

COSHOCTON COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Photo from Don Brown

March 3 Issue (Edition #84)

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Minerals for Beef Cattle Webinar
ODA to Offer Pesticide Testing in Coshocton County

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Hello Coshocton County! Welcome to month of March. It won't be long before spring arrives. It is nice to notice the gradual transformation in our landscapes and to see more daylight at both ends of the day.

This morning we held our first fertilizer re-certification session of the winter and over the next week many of our farmers who hold their private pesticide applicators license will be attending either a virtual or in-person recertification session. Today is the deadline to sign up for tomorrow's virtual pesticide re-certification program and for next Wednesday's in-person session. So, if you are a farmer who is up for renewal this year and have not signed up, please call our Extension office at 740-622-2265 to sign up.

We have also planned a virtual "**What Do the Numbers on my Forage Test Mean?**" webinar and a "**Minerals for Beef Cattle**" webinar this month. Check out details about both of these programs in today's edition.

We also hope that you will participate in the **Ag Day Celebration Take-out** as we celebrate National Ag Day on March 23. We are all thankful for our great industry of agriculture and hope you will celebrate with us.

Sincerely,

David L. Marrison

Coshocton County OSU Extension ANR Educator



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Spring Planting Outlook

By: Jim Noel

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2021-05/spring-planting-outlook>

After a dry start to winter, the weather pattern has gotten more active. Even though the La Nina pattern in the Pacific Ocean is weakening the effect will likely continue through spring. This favors a normal to wetter than normal pattern for Ohio. The western corn and soybean belt will likely continue with the normal to drier than normal pattern through spring.

The greatest chances for wetness appear to favor the southern half of Ohio with closer to normal conditions in northern Ohio. The spring temperatures continue to favor warmer than normal overall.

The result of the warmer than normal temperatures and normal to wetter than normal conditions into spring is there could be some planting delays but they do not look severe at this time. With the above normal temperatures it favors a normal or slightly earlier than normal last freeze.

Indications for summer are for above normal temperatures and a trend for near normal precipitation to possibly below normal at some point in summer to early fall.

Please monitor the latest NOAA climate forecasts at:

<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>

The latest river information can be found at:

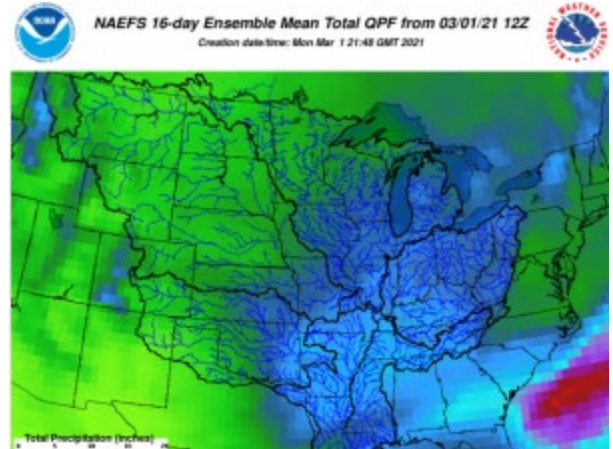
<https://www.weather.gov/ohrfc>

The latest flood, drought and seasonal briefings from the Ohio River Forecast Center can be found at:

<https://www.weather.gov/ohrfc/Briefings>

The latest 16-day rainfall forecast can be found here:

<https://www.weather.gov/images/ohrfc/dynamic/NAEFS16.apcp.mean.total.png>



Gearing Up for Spring

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2021-05/gearing-spring>

The current weather outlook for early spring planting season is starting to sound like a broken record of the last few years – a wetter pattern than normal for Ohio and the Great Lakes region. Along with a warmer than average pattern. So, it is more important than ever to be ready to take full advantage of any short windows of opportunity we will get to be in the fields this spring. This is particularly important because most forages should be planted earlier rather than later, the exception being the warm-season grasses like sorghum-sudangrass.

Start preparing by imagining your first day of planting forages. What will you do the day you plant? It might even help jog your thoughts to physically “walk through” those activities. List every single activity needed to get the whole job done.



Then ask the question, “What can I do NOW that will make that first planting day go smoothly?”

Below are some examples of preparations to do now:

1. Make sure your fuel supply is full and fill the tanks of all tractors that will be used. Service all tractors.
2. Get any needed fertilizer on hand or order it to be spread as soon as the field is fit (hopefully you pulled a soil sample last fall, and if not, do it ASAP and send to the lab).
3. Calibrate the fertilizer spreader.
4. Buy the seed (including any companion crops you will use) and have it on the farm, if not done already.
5. Buy inoculant if seed is not pre-inoculated.
6. Service all tillage equipment that will be used and have it ready to go, including hooking it to the tractor if possible.
7. Get the drill/planter out, service it, and set the planting depth so it is ready to go. Arrange for equipment you will rent or borrow. Consider contingency plans for your borrowed equipment if used to plant forages on other farms each spring also.
8. Calibrate the drill to the desired seeding rate using the seed that will be planted and then don't touch the drill settings. Watch this video about calibrating drills: <https://forages.osu.edu/video/drill-calibration?width=657px&height=460px&inline=true#colorbox-inline-239078345>).
9. If contracting planting, get agreements and expectations in place now.
10. Finally list the field work tasks that you will need to do when the weather and soils are fit, then prioritize them. Think through the tough choices you might have to make between competing activities. Think through contingency plans if each specific activity cannot be completed in a timely manner, or if it can't get done at all this spring because of wet weather.

