Wow! What a great victory by Ohio State against Oregon in the National Championship Game! Congratulations to Urban Meyer and the entire OSU football team for bringing home the National Championship. I guess it does prove that Buckeyes are toxic to Ducks! I will be teaching at 5 Farm Bill meetings this week and on Friday we have the Williamsfield Pesticide Re-certification Session and our first Fertilizer Certification session for 2015. Lots of great programs are coming your way this winter! GO BUCKS!

David Marrison, AG Educator

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Trumbull County Seeking ANR Educator
OSU Extension in Trumbull County is now taking applications (until February 15, 2015) for an Agricultural & Natural Resources Extension Educator. The ANR Educator will provide overall leadership to developing and conducting a proactive applied research and education program in agriculture and natural resources to meet current and future needs in farm management, livestock and crop production, food security, home horticulture/Master Gardeners, commercial horticulture, farm land use issues, innovative agricultural business opportunities, environmental quality and sustainability, renewable energy, and bio-based products.

Required job qualifications include: Master’s degree and at least one degree in agriculture, natural resources, or a related field (plant science is preferred). The successful candidate will have strong written and oral communication skills, and experience working with diverse clientele and organizations; demonstrated success in working as part of a team and initiating collaborative partnerships is sought; leadership ability, and strong teaching and subject matter expertise in at least one area of agriculture is necessary. Candidates must be willing to work flexible hours with minimal supervision. To learn more about this position (Job #400890) or to apply, go to: https://www.jobsatosu.com/postings/60275

Ohio Agriculture Department Recognizes 104 Century Farms in 2014—Two from Northeast Ohio
Source: ODA

In 2014, the Ohio Department of Agriculture recognized 104 new century or bicentennial farms owned by the same family for at least 100 or 200 consecutive years. Congratulations to Spring Creek Farm (John Cain Family) in Ashtabula County and the Starr Family Farm (Donald & Judith Starr) in Geauga County for being two of the newest Ohio Century Farms. There are now more than 1,100 historic farms registered across the state. The Ohio Century
Farm program was developed as a way to honor these families for their enduring legacy to our state. The Bicentennial designation was adopted into the program in 2013 to celebrate the growing number of families whose farms have met the 200-year milestone.

The Ohio Bicentennial and Century Farms program is a voluntary program administered by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The department has recognized families who have owned their farms for at least 100 years since 1993. In 2013, the department began officially recognizing bicentennial farms in acknowledgment of the growing number of century farms that had reached their 200-year anniversary of same-family ownership. A complete list of Ohio's bicentennial and century farms can be found at: www.agri.ohio.gov/divs/cent_farms/. Anyone who can verify that a currently owned farm has remained in their family for at least 100 years may register. For more information about the Century Farm program, visit www.agri.ohio.gov/divs/cent_farms/, or contact Cindy Shy in the Office of Communication at 614-752-9817 or cindy.shy@agri.ohio.gov.

Ashtabula County Century Farms:
- Sam Coy Farm (Established 1844)
- Vance Grabelsek Farm (Established 1850)
- Spring Creek Farm-John Cain (Established 1863)
- Gaynor Family Farm-John Gaynor (Established 1865)
- Labrousse Farm Inc-John Gaynor (Established 1913)

Geauga County Farms:
- Haskin Family Farm- Robert & Janice Haskins (Established 1818)
- John & Helen Clarke Sudyk (Established 1818)
- Mark & Kathleen Binnig Farm (Established 1838)
- Harold & Flora Phillips Farm (Established 1869)
- Timmons Family Farm-William Timmons (Established 1874)
- Red Barn Farm-Derwin Hollis (Established 1898)
- Starr Family Farm-Donald & Judith Starr (Established 1903)

Lake County Farms:
- Richard West Farm (Established 1891)
- Carol Garrett Farm (Established 1909)

Trumbull County Century Farms:
- Thomas Caldwell Farm (Established 1805)
- Jim Lillie Farm (Established 1811)
- Jack & Joyce Keir Farm (Established 1812)
- Cox Family Farm (Established 1836)
- Nancy Kepner Farm (Established 1851)
- Carol Bates Farm (Established 1870)
- Canfield Family Trust (Established 1900)
- Lyle Bailey Farm (Established 1900)

Buckeyes Toxic to Ducks
Ohio buckeyes are toxic to most livestock. With a national championship on the line, OSU experts took a tongue-in-check earlier this week to examine how they might affect the ducks from Oregon.

