Northeast Ohio Agri-Culture Newsletter

Your Weekly Agriculture Update for Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties  

February 6, 2018

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Hello, Northeast Ohio Counties!

Well, that pesky ground hog saw his shadow so 6 more weeks of winter to come! Our weather continues to be a rollercoaster and if predictions hold we will be cold and snow covered for the rest of the month.

We have lots of programs scheduled for the next 6 weeks to keep you busy. We hope to see you at many of these events. Have a great week!

David Marrison
Extension Educator
Ag & Natural Resources
Ashtabula County

Lee Beers
Extension Educator
Ag & Natural Resources
Trumbull County

Erik Draper teaches at last Friday’s Pesticide Re-certification in Burton, Ohio
Winter Has Seen Wild Swings in the Weather
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter

The winter has seen wild swings in the weather and climate from cold to warm to cold. The outlook for February calls for this wild swing pattern to continue with periods of cold and mild along with periods of wet, snow and dry. The end result should be temperatures slightly colder than normal for February and precipitation at or above normal. Over the next two weeks precipitation liquid equivalent should average 1.5-2.5 inches over Ohio. Normal is about 1 inch in this period.

La Nina continues in the eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean with cooler than normal waters. This tends to lead to more challenging years in the Ohio Valley for agriculture. See: https://www.climate.gov/enso The outlook for March through May planting season continues to calls for a gradual switch from cooler than normal to start to warmer than normal by later May. It also overall suggests wetter than normal with a possible switch to drier than normal by May or June. The outlook for summer growing season calls for warmer and drier than normal from the latest climate models.

Ohio Farm Business Analysis Program
By: Dianne Shoemaker
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2018-03/ohio-farm-business-analysis-program

The message is clear: farms must know their costs of production for corn, soybeans, hay, milk, meat, and any other commodities they produce. Why? To make informed marketing, production, and financial management decisions that contribute to the overall profitability of the whole farm business.

To help Ohio’s farm families achieve financial success in today’s challenging marketplace, the Ohio Farm Business Analysis Program is expanding our capacity to serve farmers across Ohio. Thanks to a USDA/NIFA grant, four additional Farm Business Analysis Technicians are ready to help farmers complete analysis of their 2017 business year.

Farm business analysis is a tool that can be applied to any farm, regardless of size, crop, or livestock enterprise. Financial management is critical to the success of every farm business, and with analysis, farms are able to better understand the numbers behind their profits or losses.

To complete a farm’s analysis, we start with beginning and ending balance sheets from the most recent business year. To fill in the year between the balance sheets, we provide input forms that cover all income, expenses, capital purchases, sales, and enterprise information.

Farmers complete a whole farm analysis and may choose to do enterprise analysis. They receive their farm’s analysis and enterprise summaries that include their costs of production per acre, per unit (bu, ton, cwt, head) as well as machinery costs per acre. At the conclusion of each
year’s analysis, farmers receive Ohio summary data, along with personalized benchmark reports that help them quickly identify areas of strength and concern.

All farm data is treated and handled with the utmost care to preserve confidentiality. Farms that complete analysis also contribute to the database of Ohio farm financial and production data. Ohio farm data is used for teaching, research, extension education and policy decision making.

To better serve Ohio’s farmers, the Farm Business Analysis Program has added four new Farm Business Analysis Technicians serving central and western Ohio. These technicians work out of the County Extension Offices in Defiance, Licking Miami and Pickaway counties, and will also work with farms in surrounding counties. We welcome these new technicians and encourage you to contact the technician nearest your farm to get started on Farm Business Analysis:

Defiance County 419.782.4771 Clint Schroeder schroeder.307@osu.edu

Licking County 740.670.5315 Dave Grum grum.1@osu.edu

Mahoning County 330.533.5538 Cristina Benton benton.132@osu.edu

Miami County 937.440.3945 Sharon Harris harris.2835@osu.edu

Pickaway County 740.474.7534 Trish Levering levering.43@osu.edu

Thanks to the USDA-NIFA Farm Business Analysis grant, the cost for a farm to complete an analysis for the 2017 business year is $100. To learn more about farm business analysis, contact Dianne Shoemaker or Haley Shoemaker at 330-533-5538 or email at shoemaker.3@osu.edu or shoemaker.306@osu.edu. See past farm business summaries at http://farmprofitability.osu.edu.

**Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association to Hold Meeting on February 24**

The next meeting of the Ashtabula County Bee Keepers Association will be Saturday February 24, 2018 at the Ashtabula County Extension Office located at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, Ohio. The meeting will begin with a Pot Luck Dinner at noon. Please bring a dish/dessert to share. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. with State Representative John Patterson speaking on House Bill 392 and the Ohio Sensitive Crop Registry. A beginning bee keeper class is also being planned for March 10, 2018. Contact Sharon Riccio at sjriccio@yahoo.com or call 440-576-8818 to register or for more information.
**Chili Cook-Off & Family Fun Night to be held on February 23 in Jefferson**

The Ashtabula County 4-H Camp Counselors will be holding their 4th Annual Chili Cook Off and Family Fun Night on Friday, February 23 at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds in the 4-H Expo building. The event will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and your $5 ticket includes chili, cornbread, dessert and beverage and a vote for your favorite chili. The evening will be full of fun activities for the whole family. There will also be a basket palooza. Pre-sale tickets can be purchase from any Camp Counselor or at the O.S.U Extension Office. Enjoy a variety of chili while helping a group of hard working youth.

**Northeast Ohio Winter Grape School Slated for March 1, 2018**

OSU Extension and the OARDC Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station are pleased to be hosting the Northeast Ohio Winter Grape School on Thursday, March 1, 2018 from 9:00 until 12:00 noon at St. Joseph Vineyards located at 7882 Warner Rd. Madison, Ohio 44057.

The featured speakers for this event include Dr. Melanie Lewis-Ivey, Fruit Pathologist, OSU-OARDC, Department of Plant Pathology; Andrew Kirk, Research Specialist for Ohio State University, OARDC Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station; and Thomas deHaas -OSU Extension Educator for Lake County. Session topics include Integrated Pest Management Update for Ohio Vineyards, Core Pesticide Safety, Personal Protective Equipment, Sanitation, and Sensors in the Vineyard.

The registration fee for this program is $15.00/per person. Pre-registration is required by Thursday, February 22 with a late registration of an additional $10. Registration includes refreshments, speaker travel expenses, pesticide education credit and program handouts.

Participants can register on-line at: [http://www.cvent.com/d/6tqv5l](http://www.cvent.com/d/6tqv5l). For those unable to register online: Make checks payable to OSU Lake County Extension, and mail to Lake County Extension office, 99 East Erie Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077. Contact the Lake County Extension office at 440-350-2269 for more information.

**Northeast Ohio Calving Workshop to be held on February 22, 2018 in Jefferson, Ohio**

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 Calving Workshop” on Thursday, February 22, 2018 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds located at 127 North Elm Street in Jefferson, Ohio.

Calving issues cause stress and economic loss for many northeast Ohio dairy and beef operations each year. To help producers increase their...
calving management skills, we have invited Dr. Gustavo Schuenemann (OSU Extension Dairy Veterinarian) to share his calving expertise. This intensive clinic will offer dairy and beef producers calving management knowledge in a face-to-face and hands-on environment. Topics will include: what is normal and what is abnormal in calving, techniques for assisting delivery, trouble shooting delivery problems, factors causing calving difficulties, post-delivery problems, when to call for professional help, and the post-calving management & health.

The clinic includes about 1 hour of classroom instruction followed by 1 hour of hands-on demonstration. Participants will practice delivery techniques and newborn care management practices using a calving simulator developed by Dr. Schuenemann. This hands-on course is free and open to all dairy and beef producers in Northeast Ohio. 4-H and FFA youth will also gain valuable experience from this workshop.

No registration is required for this event and light refreshments will be served. A program flyer can be found at: [http://go.osu.edu/ne-events](http://go.osu.edu/ne-events) More information can be received by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008. Do not miss this chance to increase your ability to handle the problem calving situations which challenge us during calving season.

### 2018-2019 Ashtabula County Beef Scholarships Applications Available

OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association are pleased to announce they will be awarding two youth beef scholarships for the 2018-2019 school year. One $1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a deserving 2018 High School Senior who will be attending an accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute in 2018-2019. In addition, one $500 scholarship will be awarded to a current College Student who is currently attending an accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute.

Applicants must be resident of Ashtabula County. The first preference by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association is the scholarships be awarded to deserving students who have been involved in the beef industry as a youth. Examples of this could include: working on a family beef operation; involved with a beef project through 4-H or FFA; or works on a local beef farm. The second preference for the scholarship recipients would be awarded to students who are currently or will be studying a beef related field in accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute. Previous winners of the $1,000 High School Senior Scholarship are eligible to apply for the $500 College Scholarship. However, the $500 college scholarship can only be received once by a student during their college career.

