Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

It looks like we will finally get some dry weather after a few snow flurries this week. That should allow those final bean and corn fields to get harvested and finish out the year.

We kicked off the Trumbull Farmer Lunch Series today, and we had a good turnout to learn about tax updates. Mark your calendars for the next Lunch Series on January 8, 2019, when we will host Haley Shoemaker. She will be teaching Beef Quality Assurance training. Call our office if you have any questions.
Young, hip farmers: Coming to a city near you
Source: Purdue University
https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/12/181203185350.htm

If you've been to your neighborhood farmers market or seen a small "local" section pop up in your grocery store, you may have noticed a trend: People want to know where their food is coming from, and the agricultural industry is responding. The number of farmers markets in the U.S. has skyrocketed in recent years, but with an aging population of farmers, who's supporting this growth?

Enter the new American farmer. It's a term used by Andrew Flachs, an environmental anthropologist at Purdue University, to describe a movement of younger people new to agricultural work who do it for different reasons than the conventional farmer. They may be motivated through higher education, personal politics, disenchantment with urban life or in search of an authentic rural identity, he says.

In a new paper in the journal Rural Sociology, Flachs identifies several hot spots where this movement is really taking shape: the West Coast, central Texas and Oklahoma, central Florida and the Great Lakes region.

"We're seeing these hot spots pop up in the peripheries of hip cities," Flachs said. "Some of these places might seem obvious, like the West Coast and the northern Midwest around Madison, the Twin Cities and Chicago. But we also see some things that aren't totally expected."

Among the unexpected trends he found, east Texas and the southern Midwest are becoming increasingly important for this kind of agriculture. Appalachia, which has historically been a hub, essentially disappeared from the map.

In collaboration with Matthew Abel, an anthropologist at Washington University in St. Louis, Flachs built a model that counts how many traits associated with new American agrarianism appear in each county. With data from the USDA agricultural censuses from 1997 to 2012, they considered factors such as average sales per farm, number of certified organic farms, owners
under age 34, number of farms selling directly to individuals, proximity to farmers markets and more.

The findings show that newer farmers appear to thrive on the outskirts of cities that provide high demand and purchasing power, a large population and healthy number of farmers markets.

The price of real estate is another important factor in determining where these markets can flourish. Rural developers have steadily increased farm real estate over the last few decades, which could deter newer farmers from settling down there. Concentrations of urban wealth drive up real estate costs in the city while simultaneously creating new niche markets, making space for younger farmers to exist between urban and rural landscapes.

Identifying where new and small farmers live and work will pave the way for further research on what's motivating this budding sector of the agricultural economy. New American farmers occupy an important intersection of niche marketing strategies, environmental politics and rural demographic change that could have a significant impact on food production and social life in agrarian landscapes, according to the paper.

Flachs points out that many new American farmers approach agriculture with hopes to embody a nostalgic past where food and environments were healthier, but others may be simply trying to make a living as farmers amid dissatisfaction with conventional agribusiness. Although it's easy to stereotype, it's unlikely that all new American farmers fit this description.

"Sometimes when we think about these farmers, we picture young people with liberal arts degrees looking for some kind of connection to the earth or wanting to work with their hands," Flachs said. "What we found is that that's probably not the most representative view of who these people actually are. I'm glad to have my stereotype broken up by the data.

**Waterhemp's metabolic resistance to topramezone**

Source: University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Corn naturally tolerates certain herbicides, detoxifying the chemicals before they can cause harm. It's what allows farmers to spray fields with the class of herbicides known as HPPD-inhibitors, which kill weeds such as waterhemp and Palmer amaranth and leave corn unscathed. But in more and more fields, the method is failing; waterhemp isn't dying.

Scientists have studied waterhemp's response to two common HPPD-inhibiting herbicides, mesotrione (trade name Callisto) and tembotrione (Laudis), and found the weed uses the same cellular mechanism as corn to detoxify the chemicals. However, no one had studied waterhemp's metabolic response to a third HPPD-inhibiting herbicide, topramezone (Impact or
Northeast Ohio Agriculture

A new study from the University of Illinois identifies the detoxification pathway in two Midwest waterhemp populations that plays a role in rapidly metabolizing topramezone. Unfortunately, the finding is not good news for corn growers.