Ohio buckeyes, experts say, can poison most livestock and wildlife. So what about ducks? In theory, yes, say scientists with Ohio State University's College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. Buckeye nuts, leaves and
sprouts contain toxic compounds called glycosides. Ingestion by most animals causes vomiting, diarrhea, trembling and staggering. And worse. Such as fumbling.

In reality, the scientists say, the only place a buckeye should sicken a duck is on the football field. In a backyard or on a small farm, "The leaves would likely be out of reach unless you're keeping ducks in a buckeye nursery," says John Anderson, research associate and 4-H poultry specialist in the college's Department of Animal Sciences. On a big farm, too, the ducks can't touch the buckeyes.

"Keep in mind that commercial ducks are raised indoors like chickens these days," says Mo Saif, Ohio State professor emeritus, former head of the college's Food Animal Health Research Program and a previous editor of the reference book Diseases of Poultry. "So we're probably talking mostly about wild ducks or a few backyard domestic ducks. But in my experience, toxicity issues in these ducks are usually related to botulism."

A duck that somehow tracks down a buckeye ends up overmatched anyway. "The buckeye's nuts are just too large to be ingested by anything but the biggest waterfowl, such as geese and swans," says Bob Gates, who tackles ducks and more as a wildlife researcher in the college's School of Environment and Natural Resources. "Wood ducks are the only waterfowl I know of that might encounter buckeye nuts," he said. "But they're just too small to eat the nuts, which I think would be too hard to grind in their gizzards anyway."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's PLANTS database carries a red-letter warning: "Ohio buckeye is highly toxic when taken internally." A University of Illinois website says Ohio buckeyes have sickened and killed cattle, sheep and pigs. "Especially poisonous," the site says, "are the young sprouts and the seeds."

Gates says Ducks but not ducks should beware. "The only place I know of where waterfowl might encounter buckeyes is on a football field in Arlington, Texas, where I predict that a flock of lost ducks will land in utter exhaustion on Jan. 12," he says. "Though hungry, these stray ducks from Oregon will have bitten off more than they can chew. "Buckeyes are just too big and tough for ducks from Oregon, or anywhere else for that matter, to take on without choking while millions watch the gruesome outcome."

Source: OSU Extension

Questions & Answers about Ohio's New Fertilizer Certification Program

With the passage of Ohio Senate Bill 150 this past June, farmers who apply fertilizer to over 50 acres of cropland each year are subject to a new certification requirement. Farmers who fall under this new requirement must complete their certification by September 30, 2017. Today, I would like to answer some of the questions which our office has been receiving about this new requirement.

Who needs to obtain this certification? Agricultural fertilizer applicator certification is required for farmers who apply fertilizer to more than 50 acres of agricultural crops grown primarily for sale. If the crops are used on-farm to feed livestock then certification is not required. Certification is also required for commercial agricultural applicators. Farmers who have their fertilizer applied by co-ops or custom applicators are not required to be certified.

What is the definition of fertilizer? Fertilizer is defined for this program as any substance containing nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, or other plant nutrient in a dry or liquid formulation. All application types such as broadcast, side dress, sub-surface, knifing and other are included in the certification requirement. Lime and limestone are not included as fertilizer for the certification and farmers who only use starter fertilizer in their planter boxes are exempted.
Who issues the certification? The Ohio Department of Agriculture is the agency issuing the certification for agriculture fertilizer applications. Information about the new certification program can be found at: http://agri.ohio.gov

How do farmers gain their certification? Farmers and commercial applicators need to attend a training course offered by Ohio State University Extension to become certified. Those who have a pesticide applicator license need to attend a two-hour fertilizer certification session. If a farmer does not have a pesticide license, they are required to attend a three-hour fertilizer certification.