Applications must be received by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association by Monday, April 16, 2018 by 4:30 p.m. for consideration for the scholarship. No late applications will be considered. The application can be obtained at: [http://go.osu.edu/ne-events](http://go.osu.edu/ne-events) Additional information can be obtained by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.
Northeast Ohio Agronomy School Slated for February 21, 2018

The OSU Extension offices in Northeast Ohio are pleased to be offering the “2018 Northeast Ohio Agronomy School” on Wednesday, February 21, 2018 from 9:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Williamsfield Community Center located at 5920 State Route 322 in Williamsfield, Ohio. With profit margins decreasing it will be vital for crop producers to get the biggest bang from the dollars they invest in land rental, seed and fertilizer, technology, chemicals, and crop protection in 2018. A full day of topics with six different speakers has been planned for producers to learn more about the major issues impacting corn and soybean production in northeast Ohio.

Morning Session- Jeff Stachler, OSU Extension Educator for Auglaize County will “ZOOM” in via the internet to help farmers learn how to control troublesome weeds. Learn more about controlling marestail, lambsquarter, common ragweed, redroot pigweed, and grasses. Discussion will also be held on waterhemp, one of Ohio’s newest weeds, which is heading its way east across Ohio. Alan Sundermeier, OSU Extension Educator in Wood County will then help producers learn about Ohio’s Soil Health Initiative. Learn what makes up a healthy soil and how can farmers can measure it. This interactive session will demonstrate water holding capacity, compaction, and biological attributes of soil. Techniques for improving soil productivity will also be discussed. To cap off the morning, David Marrison, OSU Extension Educator for Ashtabula County will help provide tips for making higher profits from your crop enterprise. Learn how to analyze your farm’s financial situation, how to create effective crop budgets and how to examine your cost of production. This session will also examine the new tax legislation and how it will impact agriculture.

Lunch- As always, a hearty farmer lunch prepared by Lahti Catering means attendees will not go away hungry! This lunch is sponsored by W.I. Miller & Sons of Farmdale, Ohio and each of our program sponsors will provide a short industry update during lunch.

Afternoon Session- To kick off the afternoon session, Dr. Scott Shearer, OSU Associate Professor in Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering will help farmers examine the impacts of soil compaction. Increasing production costs and tighter profit margins are causing many to question the value of new tire or track technologies. This presentation will provide farmers with a foundation for considering the value of these technologies along with field data from studies including grain carts and planters. Dr. John Fulton, OSU Associate Professor in Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering Technology will then help producers learn how to use precision ag on their small & medium crop farms without breaking the bank. This presentation will cover the basic precision technologies available while discussing potential value. To close out the day, Lee Beers, OSU Extension Educator for Trumbull County will address some of the more volatile issues which producers are sure to face 2018. This presentation will include a discussion on Dicamba and much more.

Sponsors & Credits- This workshop is sponsored by the OSU Extension offices in Ashtabula, Trumbull & Geauga Counties with support from W.I. Miller & Sons, Centerra Coop, Doebler’s
Hybrids, King Crop Insurance, Pioneer Seeds & the Ohio Soybean Council. Certified Crop Advisor and Private & Commercial Pesticide Credits have been applied for.

Registration-The registration fee for this workshop is $15 per person and includes refreshments, lunch, speaker travel expenses, and program handouts. 2018 Weed Control Guides will be on sale for $16 at the workshop as well as the Ohio Agronomy Guide for $17. Pre-registration is required by February 13, 2018. Make checks payable to OSU Extension, and mail to Ashtabula County Extension office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. A registration flyer can be found at:  http://go.osu.edu/ne-events  More information can be received by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

Growing Shiitake Mushroom Program Slated for March 15
The Ashtabula County Extension office will be hosting a shitake mushroom growing workshop on Thursday, March 15, 2018 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. During this workshop, participants will learn the basics of growing shiitake mushrooms at home- including the best species of trees to use, log preparation, types of spawn, and inoculation. After a short classroom discussion, participants will drill and inoculate an oak log to take home. Participants are encouraged to bring a cordless drill and a 5/16” diameter bit if they have it, though several will be available to share. The workshop is $25 and space is limited. To register, contact the Ashtabula County Extension office at: 440-576-9008. A complete registration flyer can be obtained at:  http://go.osu.edu/ne-events

Hydrangea School to be Held on April 26, 2018
The Ashtabula County Extension office is pleased to be offering a Hydrangea School on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at the Ashtabula County Extension Office located at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, Ohio from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Join OSU Extension Educator Eric Barrett to discover the world of hydrangeas. Learn about types, care, pruning and bloom times. You'll receive a quick reference chart to take to the garden center and a hydrangea plant to take home. The registration fee for this workshop is $30 per person. Please make checks payable to OSU Extension. Registration includes handouts, light refreshments and a hydrangea plant to take home for your landscape. Please mail completed registration form to OSU Extension, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, Ohio 44047. Due to space limitations, this program will be limited to the first 50 registrants. First come, first served basis. For questions, please call 440-576-9008. A registration flyer can also be obtained at: flyer can be found at: http://go.osu.edu/ne-events.