"Our initial theory was that waterhemp would mimic corn as it does for the other two HPPD-inhibitors, but, no, it found a different way," says Dean Riechers, weed scientist in the Department of Crop Sciences at U of I and co-author on the Frontiers in Plant Science study. "We don't know how or why, but it has a different mechanism from what corn naturally has. Bottom line is that you can't use any of the three HPPD-inhibitors to control this population."

The waterhemp population Riechers refers to is from a field in McLean County, Illinois. During the past decade, the field of continuous seed corn has been treated with all three HPPD-inhibitors, and waterhemp was showing resistance to them all. Riechers and his co-authors planted seeds from that population in a greenhouse and sprayed the plants with all three herbicides to assess the degree of damage. Compared with two populations sensitive to the chemicals, the McLean County waterhemp plants looked great.

The researchers also grew up waterhemp plants from a Nebraska field that only had been treated with mesotrione and tembotrione. Despite never having been exposed to topramezone, the plants appeared to be resistant. They didn't look as good as the McLean County population, but they looked much better than the sensitive populations.

Riechers says, "The greenhouse experiment showed the Nebraska population did have resistance to an herbicide it had never been exposed to. Did the other two herbicides select for topramezone resistance? My colleagues at Syngenta and I believe so. Our long-term goal is to find out if each herbicide has its own resistance gene or if there are genes that one or the other could select for."

Using an excised leaf assay they developed to identify herbicide-detoxifying enzymes, the research team discovered the McLean County plants were using a different pathway than corn to detoxify topramezone. Riechers says the finding is scientifically interesting, but might be a tough pill to swallow for the corn industry.

"It's scary because these waterhemp populations find a way to metabolize these compounds, so it makes chemical weed control that much more difficult," he says. "Right now, you could spray any of these three HPPD-inhibitors on corn, not kill the corn, but potentially kill the weeds. But if the weeds are using a different mechanism to detoxify the chemical, you'd have to develop a
Northeast Ohio Agriculture

Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties

4

different kind of herbicide that doesn’t use these same metabolic pathways. It might be effective on the weeds, but who knows if the corn would tolerate it.”

Chemical companies could use the information in discovery research to develop new products, but farmers may not have the option to wait. In the meantime, Riechers points to U of I colleagues’ work on tank-mixing multiple herbicide sites of action or using a Harrington Seed Destructor as a non-chemical method to limit resistance.

"We’re finding out more and more about what these waterhemp populations can do for detoxification, and it’s disheartening. Our research just underscores how important it is to take alternative steps to limit the spread of these resistant plants or prevent it from happening in the first place," he says.

Ohio Department of Agriculture Offers Tips for Purchasing Firewood


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. The following firewood rules and regulations are helpful to review:

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).

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. 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.

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.

If the firewood is advertised and sold a representation may include a declaration of identity that indicates the species group. (Example: 50% hickory, 40% oak, 10% ash). Such a representation shall indicate, within 10% accuracy, the percentages of each group.

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 ODA’s invasive pests webpage. It is always good practice to not move firewood long distances and to buy local and burn local.

When burning firewood for heat, the State Fire Marshal advises to follow 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.

Central Ohio Precision Ag Symposium
By: John Barker

The Central Ohio Precision Ag Symposium will be held on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at All Occasions Catering, 6986 Waldo-Delaware Road, Waldo, Ohio from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This year’s program will feature the most current technologies available in precision agriculture. These topics will be shared by some of the leading university and industry Precision Ag experts.

This year’s program opens with a discussion regarding where we are in Precision Ag today – “The Adoption of Precision Ag Technologies” - Jack Zemlicka, Ag Division Content Director Lessiter Media and ends with a look into the crystal ball – “The Future of Precision Ag” – Dr. Scott Shearer, The Ohio State University.

