Hello, Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties!

We are just 48 hours away from the month of September. It won’t be long before choppers are in our fields making corn silage. It was great to see how much hay was made across the region this past week. It is looking from the forecast that September may be warmer and drier. We hope to see many of you at Miller Livestock Farm on Thursday for the pasture walk. The Miller’s do a great job with their pastures and we are very pleased to have Wayne County Extension Educator Rory Lewandowski coming up to share his expertise. Have a great week!

David Marrison
Extension Educator
Ag & Natural Resources
Ashtabula County

Lee Beers
Extension Educator
Ag & Natural Resources
Trumbull County
Ashtabula County 4-Her’s Win at Ohio State Fair  
by: Jenna C Hoyt Extension Educator

Many Ashtabula County 4-Her’s qualified at the County level Project Judging in July and were chosen to participate at the Ohio State Fair in their project areas. From each project area, 4-H members from around the State competed and several members received an Outstanding of the Day or Clock Trophy. Outstanding of the Day Awards are presented to the Top 20% of the Class and Clock Trophies are awarded to the top individual for each project. The results are as follows:

Clock Trophy
Allie Wintz – Junior Individual (age 8-11) 4-H Thank You Card with use of computer graphics  
Katelyn Grim – All Systems Go! (Vet Science 2)  
Allison Crouch – Clothing for Your Career

Outstanding of the Day Rosette
Amber Baldwin – Get Started in Art, Junior  
Rebecca Jackam – Get Started in Art, Senior  
Abigail Butcher – Junior Individual (age 8-11) Demonstration  
Eleanor Jones – Cavies (age 8-12)  
Serenity Rivera – Reptiles & Amphibians (age 8-18)  
Adrianna Snyder - Loungewear  
Katelyne Crouch – Yeast Breads on the Rise  
Morgan Sharpe – Party Planner: A 4-H Guide to Quantity Cooking  
Janna Russell – Shooting Sports- Rifle, Senior  
Jacob Wilms – Fishing for the Intermediate  
Faith Blankenship – Explore the Outdoors  
Leah Harding – Quilting the Best Better  
Madeline Haase – On the Cutting Edge (Vet Science 3)  
Mikayla Searles – Making the Cut, Senior – Unit 2

Animal Awards
Audrey Williams – Dogs - 6th/Bronze, Rally Novice A  
Jayna Burdick – Horse – 5th, Ranch Pleasure, age 9-12  
Chelsey Fisher – Horse – 4th, Senior Pole Bending  
Chelsey Fisher – Horse – 4th, Senior Keyhole Race  
Brooke Hancock – Horse – 5th, Senior Pole Bending  
Christina Crites – Horse – 10th, Senior Easy Gaited Equitation  
Christina Crites – Horse – 7th, Senior English Easy Gaited Pleasure  
Rebecca Jackam – Junior Market Lambs – 4th, Showmanship  
Miley Edelman - Junior Breeding Berkshire Gilts – Champion Berkshire Gilt

Congratulations to the 2016 Ashtabula County 4-H Youth that participated in the Ohio State Fair!

Fundraiser benefiting Ashtabula Local Food Council on September 20
The Ashtabula Local Food Council will be holding a fundraiser on September 20, 2016 at Crosswinds Grille in Geneva on the Lake, Ohio from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. This dinner will feature a locally sourced dinner prepared by Chef Nate Fagnilli of Crosswinds Grille. The cost of the event is $20 per person which includes dinner, live music and auction. Tickets are available at www.ashtabulafood.org or by calling 440-261-5112

Ask the Expert Sessions Scheduled for 2016 Farm Science Review
Attendees at the 2016 Farm Science Review on September 20-22, 2016 will have the chance to ask a range of questions related to their farming businesses with Experts from OSU Extension and Purdue University during the “Ask the Expert” sessions each day during the Review at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center near London, Ohio. The sessions will take place in the Ohio State Area in the center of the main Farm Science Review exhibit area at 426 Friday Avenue.
The complete list of sessions includes:

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<th>Ask the Expert (426 Friday Ave)</th>
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All Ask the Expert talks are 20 minutes long.

