

# NORTHEAST OHIO AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER

Your Weekly Agriculture Update for  
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties

February 18, 2020

## Ashtabula County Agriculture & Natural Resources Needs Assessment 2020

This survey was designed to help provide the Ashtabula County Extension Office with information that will be used to better serve the agricultural community in the county. Participation is not required, but greatly appreciated. Survey responses will remain anonymous and all data will be reported in aggregate. Thank you for your support! You can also complete the survey electronically at: [go.osu.edu/AshtabulaAg2020](https://go.osu.edu/AshtabulaAg2020)

*Share your thoughts and insights to help shape Ashtabula County ANR programming*

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### ***Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!***

We have a jammed packed issue for you today.

The Trumbull Farmer Lunch series tomorrow the 19<sup>th</sup>, discussing grass waterways to prevent erosion, has unfortunately been **cancelled**.

If you live or operate a business in Ashtabula Co. and haven't done so yet, please consider filling out the Ashtabula County ANR Needs Assessment. The survey is easy to complete and takes less than 10 minutes. You can find it online at:

<https://go.osu.edu/ashtabulaag2020>

or pick up a copy at the Ashtabula Co. OSU Extension Office. Read more about it in today's newsletter!

Stay Safe!

**Lee Beers**  
Trumbull County  
Extension Educator

**Andrew Holden**  
Ashtabula County  
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# ***Check Cattle for Lice in Late Winter/Early Spring***

By: Rory Lewandowski, Extension Educator Wayne County

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/02/12/check-cattle-for-lice-in-late-winter-early-spring/>

Check beef and dairy cattle for lice infestations during the late winter and early spring months. Although lice can be present throughout the entire year, high numbers of lice are most likely during winter months when cattle have longer, thicker hair coats, which make self-grooming less effective in reducing lice numbers. Hot summer temperatures, and for pasture-based production systems, direct exposure to sun, plus rain showers, all play a role in reducing lice numbers and offer further explanation of why heavy lice infestations are most often seen during winter months.



There are two type of lice that may infect cattle: sucking lice and biting lice. It is possible to have both types of lice on any one animal. Sucking lice are blood feeders while biting lice feed by scraping cells from the surface of the skin and the base of hairs. Eggs, commonly called nits, are laid and glued as single eggs to hairs. Although there is some variance between lice species, in general, eggs hatch in approximately two weeks into an immature life stage called a nymph. Nymphs resemble adults except that they are smaller. They go through three molts, shedding their skin each time until they reach full adult size in about three weeks. Within a few days of adulthood, females begin egg laying and generally lay one egg per day. Adults typically live two to three weeks. Both sucking and biting lice spend their entire life cycle on the host. Sucking lice will die within a few hours off the host while biting lice may survive for several days if not exposed to direct sunlight. There is no alternative host for either type of lice. Lice are species specific. Cattle lice need cattle as hosts.

It is possible for lice to reach population levels of thousands or even tens of thousands on infected cattle. These types of infestations are associated with reduced weight gains, anemia, predisposition to other disease/illness as a result of accumulated stress and depressed immune response and/or slow recovery from an illness/disease. The economic impact of cattle lice is variable and not always well correlated with the severity of the infestation. However, a figure of ten or more lice per square inch is observed in most instances with a detrimental economic impact. One factor that can reduce the negative effect of lice is a high energy diet. Conversely, a diet low in energy can exacerbate the negative effects of a heavy lice infestation. This certainly should wave a caution flag for many cattle operations since there was a lot of high fiber, low protein and low energy hay made last year that is currently being fed.

Symptoms of a heavy lice infestation are readily visible. Cattle rub and scrape themselves to relieve the itching caused by lice. Clumps of hair will fall out, leaving bare and raw spots on animals. Other areas of the hair coat may exhibit a matted appearance. Cattle with especially heavy infestations of sucking lice are sometimes described as looking “greasy”. This is due to the cattle rubbing that crush the lice, resulting in a mixture of crushed lice, lice feces, blood and serum from the sucking wounds deposited on the skin of the infected animal.

