Hello, Northeast Ohio Counties!

It was a beautiful week for the Ashtabula County fair last week. It was great to see so many of you at the fair.

We had a great scouting field night last night at Dave Millard’s farm in Richmond. Thanks to our OSU Crop Specialists for conducting a great workshop. Keep scouting as this is time that insects and diseases can rapidly increase to threshold levels.

Lee Beers & David Marrison
Extension Educators - Ag & Natural Resources
Applications are now being taken for the **Ashtabula County Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Educator** position for OSU Extension. This position is to replace David Marrison who will be transferring to the Coshocton County Extension office starting on September 4, 2018.

Ohio State University Extension (OSUE) seeks an Educator to work collaboratively with county, center, area, and state teams of OSUE professionals and with local agency leaders and volunteers. The Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) in Ashtabula County will be responsible for a broad range of basic to complex duties that could include but are not limited to: providing guidance and/or leadership for developing and conducting a proactive applied research and education program in agriculture and natural resources to meet current and future needs in farm management, livestock and crop production, home horticulture/Master Gardeners, commercial horticulture, farmland use issues, food security, innovative agricultural business opportunities, environmental quality and sustainability, renewable energy, and bio-based products. Plan, teach, deliver, disseminate, and evaluate educational programs and applied research on relevant local issues; give leadership to the development of pro-active educational programs using innovative educational methods; maintain a high level of visibility and facilitate communications with a wide range of clientele to promote the understanding of agriculture and natural resource issues; maintain a program of individual professional improvement in selected subject areas; ensure diversity among potential clientele and learners, and equal access to programs and facilities; work closely with local advisory committees, commodity groups, and volunteers to conduct needs assessment and priority setting to determine emphasis of educational programs; serve as an educational advisor and liaison for OSUE and the University to appropriate public issue and program-related organizations; represent OSUE and the University with federal, state, and local agencies and educational institutions at the local community level; identify, recruit, and develop the volunteer leadership necessary to carry out relevant parts of their programming; provide volunteer management, educational training, and program development to the Ashtabula County Master Gardener Volunteer Program.

An earned Bachelor’s or Master’s degree at the time of hire is required. Preference will be given to candidates with a degree in Agriculture, Natural Resources, or closely related field. Applications are now being accepted (on-line) until August 26, 2018. A complete job description and on-line applications are required and interested applicants should access [http://jobsatosu.com/](http://jobsatosu.com/) to apply. Search posting 441706. Applications can also access a quick link at [http://www.jobsatosu.com/postings/88653](http://www.jobsatosu.com/postings/88653) More information about this position can be obtained by contacting Lee Beers (Area Leader for Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake & Trumbull Counties) at 330-638-6783 or beers.66@osu.edu

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

**OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION**
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties
President Drake Visits Northeast Ohio

OSU Extension was pleased to have Dr. Michael Drake, President of The Ohio State University, visit northeast Ohio last Thursday and Friday. Each year, Dr. Drake travels across the state to learn more about how the university is making a difference across Ohio.

During his visit, Dr. Drake visited Ferrante Winery & Bissell’s Maple Syrup in Ashtabula County, Patterson’s Fruit Farm in Geauga County and Ridge Manor Nursery in Lake County. Dr. Drake is the 15th president of The Ohio State University serving since June 301, 2014. Each of these visits allowed Dr. Drake and 30 OSU students to learn more about agriculture in Northeast Ohio and to learn more about OSU Extension.

While at Ferrante’s Winery, Dr. Drake learned about OSU Extension’s grape and wine programs. Here Nick Ferrante talks about growing vinifera grapes in Northeast Ohio and explains the winery’s automated bottling line. Below, Dr. Drake learns about maple syrup production from Nathan Bissell.

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

Ohio State University Extension
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties
Scouting Field Night a Success
Thirty producers from across northeast Ohio (and even NW PA) attended the “Insect & Disease Field Night” last night at the Dave Millard Farm in Richmond, Ohio.

The field night featured Entomology and Pathology State Specialists - Dr. Anne Dorrance, Dr. Kelley Tilmon, Dr. Andy Michel and Dr. Pierce Paul. Short updates were provided on the current disease and insect pressures being seen in corn and soybean fields. Participants were also able to scout to determine treatment thresholds.

A huge thank you is extended to Dave Millard for hosting this event. OSU Extension is also very grateful to Centerra Co-op for co-sponsoring this event!

Northeast Ohio Agriculture
Twilight Pond Clinic Scheduled for August 27
OSU Extension and the Ashtabula Soil & Water Conservation District will be hosting a Twilight Pond Clinic on Monday, August 27 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The twilight pond clinic will be held at the former site of Buccaneer Campgrounds located at 1408 State Route 307 just west of Jefferson, Ohio.