That Poinsettia You Received
By the Ashtabula County Master Gardeners

Poinsettia plants are beautiful and popular gifts during the holidays, but many are discarded after their blooms have faded because the recipients don’t know how to care for them. With a little effort, these beauties may grace tables and windowsills for several years.

Members of the Euphorbia family and native to Mexico and Central America, the poinsettia was introduced to the United States in 1828 by Joel Roberts Poinsett, a botanist, physician, and the
first United States Ambassador to Mexico. In the wild, poinsettias are perennial flowering shrubs that may reach 10 feet high. As houseplants, though beautiful, poinsettias have for many years been maligned as poisonous, a good enough reason for many people to discard them as soon as politely possible.

Experiments by researchers at Ohio State University debunked that falsehood in the early 1970s, but the myth persists. The leaves may cause some gastrointestinal upset to people or household pets if ingested, and the sap may cause a reaction in those with a latex allergy, but if you’re not planning on making a salad of your poinsettia, there’s no need to fear your houseplant.

Under the hands of hybridizers, poinsettias can now be found in a dazzling array of colors. Burgundy, pink, white, pale green, salmon, speckled and marbled, and even yellow and purple, more than 100 varieties in all, can be found along with the usual reds. The “blossom,” actually bracts or modified leaves rather than a true blossom, may persist for several weeks but will fall off after the tiny yellow true flowers, or cyathia, have shed their pollen.

Now comes the question - how to convince the poinsettia to live and to color up again next year.

Keeping poinsettias alive is easy. Give them bright light, water when the soilless potting medium is dry, and feed slow-release fertilizer as needed. Cut back by half in March or April, and put them outside if you want to when nighttime temperatures stay above the mid-50s. Pinch them during the summer to promote fuller growth, and bring them back inside during September.

Here’s the more difficult part. Poinsettias are short day plants, and the colorful bracts are created by photoperiodism, a strict short day/long night regimen. They require 16 hours of unrelieved darkness each night for several weeks before they will change color. The least flash of daylight or street light during those hours will interrupt the process.

Starting around the first of October, remove the plant each afternoon or evening to a dark place such as a closet or cover it with a cardboard box. In the morning, uncover it and allow it eight hours of sunlight. Do this without fail for about six weeks and prepare to be amazed by your success. Even if you accidentally open the closet or forget the box, you’ll still have a lush and beautiful plant to brighten the winter days.

In 2018, Ashtabula County Master Gardeners will be covering a wide range of topics, indicating special interests among their members. If you would like a master gardener to write about a particular topic, call the OSU Extension Office at (440) 576-9008.

David’s Weekly News Column
For Publication in the Jefferson Gazette on February 7 & Ashtabula County Star Beacon on February 11

Hello Ashtabula County! One of my favorite agriculture committees to work with is the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association. This board has been very proactive in developing
educational programs for our local beef industry and are great examples of how to give back to your community. I appreciate all the work the Cattlemen’s Directors volunteer during the year. Thank you to Bart Kanicki, Dr. Bryan Elliott, David Nye, Zach Ward and Garret Love for their service to our community. Today, I would like to provide details a workshop they are co-sponsoring and encourage youth to apply for a Cattlemen’s scholarship. Have a great week!

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 Calving Workshop” on Thursday, February 22, 2018 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds located at 127 North Elm Street in Jefferson, Ohio.

Calving issues cause stress and economic loss for many northeast Ohio dairy and beef operations each year. To help producers increase their calving management skills, we have invited Dr. Gustavo Schuenemann (OSU Extension Dairy Veterinarian) to share his calving expertise. This intensive clinic will offer dairy and beef producers calving management knowledge in a face-to-face and hands-on environment. Topics will include: what is normal and what is abnormal in calving, techniques for assisting delivery, trouble shooting delivery problems, factors causing calving difficulties, post-delivery problems, when to call for professional help, and the post-calving management & health.