Data management is a “hot topic” in today precision agriculture. Dr. John Fulton will share his insights on “Data Considerations in Today’s Crop Production.” You will learn about data security and who can/has access to your data at afternoon breakout sessions from Climate-Fieldview, Agleader–Agfinity, and My JohnDeere. Learn about the value of your data and opportunities for selling your data at one of the Farm Mobile breakout sessions.
Artificial intelligence is changing our industry. Tim Norris will discuss “AI” and share insights from Knox County’s first autonomous tractor. “AI” will be part of several other afternoon breakout sessions as well. New datum changes are scheduled for 2022. Jeff Jalbrzikowski will explain how this change could potentially affect our current maps and GPS positioning files.

“To be the premier source of research-based information in the age of digital agriculture” is the vision of the Ohio State Digital Ag Program. Dr. Elizabeth Hawkins will discuss the nearly 100 OSU on-farm research trials conducted throughout Ohio in 2018. Everyone in attendance will receive a copy of the 2018 eFields Report.

Afternoon breakout sessions will include manufacturing and technology updates including how to get the most from your in-cab displays from John Deere, Case IH AFS, Precision Planting, Capstan, AGCO, New Holland and Soil Max.

$50 registration fee includes a buffet lunch, breaks and a notebook containing all presentations. Seating is limited, and the registration deadline is December 28, 2018.

This symposium will provide up to 11.5 Continuing Education Credits (CEU's) for Certified Crop Advisers:

S&W - .5, I.P.M. - 5.5, C.M. - 5.5.

This program is sponsored by The Ohio State University Extension, AgInfoTech, Advantage Ag & Equipment, Ag Leader, B&B Farm Service, Beck’s, Capstan, Centerra Co-op, Central Ohio Farmers Co-op, Channel, Clark Seeds, Climate Corp., Evolution Ag, Farm Credit Services, Farm Mobile, First Knox National Bank, JD Equipment, Ohio Ag Equipment, Precision Planting, Seed Consultants, Smart Ag and Soil-Max.

2018 Ohio Corn Performance Test: Regional Overviews

By: Rich Minyo, Allen Geyer, David Lohnes, Peter Thomison


In 2018, 192 corn hybrids representing 24 commercial brands were evaluated in the Ohio Corn Performance Test (OCPT). Four tests were established in the Southwestern/West Central/Central (SW/WC/C) region and three tests were established in the Northwestern (NW) and North Central/Northeastern (NC/NE) regions (for a total of ten test sites statewide). Hybrid entries in the regional tests were planted in either an early or a full season maturity trial. These test sites provided a range of growing conditions and production environments.
Growing conditions were very favorable for corn production across most of Ohio in 2018. The growing season was characterized by well above average rainfall and heat unit accumulation (growing degree-days). Precipitation and heat unit accumulation were generally greater at OCPT sites in the SW/WC/C region (with rainfall ranging from 23.3 to 26.3 inches and heat unit accumulation ranging from 3270 to 3520 GDDs) than at sites in the NW and NC/NE regions. Moreover, rainfall was generally well distributed at these sites. The impact of dry conditions in July and August on crop performance at the Van Wert and Hoytville sites in NW Ohio and the Wooster and Beloit sites in NE/NC Ohio were mitigated by timely rains in late August and September. Due to the warm, wet conditions, foliar diseases (primarily gray leaf spot) and ear rots (primarily Gibberella and Diplodia ear rots) were present at nearly all test sites. However, the disease severity was highly variable and it was usually most pronounced for a limited number of hybrids. The highest yielding sites were generally associated with foliar fungicide applications at tassel – the major exception being the test site at Bucyrus (the second highest yielding OCPT site in 2018) which exhibited little leaf disease or ear rot. Stalk lodging was evident mostly in the NW and NE/NC test sites but negligible for most of the hybrids evaluated. Warm temperatures in August through mid-October promoted crop maturation and dry down but persistent rains in September through November slowed harvest.

In 2018, USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service estimates Ohio’s corn yield at 193 bu/A, which would be 16 bu/A more than last year’s and highest on record if realized. Yields at OCPT test sites paralleled the record yields reported across the state this year. Averaged across hybrid entries in the early and full season tests, yields were 273 bu/A in the Southwestern/West Central/Central region, 238 bu/A in the Northwestern region, and 242 bu/A in the North Central/Northeastern region. Yields at individual test sites, averaged across hybrid entries in the early and full season tests, ranged from 203 bu/A at Beloit to 285 bu/A at Greenville. Performance data for Upper Sandusky in the NW region is not presented because excessive rainfall shortly after planting created variable field conditions that resulted in erratic stands, uneven growth and inconsistent yields.