For farmers who have their private pesticide applicator’s license, we (OSU Extension) are adding a 2 hour fertilizer session at the end of each regional pesticide re-certification session. We are recommending farmers wait until their pesticide license is up for renewal to attend their fertilizer training. There is no cost for pesticide applicators to obtain their fertilizer license or attend the 2 hour training session. Pesticide applicators whose licenses need to be renewed by March 31, 2015 should have already received information about this year’s sessions. A reminder these will be held on January 16 in Williamsfield, January 30 in Burton, February 9 in Cortland, and February 26 in Perry. Registration for each of these programs is being taken by the Geauga County Extension office. Registration or more information can be obtained by calling at 440-834-4656.

For farmers who do not have a pesticide license, we will be offering multiple sessions over the next three years for them to gain their certification. These sessions will each be three hours in length. Our first workshop will be held on Monday, February 23, 2015 from 9:00 to 12:00 noon at the Williamsfield Community Center located at 5920 US Route 322 in Williamsfield, Ohio. This meeting is free for farmers to attend and pre-registration is requested. To register for this program, call the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008. A program flyer can also be found at: http://go.osu.edu/ne-events

How long is the certification good for? The agriculture fertilizer certification is valid for three years. Two hours of recertification training will be required every three years to keep the certification. Farmers who currently have a pesticide license will have their fertilizer recertification calibrate to their existing pesticide recertification cycle.

How much is the agricultural fertilizer certification? The agricultural fertilizer certification is $30 for a three year certification. If a farmer already has a valid pesticide license, this fee is waived.

Are there exceptions to getting the fertilizer certification? Applicators who are a Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) or Ohio Certified Livestock Manager are not required to attend the training. The agriculture fertilizer certification is not required for manure applications as it is regulated by separate legislation.

How can I obtain more information? More information about fertilizer certification training sessions or general information can be obtained at: http://nutrienteducation.osu.edu or by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

Ashtabula County Beef Scholarship Applications Available
OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association are pleased to announce they will be awarding a beef scholarship to a deserving Ashtabula County Senior Student who will be attending an accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute in 2015-2016. Approximately $1,000 in scholarships will be awarded this year.

Applicants must be resident of Ashtabula County. The first preference by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association is the scholarship be awarded to a deserving student who has 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 this scholarship recipient would be awarded to a student who will studying a beef related field in accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute.

Applications must be received by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association by May 1, 2015 for consideration for the scholarship. No late applications will be considered. The application can be obtained at: go.osu.edu/ne-events

Additional information can be obtained by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

**Pondering 2015 Cattle Markets**

by Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University

Cattle and beef markets are finishing 2014 at or near record levels, which is the way the year began at or near record levels. However the advance in prices has been much more dramatic in 2014. Retail beef prices are up 15 to 20 percent, following a 5 to 6 percent year over year increase in 2013. Boxed beef wholesale values are up about 25 percent from one year ago, following a 4 to 8 percent increase in 2013. Fed cattle prices are up 28 percent after a 5 percent increase in 2013. Feeder cattle (750-800 lb. steer) prices are roughly 43 percent higher than one year ago after climbing 13 percent in 2013. Most dramatic of all, (450-500 lb. steer) calf prices are up 53 percent this year on top of a 30 percent increase in 2013.

Market conditions will be generally the same in 2015 with tight supplies continuing to be the major driver of cattle and beef markets. Beef production will decrease again in 2015 but considerably less than the 6 percent year over year decrease in 2014. Feeder cattle supplies will be tighter in 2015, at least until very late in the year. The smaller 2014 calf crop and continued heifer retention implies decreased available feeder cattle supplies, despite increased feeder cattle imports from Canada and Mexico in 2014. Cattle imports are likely to moderate in 2015, further squeezing U.S. feeder cattle supplies. The beef trade picture can be viewed as negative to market conditions, with high U.S. beef prices and a stronger dollar pushing beef imports up and exports down in 2015. However, in a relative sense, both may be viewed as positive. Beef exports have remained strong in 2014 and are expected to show only a modest decrease in 2015. U.S. imports of beef are up sharply in 2014 and will likely increase modestly again in 2015. However, Australian beef production, which has been increasing beef production due to drought liquidation the past two years, is expected to decrease in 2015 on lower cattle inventories and improved drought conditions. Australia accounted for nearly 70 percent of the year over increase in beef imports in 2014; a pace that is unlikely to continue through 2015.

