

# NORTHEAST OHIO AGRI-CULTURE NEWSLETTER

Your Weekly Agriculture Update for  
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties

July 25, 2023



*Spotted this red-shouldered hawk searching for its next meal*

## **In This Issue:**

- Weather Update:  
Heatwave and Scattered  
Storms Expected
- Summer Pasture Weed  
Control
- Cucumber Downy  
Mildew Confirmed In  
Three Ohio Counties
- Open Your Hearts and  
Wallets at the Ohio  
State Fair to Help  
Ronald McDonald  
House
- Planting The Seeds For  
Success at Farm  
Science Review 2023

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

I can't believe it's almost August. With the dry weather it feels like we just had seeds popping out of the ground last week. Much of our area is still in a moderate drought despite some heavy, and damaging storms that rolled through last week.

We could have done without the damaging wind and hail, but most corn is tasseling so the moisture was well timed. Let's hope we continue to get more timely rains to provide a good harvest.

Have a good week and stay safe!

**Lee Beers**  
Trumbull County  
Extension Educator

**Andrew Holden**  
Ashtabula County  
Extension Educator

## ***Weather Update: Heatwave and Scattered Storms Expected***

By Aaron Wilson

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2023-24/weather-update-heatwave-and-scattered-storms-expected>

July has brought wetter conditions to some folks across Ohio. Most areas have received 2.5 to 4 inches of rain since July 1<sup>st</sup>, with pockets of over 6" (e.g., Clinton County). Still, plenty of counties are running below average for the month (Figure 1). Certainly, cooler than average temperatures since June 1<sup>st</sup> have helped mitigate impacts from dryness, and with recent wetter conditions, drought area for Ohio has fallen to ~13% as of Thursday July 20, 2023 ([US Drought Monitor](#)). The CFAES Rapid

