

COSHOCTON COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCESSeptember 9, 2020 Issue

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What You Should Know Before Butchering on The Farm

Noxious weeds on your property: what is your responsibility?

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Hello, Coshocton County! I hope that each of you had a great Labor Day Weekend. As you drive around the county, you will notice that corn silage is being made and you can also see how quickly our soybean and corn fields are drying down.

As our crops start to dry down, our farmers are turning their attention to cover crops. Kudos to the Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District for coordinating the cover crops program once again. By the time you read this, over 900 acres of cover crop seeds should have been flown on by Fishers Ag Service. Thanks to the landowners and to the Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District for helping to conserve our soils!

Now is the time to spray for cressleaf groundsel in hayfields. I know I saw some hayfields this spring that need to be sprayed-check out today's first article. Farm Science Review will be held virtually this year but our Ask the Expert Sessions will still be held live (just over Zoom). I hope each of you will consider attending this year's Farm Science Review. Stay Well!

Sincerely,

David L. Marrison

Coshocton County OSU Extension ANR Educator



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Scout Now for Cressleaf Groundsel in Hayfields or Pay Price in May

By Mark Loux

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-30/scout-now-cressleaf-groundsel-hayfields-or-pay-price-may>

Some hay producers have been unpleasantly surprised in the past when cressleaf groundsel infestations became evident in their hay fields in May prior to first cutting. Cressleaf groundsel in hay or silage is toxic to animals, and infested areas of the field should not be harvested and fed. Groundsel is a winter annual, emerging in late summer into fall, when it develops into a rosette that overwinters. Growth restarts in spring, with stem elongation and an eventual height of up to several feet tall. The weed becomes evident in hay fields when it becomes taller than the alfalfa/grass and develops bright yellow flowers in May. The problem with passively waiting until this point to discover that the hay is infested with groundsel is that: 1) it's too late to control it with herbicides; and 2) hay from infested areas has to be discarded instead of sold or fed, and large plant skeletons are still toxic even if herbicides were effective on them. Groundsel plants finish their life cycle in late spring, once they flower and go to seed, so it should not be problem in subsequent cuttings.



The solution to this is scouting of hay fields in fall and early spring to determine the presence of cressleaf groundsel, when it is small and still susceptible to the few herbicides that can be used. We expect groundsel to be more of a problem in new August seedings, since it would be emerging with the new stand of alfalfa/grass. A well-managed established and uniform hay crop should be dense enough to largely prevent problems with winter annuals although there have been exceptions. Groundsel will be most easily controlled in the fall while in the rosette stage. Controlling plants in the spring is more difficult, because of cold conditions in early spring when plants are still small, and increased tolerance to herbicides as stems elongate.

Herbicide options are more effective in pure grass hay stands or grass pasture compared with legumes, and it's not possible to control groundsel in a first-year legume/grass seeding without incurring injury to the grasses. Any treatment containing 2,4-D should be effective in grass hay or pasture. Apply 2,4-D (1 qt/A) in late October or early November. Low-volatile ester formulations can be more effective than amine formulations, but the latter are less likely to volatilize and injure nearby sensitive broadleaf vegetation. This treatment can also be effective in spring if applied in late March or early April when the rosettes of groundsel are less than several inches in diameter. Larger plants are more tolerant of 2,4-D, and effective control will require a mixture of dicamba (e.g. Banvel, Clarity, Sterling) and 2,4-D. Desirable legumes in the pasture will be injured or killed by any of these treatments.

In alfalfa fields, the most effective treatments are:

- Metribuzin (1.3 lbs/A of 75% DF) or Velpar (2 to 3 qts/A) applied in late February when alfalfa is still dormant. These herbicides can be applied to established alfalfa only (more than one year old). Metribuzin can be used in fields that have established grasses in addition to the alfalfa. Do not use Velpar in fields with desirable grasses or fields that will be rotated to another crop within the next two years.
- Pursuit (2.16 oz/A) can suppress groundsel when applied in late fall or early spring. Fall applications are likely to be most effective. Plants should still be in the rosette stage and less than 3 inches tall at the time of application. In the spring, apply during periods of relatively warm weather – daytime temperatures above 60 degrees F and nighttime temperatures above 50 degrees F. Include the appropriate spray adjuvants per the herbicide label. Pursuit can be used in seedling or established alfalfa, but alfalfa seedlings must have at least two trifoliate leaves at the time of application. Do not use this treatment where desirable grasses are present unless injury to grasses is acceptable.