The Ask the Expert Session is being offered by OSU Extension’s Ohio Ag Manager Team. The Farm Science Review offers visitors some 180 educational presentations and opportunities presented by educators, specialists and faculty from OSU Extension and the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, which are the outreach and research arms, respectively, of the college. A complete listing of the education presentations can be found at: [http://fsr.osu.edu/sites/fsr/files/imce/Web%20program%20schedule.pdf](http://fsr.osu.edu/sites/fsr/files/imce/Web%20program%20schedule.pdf)

Advance tickets for the Review are $7 at all OSU Extension county offices, many local agribusinesses and online at [fsr.osu.edu/visitors/tickets](http://fsr.osu.edu/visitors/tickets). Tickets are $10 at the gate. Children 5 and younger are admitted free. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. September 20-21 and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on September 22, 2016.

New Mobile App for Pricing Standing Corn Silage
By University of Wisconsin Extension

The start of corn silage harvest for 2016 is just around the corner. In 2015, nearly a quarter of all four million acres of corn planted in WI were harvested as silage with an estimated market value between a quarter and a half billion dollars. However, like hay, there’s no established commodity market for corn silage like there is for corn or soybeans. Pricing standing corn silage is even more difficult than pricing standing hay, because the seller often has the option of letting the corn crop mature and marketing it for grain, but harvest and storage costs must be considered as well.

To help determine a fair price when buying or selling corn silage, UW-Extension agriculture agents Greg Blonde and Ryan Sterry teamed up with Smart mAPPS Consulting to develop a new free Android app that can quickly estimate the value of standing corn silage. It’s based off a detailed spreadsheet Sterry developed with input from several state Extension specialists (Shaver, Lauer, Linn). The app includes links to current corn and hay market prices and allows buyers and sellers to enter their own yield estimates and harvest costs. The difference in value of soil nutrients removed when harvesting silage versus corn for grain is also calculated helping sellers fine tune their standing value per acre. The app is free and available for Android smart phones.
and tablets
at: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.smartmappsconsulting.cornsilagepricing&hl=en or just search the Google Play Store for “Corn Silage Pricing”.

According to Blonde and Sterry, "The Corn Silage Pricing mobile app not only allows farmers, Extension Educators and other Ag professionals to access current market information for both grain and hay at the same time, it’s a convenient tool to determine the value of standing silage for buyers and sellers alike." The app features separate tabs for buyer and seller calculations. Using both tabs will show the range in silage value, with the Seller tab being a price ‘floor’ and the Buyer tab a price “ceiling”.

“Pricing Standing Hay” and “Pricing Wet Corn” are also available at no cost on the Google Play Store. For more information contact Greg Blonde, 715-258-6230, greg.blonde@ces.uwex.edu, or Ryan Sterry, 715-531-1930, ryan.sterry@ces.uwex.edu.

Bovine Tuberculosis Detected in SE Indiana
Cattle owners in Southwest Ohio should monitor herds closely; prevent contact with wild animals. State Veterinarian Dr. Tony Forshey is recommending cattle owners in Southwest Ohio monitor their herds closely after the Indiana Board of Animal Health reported this week that bovine tuberculosis (TB) has been diagnosed in a wild white-tailed deer in Franklin County in Southeast Indiana.

No cases have been diagnosed in Ohio.
"While the extent to which the disease may be present in the wild deer population is not known, cattle owners in Southwest Ohio should be aware of this finding and take precautions," said Dr. Forshey. "Monitor your cattle for signs of TB, including lethargy, low-grade fever, and cough, and to take steps to prevent contact between your cattle and wild animals." Bovine tuberculosis is a chronic bacterial disease that affects primarily cattle, but can be transmitted to any warm-blooded animal. While clinical signs are not visible, in early stages, signs that the disease is progressing may include emaciation, lethargy, weakness, anorexia, low-grade fever and pneumonia with a chronic, moist cough.

Cattle owners who notice any of these signs in their livestock should contact their veterinarian immediately. Hunters should take precautions to protect themselves, including wearing gloves when field dressing animals and fully cooking all meat. Deer can be infected without noticeable signs of disease, like the doe that tested positive in Indiana. Hunters who notice signs of TB in wildlife should contact the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife at 1-800-WILDLIFE (945-3543).