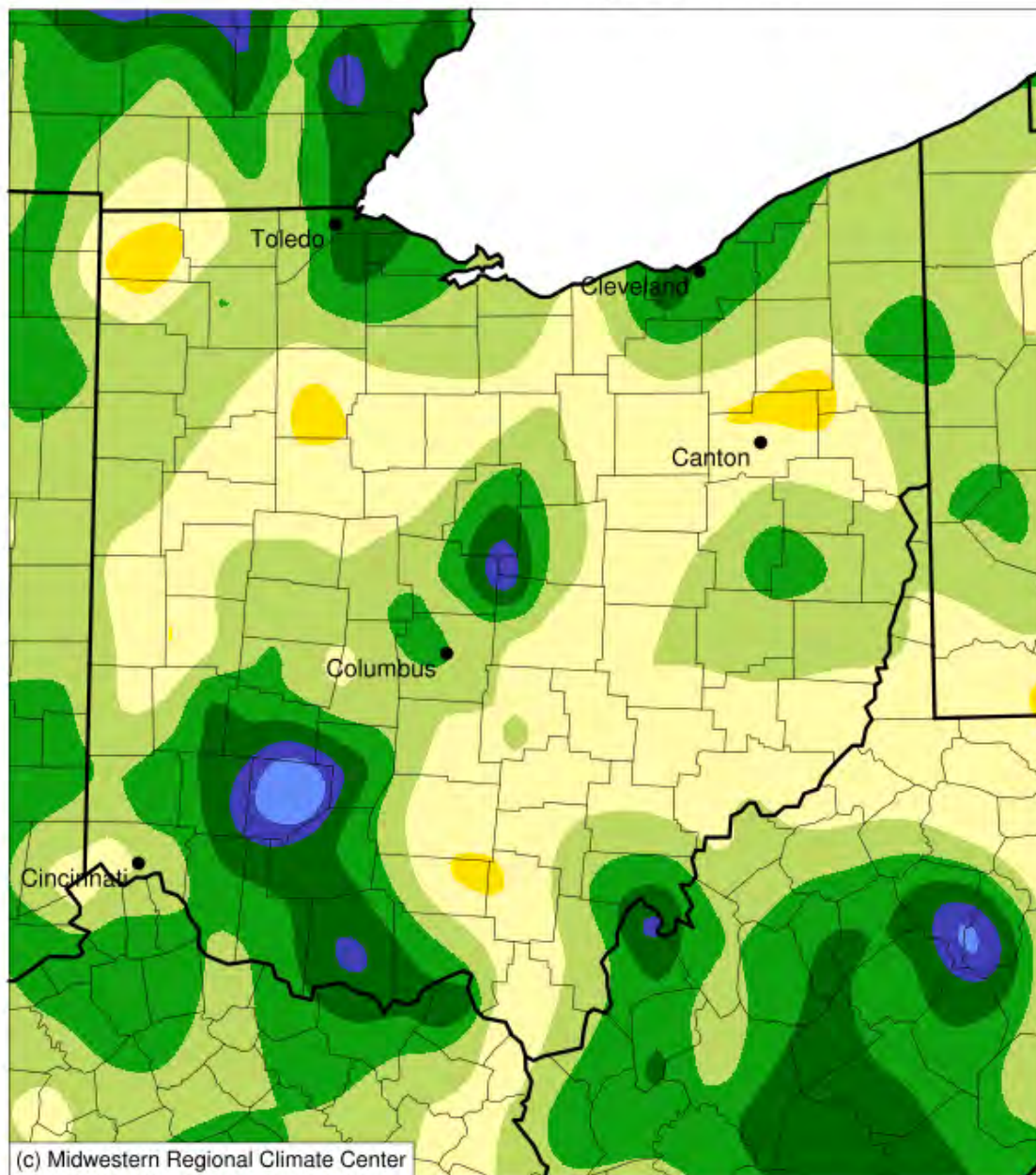


*Image Credit: Geddy Davis, OSU-Byrd Center*

Response Team continues to manage the [drought response resource site](#) and encourage readers to continue to submit observations and impacts for your location by visiting [https://go.osu.edu/drought\\_cmor](https://go.osu.edu/drought_cmor).

# Accumulated Precipitation (in): Percent of 1991-2020 Normals

July 01, 2023 to July 24, 2023



25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION  
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties



Figure 1: Percent of Normal precipitation for July 1 – 24, 2023. Figure courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center.

## Forecast

This week will feature a warming trend and typical summertime unsettled weather across the region. Isolated showers and storms are possible at any time from Tuesday through Saturday, with a cold front sliding south across the region over the weekend. High temperatures will start out in the 80s for most of the state on Tuesday, warming into the low to mid 90s for Wednesday through Friday, and accompanied by higher humidity levels. The front will knock temperatures back into the 80s for the weekend. Rain will not occur everywhere, everyday, but locally heavy rain will be possible each day throughout this period. The current forecast shows 0.25-1.25 inches of rain is expected this week (Figure 2- locations of heaviest rain will likely deviate from this figure).