- Glyphosate (0.75 to 1.5 lb ae/A) can be applied in fall or spring to Roundup Ready alfalfa. Fall applications will be most effective. Plants should be small at time of application – no more than several inches tall. Spring applications will be most effective during periods of warmer weather.
- Glyphosate can be applied as a spot treatment in the spring in any legume or legume/grass hay field. This treatment will injure or kill all vegetation in the treated area and should be used only when all other control measures have failed.

The links below provide more information including information on toxicity, biology, and control and photos of various plant stages for ID purposes:

[Cressleaf groundsel OSU fact sheet](#)

[Cressleaf groundsel OSU Youtube video](#)

[Cressleaf groundsel Powerpoint pdf](#)

Wheat Management for Fall 2020

By: [Laura Lindsey](#), [Pierce Paul](#), [Ed Lentz, CCA](#), [Steve Culman](#)

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-30/wheat-management-fall-2020>

Wheat helps reduce problems associated with the continuous planting of soybean and corn. With soybean harvest quickly approaching, we would like to remind farmers of a few management decisions that are important for a successful crop.

Variety Selection. Select high-yielding varieties with high test weight, good straw strength, and adequate disease resistance. Do not jeopardize your investment by planting anything but the best yielding varieties that also have resistance to the important diseases in your area.

Depending on your area of the state, you may need good resistance to powdery mildew, *Stagonospora* leaf blotch, and/or leaf rust.

Avoid varieties with susceptibility to *Fusarium* head scab. Plant seed that has been properly cleaned to remove shriveled kernels and treated with a fungicide seed treatment to control seed-borne diseases. The 2020 Ohio Wheat Performance Test results can be found at: <https://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/wheattrials/>



Planting Date. Plant after the Hessian Fly Safe Date for your county. This date varies between September 22 for northern counties and October 5 for southern-most counties (Figure 1). Planting before the Fly Safe Date increases the risk of insect and disease problems including Hessian fly and aphids carrying Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus. The best time to plant is within 10 days after the Fly Safe Date.

Seeding Rate. Optimum seeding rates are between 1.2 and 1.6 million seeds per acre. For drills with 7.5-inch row spacing, this is about 18 to 24 seeds per foot of row. When wheat is planted on time, actual seeding rate has little effect on yield, but high seeding rates (above 30 seeds per foot of row) increase lodging and the risk of severe powdery mildew development next spring.

Planting Depth. Planting depth is critical for tiller development and winter survival. Plant seed 1.5 inches deep and make sure planting depth is uniform across the field. No-till wheat seeded into soybean stubble is ideal, but make sure the soybean residue is uniformly spread over the surface of the ground. Shallow planting is the main cause of low tiller numbers and poor over-winter survival due to heaving and freeze injury.

Fertilizer Application. Apply 20 of nitrogen per acre before planting to promote fall tiller development. Do not apply more than 10 lb N per acre as urea in contact with seed. A soil test should be completed to determine phosphorus and potassium needs. Wheat requires more phosphorus than corn or soybean, and soil test levels should be maintained between 30-50 ppm (Mehlich-3 P) for optimum production. If the soil test indicates less than 30 ppm, then apply 80 to 110 pounds of P₂O₅ at planting, depending on yield potential. Do not add any phosphorus if soil test levels are higher than 50 ppm. Soil potassium should be maintained at 120 to 170 ppm (Mehlich-3 K) for soils with a cation exchange capacity >6 meq/100 g). For sandy soils with a cation exchange capacity of <5 meq/100 g, soil potassium should be maintained at 100 to 130 ppm. If potassium levels are low, apply between 65 to 180 pounds of K₂O at planting, depending on the soil cation exchange capacity and yield potential. Soil pH should be between 6.3 and 7.0. In Ohio, limed soils usually have adequate calcium and magnesium. Sulfur should be added in the spring to sandy soils and soils with low organic matter. Ohio research from the past several years has not shown a yield response to supplemental sulfur on medium to fine-textured soils that have adequate organic matter. For the recently revised Tri-State Fertilizer Recommendations for Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, and Alfalfa see: https://agcrops.osu.edu/FertilityResources/tri-state_info