This last #10 item is the hardest. When the windows of opportunity are shorter than the list of work that can be accomplished, then tough choices are necessary. For example, how do you prioritize planting forages versus manure spreading in the spring? It will likely depend on the specific situation. If the manure is stored in a lagoon, then when the lagoon is full, the manure must be pumped out and spread on the field rather than planting forages, so the forage planting might have to wait. But planting forages too late in the spring brings a lot of risk to stand establishment and low yields (maybe only one cutting). If forage planting will be delayed past May 10, it might be better to plant a summer annual for a couple cuttings, then kill it and plant the perennial forages in August. But if the manure is dry pack, perhaps it is better to take those first days of field work to plant the perennial forage and spread the manure later on other fields. Thinking through these choices and establishing a game plan will help you be more efficient and not waste time in indecision or making a less than optimal choice for the situation.

We surely all hope for good opportunities for planting this spring, but climatologists are forecasting another possibly challenging planting season. Do what is in your control now to prepare as much as possible for when planting time comes. You do not want to waste hours of potential field planting doing stuff you can do today. Try to be completely ready, as if you will be planting tomorrow morning...which we hope will be true one day very soon!

Still Time to Frost Seed Red Clover

By: Chris Penrose

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2021-05/still-time-frost-seed-red-clover>

We are at the point of the winter that daily average temperatures are rising and the days are getting noticeably longer. This freezing and thawing over the next few weeks is what gives frost seeding a great chance to work.

Frost seeding is a very low cost, higher risk way to establish new forages in existing fields by spreading seed over the field and let the freezing and thawing action of the soil allow the seed to make “seed to soil” contact allowing it to successfully germinate. When you see soils “honeycombed” in the morning from a hard frost, or heaved up from a frost, seed that was spread on that soil has a great chance to make a seed to soil contact when the soil thaws. I think the two biggest reasons why frost seeding fails is people wait too late to frost seed and the seed never makes good contact with the soil. Let's face it, if the seed does not land on the soil but on existing living or dead vegetation, it does not have a chance to successfully germinate: you need exposed soil

that should be present in a fall planted small grain field.

Time is short to assess and seed potential fields. We are rapidly running out of time for a likely successful seeding, so start as soon as possible. Typically you can start at the beginning of February through mid-March. My opinion is that once we get into March, the chance of success starts to drop.

The age old question is what to plant. The seed that has the best chance to germinate and become established is red clover. For years I recommended medium red clover but I am now convinced that that no matter what we plant, use improved varieties, unless the planting is only for a temporary cover. Advancement in genetics is amazing. Numerous studies confirm that those varieties will last several years longer in most conditions. Forage trials at OSU show there are several red clover varieties that have high yields and stand percentages 60% or greater after four years. These are more expensive varieties than some of the common, shorter-lived varieties, but I think it is worth it.



Red clover is a heavy round seed that has a better chance of making soil contact than a light flatter seed. Dr. Garry Lacefield, retired Extension Forage Specialist from University of Kentucky says that clovers, seeded in the right conditions will germinate most years. Grasses are more “hit or miss” germinating about half of the time. With alfalfa, the odds are even less. Frost seeding alfalfa into an alfalfa stand rarely works as existing alfalfa is toxic to new plants. If an alfalfa field is starting to thin out, an option to extend the life of the stand would be to frost seed red clover.

Another reason to plant clover, especially red clover is the high seedling vigor. It is tolerant of a wide range of soil pH and fertility conditions and is more drought tolerant than white clover. The advantage of frost seeding a legume like red clover is that legumes “fix” nitrogen typically in excess of their own needs, providing added fertility to other plants, improving an improved stand. Once legumes become established in a stand of grass and compose 25-30 % of the stand, there is no need to provide additional nitrogen, reducing fertility costs.

If you choose to frost seed grass, which will do best? Studies by Dan Undersander, Forage Specialist from University of Wisconsin indicate that perennial ryegrass will do best (note that it grows best in Ohio north of I-70), followed by orchardgrass, then timothy. Other studies note that annual ryegrass will work good compared to other grasses.

Some other tips to help succeed include mixing with granular fertilizer when you spread the seed. The coarse fertilizer, when mixed with clover seed will “scour” the seed coat and help in germination. Keep in mind that when you use a broadcast spreader, the fertilizer will travel twice as far as seed, so plan accordingly unless you want a striped field of clover. Over the years, I have heard people applying anywhere from 2-10 pounds of seed per acre with the lower amount applied on permanent vegetation and likely the higher rate on small grain fields. If your small grain fields still have exposed soils and you get several frosts after broadcasting, I like your odds of a successful frost seeding.

Farm Office Live Continues

By: Barry Ward, David Marrison, Peggy Hall, Dianne Shoemaker – Ohio State University Extension

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/ohioagmanager/2021/03/02/farm-office-live-continues/>

“Farm Office Live” continues this winter as an opportunity for you to get the latest outlook and updates on ag law, farm management, ag economics, farm business analysis and other related issues from faculty and educators with the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University.

Each Farm Office Live begins with presentations on select ag law and farm management topics from our specialists followed by open discussions and a Q&A session. Viewers can attend “Farm Office Live” online each month on Wednesday evening or Friday morning, or can catch a recording of each program.

The full slate of offerings remaining for this winter are:

- March 10th 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- March 12th 10:00 – 11:30 am
- April 7th 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- April 9th 10:00 – 11:30 am

Topics to be addressed in March include:

- Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)
- Proposed Stimulus Legislation
- General Legislative Update
- Ohio Farm Business Analysis – A Look at Crops
- Crop Budget & Rental Rates

A promotional graphic for Farm Office Live. It features a background image of a farm at sunset. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout. At the top left is the CFAES logo. The main title 'Join us for the next FARM OFFICE LIVE' is centered. Below it, a list of topics is provided: 'Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)', 'Proposed Stimulus Legislation', 'General Legislative Update', 'Ohio Farm Business Analysis – A Look at Crops', and 'Crop Budget & Rental Rates'. To the right, the 'OSU Extension's Farm Office Team' is listed, including Peggy Kirk Hall, David Marrison, Dianne Shoemaker, Julie Strawser, and Barry Ward. A box on the right specifies the dates and times: 'March 10, 2021 7:00--8:30 p.m.' or 'March 12, 2021 10:00--11:30 a.m.'. At the bottom, it says 'Register or watch replays at go.osu.edu/farmofficelive' and 'Farm Office is your farm's ag law and farm management resource center.' The website 'farmoffice.osu.edu' is at the bottom right. The Ohio State University logo is at the bottom left.

