included in forage mixes for grazing. Though these species certainly can be included in spring seeding mixes, they do a lot better if planted after the summer solstice with increasing nighttime. The combination of increasing day length and warm temperatures usually indicates to these species to initiate bolting (flowering) and reduced forage value. It tricks some biennial plants into acting like an annual plant. Typically, these plants prefer to grow with decreasing daylight after planting, then go through a vernalization, which is a period of cold temperatures that is needed to form flowers for seed production the next spring. This is the true nature of most biennial plants.

I find it interesting that not all brassicas (cruciferous species of the Brassicaceae family, e.g. cabbage, broccoli, kale, mustard, radish, turnips, etc.) require the same vernalization or day length requirements. To complicate it, there are also some differences depending on time length to maturity within the same species. Turnips, radishes, rapeseed and hybrids of those tend to go to seed when planted in the spring. Garden radishes would do the same if you let them go – they just don't usually reach that stage before you eat them or they may bolt more quickly if you planted them late under warmer conditions. Most of those garden radishes are very short season which helps to delay flowering if planted very early. The rest that were mentioned would be fine if all you wanted to do was add some extra diversity into a spring annual forage mix, but they rarely perform in bulk leaf or tuber/root growth as they do later in the year. These species tend to produce more forage for grazing planted post the summer solstice with increasing nighttime. If you think about how these plants or their wild

counterparts would have grown naturally, most would just now be starting to drop seed from last year's plants. Brassicas that tend to be more day length neutral and can do quite well planted in the spring include kale, some forage cabbages and collards. These usually must have a cold period in order to flower and produce seed. There are certainly subspecies and hybrids that are bred for certain growth periods or conditions, but for the most part, most prefer to grow as biennials, not annuals and the growth is reflective of that and most forage varieties are best planted for fall, winter, and perhaps next spring use.

I'll stray down a side path for a moment since this whole topic today is already a bit array. Where species won't over winter because of too cold of conditions and you want to collect seed, plants are typically collected in the fall, stored over winter and replanted the next spring to be able to collect seed from them to sustain the species or variety.

Now back to July grazing! The weather has thrown some wrenches into mowing plans to restrain runaway forage growth in a lot of the area. Some areas are still short of moisture and hopefully some timely rains will quickly come for rejuvenation them.

In June, we talked about controlling vegetation that was quickly maturing. Well, if you are like me and between lack of sufficient time and dodging raindrops, it all didn't get done. It's not too late. Benefits can still be achieved, but there are alternatives also.

If you are bound to clip, then raise the mower up just enough to only remove stems and seed heads and very little leaf matter. Mowing deeper into the stand and laying down too much material not only removes some of that solar panel, but it also covers up a good bit of it, too. It's not a bad idea to mow a couple rounds and get off and look at it closer. Are you removing enough or too much? It's best to not get into any new growth and honestly, if you have to clip, then directly behind the livestock is probably best.

If the field hasn't been grazed yet, then go ahead and graze it. Let the cows lay down a lot of that forage that they don't eat. It will still come back and that material that is laid down will provide cover and nutrients for the next growth. That cover is especially beneficial if it suddenly turns dry.

I generally don't recommend cutting it for hay at this point. Yes, it has "bulk" to it and will produce more bales, but you are baling the good with the poor material and removing nutrients no matter the quality. Haying now can slow regrowth for cool season forages this time of year. The eye should be focused more on trying to maintain quality forage for as long as possible and for future stockpiling.

I know quite a bit about plants, but there is also a lot I know I still don't know. It never hurts to keep asking why! Remember, it's not about maximizing a grazing event, but maximizing a grazing season! Keep on grazing!

So Lush, So Green, and Oh So Poisonous

By: Keith Johnson, Purdue Extension Forage Specialist

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2021/07/07/so-lush-so-green-and-oh-so-poisonous/>

It's that time of year when the yew (pronounced like the letter "U") is likely in need of a trim to look best as a landscaping plant. Yews have been used as a common landscaping shrub or small tree for decades. They have closely spaced, glossy, rather tough, dark green, linear pointed-end leaves that are 1.5 – 2 inches long. Hard-to-see male and female flowers are found on separate plants and form fleshy red to yellow fruits that contain a single seed.