Lessons Learned by a Cattleman in 2020

By: [Stan Smith](#), OSU Extension PA, Fairfield County (originally published in the [Ohio Farmer on-line](#))

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/09/09/lessons-learned-by-a-cattleman-in-2020/#more-9368>

Having grown up in the 50's and 60's, the experience of social distancing and self-quarantine in recent months hasn't really been too much of a struggle for me. Afterall, if you grew up on a farm in rural Ohio in those days, the only time you saw anyone but your closest neighbor was at the feed mill, church, or baseball practice. Speaking of baseball, another lesson from those days that's served me well is when in a close game, you don't want to be sitting on a fastball if the pitcher you're facing can throw a changeup for a strike. Suffice to say, Mother Nature continues to prove she can throw any pitch she wants, at any time, and throw it for a strike.

To suggest we've needed to remain flexible this year would be an understatement. However, much like experiences from past years serve us well today, at some point we'll draw on the challenges of 2020 to our benefit. Until then, let's reflect on our recent past.

Too wet + Too dry is not just right

After experiencing three consecutive Ohio winter and springs of near record precipitation, followed by dry summers, is it time to assemble a feed management plan that buffers the cow herd against stresses resulting from foul weather? Feeding pads, managed rotational bale grazing, or stockpiled forage all go a long way towards keeping cows out of the mud. While managed grazing requires less investment, a feeding pad allows forages to be processed and bunk fed for more efficiency, and when needed, blended with additional protein or energy from by-product feed sources.

We can't starve a profit into a cow, and feed quality, feed waste, and cow condition must be monitored utilizing a variety of tactics.

Cover crops aren't just cover crops

The value of utilizing cover crops for feed or bedding is well documented in Ohio. Cover crops fed to beef cattle remain a valuable asset particularly in these times of limited forage and bedding supplies.

Freezer beef is back!

Last year if you wanted to schedule a beef for custom kill, it was common to get an appointment within a month or two. Today, in many cases butcher shops are booking out nearly a year. The message seems clear. Despite some spikes in price at the retail counter resulting from virus related supply chain issues, consumers want meat, and in particular, they want high quality beef. They trust in beef's nutritional value and prefer to buy it from a farmer when they can.

How long this seemingly rediscovered phenomena will continue remains to be seen. But, if you enjoy marketing direct to the consumer, don't miss an opportunity . . . consumers trust you, and want your product!

Even during times of tight cash, quality beef purchased from a trusted cattleman sells!

Pricing isn't always fair, and maybe contracted cattle aren't so bad

The beef supply chain issues that allowed freezer beef to become such a hot commodity is also what caused a slowdown in fed cattle movement this spring resulting in pressure on prices. Keeping a feedlot current in this environment is particularly difficult for cattle feeders that can't contract pot loads of fed cattle. Often in the past we've suggested a solution to this dilemma being the ability to team up with neighbors and collectively 'work big.'

Twice in the past year we've seen the benefits of having contracted cattle. First time was a year ago when a packing house fire temporarily reduced U.S. harvest capacity. This spring it resulted from worker health issues that necessitated closing packing facilities for periods of time. It's hard to chastise cattlemen that protect their margins by contracting or hedging at profitable prices. Find a way to do the same regardless of size and scale of operation.

Imports are not the enemy

At a time when retail beef prices were escalating and cattle were held on the farm due to well documented supply chain issues, in some sectors the importation of beef came under fire. Few of these imports are competition for the high-quality beef raised in the U.S.