CFAES

**Join us for the next
FARM OFFICE LIVE**

Get updates on:

- Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)
- Proposed Stimulus Legislation
- General Legislative Update
- Ohio Farm Business Analysis – A Look at Crops
- Crop Budget & Rental Rates

Join us and share your questions, concerns, and topics of interest. Each session will include a short update and lead into a Q&A time on additional topics of interest.

**Register or watch replays at
go.osu.edu/farmofficelive**

**OSU Extension's
Farm Office Team**

- Peggy Kirk Hall
- David Marrison
- Dianne Shoemaker
- Julie Strawser
- Barry Ward

March 10, 2021
7:00--8:30 p.m.
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*Farm Office is your farm's ag law and
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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
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farmoffice.osu.edu

To register or view past recordings, visit <https://go.osu.edu/farmofficelive>

For more information or to submit a topic for discussion, email Julie Strawser at strawser.35@osu.edu or call the farm office at 614-292-2433. We look forward to you joining us!

USDA Agricultural Projections to 2030

By: Chris Zoller, Extension Educator, ANR, Tuscarawas County

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/ohioagmanager/2021/02/21/usda-agricultural-projections-to-2030/>

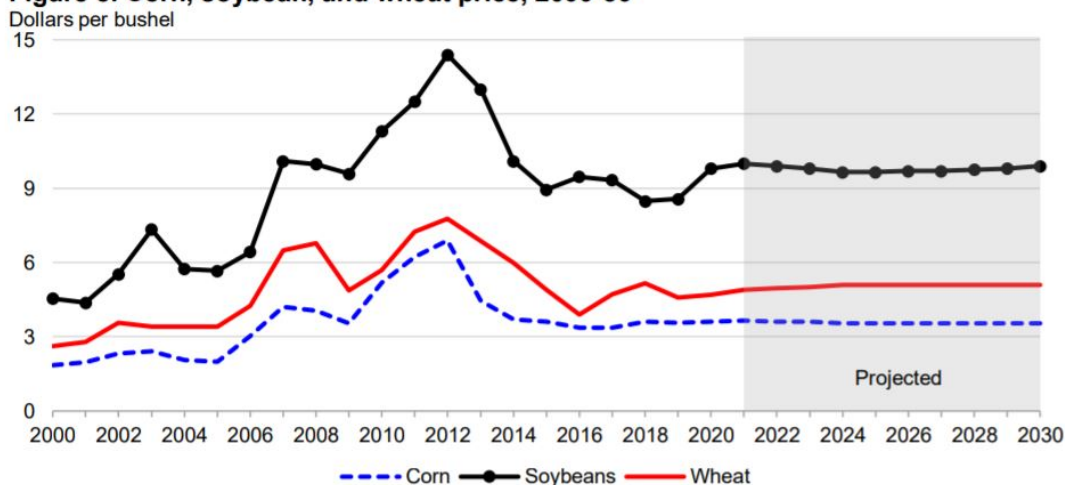
The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently released the interagency report: USDA Agricultural Projections to 2030. These long-term projections include several assumptions related to the Farm Bill, macroeconomic conditions, farm policy, and trade agreements. While long-term projections are based on assumptions and many unknowns, they do provide a glimpse of how U.S. farm commodity prices may perform over the next several years. Anyone interested in reading specific details is encouraged to see the report available here: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/outlooks/100526/oce-2021-1.pdf?v=3513.2>.

This article briefly summarizes selected selections of the 102-page report, including U.S. crop prices, milk production, U.S. farm income, and government payments. Figures from the report are included to accompany the text.

U.S. Crop Prices

Rising global demand for diversified diets and protein will continue to stimulate import demand for grains. Increased demand for these crops is accompanied by rising competition for market share from countries such as Brazil, Argentina, the EU, and the Black Sea region. The United States also faces challenges related to ongoing tensions with trade partners and a relatively strong U.S. dollar. Although strong trade competition continues, U.S. commodities remain generally competitive in global agricultural markets, with U.S. corn and soybean exports projected at record highs by 2030/31. Nominal prices for wheat, cotton, and rice are expected to rise modestly between 2021/22 and 2030/31.

