

Cooperative **CONNECTION**

Covering county news and events for Extension programs, including
Agriculture & Natural Resources and 4-H Youth Development

**Congratulations to
4-H'ers at the fair!**



Addie Erwin at
the dog show

Harvest is around
the corner...and so
is the 2020 Farm
Science Review

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER | 2020

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Letter from the Editors

Dear Readers,

It's hard to believe that the Jefferson County Fair has come and gone already, and harvest and Farm Science Review are just around the corner. We would like to congratulate all of the grand and reserve champions and participants in the shows. Here are the market animal grand and reserve champions:

Steers: Grand - Shelby Robinson, Reserve - Bailey Harris

Hogs: Grand - Molly King, Reserve - Amanda Boring

Lambs: Grand - Caleb Miller, Reserve - Giullianna Prolago

Goats: Grand - Logan Fomenko, Reserve - Lane Fomenko

Rabbits: Grand - Alayna Starr, Reserve - Autumn Grafton

Meat Goose: Grand - Paul Pasco, Reserve - Paul Pasco

Market Turkey: Grand - Ian Latynski, Reserve - Bryson Mattern

Market Ducks: Grand - Johanna George, Reserve - Aiden Cooper

Meat Chickens: Grand - Blake Moran, Reserve - Blake Moran

More fair details can be found on page 18.

Field conditions across the county for August were, as you can imagine, fairly dry. Some stress in corn and soybeans were observed in fields, and phosphorous deficiencies appeared in corn fields across the county. Wildlife damage also appears to be an issue for 2020, with raccoon, deer and bird damage prevalent in both corn and soybean fields. Late summer weeds that were common in crop fields, including hay, were ironweed, red-rooted pigweed, velvetleaf, wild carrot, foxtail, common purslane, and milkweed among others. There is uncertainty in the forecast for September - current models show that we should receive average (or slightly above average) rainfall in Ohio, but tropical storms may cause changes in the predictions. Jim Noel provides more forecast information at agcrops.osu.edu.

As a general reminder - when planning to visit the office during appointment hours, please come prepared and follow social distancing guidelines. We are requiring anyone entering the office to wear a mask - if you do not have a mask, one will be provided. We are also offering curbside assistance or can meet you on the main floor of the building - just call when you arrive during appointment hours and someone will be down to meet you. Remember - if you feel sick, stay home!

Stay well!

ANGIE ALLISON
4-H Youth Development

ERIKA LYON
Agriculture & Natural Resources



The Mackenzie Smith Memorial Livestock Scholarship was awarded to Hayden Johnson. The award was accepted by his sister, Delaney Johnson, in his absence. Congratulations, Hayden!

Pictured from left to right: Bonnie Randolph, Hannah Randolph, Marsha Smith, Delaney Johnson, Colby Smith, and Ross Smith.

LATE SEASON FORAGE HARVEST MANAGEMENT

By Mark Sulc, Professor and Extension Forage Specialist, OSU

The best time to take a last harvest of alfalfa and other legumes is sometime in early September in Ohio for the least risk to the long-term health of the stand. These forages need a fall period of rest to replenish carbohydrate and protein reserves in the taproots that are used for winter survival and regrowth next spring.

Many forage producers around the state have been cutting this past week and are continuing into this week. It will be ideal if this is indeed the last harvest of the season. But some growers might try to squeeze out another late cutting, and others have fields that are not quite ready for harvest right now. Like most farming decisions, there are trade-offs and risk factors to consider when making a fall harvest of forage legumes after the first week of September. This article reviews best management practices and risk factors affecting fall cutting management.

The decision of when to take the last harvest with the least risk to the stand can be boiled down to two choices: 1) cut early enough in the fall (generally early September) to permit alfalfa to regrow and replenish carbohydrate root reserves, or 2) cut late enough so that alfalfa does not regrow and use up root reserves prior to winter dormancy. Cutting in between those times (mid-September to mid-October) means more risk to the stand. Factors such as previous cutting management, age of stand, soil fertility, variety, and soil moisture affect the level of that risk.

For those who are risk adverse, following the last cutting date recommendations offers the highest probability of promoting good winter survival and vigorous growth next spring. The recommendation in the 15th edition of the Ohio Agronomy Guide is to complete the last regular harvest of alfalfa by September 7 in northern Ohio, September 12 in central Ohio and by September 15 in southern Ohio. The corollary is to delay final harvest until a killing frost (25F for several hours) has occurred.

Another approach to fall harvest management uses growing degree-days (GDD) rather than calendar dates. Research conducted in Canada showed that alfalfa needs 500 GDD (based on degrees Celsius and base 5 C for alfalfa growth) between the last cutting and a killing frost to generate sufficient regrowth to provide good winter survival and yield potential the following year. Dan Undersander, University of Wisconsin Extension retired forage specialist, wrote in a 2012 article "...we do not need to wait for a killing frost to take the last cutting. We must only wait until it is so cool that little or no regrowth will occur. Thus, harvesting in late fall, when less than 200 GDD will accumulate, minimizes winter injury."

The period between an accumulation of 200 to less than 500 GDD is a no-cut period (GDD calculated from degrees Celsius scale with base 5C). This GDD approach provides more exact timing for the date of last harvest, but it involves more risk because the grower must predict or consider the probability of either accumulating enough GDD for energy replenishment or GDD not accumulating to enough to trigger regrowth that uses up energy reserves. Historic weather data, like that available from the OSU weather stations (<http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/weather1>), is useful to calculate those probabilities.

Based on this GDD approach, we studied 5 years (2013-2017) of weather data at Wooster, OH. The date of a killing frost (25 F for several hours) ranged from November 3 to 22. The no cut zone of 500 to 200 GDD prior to the killing frost was September 17 to October 13 for three of the five years, but September 4 to 30 in 2014 and September 10 to October 4 in 2013.

So, the period of most risk for cutting alfalfa based on this GDD criterion agrees well with past recommendations to not cut alfalfa from early September to mid-October. Therefore, cutting in late October prior to a true killing frost of forage legumes, is likely to result in little to no regrowth and no significant depletion of root reserves. However, there is still the risk of frost heaving with the late removal of forage cover (discussed more below).

Previous harvest management should be a part of the risk assessment for fall cutting. The cutting frequency during the growing season affects the energy status of the plant going into the fall. Frequent cutting (30-day intervals or less) results in the plant never reaching full energy reserve status during the growing season. A short regrowth period just prior to the fall harvest can be especially risky, if that fall harvest occurs between mid-September and early October, because the regrowth uses root reserves and there won't be enough growing weather remaining for the plants to restore a high level of root reserves before cold weather shuts down the plants. This lower root reserve status may limit winter survival and spring regrowth, depending on the winter and early spring growing conditions.

Variety selection may also affect the fall cutting risk assessment. Today's top varieties have genetics selected to better withstand intensive cutting schedules. Alfalfa varieties with high disease resistance and good levels of winter hardiness will be more tolerant of a fall cutting. Adequate fertility, especially soil potassium, and a soil pH near 6.8 will improve plant health and increase tolerance to fall cutting. Stands under 3 years of age are generally more tolerant of fall cuttings than older stands where root and crown diseases are setting in. However, you have more productive stand life to lose if younger stands are harmed by fall cutting.

Soil drainage and soil moisture affect the risk of fall cutting. High soil moisture slows down the cold hardening process, increasing the risk of winter injury. Alfalfa on well-drained soils tolerates late fall cuttings better than on moderately or poorly drained soils. But a word of CAUTION - Removing the top growth of alfalfa plants going into the winter on heavy soils and poorly drained soils increases the risk of spring frost heaving. Heaving is a significant risk on many Ohio soils with higher clay content. This would be a concern when cutting very late after the 200 GDD threshold date.

Finally, consider the economics of a fall harvest. Often the height of the alfalfa is deceptive as an indicator of tonnage. The resulting windrow after cutting is often sparse. Thus, the cost of mechanical harvesting is high on a per ton basis.

Fall cutting risk can be reduced but not eliminated. Nature bats last and alfalfa stand health and survival will suffer more from fall cutting when when have early freezes, open and very cold winters, early springs with ice, and/or extreme rainfall and temperature variations. If at all possible, we urge producers to observe the fall rest period for forage legumes. And if you do harvest during the fall rest period, leave some strips of uncut forage to compare to. You might learn something useful!