Warmer and Drier Weather Returning to Ohio in September
By Jim Noel
Source: http://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/warmer-and-drier-weather-returning-ohio-september

August continued the warmer than normal trend. However, Ohio did get some beneficial rain which helped some. June to August will go down as about 2-3 degrees above normal and precipitation 60-100% of normal (below) north half of Ohio and 100-125% of normal (slightly above) in the south half. It was the tails to two states that can be seen in the graphics attached from the Midwest Regional Climate Center.

As discussed a few weeks ago, it looks like the helpful rain in many areas was a pause in a preferred warmer and drier than normal pattern. All indications are September will be warmer and drier than normal for much of the state. It may turn wetter again toward the end of September. September will start the first few days with a fall-like shot of cooler air with lows mostly in the 50s and highs in the 70s. A few upper 40s in low lying areas later this week can’t be ruled out but 80s will return quickly by this weekend into next week with a few highs in southern areas near 90.
The NOAA/NWS outlook for first half of September in the attached graphics shows the warm and drier weather. Temperatures will respond 3-5°F above normal with a few days being at least 10°F above normal in September.

What, There are Three Different Types of Photosynthesis?
by Daniel Lima
Source: https://u.osu.edu/bhanr/

As if Photosynthesis was not complicated enough, there are actually different variations of how plants convert CO₂ (Carbon dioxide) to C₆H₁₂O₆ (Carbohydrates). Plants have various physiologies to adapt to various environments on earth. Alfalfa for instance can remain persistent and prolific during certain drought episodes due to its deep taproot that can help the plant utilize deep water sources. In term this causes the Alfalfa legume to be sensitive to poorly drained soils that are not very permeable to surface water. So the question someone could ask is; do all desert plants have long roots? The answer is no, but one way desert plants conserve water and grow in a hot and arid climate is by the way they photosynthesize.

The three main types of photosynthesis are C₃, C₄, and CAM (crassulacean acid metabolism). In college I had to memorize some of their pathways and mechanisms, but I will highlight what gives one an advantage over another and what types of crops, forages, and weeds have specialized C₃ and C₄ photosynthesis. This will tell us why they can do well in certain climates and times of the year and when we can expect certain plants to be more abundant.

Rubisco is the name of the enzyme (protein) that “grabs” the CO₂ molecule and puts it into the assembly line that will create the carbohydrates. It is known as the most abundant protein in the world. When we examine the quality of feed in our forages, it is rubisco that makes up most of the protein value in the forage analysis. That is one of the main reasons leaves are desired over stems in hay.

C₃ photosynthesis is the predominant way plants will take in carbon dioxide and produce carbohydrates. In C₃ photosynthesis Rubisco takes the CO₂ and it is reduced into carbohydrates all in the same place and time. By that, I mean in the same cell chloroplast and during the day (sunshine) when the stomata are open and the CO₂ is entering the cell and the water is leaving through the same opening. The issue with this is that it has the greatest water loss and during very high photosynthetic times (July) it becomes stressful for the plant. Another issue is that oxygen is generated during photosynthesis and the oxygen will inhibit rubisco and slow photosynthesis down when the system is running very fast. It seems counterintuitive, but the slow down allows the plant to deal with too much light that could cause damage. Ever notice that cool season grasses do not grow too fast in July and August? Cool season grasses have a C₃ photosynthesis mechanism.

Now let us transition to some of the C₄ grasses, also known as “warm season grasses” such as corn, sorghum, crab grass, sugarcane, bermuda grass, and foxtail. These plants have rubisco in one cell and they have a mechanism of pulling the CO₂ in a different cell that is connected by openings between the cells called plasmodesmata connecting the two cells together. So what happens is that the plant can concentrate its CO₂ where the rubisco is located and prevent that oxygen inhibition caused in the C₃ mechanism. These plants don’t have that high sunlight, July inhibition. In addition to that, the specialization of the cells allows for approximately 40% less water usage per weight of CO₂ reduction. This just means that it is 40% more efficient in water usage on average. There is always variation among species. C₄ plants can also partially close their stomata to prevent water loss and because they concentrate the CO₂ in a different area, the oxygen will not inhibit the rubisco enzyme. This is one of the major reasons why warm season paddocks are desired in a rotational grazing operation. It allows for growth during the July and August time period, when the cool season, C₃ grasses are inhibited and not actively growing.