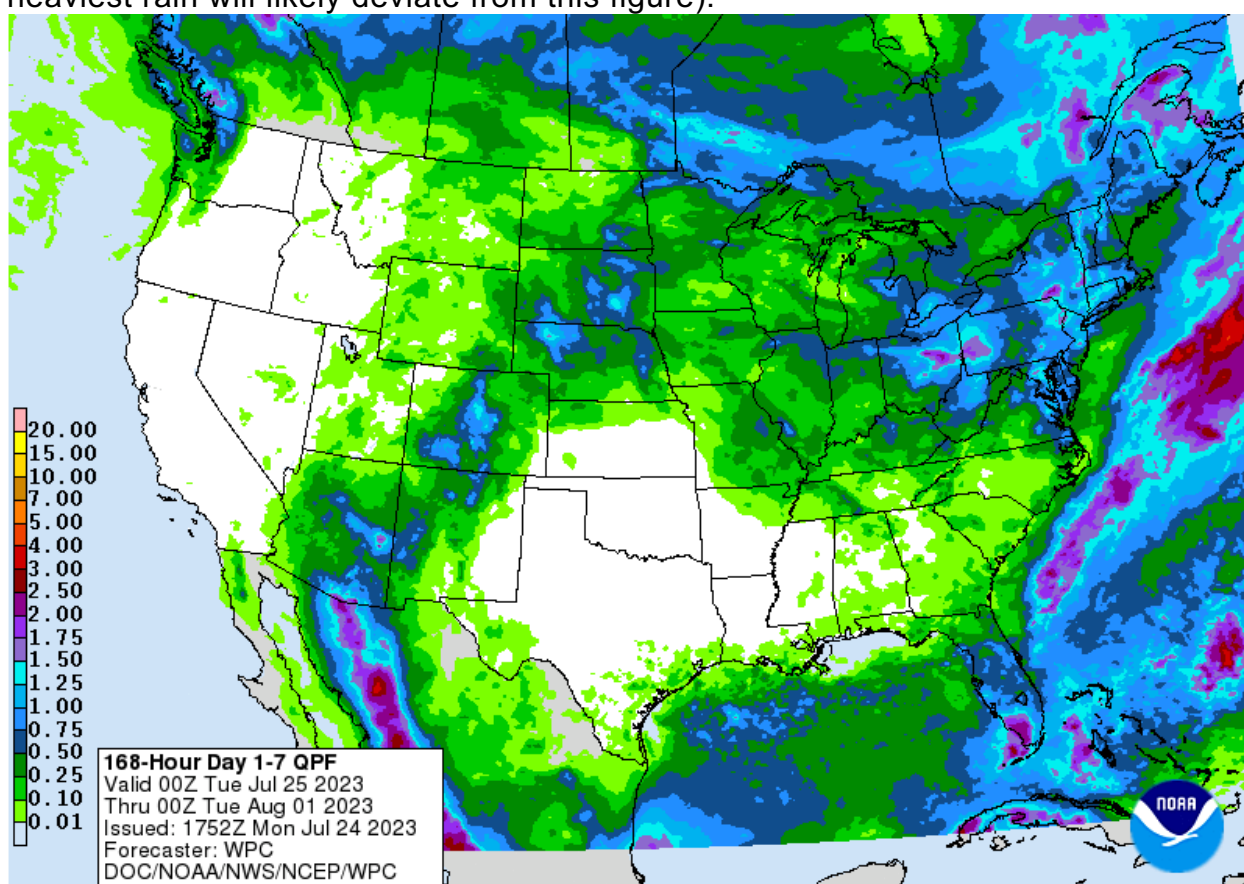


Figure 2). Precipitation forecast from the Weather Prediction Center for 8pm Monday July 24 – 8pm Monday July 31, 2023.

The Climate Prediction Center's 8-14 Day Outlook and the 16-Day Rainfall Outlook from NOAA/NWS/Ohio River Forecast Center indicate that probabilities for temperatures are leaning toward below average with near normal precipitation for the period of August 1 – 7, 2023 (Figure 3). We have reached our climatologically

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION  
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties

warmest conditions of the year, with an average high-temperature range of 84-87°F, a low-temperature range of 63-67°F, and average weekly total precipitation of 0.75-0.90 inch.

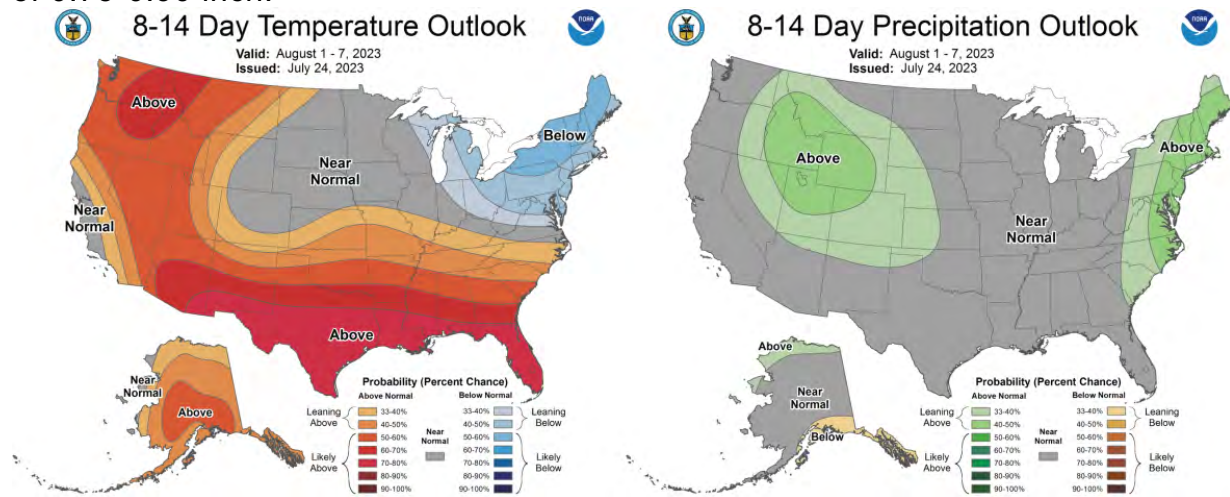


Figure 3) Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Outlook valid for August 1 – 7, 2023, for left) temperatures and right) precipitation. Colors represent the probability of below, normal, or above normal conditions.