Most of the factors that could moderate market conditions despite stronger supply fundamentals relate to the demand side. U.S. beef demand remains the principal concern regarding the ability for U.S. cattle and beef prices to push even higher in 2015. Despite a sharp increase in retail beef prices in 2014, not all the current wholesale beef price pressure is reflected in retail prices. Thus, even if additional supply declines were not expected, retail prices will face additional upward pressure in 2015. More price pressure is expected from calf prices upward to retail adding additional pressure to margins at the feedlot, packer and retail levels. Feedlots already face sharply higher breakevens in early 2015 due to high feeder cattle prices. Retail beef prices will likely increase in 2015 but there is considerable uncertainty if those price adjustments will be large enough and quick enough to prevent significant squeezing of industry margins. Beef demand will face additional headwinds from larger pork and poultry supplies which add to the challenge of raising retail beef prices. Marginal drought conditions that could redevelop is the principal factor that could affect the supply side of the industry. Reemerging drought could slow down herd expansion, resulting in moderation of short term supply tightness at the expense of longer term tight supply conditions. Though no feed market issues are anticipated at this time, there is always the potential for weather to have a negative impact on feed production in 2015.
Cattle and beef markets will start 2015 with record or near record prices and carry them through the year. I see little risk of any major market break and annual average cattle and beef prices will be higher than 2014. That said, it may be hard to extend the impressive market gains of 2014 much higher. With less of an uptrend in markets generally, cattle and beef markets may follow more of a seasonal pattern in 2015. Seasonal price peaks that exceed 2014 records are possible, perhaps even likely, but may be harder to sustain. All in all, I expect 2015 to be more of a sideways market, albeit with prices close to, if not higher, than record levels.

Northeast Ohio Agronomy School to be held on February 2, 2015

OSU Extension in Ashtabula County is pleased to be offer the Northeast Ohio Agronomy School on Monday, February 2, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Williamsfield Community Center in Williamsfield, Ohio. This year’s workshop will focus on keeping crop producers on the front edge of farm policy, technology, weed control, disease management and fertility decisions. 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.

During the school, David Marrison, OSU Extension Educator will share information on the three major decisions which crop producers will need to make as a result of the 2014 Farm Bill. Learn about more about updating your base acre yields and whether or not you should re-allocate your base acres. Learn more about the 3 new crop programs: Price Loss Coverage (PLC), Agricultural Risk Coverage County Option (ARC-CO), and Agricultural Risk Coverage Individual Coverage (ARC-IC). Decide which program fits your farm the best.

John Barker, OSU Extension Educator in Knox County, will share one of the hottest topics in Ohio Agriculture; this being the use of Drone Technology or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). Learn more about the different types of UAVs, pros and cons of each, review current regulations and highlight how this technology is being used on Ohio farms. Dr. John Fulton, OSU Associate Professor in Agricultural Engineering, will also share how farm equipment is changing to meet the needs of Ohio agriculture. Learn more about the technology trends forming in agriculture and what equipment will be like in the future.

Dr. Mark Loux, OSU Extension Weed Specialist will share what is new in weed control for agronomic crops. Marestail has emerged as one of the problem weeds in Northeast Ohio and Dr. Loux will teach producers how to control this troublesome weed. Dr. Anne Dorrance, OSU Extension Plant Pathologist, will provide an overall of managing white mold in Northeast, Ohio. This disease exploded during the summer of 2014. Learn how to manage this yield-robbing disease and about soybean disease research which is being conducted in Northeast Ohio.