Here is the misconception; many dicots (broadleaves) are also C₄ plants, it is not just the grasses! Sedges and many of the Amaranthus species are C₄ plants, they seem to be the largest plant families in this C₄-
broadleaf category. So Palmer Amaranth and Spiny Amaranth, along with the sedges do great in July and August. The fact that they are C₄ plants could be contributing to this phenomenon. Knowing this allows a farmer to possibly tackle a weed before it takes over a field when a desirable cool season crop could be growing slowly or possibly dormant. Only 1% of all known plant species have C₄ metabolism and even less have CAM metabolism.

Finally there is CAM photosynthesis. CAM is found in desert plants. What these plants do is open up their stomata at night to allow CO₂ in to minimize the water loss during the hot days. The CO₂ is stored in the plant vacuole as malic acid during the night. When the desert sun comes out, the stomatal openings are closed and the CO₂ is “removed” from the malic acid to then be introduced to rubisco and make carbohydrates. By comparison, CAM is even more water efficient than C₄ is. If C₄ is 40% more water efficient, CAM is 83% more efficient as compared to most C₃ photosynthetic processes. Cacti, many succulents, and the pineapple have CAM photosynthetic metabolism.

Resources:

1. Taiz and Zeiger, Plant Physiology Ed. 3

USDA to Purchase Surplus

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced on August 23, 2015 plans to purchase approximately 11 million pounds of cheese from private inventories to assist food banks and pantries across the nation, while reducing a cheese surplus that is at its highest level in 30 years. The purchase, valued at $20 million, will be provided to families in need across the country through USDA nutrition assistance programs, while assisting the stalled marketplace for dairy producers whose revenues have dropped 35 percent over the past two years.

"We understand that the nation's dairy producers are experiencing challenges due to market conditions and that food banks continue to see strong demand for assistance," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "This commodity purchase is part of a robust, comprehensive safety net that will help reduce a cheese surplus that is at a 30-year high while, at the same time, moving a high-protein food to the tables of those most in need. USDA will continue to look for ways within its authorities to tackle food insecurity and provide for added stability in the marketplace."

USDA received requests from Congress, the National Farmers Union, the American Farm Bureau and the National Milk Producers Federation to make an immediate dairy purchase. Section 32 of the Agriculture Act of 1935 authorizes USDA to utilize fiscal year 2016 funds to purchase surplus food to benefit food banks and families in need through its nutrition assistance programs.

USDA also announced that it will extend the deadline for dairy producers to enroll in the Margin Protection Program (MPP) for Dairy to Dec. 16, 2016, from the previous deadline of Sept. 30. This voluntary dairy safety net program, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides financial assistance to participating dairy producers when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below the coverage level selected by the producer. A USDA web tool, available at www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool, allows dairy producers to calculate levels of coverage available from MPP based on price projections.

On Aug. 4, USDA announced approximately $11.2 million in financial assistance to U.S. dairy producers enrolled in MPP-Dairy, the largest payment since the program began in 2014. “By supporting a strong farm safety net, expanding credit options and growing domestic and foreign markets, USDA is committed to helping America’s dairy operations remain successful,” said Vilsack.
While USDA projects dairy prices to increase throughout the rest of the year, many factors including low world market prices, increased milk supplies and inventories, and slower demand have contributed to the sluggish marketplace for dairy producers. USDA will continue to monitor market conditions in the coming months and evaluate additional actions, if necessary, later this fall.

Since 2009, USDA has worked to strengthen and support American agriculture, an industry that supports one in 11 American jobs, provides American consumers with more than 80 percent of the food we consume, ensures that Americans spend less of their paychecks at the grocery store than most people in other countries, and supports markets for homegrown renewable energy and materials. USDA has also provided $5.6 billion in disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; expanded risk management tools with products like Whole Farm Revenue Protection; and helped farm businesses grow with $36 billion in farm credit. The Department has engaged its resources to support a strong next generation of farmers and ranchers by improving access to land and capital; building new markets and market opportunities; and extending new conservation opportunities. USDA has developed new markets for rural-made products, including more than 2,500 biobased products through USDA's BioPreferred program; and invested $64 billion in infrastructure and community facilities to help improve the quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/results.