Many plants have poisonous compounds that can cause all kinds of concerns, and even death, if consumed. The interactions that I have had with veterinarians, suggest that the yew is right at or near the top of plants that cause livestock death. A disheartening scenario is when yew trimmings



A yew bush used as landscaping is in need of a trim. Don't feed the trimmings to livestock or death will occur. (Photo Credit: Keith Johnson)

are thrown over the fence by the livestock owner or neighbor thinking that the trimmings would make a great snack for the livestock. Fresh or dry trimmings, it doesn't matter. The result will be the same – death.

Yews are hardy perennial landscaping plants, but don't toss the trimmings to your equine, heard, or flock or they won't see the light of the next day. In memory of livestock that met "Their Maker" because they ate yew.

Forage Fertility: Where We Are and Why it Matters

By: Garth Ruff & Greg LaBarge, OSU Extension

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/21-2021/forage-fertility-where-we-are-and-why-it-matters>

Hay and haylage crops are grown on just over 1 million acres in Ohio (NASS, 2019) and are grown on more Ohio farms (44% of all farms) than any other crop (Becot et al., 2020). In addition, there are over 1.3 million acres of pastureland on nearly 39,000 farms (50% of all farms) in the state of Ohio (NASS, 2017). Fertilizer costs represent 40 to 60% of the variable input costs of forage hay production (Ward et al., 2016, 2018), and so managing these costs is key to an Ohio forage producers' ability to stay competitive. Furthermore, water quality issues in the state underscore the need for Ohio farmers to manage on-farm nutrients as efficiently as possible. A farmer's ability to find this optimal balance between meeting crop nutrient requirements without over-application is highly reliant on the best available information.



In order to make better and up to date forage fertility recommendations, we want to hear back from producers as to what current practices are already implemented on farms across the state. Understanding current practices and limitations to forage fertility will guide us in determining the type and kind of related research to conduct in order to revise current recommendations.

Please take this short voluntary survey regarding current forage fertility practices. This survey is part of a research effort conducted by The Ohio State University and should take 10 minutes or less to complete. Once again your feedback is appreciated as we evaluate current forage fertility guidelines.

Survey Link: https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4JcgVRSdXM16pmK

Results from this survey in addition to forage fertility research will allow for revision of current recommendations for forage crops, grasses and legumes that follow guidelines already established in the Tri-State Fertility Guide. If you have any questions regarding the survey contact Garth Ruff at ruff.72@osu.edu.

The Ag Law Harvest

By: Jeffrey K. Lewis, Attorney and Research Specialist, Agricultural & Resource Law

Source: <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/fri-07022021-113pm/ag-law-harvest>

Did you know that the Florida Panther is the last subspecies of Mountain Lion found east of the Mississippi River? The Florida Panther is an endangered species with an estimated population of under 100 panthers. As bleak as it may seem, things may be looking up for the Florida Panther to make a roaring comeback (which is ironic because Florida Panthers can't roar).

Like the Florida Panther, we have prowled agricultural and resource issues from across the country. Topics include a historic move by Florida to protect its wildlife and natural resources, agritourism getting a boost in Pennsylvania, Colorado's livestock industry receiving a lifeline, and USDA efforts to expand broadband and water quality initiatives.



Florida makes conservation history. Florida has recently enacted a new law known as the [Florida Wildlife Corridor Act](#) (the “Act”). The Act creates a wildlife corridor that will connect Florida’s large national and state parks and create an unbroken area of preserved land that stretches from the Alabama state line all the way down to the Florida Keys. Specifically, the Act looks to protect about 18 million acres of habitat for Florida’s wildlife. The Act seeks to prevent wildlife, like the Florida Panther, from being cut off from other members of its species, which is a main driver of extinction. The Act also aims to protect Florida’s major watersheds and rivers, provide wildlife crossings over and/or under major highways and roads, and establish sustainable practices to help working ranches, farms and, forests that will be vital to ensuring the success and sustainability of the wildlife corridor. The Act goes into effect July 1 and provides \$400 million in initial funding to help purchase land to create the corridor.