Dr. Steve Culman will be on hand to discuss getting the most from your fertilizer dollar. Learn more about how phosphorus legislation is changing how farmers operate in Ohio and how the Tri-State Fertility Guide can help producers save money.

As always, a hearty farmer lunch prepared by Lahti Catering means you will not go away hungry! Registration fee is $12.00/per person. A special thank you is extended to WI Miller Sons for helping to sponsor the lunch. Registration includes morning refreshments, lunch, speaker travel expenses, and program handouts. Pre-registration is required by Monday, January 26, 2015. Make checks payable to OSU Extension, Ashtabula County and mail to 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. If you have any questions please call 440-576-9008. CCA and Private & Commercial Pesticide Credits have been applied for. A registration flyer can be found at: go.osu.edu/ne-events
Agricultural Fertilizer Certification Session to be held on February 23, 2015 in Williamsfield, Ohio

Agricultural fertilizer applicator certification is now required for farmers who apply fertilizer to more than 50 acres of agricultural production grown primarily for sale. This requirement was signed into law in June, 2014, and also requires certification for commercial agricultural applicators. Farmers who have their fertilizer applied by co-ops or custom applicators are not required to be certified.

Farmers and applicators need to attend a training course offered by Ohio State University Extension to become certified. Those who have a pesticide applicator license need to attend a two-hour fertilizer certification. If an applicator does not have a pesticide license, they will be required to attend a three-hour fertilizer certification.

A three-hour certification program for any applicator who does not have a pesticide license will be offered on Monday, February 23, 2015 from 9:00 to 12:00 noon at the Williamsfield Community Center located at 5920 US Route 322 in Williamsfield, Ohio. This free meeting will meet the certification requirements for those with and without a pesticide license. Pre-registration is required and online registration is available at [http://nutrienteducation.osu.edu](http://nutrienteducation.osu.edu)  Registration can also be made by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

Fertilizer is defined for the regulation as any substance containing nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, or other plant nutrient in a dry or liquid formulation. All application types such as broadcast, side dress, sub-surface, knifing and other are included in the certification requirement. Lime and limestone are not included as fertilizer for the certification and farmers who only use starter fertilizer in their planter boxes are exempted. Applicators who are a Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) or Ohio Certified Livestock Manager are not required to attend the training. The agriculture fertilizer certification is not required for manure applications as these are currently regulated.

Applicators who meet the criteria for the certification must attend training by September 30, 2017. The Ohio Department of Agriculture is the agency issuing the certification for agriculture fertilizer applications and information about the new certification can be found at: [http://agri.ohio.gov](http://agri.ohio.gov)

For more information about this training session or general materials for the agriculture fertilizer certification, visit [http://nutrienteducation.osu.edu](http://nutrienteducation.osu.edu) or call the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008. A program flyer for the February 23 program can be found at: [http://go.osu.edu/ne-events](http://go.osu.edu/ne-events)

Farm Bill Programs to be Held Northeast Ohio

OSU Extension in Northeast Ohio will be collaborating with local Farm Service Agency offices to offer meetings to discuss the crop side of the 2014 Farm Bill. The 2014 Farm Bill has instituted major changes to the federal farm programs which require landowners and farmers to make a couple major decisions during the winter of 2015. Landowners will need to decide whether or not to update their property’s crop yields and determine whether or not to re-allocate the farm’s base acres by February 27, 2015.

The new farm bill also eliminated the Direct Payment, Counter-Cyclical Payment (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) programs that were included in the 2008 Farm Bill. These programs were replaced by a choice of three programs that farmers may elect to enroll in for the 2014 to 2018 crop years. These programs are Price Loss Coverage (PLC), Agricultural Risk Coverage County Option (ARC-CO), and Agricultural Risk Coverage Individual Coverage (ARC-IC). Producers need to choose their program choice by March 31, 2015.