Figure 8. Corn, soybean, and wheat price, 2000-30

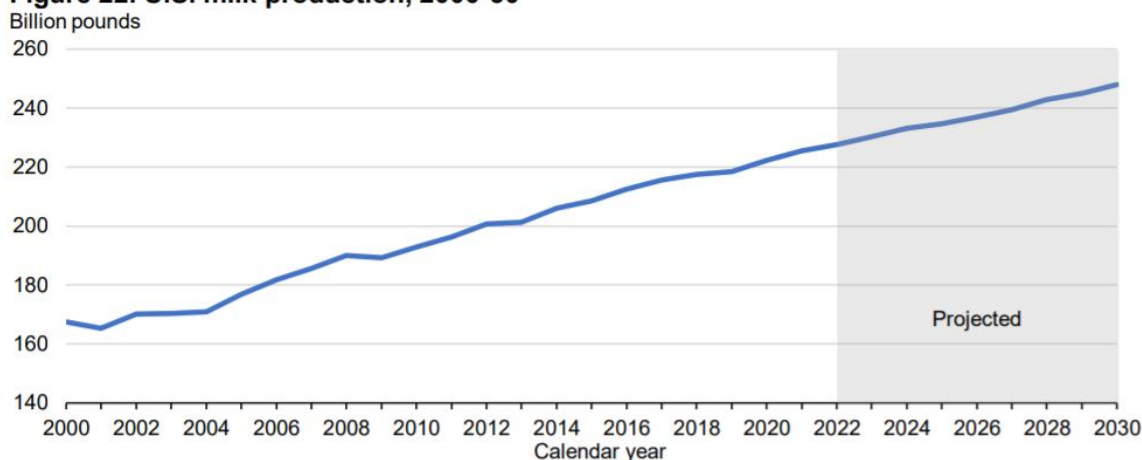


Milk Production

Milk production is projected to rise at a compound annual growth rate of 1.1 percent over the next 10 years, reaching 248 billion pounds in 2030. With slow growth in domestic demand as the economy recovers from the pandemic, the dairy herd will remain relatively flat in the middle of the decade but grow in the latter years. In 2030, milk cows are projected to number 9.43 million head. Economies of scale trends are expected to continue, leading to further farm consolidation. Technological and genetic developments will contribute to increasing yields. In 2030, milk production per cow is projected to average 26,295 pounds.

- Commercial use of dairy products is expected to rise faster than the growth in the U.S. population over the next decade.
- Global demand for U.S. dairy products is expected to continue to grow over the next 10 years, with the largest increases being in exports of products with high skim-solids content such as dry skim milk products (nonfat dry milk and skim milk powder), whey products, and lactose.
- The all-milk price in 2021 is expected to be lower than 2020 as milk production increases significantly. Feed prices are expected to increase from 2020 to 2021. Milk production in 2022 is projected to grow at a rate slower than in 2020 and 2021 because of lagged supply response to relatively low milk prices and relatively high feed prices in 2021. With slow milk production growth in 2022 and an increase in demand as the economy is recovering from the pandemic, the all-milk price is projected to increase in 2022. As the industry adjusts, the all milk price dips to lower levels in 2023-25. The all milk price then increases in nominal terms later in the decade.

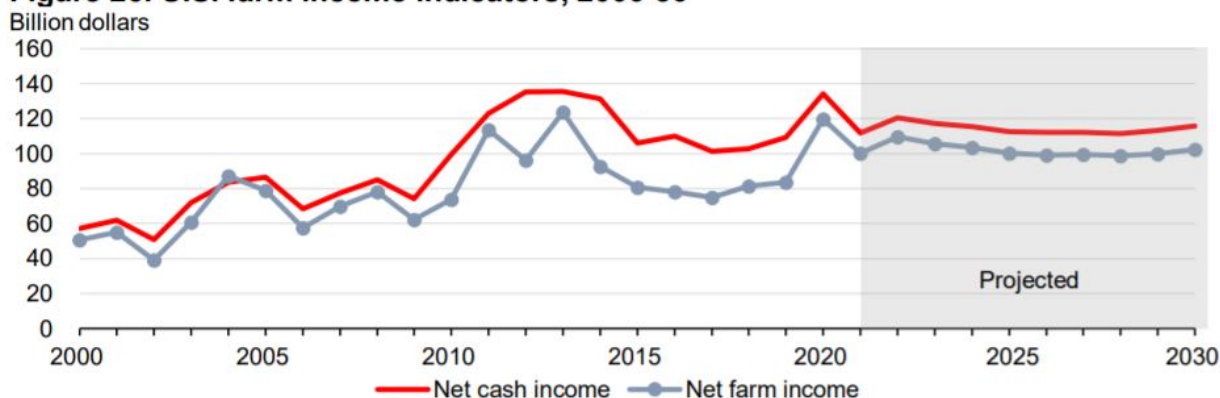
Figure 22. U.S. milk production, 2000-30



U.S. Farm Income

Net farm income and net cash income are projected to decrease in 2021. Net farm income is projected to decrease \$19.5 billion in 2020 to \$100.1 billion in 2021. Net cash farm income is projected to decrease 16.7 percent in 2020 to \$111.7 billion for 2021. The projected decline in net farm income for 2021 is primarily because of lower government payments relative to 2020. Farmers received an estimated \$24.3 billion in direct payments from the Coronavirus Food Assistance Programs 1 and 2 during 2020. The 2021 farm income value does not include payments made under the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021 that was passed after the projections were tabulated.

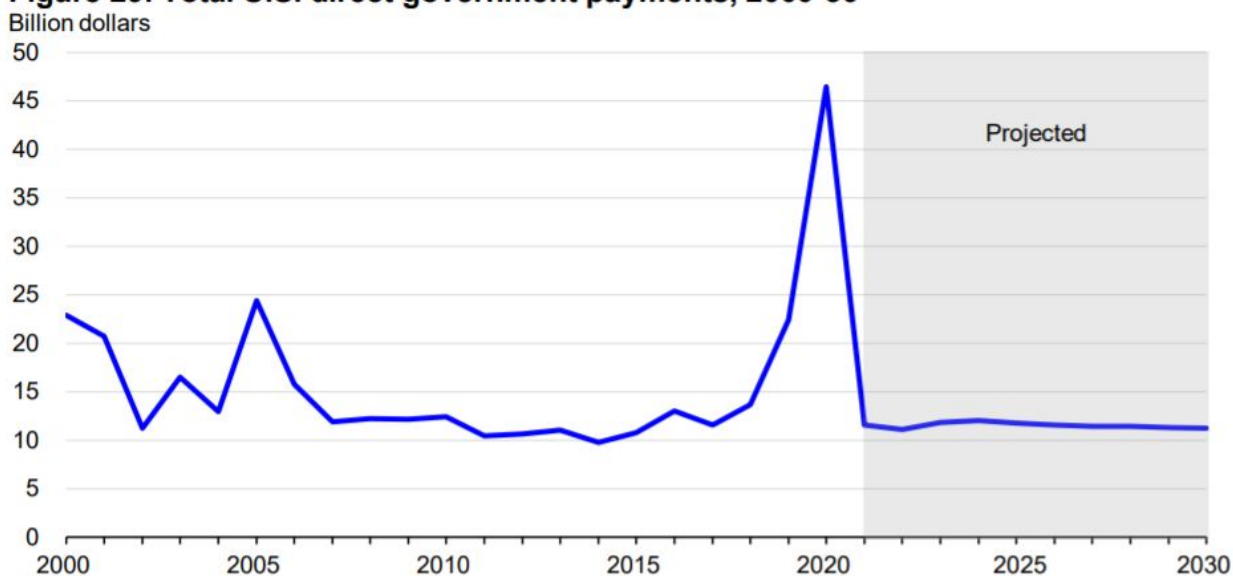
Figure 26. U.S. farm income indicators, 2000-30