This clinic will help pond owners learn how to better managing their pond. Learn how to identify & control pond weeds and more about dry hydrants, potable pond rules and controlling nuisance wildlife. Featured speakers will include David Marrison (OSU Extension), Nathan Paskey & Suzanne Westlake (Ashtabula Soil & Water Conservation District) and Scott Denamen (Geauga County ODNR Wildlife Officer)

There is no registration fee to attend. Please bring a lawn chair and dress for the weather as the pond clinic will be held rain or shine. The program will be held rain or shine. Call the OSU Extension (440-576-9008) or Ashtabula Soil & Water Conservation District (440-576-4946) for more information.

Clean Sweep Pesticide Collection Day on August 16 in Perry
Each year officials from the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s (ODA) Pesticide and Fertilizer Regulation section organize the Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal program across Ohio. This program assists farmers with a free of charge, safe and environmentally responsible way to dispose of unusable and outdated pesticides.

Northeast Ohio farmers will have a local opportunity to participate as the ODA will be hosting a “Clean Sweep Pesticide Collection Day” on Thursday, August 16 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Perry Coal & Feed located at 4204 Main Street in Perry, Ohio (Lake County).

Unused or unwanted pesticides will be accepted from all Commercial and Private Pesticide Applicators. Please note that is clean-up is not intended for homeowners. For more information about this programs, applicators can contact Tom DeHaas at the Lake County Extension office at 440-350-2269.
Will Soybean Aphids Reach Threshold This Year?
By: Andy Michel & Kelley Tilmon
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2018-26/will-soybean-aphids-reach-threshold-year

We have heard from a few extension educators and scouts that soybean aphids are starting to make their appearance. Right now, the number of infested plants is very low (around 5%) and the number of aphids on the plants is also low (average 5-10). With this level of infestation, it is highly doubtful that soybean aphids will reach threshold, especially in soybean that has already entered the late R stages (R5 and R6). However, there is a fair amount of late planted soybean that could still be at risk—in fact we were in a field last week that just reached R2. We recommend that growers continue to scout their fields to make sure that soybean aphid populations remain under the treatment threshold which is 250 aphids per plant.

Soybean Disease Outlook for August
By: Anne Dorrance
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2018-26/soybean-disease-outlook-august

We have soybeans in all different growth stages but the majority of the crop looks great but there are a few highlights based on some scouting and reports from last week.

1. Frogeye leaf spot – the fungicides do seem to be holding this at bay for those fields where it got an early start. It is now showing up in northern Ohio, but too little too late to do any damage. The caveat for this will be to monitor these fields to identify the susceptible varieties – and then avoid those varieties in those fields for 2019.
2. Sclerotinia stem rot – white mold is just beginning. At two of my field research plots there were a few plants with 1" long lesions and white mold.

In approximately 2 weeks, it will be time to begin to scout in fields with a history of this disease. Soybean varieties that develop a high incidence of this disease (>20%) are considered susceptible and should not be planted back in these fields. It takes this amount of disease to begin to measure yield losses.

3. Late season Phytophthora stem rot. On varieties that have low levels of field tolerance or partial resistance, stem rot is popping up in fields that have received some of these heavy down pours over the last few weeks. Make notes of these varieties and remove them from the line up for next year.
4. There are reports of some soybean plants with early symptoms of Sudden death syndrome. Several of these late season diseases can have similar symptoms so the first step is to check the pith. If it is white that fits with sudden death syndrome. If it is brown-chocolate brown it is brown stem rot and if it is a reddish brown then it is Diaporthe (southern). Also look at the roots, the fungus that causes sudden death syndrome is also a very good root rotter, but the fungi that cause brown stem rot and Diaporthe are wimps in this category.

The best means to manage all of these diseases is first with variety selection. As the sales have started for the 2019 season, take a look at those ratings first and for any other issue that you are finding affecting soybeans this year. It’s a great year to weed out the wimps.

**Pastured Beef & Conservation Easement Farm Tour**

A “Pastured Beef & Conservation Easement Farm Tour” will be held at the Marshy Meadows Farm in Windsor, Ohio beginning at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 25. This farm located a 7490 Noble Road is owned by Mardy Townsend.

This farm specializes in raising certified grass-fed beef and this tour will focus on the challenges of grazing in the Lake Erie snowbelt. Following the walking tour of the farm, attendees will learn more about how beginning farmers can use conservation easements to help purchase farm land from Alex Czayka, Western Reserve Land Conservancy Eastern Field Director. The Ashtabula Local Food Council and the new Ashtabula County Community Harvest Food Hub will also be on hand to share marketing options with producers.

This tour is being sponsored by the Ohio Ecological Food & Farm Association, the Western Reserve Land Conservancy and the Ashtabula Local Food Council. More information can be obtained by accessing the program brochure at:

Hello, Ashtabula County! Another great Ashtabula County Fair came to a close this past Sunday, August 12. It turned out to be a picture perfect week for the fair.

All of our Junior Fair participants should be congratulated for their efforts. In short, it is not about winning and losing, but rather about having fun, developing friendships, and learning lessons that will last a life-time. The responsibility and dedication it takes to complete a project for fair are tremendous. In a world where non-productive distractions are in abundance, it is nice to see these young people choosing to take part in the County Fair. Congratulations to our Jenna Hoyt, our 4-H Educator, our staff, and all of our 4-H Volunteers for a job well done!