OSU Extension Educator, David Marrison and a local Farm Service Agency Representative will share specifics of the Farm Bill. Join us at one of these regional meetings. Please note that additional meetings will be scheduled as demand persists. There is no cost to attend but pre-registrations are requested so that adequate handouts can be made. The following dates have been established.
Tuesday, January 13, 2015
Lorain County Farm Service Agency
42110 Russia Road
Elyria, Ohio 44035
2:00 to 4:00 p.m. or 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Call 440-326-5830 to register

Wednesday, January 14, 2015
Trumbull County AG Center
520 West Main Street
Cortland, Ohio 44410
1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
To reserve call: (330) 637-2046 ext 109

Thursday, January 15, 2015
Akron University- Medina
Medina County University Center (of Akron University)
6300 West Technology Lane
Medina, Ohio 44256
10:00 to 12:00 p.m. or 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Call 330-722-2628 to register

Thursday, January 15, 2015
Portage County Ag Center
6970 State Route 88
Ravenna, Ohio 44266
1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
To reserve call: (330) 297-7633 ext 113

Tuesday, January 20, 2015
Trumbull County AG Center
520 West Main Street
Cortland, Ohio 44410
Call for program time
To reserve call: (330) 637-2046 ext 109

Applications Being Taken For Ashtabula County Dairy Princess
OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Dairy Service Unit Board of Directors are pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the 2015 Ashtabula County’s Dairy Princess Program.

This year’s princess will be crowned at the Annual Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet on Saturday evening, March 21, 2015 at the Lenox Community Center in Lenox, Ohio. As part of the competition, each contestant will be interviewed by a panel of judges and be required to present a two-minute speech relating to the dairy industry or her involvement in dairying. The new princess will be selected based on her interview score in combination with a vote of the dairy producers in attendance at the banquet.

Contestants must have a dairy background and reside or work on a milk producing dairy farm or have specific interests in dairy, dairy veal, or dairy feeder 4-H or FFA projects. They must be a 15-25 year old resident of Ashtabula
County. Application forms are now available at the OSU Extension office in Jefferson and can be received by calling 440-576-9008. The application deadline for this contest is March 2, 2015.

**2015 Winter Extension Program Dates**
The following programs have been scheduled for Northeast Ohio farmers this upcoming winter. Complete registration flyers can be found at: [http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/upcoming-educational-programs-deadlines](http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/upcoming-educational-programs-deadlines)

**Northeast Ohio Farm Bill Training Sessions**
January 13, 2015 at the Lorain County FSA Office
January 14, 2015 at the Trumbull County Ag Center
January 15, 2015 in Medina County
January 15, 2015 at the Portage County Ag Center
January 20, 2015 at the Trumbull County Ag Center

**Northeast Ohio Pesticide Recertification & Fertilizer Certification Sessions**
January 16, 2015 at the Williamsfield Community Center
January 30, 2015 at the Geauga County Extension Office
February 9, 2015 at the Trumbull County Extension Office
February 26, 2015 at the Perry Community Center

**Northeast Ohio Agronomy School**
February 2, 2015 at Williamsfield Community Center

**Fertilizer Certification Sessions**
February 23, 2015 at Williamsfield Community Center
April 7, 2015 at Geauga County Extension Office

**Northeast Ohio Winter Grape School**
March 10, 2015 at the Geneva Lodge & Conference Center

**2015 Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet**
Saturday, March 21, 2015 at the Lenox Community Center

**2015 Joe Bodnar Memorial Northern Classic Steer & Heifer Show**
Saturday, April 18 at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds

**Trumbull County Fair**
July 14-19, 2015

**Ashtabula County Fair**
August 11-16, 2015

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PLEASE SHARE...this newsletter with farmers or others who are interested in agricultural topics in Ashtabula & Trumbull Counties. Past issues can be located at: [https://go.osu.edu/ag-news](https://go.osu.edu/ag-news). Please tell your friends and neighbors to sign up for the list. CONTACT: marrison.2@osu.edu

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Readers can subscribe electronically to this newsletter by sending an e-mail message to: marrison.2@osu.edu. If you would like to opt-out of receiving this newsletter, please e-mail marrison.2@osu.edu with the words: UNSUBSCRIBE

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

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Join OSU Extension as we host our annual Agronomy School for crop farmers in Northeast Ohio. This year’s workshop will focus on keeping you on the front edge of farm policy, technology, weed control, disease management and fertility decisions. 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.

