Hello, Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties!

Happy Thanksgiving! It’s my favorite holiday because we gather as a family and focus on the positives in our lives. We all had some tough times this past year, but we still have a lot to be thankful for.

Our holiday meals would not be possible without the hard work and dedication from farmers all over the country. Let’s not forget to give them thanks too.

Of course OSU will play a little football game this weekend with a team from up north. Beat Michigan!

O-H-I-O
**ODA Changes Ohio’s Livestock Care Standards**

The Ohio Department of Agriculture wants to remind producers and livestock owners about upcoming changes to Ohio’s livestock care standards. Effective January 1, 2018, veal calves must be housed in group pens by 10 weeks of age. Additionally, whether housed in individual stalls or group pens the calves must be allowed to turn around and cannot be tethered. Also effective January 1, tail docking on dairy cattle can only be performed by a licensed veterinarian and if only medically necessary.

The above changes were recommended by the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board, a group of 13 members from farming, veterinary, academic, food safety, animal care and consumer interest backgrounds tasked with annually reviewing the standards and recommending any appropriate changes to ODA. The changes were submitted by ODA and ultimately approved by the Ohio legislature’s Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.

Ohio’s livestock care standards were implemented after Ohioans overwhelmingly passed State Issue 2 in November 2009. The constitutional amendment required the state to establish comprehensive livestock care standards, established in rules by the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

---

**Wet Pattern Likely Into Next Spring!**
By Jim Noel, NOAA
Source: [https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2017-39/wet-pattern-likely-next-spring](https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2017-39/wet-pattern-likely-next-spring)

The wet pattern arrived this fall and continues. It has resulted in flooding and harvest delays.

It does look like for the rest of November it remains colder than normal with only light precipitation events every few days. However, it will not be cold enough to freeze the ground and make better traction for equipment in the fields.

For winter and spring, it looks wetter than normal. Temperatures will trend from warmer than normal to start winter in December to slightly colder than normal by late winter into spring.
This is all based on the current La Nina advisory that the NOAA Climate Prediction Center has issued.


http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/

For the next two weeks, rainfall will average 1-2 inches with most of that coming after December 1st. See the attached graphic from the NOAA/NWS/OHRFC for details.

**Record Corn Yield Projected by USDA**


On November 9, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) estimated a corn crop for 2017 higher than U.S. farmers have ever realized, coming in with a whopping 175.4 bushels to acre average. That would equate to a record 14.578 billion bushels of corn in 2017. The yield guess was significantly higher than analysts like Mike Zuzolo from Global Commodity Analytics was expecting.

“We had a sense that the corn grain fill was better than expected versus mid-summer,” Zuzolo said. “But with so much corn still out in the field as of last week’s Crop Progress Report from NASS, I think the trade, in general, was expecting this kind of number to come in December or January when harvest was complete.” Zuzolo says the report did have some good news.

“The global stocks for corn are not bad at all,” Zuzolo said. “In fact, we had a demand increase around the world and we had a demand increase for corn domestically thanks, in part, to the livestock market. Our stocks to use ratios are about 19%, about 2 to 3% below where we were the last 2 marketing years.” Zuzolo says the markets will have to work through the big yield number over the next week.

USDA lowered ending stocks for soybeans, but kept the yield estimate unchanged at 49.5 bushels to the acre with a 2017 harvest take in of 4.425 billion bushels. There is significant risk involved in trading futures and/or option on futures. Futures and/or options of futures trading many not be suitable for all investors. Investors should consider these risks and evaluate their suitability based on their financial conditions. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

**Lowest Thanksgiving Dinner Cost in 5 years**

Source: [https://www.morningagclips.com/lowest-thanksgiving-dinner-cost-in-5-years/](https://www.morningagclips.com/lowest-thanksgiving-dinner-cost-in-5-years/)

American Farm Bureau Federation’s 32nd annual price survey of classic items found on the Thanksgiving Day dinner table indicates the average cost of this year’s feast for 10 is $49.12, a
75-cent decrease from last year’s average of $49.87. The big ticket item – a 16-pound turkey – came in at a total of $22.38 this year. That’s roughly $1.40 per pound, a decrease of 2 cents per pound, or a total of 36 cents per whole turkey, compared to 2016.

