CFAES

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

NORTHEAST OHIO AGRI-CULTURE NEWSLETTER

Your Weekly Agriculture Update for Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties

August 23, 2022

Happy Retirement, Mary!

In This Issue:

Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

After 10+ years of dedicated service to the residents of Trumbull County and an Office Associate for OSU Extension Trumbull County, Mary Von Philp will be retiring on August 24th. If you ever stopped into the office, she was likely the first person to welcome you to the office. She will be missed, but we are excited for her to spend more time with her grandkids. If you stop in the office tomorrow, be sure to congratulate and thank her for all she has done for our office, volunteers, and the residents of Trumbull County!

Stay safe and have a great week!

Lee Beers
Trumbull County
Extension Educator

Andrew Holden
Ashtabula County
Extension Educator

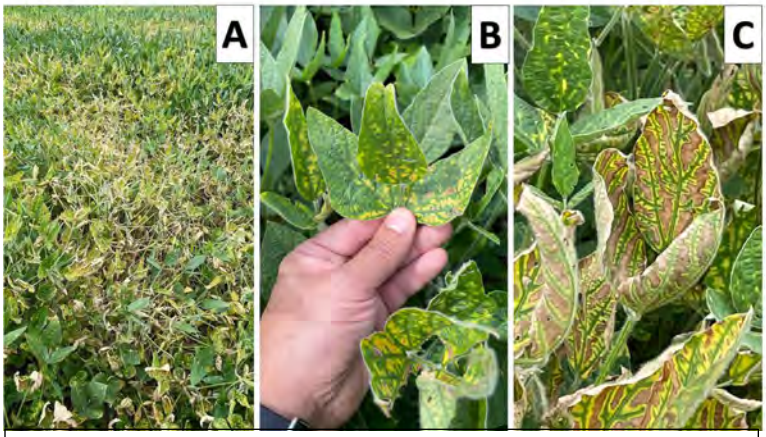
Angie Arnold
Portage County
Extension Educator

Soybean Diseases are Showing up in Ohio

By Horacio Lopez-Nicora and Stephanie Karhoff
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2022-28/soybean-diseases-are-showing-ohio

In early August we recommended to start scouting fields for soybean diseases. At that time (two weeks ago), disease incidence across Ohio was very low to moderate. Conducive environmental conditions, however, are turning things around and more fields are developing disease symptoms.

Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS)
We are finding fields in Ohio severely affected by sudden death syndrome (SDS) [Fig.1 and Fig. 2]. SDS is caused by the fungal pathogen *Fusarium virguliforme*. This species is the most prevalent in the region, however, other *Fusarium* species can cause SDS. SDS above-ground symptoms can be confused with those produced by a different fungus (*Cadophora gregata*) that causes brown stem rot (BSR). To distinguish SDS from BSR, symptomatic plants should be dug out and stem cut open longitudinally. SDS-infected plants have white, healthy-looking pith, while BSR-infected plants present brown discoloration of the pith. Moreover, fields with severe SDS symptoms can also have high levels of soybean cyst nematode (SCN). Visit here for more information on SDS.



Sudden Death Syndrome Soybeans
Figure 1. Soybean field in south Ohio severely affected by sudden death syndrome (SDS) with premature defoliation in the R5/R6 growth stage (A); symptoms begin with interveinal yellowing (chlorosis) of leaf (B); eventually leaf tissue dies and becomes brown but veins remain green (C). The fungus infects the root and produces toxins that are responsible for the above-ground symptoms.

If you have SDS, we encourage you to submit a sample to the *Soybean Pathology and Nematology Laboratory* in the Department of Plant Pathology at The Ohio State University in Columbus (see address below). We will confirm if it is SDS or BSR; additionally, if it is SDS, we want to determine what *Fusarium* species is the causal agent. To submit samples, dig out three to five symptomatic plants (including roots), placed them in a plastic bag, and submit them to our lab. Do not hesitate to contact your extension educator or us if you have any questions.

Sudden Death Syndrome Soybean Roots
Figure 2. Soybean roots affected by the sudden death syndrome (SDS) fungus. Note the light blue mass (A) of fungal spores (B) on soybean roots with SDS.