When, Why, and How to Sell Timber
Presented by the ODNR Division of Forestry, Service Forestry Program

ODNR Service Foresters John Kehn and Aaron Kash, covering Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Portage, Summit, and Trumbull Counties will be conducting a “Timber Harvesting” class on November 15th, 2016 at the OSU Extension Geauga County office, Patterson Center on the Burton fairgrounds, 14269 Claridon Troy Rd. Space is limited to the first 65 participants who register. Consulting foresters and experienced landowners will also be present help lead this classroom discussion on all aspects of sustainable timber harvesting.

The class will commence the Patterson Center basement at 6:00 PM and conclude at 9:00 PM on Tuesday, November 15th, 2016. Coffee will be provided. There is no cost to participate. To register for this class please call 440-564-5883 from 8:00AM to 4:30PM Monday through Friday.

Stockpiling Pasture
By Rory Lewandowski, OSU Extension Educator, Wayne County

Stockpiling pasture gives livestock owners the option to extend the grazing season into the late fall and winter period. Stockpiling simply means let forage growth accumulate for later use. The general recommendation here in Ohio is to take a last cutting, clipping or grazing pass in early to mid-August and then let the pastures regrow and accumulate forage until the end of the growing season. Stockpiling research and on-farm trials results have shown this timing is the best compromise, amassing a substantial quantity while retaining an acceptable quality of forage stockpiled. Beginning earlier can result in more tonnage but lower quality, while beginning later results in higher quality forage, but reduced total tonnage. Obviously a key component of stockpiling involves rainfall so that grass is able to grow. Due to our high temperatures and lack of rainfall most pastures were not growing and were dormant until the widespread rainfall in Wayne County and surrounding areas the weekend of August 13-14. So this year our stockpiling opportunity didn't begin until mid-August. However, even beginning stockpiling in the mid to late August period can produce over a ton/acre of accumulated dry matter by the end of the growing season.

Tall fescue is the best grass to stockpile, especially for late winter grazing, because it holds its forage quality value better than other forage grasses. Other pasture grasses, such as orchardgrass, can be stockpiled, but need to be managed so that they are grazed off by early winter. Legumes such as red clover and alfalfa are not well suited to stockpiling because they lose their leaves after a couple of hard frosts, so they are best utilized in a grazing system in the early fall period.
Variables that influence the success of stockpiling are rainfall as previously mentioned, and nitrogen fertilization. Nitrogen fertilization can increase both the quality and the quantity of the forage being stockpiled. Research results from a southeastern Ohio location showed that applying nitrogen increased the crude protein content of stockpiled fescue by an average of 2 to 3 percentage points as compared to the unfertilized fescue across late fall and into winter. Nitrogen applied to tall fescue in the early to mid-August time period should return 20 to 30 lbs. of additional stockpiled dry matter (DM) per lb. of nitrogen as compared to stockpiled fescue without supplemental nitrogen. Nitrogen applied in the late August to early September time period can return 15-20 lbs. of additional stockpiled dry matter (DM) per lb. of nitrogen.

Stockpiling offers the opportunity to reduce winter feeding costs. The highest cost of raising an animal or maintaining a flock or herd through the winter is the cost of using stored feed. In most situations you just can’t beat the cost of livestock out harvesting and eating their own feed compared to the fertilizer, machinery, and labor costs associated with making, storing and then feeding hay. Use your hay as a tool to help you stockpile. I believe there is merit to feeding first cut hay during the stockpiling time period. There are a couple of advantages to doing so. First, stockpiling allows that paddock to recover from any overgrazing that occurred during the season and allows those pasture plants to build carbohydrate reserves during the critical fall period. Second, feeding first cut hay at this time usually matches up forage quality with livestock nutritional needs better than winter/spring feeding of first cut hay. Often first cutting hay made for non-dairy livestock is of low quality. Feeding this low quality hay anytime from August to November while pastures are stockpiling is going to come closer to meeting early gestation nutrient requirements as compared to feeding that hay in late winter/early spring when the animal is in late gestation or, in some cases, early lactation and needs a higher level of nutrient intake. Meanwhile, stockpiled fescue, especially if some nitrogen has been applied, could supply 15% crude protein hay and better from November to December and 13-15% crude protein forage from January-March. This stockpiled forage is generally higher quality than first cutting hay and about equal to a lot of 2nd cutting hay made for non-dairy livestock.