Imports are predominately lesser valued lean trim that's blended with domestic beef fat and utilized for hamburger offered in most fast food chains. Without the imported lean trim to blend it with, fat from domestic slaughter has little value and is most likely rendered.

Lessons of livestock bio-security and human disease testing resonate

Since spring, many have expressed frustration that Ohio's disease tracking system cannot efficiently track outbreaks of COVID-19. How many times have we heard if we don't implement a standardized tag-based tracking system for our livestock, in the event of a disease outbreak it will be nearly impossible to track that outbreak to its source?

We've visited with our youth owning livestock projects for at least the past decade about the importance of biosecurity. Those lessons included hand washing and using sanitizer to prevent the spread of livestock disease. Today we're each being asked to utilize those same bio-security techniques we've taught youth for years. Is it also time we begin to take the need for a standardized livestock tracking system seriously?

Computers aren't such a bad thing, and ZOOM works

I'd be remiss if I didn't mention that for some, ZOOM has become our newset four-letter word. While most of us have grown weary of ZOOM's, there's no denying it has kept us in contact, and provided lots of educational opportunities that would have otherwise been impossible.

Adapt and change

Colleague Dr. Les Anderson, University of Kentucky Extension Beef Specialist, recently said it best in his monthly newsletter . . . "Adapt and change. It's the story of life and it's how we evolve."

To do that we must value experience, stay flexible, and be prepared for the next change-up Mother Nature throws!

CFAP Deadline Extended until September 11, 2020

Are you a farmer or rancher whose operation has been directly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic? The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) provides direct relief to producers who faced price declines and additional marketing costs due to COVID-19. If so and you have not made an application with the Farm Service Agency, there is still time as USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue announced on August 11 that the deadline to apply for CFAP has been extended to September 11. The original application deadline was August 28, 2020.

While most USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only, FSA is working with

producers by phone and using email and online tools to process CFAP applications. Complete details about CFAO can be obtained at: <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>

A few notable additions have occurred recently which are notable. These include:

- In response to comments and data received by the public, USDA announced on July 9 that it would make more than 40 additional specialty crop commodities eligible for the program. Nearly 60 additional commodities were announced on August 11, including additions to specialty crops and livestock along with the inclusion of nursery crops and cut flowers, aquaculture, and certain types of eggs.
- USDA announced CFAP eligibility of sheep greater than two years of age on August 11 as a result of data and comments submitted by the public through the Notice of Funding Availability.

What Should You Know Before Butchering on the Farm

Processing meat on the farm? CFAES experts are offering guidance on doing it safely and legally.

There's growing interest in on-farm butchering, say experts at The Ohio State University [College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences](#) (CFAES), and they're offering guidance for doing it right.

As major meat processors have suffered shutdowns and back-ups because of COVID-19, and as small processors have been swamped with business as an alternative for slaughtering market-ready livestock, more and more farmers have started to think about simply doing it themselves.

But processing livestock safely, humanely, and legally isn't a simple thing at all, said [Lyda Garcia](#), assistant professor of meat science in the CFAES Department of Animal Sciences. "I grew up in south Texas, where on-the-farm animal processing was common," said Garcia, who is also a meat specialist with Ohio State University Extension, CFAES' outreach arm. "But it's a skill. Not just anybody can do it or should do it."



(Photo: Getty Images.)

FARM SCIENCE REVIEW PRESENTATION

That's why Garcia and [Lynn Knipe](#), an associate professor in CFAES' departments of Animal Sciences and Food Science and Technology, will cover the subject during this year's virtual Farm Science Review. Their session, "On-the-Farm Slaughter and Processing," is slated for Tuesday, Sept. 22, 11–11:30 a.m., at fsr.osu.edu. Watching the talk is free, but signing up in advance is required. Sign up at fsr.osu.edu starting Sept. 8.

TWO NEW FACT SHEETS

For additional resources, Garcia and Knipe, who is likewise also an OSU Extension meat specialist, have co-written two new fact sheets, "What You Need to Know About Animal Processing on the Farm in Ohio" and "What You Need to Know About the Legal Side of Home Processing." The fact sheets cover subjects such as animal health and welfare, food safety concerns and best practices, and Ohio's laws and limits on on-farm butchering. One of those laws is that unless the meat is inspected, only you and your family can use it—you can't sell it.