Bacterial Blight, White Mold, and Phytophthora Root and Stem Rot

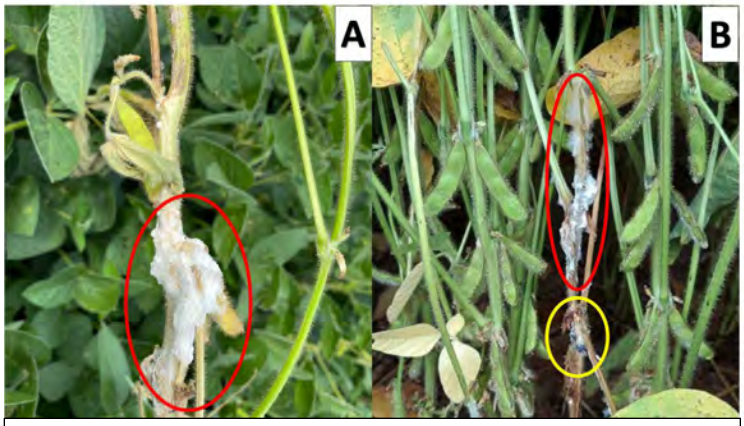
Recent rainstorms with high winds and lower temperatures favored the development of bacterial blight (caused by *Pseudomonas savastanoi* pv. *glycinea*) in different parts of Ohio (Fig. 3). Angular brown lesions surrounded by chlorotic halo appear first in the upper canopy. Visit here for more information about bacterial blight of soybean.

Upper-mid soybean canopy affected by bacterial blight
Figure 3. Upper to mid soybean canopy affected by bacterial blight in northcentral Ohio.

We are also finding more fields in Ohio with white mold, a fungal disease caused by *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*. To scout for this disease, we recommend walking soybean fields and looking in-between rows. A white fluffy mass of fungal mycelia will be

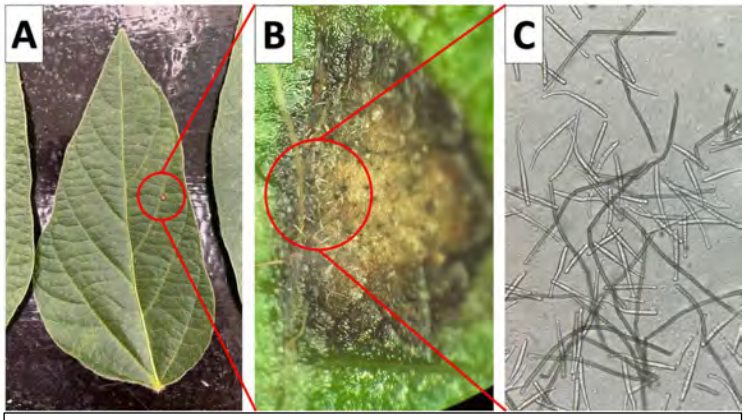
observed in infected plants (Fig. 4). Black round sclerotia will be present amidst the white mycelia. Visit here for more information about scouting for white mold of soybean.

We continue to receive samples with plants affected by Phytophthora root and stem rot. Commonly, these samples come from fields with poor drainage. Phytophthora root and stem rot can sometimes be confused with stem canker and white mold. You are welcome to submit samples to the *Soybean Pathology and Nematology Lab* for diagnosis. Visit here for more information about scouting for Phytophthora root and stem rot in soybean.



White mold in soybeans
Figure 4. White mold of soybean in northeast (A, photo credit: Lee Beers) and south (B, photo credit: James Morris) Ohio. White, fluffy fungal mycelia (red circle) and sclerotia (yellow circle) on stem of infected soybean plants. Eventually, infected plants will wilt and die. Note how many soybean pods are lost when plants are affected by white mold compared to healthy plants (B).

Frogeye Leaf Spot
We are finding frogeye leaf spot in our fungicide trials in north and south Ohio (Fig. 5). Frogeye leaf spot is caused by a fungal pathogen (*Cercospora sojina*) which can reduce yield if plants are severely affected between R3 to R5 soybean growth stage. We encourage growers to submit samples with frogeye leaf spot lesions to our lab. The fungus can develop resistance to fungicide, and we want to determine if these populations are present in Ohio. Best way to submit frogeye leaf spot samples to our lab is by placing symptomatic leaves in a plastic Ziploc bag and mail it to our lab as soon as possible. Keep samples in cool



Frogeye leaf spot symptoms
Figure 5. Frogeye leaf spot symptoms (A) in soybean plants at R3/R4 and R5 growth stage in north and south Ohio, respectively. Lesions (A) present conidiophores which produce conidia and look like whiskers (B). Spores (i.e., conidia) are club-shaped (C).

conditions and avoid exposure to sunlight and heat. Visit here for more information on frogeye leaf spot.

We can help diagnose soybean diseases with you!
You are welcome to submit your samples to the address below. Contact us if you have any questions. Send your samples to:

Soybean Pathology and Nematology Lab
Attn: Horacio Lopez-Nicora, Ph.D.
110 Kottman Hall
2021 Coffey Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43210
lopez-nicora.1@osu.edu

A Will or Trust?

By Robert Moore
Source: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/tue-08162022-757am/will-or-trust

A common question when starting the estate planning process is: do I need a will or trust? There are a number of factors that must be considered before this question can be answered. A trust is a common estate planning tool but not everyone needs one. Often times, the best plan includes only a will.