Lice are effectively controlled with a systemic pour-on treatment of any of the ivermectin class of pesticides that include doramectin, eprinomectin, ivomectin or moxidectin. All of these products provide long-term control with a single application. These products are safe to use for a winter louse control application if cattle have previously been treated for grubs before November 1<sup>st</sup>. If cattle have not been treated for grubs, use of these systemic products may result in an adverse reaction if cattle grubs are at a critical stage in their migration, which may find them accumulated around the esophagus and/or spine of the animal. If grubs are killed when they are at these sites an inflammatory reaction can occur resulting in severe bloat or paralysis of the rear legs of the animal. Generally, the critical period is between November 1 and early January here in Ohio, and after that it is safe to use systemic products for louse control again. However, a February 7, 2001 OSU Extension Beef Cattle Letter article on grub and lice control written by former OSU Extension Veterinarian for Beef/Sheep, Dr. William Shulaw, contains the statement: “Treatment of cattle with grub larvae late in the winter or in early spring may kill the grubs without much danger to the animal, but the larval activity, or reaction to their death, can still cause muscle and subcutaneous tissue damage visible at slaughter.” Therefore, another alternative to treat late winter/early spring lice outbreaks in herds that have not been treated for grubs is to use non-systemic insecticides that contain active ingredients such as lambda-cyhalothrin, cyfluthrin or permethrin. Pour-on formulations are most effective.

## ***Closed Coyote Trapping Season is Proposed, Nuisance Removal is Unchanged***

By: Tommy Springer, Wildlife Specialist, Fairfield County Soil and Water Conservation District

Source: [https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/02/12/closed-coyote-trapping-season-is-proposed-  
nuisance-removal-is-unchanged/](https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/02/12/closed-coyote-trapping-season-is-proposed-nuisance-removal-is-unchanged/)

Under this proposal, farmers may still trap or kill coyotes year around if they are considered sick, injured or a nuisance to livestock.

When the Ohio Division of Wildlife released its proposed changes to the 2020-2021 hunting and trapping regulations, probably no proposal received more attention than the one to clarify the classification of coyotes as a furbearer and include them in the

regulated trapping season along with other furbearers such as raccoon and fox (OAC 1501:31-15-09). Under current regulations, coyotes can be hunted and trapped year-round. This new proposal would only affect the trapping portion. Hunting will remain open all year with no bag limit.

As this proposal clears up the legal language that coyotes are considered furbearers, in addition to having an annual hunting license, this proposal requires hunters and trappers to also purchase the fur taker permit that is required to hunt or trap furbearers. Currently, hunters and trappers targeting coyotes are exempt from purchasing a fur taker permit. Remaining as in the past, landowners hunting or trapping coyotes on their own property are exempt from purchasing a hunting license or fur taker permit. Another change implemented if this proposal passes will be the requirement for all individuals trapping coyotes to complete a trapper education course. Currently, this course is only required if trapping furbearers which, again, coyotes would now be considered per this proposal. If you have previously completed a trapper education course in Ohio or any other state, you will not be affected by this change. Worth noting, the Ohio Division of Wildlife's trapper education course is free and offered as both an instructor-led and a home study option. Materials can be printed or viewed online. The completed test answer sheet is then mailed to the Division of Wildlife after which they will mail you a certification card pending a passing score.

Perhaps the most important aspect of this proposal that needs clarification is what it does not change with regards to how producers can deal with nuisance coyotes harassing, harming or killing their livestock. The key components that are not affected by this proposal are the current nuisance wildlife laws which can be found under Ohio Administrative Code 1501:31-15-03 "[Nuisance wild animal control](#)" and Ohio Revised Code 1531.40 "[Nuisance wild animal removal or control services; license](#)." Under these nuisance wild animal laws, coyotes may be trapped or killed year-round if they are considered sick, injured or a nuisance.

Now, with regards to nuisance wild animals, I always recommend starting a dialog with your local wildlife officer to discuss problems you may be having and get on the same page about how you plan to address these nuisance animals. Changes that went into effect in 2013 eliminated requirements for private individuals to be commercially licensed nuisance wild animal control operators when removing certain nuisance wildlife outside of the closed seasons under the caveat that they may not charge a fee or otherwise receive compensation for their control efforts. Bringing your wildlife officer into the loop before you start removing nuisance wildlife will help prevent misunderstandings if your actions are reported by neighbors or other observers.

If you have any questions or concerns about your ability to control nuisance coyotes under this proposed change, don't hesitate to reach out to your wildlife officer or the Division of Wildlife district office closest to you. Public comments regarding

these [proposed rule changes](#) may be made in person during a week long [open house period](#) from March 2 through 6 at any [Division of Wildlife District Office](#), or submitted [online](#) beginning February 21, 2020.