Tables 1 and 2 provide an overview of 2018 hybrid performance in the early maturity and full season hybrid trials by region. Averages for grain yield and other measures of agronomic performance are indicated for each region. In addition, the range in regional test site averages is shown in parentheses. Complete results are available online at: http://oardc.osu.edu/corntrials/. A bulletin containing the results, 2018 Ohio Corn Performance Test, is also published as an insert in Ohio’s Country Journal.

As you review 2018 test results, it’s important to keep the following in mind. Confidence in test results increases with the number of years and the number of locations in which the hybrid was tested. Avoid selecting a hybrid based on data from a single test site, especially if the site was characterized by abnormal growing conditions. Look for consistency in a hybrid’s performance across a range of environmental conditions. Consider the table providing a “Combined regional
summary of hybrid performance” which indicates the performance of hybrids common to nine statewide test sites and the six tests in western Ohio. Differences in grain moisture percentages among hybrids at harvest can provide a basis for comparing hybrid maturity. Yield, % stalk lodging, grain moisture, and other comparisons should be made between hybrids of similar maturity to determine those best adapted to your farm.

Table 1. A regional overview of the early maturity 2018 Ohio Corn Performance Test.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Entries</th>
<th>Grain Yield (Bu/A)</th>
<th>Moisture (%)</th>
<th>Lodging (%)</th>
<th>Emergence (%)</th>
<th>Final Stand (plants/A)</th>
<th>Test Wt. (lbs/bu)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SW/WC/C</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>269 (218-302)</td>
<td>16.9 (15.5-18.3)</td>
<td>2 (0-17)</td>
<td>96 (92-99)</td>
<td>33400 (27000-37100)</td>
<td>57.6 (54.2-59.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>235 (215-249)</td>
<td>17.0 (15.7-17.8)</td>
<td>3 (0-11)</td>
<td>94 (86-99)</td>
<td>32800 (25700-36800)</td>
<td>58.1 (55.6-60.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE/NC</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>238 (218-256)</td>
<td>18.6 (17.5-19.9)</td>
<td>1 (0-7)</td>
<td>96 (86-99)</td>
<td>33100 (27100-37400)</td>
<td>57.2 (54.7-59.2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. A regional overview of the full season 2018 Ohio Corn Performance Test.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Entries</th>
<th>Grain Yield (Bu/A)</th>
<th>Moisture (%)</th>
<th>Lodging (%)</th>
<th>Emergence (%)</th>
<th>Final Stand (plants/A)</th>
<th>Test Wt. (lbs/bu)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SW/WC/C</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>277 (254-294)</td>
<td>18.3 (16.3-21.0)</td>
<td>2 (0-9)</td>
<td>97 (89-99)</td>
<td>33900 (27100-37200)</td>
<td>57.7 (55.2-60.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>241 (220-256)</td>
<td>18.0 (16.7-19.5)</td>
<td>6 (0-38)</td>
<td>96 (89-98)</td>
<td>33400 (29800-35700)</td>
<td>58.0 (55.7-60.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE/NC</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>245 (226-261)</td>
<td>20.2 (18.3-22.5)</td>
<td>2 (0-20)</td>
<td>97 (90-99)</td>
<td>33900 (27000-37200)</td>
<td>56.5 (53.7-58.7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
U.S. expects immediate action from China on trade commitments
By: David Lawder, Jeff Mason
Source: https://www.reuters.com/article/usa-trade-china/corrected-wrapup-6-u-s-expects-immediate-action-from-china-on-trade-commitments-idUSL4N1Y81ZD

The United States expects immediate action by China on trade issues after a deal reached by the countries’ leaders, including lower tariffs on automobiles and measures against intellectual property theft and forced technology transfers, a White House official said on Monday.

U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed to hold off on new tariffs for 90 days during talks in Argentina on Saturday, declaring a truce following months of escalating tensions on trade and other issues.

A White House official said the 90-day period started on Dec. 1. Earlier, White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow told reporters it would start on Jan. 1.

The Chinese offered more than $1.2 trillion in additional commitments on trade, Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin said on Monday. Kudlow said that figure was a broad benchmark and referred to private transactions for buying U.S. goods, subject to market conditions.

China also committed immediately to start lifting tariffs and non-tariff barriers, including reducing its 40 percent tariffs on autos, Kudlow said.

“We expect those tariffs to fall to zero,” he told reporters.

Americans will get majority ownership in companies in China for the first time, which should help address top U.S. concerns about including intellectual property theft and forced technology transfers.

None of the commitments were agreed to in writing and specifics had yet to be hammered out.

Mnuchin said there was a shift in tone at Buenos Aires from past discussions as Xi offered a clear commitment to open China’s markets to U.S. companies.

“This is the first time that we have a commitment from them that this will be a real agreement,” Mnuchin told CNBC.
Kudlow, director of the National Economic Council, said he, Mnuchin and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer held two private meetings with China’s Vice Premier Liu He in Argentina and he told them that Beijing would move immediately on the new commitments.

“The history here with China promises is not very good. And we know that,” Kudlow said. “However, I will say this: President Xi has never been this involved.”

Kudlow said: “They cannot slow walk this, stall this, meander this. Their word: ‘immediately.’”

The truce boosted global markets on Monday with world stocks rising to their highest in about three weeks. On Wall Street, the benchmark S&P 500 gained nearly 1 percent, although the index had come off its earlier session highs in afternoon trading.

Kudlow said U.S. officials will monitor Chinese progress on enforcing the commitments very closely.

Trump has appointed Lighthizer, one of the administration’s most vocal China critics, to oversee the new round of trade talks with China, officials said.

The appointment of Lighthizer, who just completed a new agreement with Canada and Mexico, may signify a harder line in talks with Beijing and marks a shift from past practices where Mnuchin had a lead role.

“He’s the toughest negotiator we’ve ever had at the USTR and he’s going to go chapter and verse and get tariffs down, non-tariff barriers down and end all these structural practices that prevent market access,” White House trade adviser Peter Navarro told National Public Radio earlier on Monday.

Kudlow said he and Mnuchin would be heavily involved as well, with the Treasury secretary dealing with financial and currency issues.

The White House is stepping up efforts to prod other countries to build more vehicles in the United States. Lighthizer and other officials including Kudlow are set to meet with German automakers on Tuesday, including the chief executives at Volkswagen AG and Daimler AG, people briefed on the matter said.

Kudlow said the meeting was not meant to focus on potential car tariffs, though Trump still held that option in his “quiver,” and the automakers would be encouraged to build engines in the United States.
Chinese regulators did not respond to requests for comment on Trump’s tweet on autos tariffs. Neither country had mentioned auto tariffs in their official read-outs of the Trump-Xi meeting.

On Sunday, Trump tweeted that China had agreed to cut import levies on American-made cars.

**Trumbull County Farmer Lunch Series**

OSU Extension Trumbull County, Trumbull County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the NRCS have combined efforts to offer a farmer lunch seminar series that will cover a variety of topics relevant to NE Ohio. Each program will start with lunch at 11:30A.M. sponsored by the Trumbull County Holstein Club followed by a 1-hour presentation. Cost for individual programs is $10/person. If you would like to register for all four programs, the cost is $35/person.

**Tuesday, January 8, 2019 - Beef Quality Assurance**
- Haley Shoemaker, OSU Extension Mahoning County
- The Ohio Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) program ensures that both beef and dairy cattle are raised in a manner that results in a wholesome beef product for our consumers. This program helps producers gain market access and keep their cattle desirable to the buyer in the stands.

*Wednesday, February 20, 2019 – NE Ohio Agronomy School in Bristolville, OH*

**Tuesday, March 5, 2019 – Climate Impacts for Ohio Agriculture**
- Aaron Wilson, OSU Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center
- Our changing climate has already influenced how Ohio farmers operate. Learn how predicted climate changes will continue to drive changes in Ohio agriculture. CCA credits available.

**Tuesday, April 2, 2019 – Tillage Affects on Soil Health**
- Steve Culman, Assistant Professor, State Specialist in Soil Fertility
- New tillage technologies are arriving each year, but are they hurting your soil health? Learn how tillage, and other practices can improve or hurt your soils health. CCA credits available.

**Soil Health Workshop in Portage County**

Portage Soil & Water Conservation District (PSWCD) is teaming up with the Soil Health Partnership, the Portage County Farm Bureau, Portage County Extension, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), to offer programming aimed at improving the bottom line for farmers. The first of these programs will be a Soil Health Workshop to take place on
Thursday, December 6th at Deerfield Town Hall, 1450 Ohio 14, Deerfield from 9:30 AM to noon, lunch provided. This program will provide an overview of the Soil Health Partnership and the benefits to farmers participating in this program. Following will be a presentation by Ohio State’s ATI Professor, Ryan Haden, with a look at his research into ‘Inter-seeding Cover Crops’. Lastly, Steve Culman, OSU State Specialist in Soil Fertility will talk about his department’s research into the evaluation of ‘Soil Cation Balancing’ as a means of boosting crop productivity. Bring your questions for the experts! See workshop details below:

Growing Farm Returns Through Soil Health
Brought to you by the Soil Health Partnership, a project to make agriculture more productive and sustainable through soil health

December 6, 2018 (Thursday)
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Deerfield Town Hall
1450 Ohio-14
Deerfield, Ohio 44411
Hosted by: Deerfield Farms, A Soil Health Partnership Farmer
Agenda:
Soil Health Partnership Overview: John Stewart, SHP
Interseeding Cover Crops: Ryan Haden, ATI
Soil Cation Balancing: Steve Culman, OSU Extension
Lunch provided for registrants. So please register to help us plan for the meal. To register:
Call Lynn at (330)235-6806 or email: lvogel@portageswcd.org

Livestock Mortality Composting Program Scheduled for December 14 in Canfield, OH

While it’s likely not the most popular dinner table topic, a plan for dealing with mortality is something that needs addressed if you raise livestock. Composting is a viable option for various types of farms, and actually allows producers to recycle on-farm nutrients. While livestock mortality composting is similar in goal to backyard composting, it follows a different methodology and requires a more specific approach. These differences, along with facility design, area selection, operation and management will be covered in class. In Ohio, certification is required to compost livestock mortalities legally.

OSU Extension Mahoning County will be hosting Rory Lewandowski on December 14, 208 from 12P.M. to 2P.M. at the Extension office in Canfield, OH to lead the discussion. Upon completion of the program, all participants will be certified in livestock mortality composting. Cost for this program is $25/person, and registration includes lunch, LMC Book, handouts, and other
Lee’s Monthly News Column
Published in the Tribune Chronicle, November 22, 2018

Hello Trumbull County, and Happy Thanksgiving! Today is my favorite holiday. When I was younger, Christmas was my favorite holiday because I got a new toy tractor, video game, or some other gift that inevitably was pushed aside for something new. Our oldest child (five years old) has some of these characteristics as she is already talking about the newest Hatchimal (most annoying toy ever) that she wants to put on her list for Santa. As she gets older I hope she realizes that all these things are just that – things. This is the realization that I ultimately came to as an adult, and this is why Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday.

To me and many others, Thanksgiving is an occasion to spend time with family and friends. In our house the highlight is not about the next present to open, rather it is sitting at the dinner table watching the little ones shove mashed potatoes in their face, lounging on the couch with family, and enjoying each others company. If I want “things” I can always buy them, but I have never found a store that specializes in selling memories.

Thanksgiving is also synonymous with harvest, as they are intertwined going all the way back to the first thanksgiving. Celebrating the harvest in the 1600’s meant that the literal fruits of labor were realized ensuring enough food for winter. Although we may feel far removed from the extremes of surviving winter with enough food, farmers still have reason to celebrate during harvest. The hard work, money invested, and stress from the growing season all come down to a few weeks during harvest when the crops are ready. Watching the corn, soybeans, tomatoes, blueberries, apples, and other crops fill wagons is magical.

I think I’ve complained about the weather every month this year, and it won’t be any different today. Farming in 2018 was rough- there is no other way to put it. The weather was bad during planting, it was bad during hay making season, and it’s still bad now during harvest. I know many farmers would be thankful for a break from all this precipitation. So while you are saying thanks this Thanksgiving holiday, don’t forget to thank a farmer for the wonderful meal you will be enjoying. This year they worked hard for those crops, and they will be at it again in the spring to do it all over again.

OSU Extension Trumbull County, Trumbull SWCD, and NRCS have teamed up to offer a Trumbull Farmer Lunch series this winter to provide hour-long educational sessions on a variety of topics. Our first lunch series will kick off on Tuesday, December 4 at 11:30A.M. as we learn about tax updates and how they affect farmers. You don’t have to be a farmer to get something
useful from this program. David Marrison will be here to go over all the changes to the tax law. Cost for this program is $7/person for early registration and includes lunch. Be sure to mark your calendars for the other upcoming events in this series, January 8, 2019 Beef Quality Assurance, March 5, 2019 Climate Impacts for Ohio Agriculture, and April 2, 2019 Tillage and Soil Health. Each of these programs will be at the Trumbull County Ag and Family Education Center, 520 West Main Street, Cortland, OH.

For more information about farming, gardening, the Master Gardener program, or any other program, call the OSU Trumbull County Extension Office at 330-638-6783 or visit trumbull.osu.edu. Don’t forget to check out and “Like” OSU Extension Trumbull County’s Facebook page for current programs and up to date information.

I’ll leave you today with a quote from Ralph Marston that sums up my feelings pretty well. Everyday is Thanksgiving if you allow it. – “Make it a habit to tell people thank you. To express your appreciation, sincerely and without the expectation of anything in return. Truly appreciate those around you, and you’ll soon find many others around you. Truly appreciate life, and you’ll find that you have more of it.”

**Upcoming Events**

**Trumbull County Farmer Lunch**
January 8, 2019 – Beef Quality Assurance
March 5, 2019 – Climate Impacts for Ohio Agriculture
April 4, 2019 – Tillage and Soil Health

**Northeast Ohio Agronomy School**
February 20, 2019 – Bristolville Community Center

**Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet**
March 26, 2019

**Pesticide Applicator Training Dates**
Trumbull County – January 16, 2019
Geauga County – February 1, 2019
Ashtabula County – February 28, 2019
Geauga County “Last Chance” – March 28, 2019

New Pesticide Applicator Training
Geauga County – February 12, 2019
Trumbull County – March 12, 2019

New Fertilizer Certification Training
Trumbull County – February 23, 2019
9A.M. to 12P.M.

Lee Beers
Trumbull County Extension Office
520 West Main Street
Cortland, OH 44410
330-638-6783
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CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity.
Trumbull County Farmer Lunch Series

Beef Quality Assurance with Haley Shoemaker

January 8, 2019 - 11:30A.M. – 1:00P.M.

The Ohio Beef Quality Assurance program ensures that both beef and dairy cattle are raised in a manner that results in a wholesome beef product for our consumers. In doing so, this program helps producers gain market access and keep their cattle desirable to the buyer in the stands. Many end users of beef are now requiring their meat to be BQA certified. This program will certify all participants. Cost for this training is $7/person with pre-registration or $10/person at the door. Catered hot lunch, handouts, and other materials are included in the cost. We would like to thank Bloomfield Livestock Auction for their sponsorship of this program. Pre-registration is requested by January 4, 2019 to ensure accurate count for lunch.

To register for the Trumbull Farmer Lunch program on January 8, 2019 please complete the form below and mail with payment to OSU Extension Trumbull County, 520 West Main St, Cortland, OH 44410. Please make checks out to OSU Extension. For questions or more information call 330-638-6783, or email beers.66@osu.edu.

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________

City and State: __________________________ Zip Code: _______________________

Phone: __________________________ Email: ____________________________

Number of Attendees: __________________________ x $7 each = Total Enclosed __________________________

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Private and Commercial Pesticide Applicator Licensing

Farmers and agricultural industry personnel can obtain either a “Private” or “Commercial” pesticide applicator license through the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA). OSU Extension helps in the licensing process by providing study material, practice exams, and local test preparation classes.