Government Payments

After falling \$35 billion in 2021 to \$11.5 billion, direct government payments are projected to decline again in 2022 as market prices are expected to improve and ad hoc payment programs expire. Government payments are then expected to climb before decreasing after 2024 through 2030. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), ARC and PLC payments collectively account for the largest share of direct government payments to the agricultural sector over 2021-30. These projections also assume no government payments from potential new farm sector programs.

Figure 29. Total U.S. direct government payments, 2000-30



Moving Forward

Again, many things can/will happen between now and 2030 to alter these projections. However, they are one source of information to use for long-term planning. Based on these projected production levels and prices, will you be competitive in the long-term? If not, what changes are necessary to make you successful? If so, what can you do to be even more successful? I encourage you to talk to your Extension Educator and other advisors as you complete farm business planning.

Let's Talk Bulls!

By: [Garth Ruff](#), Beef Cattle Field Specialist, OSU Extension

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2021/03/03/talking-bulls/>

Being that Ohio Beef Expo is only a couple weeks away and breeding season for most of Ohio's cow herd is around the corner, let's talk bulls. Making a bull purchase is a herd management decision that should not be taken too lightly as selecting the wrong bull for your operation could result in missed opportunities for increased calf revenue for several years.

When discussing bull selection it is important to set some goals for your cow herd in terms of performance, efficiency, and marketing. Often calving ease and performance are the first two criteria that come to mind, because ultimately nobody wants to pull calves, (less of a concern if only breeding mature cows) and here in Ohio most calves are sold at or post weaning across the scales. If you don't know what selection criteria are important to your operation, it's quite possible you may never find the right herd sire. Consider the following when gearing up to purchase your next bull.

Understand and Utilize Genetic Information: EPD's are a great tool in estimating the performance of progeny (calves) of a given sire. When buying young, unproven sires, look at the accuracy of the EPD's. EPD accuracies improve as a bull has been genomically tested, using a DNA analysis test. Accuracy values represent the relationship between the "estimated" EPD and the "true" EPD of the animal. Values will range numerically from zero to one. An EPD with an accuracy value approaching 1.0, is more likely to represent the true genetic potential of the bull in question.

Evaluate the Bulls: I like my bulls to look like bulls. Genetic information can be an extremely useful tool when used in conjunction with visual appraisal. If the bull doesn't have the conformation, growth, performance, toolbox, and skeletal structure to match what the sale catalog says, or visa versa, there is a risk for losing adaptability and value within a production system.

Good EPDs + good visual appraisal = a potential purchase.

Feet, Legs, and Docility Matter: I've been around the stockyards long enough that young bulls get culled for two main reasons; either they have poor foot/leg conformation and have become lame, or they are a too crazy to manage. Some breeds have added EPD's in these regarding these traits. Keep in mind that undesirable traits are also passed down to the next generation just as easily as desirable ones.

Semen Testing: Not many producers can afford to purchase a bull who has not been semen tested, unless they have a surplus of bull power for every group of cows. Open cows are a profit drain for every cow-calf operation. Even if buying a bull from a neighbor or friend, make sure he has passed its semen test with flying colors before turning him out into the herd. Once acquired, continue to semen test your bull battery each year.

A good bull is an investment, one in which value is often underestimated, especially if replacement females are being retained in the herd. Data from CattleFax's annual cow-calf survey show that producers expect on average to have 7-8 calves from a female. Procuring a quality herd sire will have lasting effects on herd performance for up to decade.

Lastly, when considering the price of cull bulls over the past several years, the overall financial investment of a young bull has been fairly reasonable for commercial cattlemen. When you factor in selling a 1,800-2,000

pound bull for anywhere from \$0.75/lb, to at times \$1.00/lb, plus, it makes the cost of a new bull easier to budget. Happy Bull Buying and don't get caught with open cows in 2021!

Don't Lose your Solar Panel by Grazing Too Early

By: Victor Shelton, NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2021/03/03/dont-lose-your-solar-panel-by-grazing-too-early/>

The two weeks in the middle of February either tested your patience with the weather and/or your winter contingency plan! I think I had personally gotten a bit too used to milder winter weather over the past few years and was more concerned about mud control and saturated soils than wintery monstrosities that started reminding me a bit of the winter of '78. In reality, it wasn't that bad, but the mixture of snow and ice in layers and extremely cold temperatures certainly tested your preparations.

Even though there has been some bitter cold weather the past few weeks, when the snow melted away, you had to be a bit surprised to see so much green still present in your pasture and lawn! I've noticed the same thing with some cover crops. Even species that we usually expect to winter kill normally are still hanging in there such as oats and radishes. Snow may be frozen and cold to the touch, but it can still provide some good insulation for plants underneath it. Perhaps it makes the statement, "blanket of snow" that much more fitting. The weather, as far as I know, can't be controlled. I honestly hope that nobody ever figures out how to manipulate the weather either. I wouldn't trust anyone with that kind of power. The slight differences from season to season are quite interesting to watch and it keeps us on our toes. Most years, we have enough cold weather, particularly multiple nights with temperatures below 25 degrees, that puts most forages into winter dormancy.