## ***Emergency Calf Management after Dystocia (Difficult Birth)***

By: Dr. Michelle Arnold, UK Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/02/12/emergency-calf-management-after-dystocia-difficult-birth/#more-8242>

“Dystocia” is defined as a difficult or prolonged calving, whether or not human assistance was necessary for delivery of the calf. Factors known to cause dystocia include a mismatch between small pelvic size of the dam and large calf size, abnormal calf presentation (for example, backwards or head turned back), and maternal factors such as weak labor, insufficient dilation of the cervix, or a uterine twist or torsion. Thin cows often experience prolonged labor and calves are born weak and slow to stand and nurse. Inappropriate timing of intervention or excessive force applied during delivery may cause additional stress and injury to an already weakened calf. Following dystocia, a calf is 6 times more likely to get sick than a calf born normally, with most deaths occurring within 96 hours of birth.



**Figure 1: Meconium staining (yellow color) is an indicator of calf stress during delivery. Placing the calf on the sternum (as pictured) maximizes ventilation of the lungs**

The key event in the transition from life inside the uterus to an independent existence is the initiation of breathing. As the lungs inflate, blood is enriched with life-sustaining oxygen. The first breath is the hardest to take and is comparable to the first hard push of air necessary when inflating a balloon. In order to help breathing begin after a difficult delivery, immediately place the calf upright on its sternum (breastbone) to maximize ventilation (Figure 1). Calves should have their nose and mouth cleared of any fluid or other physical obstruction, either by hand or suction bulb. Calves should not be hung upside-down or swung around by their rear legs to remove fluids by gravity. These procedures cause the abdominal organs to push against the diaphragm, making it even more difficult to expand the lungs. Calves should make active respiratory movements within 30 seconds of being delivered.

If spontaneous breathing does not begin, it is important to stimulate respiration. Many methods have been tried but very little published information is available as to their

usefulness. Once the calf is placed on its sternum, vigorous stimulation of the calf by rubbing the head and body and placing a finger or piece of straw in the nose should initiate a gasping reflex that helps bring air into the lungs. Mouth-to-mouth or mouth-to-nose resuscitation is very difficult to do effectively. Establishing a tight seal to prevent air leakage is difficult but, even more importantly, the air blown in usually goes down the esophagus and fills the stomach, making the situation worse for the struggling calf. To avoid these problems, a veterinarian may use an endotracheal tube with an inflatable cuff to provide positive pressure ventilation effectively. Certain prescription medications such as doxapram may also be used to stimulate respiration although severely affected calves do not always respond to it. Veterinarians may also use injectable sodium bicarbonate to correct metabolic acidosis, a condition that often follows dystocia in which the calf's blood is more acidic than it should be due to the lack of oxygen. In general, cardiac resuscitation is not attempted in calves born without a heartbeat as there is very little chance of survival. Similarly, calves that do not respond to respiratory stimulation techniques and cannot sit up on their own after 10 minutes are unlikely to survive.

In moving from the uterus to the outside environment during birth, newborn calves often experience a dramatic shift in temperature. Calves delivered normally maintain their body temperature (thermoregulation) by shivering and by mobilizing energy from brown adipose (fat) tissue. Simple, natural physical activities such as standing, walking, and consuming colostrum will also generate body heat. Following a difficult birth, calves have an impaired response to cold temperatures. Inadequate oxygen can reduce muscle tone and prevent shivering as well as decrease the calf's ability to utilize its brown fat. Calves with thermal stress and low energy are slow to stand and nurse, limiting their ability to warm themselves through this natural physical behavior. These calves should be exposed to an infrared heater or placed in a warm bath to improve rectal temperature, blood oxygen level, and respiratory rate. If electric heating pads are used, they must be closely monitored because pads can get hot enough to cause burns, particularly if the calf is unable to move off the pad. Heat lamps must also be monitored to prevent burns.

The single most important factor in calf survival after a calf establishes its breathing, is receiving and absorbing an adequate amount of good-quality colostrum. It is essential that all calves receive 3-4 quarts of colostrum within the first 6 hours of life, preferably 2 of those quarts within an hour of birth. Since a calf is unlikely to voluntarily suckle after dystocia, it is recommended to feed colostrum via stomach tube ("esophageal feeder") within one hour of birth if there is any doubt as to the calf's vitality. Calves that are wedged in the pelvic canal for prolonged periods may be born with a swollen head and/or tongue. This condition will usually resolve itself within one to two days but feeding the calf with an esophageal feeder is required until the calf is able to suckle. Colostrum contains immunoglobulins that form the calf's immune system as well as nutrients vital to the newborn such as fatsoluble vitamins and sugars. A weak newborn

calf left to suckle the cow without assistance is a major cause of “failure of passive transfer” (FPT) of antibodies from dam to calf because of delayed consumption of colostrum. FPT increases susceptibility to infectious diseases, increases neonatal sickness and death and has long-term effects on growth and performance if the calf survives.