## Summer Pasture Weed Control

By Dean Kreager

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2023/07/19/summer-pasture-weed-control/>

As we move into mid-summer, now is a good time to evaluate weed issues in your pastures. Weeds can have a major impact on the productivity of forage and the performance of cattle being raised on the pasture. The most obvious case is with weeds that have toxic effects. Ingestion of plants like poison hemlock, cressleaf groundsel, white snakeroot, nightshade, and many others can result in illness and even death. Even if your weed issues are nontoxic, the weeds may not be palatable or may have very little nutritional value. In both cases the weeds are taking up space and using nutrients that would be better utilized by desired plants.



Different weeds have different growth characteristics which also means there are different methods that can be used for control. I am going to talk about five common

pasture weed issues which have control methods that can be used from now through the fall.

### ***Poison Hemlock***

This very toxic weed is popping up all over Ohio. At maturity it looks like an oversized version of wild carrot with green and purple mottled stalks reaching well over 6 feet in height. All parts of this plant are poisonous and can potentially kill livestock. The toxicity does not go away when dead. Unfortunately, it has already went to seed this year, but poison hemlock has a 2-year life cycle. In the fall, green rosettes of this plant can be sprayed with glyphosate or a broadleaf killing herbicide that is labeled for pasture use. Seed can remain in the soil for several years so expect to continue dealing with this issue. Mechanical control can be effective if mowing is timed in late spring to prevent seed heads from developing viable seed.

### ***Horsenettle***

Horsenettle is a perennial broadleaf in the nightshade family. Thorns on the stems and green fruit that looks like little green tomatoes help identify this plant. The fruit turns yellow later in the fall. Horsenettle reproduces through both seed and rhizomes. This plant usually becomes very noticeable in July, but I have been seeing plenty in June this year. Mechanical control consists of mowing when it is at a flowering stage and at 30-day intervals after that. It can produce flowers and seed very near the ground and is a perennial so don't expect immediate or complete control with mowing. Herbicide application in July or August as plants reach an early flowering phase is often effective; however, a combination of mowing and chemical control is usually most effective. Thirty days after mowing, when the horsenettle has regrown, treat with a broadleaf herbicide that is labeled for use in pastures.

### ***Cocklebur***

A weed that seems to be making a comeback in pastures is cocklebur. This summer annual reproduces by seed that are contained in sharp burs. Killing the plant before it goes to seed is critical for control. We are reaching the end of the successful time to treat with herbicides but there is likely a little time left in July to prevent seed production. Mechanical control using mowing at different times and different mowing intervals has shown limited success in Ohio State trials. Plants often responded by producing seed next to the ground although the amount of seed produced was likely reduced.

### ***Spotted Knapweed***

While not widespread throughout all of Ohio, spotted knapweed continues to spread and can severely diminish the quality of pastures in areas where it is found. Pasture productivity can quickly be reduced by 50% or more. This short-lived perennial has pink to purple flowers shaped like those on Canada thistle. Leaves are deeply lobed, and plants can reach a height of 4 feet. Like horsenettle, mowing can be helpful with

reducing flowering, but low flowers may still develop. Broadleaf pasture herbicides that work for other plants listed in this article will likely be effective for spotted knapweed.

### ***Hemp Dogbane***

This plant is in the milkweed family. It has narrower leaves than milkweed and reddish colored stems as the plants mature. Hemp dogbane can be toxic to livestock. While it can reproduce by seeds it is known for spreading by rhizomes. One plant can become a patch. Mowing followed by chemical treatment as the plant reaches a bud stage is often most effective. Due to rhizome reproduction, mowing alone has limited effectiveness. Most common pasture herbicides have limited effectiveness at 60% – 80% so repeat treatments will be needed.

The first step in weed control is identification. Learning to identify common problem weeds can prevent a problem from getting out of control. Many pesticide products are available. The Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri Weed Guide is a great resource for effectiveness of various products on pasture weeds. Your local Extension Educator is another resource. With all pesticide products, be sure to follow the label for species, rates, grazing restrictions, and any other precautions.