Pasture Walk on September 1
Miller Livestock Company will be hosting a Pasture Walk sponsored by the Lake to River Co-Op in coordination with OSU Extension on Thursday, September 1st, 2016 at 6 p.m. Join us as owner Aaron Miller, and OSU Extension Educator Rory Lewandowski discuss raising livestock on pastures.

Aaron has been a grazier for nearly 20 years. He raises grass-fed beef and lamb, pastured pork and poultry on 150 acres in Kinsman Ohio. Aaron has been a presenter at the Ohio Forage and Grasslands Council annual, PASA’s Farming for the Future and writes for the Graze magazine. Join Aaron Miller as he discusses the process of finishing beef on pasture.

Rory Lewandowski of OSU Extension Wayne County will be discussing pasture management for efficient livestock grazing. Weed management, rotational grazing, and other topics will be discussed at this event. Rory is an expert in pastures and forage quality, and you may have seen one of his many articles on the subject in the Farm and Dairy newspaper. He frequently speaks throughout the state on forage quality.

Don’t miss this opportunity to learn from some of northeast Ohio’s most knowledgeable pasture/forage experts. To register for this FREE event, call OSU Extension Trumbull County at 330-638-6783 or email Lee Beers (beers.66@osu.edu).
Chainsaw Safety Class in Trumbull County on September 10
OSU Extension Trumbull County will be offering a chainsaw safety class on Saturday, September 10th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Trumbull County Ag and Family Education Center in Cortland, OH. This class is designed to help you handle and operate your chainsaw safely when you are clearing out a fence row, cleaning up after a storm, or any other time that you may use your chainsaw. The class will begin inside with an overview of protective equipment designed to minimize injury before moving to basic saw maintenance. We will cover saw basics, how to perform a safety check, and how to keep your chain sharp. We will wrap up the morning with demonstrations outside to show proper tree felling and bucking techniques.

Pre-registration is requested by September 7th, 2016. Cost for the class is $30/person and includes handouts, light refreshments, and additional materials. To register please complete the registration form and return to OSU Extension Trumbull County, 520 West Main St., Suite #1, Cortland, OH 44410. Please call 330-638-6783 or email Lee Beers (beers.66@osu.edu) for more information.

David’s Weekly News Column
Published on August 31, 2016 in the Jefferson Gazette & September 4, 2016 in the Star Beacon

Hello, Ashtabula County! We are now moving into my favorite time of the year. I really love the months of September and October. The cooler nights, the natural splendor of the trees, and the bountiful harvests from our fields and gardens, all make living in Ashtabula County a great place. As we move into our fall season, I would like to discuss some of the challenges identified by new and young farmers and invite woodland owners to sign up for a great timber marketing workshop.

I ran across an internet report written by Betsy Freese from www.agriculture.com which shared the results of a roundtable discussion that United States Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack had in August with a group of young and beginning farmers in Iowa. The report shared seven of the biggest challenges facing young and beginning farmers. I am interested in hearing back from our young farmers on if their concerns are the same as their counterparts in Iowa.

Their first concern was that “Land is not available.” The farmers expressed frustration with not being able to afford land – if you can even find it for sale. Second, they cited that “Landowners only want to rent to large farmers.” They advocated for landowners to rent to smaller farmers and to offer flexible leases or crop-share arrangements.

Thirdly they cited that “CRP rates are too high.” They suggest young farmers could not compete with the higher conservation reserve program’s payment. They advocated for the CRP rates to be adjusted more frequently to keep up with changing cash rent rates. Fourth, they cited how “Weed control is a growing problem.” A lot of discussion was held at the focus group on invasive weeds like Palmer amaranth and resistant weeds.

Their fifth concern was there is “Not enough help from the USDA.” Several mentioned their local USDA offices do not have enough staff to help them and help is needed with government programs outside of corn and soybean production. A sixth concern was that “Water quality improvements are expensive.” The young farmers stated they could not make every improvement to the land and waterways recommended because of limited budgets.

And lastly, there was concern about “Not enough processing facilities for meat.” One young farmer who directs markets pork, beef, rabbits, poultry, and lamb reported having trouble finding a local meat processing facility that could meet the regulations required.
Vilsack said upcoming conversations about the next Farm Bill “will begin in earnest soon” and he hopes they will address some of these concerns from young farmers. This article makes me think about the concerns our young and beginning farmers are having about their future? I noticed they did not have weather or phosphorus management as one of their concerns! I welcome you to jot your ideas down and email them to me at marrison.2@osu.edu. My gut feeling is that some of these are the same but there may be a few other concerns which our farmers have that our friends in Iowa do not have. Let our discussion begin!

Are you thinking of selling timber? If so, it is very wise to get advice from reliable sources before you commit to a contract. A great place to learn about selling your timber is to attend a regional workshop which will be held in Geauga County in November. I am sharing this information with you now as the class will fill up quickly.

On November 15, 2016, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Service Foresters John Kehn and Aaron Kash, will be conducting a “Timber Harvesting” class at the OSU Extension Geauga County office, Patterson Center on the Burton fairgrounds, 14269 Claridon Troy Road from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. John and Aaron provide forestry outreach to Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Portage, Summit, and Trumbull Counties. I know you will find them very knowledgeable about the questions landowners should ask before they sell their timber. Additionally, consulting foresters and experienced landowners will also be present help lead this classroom discussion on all aspects of sustainable timber harvesting.

Space is limited to the first 65 participants who register for this class. There is no cost to participate. However, pre-registration is required. To register for this class please call 440-564-5883 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

I would like to end today’s column with some great food for thought from James 1:12 which states, “Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.” Have a good and safe day!
Topics Will Include:
• Personal Protective Equipment
• Safety Checklist for Safe Sawing
• Chainsaw Maintenance
• Safe Tree Felling and Bucking
• And More

This chainsaw safety course offered by OSU Extension Trumbull County will demonstrate safe chainsaw handling and operating techniques for home/landowners. The course will start off with an overview of basic safety equipment before covering basic chainsaw maintenance for safe use. We will wrap up with a live demonstration of safe tree felling and bucking techniques.

For more information:
Lee Beers – Extension Educator Ag & Natural Resources
330-638-6783 • beers.66@osu.edu • trumbull.osu.edu

Pre-registration is required by September 7, 2016. Cost for the Chainsaw Safety Class is $30/person. Please complete the following information and send with payment to OSU Extension Trumbull County, 520 West Main St., Suite #1, Cortland, OH 44410. We will be outside for demonstrations, so please dress appropriately.

Name(s): ________________________________
Phone & Address: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________
Number attending/amount enclosed: ________________________________
Pasture Walk
Thursday, September 1, 2016 @ 6:00 PM

Presenters

Aaron Miller: Owner of Miller Livestock, Co., Inc.
Aaron has been a grazier for nearly 20 years. He raises grassfed beef and lamb, pastured pork and poultry on 150 acres in Kinsman Ohio. Aaron has been a presenter at the Ohio Forage and Grasslands Council annual, PASA’s Farming for the Future and writes for the Graze magazine. Join Aaron Miller as he discusses the process of finishing beef on pasture.

Rory Lewandowski: Ag & Natural Resources Extension Educator at OSU Ext., Wayne County.
Rory Lewandowski specializes in forage quality and pasture maintenance throughout Ohio. Rory will be discussing weed management and pasture management for efficient grazing.

Please REGISTER for this FREE event:
beers.66@osu.edu.

The Ohio State University
College of Food, Agricultural,

A Co-op sponsored event
Hosted at:
Miller Livestock, Co.
9590 Kinsman Pymatuning Rd.
Kinsman, Ohio 44428