Pennsylvania provides protection for agritourism operators. Pennsylvania Governor, Tom Wolf, signed [House Bill 101](#) into law. Like Ohio’s law, House Bill 101 shields agritourism operators from certain lawsuits that could arise from circumstances beyond their control. House Bill 101 prevents participants in an agritourism activity from suing the agritourism operator if the operator warns participants of the inherent risks of being on a farm and engaging in an agritourism activity. An agritourism operator must: (1) have a 3’ x 2’ warning sign posted and notifying participants that an agritourism operator is not liable, except under limited circumstances, for any injury or death of a participant resulting from an agritourism activity; and (2) have a signed written agreement with an agritourism participant acknowledging an agritourism operator’s limited liability or have specific language printed on an admission ticket to an agritourism activity that notifies and warns a participant of an agritourism operator’s limited liability. House Bill 101, however, does not completely shelter agritourism operators. An agritourism operator can still be liable for injuries, death, or damages arising from overnight accommodations, weddings, concerts, and food and beverage services. The enactment of House Bill 101 will help to protect farmers from costly and unnecessary lawsuits and provide additional sustainability to Pennsylvania’s agritourism industry.

Colorado Supreme Court strikes proposed ballot initiative seeking to hold farmers liable for animal cruelty. The Colorado Supreme Court issued an [opinion](#) removing [Initiative 16](#), also known as the Protect Animals from Unnecessary Suffering and Exploitation Initiative (“PAUSE”), from voter consideration. Initiative 16 sought to amend Colorado law and remove certain agriculture exemptions from Colorado’s animal cruelty laws. Initiative 16 intended to set limitations on the slaughter of livestock and to broadly expand the definition of “sexual act with an animal” to include any intrusion or penetration of an animal’s sexual organs, which opponents of the initiative have argued would prohibit artificial insemination and spaying/neutering procedures. The Colorado Supreme Court found that the initiative violated Colorado’s single-subject requirement for ballot initiatives and therefore, was an illegal ballot initiative. The court argued that the central theme of the initiative was to incorporate livestock into Colorado’s animal cruelty laws. However, because the initiative redefined “sexual act with an animal” to include animals other than livestock, the court concluded that the ballot initiative covered two subjects, not one. The court reasoned that because the initiative addresses two unrelated subjects, voters could be surprised by the consequences of the initiative if it passed, which is why Colorado has single-subject requirement for ballot initiatives.

USDA announces dates for Conservation Reserve Program (“CRP”) signups. The USDA [set a July 23 deadline](#) for agricultural producers and landowners to apply for the CRP General and will also be accepting applications for CRP Grasslands from July 12 through August 20. Through the [CRP General](#), producers and landowners establish long-term conservation practices aimed at conserving certain plant species, controlling soil erosion, improving water quality, and enhancing wildlife habitat on cropland. [CRP Grasslands](#) helps landowners and producers protect grasslands including rangeland, pastureland, and certain other lands, while maintaining grazing lands. To enroll in the CRP, producers and landowners should contact their local [USDA Service Center](#).

USDA expands CLEAR30 initiative nationwide. The USDA [announced](#) that landowners and agricultural producers currently enrolled in CRP now have an opportunity to sign a 30-year contract through the [Clean Lakes, Estuaries, and Rivers Initiative](#) (“CLEAR30”). CLEAR30 was created by the [2018 Farm Bill](#) to address

water quality concerns and was originally only available in the Great Lakes and Chesapeake Bay watersheds. Now, producers and landowners across the country can sign up for CLEAR30. Eligible producers must have certain water quality improvement practices under a continuous CRP or under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (“CREP”) and contracts that are set to expire on September 30, 2021. The USDA hopes that by expanding the initiative, it will enable more producers to take conservation efforts up a level and create lasting impacts. CLEAR30’s longer contracts help to ensure that conservation benefits will remain in place longer to help in reducing sediment and nutrient runoff and reducing algal blooms. To sign up, producers and landowners should contact their local [USDA Service Center](#) by August 6, 2021.