Major problems in the calf may arise days to weeks after a complicated delivery. Excessive force applied during delivery may result in trauma such as fractures of the legs, ribs and vertebral column and damage to the spinal cord. The extent of these injuries may not be obvious at birth but will become apparent over the next one to two weeks. The umbilicus (or “navel”) may become infected due to prolonged contact with the ground, predisposing the calf to infections carried by the bloodstream to all major organs and death follows shortly afterward. Mild antiseptics can be used on the umbilical cord but avoid strong, caustic agents as these will cause irritation and inflammation of these sensitive tissues. Maintaining a clean, dry calving area and ensuring adequate high-quality colostrum ingestion quickly after birth are the best methods to prevent disease in fragile newborns.

In summary, success in saving a calf after a difficult delivery will depend largely on the condition of the calf at birth. Some will suffer major trauma during delivery resulting in severe bruising, fractured ribs, bleeding in the central nervous system, and other maladies resulting in death irrespective of treatment. Other calves will be born with a heartbeat but not breathing; these calves are good candidates for resuscitation. Establishing a straight airway by placing the calf on its sternum, initiating breathing through vigorous rubbing of the head and body and tickling the nasal passages with a piece of straw, and establishing a warm body temperature are the cornerstones to immediate calf survival. Once the calf is stable, early delivery of high-quality colostrum is essential for passive transfer of immunoglobulins, energy, and long-term survival.

## ***FSA Reminds Producers of Approaching NAP March 16 Deadline for 2020 Crops***

By: Ohio Farm Service Agency

Source: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFSA/bulletins/27b3334>

FSA reminds producers who are interested in the 2020 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), of the need to apply for coverage by the following crop deadline dates.

- **March 16, 2020 is the deadline for 2020 NAP coverage on forage sorghum, oats, potatoes, Soybeans, Sunflowers and all spring planted specialty**

## **crops grown for food.**

- **March 16, 2020 is the deadline to purchase NAP coverage for hemp. NAP will be available for 2020 to provide insurance-type coverage due to adverse weather conditions. NAP provides coverage against loss for hemp grown for fiber, grain, seed, or cannabidiol (CBD) for the 2020 crop year where no permanent federal crop insurance program is available.**

The 2018 Farm Bill reinstates higher levels of coverage, from 50 to 65 percent of expected production in 5 percent increments, at 100 percent of the average market price. Producers of organics and crops marketed directly to consumers also may exercise the “buy-up” option to obtain NAP coverage of 100 percent of the average market price at the coverage levels of between 50 and 65 percent of expected production. NAP basic coverage is available at 55 percent of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of expected production. For all coverage levels, the new NAP service fee is the lesser of \$325 per crop or \$825 per producer per county, not to exceed a total of \$1,950 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties. These amounts reflect a \$75 service fee increase for crop, county or multi-county coverage. Eligible producers can apply for 2020 NAP coverage at their local FSA Office using form CCC-471, Application for Coverage.

To help producers learn more about the NAP program and how it can help them, USDA, offers an online Web tool at [www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap). The webtool allows producers to determine whether their crops are eligible for coverage and gives producers an opportunity to explore a variety of options and levels to determine the best protection level for their operation.

The 2018 Farm Bill NAP amendments specify that qualified veteran farmers or ranchers are now eligible for a service fee waiver and premium reduction, if the NAP applicant meets certain eligibility criteria.

Beginning, limited resource and targeted underserved farmers or ranchers remain eligible for a waiver of NAP service fees and premium reduction when they file form CCC-860, “*Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource and Beginning Farmer or Rancher Certification.*”

For a NAP application, eligibility and related program information, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap), view the [NAP factsheet](#) or contact your [County FSA office](#).

# ***Enrollment Continues for Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage Programs***

By: Ohio Farm Service Agency

Source: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFSA/bulletins/27b3334>

Agricultural producers can continue to enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs – two U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) safety net programs – for the 2019 and 2020 crop year.

ARC provides income support payments on historical base acres when actual crop revenue declines below a specified guaranteed level. PLC provides income support payments on historical base acres when the effective price for a covered commodity falls below its reference price. The 2018 Farm Bill reauthorized and updated both programs.

Signup for the 2020 crop year closes June 30, 2020, while signup for the 2019 crop year closes March 15, 2020. Producers who have not yet enrolled for 2019 can enroll for both 2019 and 2020 during the same visit to an FSA county office.

ARC and PLC have options for the farm operator who is actively farming the land as well as the owner of the land. Farm owners also have a one-time opportunity to update PLC payment yields beginning with crop year 2020. If the farm owner and producer visit the FSA county office together, FSA can also update yield information during that visit.