**Registration** – Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Join us early for fellowship and light refreshments.

**ARC/PLC Farm Bill Decision** – David Marrison, OSU Extension Educator will share information on the three major decisions which crop producers will need to make as a result of the 2014 Farm Bill. Learn about more about updating your base acre yields and whether or not you should re-allocate your base acres.

Learn more about the 3 new crop programs: Price Loss Coverage (PLC), Agricultural Risk Coverage County Option (ARC-CO), and Agricultural Risk Coverage Individual Coverage (ARC-IC). Decide which program fits your farm the best!

**Use of Drone Technology on Ohio Farms** - John Barker, OSU Extension Educator in Knox County, will share one of the hottest topics in Ohio Agriculture- the use of Drone Technology or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). This presentation will explain the different types of UAVs, pros and cons of each, review current regulations and highlight how this technology is being used on Ohio farms.

**Precision Ag Equipment for the Future** - Dr. John Fulton, OSU Associate Professor in Agricultural Engineering, will share how farmland is changing to meet the needs of Ohio agriculture. Learn more about the technology trends forming in agriculture. Will our equipment be bigger, smaller, or faster? Learn how equipment will help farmers plant by prescription in the future.

**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. Lunch will be 12:00-12:45 p.m.

**What is new in Weed Control & Weed Resistance Issues** - Dr. Mark Loux, OSU Extension Weed Specialist will share what is new in weed control for agronomic crops. Marestail has emerged as one of the problem weeds in Northeast Ohio. Learn more about Marestail control and how you can combat weeds from becoming resistant.

**Soybean Disease Management** - Dr. Anne Dorrance, OSU Extension Plant Pathologist, will provide an overall of managing white mold in Northeast, Ohio. This disease exploded during the summer of 2014. Learn how to manage this yield-robbing disease. Learn more about the soybean disease research which is being conducted in Northeast Ohio.

**Managing Fertility in Today’s World** – Dr. Steve Culman will be on hand to discuss getting the most from your fertilizer dollar. Learn more about how phosphorus legislation is changing how farmers operate in Ohio and how the Tri-State Fertility Guide can help you save money and headaches.

As always, a hearty farmer lunch prepared by Lahti Catering means you will not go away hungry! Registration includes morning refreshments, lunch, speaker travel expenses, and program handouts. Pre-registration is required by Monday, January 26, 2015. Make checks payable to OSU Extension, Ashtabula County and mail to 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. If you have any questions please call 440-576-9008. CCA and Private & Commercial Pesticide Credits have been granted (both Ohio and Pennsylvania).

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Northeast Ohio Agricultural Fertilizer Applicator Certification
3-hour training for those without a pesticide applicator license

Join OSU Extension to obtain your fertilizer certification

Fulfills the New Fertilizer Certification Requirements
This meeting will fulfill the three-hour requirement for applicators who need the agricultural fertilizer applicator certification and do NOT currently have a pesticide applicator license. Those applicators who have a pesticide license should attend the 2 hour training session in conjunction with their pesticide recertification session. Attendance at this three hour session will meet the fertilizer requirement but will not cover pesticide re-certification.

Who needs the agricultural fertilizer certification?
Fertilizer certification is required if you apply fertilizer (other than manure) to more than 50 acres of agricultural crops grown primarily for sale. If you hire a co-op or other custom applicator to make your fertilizer applications, you do not need the certification.

What will be covered in the training?
Best management practices will be the basis of the agricultural fertilizer certification training with a focus on fertilizer applications that have the appropriate rate, timing, placement and source.

Monday
February 23
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Williamsfield Community Center
5920 State Route 322
Williamsfield, Ohio 44093

Pre-registration is required.
There is no charge for the program, but pre-registration is required

Registration available at:
or by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

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