Three federal agencies enter into agreement to coordinate broadband funding deployment. The Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”), the USDA, and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (“NTIA”) entered into an [agreement](#) to coordinate the distribution of federal funds for broadband development in rural and underserved areas. In an [announcement](#) released by the USDA, Secretary Vilsack stressed the importance of broadband in rural and underserved communities. Lessons learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic have made access to broadband a central issue for local, state, federal and Tribal governments. The goal is to get 100% of Americans connected to high-speed internet. As part of the signed agreement, the agencies will share information about existing or planned projects and identify areas that need broadband service in order to reach the 100% connectivity goal. Visit the [USDA’s Rural Development Telecom Programs webpage](#) to learn more about the USDA’s efforts to provide broadband service in rural areas.

USDA ERS Dairy Forecasts for 2021 & 2022

Chris Zoller

Extension Educator, ANR, Tuscarawas County

On June 16, the United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service (USDA ERS) released its Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook. This publication (<https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/outlooks/101460/ldp-m-324.pdf?v=4393.1>) provides projections about inventory, use, and pricing. The next report will be released July 16, 2021.

2021 Dairy Forecast

Recently, milk cow numbers have been trending upward. USDA ERS projects milk cow numbers to average 9.495 million head, an increase of 25,000 from their May projection. Because of low cow slaughter numbers and higher feed prices, USDA ERS projects that cow numbers will level off during the second half of 2021. Extreme heat and its effects on cow comfort and grain production caused USDA ERS to lower its milk per cow slightly for the third quarter, putting annual production per cow at 24,065 pounds.

Reduced cheese prices and higher expected dry whey prices have USDA ERS projecting the following milk prices for 2021:

Class	Price
Class III	\$17.45/cwt.
Class IV	\$15.85/cwt.
All-Milk	\$18.85/cwt.

2022 Dairy Forecast

While the number of cows is expected to average 30,000 more than the May projection, USDA ERS puts cow numbers for the year at 9.495 million head, unchanged from 2021. High input costs and lower expected milk price in mid-2021 translates into a decline in 2022 of milk cow numbers from the levels seen in the second half of 2021. Milk per cow is expected to increase slightly in 2022, 24,335 pounds.

A projected stronger economy in 2022 should result into positive news for domestic use. Additionally, international demand for U.S. lactose and whey products is expected to contribute to an increase over the May

projection.

USDA ERS makes these projections for milk price in 2022:

Class	Price
Class III	\$17.15/cwt.
Class IV	\$15.95/cwt.
All-Milk	\$18.75/cwt.

Planning

Once again, the dairy farm economy is going to be tight for the remainder of 2021 into 2022. Dairy farmers are encouraged to closely monitor expenses, evaluate inputs, and meet with trusted advisors. The Ohio State University Dairy Excel *15 Measures of Dairy Farm Competitiveness*

(<https://dairy.osu.edu/sites/dairy/files/imce/2019%2015%20Measures%20of%20Dairy%20Farm%20Competitiveness%20Final%20%281%29.pdf>) bulletin is an excellent resource that allows dairy farmers to compare performance against established benchmarks.

Tractor Time is Thinking Time

By: David L. Marrison, Coshocton County Ag & NR Extension Educator

Originally written for Farm & Dairy Newspaper, July 1, 2021

Hello, Northeast Ohio! The 4th of July Holiday weekend is upon us and I hope each of you get the chance to pause and be thankful for the freedoms which we enjoy in this country. I am grateful that this year's celebration will be dramatically different from a year ago.

One of the most liberating aspects of the summer is that many of us have the opportunity to exercise some vacation days away from work. Many of you know that each summer, I still make some hay on the family farm in Ashtabula County. I like to do this as it gives me tractor time. Tractor time may not be what you think it is. Yes, it is nice to hear the whine and power of the tractor's engine as I bale hay, but the greatest joy to me is just getting the time to "think" on the tractor seat.