## ***Cucumber Downy Mildew Confirmed in Three Ohio Counties***

By Sally Miller

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/vegnetnews/2023/07/25/2835/>

Cucumber downy mildew was confirmed yesterday in three Ohio counties (Wayne, Medina and Knox), following a report last week from Michigan and several weeks ago from Ontario. While these reports are later in July than average for Ohio, it is likely that infections occurred at least a week earlier. Thanks to OSU's Plant Pest and Disease Clinic Director Dr. Francesca Rotondo and Wayne County Extension Educator Frank Becker for these finds. Knox County is in central Ohio, so I'll amend my July 19 post to include cucumber and melon growers **statewide**, who should add fungicides very effective against downy mildew to their spray program now if they have not already done so. Waiting until symptoms appear may be too late to avoid yield losses; effective fungicides should be applied preventatively. The best ones, according to research in Ohio, Michigan and other Great Lakes states and provinces are Orondis Opti (FRAC 49+M05), Ranman (FRAC 21), Omega (FRAC 29), Previcur Flex (FRAC 28), and Elumin



Severe cucumber downy mildew in Medina County, OH, July 24, 2023. Photo by Frank Becker.

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION  
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties



(FRAC 22). These should be tank mixed with chlorothalanil (Bravo, Equus, etc.) or mancozeb (Dithane, Manzate, etc.). Orondis Opti is a premix already containing chlorothalanil, but at a reduced rate. Fungicides have restrictions on how much product can be applied and how often, so follow the label. The more effective fungicides should be rotated to avoid resistance development in the pathogen. More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).



Map of cucurbit downy mildew outbreaks. First reports for this year in Ohio: Medina, Wayne and Knox counties. [cdm.ipmpipe.org](http://cdm.ipmpipe.org).

See my [June 24, 2023 post](#) for pictures of symptoms and instructions for submitting live or digital samples to OSU for diagnosis. **Diagnosis is free for Ohio vegetable growers** thanks to a grant from the Ohio Produce Growers and Marketers Association's Ohio Vegetable and Small Fruit Research and Development Program.

## Open your hearts and wallets at the Ohio State Fair to help Ronald McDonald House

By Sherrie R. Whaley

Source:

<https://cfaes.osu.edu/news/articles/open-your-hearts-and-wallets-the-ohio-state-fair-help-ronald-mcdonald-house>

COLUMBUS—In one week, the Dean's Charity Steer Show will be held at the Ohio State Fair to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Central Ohio. Don't miss the opportunity to cheer on your favorite team and support a cause that helps families stay near to their hospitalized child with serious illness. The annual event, hosted by The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES), will be held Tuesday, Aug. 1, at 2 p.m. in the Voinovich Livestock & Trade Center on the Ohio Expo Center and State Fair grounds.

Northeast Ohio Agriculture



Team Nationwide with the winning steer from the 2022 Dean's Charity Steer Show. (Photo by Ken Chamberlain)

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION  
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties



“This exciting event brings together our community to celebrate agriculture and children, both for our 4-H youth as well as children benefiting from the Ronald McDonald House,” said Cathann A. Kress, Ohio State vice president for agricultural administration and dean of CFAES. “Every dollar we raise means families can stay together only steps away from their hospitalized child during one of the most stressful times of their lives.”

The 2022 show raised \$247,148 for RMHC. A major expansion is underway that will more than double the size of the Columbus Ronald McDonald House. Located across the street from Nationwide Children’s Hospital, it will be the largest Ronald McDonald House in the world, with 202 guest rooms, a new kitchen and dining facility, new staff offices, and a community event room once completed in November.

During the Dean’s Charity Steer Show, 10 teams, consisting of a team captain, team champion(s), and experienced Ohio 4-H youth, will not only show a steer, but will also compete to see who can raise the most money for RMHC of Central Ohio through donations and an “auction” following the show. Team members will have practiced with their experienced 4-H’er and their steer before entering the show ring. Can’t attend the show in person? You can still donate to your favorite team at [give.osu.edu/deanscharitysteershow](http://give.osu.edu/deanscharitysteershow).

Also new this year is an online auction where you can browse and bid on more than 75 items donated by participating teams and community partners to support RMHC. View all items at [go.osu.edu/dcssbid](http://go.osu.edu/dcssbid). Act now as the auction will close on Aug. 1. Learn more by visiting [deanscharitysteershow.osu.edu](http://deanscharitysteershow.osu.edu).