The following are some of the factors to consider when deciding between a will or trust:

Complexity of Plan
The more complicated the plan, the more likely a trust is needed. Complexity might include addressing on-farm and off-farm heirs issues, buy out of assets at discounts with installment payments, long-term leases, options, right of first refusals and so on. Wills are much more suitable for plans where all the assets go equally to the beneficiaries without much complexity.
The average person can usually implement an effective estate plan without a trust. However, most farmers are not average people. Farmers tend to have more assets, more complex assets, on-farm and off-farm heir issues and business succession issues. Farmers tend to need trusts much more than non-farmers.

Avoiding Probate
Any asset that is controlled by the will goes through probate. Probate can cause estate administration to be slower, more burdensome and more costly. Assets that are controlled by a trust are not subject to probate. Avoiding probate is generally a good strategy for estate planning.

Most probate can be avoided even without a trust. All titled assets can include payable on death or transfer on death designations. For example, bank accounts can include payable on death beneficiaries which allow the funds to go to the beneficiaries upon the death of the owner without going through probate. Assets without titles can only avoid probate by using a trust. These untitled assets include grain, crops, livestock and machinery. For farmers owning large amounts of these untitled assets, a trust may be needed to avoid probate.

Concerns About Heirs
Sometimes, there may be concerns about how an heir might manage their inheritance. Maybe they have poor spending habits, have a drug/alcohol problem or are heavily in debt to creditors. Trusts can hold assets for beneficiaries and allow the assets to be managed by a trustee, all outside of probate. Wills can also hold assets in a trust but will involve the probate court, making managing the trust more cumbersome. For people who may have concerns about how their heirs might manage their inheritance, a trust is likely a better option than a will.

Second Marriages
A trust is often a good strategy for married couples who have children from previous marriages. A trust allows the deceased spouse to provide for the surviving spouse while ensuring that those assets ultimately end up with the deceased spouse's children. Wills tend to leave everything to the surviving spouse then to children. A will plan could cause both spouse's assets to only go to the surviving spouse's children. Trusts are often the better option for second marriages.

Transition of Farming Operation
As stated above, crops, livestock and machinery can only avoid probate by using a trust. Sometimes, these assets get stuck in probate for some time and cause problems for continuing the farming operation. Farmers with large amounts of grain, crops, livestock and machinery should consider a trust for their estate plan.

Legal Fees.
Wills generally have the advantage on legal fees. Trusts, being more complicated documents, typically cost more to set up than wills. The cost difference can be several thousands of dollars. If minimizing legal fees for the estate plan is a priority, a will may be the better option. It is important to note that spending more

money on a trust may save the beneficiaries even more by making the estate administration easier and more efficient. Spending a few thousand dollars more on a trust may save many thousands of dollars on estate administration.

The above factors are just a few of the many factors to consider when deciding between a will or trust. For many people a will is completely adequate for an estate plan but for many farmers a trust is the better option. An estate planning attorney will be able to assist with determining which strategy is better. For a more thorough discussion on wills, trusts and other aspects of estate planning, see the Planning for the Future of Your Farm bulletin series at go.osu.edu/farmplanning.

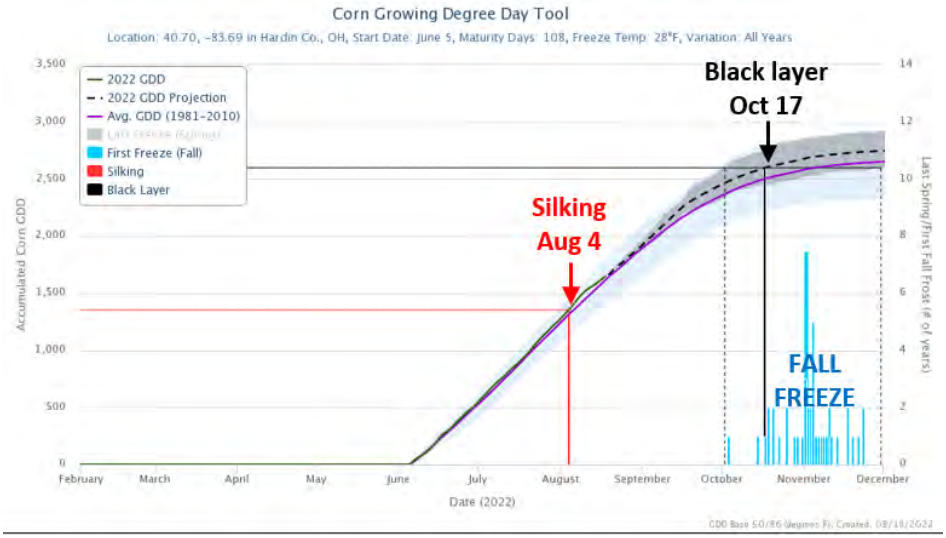
Corn at Vegetative Stages in August, will it Make it Safely to Maturity?