Pausing from the "daily grind" allows me to take a deep breath, clear my mind, and to think. In fact, some of my best thoughts and strategic planning has been done on the seat of our TN75 Ford tractor. In the hustle and bustle of life, it is easy to just do, do, do and not to think, strategize, and ponder options for our farm businesses.

Of course, there are multitude of ways which we can create time to think. My wife gets up early every morning to reflect and read her daily devotions. Another friend carves the first 15 minutes of each day for non-digital thinking and planning. No meetings, laptops, or smartphones allowed. He just pulls out a plain old piece of paper and pen and works through the issues required to make his business more successful. Maybe it is a walk around the hay field or through the pasture? Maybe it is in the lawn chair under the Swamp White Oak tree? Grab a pen and notepad and you will be shocked what ideas you can generate to make your business and family relationships better.

Earlier in June as I was getting some tractor time in, my mind wandered from managing risk, to community, to life after covid, and then to landlord/tenant relationships. So today, I would like to share of few of these thoughts.

Manage what you can, mitigate what you can't- The coronavirus pandemic was a good example that we can't control every aspect of life. In fact, we as farmers know this all too well about the weather. The forecast can be perfect when we drop the hay, but it can change in a blink of an eye. How sensitive is your operation to the unexpected? How much time to do you worry about things that you cannot change or control? Whether it is the weather, sky-rocketing input prices, a national pandemic, death, divorce, disability, or family discord, how well can your operation pivot in response to the unexpected? It is easy to manage when the plan goes

according to the script. How ready are you for plan B, C, or D?

How well do you know your numbers? What would a 10% change in key revenue or expenses mean to your business? Recently, we have had the chance to lock in some really good prices for corn and soybeans. Do you have a written marketing plan with price targets which drive your marketing decisions? Do you know your cost of production? Higher crop prices can be a temptation not to be detailed in tracking expenses. Make sure to track and monitor both variable and fixed expenses. Set meaningful financial targets for your farm business. Keep the UNITY in Community- One of the wonderful aspects of farm life is that farmers appreciate and value what it means to be a community. Farmers have a bond with one another that transcends all understanding. One of the things I appreciate the most about farmers is their willingness to help one another. When equipment breaks and the sun is shining, neighbors are always willing to jump in and lend their equipment and time to make sure the job gets done. With all the stress in agriculture it is so important to keep connected with our neighbors, give each other a helping hand, and to be there for each other. Covid really impact many of our families. We need each other now, more than ever.

So, as you celebrate this 4th of July weekend, I encourage you to find time to think, manage, mitigate, and re-engage in your community. In closing, I would like to share a quote from Stephen Covey who stated, "Every human has four endowments - self awareness, conscience, independent will and creative imagination. These give us the ultimate human freedom... The power to choose, to respond, to change." Have a good and safe day!

Cost Share for Cover Crops

Source: Coshocton SWCD

The Cover Crop Cost Share program signup deadline is quickly approaching. Producers have until July 14, 2021 to submit an application. The cost share rate is \$12 per acre with a cap of 200 acres per applicant, and new producers signing up fields that have not been signed up previously will receive \$15 per acre if approved. USDA-NRCS standards have to be followed for seeding rate and seeding dates. Remember that soil tests are required for fields signed up into the program. Soil tests should be from within the last 4 years.



Please call the Coshocton SWCD (740-622-8087, ext 4) or stop in if you are interested in signing up for this program and SWCD staff will assist you with the application process. We look forward to a successful program again in 2021.

“There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.”