Forages going into winter dormancy is actually a good thing. It allows the plant to rest from above ground forage growth and not utilize much energy from stored reserves. Those reserves will be needed soon to initiate the first new spring growth. If those reserves are continuously tapped into— especially before dormancy sets in for the winter — then you usually have slower and reduced growth in the spring until photosynthesis has kicked in enough on new growth to replenish energy reserves, then above ground growth can catch up if allowed to.

My wife has noted remarkable growth on some daffodils and questioned me if that was there prior to the mid-February snow. I honestly don't know. I wasn't paying that close attention to them and instead paid more attention to getting animals attended to during the snowy bluster. But she was correct, they were remarkably not only up through the ground and approaching almost four inches, but a few buds were also present. They are simply reacting to the weather around them. This is not the first time for them to do this and it is certainly not always a good thing either because I have seen them frozen, flowers nodding, after a heavy freeze while in full flower.

The question of the day isn't about daffodils, though, but forages, especially cool season forages and exactly what are they doing right now? New spring growth is mostly influenced by day length and temperature. In response to a comment or question, "Don't you think that the grass seems greener after the snow melted away and is it growing," certainly caught my attention and made me stop and think a bit. It might still feel rather cool to most people, but it doesn't take much warmth, especially in soil temperature, to initiate some growth for cool season grasses. Soil temperatures much above freezing, especially with some warm sunny days and increasing daylight, can entice new growth. Soil temperatures above 50 degrees really promotes growth. So, first, what is the soil temperature now? That will depend a lot on where you are, temperatures and how much sun your fields are getting. A look at soil temperature of some bare ground on a late day of February early morning shows just a bit above freezing, but when taken midafternoon, it was approaching almost 40 degrees. It can't maintain that temperature with nights still dropping down, but that is normal!

The melting of snow can add minute amounts of nitrogen to the sward but is for the most part insignificant. If I had to guess, and it is a guess, I'd assume perhaps a scanty five pounds at best. Major swings in soil temperature do stimulate microbial activity in the soil and energy. We might not notice this difference on a soil thermometer, but the plants do.

Now, that said, just because we have some new growth coming on in the pastures does not mean to let the livestock have at it. We are a good way from that yet. Grazing too early in the spring does nothing but remove some of that solar panel the plants need to start rebuilding sugar and growing new roots. The forages really need to be able to canopy over and get a good start before livestock start removing that top canopy or production will be reduced. Besides, it is early still, and there are some scattered snow patches just hanging around enticing some more.

Most producers with pasture or hay ground understand the concept of “frost-seeding” clover. Frost seeding is taking advantage of the freeze-thaw process of the soil during winter months. When water in the soil freezes, it moves upward, pushing some soil with it. This creates little pockets for seeds to fall into, especially slick smooth seeds like clover. This process provides a good environment for seed-to-soil contact and good conditions for that seed to grow later. Soils that have had a little more disturbance and that have small amounts of soil visible are subject to more heaving due to the lack of enough cover and therefore the seed takes better, but these fields will also usually require more rest prior to grazing in the spring because of it. We will most likely still have frost-seeding conditions yet, so if needed, get'r done.

If you already have some clover and are just enhancing what you have, then utilize improved varieties for the best results. If you don't have any clover presently, then you should inoculate the seed with the appropriate rhizobium. The seed may germinate and thrive without it, but it will do so much better if it is present, especially if one of the goals for planting the legume is as a nitrogen source for the grass component of the stand. Clovers add diversity, boost yields, provides pollinator loving plants to the pasture and there are some benefits, especially with red clover, in reducing or diluting endophyte-infected tall fescue issues.

I mentioned “preparation” for wintery conditions at the beginning. Utilizing proper nutrition is a priority. We may not spend any longer than we have to with the livestock on those days, but they don't have much choice. Energy requirements are higher, so it's a good time to feed the higher quality feed. Have hay marked or organized and ideally backed with forage sampling ahead of time. Supplement as needed to meet nutritional and energy needs.

Having your feeding area easily assessable, for any weather condition, is certainly also very advantageous. Keeping hay/baleage close to the feeding area and having good infrastructure for storage and movement is very beneficial, especially when things get snowy, icy or just muddy. Heavy use area sites and access roads suddenly appear and are very beneficial and worthwhile. Having a series of bales set out, where all you have to move is poly wire and perhaps a ring is also a great way to get through these situations if you have good soil conditions, ideally being dry or frozen.

In closing, spring is coming and will be here before we know it. Management does impact spring regrowth, so wait on grazing unless you still have stockpiled forage so you can maximize production. Keep on grazing!

Ag Day Celebration Take-Out

Area farmers and agribusinesses are invited to celebrate Coshocton County Agriculture via the **Ag Day Celebration Take-out** on **March 23** as we recognize the contributions of today's farmers and to show our appreciation for the men and women of agriculture.

Adapting to the lingering the lingering coronavirus pandemic restrictions, the annual Ag Day Celebration Luncheon has been converted to a TAKE-OUT meal which can be picked up on March 23 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Schumaker Farms located at 52441 County Road 16 in West Lafayette, Ohio. The cost is \$5 per person with a choice of Meatloaf or Pulled Pork. The meal is sponsored in part by Farm Credit Mid-America and WenMar Farms.



Reservations are requested by March 16 at 740-622-8087 ext 4 or by emailing SamanthaDaugherty@coshoctoncounty.net See the attached program flyer to this newsletter for more information.

“What Do the Numbers on my Forage Test Mean?” Webinar on March 9

Last March, OSU Extension held two “Hay Quality” workshops in the tri-county area to learn more about forage sampling, how to interpret a forage analysis, and how to account for poor quality hay when feeding livestock.

Over the past year over 30 hay samples were taken by area producers and we have invited Dr. Ted Wiseman, OSU Extension Educator from Perry County, to join us via a webinar on Tuesday, March 9 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. to review the results of our local hay testing program. Learn more about what the numbers on a forage test really mean. Knowing these numbers will help you feed your beef herd better.