By Osler Ortez, Greg LaBarge, CPAg/CCA
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2022-28/corn-vegetative-stages-august-will-it-make-it-safely-maturity

Early wet conditions caused significant delays in planting dates across the state. Additional issues such as poor crop establishment also led to replanting in some areas. A tour of Ohio's corn crop during the first half of August found that some corn fields were still in vegetative stages.

The main question is whether this late corn will safely reach physiological maturity (black layer, R6) before frost. We present three planting dates using the Useful to Usable (U2U) tool to develop scenarios to answer this question. U2U provides county-level estimates based on historical growing degree days (GDDs) accumulation, planting dates, relative hybrid maturities, GDDs to black layer, and historical freeze temperature dates.

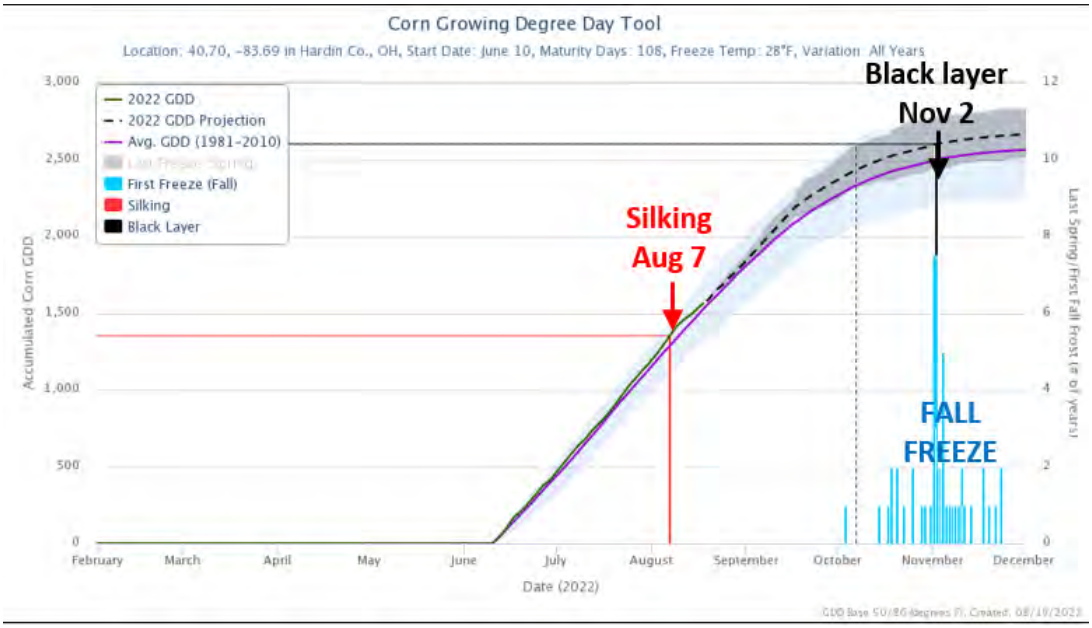
Scenario 1
Location: Hardin County, Ohio | Hybrid relative maturity: 108-days
GDD start date: June 5 | Approx. planting date: June 1



Hardin County, Ohio Corn Growing Degree Day Tool

Figure 1. U2U projections for Hardin County. GDD start date June 5.

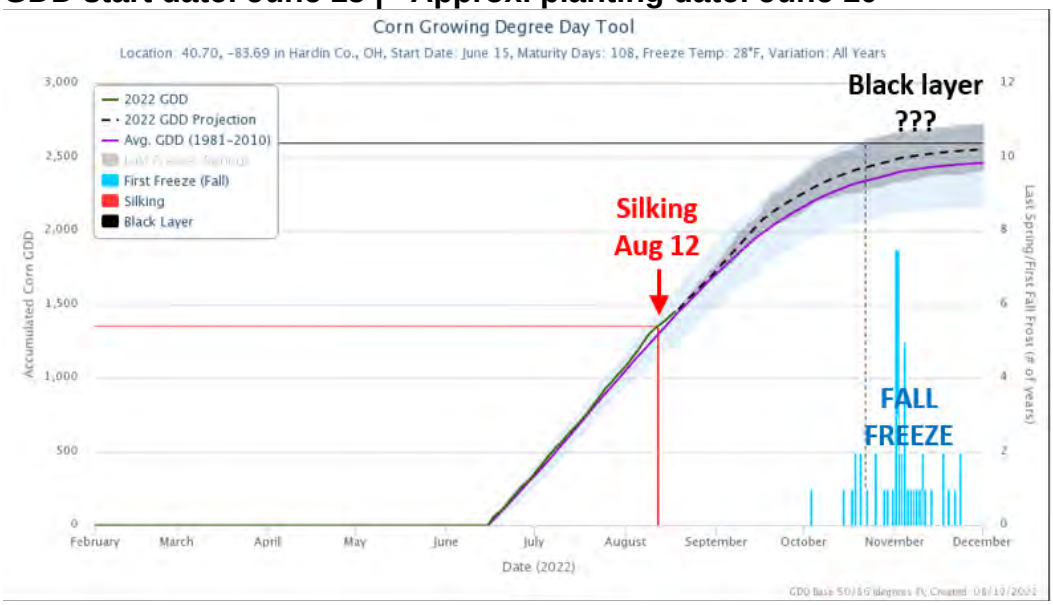
Scenario 2
Location: Hardin County, Ohio | Hybrid relative maturity: 108-days
GDD start date: June 10 | Approx. planting date: June 5