MAKING CORN SILAGE IN DRY CONDITIONS

By Bill Weiss, Professor, Department of Animal Sciences, the Ohio State University

The primary goal of making corn silage is to preserve as many nutrients in the corn plant as possible, to produce a feed that is acceptable to cows, and to minimize any risks associated with feeding the silage. The following are important considerations for making corn silage when growing conditions have been dry.

Chop at the correct dry matter concentration (Editor's note: see accompanying article "Corn Silage Harvest Timing"). Drought-stressed corn plants are often much wetter than they appear, even if the lower plant leaves are brown and dried up. Before starting chopping, sample some plants (cut at the same height as they will be with the harvester) and either analyze DM using a Koster tester or microwave or send to a commercial lab (turn-around time may be a few days if you send it to a lab). If the plants are too wet, delay chopping until the desired plant DM is reached. The plant may continue to accumulate DM (increase yield), and you will not suffer increased fermentation losses caused by ensiling corn that is too wet.

Use a proven inoculant. When silage is worth upwards of \$80/ton (35% DM) reducing shrink by 2 percentage units has a value of about \$2/ton. Homolactic inoculants (these are the 'standard silage inoculants') produce lactic acid which reduces fermentation losses but sometimes can increase spoilage during feedout. The buchneri inoculants increase acetic acid which slightly increases fermentation losses but greatly reduce spoilage during feedout. Severely drought-stressed corn can have a high concentration of sugars because the plant is not depositing starch into the kernels. High sugar concentrations can increase spoilage at feed out because it is food source for yeasts and molds. Use of a good (from a reputable company with research showing efficacy) buchneri inoculant may be especially cost-effective with drought-stressed corn.

Check for nitrates. Drought-stressed corn plants can accumulate nitrates which are toxic (as in fatal) to ruminants. Silage from drought-stressed fields should be tested before it is fed. Ideally, corn plants should be sampled and assayed for nitrates prior to chopping (most labs offer very rapid turn-around times for a nitrate assay). If values are high, raising the cutting height will reduce nitrate concentrations in the silage because the bottom of the stalk usually has the highest nitrate concentrations. Because forage likely will be very limited this coming year, do not raise the cutting height unless necessary to reduce nitrate concentrations. Nitrate concentrations are often reduced during silage fermentation so that high nitrates in fresh corn plants may end up as acceptable concentrations in the fermented corn silage. Silage with more than 1.5% nitrate (0.35% nitrate-N) has a high risk of causing nitrate toxicity in cattle. See the following University of Wisconsin-Extension fact sheet for more details on nitrate toxicity: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/forage/nitrate-poisoning-in-cattle-sheep-and-goats>

Chop at correct particle length. Do not chop too finely so that the effective fiber concentration of corn silage is reduced. If the corn plants have limited ear development, fine chopping is not needed for good starch digestibility. Generally, a theoretical length of cut (TLC) of about ½ inch is acceptable (longer with kernel processing and BMR silage) but this varies greatly between choppers and crop moisture concentration. If using a Penn State particle size sieve, aim for 5 to 10% on the top screen.

Use a kernel processor. Kernel processed corn silage tends to pack more densely than unprocessed corn silage which may help increase aerobic stability. Kernel processing will also increase starch digestibility by breaking the kernel. Poor starch digestibility is a major problem with dry, mature corn silage.

Reduce Shrink. Fill quickly, pack adequately, cover, and seal the silo as soon as you are done filling. Practicing good silage-making techniques can reduce shrink by more than 5 percentage units, which can be worth more than \$4/ton of corn silage (35% DM).



CORN SILAGE HARVEST TIMING

By Mark Sulc, Peter Thomison, Bill Weiss, OSU Extension

Silage harvest has begun in some parts of Ohio. Proper harvest timing is critical because it ensures the proper dry matter (DM) concentration required for high quality preservation, which in turn results in good animal performance and lower feed costs. The proper DM concentration is the same whether it is a beautiful, record breaking corn crop or a severely drought stressed field with short plants containing no ears.

The recommended ranges for silage DM are:

Bunker: 30 to 35% Upright: 32 to 38% Sealed upright: 35 to 40%
Bag: 32 to 40%

Chopping corn silage at the wrong DM concentration will increase fermentation losses and reduce the nutrient value of the silage. Harvesting corn too wet (low DM concentration) results in souring, seepage, and storage losses of the silage with reduced animal intake. Harvesting too dry (high DM concentration) promotes mold because the silage cannot be adequately packed to exclude oxygen. Harvesting too dry also results in lower energy concentrations and reduced protein digestibility.

Corn silage that is too dry is almost always worse than corn silage that is slightly too wet. So if you are uncertain about the DM content, it is usually better to err on chopping a little early rather than a little late. Follow the guidelines below to be more confident in your moisture assessment.

Dry matter content of whole plant corn varies with maturity. Research has shown that the position of the kernel milk-line is NOT a reliable indicator alone for determining harvest timing. Geographic location, planting date, hybrid selection, and weather conditions affect the relationship between kernel milk-line position and whole plant DM content. In a Wisconsin study, 82% of the hybrids tested exhibited a poor relationship between kernel milk-line stage and whole-plant % DM. In Ohio we have seen considerable variation in plant DM content within a given kernel milk-line stage.

Appearance of the kernels should only be used as a guide of when to begin sampling for DM content. See the link below and scroll to When to Begin Field Sampling.

The only reliable method of determining the optimal time to harvest corn silage is to sample and directly measure the % DM of whole plants. This information combined with average whole plant dry-down rates can be used to roughly predict the proper time to chop corn silage.

Read more about sampling protocols and predicting harvest dates in the CORN Newsletter available at:

<https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-28/corn-silage-harvest-timing>

a g c r o p s . o s u . e d u

THE AG LAW HARVEST

By Ellen Essman, Senior Research Associate, OSU

Will livestock markets become more competitive?

On July 9, a group of Representatives from Iowa introduced H.R. 7501. The bill would amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 “to foster efficient markets and increase competition and transparency among packers that purchase livestock from producers. To achieve this outcome, the bill would require packers to obtain at least 50% of their livestock through “spot market sales” every week. This means that the packers would be required to buy from producers not affiliated with the packer. “Unaffiliated producers” would have less than a 1 percent equity interest in the packer (and vice versa), no directors, employees, etc. that are directors, employees, etc. of the packer, and no fiduciary responsibility to the packer. Additionally, the packer would not have an equity interest in a nonaffiliated producer. Basically, this bill would make it easier for independent producers to sell to packers. This bill is a companion to a Senate Bill 3693, which we discussed in a March edition of the Ag Law Harvest.

Will a lawsuit stop planned changes to NEPA?

At the end of July, a number of environmental groups banded together and filed a 180-page complaint against the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). The complaint challenges the Council’s update to rules under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). The groups’ basic argument is that the CEQ, under the direction of the Trump administration, published a new administrative rule under NEPA, but did not follow the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), which governs agency actions, when doing so. The lawsuit alleges: “[r]ather than make this drastic change deliberately and with the careful process the APA requires, CEQ cut every corner. The agency disregarded clear evidence from over 40 years of past implementation; ignored the reliance interests of the citizens, businesses, and industries that depend on full and complete NEPA analyses; and turned the mandatory public engagement process into a paper exercise, rather than the meaningful inquiry the law requires.” Basically, the groups argue that the administration ignored the APA all together. Why is this important? The environmental groups argue that the new rule essentially makes it possible for the federal government to push through projects that might have impacts on citizens and the environment, such as pipelines and roadways, much more quickly, and without much input from the public. You can read the final NEPA rule [here](#). We will have to wait and see whether the court agrees that the APA was violated in the creation of this rule.

Great American Outdoors Act is a go

The Great American Outdoors Act, one of the last pieces of legislation introduced by the late Representative John Lewis, was signed into law by the President on August 4. The new law secures funding for deferred maintenance projects on federal lands. The funding will come from 50% of the revenues from oil, gas, coal, or alternative energy development on federal lands. The funding will be broken down between numerous agencies, with 70% to the National Park Service each year, 15% to the Forest Service, 5% to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5% to the Bureau of Land Management, and 5% to the Bureau of Indian Education. You can read the law in its entirety at [go.osu.edu/hr1957](https://www.govinfo.gov/records/HR1957).