This workshop will be held via Zoom and there is no fee to attend. Join us from the comfort of your home to learn more about hay tests. Pre-registration is requested at: <https://go.osu.edu/hayworkshop> This webinar is being co-hosted by the Coshocton, Tuscarawas, and Holmes County Extension offices. For producers who tested hay this year, we encourage you to send specific questions about their samples prior to the webinar to wiseman.15@osu.edu For more information about the webinar, contact the Coshocton County Extension office at 740-622-2265 for more information. See the attached program flyer.

Minerals for Beef Cattle Webinar

Proper mineral and vitamin nutrition contributes to strong immune systems, reproductive performance, and calf weight gain. However, when it comes to selecting mineral supplementation to use for your beef herd can often be a confusing decision for beef producers as not all mineral mixtures are the same.

To help beef producers understand what minerals are need for beef cattle, OSU Extension will be offering a Zoom webinar titled “**Minerals for Beef Cattle**” on Tuesday, March 16 from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. During this session, participants will learn the ball-park levels for mineral supplements for beef cows on forage-based diets. Learn more about macro minerals, trace minerals, and best practices for mineral supplementation Sample mineral tags will be reviewed. Learn what to look for and learn how you can fine tune your mineral supplementation based on your hay sample analysis.

This webinar will feature Dr. Steve Boyles, OSU Extension Beef Specialist and Garth Ruff, OSU Extension Field Specialist for Beef Cattle. This workshop will be held via Zoom and there is no fee to attend. Join us from the comfort of your home to learn more about feeding minerals to beef cattle. Pre-registration is requested at: <https://go.osu.edu/mineralsforbeef> This webinar is being hosted by the Coshocton County Extension office. For more information about the webinar, contact the Coshocton County Extension office at 740-622-2265 for more information. See the attached program flyer.

ODA to Offer Pesticide Testing in Coshocton County

OSU Extension in Coshocton County is pleased to announce the Ohio Department of Agriculture will be hosting pesticide and fertilizer applicator testing sessions in Coshocton County on March 17 and April 14 from 8:00 to 5:00 p.m. each day. These exam sessions will allow individuals to take a private or commercial pesticide applicators examination.

The testing will be held in Room 145 in the Coshocton County Services Building with COVID-19 safety protocols enforced. Pre-registration is required and can be made by accessing the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s Pesticide Regulatory program at: <https://agri.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/oda/divisions/plant-health/pesticides>

More details can also be by calling 614-728-6987 (option 1) or via email at: pesticides@agri.ohio.gov



Thanks to American Ag.

Please join us for an
Ag Day Celebration Take-Out
Tuesday, March 23, 2021

Pick-up Time: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$5 per person - Choice of Meatloaf or Pulled Pork

Pick-up Location: Schumaker Farms
52441 County Road 16, West Lafayette, OH 43845

This is a special invitation to celebrate Coshocton County Agriculture as we recognize the contributions of today's farmers and show our appreciation for the men and women of agriculture.

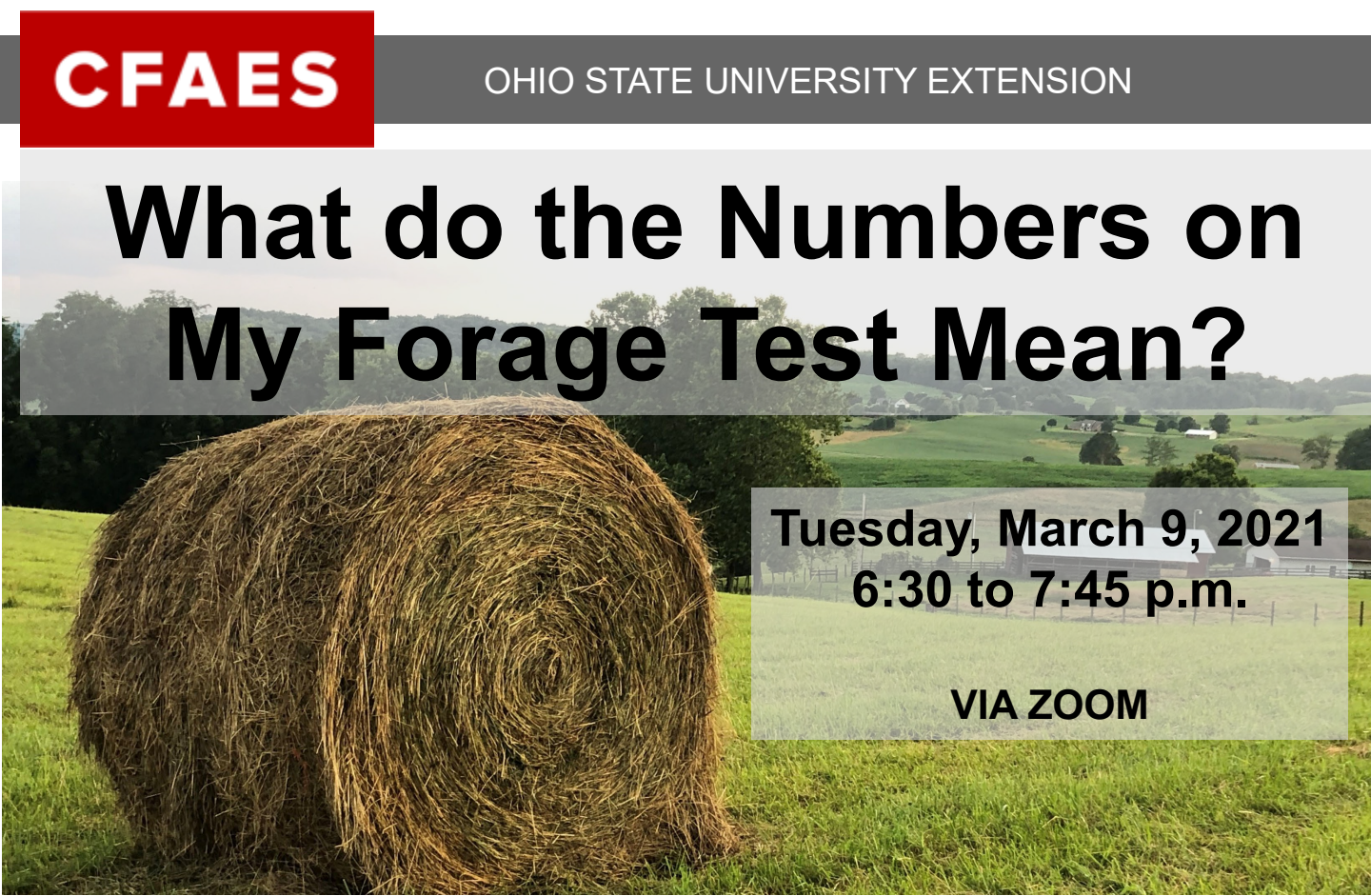
RSVPs are required by March 16 at 740-622-8087, ext. 4 or
samanthadaugherty@coshoctoncounty.net