The clinic includes about 1 hour of classroom instruction followed by 1 hour of hands-on demonstration. Participants will practice delivery techniques and newborn care management practices using a calving simulator developed by Dr. Schuenemann. This hands-on course is free and open to all dairy and beef producers in Northeast Ohio. 4-H and FFA youth will also gain valuable experience from this workshop.

No registration is required for this event and light refreshments will be served. A program flyer can be found at: http://go.osu.edu/ne-events More information can be received by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008. Do not miss this chance to increase your ability to handle the problem calving situations which challenge us during calving season.

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Applicants must be resident of Ashtabula County. The first preference by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association is the scholarships be awarded to deserving students who have been involved in the beef industry as a youth. Examples of this could include: working on a family beef operation; involved with a beef project through 4-H or FFA; or works on a local beef farm. The second preference for the scholarship recipients would be awarded to students who are currently or will be studying a beef related field in accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute. Previous winners of the $1,000 High School Senior...
Scholarship are eligible to apply for the $500 College Scholarship. However, the $500 college scholarship can only be received once by a student during their college career.

Applications must be received by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association by Monday, April 16, 2018 by 4:30 p.m. for consideration for the scholarship. No late applications will be considered. The application can be obtained at: http://go.osu.edu/ne-events Additional information can be obtained by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

To close, I could like to share a quote from Gilbert K. Chesterton who stated, “To love means loving the unlovable. To forgive means pardonning the unpardonable. Faith means believing the unbelievable. Hope means hoping when everything seems hopeless.” Have a good and safe day.

**Upcoming Extension Program Dates**

The following programs have been scheduled for Northeast Ohio farmers. Complete registration flyers can be found at: http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/upcoming-educational-programs-deadlines

- **Women in Agriculture Programs**  
  February 17, 2018  
  March 17, 2018

- **Private Pesticide Applicator & Fertilizer Re-certification Sessions**  
  February 9, 2018 from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Portage County  
  March 9, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Trumbull County

- **2018 Northeast Ohio Winter Agronomy School**  
  Wednesday February 21, 2018

- **2018 Winter Beef School (Calving School)**  
  Thursday, February 22, 2018

- **Winter Grape School**  
  March 1, 2018

- **Backyard Chickens**  
  Trumbull County Extension Office 5-7pm  
  Wednesday, March 14, 2018

- **2018 Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet**  
  Saturday, March 24, 2018

- **21st Annual Joe Bodnar Memorial Northern Classic Steer & Heifer Show**  
  Saturday, April 21, 2018
# Hydrangea Workshop

Thursday, April 26, 2018

## Organizers

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Marrison</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:marrison.2@osu.edu">marrison.2@osu.edu</a></td>
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<td>Lee Beers</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:beers.66@osu.edu">beers.66@osu.edu</a></td>
<td>330-638-6783</td>
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Northeast Ohio Agriculture

Ohio State University Extension

Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties
2018 Northeast Ohio Winter Agronomy School

Join OSU Extension as we host our annual Agronomy School for crop farmers in Northeast Ohio. This workshop is sponsored by the OSU Extension offices in Ashtabula, Trumbull & Geauga Counties with support from W.I. Miller & Sons & the Ohio Soybean Council. The featured presentations will include:

Controlling the Most Troublesome Weeds in Northeast Ohio Crop Fields
Jeff Stachler, Agricultural & Natural Resources Educator - Auglaize County

Soil Health Initiative
Alan Sundermeier, Agricultural & Natural Resources Educator - Wood County

Where’s the Money?
David Marrison, Agricultural & Natural Resources Extension Educator - Ashtabula County

Lunch & Industry Trade Talks
Sponsored by W.I. Miller & Sons of Farmdale, Ohio

Soil Compaction
Dr. Scott Shearer, OSU Associate Professor in Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Using Precision Ag on Small & Medium Crop Farms without Breaking the Bank
Dr. John Fulton, OSU Associate Professor in Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Dicamba is Not the Only Volatile Issue for 2018
Lee Beers – Extension Educator in Trumbull County

Pre-registration is required by February 13, 2018. Registration fee is $15.00/per person. Registration includes refreshments, lunch, speaker travel expenses, and program handouts. Make checks payable to OSU Extension, and mail to Ashtabula County Extension office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. If you have any questions please call 440-576-9008. 2018 Weed Control Guides ($16 each) and the Ohio Agronomy Guide ($17 each) will be on sale at the workshop.