“For the second consecutive year, the overall cost of Thanksgiving dinner has declined,” AFBF Director of Market Intelligence Dr. John Newton said. “The cost of the dinner is the lowest since 2013 and second-lowest since 2011. Even as America’s family farmers and ranchers continue to face economic challenges, they remain committed to providing a safe, abundant and affordable food supply for consumers at Thanksgiving and throughout the year.”

The shopping list for Farm Bureau’s informal survey includes turkey, bread stuffing, sweet potatoes, rolls with butter, peas, cranberries, a veggie tray, pumpkin pie with whipped cream, and coffee and milk, all in quantities sufficient to serve a family of 10 with plenty for leftovers.

Consumers continue to see lower retail turkey prices due to continued large inventory in cold storage, which is up almost double digits from last year, Newton explained. Foods showing the largest decreases this year in addition to turkey, were a gallon of milk, $2.99; a dozen rolls, $2.26; two nine-inch pie shells, $2.45; a 3-pound bag of sweet potatoes, $3.52; a 1-pound bag of green peas, $1.53; and a group of miscellaneous items including coffee and ingredients necessary to prepare the meal (butter, evaporated milk, onions, eggs, sugar and flour), $2.72.

“Milk production has increased, resulting in continued low retail prices,” Newton said. “In addition, grocers often use milk as a loss leader to entice consumers to shop at their stores.”

Items that increased modestly in price were: a half-pint of whipping cream, $2.08; a 14-ounce package of cubed bread stuffing, $2.81; a 30-ounce can of pumpkin pie mix, $3.21; a 12-ounce bag of fresh cranberries, $2.43; and a 1-pound veggie tray, $.74.

“Whole whipping cream is up about 4 percent in price, due to increased consumer demand for full-fat dairy products,” Newton said. The stable average price reported this year by Farm Bureau for a classic Thanksgiving dinner tracks with the government’s Consumer Price Index for food eaten at home. But while the most recent CPI report for food at home shows a 0.5 percent increase over the past year (available online at http://www.bls.gov/news.release/cpi.nr0.htm), the Farm Bureau survey shows a 1.5 percent decline.

After adjusting for inflation, the cost of a Thanksgiving dinner is $20.54, the lowest level since 2013. A total of 141 volunteer shoppers checked prices at grocery stores in 39 states for this year’s survey. Farm Bureau volunteer shoppers are asked to look for the best possible prices,
without taking advantage of special promotional coupons or purchase deals, such as spending $50 and receiving a free turkey.

Shoppers with an eye for bargains in all areas of the country should be able to purchase individual menu items at prices comparable to the Farm Bureau survey averages. Another option for busy families without a lot of time to cook is ready-to-eat Thanksgiving meals for up to 10 people, with all the trimmings, which are available at many supermarkets and take-out restaurants for around $50 to $75.

The AFBF Thanksgiving dinner survey was first conducted in 1986. While Farm Bureau does not make any scientific claims about the data, it is an informal gauge of price trends around the nation. Farm Bureau’s survey menu has remained unchanged since 1986 to allow for consistent price comparisons.

As winter quickly approaches and more people look to firewood to help heat their homes, the Ohio Department of Agriculture is offering some basic tips to help when purchasing wood. “Firewood is an important agricultural resource for Ohioans throughout the winter season,” said David Daniels, director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture. “Like any resource, there are rules in place for consumers and sellers to ensure transactions are fair and consumers get what they pay for and we want Ohioans to know about them.”