The 10 Ohio 4-H youth development families who will participate with their animal are the Barton family from Clinton County, the Gehret family from Darke County, the Bok family from Defiance County, the Moore family from Fairfield County, the Yochum family from Highland County, the Powell family from Morrow County, the Scott family from Portage County, the Fox family from Seneca County, the Sheetz family from Stark County, and the Chester family from Warren County.

Teams and members will include The Moo Crew with Kristin Bernert of the Columbus Crew partnered with David Holmes of 10-TV; Team Grace will feature Michelle Warnke Buurma of American Ninja Warrior and the Movement Lab Ohio; Team McSteering All Together will include Marshela McDaniel, Dan Aloï, Melissa James, and Tara Vorst of McDonalds; Team

CosMOOpolitans will include Tammy Roberts Myers of Bath & Body Works partnered with Kimberly Flaherty of Washington Prime Group, and Tim Flaherty of Post House Creative.

The Huntington Green Team will feature Richard Porrello and Christina Brown of Huntington Bank, partnered with Yolanda Harris of 10TV; Team on You Cy'd will include Cy Prettyman of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation partnered with Nationwide and the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation; Team Steer It Up will include Rick Ricart of Ricart Automotive partnered with Kate Siefert of ABC 6 and Fox 28; Team THE Buckeye Moo'd will include Melissa Shivers of The Ohio State University partnered with Tracy Townsend of 10-TV; Team Burrow 4 The House will feature Matt Barnes, Monica Day, McKenna King, and Kristine Varkony, all anchors at NBC-4 TV; and Team Crimson Cup Calves will be led by Greg Ubert of Crimson Cup Coffee.

The All-Ohio State Fair Band will kick off the event, with special guests from The Ohio State University, including director of Marching and Athletic Bands, Chris Hoch, and Ohio State drum major, Clayton Callender.

Each year, more than 82,000 nights of rest are provided to families of seriously ill children by the Columbus Ronald McDonald House. It provides not only lodging, but also meals, a place to rest, laundry facilities, an exercise room, informal gathering areas, and activities for siblings of hospitalized children. The facility provides a home away from home for families facing a child's illness and hospitalization.

The Dean's Charity Steer Show is coordinated by CFAES, Telhio Credit Union, Ohio Cattlemen's Association, and the Ohio State Fair. Ohio 4-H is CFAES' youth development program, delivered through Ohio State University Extension, CFAES' statewide outreach program. The first two steer shows raised a combined total of \$399,148.

## ***Planting the Seeds for Success at Farm Science Review 2023***

By Emily Bennett

Source: <https://cfaes.osu.edu/news/articles/planting-the-seeds-for-success-farm-science-review-2023>

LONDON, Ohio (May 30, 2023) - Planting season is underway across Ohio and the midwest, and the Farm Science Review staff is hard at work preparing for this year's show. The annual farm show is set to take place Sept. 19-21 at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center, and the seeds to a successful FSR have been planted, literally, this spring.

"We dedicate 500 of our acres at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center to field demonstrations that take place during Farm Science Review," said Zachrich. "We

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION  
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties

are on track for this year's harvest demonstrations thanks to the optimal weather that has allowed us to plant in a timely manner."

The well-known FSR field demonstrations are unique to this three-day event.

"We take a lot of pride in offering our visitors the opportunity to witness both corn and soybean harvesting demonstrations," said Zachrich. "No other farm show offers their attendees that up-close-and-personal opportunity for harvest of both crops."



As of May 23, all 500 acres dedicated to field demonstrations have been planted.

"Planting started April 15 and we are wrapping up planting the remaining 1,500 acres at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center," said Nate Douridas, farm manager of Molly Caren Agricultural Center.

"A lot of hard work and preparation go into holding this three-day farm show and with 60 years under our belt, we are proud to be a place where brands and businesses continue to come year-after-year to showcase their newest technology and innovative products," said Zachrich.

Farm Science Review offers an extensive range of opportunities to learn and grow for individuals in the agricultural and environmental science industries.

"We thrive on the cutting-edge conversations that attendees take part in every September," said Zachrich. "This year, we expect a bountiful harvest and top-notch field demos at the show, too."

Tickets for the 2023 Farm Science Review are available to purchase both online (now available) and at Extension offices and select agribusinesses across Ohio and Indiana (beginning in July). Tickets will be \$15 at the gate. Children ages 5 and under are free.