Hardin County, Ohio Corn Growing Degree Day Tool

Figure 2. U2U projections for Hardin County. GDD start date June 10.

Scenario 3
Location: Hardin County, Ohio | Hybrid relative maturity: 108-days
GDD start date: June 15 | Approx. planting date: June 10



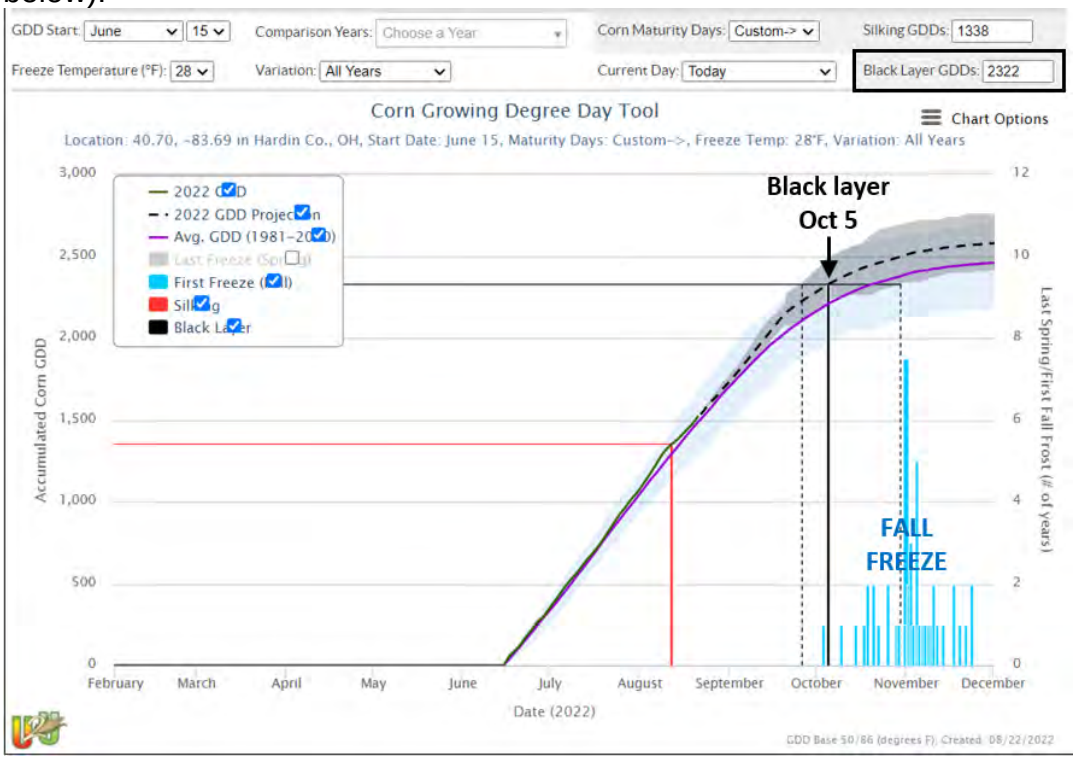
Hardin County, Ohio Corn Growing Degree Day Tool

Figure 3. U2U projections for Hardin County. GDD start date June 15.

The projected silking (R1) dates for scenario one is August 4, for scenario two, August 7, and for scenario three, August 12. Regarding the crop reaching physiological maturity, scenario one black layer is expected by October 17 and scenario two by November 2. For scenario three, the black layer is not likely to happen, and a freeze will terminate the crop. When the crop does not make it safely to physiological maturity (black layer, R6), lower grain weight (and yields) will result. Notice that the latest planted estimation in all three scenarios was for June 10. Therefore, the outcomes worsen if the crop was planted (or replanted) after June 10 for a 108-day hybrid (as example).