Edith Wharton



Tri-State Precision Agriculture Conference

August 11, 2021

Northwest State Community College

22600 OH-34,
Archbold, OH 43502

Coordinated by

OSU Extension Henry County &
NSCC Agricultural Department

Registration Fee

\$20 Due by August 2, 2021
\$30 Day of the Event
Free to all FFA Members

Registration

https://go.osu.edu/tristate_pa

Or

Contact:

Alan Leininger
Agriculture & Natural Resources
Educator
OSU Extension Henry County
(419) 592-0806
leininger.17@osu.edu

2021 AGENDA

8:00am Registration & Trade Show Exhibits

8:50am Welcome & Introductions

Alan Leininger, OSU Extension Henry County

9:00am What Role Does Tillage Play in Reducing Nutrient Losses?

Greg LaBarge, PhD
OSU Extension, Field Specialist Agronomic Systems

9:30am The New 2020 Tri-State Fertilizer Guide

Harold Waters, CCA/CPAg
OSU Extension, Field Specialist Agronomic Systems

10:30am Current Tillage Technology

Dr. Scott Shearer, PhD, PE
Professor and Chair – Ohio State University Department of Food, Agricultural &
Biological Engineering

11:30am Lunch & Trade Show Exhibits

1:00pm-3:00pm Fields Demos in Rotation

Ken Feld Group: *John Deere, 2660VT Variable Intensity Tillage*

Paul Martin and Sons: *Horsch, Joker High Speed Tillage Tool*

Landoll, 7530 Adjustable Angle VT

Pond Hill Sales & Service: *Lemken, Rubin 10 High Speed Tillage Tool*

Unverferth Mfg: *Raptor Strip-Tillage &*

Rolling Harrow Cover Crop Seeder

3:00pm Wrap-up Demonstrations and Tradeshow

3:30pm Evaluations & Adjourn

Alan Leininger, OSU Extension Henry County



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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE

Re-certification Trainings for Livestock Producers

Coshocton County will be hosting a series of Beef Quality Assurance re-certification programs to allow beef and dairy producers to re-certify their beef quality assurance. Pre-registration is required for each session as space is limited.

Sessions Will Be Held:

July 12, August 9, September 13, October 11, November 3, December 1 & 14
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Coshocton County Services Building
724 South 7th Street - Room 145, Coshocton, OH 43812
Seating is limited, so please RSVP
Register by calling: 740-622-2265

Other Sessions are being offered in neighboring counties or can be completed on-line anytime at bqa.org.

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COSHOCTON COUNTY EXTENSION

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OSU EXTENSION – TUSCARAWAS COUNTY

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Recertification

Beef and dairy producers who have a BQA certification that expires in 2021 can attend one of the following sessions to satisfy recertification requirements.

- July 21 at 1pm
- July 29 at 7pm
- August 10 at 1pm
- August 25 at 7pm

Location:
Sugarcreek Stockyards
Cost:
No Charge

Pre-Registration is requested in order to have materials prepared.

Please call: **330-339-2337**

Chris Zoller, Associate Professor, Extension Educator, Agriculture & Natural Resources
OSU Extension, Tuscarawas County 419 16th St SW, New Philadelphia, OH 44663
Email: zoller.1@osu.edu Office: 330-339-2337 Direct: 330-365-8159

tuscarawas.osu.edu



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SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 2021

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION DAY



New for 2021 - adding Goats (if there is enough interest the goats may be moved to the 22nd)

Sponsored by The Licking County Sheep Improvement Association

The Licking County Sheep Improvement Association is hosting an artificial insemination day! If you have sheep or goats that you would like to have bred to some of the top rams or bucks in the country, this is for you. Many people could not afford to do this on their own but, when a group comes together, the cost are very reasonable. Proceeds support youth activities and lamb promotion.

Yearling ewes and older are preferred.

Semen collection of rams available but must be requested when making reservation.

Services provided by New Frontier Genetics – Glen Erickson (newfrontiergenetics.org)

Location: Hartford Fairgrounds New Swine Barn

Approximate Cost: \$85 • **Includes:** Insemination, supplies and medications, and facilities fee

Semen cost is additional – Semen will be available from multiple sources or you can arrange for your own. Advance notice is required to be sure the rams you choose are available.

Registration Deadline: June 10th

Registration Information: Call Tom Wolford 740-334-9713 to schedule



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