FOOD SAFETY KEY

"If you don't understand food safety, if you don't understand the potential hazards at stake, that can lead to more serious repercussions than just not getting an animal processed," Garcia said. "It scares me to no end to think about what could happen, especially to the elderly and our very young, who don't have as strong immune systems," she said. Possible hazards include pathogens such as E. coli O157:H7, salmonella, and campylobacter, which Garcia said can cause illness and possibly even death. "Carelessness is not an option when it comes to food safety," she said.

The fact sheets are free at go.osu.edu/onfarmmeatprocessing and go.osu.edu/legalhomeprocessing. Further details, including how to contact Garcia and Knipe (under the “About Us” button), are available at meatsci.osu.edu. “I encourage people to take home processing seriously—to think it through,” Garcia said. “If it’s something you want to do, then reach out to us. We can help guide you best as possible.”

Ask the Expert Sessions to be held during 2020 Farm Science Review

By: David Marrison, Jeff Workman, and Chris Bruynis

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/ohioagmanager/2020/09/08/ask-the-expert-sessions-to-be-held-live-during-2020-farm-science-review/>

For the first time in its nearly 60 year history, Ohio State’s Farm Science Review scheduled for September 22 - 24 will not be held in-person. Instead, a virtual show will be held and the Review will come to you on your laptop or smartphone this year, and for free. You can watch livestreamed talks and recorded videos featuring the latest farm equipment and research to pique your curiosity.

Virtual visitors can find out about the show’s offerings by going to fsr.osu.edu and clicking on an image of the show’s site. Within that image, people can click on the various icons to find the schedules for talks and demos they’re most interested in, such as field demonstrations or “Ask the Expert” talks.

Among the livestreamed talks will be **Ask the Expert** presentations. Viewers will enter the talks through a Zoom meeting link and be able to post their questions in chat boxes. If you miss any, you can check back after the talks to watch the recordings.

The 20 minute “Ask the Expert” presentations at Farm Science Review are one segment of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) and the College of Veterinary Medicine comprehensive Extension Education efforts during the three days of the Farm Science Review. Our experts will share science-based recommendations and solutions to the issues people are facing regarding weather impacts, tariffs, veterinarian medicine, and low commodity prices.

Topics for talks at FSR this year include the risks of transmitting COVID-19 to your animals, the prospects of U.S. agricultural exports abroad, increasing profits from small grains by planting double crops, climate trends, managing cash flow on the farm, farm stress, and rental rates on agricultural land.

To access all prerecorded and livestreamed talks at Farm Science Review, sign up on or after Sept. 8 at fsr.osu.edu.

A complete list of the Ask the Expert Session are as follows:

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

The Talk on Friday Avenue

Value Chains in Food and Agriculture
9:30-10:30 a.m.

Keeping Backyard Poultry Healthy

Tim McDermott DVM
10:40-11:00 a.m.

Crop Inputs & Margins: Challenges for this Year and Next

Barry Ward
11:00-11:20 a.m.

Farm Stress-Finding the Sunshine in the Storm

Sarah Noggle
11:20-11:40 a.m.

COVID-19: What are the risks to my animals and to myself?

Scott Kenney
11:40-12:00 p.m.

Weather is Always on my Mind

Aaron Wilson
12:00-12:20 p.m.

How to Get \$4 Corn

Ben Brown
12:20-12:40 p.m.

Farm neighbor laws: Can we all just get along?

Peggy Hall
12:40-1:00 p.m.

Prospects for US Exports: Pandemic vs. the Phase 1 Agreement with China

Ian Sheldon
1:00-1:20 p.m.

Increasing Small Grains Profitability with Double Crops

Eric Richer
1:20-1:40 p.m.

Making Sense of the Modeling of Infectious Diseases

Rebecca Garabed VMD
1:40-2:00 p.m.

Ohio Cropland Values & Cash Rents: Is Change Coming?

Barry Ward
2:00-2:20 p.m.