Scenario 3 may not have as harsh an outcome as shown in Figure 3. One important additional note on using the U2U tool to predict silking or maturity, U2U assumes the same GDDs to reach the black layer for the same hybrid, regardless of when it is planted. However, research has shown that hybrids adjust to later planting by maturing with fewer GDDs. A calculator that help further adjust the U2U output can be found in an article on corn's ability to adjust GDD here (from Corny News Network, Indiana). Using this tool to adjust our **scenario three** from 2594 GDDs to black layer (U2U default) to 2322 GDDs (adjusted using the GDD calculator [40 days after May 1] and

adding this as an input in U2U) shows the corn reaching black layer by October 5 (see below).



Hardin County, Ohio Corn Growing Degree Day Tool

Figure 4. U2U for Hardin County with GDDs adjustment. GDD start date June 15.

We encourage you to use the U2U tool for your specific situation. Different locations, planting dates, and hybrid maturity will impact your outcomes. A summary from May 2022 of U2U output and delayed planting can be accessed here: https://agcrops.osu.edu/2022-16/delayed-corn-planting-and-u2u-tool.

Knowing the chances of reaching physiological maturity safely before a fall frost or killing freeze is necessary as alternative options can be available, such as harvesting for forage or silage to maximize value by mitigating potential losses (lower yields).

Beef - Strong Demand

By: Stephen R. Koontz, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Colorado State University
Source: https://u.osu.edu/beef/2022/08/17/strong-demand/

I have had a number of inquires regarding the strength in beef prices: what is the source? My response has been that if beef prices are strong and supplies are reasonably abundant then the only thing that it can be is the strength in demand. It's the consumer – both domestic and international – and the downstream market. This strong consumer demand in being revealed in retail prices and strengthening the wholesale and farm level prices.

From a market fundamentals perspective, monthly beef production is strong running better than 1% above the year prior. The total volume for 2022 will be slightly smaller than 2021 and comparable to 2019. These are large volumes of beef. Forecasts for the third and fourth quarter reveal drops in production but current weekly slaughter remains strong. Those declines have not yet materialized.
Domestic consumption is likely flat in the second quarter but was large in the first. Again, the third and fourth quarters are forecast to be lower especially if strong beef exports persist. (Consumption is production less net exports.) Current monthly beef net exports for 2022 are on path to be record large.

Retail beef prices spiked following the COVID shutdown to levels I anticipated not seeing again for the foreseeable future. But those price levels were seen across much of 2019 and we are close to those levels now. Retail beef margins are very strong. The Daily Livestock Bulletin has done a story about forward beef sales and the strength of those prices and possible featuring that is worth a read. Forward or not packer margins are solid and fed cattle prices are benefiting. But the number of long-fed cattle remain persistent. Fed cattle are trading in the high $144-$148 with some trades reported at $150. These are levels not seen since 2015.

And cash prices for feeder animals in the week of August 12 across a number of regional markets – Oklahoma City, Montana, and Colorado – were also at levels not seen since 2015. 700-750 Medium & Large Number 1 Feeder Steers in OKC at $180.60/cwt.

Organic Certification Cost Share Available from Farm Service Agency

By: Chris Zoller, Extension Educator, ANR, Tuscarawas County
Source: https://u.osu.edu/vegnetnews/2022/08/17/organic-certification-cost-share-available-from-farm-service-agency/

Have you ever considered transitioning all or part of your dairy or crop enterprise to organic production? If so, you may be interested in programs available through your local Farm Service Agency (FSA). These include the Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) and the Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program (OTECP).

Organic Certification Cost Share

The Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) provides cost-share assistance to producers and handlers who are obtaining organic certification for the first time or renewing their previous certification. Organic certification is obtained through certifying agents accredited by the USDA National Organic Program.

This program provides 50 percent of a certified operation's allowable certification costs, up to a maximum of $500. The following categories or "scopes" are included: crops, livestock, wild crops, processing/handling, and organic program fees. Cost share is provided on a first-come, first-served basis until all available funds are obligated. This program is available until September 30, 2022.

To be eligible, a producer must have both (1) a valid organic certification for their operation at the time of application and (2) paid fees or expenses related to its initial certification or renewal for certification from a certifying agent.

Allowable costs under the OCCSP include:

- Application fees and administrative fees
- Inspection fees, including travel and per diem for organic inspectors
- USDA organic certification costs
- User fees or sale assessments
- Postage

Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program

The Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program (OTECP) provides financial assistance to producers interested in obtaining or renewing USDA organic certification. In addition to many acronyms, there are certain terms that producers need to know the definitions. These include certified operation, educational event, soil testing, micronutrients, transitional operation, and USDA organic certification. These terms are defined below:

- Certified operation – is a crop or livestock production, wild crop harvesting, or handling operation, or portion of such operation, that is certified by an accredited certifying agent.

- An educational event – is an event, conference, training program, or workshop, that provides educational content addressing topics related to organic production and handling.
- Soil testing – means soil testing to document micronutrient deficiencies.
- Micronutrients – can not be used as a defoliant, herbicide, or desiccant. Those made from nitrates or chlorides are not allowed. Deficiencies must be documented by soil or tissue testing.
- Transitional operation – is a crop or livestock production operation that is transitioning to organic production in anticipation of obtaining USDA organic certification and has an organic system plan from a certifying agent.
- USDA organic certification – means a determination made by a certifying agent that a production or handling operation is in compliance with the Organic Production Act of 1990.

Eligibility

To be eligible for OTECP, an applicant must have paid eligible costs during the program year and, at the time of application, be either a certified or a transitional operation. Expenses that have been incurred during the program year but not paid by the applicant are not eligible for cost-share assistance. Eligibility for the OTECP is based on the date expenses are paid, rather than on the date the organic certification is effective.

Eligible Categories

Certified Organic Operations may have expenses for any combination of the following categories: crops, wild crops, livestock, handling/processing, program fees, soil testing, and educational events.

Transitional Organic Operations may have expenses for any combination of transitional operation, soil testing, and educational events.

Payment Amounts & Limitations

Eligible Applicants	Category of Expenses	Payment Amount
Certified operations	Certification – crops	25%, up to $250
Certified operations	Certification – livestock	25%, up to $250
Certified operations	Certification – wild crops	25%, up to $250
Certified operations	Certification – handling	25%, up to $250
Certified operations	State Organic Program fees	25%, up to $250

Transitional Operations	Eligible transitional expenses	75%, up to $750
Certified & Transitional Operations	Educational event registration fees	75%, up to $100
Certified & Transitional Operations	Soil testing	75%, up to $150

Required Documentation

In addition to dividing expenses paid by category, applicants self-certify to having either a valid organic certificate or documentation to show a transition to organic. Applicants must retain documentation in support of their application for three years after the date of approval.

Additional Information

If you are interested in learning more about this or other Farm Service Agency programs, contact your local FSA office. Not sure which FSA serves your county? Use this link (https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app) to locate your nearest FSA office.

These OSU Extension resources may be of interest:
https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/sag-3
https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/anr-34

For Ohio-specific information about the organic certification process, consult the Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association: https://certification.oeffa.org/.

Video: Yield Check 2022 - Ashtabula County, Ohio

By: Andrew Holden & Les Ober
Source: https://youtu.be/Ege_NeQ37J4

Two weeks ago Les Ober and I performed some yield checks in Ashtabula and Geauga Counties in participation with the Ohio Country Journal 2022 Virtual Crop Tour.

This video shares the findings from Ashtabula, specifically Colebrook Township. While this video does not reflect conditions across the entire county, it shows some of this year's issues faced here in NE Ohio, and hopefully encourages you to check your fields as well. If you have any questions about scouting, what we found on our tour, or would like me to come out and assist in a yield check, please do not hesitate to reach out. You can reach me at 400-576-9008 or email me at Holden.155@osu.edu.

Thank you to all the producers who allowed us to take a look at their crops.

Click the image below to watch the video!

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

We're Hiring! SNAP-Ed Program Assistant

- Use standardized curriculum materials to teach food, nutrition, food resource management, and other related topics to low-income adults, youth, and/or families as part of the Education branch of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed) in a variety of community settings.
- Use standardized evaluation instruments to assess program participants' knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors to determine educational needs and impacts.
- Refer program participants to appropriate assistance programs.
- Recruit adults for the program by collaborating with community agencies and programs, as well as using other tools of promotion.
- Recruit youth for the program by collaborating with schools serving 50% or more free and reduced meals.
- Support target-audience and nutrition-related policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) interventions in the community.
- Participate in staff development and training opportunities to enhance knowledge of nutrition topics and successful methods for nutrition education.
- Regular travel will be required throughout the county from the county Extension office and occasionally to the state office and other regional locations around the state.
- This is a grant-funded position which is renewable by the sponsor agency and by OSU Extension.

Location: Position is located in Jefferson, Ohio with additional duties in neighboring Geauga county.
Salary: $16.00 Hourly
Hours: Regular, Full-time
Posting #: R54121
Deadline to Apply: 9/11/2022

Interested applicants should apply at: https://hr.osu.edu/careers. Click on "Non-Ohio State Employees" and search for R54121.

OHIO SNAP-ED
Better food choices for healthier Buckeyes

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Program – SNAP

Position Opening: SNAP-Ed Program Assistant, Ashtabula County

Summary of Duties:

Use standardized curriculum materials to teach food, nutrition, food resource management, and other related topics to low-income adults, youth, and/or families as part of the Education branch of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed) in a variety of community settings.

Use standardized evaluation instruments to assess program participants' knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors to determine educational needs and impacts.