Farm Science Review is hosted by the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University. Year-after-year, Farm Science Review welcomes more than 100,000 attendees and over 300 different exhibitors to the Molly Caren Agricultural Center in London, Ohio, making it a hub for agricultural innovation and education. Show hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sept.

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION  
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties



19-20 and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 21. For more information, visit [fsr.osu.edu](http://fsr.osu.edu) or follow Farm Science Review on social media.

# 2023 FARM PESTICIDE DISPOSAL COLLECTION

Do you have unwanted, unused, or unknown FARM chemicals? Bring them to a collection and disposal event coordinated by ODA and EPA - at no cost to farmers.

All events are 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

To pre-register, or for more information, contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture at 614-728-6987.

## **Wednesday, August 9**

Morgan County Fairgrounds  
2760 South Riverside Drive | McConnelsville

## **Thursday, August 10**

Putnam County Fairgrounds, Gate 5  
1206 East Second Street | Ottawa

## **Tuesday, August 22**

Miami County Fairgrounds, North Gate  
650 North County Road 25A | Troy

**CFAES**



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



**CFAES**

The Ohio State University Portage County Extension Office

**Starts September 7<sup>th</sup>**  
from 1:00-4:00pm

# Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Course

The mission of the **Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist (OCVN)** program is to build awareness of Ohio's environment and natural resources through science-based education and community stewardship.

The OCVNs role is to support partners in meeting the needs of our citizens in the area of natural resources by assisting with educational programs.

## Activities Include:

- Identifying and educating the public about invasive species
- Diagnosing plant problems
- Giving public presentations relating to nature
- Hosting events for the public
- Staffing educational booths and other various opportunities

## Program Benefits:

- Learn about the biology, ecology and natural history of Ohio from many of the state's leading experts.
- Become part of a local and statewide network of dedicated volunteers.
- Apply your talents and passion to protecting, restoring and understanding Ohio's natural treasures.

If you have a strong interest in nature and enjoy helping others, you are invited to apply to become an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist.

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

— *We Sustain Life* —  
**Portage.osu.edu**



## OCVN Training

The course sessions are taught by faculty and staff with The Ohio State University along with conservation and naturalist professionals throughout Ohio.

Topics include:

- Soil, Geology and Watersheds
- Ecology and Stewardship
- Botany & Forests
- Entomology & Herpetology
- Ornithology & Mammals
- Working with the public & communication skills

You will learn how to contribute to community science efforts, restore and protect critical habitats, and communicate effectively about Ohio's environment while exploring parks and natural areas near you.



## Application Process

- Spaces in the class will be viewed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Class size is limited to 25 participants.
- You must be at least 18 years old to apply.

You can find the application at

<https://go.osu.edu/portageocvn2023>

Registration is \$225.00 due within two weeks of admission to the program. The price includes a binder manual, additional handouts, state fees and related costs for conducting the program.

For payment:

<http://go.osu.edu/portageextensionpayment>  
or scan the QR code.

**Return applications by August 29<sup>th</sup>** to Portage County Extension Office, 705 Oakwood St. Suite 103, Ravenna, OH 44266. Please make checks payable to Portage County OSU Extension.



## Certification Requirements

**To become an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist, you must:**

- ✓ Complete 40 hours of combined classroom and field instruction
- ✓ Perform 40 hours of approved volunteer service within the first year
- ✓ After certification, 20 hours of volunteer service and 8 hours of advanced training are required annually



# Women in Agriculture

## Ashtabula County Farm Tours

### Beef, a Backyard Garden, & Berries

Join us for one or all of this 3-part series featuring women owned farms!

Mardy Townsend  
Marshy Meadows

Alexa Sandella  
Backyard Garden

Lois Wright Morton  
Outwash Terrace

## Save the date! Rain or shine!

**Please wear boots, bring water, and be prepared for walking**

Windsor, OH  
Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>  
from 2-4 p.m.

Kingsville, OH  
**Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**from 2-4 p.m.**

Pierpont, OH  
**Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**from 2-4 p.m.**

To RSVP, call or email Julie Wayman 440-576-9008 or [wayman.31@osu.edu](mailto:wayman.31@osu.edu)



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit [cfaesdiversity.osu.edu](http://cfaesdiversity.osu.edu). For an accessible format of this publication, visit [cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility](http://cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility).