

COSHOCTON COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES



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Hello, Coshocton County! What a difference a week has made. One week ago, we had just finished a week that included 4 frost/freeze events and even a snow on May 9. This was followed by a nice warmup this past weekend followed by rain this week. It does however look like another gorgeous weather weekend ahead.

COVID-19 has created an unusual situation that has negatively all businesses. The details for the **Coronavirus Food Assistance Program** (CFAP) were released yesterday morning and I have included information on this program in today's newsletter. Sign-up will begin at the end of May with the Farm Service Agency.

Barry Ward also has updated the 2020 Crop Budgets for corn, soybeans and wheat. An article on these changes is also included in today's newsletter.

Stay well and remember, while our office is closed to the public I can still be reached directly at 740-722-6073 or via email at marrison.2@osu.edu. Stay safe!

Sincerely,

David Marrison

Coshocton County OSU Extension ANR Educator



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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USDA Announces Details of CFAP

Source: https://www.fsa.usda.gov/news-room/news-releases/2020/usda-announces-details-of-direct-assistance-to-farmers-through-the-coronavirus-food-assistance-program?utm_campaign=0519cfap&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced May 19 the details of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), which will provide up to \$16 billion in direct payments to deliver relief to America's farmers and ranchers impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. In addition to this direct support to farmers and ranchers, USDA's [Farmers to Families Food Box](#) program is partnering with regional and local distributors, whose workforces have been significantly impacted by the closure of many restaurants, hotels, and other food service entities, to purchase \$3 billion in fresh produce, dairy, and meat and deliver boxes to Americans in need.

Beginning May 26, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), through the Farm Service Agency (FSA), will be accepting applications from agricultural producers who have suffered losses. CFAP provides vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-percent-or-greater price decline due to COVID-19 and face additional significant marketing costs as a result of lower demand, surplus production, and disruptions to shipping patterns and the orderly marketing of commodities.

Farmers and ranchers will receive direct support, drawn from two possible funding sources. The first source of funding is \$9.5 billion in appropriated funding provided in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Stability (CARES) Act to compensate farmers for losses due to price declines that occurred between mid-January 2020, and mid-April 2020 and provides support for specialty crops for product that had been shipped from the farm between the same time period but subsequently spoiled due to loss of marketing channels. The second funding source uses the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act to compensate producers for \$6.5 billion in losses due to on-going market disruptions.

Non-Specialty Crops and Wool - Non-specialty crops eligible for CFAP payments include malting barley, canola, corn, upland cotton, millet, oats, soybeans, sorghum, sunflowers, durum wheat, and hard red spring wheat. Wool is also eligible. Producers will be paid based on inventory subject to price risk held as of January 15, 2020. A payment will be made based 50 percent of a producer's 2019 total production or the 2019 inventory as of January 15, 2020, whichever is smaller, multiplied by the commodity's applicable payment rates.

Livestock- Livestock eligible for CFAP include cattle, lambs, yearlings and hogs. The total payment will be calculated using the sum of the producer's number of livestock sold between January 15 and April 15, 2020, multiplied by the payment rates per head, and the highest inventory number of livestock between April 16 and May 14, 2020, multiplied by the payment rate per head.

Dairy- For dairy, the total payment will be calculated based on a producer's certification of milk production for the first quarter of calendar year 2020 multiplied by a national price decline during the same quarter. The second part of the payment is based a national adjustment to each producer's production in the first quarter.

Specialty Crops- For eligible specialty crops, the total payment will be based on the volume of production sold between January 15 and April 15, 2020; the volume of production shipped, but unpaid; and the number of acres for which harvested production did not leave the farm or mature product destroyed or not harvested during that same time period, and which have not and will not be sold. Specialty crops include, but are not limited to, almonds, beans, broccoli, sweet corn, lemons, iceberg lettuce, spinach, squash, strawberries and

NOTE:

The OSU Extension Farm Management team has developed an information sheet on the CFAP program complete with examples for your review. See this factsheet at the end of this newsletter.

tomatoes. A full list of eligible crops can be found on farmers.gov/cfap. Additional crops may be deemed eligible at a later date.

Eligibility- There is a payment limitation of \$250,000 per person or entity for all commodities combined. Applicants who are corporations, limited liability companies or limited partnerships may qualify for additional payment limits where members actively provide personal labor or personal management for the farming operation. Producers will also have to certify they meet the Adjusted Gross Income limitation of \$900,000 unless at least 75 percent or more of their income is derived from farming, ranching or forestry-related activities. Producers must also be in compliance with Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation provisions.

Applying for Assistance- Producers can apply for assistance beginning on May 26, 2020. Additional information and application forms can be found at farmers.gov/cfap. Producers of all eligible commodities will apply through their local FSA office. Documentation to support the producer's application and certification may be requested. FSA has streamlined the signup process to not require an acreage report at the time of application and a USDA farm number may not be immediately needed. Applications will be accepted through August 28, 2020.

Payment Structure- To ensure the availability of funding throughout the application period, producers will receive 80 percent of their maximum total payment upon approval of the application. The remaining portion of the payment, not to exceed the payment limit, will be paid at a later date as funds remain available.

USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only, and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

Honey Bee Swarms-Cause for Alarm?

Over the past week, we have had a few calls to the OSU Extension office about honey bee swarms. So should I be concerned? What do I do?

However, this is nothing to panic about! Honey bee swarms can be seen this time of year and it is a natural process of the honeybee of one hive splitting into two. They often go unnoticed because swarms do not stick around for very long, usually one to three days at most.

A honey bee swarm is a natural process. As a honey bee colony grows within a hive, it becomes crowded. The bees instinctively begin to nurture a new queen while preparing for the current queen to leave. Once she is ready, the existing queen leaves the hive in search of a new location for her colony. She takes hundreds to thousands of worker bees (all female) and some drones (all male) with her, and together, these form a swarm.

Worker bees that are good at foraging for food are called scout bees. Scout bees find a suitable place for the queen to rest until they go off and identify a more permanent location to call home. The queen is often led to a tree or shrub branch or another object not too far from the original hive. Worker bees follow, milling around her to keep her safe and warm.



Scout bees search for an ideal location to begin the new hive. The swarm will stay put until the scouts report back and signal that they have located a suitable new home. While the honey bees wait, the swarm can be collected and relocated. If the swarm is not collected and left alone, it will move on once the suitable nesting site has been identified. This can take one to several days.

An interesting fact about swarms is that this is when the honeybees are usually the least aggressive! They do not have growing brood in a hive to protect and are simply keeping the queen comfortable. The swarm can look intimidating, but usually is harmless. It only takes about a day or two for the swarm to find a new hive, but if you see one near your home or business, there is a list of beekeepers which will collect them. You can check the list out and learn much more about honey bees at the Coshocton County Beekeepers Association's website at: <https://www.coshoctonbeekeepers.com>

Once the swarm reaches its new home – whether that be a hollowed-out tree or a beekeeper's hive box, the colony will begin to grow as the queen lays new eggs. If you have an interest in honey bees or other types of bees, you may wish to check out the Ohio State University's Bee Lab website: u.osu.edu/beelab. It is full of information on bees of all types – including honey bees and native bees. There are many presentations posted as well for you to watch and learn about all things bees!

Source of Information: <https://bygl.osu.edu/node/1573>

Warmer Weather, Finally!

By: Aaron Wilson

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-14/warmer-weather-finally>

As recently as last Wednesday and Thursday (May 13-14), some locations across Ohio had morning lows dipping down to near or below freezing (Figure 1). This follows numerous frost and freeze events since mid-April that led to reports of damage to vegetables, tree fruit, and certain grape varieties, and some minor leaf-tip damage to wheat and alfalfa. For more information on recent climate conditions, check out the weekly Hydro-Climate Assessment from the [State Climate Office of Ohio](https://ohioclimate.org/).

But it seems as though we have turned a corner on this cool weather; after all, June is fast approaching and there is still some work to be done. Will the weather cooperate?

Unfortunately, we have a slow-moving system and weak cold front this week that is already providing a focal point for numerous showers and storms across the state. Tropical Storm Arthur, moving up the U.S. east coast, is slowing the progression of this system, with expected lingering showers throughout the week across the region. Heavy rain and some flooding are possible, especially over portions of western and southern Ohio, where 2-4 inches of rain are expected with locally heavier amounts (Figure 2). This is well above the 1 inch per week we typically see this time of year. Lighter amounts are forecast for northeast Ohio.

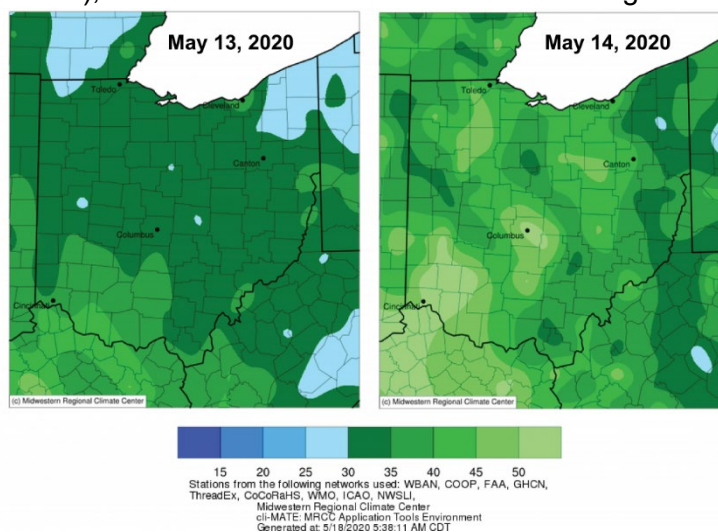
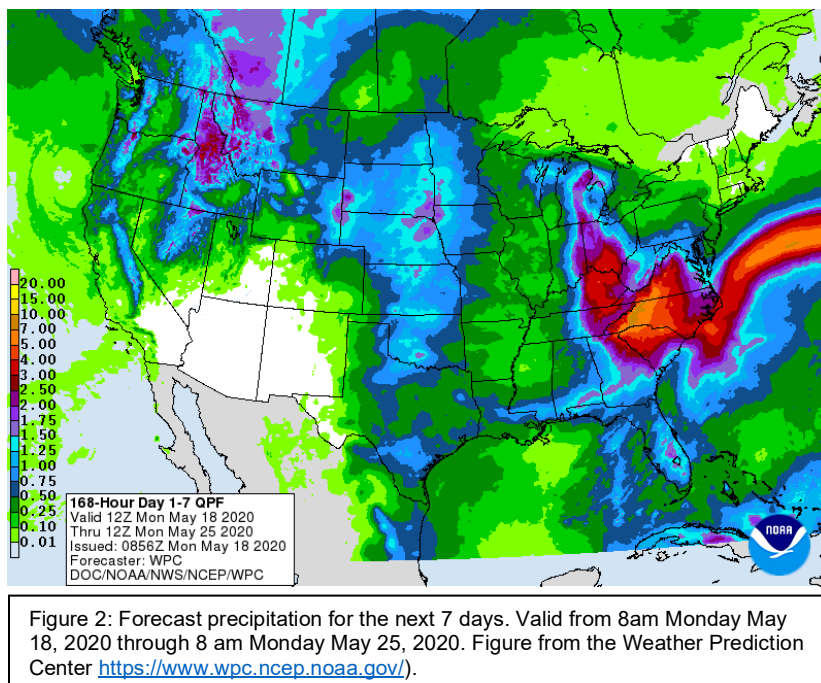


Figure 1: Morning lows on left) May 13, 2020 and right) May 14, 2020. Figures courtesy of the Midwest Regional Climate Center (<https://mrcc.illinois.edu>).

Temperatures are likely to cool a bit behind the cold front on Tuesday and Wednesday, with highs below average in the 50s and 60s. A moderating trend in temperatures is likely by the weekend, with highs returning to the 70s and 80s. This may also bring some scattered thunderstorm activity.

The latest [NOAA/NWS/Climate Prediction Center](#) outlook for the 6-10 day period (May 24-28) shows a strong likelihood for above average temperatures with slightly elevated probability for above average precipitation. Normal highs during the period should be in the low to mid-70s (north to south) with overnight lows in the upper 40s to mid-50s and about 0.9-1.10" of precipitation per week. The [16-Day Rainfall Outlook from NOAA/NWS/Ohio River Forecast Center](#) reflects well above average precipitation over the next couple of weeks, largely a reflection of this week's wet weather.



Ohio Corn, Soybean & Wheat Enterprise Budgets Updated

Barry Ward, Leader, Production Business Management, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Ohio State University Extension

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/ohioagmanager/2020/05/14/ohio-corn-soybean-and-wheat-enterprise-budgets-projected-returns-for-2020/>

COVID-19 has created an unusual situation that has negatively affected crop prices and lowered certain crop input costs. Many inputs for the 2020 production year were purchased or the prices/costs were locked in prior to the spread of this novel coronavirus. Some costs have been recently affected or may yet be affected. Lower fuel costs may allow for lower costs for some compared to what current budgets indicate.

Production costs for Ohio field crops are forecast to be largely unchanged from last year with lower fertilizer expenses offset by slight increases in some other costs. Variable costs for corn in Ohio for 2020 are projected to range from \$359 to \$452 per acre depending on land productivity. Variable costs for 2020 Ohio soybeans are projected to range from \$201 to \$223 per acre. Wheat variable expenses for 2020 are projected to range from \$162 to \$198 per acre.

Returns will likely be low to negative for many producers depending on price movement throughout the rest of the year. Grain prices used as assumptions in the 2020 crop enterprise budgets are \$3.20/bushel for corn, \$8.30/bushel for soybeans and \$5.10/bushel for wheat. Projected returns above variable costs (contribution margin) range from \$109 to \$240 per acre for corn and \$179 to \$337 per acre for soybeans. Projected returns above variable costs for wheat range from \$152 to \$262 per acre.

Return to Land is a measure calculated to assist in land rental and purchase decision making. The measure is calculated by starting with total receipts or revenue from the crop and subtracting all expenses except the land expense. Returns to Land for Ohio corn (Total receipts minus total costs except land cost) are projected to range from -\$48 to \$72 per acre in 2020 depending on land production capabilities. Returns to land for Ohio soybeans are expected to range from \$65 to \$214 per acre depending on land production capabilities. Returns to land for wheat (not including straw or double-crop returns) are projected to range from \$70 per acre to \$173 per acre.

Total costs projected for trend line corn production in Ohio are estimated to be \$759 per acre. This includes all variable costs as well as fixed costs (or overhead if you prefer) including machinery, labor, management and land costs. Fixed machinery costs of \$75 per acre include depreciation, interest, insurance and housing. A land charge of \$187 per acre is based on data from the Western Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rents Survey Summary. Labor and management costs combined are calculated at \$67 per acre. Details of budget assumptions and numbers can be found in footnotes included in each budget.

Total costs projected for trend line soybean production in Ohio are estimated to be \$517 per acre. (Fixed machinery costs: \$59 per acre, land charge: \$187 per acre, labor and management costs combined: \$46 per acre.)

Total costs projected for trend line wheat production in Ohio are estimated to be \$452 per acre. (Fixed machinery costs: \$34 per acre, land charge: \$187 per acre, labor and management costs combined: \$41 per acre.)

Current budget analyses indicates favorable returns for soybeans compared to corn but crop price change and harvest yields may change this outcome. These projections are based on OSU Extension Ohio Crop Enterprise Budgets. Newly updated Enterprise Budgets for 2020 have been completed and posted to the **Farm Office** website: <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/farm-management-tools/farm-budgets>

Control of Multiflora Rose in Pastures

By: [Dean Kreager](#), Licking County Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator (originally published in [Farm and Dairy](#))

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/05/20/control-of-multiflora-rose-in-pastures/>

There is one pasture project that never seems to go away. That is controlling the multiflora rose. The plant was first introduced into the United States in 1866 to be used as a rootstock for grafting roses. About 70 years later the U.S. Soil Conservation Service promoted the use of multiflora rose as a “living fence” and a means of erosion control. The adaptability of this plant allowed it to get out of control. Over the years this plant has made the list of noxious weeds in many states and is taking over many pastures in this part of the country. The battle to gain control is difficult and maintenance is continual.

The leaves and thorns on this plant make it easy to identify as a rose. Left on its own, this plant can quickly form dense thickets over 6 feet high. The white flowers it produces in May to June lead to seeds that birds are more than happy to spread throughout pastures. One multiflora rose can produce up to 500,000 seeds per year. Once deposited these seeds can remain viable for up to 20 years. Seeds are not the only way this plant spreads. Stems that are in contact with the ground can form roots which become a new plant, and roots are also able to produce new plants.

What makes this such a problem plant? Most species of pasture animals do not eat multiflora rose. This allows it to out compete the plants the animals prefer to eat, and it takes over larger areas of pasture every year. Thorns can also cause damage to eyes and other sensitive skin areas. You probably have noticed how animals will leave a patch of grass around the multiflora rose. If you add up all the patches of pasture that are lost to these weeds it soon becomes a significant amount.

There are a variety of methods available for controlling multiflora rose.

Mechanical Methods:

Pulling it out is an option if you only have a few plants to deal with but, if you do not get all of the roots new shoots will soon emerge. Routine mowing will keep these weeds under stress, which may cause some to die. Mowing will help slow the spread but is unlikely to kill a large percentage of the plants.

Biological Controls:

Goats are likely the best biological method of control for multiflora rose. About 80% of a goat's diet can come from browse and goats are often happy to eat multiflora rose. Adding some goats to your pasture can help remove woody plants. The challenge with goats is the ability to keep them in the desired fenced area. They also need to continue eating these plants to the ground until the root reserves are used and the plant dies. A second biological control, Rose Rosette Disease, is a viral infection carried by small mites. It can kill multiflora rose but will also kill ornamental roses and some fruits. Because of the damage to other plants this biological control is not being promoted. A third biological possibility is a rose seed chalcid wasp, but these are not common enough to be significant.

Chemical Control:

There are several herbicide options available and the effectiveness of each may depend on the season. Basal bark and cut stem applications can be conducted year-round. Foliar applications are most effective from now until fall. The 2020 Ohio Weed Control Guide is an excellent resource that has reviewed the effectiveness and application considerations of many herbicides. The following information is from that guide which can be obtained from your local Extension Office or online. I will just concentrate on a few of the foliar options. An herbicide of 2,4-D plus triclopyr (examples: Crossbow, Crossroad, Candor) can be used in a foliar application and is very effective from late April through early June. A 1.5% solution will kill multiflora rose and other broadleaf plants but will not kill grass so you can spot spray without leaving dead patches. There are some grazing restrictions such as 14 days after treatment for dairy animals. Other livestock does not have a waiting period between application and grazing but remove animals 3 days before slaughter. Read the label for more details.

Glyphosate can be used as a spot treatment when mixed at a 2% volume to volume rate. It is best used in late spring to summer when the plants are fully leafed. Glyphosate has the advantage of lacking soil activity so can be used around trees if carefully applied. This will kill most plants that it comes in contact with in a pasture so overspray will cause bare patches. Grazing or harvesting should not occur for 14 days after application. Metsulfuron methyl (examples: Patriot, Cimarron Plus) has also been very effective at controlling multiflora rose. It is best applied as a foliar spray in late spring or summer when plants are fully leafed. For spot spraying mix at a rate of 1 ounce per 100 gallons of water. This product has a long residual time and restrictions of 34 months for many crops. There are also restrictions where runoff may occur. There are however no grazing restrictions at this application rate.

The label of the pesticide is the law and must be followed so read the label before mixing or using the pesticide. The three treatments above are not the only options but are examples of treatments that have worked well in Ohio. Due to the characteristics of multiflora rose there will always need to be a follow-up program to keep the numbers down in pasture areas.

Coshocton SWCD's 2020 Cover Crop Cost Share Program

Once again this year, Coshocton SWCD is coordinating a Cover Crop Cost Share program. A cover crop is an un-harvested crop grown as part of a planned rotation to provide conservation benefits to the soil. Cover crops slow erosion, improve soil organic matter, smother weeds, enhance nutrient and moisture availability, help control many pests, and reduce compaction. At the same time, they can help you increase yields, save on nitrogen costs, reduce trips across the field and also reap many additional agronomic benefits.

The deadline for applications is Wednesday, **July 8, 2020**. Completed applications will be ranked against others in the watershed. 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.

Also, NRCS standards have to be followed for seeding rate and seeding dates. New this year, soil test results **must** be supplied to SWCD staff for each field signed up to be eligible. Tests must be within the last 4 years and represent no more than 25 acres per test. Fields without soil tests will not be considered for ranking in 2020. Also new on the ranking application is nutrient application records which are worth 20 points. To earn these points, producers must supply the SWCD with current crop records (nutrients applied for the crop

currently planted in the field) for each field with date applied, product or analysis, and rate. These changes are an effort by ODA to follow the H2Ohio program, that will hopefully be available in our area in the next couple of years, and SWCD staff will work with you to complete your application. Interested farmers should contact the Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District at 740-622-8087 ext 4. Applications are also available on-line at www.coshoctonswcd.org

Scab Risk Low, but Keep Your Eyes on Leaf Diseases

By: Dr. Pierce Paul

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-14/scab-risk-low-keep-your-eyes-leaf-diseases>

According to the FHB forecasting system, the risk for head scab continues to be low across the state of Ohio, for wheat flowering (or barley heading) today, May 18. In spite of the wet weather we have had, it has been very cold over the last week to 10 days. Cold temperatures between heading and flowering usually reduce the risk for scab, as the disease develops best under warm, wet, or humid conditions.



However, you must continue to be vigilant as the crop in the northern half of the state approach heading and anthesis. If it continues to rain and stays wet and humid over the next few weeks, the risk for scab and vomitoxin will increase as the temperature increases. Be prepared to treat fields with Prosaro, Caramba, or Miravis Ace. Click on this link for more details on fungicide application for head scab control: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-13/managing-head-scab-fungicides-qa>

While scab is not yet a concern, either because it is too early, or because it has been too cold, current conditions do favor leaf diseases such as Septoria leaf spot and powdery mildew. Both have been reported on the lower leaves of susceptible varieties, and will continue to spread up the plant if it stays cool and wet. In addition, persistent rainfall and warmer temperatures over the next few weeks will not only increase the risk for scab, but will also increase the spread and severity of other diseases such as Stagonospora leaf and glume blotch. All of these diseases can reduce grain yield and quality, if flag leaves and heads are severely damaged before grain fill is complete. Continue to walk fields and look for leaf diseases. If the variety is susceptible, an early fungicide application may be needed to keep leaf diseases in check. Otherwise, an application (of Prosaro, Caramba or Miravis Ace) at or shortly after flowering (at or shortly after heading in barley) for scab control will also provide effective control of leaf diseases.

Farm Office Live Session Slated for Thursday, May 28 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

OSU Extension is pleased to be offering the a "Farm Office Live" session on Thursday morning, May 28 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Farmers, educators, and ag industry professionals are invited to log-on for the latest updates on the issues impact our farm economy.

The session will begin with the Farm Office Team answering questions asked over the ten days. Topics to be highlighted include: Updates on the CARES Act, Payroll Protection Program, Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), and Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) Update

Plenty of time has been allotted for questions and answers from attendees. If you miss the on-line office hours, the session recording can be accessed at [farmoffice.osu.edu](https://go.osu.edu/farmofficelive) the following day. Participants can pre-register or join in on Thursday morning at <https://go.osu.edu/farmofficelive>

Answers to What Are These Weeds?



Quiz from last week:
Both of these flowers are in the
Mustard Family. The purple
flower is **Dame's Rocket** and the
yellow flower is **Yellow Rocket**



Sign up for USDA-CFAP Direct Support to Begin May 26, 2020

Ben Brown, Peggy Kirk Hall, David Marrison, Dianne Shoemaker and Barry Ward
 The Ohio State University

Since the enactment of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act on March 27, 2020 and the announcement of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) on April 17, 2020, producers in Ohio and across the country have been anxiously awaiting additional details on how the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) will provide financial assistance for losses experienced as a result of lost demand, short-term oversupply and shipping pattern disruptions caused by COVID-19. The additional details on CFAP eligibility, payment limitations, payment rates, and enrollment timeline arrived on May 19, 2020, when the USDA issued its Final Rule for CFAP. We explain the Final Rule in this issue of *News from the Farm Office*.

Background

CFAP will utilize \$9.5 billion of funding provided from the CARES Act and \$6.5 billion from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to provide \$19 billion in total support to agricultural producers through two elements: \$16 billion in *Direct Support to Farmers and Ranchers* and \$3 billion in the *USDA Purchase and Distribution Program*. The Purchase and Distribution Program is already underway.

Until May 19, little was known about the *Direct Support to Farmers and Ranchers Program*. Early in May, Senate Agricultural Appropriations Chairman John Hoeven (SD) released to reporters the anticipated payment breakdowns per commodity at \$5.1 billion for cattle, \$2.9 billion for dairy, \$1.6 billion for hogs, \$3.9 billion for row crops, \$2.1 billion for specialty crops and \$0.5 billion for other crops. These breakdowns in funding **have not been confirmed** by USDA nor were they mentioned in USDA's press conference and press release on May 19, 2020. The remainder of this article focuses on what we do know about the *Direct Support to Farmers and Ranchers Program* portion in CFAP based upon the USDA's Final Rule.

Eligibility Requirements

Eligible producers are defined as any person or legal entity that shared in the risk of producing the crop or is entitled to share in the revenue from marketing on January 15, 2020 or April 16, 2020 through May 14, 2020. An eligible producer must also be a U.S. citizen or resident alien.



Photo Source: United States Department of Agriculture

Eligible non-specialty crops and wool include malting barley, canola, corn, upland cotton, millet, oats, soybeans, sorghum, sunflowers, durum wheat, hard red spring wheat, and wool. Notable for Ohio producers is the absence of soft red winter wheat.

Eligible specialty crops include apples, avocados, blueberries, cantaloupe, grapefruit, kiwifruit, lemons, oranges, papaya, peaches, pears, raspberries, strawberries, tangerines, tomatoes, and watermelons, artichokes, asparagus, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, iceberg lettuce, romaine lettuce, dry onions, green onions, peppers, rhubarb, spinach, squash, sweet potatoes, taro, almonds, pecans, walnuts, beans, and mushrooms. Additional crops may be added later, specifically aquaculture and nursery crops including cut flowers. The Agricultural Marketing Service will assist the Farm Service Agency with respect to matters dealing with producers of specialty crops.

Eligible livestock include cattle, sheep (yearlings and lambs only), and hogs. Dairy milk is eligible but has a separate payment calculation.

To be eligible, commodities had to experience a 5% or greater drop in their corresponding futures prices between the weeks of January 13-27 and April 6-9, 2020. For non-specialty crops and livestock, the decline in price was calculated by using the average of futures prices or cash prices if futures prices were not available. For specialty crops, the price decline was calculated using the same periods and reported prices by the Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Payment Limitations

CFAP payments are subject to a per person or per legal entity payment limitation of \$250,000. This is an increase from normal USDA payment limitations of \$125,000. This limit is the sum of all eligible commodity payments paid to a person or entity. The total payment amount of CFAP payments attributed to one individual will be determined by taking into account the individual's direct and indirect ownership interest of all the entities participating in CFAP funding. Unlike other FSA administered programs, special payment limitations will be applied to participants that are corporations, LLCs, and limited partnerships classified as corporate entities. In these cases, the entity can only receive funds for up to three shareholders who are contributing at least 400 hours of management or active personal labor to the business. The rate is \$250,000 per person with a maximum of \$750,000 per entity.

A person or legal entity other than a joint venture or general partnership is ineligible for payments if the average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for the 2016, 2017 and 2018 tax years is more than \$900,000 unless at least 75% of that person's AGI is derived from farming, ranching or forestry related activities.

Timeline and Application

Eligible producers can start signing up for assistance at their local Farm Service Agency office on **Tuesday, May 26, 2020**. Currently due to COVID-19 restrictions, FSA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only. The FSA has streamlined the sign-up process and will be working with producers via phone and using e-mail, fax, mail, and online tools to accept applications. Producers can find the local FSA Service Center contact information by visiting this link: <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>. Sign up concludes at close of business on **August 28, 2020**.

Required forms at time of sign up include:

- A farm operating plan.
- CCC-901: name, address, Tax ID, citizen status.
- CCC-941: reports average gross income.
- CCC-942: certifies income source, if applicable.
- AD-1026: highly erodible land and wetland certification.
- AD-2047: provides basic customer contact information.
- SF-3881: collects bank information for direct deposit.

Producers who have previously participated in FSA programs will have most of these forms on record at their local FSA office. However, the forms are also available on USDA's website at <https://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eForms>.

The USDA may also require documentation of ability to harvest, transport, or market the crop in a quantity determined based on the producer's approved yield, expected production

or inventory of livestock, and the applicant's ownership or risk in the commodity.

Producers who are approved for participation in CFAP funding **must retain** documentation in support of their application for **three years** after the date of approval.

Payments and Payment Rates

Since funding sources include both the CARES Act and the Commodity Credit Corporation with two stated objectives, payment rates are split in three parts for specialty crops and two parts for non-specialty crops and livestock. The CFAP portion is intended to provide producers with financial assistance to "help offset sales losses and increased marketing expenses associated with the COVID-19 pandemic." Commodity Credit Corporation funding is used to provide partial compensation for the "purchases of materials and facilities required in connection with the production and marketing of agricultural commodities and the disposal of surplus commodities from normal marketing channels that may be currently unavailable." This support is to assist producers with losses, but not intended to cover total losses.

As applications are approved, 80% of the payment will be released with the remaining 20% held and paid at a later date if adequate funds remain. For all commodities listed below, the CFAP and CCC rates mentioned are appended in Tables 1 and 2. We explain the formulas and provide examples for each commodity below.

Payments for non-specialty crops and wool

The formula to calculate non-specialty crops and wool has two parts:

- Part 1: The **lesser** of either 50% of 2019 production or the unpriced inventory on hand as of January 15, 2020 multiplied by 50% and the CFAP per unit rate per commodity.
- Part 2: The **lesser** of either 50% of 2019 production or the unpriced inventory as of January 15, 2020 multiplied by 50% and the CCC per unit rate per commodity.

The January 15, 2020 inventory is calculated by adding current inventory plus sales records between January 15 and the date of enrollment. Other forms of acceptable documentation include ledgers of income, income statements of deposit slips, register tapes, invoices for custom harvesting, records to verify custom harvesting, records to verify production costs, truck scale tickets, or contemporaneous diaries that are determined acceptable by USDA. It is uncertain at this time how held futures contracts of commodities on January 15 will be treated. This is the case for producers who sell their entire crop at

(Payments and Payment Rates, continued)

harvest then buy futures contracts to capture market rallies. The grain producer has market risk, but no language was included for these producers.

Non-specialty crop and wool formula

$$\begin{aligned} & (50\% * (\text{Lesser of 50\% 2019 production or inventory 1/15/20}) \\ & \quad * \text{CFAP Rate}) \\ & + \\ & (50\% * (\text{Lesser of 50\% 2019 production or inventory 1/15/20}) \\ & \quad * \text{CCC Rate}) = \text{Payment} \end{aligned}$$

Non-specialty crop and wool example

Scenario: 40,000 bushels of unpriced corn on hand 1/15/2020 representing 40% of 2019 production.

$$\begin{aligned} & (40,000 \text{ bu.} * 50\% * \$0.32/\text{bu.}) = \$6,400 \\ & + \\ & (40,000 \text{ bu.} * 50\% * \$0.35) = \$7,000 \\ & \text{equals} \end{aligned}$$

Total Payment of \$13,400 (80% will be paid up front)

Payments for livestock

For livestock, the payment is the sum of two parts:

- Part 1: Livestock sales (number of head) between January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020 multiplied by the corresponding animal species CFAP payment rate per head.
- Part 2: The highest amount of livestock inventory (number of head) on any day between April 16, 2020 and May 14, 2020 multiplied by the corresponding species CCC payment rate per head.

Separate payment rates exist for cattle and hogs of different size and age classifications: slaughter cattle-mature cattle, slaughter cattle-fed cattle, feeder cattle less than 600 pounds, feeder cattle 600 pounds or more; all other cattle, pigs (less than 120 pounds) and hogs.

Livestock formula

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{Animals (head) sold 1/15/20-4/15/20} * \text{CARES Rate}) \\ & \text{plus} \\ & (\text{Head of unpriced animals 4/16/20-5/14/20} * \text{CCC Rate}) = \\ & \text{Payment} \end{aligned}$$

Livestock example

Scenario: 50 head of feeder cattle more than 600 pounds sold 3/20/20 and 100 head of other cattle 5/1/20.

$$\begin{aligned} & (50 * \$139) = \$6,950 \\ & + \\ & (100 * \$33) = \$3,300 \\ & \text{equals} \end{aligned}$$

Total Payment of \$10,250 (80% will be paid up front)

Payments for dairy

Dairy payments also have a two part formula:

- Part 1 is based on the producer's certified milk production during the first quarter of 2020 (January through March). The CARES rate represents 80% of the USDA calculated first quarter price decline.
- Part 2 multiplies first quarter production by 1.014 (adjusting for increased second quarter production) and the CCC payment rate representing 25% of the calculated price decline.

Dairy formula

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{1st quarter production} * \text{CARES Rate}) \\ & + \\ & (\text{1st quarter production} * 1.014 * \text{CCC Rate}) = \text{Payment} \end{aligned}$$

Dairy example

Scenario: 1st quarter milk production of 600,000 (6,000 cwt)

$$\begin{aligned} & (6,000 * \$4.71) = \$28,260 \\ & + \\ & (6,000 * 1.014 * \$1.47) = \$8,943.48 \\ & \text{equals} \end{aligned}$$

Total Payment of \$37,203.48 (80% will be paid up front)

Payments for specialty crops

Specialty crop producers will receive a payment based on the sum of three parts:

- Part 1: Total sales multiplied by the CARES Act rate for sales lost, production that was shipped but unpaid.
- Part 2: Production multiplied by CARES Act rate for product that left the farm but spoiled due to loss of marketing channel, and unharvested production that was wasted due to lack of market access.
- Part 3: Unharvested production multiplied by the CCC payment rate.

Specialty crop formula

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Part 1} * \text{CARES Payment (Table 1, Column 2)} \\ & \text{plus} \\ & \text{Part 2} * \text{CARES Payment (Table 1, Column 3)} \\ & \text{plus} \\ & \text{Part 3} * \text{CCC Payment (Table 1, Column 4)} \end{aligned}$$

Specialty crop example

Scenario: A producer sold 1,000 lbs. of tomatoes on 3/1/20, had 200 lbs. shipped but unpaid, and had 4,000 lbs. rot in the hoop house.

$$\begin{aligned} & (1,000 \text{ lbs.} * \$0.64) = \$640 \\ & + \\ & (200 \text{ lbs.} * \$0.38) = \$76 \\ & + \\ & (4,000 \text{ lbs.} * \$0.07) = \$280 \\ & \text{equals} \end{aligned}$$

Total Payment of \$996 (80% will be paid up front)

Conclusion

Starting Tuesday, May 26, 2020, producers can contact their local FSA office and begin to sign up for CFAP funding authorized under the CARES Act and the Commodity Credit Corporation. Producers who are new to FSA programs will need to fill out paperwork and verify their ownership share or risk exposure, adjusted gross income, wetland and erodible land compliance and their contact information. Producers who participate in Farm Bill programs like Agricultural Risk Coverage, Price Loss Coverage or Dairy Margin Coverage will already have these forms on file. While the payment rates per commodity are the same for all producers, these payments are based on actual losses experienced earlier this year and as a result require certification of inventories, sales, or sometimes both. While many forms of verification exist, sales tickets, certified inventory statements or insurance records appear the easiest to obtain.

We await additional details about this program. This bulletin serves as the authors' interpretations of the Final Rule released by USDA, and FSA interpretation may be different.

OSU Extension and Ohio FSA will conduct a webinar in the upcoming days to outline program materials and answer questions. For information about the webinar and additional information on CFAP, please visit farmoffice.osu.edu. Information provided on the program by USDA along with a webinar for new FSA program participants is available at farmers.gov/CFAP.

References

"Coronavirus Food Assistance Program." *Coronavirus Food Assistance Program Farmers.gov: Resources for Farmers and Producers*, www.farmers.gov/cfap.

7 CFR Part 9, Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, Final Rule, available at www.farmers.gov/cfap.

Appendix 1

Table 1. Payment rates for specialty crops			
Commodity	CARES Act Payment Rates for Sales Losses (\$/lb.) Column 2	CARES Act Payment Rate for Product that left the farm, but spoiled due to loss of marketing channel (\$/lb.) Column 3	CCC Payment Rate (\$/lb.) Column 4
Almonds	\$0.26	\$0.57	\$0.11
Apples	--	\$0.18	\$0.03
Artichokes	\$0.66	\$0.49	\$0.10
Asparagus	--	\$0.38	\$0.07
Avocados	--	\$0.14	\$0.03
Beans	\$0.17	\$0.16	\$0.03
Blueberries	--	\$0.62	\$0.12
Broccoli	\$0.62	\$0.49	\$0.10
Cabbage	\$0.04	\$0.07	\$0.01
Cantaloupe	--	\$0.10	\$0.02
Carrots	\$0.2	\$0.11	\$0.02
Cauliflower	\$0.11	\$0.31	\$0.06
Celery	--	\$0.07	\$0.01
Corn, sweet	\$0.09	\$0.13	\$0.03
Cucumbers	\$0.13	\$0.15	\$0.03
Eggplant	\$0.07	\$0.15	\$0.03
Garlic	--	\$0.85	\$0.17
Grapefruit	--	\$0.11	\$0.02
Kiwifruit	--	\$0.32	\$0.06
Lemons	\$0.08	\$0.21	\$0.04
Lettuce, iceberg	\$0.20	\$0.15	\$0.03
Lettuce, romaine	\$0.07	\$0.12	\$0.02
Mushrooms	--	\$0.59	\$0.11
Onion, dry	\$0.01	\$0.05	\$0.01
Onions, green	--	\$0.30	\$0.06
Oranges	--	\$0.14	\$0.03
Papaya	--	\$0.32	\$0.06
Peaches	\$0.08	\$0.32	\$0.06
Pears	\$0.08	\$0.18	\$0.03
Pecans	\$0.28	\$0.93	\$0.18
Peppers, bell	\$0.14	\$0.22	\$0.04
Peppers, other	\$0.15	\$0.22	\$0.04
Potatoes		\$0.04	\$0.01
Raspberries		\$1.45	\$0.28
Rhubarb	\$0.15	\$1.03	\$0.20
Spinach	\$0.37	\$0.37	\$0.07
Squash	\$0.72	\$0.39	\$0.08
Strawberries	\$0.84	\$0.72	\$0.14
Sweet Potatoes	--	\$0.18	\$0.04
Tangerines	--	\$0.22	\$0.04
Taro	--	\$0.23	\$0.05
Tomatoes	\$0.64	\$0.38	\$0.07
Walnuts	--	\$0.45	\$0.09
Watermelons	--	\$0.02	--

Table 2: Payment rates for non-specialty crops, dairy, and livestock			
Commodity	Unit	CARES Act Payment Rate (\$/unit)	CCC Payment Rate (\$/unit)
Barley (malting)	bushel	\$0.34	\$0.37
Canola	pound	\$0.01	\$0.01
Corn	bushel	\$0.32	\$0.35
Durum Wheat	bushel	\$0.19	\$0.20
Hard Red Spring Wheat	bushel	\$0.18	\$0.20
Millet	bushel	\$0.31	\$0.34
Oats	bushel	\$0.15	\$0.17
Sorghum	bushel	\$0.30	\$0.32
Soybeans	bushel	\$0.45	\$0.50
Sunflowers	pound	\$0.02	\$0.02
Upland Cotton	pound	\$0.09	\$0.10
Dairy	hundredweight	\$4.71	\$1.47
Slaughter Cattle-Mature cattle	head	\$92	\$33
Slaughter Cattle-Fed cattle	head	\$214	\$33
Feeder cattle less than 600 pounds	head	\$102	\$33
Feeder cattle 600 pounds or more	head	\$139	\$33
All other cattle	head	\$102	\$33
Pigs	head	\$28	\$17
Hogs	head	\$18	\$17
Lambs and Yearlings	head	\$33	\$7
Wool (graded, clean basis)	pound	\$0.71	\$0.78
Wool (non-graded, greasy basis)	pound	\$0.36	\$0.39

COVER CROP SIGN-UP

WHEN

Now thru July 8th, 2020

WHERE

**Coshocton Soil & Water
Conservation District**

HOW

The office is currently closed to the public due to Covid-19. We ask that you use your field maps that you receive from FSA to fill out the application with tract and field numbers. If additional maps or any questions just contact the SWCD office.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 740-622-8087 EXT. 4
APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
WWW.COSHOCTONSWCD.ORG**

COST SHARE

**\$12/AC OR
\$15/AC**

FOR NEW APPLICANT

200 ACRE CAP

**Unless above a MWCD lake
or dam**

SOIL TEST

**Must be provided for fields
at time of signup**

**Within last 4 years and max
25 acres per test**

NUTRIENT RECORDS

**20 points available for
current application records
for each field.**

Date applied, Analysis, Rate

CERTIFIED SEED

**Seed must be certified or
have been tested by ODA**

**NRCS dates and rate must
be followed to be eligible
for payment**