Covered commodities include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium and short grain rice, safflower seed, seed cotton, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat.

## **More Information**

For more information on ARC and PLC including two online decision tools that assist producers in making enrollment and election decisions specific to their operations, visit the [ARC and PLC webpage](#).

# ***Winning winery: Debonné Vineyards brings national recognition to northeast Ohio wine***

By: Sarah Donaldson

Source: <https://www.farmanddairy.com/news/winning-winery-debonne-vineyards-brings-national-recognition-to-northeast-ohio-wine/599472.html>

MADISON, Ohio — Wineries in the Grand River Valley are clustered almost as closely as a bunch of grapes. There are 31 wineries in the area, and about 16 of them are in the stretch between Route 534 and Route 528.

The wineries help bring tourists, other businesses, like hotels, and investments into the area. But all this wasn't there in the early 1970s, when Tony Debevc established Debonné Vineyards, in Madison, Ohio.

## **Beginnings**

Debonné Vineyards built on a farming legacy that started with Debevc's grandfather in 1916. Debevc's grandfather had a "typical small family farm" that specialized in fruit and grapes. Debevc's father followed in his footsteps, buying land next door and focusing on grapes as the demand for fresh fruit boomed around World War II. In the early 1970s, after graduating from Ohio State University with a degree in horticulture, and after serving a few years in the military, Debevc came back to the family farm to build a winery, one of the first in the area since the Prohibition. His vision has paid off, even as more wineries pop up. Debonné was recently recognized in the national San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, a second nod from that contest over the years.

## **Present day**

Today, Debevc's business has expanded to three wineries, including Grand River Cellars and Cask 307, and a brewery, Double Wing Brewery, run by his son, Tony Debevc, Jr. The 175-plus acres of grapes grown on Debevc Farm also supply a fourth winery and a distillery owned by Debevc's vineyard manager, Gene Sigel. Debevc sits at a table in Debonné Vineyards, the "mother ship," as he calls it, wearing a vest with the winery's name embroidered on it, on a recent morning, in late January. Employees at the vineyards and Debevc Farm have been harvesting grapes for ice wine over night. At 10 a.m., Sigel is pressing the harvested grapes before they thaw at a nearby location. The grape-growing and winemaking processes work together. "Mother Nature provides us with a certain parameter of temperatures and conditions," Debevc said. "And then once that comes to the cellar, then the winemaker has those, basically, colors on his plate." After the grapes are harvested, Michael Harris, winemaker for Debonné Vineyards, has options to blend different varieties and clones, and use different kinds of

fermentation. “Gene works more with Mother Nature, and Michael works more with the materials that he’s given. The Mother Nature part is usually more difficult, ’cause she’s pretty ruthless,” Debevc said.

## **Award**

Both processes came together well for the winery’s 2017 chardonnay, which recently received a Best in Class award at the [2020 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition](#) in the \$10-13.99 class. The majority of the best in class winners came from California, and there was only one other winner from Ohio. More than 6,000 wines from over 1,000 wineries were entered. “It’s a nice pat on the back,” Harris said. “It just happened to be a nice year where everything lined up.” Harris knew the wine was good. Customers told him when it first came out. “It’s reward enough that people appreciate it and tell me,” Harris said. But the significance of the award didn’t sink in right away for Harris. “Tony called me, and I knew, because Tony never calls me unless there’s a problem,” Harris said. Harris will go to San Francisco this month for the wine pouring and presentation. In 1993, Debevc said, Debonné Vineyards won the white wine sweepstakes in the same competition, which is technically a higher award than this one. But now, he said, the market is more competitive. “There’s just been a big expansion not only of wineries, breweries and distilleries, but of farm operations trying to make a profit,” Debevc said.

## **Accomplishments**

Debevc’s biggest accomplishment, however, isn’t any of the awards the vineyards has won along the way. “I think one of the biggest things that happened to me is I got married,” he said. Debevc’s wife, Beth, started working with him early on when they were dating and became his partner in the business when they married in 1975. She runs the financial books for all four of the Debevc’s operations. He hired some key employees early on, some of whom stayed for up to 30 years. The business has grown to about 25 full-time workers, plus part-time and seasonal employees. “I think hiring and getting involved with strong staff and the right key people was very, very important to us,” he said. Debevc believes that promoting the Grand River Valley region, as opposed to just his own wineries, also has helped over the years. “It brought lots of attention and investment to the area,” he said. “That’s why we got new hotels, the lodge ... it’s the creation of an industry versus individual farms.”