Refer program participants to appropriate assistance programs.

Recruit adults for the program by collaborating with community agencies and programs, as well as using other tools of promotion.

Recruit youth for the program by collaborating with schools serving 50% or more free and reduced meals.

Support target-audience and nutrition-related policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) interventions in the community.

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OHIO SNAP-ED
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CFAES OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Training

Hosted by:

Ohio State University Extension Offices of Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties

What is OCVN:

The OCVN program is a research-based education program of The Ohio State University offered in partnership with several host locations, such as, park districts and OSU Extension offices. The OCVN program emphasizes hands-on natural resource and environmental education coupled with volunteer service. Participants in the OCVN program receive 40 hours of combined classroom and field instruction. Upon completing the OCVN course, participants provide 40 hours of volunteer service at any Ohio organization with a compatible program mission.

The 40-hour instruction course will be offered as a combination of online and in person programing. The course will include readings, discussion forums, quizzes, optional homework, and live Zoom sessions. There are two field days at the Camp Whitewood and Trumbull County Extension Office/ Mosquito Lake State Park.

OCVN Mission:

To promote awareness and community stewardship of Ohio's natural resources through science-based education and community service.

Training starts September 27th and ends November 13th with zoom trainings each Tuesday from 6:00 – 9:00 PM and two all day Saturday trainings on October 8th & 29th

Spaces in the 2022 course will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Course size is limited so please contact us as soon as possible if interested.

You must be at least 18 years old to apply.

Total Cost: $250

https://go.osu.edu/ocvn22

Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Course

The mission of the **Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist (OCVN)** program is to build awareness of Ohio's environment and natural resources through science-based education and community stewardship.

The OCVNs role is to support partners in meeting the needs of our citizens in the area of natural resources by assisting with educational programs.

Activities Include:

- Identifying and educating the public about invasive species
- Diagnosing plant problems
- Giving public presentations relating to nature
- Hosting events for the public
- Staffing educational booths and other various opportunities

Program Benefits:

- Learn about the biology, ecology and natural history of Ohio from many of the state's leading experts.
- Become part of a local and statewide network of dedicated volunteers.
- Apply your talents and passion to protecting, restoring and understanding Ohio's natural treasures.

If you have a strong interest in nature and enjoy helping others, you are invited to apply to become an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist.

OCVN Training

The course sessions are taught by faculty and staff with The Ohio State University along with conservation and naturalist professionals throughout Ohio.

Topics include:

- Soil, Geology and Watersheds
- Ecology and Stewardship
- Botany & Forests
- Entomology & Herpetology
- Ornithology & Mammals
- Working with the public & communication skills

You will learn how to contribute to community science efforts, restore and protect critical habitats, and communicate effectively about Ohio's' environment while exploring parks and natural areas near you.

Certification Requirements

To become an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist, you must:

- ✓ Complete 40 hours of combined classroom and field instruction
- ✓ Perform 40 hours of approved volunteer service within the first year
- ✓ After certification, 20 hours of volunteer service and 8 hours of advanced training are required annually

Application Process

- Spaces in the class will be viewed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Class size is limited to 25 participants.
- You must be at least 18 years old to apply.

Registration is $225.00 due within two weeks of admission to the program. The price includes a binder manual, additional handouts, state fees and related costs for conducting the program.

To apply go to https://osu.edu/portageocvn2022 or scan the QR code.

Return applications by August 3rd to Portage County Extension Office, 705 Oakwood St. Suite 103, Ravenna, OH 44266. Please make checks payable to OSU Extension.

The Grassroots of Grazing

Pasture Management Workshop

Saturday, September 10, 2022
10 am - 3 pm
Connor Farms in Troy Township
17037 Claridon-Troy Road, Burton, OH 44021

COST: $10 per person and includes lunch

Brought to you by:

Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District

OHIO FARM BUREAU EST. 1919 GEAUGA COUNTY

Don't Miss Out ~
Greener Pastures Ahead!

Learn more about pasture management and pasture-based livestock production in this exciting workshop & walk at Connor Farms in Troy Township. Gain knowledge, ideas, and inspiration from some of the buckeye state's most "moo"ving presenters from ODA – Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Martin Joyce and nationally recognized Grazing Specialist Bob Hendershot, along with other local herdsmen and resource professionals. We will explore animal nutrition, rotational grazing, forage and weed identification, and pasture and hay management. A delicious lunch of grass-fed burgers from the farm is included in the registration cost. Space is limited and anyone interested in better pastures is welcome!

Rain or Shine! Please come prepared for this outdoor program.
We will continue to follow current state guidelines for Covid-19 safety.

Advanced Registration & Payment Required by September 5th

Register Now!

Questions? geaugaswcd.com 440-834-1122 gprunty@geaugaswcd.com