Farm CFO: Doing More Than a Tax Return

Bruce Clevenger
2:20-2:40 p.m.

COVID-19: Impacts on Workers and the Food Supply or Where's the beef? How COVID-19 is altering animal agriculture

Gustavo Schuenemann
DVM 2:40-3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 23, 2020

Weather is Always on my Mind

Aaron Wilson
10:00-10:20 a.m.

Farming through COVID

Chris Zoller & Dee Jepsen
10:20-10:40 a.m.

Fly Control Issues--Don't Get Pinkeye!

Jeff Lakritz DVM

10:40-11:00 a.m.

Working Capital--More money going out than coming in, what do I do?

Dianne Shoemaker

11:00-11:20 a.m.

Water Quality and Nutrient Management--Can we make more money and avoid regulation?

Greg LaBarge

11:20-11:40 a.m.

Farm Stress--Finding the Sunshine in the Storm

Sarah Noggle

11:40-12:00 p.m.

Crop Inputs & Margins: Challenges for this Year and Next

Barry Ward

12:00-12:20 p.m.

The Happy ½ Hour on the Economics of Malting Barley in Ohio

Mike Estadt

12:20-12:40 p.m.

Keeping Backyard Poultry Healthy

Tim McDermott DVM

12:40-1:00 p.m.

How to Get \$4 Corn

Ben Brown

1:00-1:20 p.m.

COVID-19: What are the risks to my animals and to myself?

Scott Kenney

1:20-1:40 p.m.

Micro Business Data Management

Sid Dasgupta

1:40-2:00 p.m.

Farm neighbor laws: Can we all just get along?

Peggy Hall

2:00-2:20 p.m.

Economics of Parasite Control and Drug Resistance

Antoinette Marsh DVM

2:20-2:40 p.m.

Are you ready for the hearse to arrive?

David Marrison

2:40-3:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Keeping Horses Healthy: The old gray mare, she ain't what she used to be

Eric Schroeder DVM

10:00-10:20 a.m.

Making Sense of the Modeling of Infectious Diseases

Rebecca Garabed VMD

10:20-10:40 a.m.

Increasing Small Grains Profitability with Double Crops

Eric Richer

10:40-11:00 a.m.

COVID-19: Impacts on Workers and the Food Supply or Where's the beef? How COVID-19 is altering animal agriculture

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Scott Kenney

1:20-1:40 p.m.

Hay ewe, No hay-No way?

Alejandro Relling

1:40-2:00 p.m.

For more information about the Ask the Expert Sessions, contact David Marrison, OSU Extension Educator at marrison.2@osu.edu

Noxious Weeds on Your Property: What is Your Responsibility?

By: Ellen Essman, Senior Research Associate

Source: <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/wed-09092020-1059am/noxious-weeds-your-property-what-your-responsibility>

Despite the fact that “pumpkin spice” everything is back in stores, it is still summer, and if you’re anything like me, you’re still dealing with weeds. In fact, we have been receiving many questions about noxious weeds lately. This blog post is meant to be a refresher about what you should do if noxious weeds sprout up on your property.

What are noxious weeds?

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) is in charge of designating “prohibited noxious weeds.” The list may change from time to time, but currently, noxious weeds include:

- Shatter cane (*Sorghum bicolor*)
- Russian thistle (*Salsola Kali* var. *tenuifolia*).
- Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*).
- Wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*).
- Grapevines (*Vitis* spp.), when growing in groups of one hundred or more and not pruned, sprayed, cultivated, or otherwise maintained for two consecutive years.
- Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*).
- Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*).
- Cressleaf groundsel (*Senecio glabellus*).
- Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*).
- Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*).
- Mile-A-Minute Weed (*Polygonum perfoliatum*).
- Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*).
- Apple of Peru (*Nicandra physalodes*).
- Maretail (*Conyza canadensis*)
- Kochia (*Bassia scoparia*).
- Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*).
- Kudzu (*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*).
- Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*).
- Yellow Groove Bamboo (*Phyllostachys aureasculata*), when the plant has spread from its original premise of planting and is not being maintained.
- Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*).
- Heart-podded hoary cress (*Lepidium draba* sub. *draba*).
- Hairy whitetop or ballcress *Lepidium appelianum*).
- Perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*).
- Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*).
- Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*).
- Hedge bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*).
- Serrated tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*).
- Columbus grass (*Sorghum x alnum*).
- Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*).
- Forage Kochia (*Bassia prostrata*).
- Water Hemp (*Amaranthus tuberculatus*).