## **Competition**

The competition is good for customers, Debevc said, and has driven the winery to keep improving its products. It has also drawn other businesses, like limo services and hotels, to the area. But it also brings challenges. “In the summer, there’s a lot of fish, so to speak, to catch in this area,” Debevc said. By January, customers are mostly local, and

business is slower. “It’s like typical farming,” Debevc said. “You harvest your money in the six or nine months of the year, and you save a bunch of those chips for the winter. And if you don’t, you’re probably going to be somewhat in trouble.” While seltzers and lighter alcoholic drinks are popular among young people, Debevc said, his main demographic is people who are “empty-nesters” or are close to being empty-nesters, with money to spend and time to travel. Time will tell whether the younger generation starts to prefer wine too, but Debevc noted that preferences are always changing. While he is exploring the idea of making seltzers, he said the tourism and entertainment side of the business is still going strong.

## **Aviation**

Debevc didn’t always want to come back to the farm. He has been a pilot since 1968. “My passion has always been aviation,” he said. Even now, he flies a private airplane. The same morning, as Sigel is pressing grapes for ice wine, Debevc has plans to leave before noon to fly a client to Washington, D.C. But with the farm, support from his parents, encouragement from Ohio State professors and the demand, the opportunities in the wine industry were too good to pass up. “It just made a lot of sense,” Debevc said. “If I’ve ever learned anything in my life, it’s that I always listen to people with experience. Not always agree with them, but I always listen. That’s probably one of my biggest assets.”

## ***Trumbull County Farmer Lunch Series Returns for 2020***

OSU Extension, Trumbull SWCD, and USDA-NRCS have teamed up again to offer a series of educational luncheons in 2020. We will be taking a break in March and hope you attend our NE Ohio Agronomy School on March 11<sup>th</sup>, but we’ll be back on April 15<sup>th</sup> with a farmer discussion on cover crops and what works in our region, and what does not. Each of these events is \$5/person and this includes lunch. Lunch is again sponsored by the Trumbull County Holstein Club to keep costs down. The programs start at 11:30A.M. and will conclude by 1:00P.M. If you would like to register or have further questions, please call 330-638-6783 or email [beers.66@osu.edu](mailto:beers.66@osu.edu).

# ***Ashtabula County Needs Assessment Announced***

By: Andrew Holden, ANR Educator, Ashtabula County Extension Office

Hello, Ashtabula County! I am announcing the release of my 2020 Ashtabula County Agriculture Needs Assessment. Please read the description below and consider filling out the survey at: <http://go.osu.edu/AshtabulaAg2020>

During my first year as the Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator here in Ashtabula County I have had the privilege to meet with many producers and agriculture industry professionals. Going forward I will continue to meet with and work with our great ag community to offer the highest quality, researched-based information to help create more opportunities for improvement.

To help improve the agricultural programs and information offered by the Ashtabula County office of Ohio State University Extension, I am now asking for your assistance by completing this short survey. Whether you come to every extension event, or have never attended one, please use this opportunity to let us know what you would like to see in the future. The results of this survey along with other information sources will help guide the focus of agricultural education in the county. The survey isn't restricted to any aspect of agriculture, if you have any interest or involvement in agriculture, please fill out the survey today!



To access the survey, you can go to the web address: <http://go.osu.edu/AshtabulaAg2020> You can also scan the QR code in this article to reach the survey. If you would like a paper copy sent to you, please contact the OSU Extension office at 440-576-9008 or stop in at 39 Wall St. Jefferson, OH 44047. We respect your privacy; all survey responses will remain anonymous and all data will be reported in aggregate. If you have any questions or issues with the survey please contact me, Andrew Holden. Thank you!

# ***Ashtabula Co. Dairy Banquet Update for 2020***

By: Andrew Holden

On behalf of the Ashtabula County Dairy Service Unit, I would like to share an update with you regarding the 2020 Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet; It is no secret that the dairy industry in this county has been declining over the past years. Across the region, and as a whole, the dairy sector has been hit hard. It is because of these circumstances that we view the Dairy Banquet as more important than ever. The Dairy Service Unit wants to continue to offer an event to properly recognized

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION  
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our local dairies hard work and achievements and offer a time where we can join as a farming community and celebrate.

Over the past few years the committee has been exploring ways to enhance the annual Dairy Banquet. This year, for the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the banquet, the committee has decided to hold the banquet in conjunction with the Ashtabula County Farm Bureau Ice Cream Social. This decision was made to allow for a larger audience to see the achievements of our great dairies and to make the banquet a larger community event to promote the dairy industry. The awards will remain the same as previous years and we will continue to hold the Dairy Princess role for the following year. If you know of anyone who is interested in running for Dairy Princess please have them contact Lindsey Zaebst at 440-313-6793.