**Seven Tips for Purchasing Firewood**
Source: [https://www.farmanddairy.com/news/7-tips-for-purchasing-firewood/](https://www.farmanddairy.com/news/7-tips-for-purchasing-firewood/)

The following firewood rules and regulations are helpful to review before making purchases:

1. Non-packaged firewood must be sold by the cord or by fractions of a cord. One cord, when properly stacked, should be 8 feet long by 4 feet high and 4 feet wide (128 cubic feet).
2. If sold in bulk, firewood must be sold by in terms of price per ton. This must be weighed on a certified scale. In no case can a scale be used for net loads that weigh less than fifty minimum divisions.
3. It is illegal to sell firewood by any other unit of measurement such as a rick, rack, face cord or truckload. If a consumer believes that a seller did not comply with these rules and regulations, the person should immediately contact the seller.
4. If non-packaged firewood is purchased, the seller must present the consumer with a delivery ticket or sales invoice that includes contact information of seller and purchaser, date of delivery, quantity, quantity upon which the price is based, total price of the amount delivered and terms and conditions of the sale.
5. If the firewood is advertised and sold a representation may include a declaration of identity that indicates the species group. (Example: 50 percent hickory, 40 percent oak, 10 percent ash). Such a representation shall indicate, within 10 percent accuracy, the percentages of each group.
6. Be aware of different firewood movement regulations in place concerning invasive species such as gypsy moth and Asian longhorned beetle. For more information on specific regulations visit the Plant Pest Control website. It is always good practice to not move firewood long distances and to buy local and burn local.

7. When burning firewood for heat, the State Fire Marshal advises following all necessary safety practices to avoid any serious problems.

If you have questions or concerns with a firewood sale, and the seller will not correct the problem, contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s Division of Weights and Measures at (614) 728-6290 or contact your county auditor’s office.

2017 Farmer’s Tax Guides
The 2017 version of the Farmer’s Tax Guide (Publication 225) has been released by the Internal Revenue Service and can be found at: https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-publication-225 You may directly access the document at this link: https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p225.pdf

New Website Addresses Agriculture Best Management Practice Placement and Use
By Greg LaBarge, OSU Extension Field Specialist and CCA

A new website https://agbmps.osu.edu/ has been launched that is designed to help landowners and operators use visual clues in the landscape or management records to identify fields or stream/ditches where targeted practices can reduce erosion and nutrient losses that impair Ohio watersheds. Private and public dollars available to address erosion and nutrient loss concerns from agricultural production fields are limited. The intent of this website is to empower farmers/landowners with the knowledge necessary to identify the high risk situations that exist in their farm fields and the ability to know when to seek professional help for implementing cost effective
A website provides a summary of "Critical Concerns" found in the landscape and in agronomic farm plans, a review of potential “Best Management Practices (BMPs)”, and a list of resources and people/agencies to contact.

Description of website pages you will find:

**Critical Concerns**- Pictures and descriptions of critical resource concerns to use in identification plus links to potential BMP's that address those concerns.

**BMP Practices**- A listing of all BMP practices with descriptions, effectiveness, pros and cons of the practice, things to consider and contacts for further inquiry.

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**- Answers to common questions and helpful background information.

**Submit**- A place to submit pictures of critical concerns or BMP's in action to add to the website or questions for FAQ.

**People**- Contacts for people and organizations available to assist in answering questions or seeking cost share.

A website provides a vehicle that can be used in the field on mobile devices plus is easily updated with new information on cost of implementation, effectiveness of practices to address water quality and other factors as new research is made available. Suggest comments and pictures are sought to continue to improve this resources.

The website has been made possible by funding from Ohio State University Extension, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, with input from Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Natural Resources Conservation Service, The Nature Conservancy and funding from Ohio Soybean Council, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

If question or suggestions on the website contact Greg LaBarge, labarge.1@osu.edu

---

**2018 Northeast Ohio Small Farm Workshop Scheduled for January 20, 2018**

The Ashtabula County Extension office is pleased to offer the 2018 Northeast Ohio Small Farm Workshop for new, existing, and aspiring farm businesses. This workshop will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Ashtabula County Extension office located at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, Ohio. This workshop is designed to help landowners increase profits from their small acreage. This program is open to all new or aspiring farmers, new rural landowners, small farmers, and farm families looking for new ideas.
During this workshop, participants will be challenged to develop realistic expectations for their small farm. Participants will learn how to develop a business plan for their operation. During the workshop, participants will learn more about the current opportunities in small-scale farming; how to identify the strengths & weaknesses of your farm; how to keep records and develop budgets; and how to effectively price & market your products to consumers. Learn more about farm insurance, governmental assistance, farm taxes, and ways to mitigate risk. This workshop will provide the road map for small producers to move their hobby to a viable farm business. Make connections to resources, information and people that will help your farm business grow!

The registration fee for this workshop is $25 per person. This includes a small farmer resource notebook, refreshments, and a hearty lunch! Reservations are requested by Friday, January 12, 2018. Space is limited to the first 35 registrants. We thank The Kellogg Insurance Agency for co-sponsoring this event. Pre-registration is required by January 12, 2018. Registration fee is $25/per person. Make checks payable to OSU Extension, and mail to Ashtabula County Extension office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. If you have any questions please call 440-576-9008. A complete registration flyer can be obtained at: http://go.osu.edu/ne-events

**EPA Delays Hazardous Substance Release Notification Deadline**


Late in the day on November 15, 2017, the EPA announced that farms with continuous hazardous substance releases as defined by CERCLA do not have to submit their initial continuous release notification until the DC Circuit Court of Appeals issues its order, or mandate, enforcing the Court’s opinion of April 11, 2017. While it appears the reports will be required sometime, producers may wait to file after the Court has entered its order, at which time we can expect EPA to provide a filing “deadline.” We also expect that the EPA will utilize this additional time to bring more clarity to the emissions data and calculations producers should rely upon for determining whether they are subject to CERCLA air emissions reporting.

For more information regarding the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) section 103, visit:

OSU Beef Team post: [Requirements of Hazardous Substance Reporting by Livestock Farms are Further Clarified](http://u.osu.edu/beef/2017/11/16/cercla-and-epcra-reporting-requirements-for-air-releases-of-hazardous-substances-from-animal-waste-at-farms)


**David’s Weekly News Column**

For Publication in the Jefferson Gazette on November 22, 2017

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties
Happy Thanksgiving, Ashtabula County! We are a mere 24 hours away from one of my favorite holidays—Thanksgiving! It is a time for families to gather and celebrate all for which they are thankful. It is my favorite holiday because I love food! And believe me, tomorrow I will get my fill of turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, pumpkin pie and succotash. My stomach is ready!

******

Speaking of Thanksgiving dinner, the American Farm Bureau Federation has released their annual price survey for the typical items found on the Thanksgiving Day table. So you may ask what is on their shopping list survey? It includes turkey, bread stuffing, sweet potatoes, rolls with butter, peas, cranberries, veggie tray, pumpkin pie with whipped cream, and coffee and milk. This year they have estimated the cost of a Thanksgiving dinner for 10 people to be $49.12 which is 75-cent cheaper than a year ago. In fact they report the cost is the second-lowest since 2011. The biggest savings this year are from lower turkey and milk prices. Farm Bureau began the Thanksgiving dinner survey in 1986 as an informal way to gauge price trends around the nation. I bet many of our smart shoppers can prepare their meal for under then national average! Can you?

******

The Ashtabula County Extension office is pleased to offer the 2018 Northeast Ohio Small Farm Workshop for new, existing, and aspiring farm businesses. This workshop will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Ashtabula County Extension office located at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, Ohio. This workshop is designed to help landowners increase profits from their small acreage. This program is open to all new or aspiring farmers, new rural landowners, small farmers, and farm families looking for new ideas.

During this workshop, participants will be challenged to develop realistic expectations for their small farm. Participants will learn how to develop a business plan for their operation. During the workshop, participants will learn more about the current opportunities in small-scale farming; how to identify the strengths & weaknesses of your farm; how to keep records and develop budgets; and how to effectively price & market your products to consumers. Learn more about farm insurance, governmental assistance, farm taxes, and ways to mitigate risk. This workshop will provide the road map for small producers to move their hobby to a viable farm business. Make connections to resources, information and people that will help your farm business grow!

The registration fee for this workshop is $25 per person. This includes a small farmer resource notebook, refreshments, and a hearty lunch! Reservations are requested by Friday, January 12, 2018. Space is limited to the first 35 registrants. We thank The Kellogg Insurance Agency for co-sponsoring this event. Pre-registration is required by January 12, 2018. Registration fee is $25/per person. Make checks payable to OSU Extension, and mail to Ashtabula County Extension office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. If you have any questions please call 440-576-9008. A complete registration flyer can be obtained at: http://go.osu.edu/ne-events

******

I would like to end today’s column with a Thanksgiving Thanks written by Aileen Fisher. T is for time to be together, turkey, talk, and tangy weather. H is for harvest stored away, home and hearth, and holiday. A is for autumn’s frosty art, and abundance in the heart. N is for neighbors, November, nice things, and new things to remember. K is for kitchen, kettles croon, kith and kin expected soon. S is for sizzles, sights, and sounds, and something special that
Northeast Ohio Agriculture  OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties

abounds. That spells THANKS--for joy in living and a jolly good Thanksgiving season. Have a
good and safe day!

Native Plants for Full Sun
By: Ashtabula County Master Gardeners

Native plants are essential to the gardener who wants to help our native birds and butterflies
survive. The most effective gardens feature several colors of flowers, blooming throughout the
growing season, and planted in clumps. Tall order. And big garden.

The gardeners with limited space must determine which birds and/or butterflies they most want,
then research which plants to grow. Gardeners with unlimited space need to curb their
enthusiasm or wind up with a landscape that is impossible to manage.

Where to begin? As always, the key to success is putting the right plant in the right place. If
most of the places in your garden are in full sun, quite a few native perennials would love to live
there. They need only average watering once they are established, and some can thrive in drier
conditions.

Among the natives that can withstand
droughts are Butterfly Weed (Asclepia
tuberosa) and Black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia
hirta). Both frequently bloom from early
summer to fall, the former with glowing orange
blossoms and the later with yellow petals
surrounding its dark center.

Drought resistant white flowering natives
include Flowering Spurge (Euphorbia
corolatta), which begins its show later in the
summer and White Yarrow (Achillea
millifolium), blooming from June to September.

While all four of these beauties attract butterflies and wildlife, they are, happily, quite deer
resistant. Other natives that require full sun might need some help during those Ashtabula
County summers that suffer through prolonged dry periods.

Marsh Marigolds (Caltha palustris) begin their prolonged sunny blooms in the spring. Pink
flowers arrive in June on the Queen-of-the-Prairie (Fillipendula rubra) and later still in August on
Spiked Gayfeather (Liatris spicata). Providing a lavender show in late summer and fall are the

With the exception of Jerusalem Artichoke (Helianthus tuberosus), most of our native
perennials that grow in partial shade as well as full sun will require some watering during
droughty times. Nonetheless, if you choose to plant this helianthus due to its attraction for butterflies, be prepared for its towering height.

For shorter perennials that prefer average moisture, consider spring bloomers like Blue Phlox (Phlox divaracata) and Shooting Stars (Dodecatheon meadia). The former can adapt to woodland settings. The latter bears pink flowers on leafless stems that rise above ground hugging foliage tinged with red.

White False Indigo (Baptesia lactea), which begins its show in late spring, actually fixes nitrogen in the soil! Stems with its seed pods, which turn from brown to black, are valued additions to dried flower arrangements.

For purplish flowers in August consider Joe Pye Weed (Eupatorium fistulosa). This butterfly magnet can grow even taller than the Jerusalem artichoke but will suffer in dry conditions. Some gardeners may want to look for cultivars more vertically challenged.

Last but not least among the natives that don't appreciate parched soils is the Common Milkweed (Asclepia syriaca). This fellow is only for those butterfly lovers who can deal with the challenge of an aggressive plant that self-seeds prodigiously and spreads from rhizomes as well. Its fragrance, however, is nothing short of incredible as it beckons monarchs to come lay their eggs among its foliage.

Ashtabula County Master Gardeners have been focusing on the importance of native plants in 2017. Articles include ways to go native, saving monarch butterflies, the dangers of alien invasives and landscaping for birds and other wildlife.
Upcoming Extension Program Dates

The following programs have been scheduled for Northeast Ohio farmers. Complete registration flyers can be found at: http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/upcoming-educational-programs-deadlines

Women in Agriculture Programs
December 16, 2017
January 13, 2018
February 17, 2018
March 17, 2018

Private Pesticide Applicator & Fertilizer Re-certification Sessions
January 12, 2018 from 8:00 to 12:00 noon in Ashtabula County
February 2, 2018 from 8:00 to 12:00 noon in Geauga County
February 9, 2018 from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Portage County
March 9, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Trumbull County

Crop Lunch – What's New with Dicamba
Trumbull County Extension Office 11:30am – 2pm
Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Exploring the Small Farm Dream
Saturday, January 20, 2018

Farm Management School
January 22, February 19 & March 12

2018 Northeast Ohio Winter Agronomy School
Wednesday February 21, 2018

2018 Winter Beef School (Calving School)
Thursday, February 22, 2018

Backyard Chickens
Trumbull County Extension Office 5-7pm
Wednesday, March 14, 2018

2018 Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet
Saturday, March 24, 2018

21st Annual Joe Bodnar Memorial Northern Classic Steer & Heifer Show
Saturday, April 21, 2018
Donate Crops To Support Charity

A tax strategy that helps local charities.

Donating crops, instead of money, can have significant advantages:

• The value of donated crops is not included on Schedule F, but the expenses are deductible on the form.
• There are no federal or state income taxes paid on the value of donated crops.
• There is no self employment tax paid on the value of donated crops.
• Yield records are not affected by the donation.
• Savings exist whether you itemize or take the standard deduction.

Keep The Money In Our Community

The primary mission of the Northern Trumbull County Community Foundation is to help in keeping our community strong not only for its current residents, but also for future generations. All donations are invested back into the community with this purpose in mind.

The Northern Trumbull County Community Foundation is an affiliate of the

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF WESTERN PA & EASTERN OH

7 West State Street, Suite 301, Sharon, PA 16146
724-981-5882
www.comm-foundation.org
Trumbull Crop Lunch
What’s Going On With Dicamba?

Mark Loux, OSU Weed Scientist
and
Peggy Hall, Professor of Ag Law

January 17, 2018
OSU Extension Office
520 West Main Street
Cortland, OH 44410
11:30 – Registration and Lunch
12:00 – Local Update
12:30 – Dicamba Update
2:00 – Adjourn

Cost is $5/person - includes lunch, pesticide and CCA credits

Join us on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 for lunch at the Trumbull County Extension office to learn about the current status of dicamba use in Ohio. Mark Loux and Peggy Hall will be joining us via video link to discuss best practices for using a dicamba resistant soybean program, updates from the ODA, and the Ohio Legislature. Pre-registration is requested for an accurate count for food. A catered lunch is sponsored by the Trumbull County Holstein Club.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Cut at the dashed line, and mail lower portion with check payable to OSU Extension to OSU Extension Trumbull County, 520 West Main St. Suite #1, Cortland, OH 44410. On-site payment is available, but please call our office to let us know you will be attending so we have enough food. Call our office or email Lee Beers (beers.66@osu.edu) with any questions. 330-638-6783

Name: __________________________________________ Email: ________________________________
Address: ______________________________________ Phone: ________________________________

Number attending ______ x $5/person = _____________ Enclosed

trumbull.osu.edu