The list of noxious weeds can be found in the Ohio Administrative Code section [901:5-37-01](#). In addition to this list, Ohio State has a guidebook that will help you identify noxious weeds in Ohio, which is available at: <https://ohiostate.pressbooks.pub/ohionoxiousweeds/> It may be helpful to familiarize yourself with the weeds in the book, so you can be on the lookout for noxious weeds on your property.

When am I responsible for noxious weeds?

The Ohio Revised Code addresses noxious weeds in different parts of the code. When it comes to noxious weeds on the property of private individuals, there are two scenarios that may apply: noxious weeds on private property, and noxious weeds in line fence rows.

Noxious weeds on your property

If your property is located outside of a municipality, a neighbor or another member of the public can inform the township trustees in writing that there are noxious weeds on your property. If this happens, the township trustees must then turn around and notify you about the existence of noxious weeds. After receiving a letter from the trustees, you must either destroy the weeds or show the township trustees why there is no need for doing so. If you do not take one of these actions within five days of the trustees' notice, the township trustees must cause the weeds to be cut or destroyed, and the county auditor will assess the costs for destroying the weeds against your real property taxes. If your land is in a municipality, similar laws apply, but you would be dealing with the legislative authority, like the city council, instead of township trustees.

What if you rent out your land out to be farmed or otherwise? Are you responsible for noxious weeds on your property in that situation? The answer is probably. The law states that the board of township trustees "shall notify the owner, lessee, agent, or tenant having charge of the land" that they have received information about noxious weeds on the property (emphasis added). Furthermore, the law says that the "person notified" shall cut or destroy the weeds (or have them cut or destroyed). In all likelihood, if you own the land, you are going to be the person who is notified by the trustees about the presence of weeds. If you rent out your property to be farmed or otherwise, you may want to include who is responsible for noxious weeds in the language of the lease.

Noxious weeds in the fence row

The "line fence law" or "partition fence law" in Ohio requires landowners in unincorporated areas to cut all noxious weeds, brush, briars and thistles within four feet and in the corners of a line fence. A line fence (or partition fence) is a fence that is on the boundary line between two properties. If you fail to keep your side of the fence row clear of noxious weeds and other vegetation, Ohio law provides a route for adjacent landowners concerned about the weeds. First, an adjacent landowner must request that you clear the fence row of weeds and must allow you ten days to do so. If the weeds still remain after ten days, the complaining landowner may notify the township trustees of the situation. Then, the township trustees must view the property and determine whether there is sufficient reason to remove weeds and vegetation from the fence row. If they determine that the weeds should be removed, the township trustees may hire someone to clear the fence row. Once again, if this occurs, the county auditor will assess the costs of destruction on your property taxes.

Being aware of noxious weeds is key.

As a landowner, it is really important for you to keep an eye out for noxious weeds on your property. If you keep on top of the weeds, cutting them or otherwise destroying them as they grow, it will certainly make your life a lot easier. You will avoid awkward conversations with neighbors, letters from your township trustees, and extra charges on your property taxes. Additionally, you will help to prevent the harm that noxious weeds may cause to crops, livestock, and ecosystems in general.

To learn more about Ohio's noxious weed laws, you can access our law bulletin on the subject at:

<https://farmoffice.osu.edu/sites/aglaw/files/site-library/NoxiousWeedLawBulletin.pdf>

While the bulletin addresses the responsibilities of landowners, it also goes beyond the scope of this blog post, addressing weeds on roadways, railroads, and public lands, as well as how to respond if your neighbor has noxious weeds on their property. Additionally, the bulletin has a helpful section of "frequently asked questions" regarding noxious weeds.