USDA AMS publishes proposed Organic Rule

Moving on to federal happenings outside Congress, the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service published a proposed rule on August 5. The rule would amend current regulations for organic foods by strengthening “oversight of the production, handling certification, marketing, and sale of organic agricultural products.” The rule would make it easier to detect any fraud, trace organic products, and would make organic certification practices for producers more uniform. Anyone interested in commenting on this proposed rule has until October 5, 2020 to do so.

A meat processing slowdown for worker safety?

In addition to the Great American Outdoors Act, numerous bills have been introduced to help farmers, ag-related businesses, and rural areas in the wake of COVID-19. For instance, in early July, Ohio’s own Representative from the 11th District, Marcia Fudge, introduced H.R. 7521, which would suspend increases in line speeds at meat and poultry establishments during the pandemic. Notably, if passed, the bill would “suspend implementation of, and conversion to the New Swine Slaughter Inspection System,” which has been planned since the USDA published the final rule in October of 2019. It would also make the USDA suspend any waivers for certain establishments related to increasing line speed. The resolution was introduced to protect the safety of workers, animals, and food. In theory, slower line speeds would make it easier for workers to social distance. This is especially important in the wake of outbreaks among workers at many processing plants. On July 28, Senator Cory Booker introduced a companion bill in the Senate.

Ruling on Migratory Bird Act clips the administration’s wings

Another lawsuit against the federal government was decided on August 11, 2020. The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York sided with a number of states as well as environmental groups, including the Natural Resources Defense Fund and the National Wildlife Federation. The Court found that the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and FWS (at the direction of the administration) could not overturn 50 years of DOI interpretations of what “killings” and “takings” of birds meant under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 with a single memo. Traditionally, the killing or taking any migratory bird, even accidentally or incidentally, has been interpreted as a violation of the Act. DOI’s memo sought to change this, only making the Act only apply to intentional hunting, killing, or taking. Essentially, if a business or person had a pond full of wastewater, and migratory birds swam in it, eventually killing the birds, it would only be “incidental” taking and not intentional under DOI’s logic in the memo. Ultimately, Judge Valerie Caproni channeled Atticus Finch by stating “It is not only a sin to kill a mockingbird, it is also a crime,” meaning that one memorandum could not overturn the fact that incidental and accidental takings of birds are still takings punishable by the Act.

Want more ag law information? Visit farmoffice.osu.edu.

Spotted lanternfly adults are active at this time of year...Help us spot spotted lanternfly! Contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture at 614-728-6201 or use the Great Lakes Detection Network App to report sightings of this insect!

Spotted lanternfly nymph photo by: Emelie Swackhamer, Penn State University, Bugwood.org





ASSEMBLE A CALF CROP RESILIENT TO THE CHALLENGES OF DISEASE

By Justin Kieffer, DVM, Clinical Veterinarian, Assistant Professor, Office of the Attending Veterinarian and Department of Animal Sciences, OSU

Now that calving is completed, the days are longer, and the grass is growing (hopefully), it is time to start preparing for the weaning and eventual sale or feedlot finishing of your calf crop and development of your replacement females. Once the cow calf pairs have been kicked out to pasture in the spring, there is a tendency to put off or ignore the steps needed not only to set the feedlot calf up for success, but also to lay the groundwork for proper health for your new heifers.

Management techniques such as castration and dehorning should take place as soon as possible. Waiting too long to remove the testicles, either by banding or cutting, increases the risk of bleeding and infection, and knocks the calf off feed for an extended period of time. The smaller the calf, the less attached they are to their testicles. Removal of horns, if present, can be done at birth or shortly thereafter using caustic dehorning paste on the horn buds. If scooping of the horns is the method you employ, make sure to do this before the horns reach 2 inches in length to avoid having an open sinus cavity in the head, which is prone to infection and fly-strike. In both of these techniques, pain control for these procedures is highly recommended and easy to perform. This is critical both from a welfare perspective, and the added bonus of keeping the calf on feed during the healing process.

Vaccinations are also a critical aspect of calf prep that are often misunderstood or under-utilized. As you may know, when a calf hits the ground they have no immune globulin proteins circulating in their blood stream to help fight infections. All of their initial immune globulins come from the colostrum at the first feeding, which needs to take place ideally within the first six hours after birth. The ability of the calf to absorb immune globulins past 24 hours of age is almost zero. These proteins are made by the dam, and concentrated in colostrum prior to birth, this is why vaccination of pregnant cows is essential in providing immunity for the calf. Once the calf is up and nursing, those immune globulins provide immediate resistance to disease.

As the calf ages, the colostral immune globulin levels start to drop off over time, and are mostly gone by around 3-4 months of age. This is an important concept to understand for two reasons: First, giving the calf an injectable vaccine before this time frame means that any antigens for diseases you are vaccinating for (IBR, BRSV, PI3, etc.) will be neutralized by the immune globulins delivered in the colostrum. Essentially, if you have vaccinated the pregnant cow for those same diseases, and the calf nursed properly, there is no need to deliver those same vaccines to the calf prior to 4 months of age.

The second reason not to give an injectable vaccine before this time frame is that the calf's immune system is not ready to see and react to the vaccine. It takes time for the white blood cells responsible for the development of a systemic immune response to learn their jobs and be able to react to invading bugs. One important exception to the use of vaccines in young calves is the use of intra-nasal vaccines. These vaccines provide a localized immunity in the nose very quickly, and are not interfered with by colostral immunity. This is why these vaccines can be given immediately after birth, and at any time in the production cycle safely and effectively.

Timing of vaccines is also imperative. For example, when the first round of a vaccine is given to a 5 month old steer calf, it takes time for the responsible white blood cells to find that vaccine and take it to the lymph nodes where antibodies can be produced. This process on average takes about 21 days. This is why most vaccines are labelled with directions indicating at least a one month wait before administering a booster shot. If we give the booster shot before the immune system has had time to create antibodies and a memory of the bug, we will not have that second strong immune response from the booster that provides superior protection.

Completion of these management techniques and vaccine protocols prior to the stress of weaning, comingling and transport will help you assemble a calf crop more resilient to disease challenges. Combined with a low stress weaning technique carried out 6 weeks prior to leaving the farm, this type of strategic planning for superior health provides a calf for which buyers will want to pay a premium. Consult with your herd veterinarian to design a vaccination and calf management plan that fits your type of operation.



Completing a number of management techniques and vaccine protocols prior to the stress of weaning, comingling and transport will help assemble a calf crop more resilient to disease challenges.

DO YOU RECOGNIZE BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUG DAMAGE ON SWEET CORN?

By Celeste Welty, Extension Entomologist, OSU

As the brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) becomes more well established around Ohio, its injury on sweet corn is becoming noticeable. In plantings that are sprayed frequently with pyrethroids such as Warrior or Hero for control of corn earworm, injury by stink bug is less likely to occur because pyrethroids are among the few insecticides that are toxic to stink bugs. But in plantings of transgenic sweet corn that do not need to be sprayed with insecticide for worm control, or in sweet corn that is sprayed by Coragen or Radiant for worm control, injury by stink bug is more likely to occur. Stink bugs feed by sucking juices from the kernels, after inserting their mouthparts through the husks (Figure 1). This results in kernels that are shrunk in a variety of ways, as shown in Figure 2 below. Both the adults (Figure 3) and the immature nymphs (Figure 4) feed on the kernels. The injury can occur anywhere on the ear; sometimes it is clustered near the tip, other times it is scattered along the entire length of the ear. In addition to sweet corn, BMSB has a wide range of host plants, ranging from raspberries, peaches, apples, and grapes to bell peppers, eggplant, green beans, swiss chard, and tomatoes.



Figure 1. Sweet corn ear being fed upon by adults and nymphs of the brown marmorated stink bug.



Figure 2. Sweet corn ear with many kernels injured by stink bug feeding.



Figure 3. Adult of the brown marmorated stink bug.



Figure 4. Nymph of the brown marmorated stink bug.