Name____________________________________  Phone_____________________
Address__________________________________  City________________ __ Zipcode________
Email____________________________________
# of Reservations_________________________  $15 per RSVP
_____Yes, pre-order a Weed Control Guide for me
_____Yes, pre-order a Ohio Agronomy Guide

Wednesday, February 21, 2018
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Williamsfield Community Center
5920 State Route 322
Williamsfield, Ohio 44093
Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.
Controlling Troublesome Weeds in Northeast Ohio Crop Fields
Jeff Stachler, OSU Extension Educator – Auglaize County
Learn strategies for controlling the most troublesome weeds in soybean fields in Northeast, Ohio. Learn more about controlling marestail, lambsquarter, common ragweed, redroot pigweed, and grasses. Discussion will also be held on Waterhemp, one of Ohio’s newest weeds which is heading its way east across Ohio. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Soil Health Initiative
Alan Sundermeier, OSU Extension Educator – Wood County
What is a healthy soil and how can we measure it? This interactive session will demonstrate water holding capacity, compaction, and biological attributes of soil. Techniques for improving soil productivity will also be discussed. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Where’s the Money?
David Marrison, OSU Extension Educator
Low margins are predicted again for 2018. Tips on analyzing your financial situation, crop budgets and cost of production will be shared. This session will examine the new tax legislation and how it will impact agriculture. 11:30 to 12:00 noon

Lunch & Industry Trade Talks - As always, a hearty farmer lunch prepared by Lahti Catering means you will not go away hungry! This lunch is sponsored by W.I. Miller & Sons of Farmdale, Ohio. Each of our program sponsors will provide a short industry update during lunch. Lunch & trade talks will be held from 12:00 to 12:45 p.m.

Soil Compaction
Dr. Scott Shearer, OSU Associate Professor in Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Farmers are presented with a number of options for managing soil compaction. Increasing production costs and tighter profit margins are causing many to question the value new tire or track technologies. This presentation will provide farmers with a foundation for considering the value of these technologies along with field data from studies including grain carts and planters. 12:45 to 1:45

Using Precision Ag on Small & Medium Crop Farms without Breaking the Bank
Dr. John Fulton, OSU Associate Professor in Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Technology has become more readily available plus economical in recent years providing small to medium farms to adopt and provide value. This presentation will cover the basic precision technologies available while discussing potential value. 1:45 to 2:45 p.m.

Dicamba is Not the Only Volatile Issue for 2018
Lee Beers, OSU Extension Educator – Trumbull County
This session will address some of the more volatile issues which producers are sure to face 2018. 2:45 to 3:30 p.m.

CCA and Pesticide Credits will be offered for producers in attendance.

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity.
Ever thought about growing shiitake mushrooms? Native to Japan, shiitake mushrooms (Letinula edodes) are becoming increasingly popular for their distinctive nutty flavor and high nutritional content. During this workshop, participants will learn the basics of growing shiitake mushrooms at home— including the best species of trees to use, log preparation, types of spawn, and inoculation. After a short classroom discussion, participants will drill and inoculate an oak log to take home. Participants are encouraged to bring a cordless drill and a 5/16” diameter bit if they have it, though several will be available to share.

Space for this workshop is limited and will fill up fast so register today!

Pre-registration is required by March 8, 2018. Registration fee is $25/per person. Make checks payable to OSU Extension, and mail to Ashtabula County Extension office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. If you have any questions, please call 440-576-9008.

Name____________________________________ Phone_____________________
Address__________________________________ City_________________ Zip code________
Email____________________________________
# of Reservations_______________$25 per RSVP
Calving issues cause stress and economic loss for many northeast Ohio dairy and beef operations each year. To help producers increase their calving management skills, we have invited Dr. Gustavo Schuenemann (OSU Extension Dairy Veterinarian) to share his calving expertise. This intensive clinic will offer dairy and beef producers calving management knowledge in a face-to-face and hands-on environment. Topics will include: what is normal and what is abnormal in calving, techniques for assisting delivery, trouble shooting delivery problems, factors causing calving difficulties, post-delivery problems, when to call for professional help, and the post-calving management & health.

The clinic includes about 1 hour of classroom instruction followed by 1 hour of hands-on demonstration. Participants will practice delivery techniques and newborn care management practices using a calving simulator developed by Dr. Schuenemann. This hands-on course is free and open to all dairy and beef producers in Northeast Ohio. 4-H and FFA youth will also gain valuable experience from this workshop.

No registration is required. More information about this program can be obtained by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008. Do not miss this chance to increase your ability to handle the problem calving situations which challenge us during calving season.