The Banquet/Ice Cream Social is scheduled as Sunday, **June 14th, 2020**, located at Bossy's Way Dairy Farm. The banquet will lead into the ice cream social with awards being announced as the social begins, farm tours and ice cream will follow. We will be mailing out and publishing more details about this event as they become available.

## ***Ashtabula OSU Extension seeking 4-H Summer Student Assistant***

OSU Extension in Ashtabula County is looking for a Summer College Student Assistant to assist with the summer 4-H Youth Development program. The purpose of this county-based extension internship program is to provide an opportunity for a college student to gain workforce preparation skills to prepare them for success as they enter the first position of their professional careers. This summer position provides valuable pre-professional experience for educational and community-based careers.

Applicants must have completed one year of college and have evidence of successful leadership experience in 4-H, school and/or community organizations. Candidates should be self-motivated, possess strong organizational skills and must be available to work a flexible schedule including occasional nights and weekends.

The Student Assistant will be provided with a variety of county-based Extension workforce experiences. Job responsibilities include but are not limited to: assisting the County Staff with Summer Youth Camps, Summer School Enrichment programs, and Junior Fair activities.

Click [here](#) to read the full Job Description and for more information. Interested individuals should submit a cover letter and resume with three references to the OSU Extension Office at 39 Wall Street Jefferson, Ohio 44047 by **March 6, 2020**.

## Upcoming Events

**February 19, 2020 11:30AM**

Trumbull Farmer Lunch  
Series – Grass Waterways for  
Erosion Control **Cancelled**

**February 19, 2020 6 – 9 P.M.**

Fertilizer Applicator  
Certification Training (New  
Applicators)

**March 7, 2020 9 – 11A.M.**

Prune Into March  
Hartford Orchards

**March 11, 2020 9AM to 3PM**

Northeast Ohio Agronomy  
School – Bristolville, OH

**April 15, 2020 11:30AM**

Trumbull Farmer Lunch  
Series – Cover Crops – A  
Farmer Discussion

**June 14th, 2020**

Dairy Banquet/ Ice Cream  
Social



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**Lee Beers**

**Trumbull County Extension**

**520 West Main Street**

**Cortland, OH 44410**

**330-638-6783**

**beers.66@osu.edu**

**trumbull.osu.edu**

**Andrew Holden**

**Ashtabula County Extension**

**39 Wall Street**

**Jefferson, OH 44047**

**440-576-9008**

**holden.155@osu.edu**

**ashtabula.osu.edu**

**Angie Arnold**

**Portage County Extension**

**705 Oakwood St., Suite 103**

**Ravenna, OH 44266**

**330-296-6432**

**arnold.1143@osu.edu**

**portage.osu.edu**

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Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION  
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties

6<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Chili Cook Off  
& Family Fun Night**



Sponsored by Ashtabula County 4-H Camp Counselors

**Friday, February 21, 2020**

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Ashtabula County A-Tech Cafeteria**

1565 St Rt. 167 Jefferson, Ohio

**Tickets \$5**



**Children 3 and under Free**

Tickets are available through any 4-H Camp Counselor or at the Extension Office  
Cornbread, dessert and beverage are included



**Lots to See and Do!**

**Basket Palooza**

Many different Chili recipes to try.

Vote for your favorite!

All proceeds benefit the Ashtabula County 4-H Camp Counselors program.

**For more information contact the O.S.U. Extension Office,  
Abbey Averill 440-576-9008 or [averill.10@osu.edu](mailto:averill.10@osu.edu).**



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[ashtabula.osu.edu](http://ashtabula.osu.edu)

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**CFAES**

**OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION**

# **NORTHEAST OHIO AGRONOMY SCHOOL**

**March 11, 2020**

**Bristolville Township Hall**

**1864 Ohio State Route 88**

**Bristolville, OH 44402**

**(Old fire hall at corner of OH45 and OH88)**

**9:00A.M – 2:30P.M**

**\$10/person**

**Includes Lunch**

The Northeast Ohio Agronomy School is back for 2020! A wide variety of topics will be discussed throughout the day including H2Ohio, controlling pigweeds, variable rate technology, soybean maturities, and economic updates. Please see the back for speakers and a tentative agenda.