ASIAN JUMPING WORMS A THREAT TO GARDENS & WOODLANDS

By Mike Hogan, OSU Extension, Franklin County

As gardeners, we understand that earthworms are important allies in creating a soil ecosystem that is conducive to growing flowers, vegetables, turf, shrubs, trees or any type of plant. Deep dwelling earthworms such as common night crawlers create tunnels, which allow air and water to reach plant roots. Their castings, or excrement, help enrich the soil by adding nutrients such as phosphorous, calcium, nitrogen, and magnesium.

But recently an invasive species of earthworm, the Asian Jumping worm (*Amyntas* spp.), also known as snake worms or crazy worms for their quick, crazed-like movement, have gardeners in Central Ohio anxiously turning their soil in search of this earthworm which is more destructive than helpful to those who tend the soil.

These invasive species of jumping worms from eastern Asia (there are several different species) arrived on the West Coast of the United States more than 100 years ago, and were documented in New York in the early 1900's. And just because 2020 hasn't been disruptive or unsettling enough, Asian Jumping worms started appearing in Central Ohio gardens this summer, with several dozen positive identifications from locations throughout Franklin County.

Asian Jumping Worms have been identified in recent years in locations throughout the Upper Midwest and Northeastern United States. Wherever they have been found they have degraded soil quality by voraciously devouring organic matter at the top of the soil, leaving large amounts of telltale castings, which look similar to used coffee grounds. Because these worms live and feed at the top of the soil, they are not effective at deep aeration of the soil and actually create too much pore space, drying out the soil in the heat of the summer. Additionally, these worms create a loose seedbed making it difficult for plant roots to be established, and leaving the soil more susceptible to erosion.

The worms have also been observed to feed on roots of young plants. The negative effects of these worms are magnified on the forest floor where they quickly devour layers of leaf litter needed to create humus to build top soil and provide a medium for native plants to germinate. Fewer native plants will result in reduced food supply for wildlife and insects and can lead to reduced biodiversity of Ohio forests.

Identifying Asian Jumping worms may be easier by examining their behavior than their color or size, as they writhe quickly and constantly in large masses. Their movement is more similar to that of a provoked snake than that of other slow moving earthworms. While similar in size to other earthworms, the Asian Jumping worm is brown to grey in color with a distinctive smooth

ASIAN JUMPING WORMS CONTINUED...

white band (clitellum) that encircles the body near the head. Unlike beneficial earthworms, Asian Jumping worm adults do not survive the winter. Rather, their eggs overwinter in the soil in cocoons about the size of a pencil eraser with adults appearing in early summer.

Much is unknown about the long-term effects of these worms, with research currently underway regarding control strategies in different environments. In order to understand and track the presence of these worms we have developed a reporting site where Ohio gardeners can document locations of suspected populations. Gardeners should visit <https://go.osu.edu/asianjumpingworms> to report suspected locations and upload photographs.

Until effective research-based control strategies are developed to keep populations of this worm in check, gardeners should closely examine soil, compost, wood chips, and other soil amendments they move on or off their property. Learn how to identify these worms and educate your gardening friends and neighbors so they too can identify these worms. If you do find these worms on your property, never share plants or soil with other gardeners.

To learn more about these worms visit our OSU Extension website to learn how one of our Master Gardener Volunteers is attempting to address a large population of Asian Jumping worms in her organic vegetable garden in Worthington. The presentation can be found here: <https://go.osu.edu/AJWjdoe>.



BLACK STEM BORER

By Celeste Welty, Extension Entomologist, OSU

There have been several detections of the black stem borer in Ohio over the past year or two. This borer is a tiny beetle that attacks and can kill young apple trees, often in the first year or two after planting. This species is *Xylotrechus germanus*, which has been known since the 1930s but has been reported as causing problems only recently. It is associated with young trees under stress, most likely from summer drought or extreme winter cold. This species is in the group known as ambrosia beetles, which feed on fungi that cultivate within tunnels that they chew in the tree trunks. A [factsheet](#) from Michigan State University, by Michael Haas, Julianna Wilson, and Larry Gut, published in 2017, is a good source of additional details and suggestions for insecticidal control by trunk applications in the spring.

Photo from Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Forestry, Bugwood.org



b y g i . o s u . e d u

OHIO VICTORY GARDENS - LET'S GROW OHIO

By Amy Stone & Pam Bennett, OSU Extension

Victory Gardens originated during World War I, an answer to a severe food shortage at the time. People were encouraged to find any usable space, plop in some seeds and contribute homegrown fruits, vegetables and herbs to the effort. The idea was wildly successful, growing an army of amateur gardeners and serving to boost morale and patriotism.

While we're not in wartime, we can all commiserate the past few months have been tough, mood-boosters are welcomed. So the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) and Ohio State University (OSU) are reviving the effort and once again inspiring people to get their hands dirty, realize the fruits of their labor and share with others if inspired. We believe a good day in the garden is good for the soul.

You may think that the gardening season is winding down. The summer heat and lack of rain may have taken a toll on your garden, but now is the perfect time to begin again. Whether you are gardening for the first time, hitting restart because the earlier attempt wasn't as successful as you had hoped, or you just want to continue to garden as long as you can, we have a little something to help you get started.

Pam Bennett, OSU Extension Educator and State Master Gardener Coordinator, recently posted a fall gardening video to help promote Ohio Victory Gardens. Check out the video to learn more about seeding, thinning, and growing produce this fall that will pay-off with an extended harvest into October, November and maybe even December: <https://youtu.be/C1xW0bAjht4>.

Additionally, a webpage has been created to encourage gardeners to learn about seeds, plants, harvest, and preservation: <https://u.osu.edu/ohiovictorygardens>.

Dig in and document your involvement using the hashtag - #OhioVictoryGardens.

SEASON CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- 9/4 Escape to the Forest: Impacts of Climate Change on Forests and Wildlife @ woodlandstewards.osu.edu
9/11 A Day in the Woods @ u.osu.edu/seohiowoods 10AM
9/22-24 Farm Science Review @ fsr.osu.edu
9/18 Escape to the Forest @ woodlandstewards.osu.edu
9/24 EOGC Virtual Pasture Walk
9/25 Escape to the Forest @ woodlandstewards.osu.edu

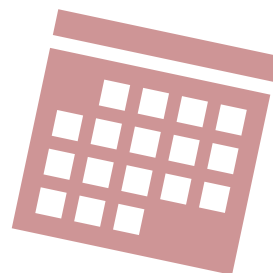
*Some dates may change - if you plan to attend a live session, check the website for confirmation of the schedule and register in advanced for webinars.

Visit jefferson.osu.edu or join the Agriculture & Natural Resources Group on our Facebook page @JeffCoExtension for updates and future webinars, podcasts and other great opportunities!

OCTOBER

- 10/2 Escape to the Forest: Shorebird Identification @ woodlandstewards.osu.edu 11AM
10/9 Escape to the Forest @ woodlandstewards.osu.edu
10/18 Escape to the Forest: Deer & Habitat Management @ woodlandstewards.osu.edu 10AM
10/19 Update on Spotted Lanternfly 1PM
10/23 Escape to the Forest @ woodlandstewards.osu.edu
DEADLINE: to keep receiving print copies of this newsletter, call 740-264-2212 by Oct. 23rd

**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!**



EXTENSION'S MOST WANTED

UNSOLICITED SEEDS

Many of you have already heard about the unsolicited seeds received in many states across the US. The Ohio Department of Agriculture is asking Ohioans to report unsolicited seeds - here is the original press release from earlier in August:

"After increasing reports of Ohio citizens receiving packages of unsolicited seeds in the mail, the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) is again urging the public to report and submit any unsolicited seed packets to ODA. In partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine Office, ODA is working to investigate the number of seed packets sent to Ohio, what type of seeds they are, and where they were mailed from.

The USDA-APHIS and ODA are asking Ohioans who have received these unsolicited packages not to open, plant, or throw them away. Instead, citizens should report receiving seeds here and then submit the packages to USDA using one of the following methods:

If possible, place the materials including the seeds, original packaging material and your contact information in a resealable plastic bag and mail them to USDA-APHIS at the following address:

Attn: USDA -SITC
8995 East Main Street, Building 23
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Call 740-264-2212 to reach the Jefferson County Extension Office to schedule an appointment to drop off seeds. Keep in mind our office hours are Mondays and Fridays 8am - 11am and Wednesdays noon - 4:30pm.

-or-

Place the materials including the seeds, original packaging material and your contact information in a resealable plastic bag and drop them off at your county's OSU Extension Office during business hours.

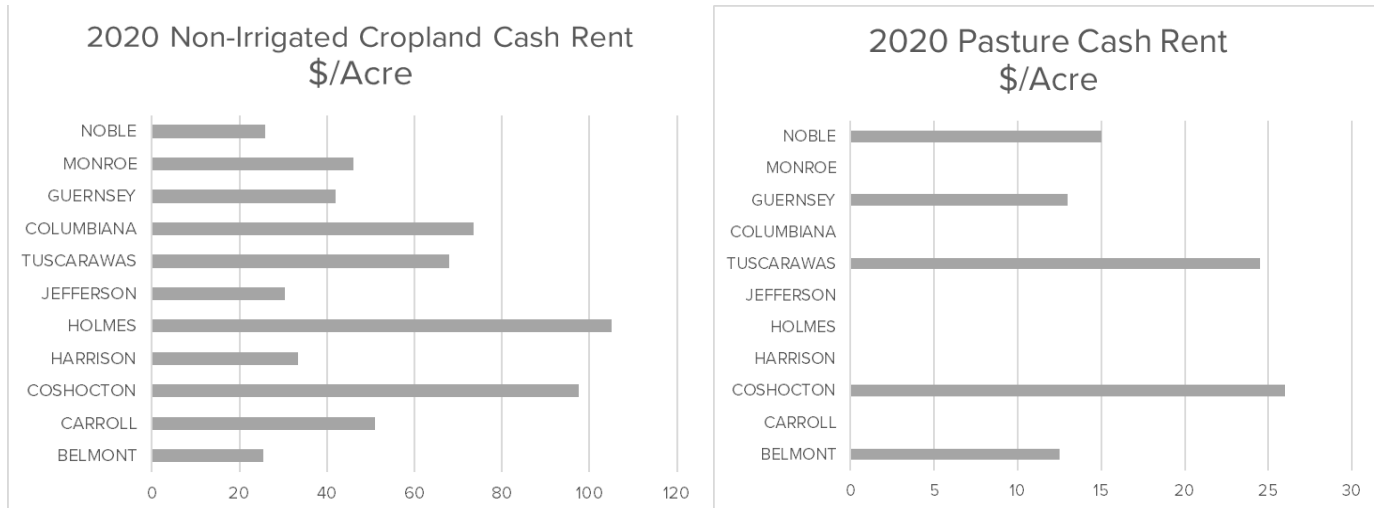
Unsolicited seeds could be invasive species, contain noxious weeds, could introduce diseases to local plants, or could be harmful to livestock. Invasive species and noxious weeds can displace native plants and increase costs of food production. All foreign seeds shipped to the United States should have a phytosanitary certificate which guarantees the seeds meet important requirements.

ODA will have the latest information regarding this investigation on their website."

USDA 2020 CASH RENTS BY COUNTY

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the 2020 survey results from their 2020 cash rent by county survey. Below are the results for Jefferson and nearby counties.

All results are available through USDA NASS QuickStats portal: go.osu.edu/2020nasscashrent.



Counties with no bar did not have enough data to average cash rents for pasture ground in 2020.

BEEF MARKETING GROUP SURVEY

Jefferson County Beef Producers -

Over the past year, we have heard from farmers who have indicated that a beef or cattle marketing group would help to benefit producers in this area. We are in the process of surveying how much interest there is in Jefferson and Harrison Counties in forming a marketing group along with concerns or challenges producers are having as they sell cattle. Whether you have over 100 head or just a few, we want to hear from you.

Many of you already received a letter with a survey and may have already returned your survey responses. If you did not receive a survey in the mail and would like to participate, you can access the survey online at <https://go.osu.edu/2020jhbeefmarketing> or request a paper copy by contacting Erika Lyon at 740-461-6136 or sending an email request to lyon.194@osu.edu.

If you have already completed the survey, thank you! We greatly appreciate your assistance with this. For those who have indicated interest in the group, look for more information in the near future.



New Bulletin Series: Facing Farm Financial Stress: Bankruptcy Law Bulletin Series

Check out the new law bulletin and infographic series on assessing bankruptcy as an option for financial stress, the legal process of bankruptcy, and thriving after a bankruptcy.

Series Includes:

[Facing Farm Financial Stress: Assessing the Bankruptcy Option](#)

[Infographic: Facing Farm Financial Stress An Overview of Bankruptcy Law for Farmers](#)

[Infographic: Overview of the Bankruptcy Process](#)

[Infographic: Bankruptcy People and Institutions](#)

[Thriving after a Farm Bankruptcy](#)

[Infographic: Thriving after a Farm Bankruptcy](#)

[Download the Entire Series](#)

UPDATE ON A NEW INVASIVE INSECT:

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Monday, October 19th 1-2PM



How can eastern Ohio prepare for spotted lanternfly? What role can county officials and businesses play in controlling this new invasive species? What management strategies are available once this insect is found?

These questions and more will be addressed during this Zoom meeting along with the current status of spotted lanternfly in this region. Township trustees, arborists, landscapers, pesticide applicators, vineyard owners and anyone who works with ornamental trees, fruit crops or trees along highways and railways are strongly encouraged to join in.

Contact Erika Lyon at 740-461-6136 or email lyon.194@osu.edu for more information about this event or to register.

Deer Conflict: Dealing with the Modern Day Bambi

Thursday, October 15 6:30 - 7:30PM

The wildlife in your backyard can be a welcome sight for some or a landscape nightmare for others. Join the OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardeners for a look at some of the visitors that make you wonder, who's backyard is it anyhow!

We will review deer ecology, identification of deer damage, and options to prevent and manage deer damage to plants. Marne Titchenell, Wildlife Program Specialist with OSU Extension, works to provide a variety of educational programs, workshops, conferences, and publications centered on wildlife ecology and biology, habitat management for wildlife, and managing nuisance wildlife species.

Location: Online Zoom

Cost: \$5.00, which includes educational material

Contact information: Kim Hupman at hupman.5@osu.edu

Register at: go.osu.edu/wildlifegp



An aerial photograph of a farm with various colored fields (green, yellow, red, brown) and a grid overlay. A combine harvester is visible in the center, moving through a field. The text 'CFAES' is in the top right corner.

CFAES

measure WHAT MATTERS

Farm Science Review has the resources to help you make quantifiable progress towards your goals, no matter how you measure your success. What really matters to you?

Farm Science Review 2020

If your business is agriculture, our business is you.

ONLINE

September 22-24



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



Visit fsr.osu.edu
to access the
free digital event



Pesticide Recertification Online Training Available

THIS ONLINE RECERTIFICATION COURSE IS ONLY FOR PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATORS WHOSE LICENSE EXPIRED IN THE SPRING OF 2020 AND WERE UNABLE TO RECERTIFY AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

The completion of this three hour program in its entirety will be required for all private pesticide applicators who still need credit, regardless of the categories that appear on your license or the number of credit hours already obtained. This training course includes a series of self-paced videos in which a green check mark will appear once you have completed each video. The videos will need to be watched in sequential order. You can click "Home" at any time to return to the list of categories/videos. Three hours of recertification will be offered in the following categories:

Core: 1 hour

Category 1: Grain & Cereal Crops: 30 min

Category 2: Forage & Livestock: 30 min

Category 3: Fruit & Vegetable Crops: 15 min

Category 4: Nursery & Forest Crops: 15 min

Category 5: Greenhouse Crops: 15 min

Category 6: Fumigation: 15 min

Register Here

or contact our office at 740-461-6136

To receive credits in fertilizer (category 15) you will need to enroll in the separate **Fertilizer Recertification Course**. The deadline to recertify is now 90 days after the state of emergency Executive Order ends or December 1, 2020, whichever comes first. You may return to this course multiple times to work at your own pace, but the course must be completed by the deadline.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

MUSHROOM CULTIVATION SHORT COURSE *ONLINE*

**NO
COURSE
FEE FOR
2020**

Learn at your own pace about a few of the easiest-to-cultivate gourmet species, including shiitakes, oysters and wine caps - whether grown at home or for commercial production!

Registration now open - visit <https://cfaesosu.catalog.instructure.com> to access the course registration and to view other available online courses.



What do you want to learn more about? Give us your thoughts on virtual programming topics - whether it be through webinars, podcasts or articles - that are of interest to you this fall at go.osu.edu/edusurvey.

MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

*Ask a Master Gardener
virtual booth @ the
farmers' market*



Send your horticultural questions to lyon.194@osu.edu and be referred to one of the Jefferson and Harrison Master Gardener Volunteers. Use the subject line "Ask a Master Gardener".

Don't forget to support your local farmers Markets!

[Farmers' Gateway Market Virtual Marketplace](#)

[Downtown Steubenville Farmers' Market](#)

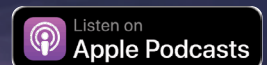


**Like or follow us on Facebook @
JHCmgv!**

Ohio Hydrologic and Climate Assessments

*available in both video
and audio formats*

Visit <https://byrd.osu.edu/hydro>
to watch or listen, or click on one
of the podcast options below.



▶ OSU SOUTH CENTERS YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Check out the many videos and
playlists available at

youtube.com/user/southcenters

SPECIALTY CROP CORNER

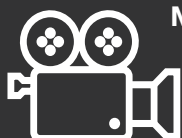
SOUTH CENTERS CHAT WITH TOM WORLEY

TREE TALK

New! TREE ID CLIPS

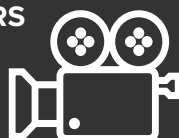
FORAGE FOCUS WITH CHRISTINE GELLEY

MARKETING MATTERS



HIKING & HEALTH

and many more!



**Eastern
Ohio
Grazing
Council**

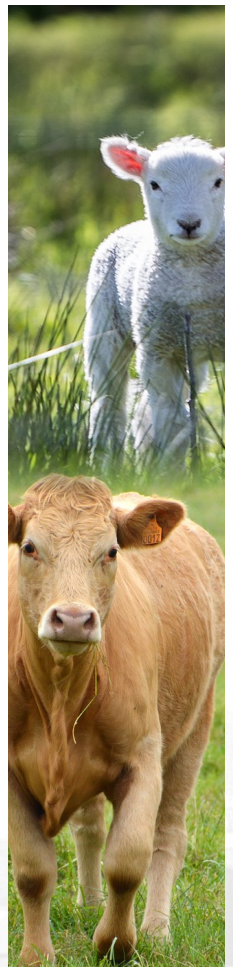
ONLINE

Check out the EOGC's YouTube
channel for video presentations
and virtual pasture walks. Topics
already available include Grazing
for the Summer Slump, Trampled
Forage, August Pasture Walk and
more.

go.osu.edu/eogcvideos

Subscribe to the YouTube
channel and follow EOGC on
Facebook at [www.facebook.com/
EasternOhioGrazingCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/EasternOhioGrazingCouncil)

Stay tuned for future events!



OHIO WOODLAND STEWARDS

FRIDAY'S **ESCAPE TO THE FOREST**

Take a break to relax and revisit the woods with us...

Every Friday, we will post information on Ohio's woodlands, wildlife, invasive species, management recommendations, and more!

Visit woodlandstewards.osu.edu/resources to access videos, articles and apps.

LIVE WEBINAR SCHEDULE

September 4th 11am - 1pm

The Impacts of Climate Change on Forests & Wildlife

October 2nd 10am - 12pm

Shorebird Identification

October 18th 10am - 12pm

Management: Deer & Habitat

November 13th 10am - 12pm

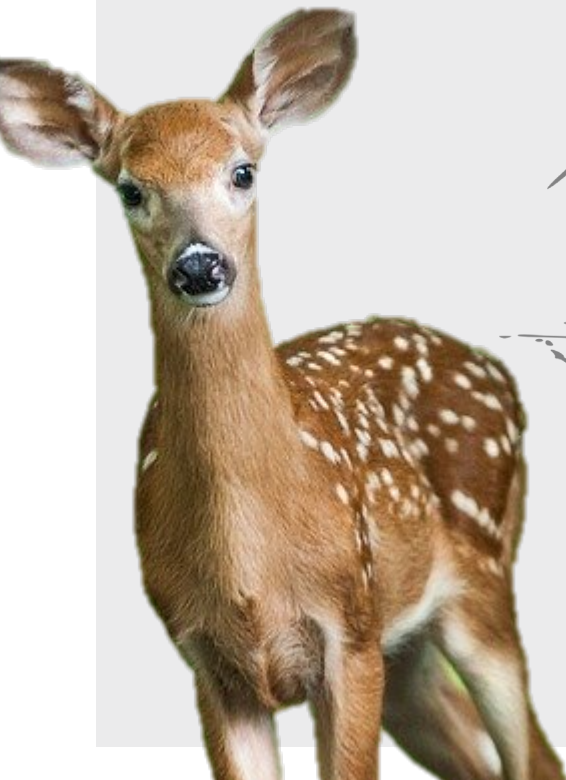
Spotting the Spot - A National and State Update on the Spotted Lanternfly

November 20th 10am - 12pm

Timber Rattlesnake Ecology & Conservation in Ohio

Registration information available at

woodlandstewards.osu.edu/resources



A DAY in the WOODS

**September 11th
starting at 10am**

These topics will be presented during a live Zoom Webinar:

10:00 AM – Welcome and Zoom Orientation with Marne Titchenell and Dave Apsley (Ohio State University Extension)

10:05 AM – Change in age, structure, and composition of Ohio's forests – Cotton Randall, Ohio Department of Natural Resources-Division of Forestry

10:40 AM – Wildlife history – trends in land use and influence on Ohio's wildlife populations– Mark Wiley, Ohio Department of Natural Resources-Division of Forestry

11:15 – Q/A session with Steve Matthews (OSU SENR), Cotton Randall (ODNR-DOF), Marne Titchenell (OSUE and SENR) and Mark Wiley (ODNR-DOW)

More information and registration available at <https://u.osu.edu/sehiowoods>

Jefferson & Harrison **MASTER GARDENER** VOLUNTEERS

*Training scheduled for
Summer 2021*

The Ohio State University Extension offices in Jefferson and Harrison Counties will be accepting new applications for the Master Gardener Volunteer training program for residents of both counties. Master Gardener Volunteers in Ohio contributed over 180,000 hours of service each year and offer assistance with home horticultural questions, pest identification, school programs, demonstrations, research, and continuing education programs.

Training sessions will begin in the summer of 2021. Participants interested in receiving the intensive training will learn about basic botany, plant physiology, soils, entomology, plant pathology, plant diagnostics, integrated pest management, pesticide use and safety, lawn care, home vegetable and fruit production, backyard wildlife management and much more! Working with county Ohio State Extension personnel, Master Gardener Volunteers provide educational services to their communities. If you are a garden enthusiast, this is a great opportunity to share your gardening know-how and skills with others in your community.

To find out more about this program, contact Erika Lyon at 740-461-6136 or email lyon.194@osu.edu. Look for more information on schedule, costs and registration in the January 2021 newsletter.



Canning Q & A

Q: Is it safe to can in my electric multi cooker? It has a button for canning?

A: While there are a variety of electric multi cooker units on the market, there are many concerns about using them for home canning purposes. The recipes we recommend are tested and USDA approved following specific time and pressure requirements for processing. It is unknown if the process may be replicated in the multi cooker unit. Because time and temperature are essential in the safety of home canned products, the recommendation is to not use these units in home food preservation.

If you would like to read more details, check out:

https://nchfp.uga.edu/publications/nchfp/factsheets/electric_cookers.html

Q: I can't find canning lids (flats) anywhere! What can I do?

A: Yes, there is currently a shortage of canning jar lids. First, don't be tempted to reuse lids that have previously been processed. It is safe to use lids one time only. Lids will last about 5 years so be cautious when obtaining lids from friends and family that have been in storage.

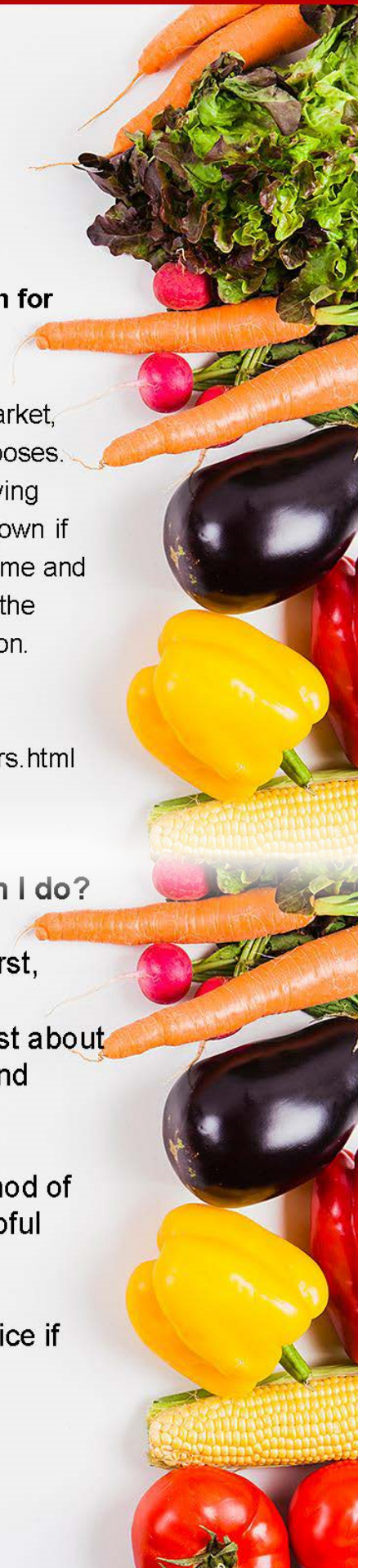
This year you may consider freezing as an alternate method of food preservation. Find more information and several helpful links in this [Live Healthy Live Well blog](#).

Remember you can contact your local OSU Extension office if you have food preservation questions.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES





Mya Keenan and her horse Liza at Wednesday's horse show at the Jefferson County Fair.



SMITHFIELD, OH - The Jefferson County Jr. Fair livestock sale grossed a total of \$312,607.50, as participants wrapped up an all-species jr. fair only event complete with 4-H camp-like activities in place of mid-way and grandstand events.

The Saturday sale was the final activity to what was a successful event, according to Fairboard President, Ray Hilderbrand. "Despite COVID-19, we were able to give these youth a fun-filled fair to remember," he said. "These kids put in the work on these projects, and the fairboard, the Extension office, the buyers, and many other partners came together to make this a memorable and great year. We couldn't be more pleased with the outcome."

Statistics for the sale were as follows:

Steers. The grand champion steer raised by Shelby Robinson of the Wildwood Critters 4-H Club was purchased by Ed and Shelley Vahalik of Curry Drilling for \$8.60 per pound. The reserve champion steer raised by Bailey Harris also of the Wildwood Critters 4-H Club was purchased by Frank and Earlene Kamarec of Frank's Bar And Grill for \$7.60 per pound.

Hogs. The grand champion hog raised by Molly King of the Free Spirits 4-H Club sold for \$16.50 per pound to Mike Kuester of Water Transport. The reserve champion hog raised by Amanda Boring of the Free Spirits 4-H Club sold for \$13.00 per pound to Ken Perkins of Tri-State Financial Services.

Lambs. The grand champion lamb was raised by Caleb Miller of the Windy Ridge 4-H Club and sold for \$22.75 to Judge David Scarpone. The reserve champion lamb was raised by Giullianna Prolago of the Sunrise Lads 'N Lassies 4-H Club and sold for \$12 per pound to Colerain IGA.

Goats. The grand champion meat goat was raised by Logan Fomenko of the Country Classics 4-H Club and sold for \$675 to D&J Sales And Service. The reserve champion goat was raised by Lane Fomenko of the Country Classics 4-H Club and sold for \$600 to Mark West Energy.

Rabbits. The grand champion pen of three meat rabbits was raised by Alayna Starr of the Happy Hooves & Fancy Feathers 4-H Club and sold for \$550 to Toni Moreland – State Farm. The reserve champion pen of three meat rabbits was raised by Autumn Grafton of the 4-H Varieties 4-H Club and sold for \$1200 to Barb Bradley.

Meat Goose. The grand champion meat goose was raised by Paul Pasco of the Happy Hooves & Fancy Feathers 4-H Club and sold for \$475 to Mark West. The reserve champion meat goose was also raised by Pasco and sold for \$525 to Esther and Lamont McCoy.

Market Turkey. The grand champion market turkey was raised by Ian Latynski of the Town & Country 4-H Club and sold for \$775 to Toni Moreland-State Farm. The reserve champion market turkey was raised by Bryson Mattern of the Country Roadrunners 4-H Club and sold for \$350 to Encino Energy.

Market Ducks. The grand champion pen of two market ducks was raised by Johanna George of the Town & Country 4-H Club and sold for \$525 to Access Ohio Valley. The reserve champion pen of two market ducks was raised by Aiden Cooper of the Happy Hooves & Fancy Feathers 4-H Club and sold for \$750 to Encino Energy.

Meat Chickens. The grand champion pen of three meat chickens was raised by Blake Moran of the Broken Fences 4-H Club and sold for \$450 to Encino Energy. The reserve champion pen of three meat chickens also was raised by Moran and sold for \$350 to Lewis Family Farms.

2020 Sale Averages

Steers – with \$3.47/without \$2.85
 Dairy Feeders – with \$2.14/without \$2.08
 Beef feeders – without \$1.75
 Hogs – with \$4.06/without \$3.91
 Sheep – with \$7.42/without \$6.43
 Goats – with \$435/without \$420.54
 Rabbits – with \$414.71/without \$353.33
 Goose – with \$408.33/without \$225
 Turkey – with \$542.86/without \$535
 Ducks – with \$460/without \$341.67
 Chickens – with \$335/without \$327.78



Campish activities at the county fair kept youth occupied when they were not showing animals.

Let's celebrate the real heroes!



Our 4-H office thanks all of you for the kind words following our Jr. Fair! Here are just a few photos of those who made our work, and that of the Jefferson County Fairboard, worth every, single second!



FRESH CHEFS

Recipes from 4-H youth, celebrity alumni and supporters, featuring Celebrity Chef, Author, 4-H Healthy Habits Program Ambassador, Tennessee 4-H Alumna Carla Hall



Get ready for the upcoming holidays by exploring nearly 50 recipes from 4-H'ers, alumni and supporters in the FREE #4HFreshChefs digital cookbook! Dig in and discover recipes for every occasion:
<https://bit.ly/34XlwNX>

Congratulations to our 2020 Most Outstanding Exhibitors

This summer-long competition includes scores from skill-a-thon, interview, class placing at the fair, clinic attendance, and completed Ohio Achievement form for the final score to determine the winner. Congratulations to all contestants, as this is always a hotly contested award.

Horse – Allison Bell – Country Classics
Beef – Cameron Best – Free Spirits
Poultry – Conner Best – Free Spirits
Swine – Olivia Prolago – Sunrise Lads N' Lassies
Dairy – Corissa Griffith – Windy Ridge
Rabbit – Corissa Griffith – Windy Ridge
Dog – Kaydence Kinyo – Windy Ridge
Goat – Kaydence Kinyo – Windy Ridge
Sheep – Cole Saiter – Friends & Neighbors

Tuesdays Tips for Teens Video Series

*We know COVID-19 has had an impact on all of us, especially our teens. To help, educators at Ohio State University Extension Family and Consumer Sciences have created a “how to” video series, **Tips for Teens**, available on YouTube with information about life skills from basic car maintenance, doing laundry, cleaning a bathroom, folding a fitted bed sheet to making healthy snacks and shakes. The weekly series, **Tips for Teens**, is designed to help teens develop some awareness, knowledge, skills, and aspirations about life readiness. **Tips for Teens** is a great way to learn how to do a task, and each video takes less than five minutes. The videos get teens focused on what matters most: **Building skills and gaining confidence!** These videos are currently available:*

- [**Race and Racism - Huh?**](#)
- [**How to Navigate Difficult Conversations**](#)
- [**How to Use a Fire Extinguisher**](#)
- [**How to Use Mindfulness to Settle your Body**](#)
- [**How To Sew On A Button**](#)
- [**How to Measure Ingredients**](#)
- [**Developing Cultural Intelligence**](#)
- [**Making Guacamole**](#)
- [**Basic Budgeting**](#)
- **And more!** For more information, contact Lorrissa Dunfee, FCS Educator at dunfee.54@osu.edu
Cooperative Connection

New regulations regarding 4-H meetings effective Sept., 1.

As we head into fall, we want to take a moment to thank you for remaining flexible as we work together to help prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus. By following recommended guidance, we're helping to keep our families and friends safer, our kids learning, and our economy going. We also want to take a moment to share updated in-person 4-H meeting requirements and a reminder to continue to follow our 4-H guidelines.

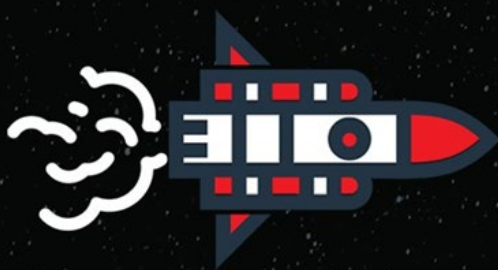
Updated information, effective as of today, September 1, 2020 includes:

- Hosting virtual meetings and events is preferred.
- If activities are critical/essential and are in-person, they must be education-focused.
- Group cannot be larger than 50 people, including adults, youth, presenters, etc.
 - This directive is dependent on local health department guidelines.
 - The group size may need to be reduced to 10 (or other amount), based on the directives of your local health department.
- Face masks are required.
 - This includes inside AND outside at all times.
 - Program participants and parent/guardians ages five and older must wear a mask.
 - The exception is shooting sports where safety is a concern when on the line. Refer to the full guidance document online for additional shooting sports guidance (link below).
 - Medical conditions or disability exceptions are also permitted.
- Potlucks and buffets are not permitted
- Any time your county is designated a Level 4 Public Health Emergency (color-coded purple) by the Ohio Department of Health, all in-person 4-H club meetings and events must be held virtually or postponed until the designation changes to Level 3 or below.
- Ohio's Public Health Advisory System updates are at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/publichealth-advisory-system/>



BASE  CAMP

**Explore a hands-on mission
to Mars at home!**



3...2...1...are you ready to blast-off to Mars Base Camp?! Ohio 4-H wants all our 4-H'ers to explore this year's 4-H STEM Challenge and we're making it easy for families. Use the code below to receive a discount on the family kit,

combine it with the \$5 discount at Shop4-h.org and your kit is only \$7.80 + tax! And from Oct. 4-10, we'll be hosting virtual space-themed activities that are out of this world!

Register for your code today at

go.osu.edu/2020ohiostemchallenge



2020 Most Outstanding 4-H'er

To Become Most Outstanding 4-H'er 2020

- Complete and turn in to the Extension office by Sept. 15 a complete Ohio 4-H Achievement Form. Forms can be found at <https://ohio4h.org/awardsandscholarships>.
- In addition, complete a one-page typed essay (12 pt. times new roman, double-spaced.) completing the following statement: I deserve to be the Jefferson County Most Outstanding 4-H'er for 2020 because... This should be turned in with the Achievement Form.
- Indicate in your essay If you are a junior or senior applicant. (Jr. 8 and in 3rd grade -13) (Sr. 14 and older.)
- Achieve gold member status for the 2020 4-H year with your advisor signed honor form turned in to the Extension office by Sept. 15.
- Have participated in a competition at Contest Day or Project Judging Day.
- Attend an interview on Sept. 30.
- Winners will be announced at the annual meeting.



2019 Jr. MO4-H'er Kaitlynn Merkel

GET WELL SOON VICKIE



Calling all club advisors, parents/guardians, and youth members! Vickie Whinnery has been not feeling well. (NOT COVID-19 related.)

We are encouraging all clubs to participate in a Get Well Soon card drive to lift her spirits.

Club members can mail cards to us at 500 Market Street, Suite 512, Steubenville, or drop them off in person at the office. Please email McKee.652@osu.edu the day before you mail or deliver the cards so that we do not miss anyone.

We will deliver a bundle of cards to Vickie the week of Sept. 20. So, put your hands to larger service, and support Vickie, as she is a vital partner in everything we do. From camp to fair, she is always working for the betterment of the 4-H youth in this county. Let's show her she is, indeed, Making The Best Better!

Jr. Fair Wrap-Up

If you have any questions or issues pertaining to the fair or livestock sale, please contact Bonnie Randolph (740-275-6728) or Debbie Hukill (740-632-3169).

Vickie is not feeling well.

Reminder: Thank you cards must have been turned in to the Jr. Fair office at the fair, or be turned in to the Extension office in order to receive your livestock sale checks. No youth will be issued a check without have followed through on this responsibility. Call 740-264-2212 to schedule a drop off time if you owe buyers thank you cards.

State Teen Leadership Council To Include Jefferson County Youth

It is our honor to announce Corissa Griffith of the Windy Ridge 4-H Club has been appointed to the Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Council!! It is a huge honor for Corissa to have been chosen from the pool of applicants! Please join us in congratulating her!

The Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Council (TLC) is a statewide group of 4-H teens and young 4-H alumni that provides a youth stakeholder perspective in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of Ohio 4-H programming. In this process, council members develop knowledge, skills, attitudes, and aspirations needed for future success. Council members share advice and recommendations to 4-H professionals in order to improve, strengthen, and expand the Ohio 4-H program. Members also make recommendations regarding opportunities for Ohio 4-H teen programming. They serve as a sounding board for Ohio 4-H program direction.



LESLIE'S CLOVERBUD CORNER



Hello Cloverbuds!

September & October Activities

- Color the farmer on the farmers market page and earn **a pumpkin bead**
- Fill in the blank on the word puzzle page and earn **a brain bead**
- Visit a farmers market (Steubenville farmers market Thursdays 8AM-1PM; EGCC farmers market on Wednesdays 4:30-6:30PM) to earn an apple bead
- Make a fresh vegetable soup, appetizer, salad, side dish, dinner, or dessert for your family or elderly neighbor (with help from an adult). Examples include: zucchini boats, stuffed pepper soup, stir fry, and pumpkin rolls. Also consider community service if taken to a neighbor. **Earn a turkey bead**
- Cloverbuds can earn **a leaf bead** for raking leaves and taking them to Bob Morrison at 8550 County Road 22A in Bloomingdale (call 740-944-1875) or Clint Finney at 200 County Road 1 in Rayland (call 740-359-3737).

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Good for 2021

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If you want a bead, please email aftanas.2@osu.edu, and I will mail you one.

If you are a Cloverbud Advisor, please email Leslie (aftanas.2@osu.edu) so you can be added to the Cloverbud list to receive additional activities.



Do You Need Print Copies of These Newsletters?

The Jefferson County Extension office is currently reviewing our newsletter mailing list. We do plan to move to an email format moving forward. However, we realize that some folks in the county have poor internet connectivity. **If you still want to receive the print copy of the Jefferson County Cooperative Connection through the mail, contact our office no later than October 23rd, 2020 by 5pm.** If you do not want to continue receiving the print version of the newsletter, you do not have to do anything. All newsletters will be posted to jefferson.osu.edu under the news section - the May-June and July-August newsletters were distributed through email only due to COVID-19 but are available at jefferson.osu.edu if you missed them.

The benefits of receiving the Cooperative Connection online: it's in color, and there will be content embedded within the text that you can click on to access more information on that topic or event.

If you are a Master Gardener Volunteer, 4-H family or advisor, or advisory committee member, you will continue to receive the newsletter through the contact information we have in our database - you will receive newsletters in your email inbox unless no email address is listed. Contact us at 740-264-2212 if there are any technical issues accessing the newsletter moving forward.



Ohio State University Extension Jefferson County greatly appreciates the support of the Jefferson County Commissioners: Dr. Thomas Graham, Dave Maple, Jr., and Thomas Gentile.

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This statement is in accordance with United States Civil Rights Laws and the USDA.

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