Private Pesticide Applicator’s Licenses are for farmers who apply restricted-use pesticides on his/her own land (or rented land) and produce an agricultural commodity. Each private applicator is required to take & pass the CORE test (general safety for the applicator and the environment) and any category(ies) that correspond to the crops he/she grows. There are 7 categories which certification can be received: Grain and Cereal Crops (category 1), Forage Crops and Livestock (category 2), Fruit and Vegetable Crops (category 3), Nursery and Forest Crops (category 4), Greenhouse Crops (category 5), Fumigation (category 6), and Specialty Uses (category 7). Complete details on the licensing process for private pesticide applicators and study materials can be found at: http://pested.osu.edu/home/privateapplicator/licensing

Commercial Pesticide Applicator Licenses are for farmers or industry personnel who apply pesticides for a business or on land owned by someone else, and usually receive payment for their services. In agriculture this includes agricultural businesses who custom spray crops, as well as farmers who are hired to custom spray for fellow farmers. The commercial license area also includes applicators who work for a government or public agency such as a K-12 schools, colleges, universities, villages, townships, and park districts, in addition to applicators who apply to sites accessible to the public.

Each commercial applicator will need to take and pass the CORE test (general safety for the applicator and the environment) and the category(ies) that correspond to their commercial spray operation. These categories include: Aerial Pest Control (category 1), Agricultural Pest Control (category 2 with 6 sub-categories); Aquatic Pest Control (category 3 with 3 sub-categories), Forest Pest Control (category 4 with 2 sub-categories), Industrial Vegetation (category 5), Ornamental Plant & Shade Tree Pest Control (category 6 with 4 sub-categories), Vertebrate (category 7), Turf (category 8), Animal Pest Control (category 9), Domestic, Institutional, Structural & Health Related Pest Control (category 10 with 4 sub-categories), Livestock Predator Control (Category 11 for USDA employees only), and Wood Destroying Insect Diagnostic Inspection (category 12). Complete details on the commercial categories, licensing process, and their sub-categories can be found at: http://pested.osu.edu/commercialrecert

2019 Test Preparation Classes for Northeast Ohio

OSU Extension in Northeast Ohio will be providing two training sessions to help farmers prepare for the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s Private Pesticide Applicator’s Exam. Attendance at one of these classes is not required but is a great opportunity for applicators to learn what they will need to study for the test. This first class will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Geauga County Extension office. Call the Geauga County Extension office at 440-834-4656 to register. The second class will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Trumbull County Extension office. Call the Trumbull County Extension office at 330-638-6783 to register. The registration fee for each class is $35/person which includes CORE study materials.

See back page for Testing Sessions
2019 ODA Testing Sessions

Are you looking to take obtain your private or commercial pesticide license or wish to add an additional category to your existing license? The Ohio Department of Agriculture will be holding testing sessions during the winter/spring of 2019 in Northeast Ohio. These tests are administered by the Ohio Department of Agriculture and are held in northeast Ohio as a courtesy to producers. Pre-registration is required for each location and can be made by calling the ODA at 614-728-6987 or 1-800-282-1955 (press 3 then 1). For a full list of all locations and dates, visit: http://go.osu.edu/pestexam

Austabula County

Location: OSU Extension Office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, Ohio 44047
Date: March 6, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Directions: Call 440-576-9008

Geauga County

Location: Geauga County Extension Office, 14269 Claridon-Troy Road, Burton, Ohio 44021
Dates: February 20, March 20, April 17, May 22, & June 19, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Directions: Call 440-834-4656

Lake County

Location: Lake County Utilities Learning & Business Center, 1981 Blasé Nemeth Rd, Painesville Twp, Ohio 44077
Dates: February 11 & April 8, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 9:00 a.m.
Directions: Call 440-350-2582

Mahoning County

Location: Mahoning County Extension Office, 490 S. Broad Street, Canfield, Ohio 44406
Dates: January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, & December 2, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 12:00 p.m.
Directions: Call 330-533-5538

Portage County

Location: Portage County Extension Office, 705 Oakwood Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266
Dates: January 17, March 21, May 16, July 18, September 19, & November 21, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Directions: Call 330-296-6432

Trumbull County

Location: Trumbull County Extension Office, 520 West Main Street, Cortland, Ohio 44410
Dates: January 22, February 13, March 13, April 10 & May 8, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Directions: Call 330-638-6783

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