The Agronomy School will be held at the Bristolville Community Center in Bristolville, OH. The community center is in the old fire hall at the intersection of OH-88 and OH-45, right across the street from the library. Cost for the program is \$15/person and includes snacks, lunch, and handouts. The Trumbull SWCD will also be providing a free copy of the Cover Crop Guide. We will also have Agronomy Guides, Field Guides, and Weed Control Guides for purchase. Pesticide, fertilizer, and CCA credits will be available. For more information, or to register call 330-638-6783. **Registration deadline is March 6.**



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**2020 NORTHEAST OHIO AGRONOMY SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM**

**Complete the below information and send with payment to OSU Extension Trumbull County, 520 West Main Street, Cortland, OH 44410.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10/person = \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed

Please make checks payable to OSU Extension



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**9:00A.M. H2Ohio and Current Research on Water Quality (Nutrient Placement)**

- Greg LaBarge – OSU Agronomic Crops Field Specialist
- This talk will discuss the new H2Ohio program and what that means for NE Ohio farmers. Greg will also discuss recent findings for nutrient placement

**10:00A.M Soybean Maturity Selection in Difficult Years**

- Laura Lindsey, OSU Assistant Professor Hort and Crop Science
- Dr. Lindsey will discuss considerations required for selecting soybean maturities and what that looked like in a wet 2019.

**11:00A.M. Break – Visit with Sponsors**

**11:15A.M. Agriculture Profitability Outlook**

- Andrew Holden, OSU Extension Educator Ashtabula County
- This session will discuss dealing with uncertainty in the market, how to manage the risk, the 2018 Farm Bill, future crop margins, and other items to know for the next year.

**12:00P.M. Lunch – Sponsored by W.I. Miller and Sons**

**12:45P.M. Lipstick on a Pigweed – How to Identify and Control Pigweeds**

- Lee Beers, OSU Extension Educator Trumbull County
- Les Ober, OSU Extension Geauga
- Palmer amaranth and waterhemp will be a continuing challenge for our area. Learn how to properly identify waterhemp, palmer amaranth, redroot, and smooth pigweeds and how to control them.

**1:45P.M. Variable Rate Technology – How to Take Full Advantage in NE Ohio**

- Angela Arnold, OSU Extension Educator Portage County
- Variable rate technology can help you reduce your inputs and costs, and this session will discuss the basics and help you get started.

**2:30P.M. Adjourn**



Tuesday , March 3<sup>rd</sup> , 2020 | 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

# Northeast Ohio

# Winter Cattle Clinic

This year's topics include:

Neonatal Calf Care & Drug Residue Prevention

The Ashtabula County office of OSU Extension, the Ashtabula County Cattlemen's Association, and the Ashtabula County Dairy Service Unit would like to invite Northeast Ohio beef & dairy producers to the "Northeast Ohio Winter Cattle Clinic" on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds Expo Building.

Cattle are most vulnerable just after birth, so maintaining proper care during this time makes the difference when working to raising a healthy heard. Join us March 3<sup>rd</sup> to hear **Dr. Bryan Elliott** share best practices for neonatal calf care. The clinic will also feature a presentation on drug residue prevention form Ohio Department of Agriculture Veterinarian, **Dr. Ellen Yoakam**. 4-H and FFA youth will also gain valuable experience from this workshop. There is no cost for this educational evening so RSVP today!

**Location:** Expo Building at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds  
127 N Elm St, Jefferson, Ohio 44047

**Cost:** Free to attend but please RSVP by March 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Registration:** Please RSVP for this program by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008 or emailing Andrew Holden at Holden.155@osu.edu

**Light Refreshments Included!**

**This event is co-sponsored by The Ashtabula County Cattlemen's Association & The Ashtabula County Dairy Service Unit**

[ashtabula.osu.edu](http://ashtabula.osu.edu)



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# Woodland Workshops



## Increase Your Wealth and Woodland Health Workshop

No matter the size of your woodlot, your trees have value that increase with time, proper management, and optimal health.

Join us as we explore tools and resources to sustainably and profitably manage woodlands on your property. Learn about federal programs that can help you achieve your timber and wildlife goals for the new year!

This workshop is being offered in Trumbull County on 1/23/2020 and Portage County on 2/20/2020. All are welcome to attend either workshop location regardless of residence.

### Trumbull

January 23, 2020 - 6:00 - 7:30 PM  
Trumbull County Agriculture and  
Family Education Center Meeting Room  
520 W Main St  
Cortland, Oh 44410  
[330-637-2046 x3](tel:330-637-2046)

### Portage

February 20, 2020 - 10:00 - 11:30 AM  
Garden Meeting Room  
Portage Soil and Water Conservation  
District Building  
6970 State Route 88  
Ravenna, Oh 44266  
[330-297-7633 x3](tel:330-297-7633)

This workshop is FREE, but registration is requested in order to prepare materials. If you need special accommodation for this meeting, please contact Kara MacDowell at 330-282-8622.