Meal sponsored in part by Farm Credit Mid-America & WenMar Farms

Event sponsored by:



What do the Numbers on My Forage Test Mean?



**Tuesday, March 9, 2021
6:30 to 7:45 p.m.**

VIA ZOOM

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East Ohio Women in Agriculture

2021 Program Series

A collage of images showing women and children in various agricultural settings. The central image features a woman holding a basket of apples with a young child. Surrounding this are several smaller images: a woman working in a field, a woman holding a basket of apples, a woman working in a field, a woman holding a basket of apples, a woman working in a field, a woman holding a basket of apples, a woman working in a field, and a woman holding a basket of apples.

Who should attend:

- ◆ 10 free webinars 2nd and 4th Thursdays January-May 12:00 to 1:00 PM
- ◆ 3 free in-person field days 1st Tuesdays March-May 5:30 to 8:30 PM (Dinner available for \$15)

Webinar Registration

go.osu.edu/
eowiaseries2021

Field Day Registration

go.osu.edu/
eowiafielddays2021



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:
<http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity>.

Webinars and Field Days

Date & Time	Title & Description	Event Type
Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:00-1:00PM	Farm Income Tax Update - Barry Ward, OSU Extension This update will arm farm taxpayers with tax information on current critical issues including insight into new COVID related legislation.	Webinar
Thursday, January 28, 2021 12:00-1:00PM	Cooking with Cast Iron – Christine Kendle, OSU Extension Are you not sure what pan to use? How to season it? How you should care for your cast iron cookware? This class is for you!	Webinar
Thursday, February 11, 2021 12:00-1:00PM	QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Suicide Prevention – Panel QPR includes how to “ask a question to save a life,” recognizing warning signs, and referring for help.	Webinar
Thursday, February 25, 2021 12:00-1:00PM	Insurance - Get Covered! – Kim Davis, Kim Davis Insurance Agency, LLC Just because you pay an insurance premium doesn't mean you're covered for everything! Don't miss this fun, interactive session discussing all types of insurance.	Webinar
Tuesday, March 2, 2021 5:30-8:30PM	Hands-On Tractor Operation Skill-BUILDER – Dee Jepsen, Ohio State University Examining the utility of the compact tractor – safety, parts, color coding, hand signals and operation will be discussed in this interactive audience driven session. (May be outdoors weather permitting)	Field Day
Thursday, March 11, 2021 12:00-1:00PM	LOL – Lots of Loans! – Panel Hear from our panel to find the right fit for your needs. Including lines of credit, ag real estate, equipment & building loans/leases, home loans, home equity loans, youth loans, etc.	Webinar
Thursday, March 25, 2021 12:00-1:00PM	The Mystery of Fruit Tree Pruning – Paul Snyder, OARDC Secrest Arboretum This session covers the basics of how and when to prune fruit trees, highlighting the most common backyard fruit tree, the apple tree.	Webinar
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:30-8:30PM	Soils and Sustainable Agriculture —Erika Lyon and Heather Neikirk, OSU Extension and Clint Finney, NRCS Jefferson/Harrison What is sustainable for you? Dig into improving the health of your soils and the basics of soil testing services and kits. Explore sustainability and stewardship practices and opportunities for utilization in small farm animal and plant-based enterprises.	Field Day
Thursday, April 8, 2021 12:00-1:00PM	Bury Seeds, Not Stress —Sarah Noggle and Bridget Britton, OSU Extension When you live where you work, there are stressors that can go unacknowledged. Agriculture life brings unique challenges to us personally and professionally. Join us as we identify what makes us unique and talk about coping strategies.	Webinar
Thursday, April 22, 2021 12:00-1:00PM	Reaching Your Educational Goals – Dennis DeCamp, OSU Extension Regardless of age, educational opportunities are always available. Explore options for obtaining and funding education to meet your goals while maintaining a balanced life.	Webinar
Tuesday, May 4, 2021 5:30-8:30PM	Raising Livestock on 5 Acres or Less – Sandy Smith, OSU Extension So you have some land and you want some extra income or a supply of food for your family. This session will investigate all of your options and possibilities.	Field Day
Thursday, May 13, 2021 12:00-1:00PM	Veterinarians: Building a Relationship & Knowing When to Call - TBA A working relationship with your veterinarian can teach you when it's appropriate to try something at home vs. having them out on a call to improve your farm's husbandry & production.	Webinar
Thursday, May 27, 2021 12:00-1:00PM	He Said, She Said: – Emily Marrison, OSU Extension Women in agriculture often work with men in agriculture. Explore ways to improve interpersonal communication for more productive work settings and peaceful home environments.	Webinar

Cancellation Policy: In-person sessions may be cancelled due to university, state or local guidelines on group events. The event will not be rescheduled. No registration fees will be refunded.