It was a bitter sweet week as it was the last time I will be working at the fair before moving on to Coshocton County. It was great to visit with so many people, shake your hands, and to reminisce of the past 22 years. I am already planning some vacation time for next August to make sure I can come back home for the fair!

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OSU Extension and the Ashtabula Soil & Water Conservation District are excited to invite you to the 2018 Twilight Pond Clinic on Monday, August 27 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. This clinic will be held at the former site of Buccaneer Campgrounds located at 1408 State Route 307 just west of Jefferson, Ohio. It has been a few years since we have hosted a pond clinic so we are excited to offer one again this summer.

If you own a pond you will not want to miss this clinic as we have a variety of presentations planned to help you better manage your pond. Learn how to identify & control pond weeds and learn more about dry hydrants, potable pond rules and how to control nuisance wildlife. Best of all, there will be plenty of time for you to have your questions answered!

Featured speakers will include Scott Denamen who serves as the Geauga County Wildlife Officer and Nathan Paskey & Suzanne Westlake from the Ashtabula Soil & Water Conservation District. I will also be on hand to talk about those pesky pond weeds.
There is no registration fee to attend. Please bring a lawn chair and dress for the weather as the pond clinic will be held rain or shine. A complete program flyer can be obtained at: go.osu.edu/ne-events. You can also call the OSU Extension at 440-576-9008 or Ashtabula Soil & Water Conservation District 440-576-4946 for more information. I hope to see many of you at this clinic!

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While I was over at a friend’s 50th birthday party, his father brought me a sample of a light green type of grass which was growing in his lawn. He said that he no sooner mows his lawn before this grass sprouts up high in different places in the lawn. Actually, it looks a lot like hair on top of Alfalfa’s head. Ok, I must getting older when I am making Little Rascal’s references!

After a closer look, this is not a grass but rather “Yellow Nutsedge” which is a warm season perennial from the sedge family. It looks like grass, but if you roll its stem between your fingers you will notice it is three sided like a triangle!

Nutsedge is often considered troublesome when it appears in lawns. It grows quick in hot weather and has a distinct midvein. It reproduces primarily by small underground tubers called nutlets. Because of this characteristic, it spreads easily through a yard.

If there are only a few plants present, one can simply hand pull them. If you have a lot, there are a few chemicals on the market to help control sedges in lawns. However, you will have to be patient as it will take multiple years to rid your lawn of this weed.

Our friends at Purdue University have a great factsheet on yellow nutsedge and it can be accessed at: https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/AY/AY-19-W.pdf You can also call our office at 440-576-9008 to receive a complimentary copy.

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To close, I would like to leave you with a quote from Barbara Bush who stated “Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people - your family, friends, and coworkers, and even strangers you meet along the way.” Have a good and safe day!
**Upcoming Events**

Ashtabula County Pond Twilight Clinic  
August 27, 2018

**Northeast Ohio Beef Twilight Tour**  
TBA

Ashtabula County Beef Banquet  
October 27, 2018

Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet  
March 26, 2019
Join OSU Extension and the Ashtabula Soil & Water Conservation District to learn how to better manage your pond. Learn more about pond weed identification & control, dry hydrants, potable pond rules and controlling nuisance wildlife.

There is no registration fee to attend. Please bring a lawn chair. The program will be held rain or shine. Call the OSU Extension (440-576-9008) or Ashtabula Soil & Water Conservation District (440-576-4946) for more details!

Location
Old Buccaneer Campground Site
1408 State Route 307 West
Jefferson, Ohio 44047

See Back for Map
The twilight pond clinic will be held at the former site of Buccaneer Campgrounds located just west of Jefferson, Ohio. The campground is on State Route 307, 1.9 miles west of Jefferson and 3 miles east of Austinburg, Ohio.

This clinic is being co-sponsored by OSU Extension in Ashtabula County and the Ashtabula Soil & Water Conservation District. Please bring a lawn chair and dress for the weather as the pond clinic will be held rain or shine.
Lake County

PESTICIDE COLLECTION DAY:
ODA CLEAN SWEEP

Pesticide Collection

DATE:
Thursday, August 16\textsuperscript{th}, 2018
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Where:
Perry Coal and Feed
4204 Main St,
Perry, OH 44081
Details:
Pesticide Collection for all Commercial and Private Agricultural Applicators (Nurseries, Farms, Grape Growers, Christmas Tree Growers)
Not intended for homeowners
Contact: Thomas deHaas – OSU Lake County Extension, ANR Educator
dehaas.2@osu.edu or 440-350-2269
Invite you to join us as we honor and thank
David Marrison
for over 21 years as a great colleague, leader, educator, mentor, teacher and, best of all, friend.

Open Reception
Tuesday, August 28  7:30 - 9:00 PM
at Bissell Maple Farm  82 W. Ashtabula Street  Jefferson, Ohio

He is jumping the fence to Coshocton County on August 30

Please bring your best story or memory of David on a 3x5" index sized card, sign it and drop it off at the reception. No gifts, please!