Hello, Northeast Ohio Counties!

Our crazy weather continues. The sauna of this past weekend gave way to a damaging storm on Monday afternoon with 2 to 3 inches of rain dropping from a fast moving storm. Lots of trees came down including one on a tractor and silage wagon owned by Comp Dairy Farm. Check out the excellent article from the Ashtabula County Star Beacon at:


We are so thankful that no was injured in this accident. Jim Comp has some great quotes in this article. Stay safe out there and have a great 4th of July!

Lee Beers & David Marrison
Extension Educators
Ag & Natural Resources
Grilling for July 4th More Affordable This Year
Source: https://www.morningagclips.com/grilling-for-july-4th-more-affordable-this-year/

A cookout of Americans’ favorite foods for the Fourth of July, including hot dogs, cheeseburgers, pork spare ribs, potato salad, baked beans, lemonade and chocolate milk, will cost slightly less this year, coming in at less than $6 per person, says the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Farm Bureau’s informal survey reveals the average cost of a summer cookout for 10 people is $55.07, or $5.51 per person. The cost for the cookout is down slightly (less than 1 percent) from last year.

“This is a very tough time for farmers and ranchers due to low prices across the board. It is appropriate that this very painful situation hitting farmers be reflected at the retail level as well,” said AFBF Director of Market Intelligence Dr. John Newton. “We are seeing record meat and dairy production in 2018 so that has also influenced retail prices and so, for consumers, this year’s Fourth of July cookout costs will be slightly less than last year’s.”

AFBF’s summer cookout menu for 10 people consists of hot dogs and buns, cheeseburgers and buns, pork spare ribs, deli potato salad, baked beans, corn chips, lemonade, chocolate milk, ketchup, mustard and watermelon for dessert.

“Milk production in 2018 is projected at a record 218 billion pounds, contributing to lower retail milk prices,” Newton said. While fluid milk prices have declined, tighter stocks of American cheese contributed to slightly higher cheese prices, he added. Competition in the meat case continues to benefit consumers through lower retail prices, making grilling for July Fourth even more affordable for consumers this year, according to Newton. A total of 96 Farm Bureau members in 28 states served as “volunteer shoppers,” checking retail prices for summer cookout foods at their local grocery stores for this informal survey.

The summer cookout survey is part of the Farm Bureau marketbasket series, which also includes the popular annual Thanksgiving Dinner Cost Survey and two additional surveys of common food staples Americans use to prepare meals at home.
The year-to-year direction of the marketbasket survey tracks closely with the federal government’s Consumer Price Index report for food at home as both the index and the marketbasket remained relatively flat compared to year-ago levels.

As retail grocery prices have increased gradually over time, the share of the average food dollar that America’s farm and ranch families receive has dropped. “Through the mid-1970s, farmers received about one-third of consumer food expenditures for food eaten at home and away from home. Today, farmers receive approximately 14.8 cents of every food marketing dollar, according to the Agriculture Department’s revised Food Dollar Series. However, after accounting for the costs of production, U.S. farmers net 7.8 cents per food dollar.” Newton said.

Using the “food at home and away from home” percentage across-the-board, the farmer’s share of this $55.07 market basket would be $8.15.

July 4th Cookout for 10 Down Slightly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>2017 Price</th>
<th>2018 Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Ground Round</td>
<td>2 pounds</td>
<td>$8.69</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Pork Spare Ribs</td>
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<td>3 Hot Dogs</td>
<td>1 pound</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Deli Potato Salad</td>
<td>3 pounds</td>
<td>$8.93</td>
<td>$9.34</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Baked Beans</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Corn Chips</td>
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<td>$3.27</td>
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<td>7 Lemonade</td>
<td>0.5 gallon</td>
<td>$2.12</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Chocolate Milk</td>
<td>0.5 gallon</td>
<td>$2.45</td>
<td>$2.38</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Watermelon</td>
<td>4 pounds</td>
<td>$4.67</td>
<td>$4.55</td>
<td>-3.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Hot Dog Buns</td>
<td>1 package</td>
<td>$1.63</td>
<td>$1.54</td>
<td>-5.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Hamburger Buns</td>
<td>1 package</td>
<td>$1.61</td>
<td>$1.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Ketchup</td>
<td>20 ounces</td>
<td>$1.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Mustard</td>
<td>16 ounces</td>
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<td>14 American Cheese</td>
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<td>+2.0%</td>
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</table>

Total: $55.70 $55.07 -1.0%
Per Person: 10 $5.57 $5.51 -1.0%

—American Farm Bureau Federation
Whether Wheat Weathers Heat Waves
By Kaine Korzekwa
Source: https://www.agronomy.org/science-news/whether-wheat-weathers-heat-waves

A heat wave sweeps through a city and people swelter, running indoors to find air conditioning. But crops out in a field aren’t so lucky. For them, there is no escape.

Scientists in Australia are working to understand how heat waves impact wheat. They are mixing observational studies with techniques from computer science. This will allow them to create models to understand how wheat will respond in certain conditions.

Heat can affect plants and the soil, water, air, and microbes around them in many different ways. Knowing how all of these factors affect crops could help farmers protect their plants against heat waves' effects.

“Heat waves can greatly reduce wheat in growing regions and modeling could aid in finding strategies to limit the impact of extreme weather and climate change,” says James Nuttall. Nuttall works for Australia’s Agriculture Victoria, Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources. “This can specifically come in handy during the sensitive periods of crop flowering and the grain filling phase.”

Wheat is an important crop with a worldwide production of 729 million tons in 2014. It is a major source of human nutrition. Nuttall says that maintaining stable production into the future includes finding ways to reduce the effects of heat stress to plants.
Nuttall and his team performed three experiments. They tried to get a complete picture of the different characteristics of heat stress, such as timing, intensity, and duration. They tested how plants responded to a multi-day heat wave and if it affected plants more during their flowering or grain-filling phase. They also studied how water availability during the heat wave affected the wheat. Results showed that high temperatures five days before the wheat began to flower reduced the number of wheat grains on a plant. Also, a high-temperature event while the grain of wheat was growing reduced how big it got. They then put all the results together into a computer simulation model. This allowed them to predict how wheat beyond just the plants in their experiment could be impacted by a heat wave.

Nuttall explains: “Crop modeling allows you to test responses for environment or treatment combinations, and also test how those interact with each other.” He says a good example is in climate change studies where scientists are interested in plants’ response to carbon dioxide levels, temperature, and rainfall. A crop model allows them to test combinations of these factors on growth and yield.

“These models allow us to make a prediction of crop growth and yield,” he says. “In finding ways to combat heat waves, modeling provides a tool to see the effects of climate and weather changes on wheat production. It helps us predict how wheat will react so we can try to stop any negative effects beforehand.”

Nuttall says the next step in their research is to test their models using fields of wheat rather than a smaller sample of plants. They ultimately want to include their work in larger crop models to improve them.

“As a scientist, there is satisfaction in finding relationships between crop growth and stresses like heat waves,” he says. “I also think the work is valuable because we can help crop models identify possible ways that allow us to keep producing the food our planet needs.” Read...
more about this work in *Agronomy Journal*. This research was funded by the Australian Grains Research and Development Corporation and Agriculture Victoria, Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources.

**Western Bean Cutworm Trapping in Northeast, Ohio**

By: David Marrison, Lee Beers, Les Ober, & Tom Dehaas

OSU Extension has placed Western Bean Cutworm traps across the Ohio included our four northeast Ohio counties. This will be the eighth year in which we are part of a state-wide monitoring program for the Western Bean Cutworm. This corn pest just recently has become a concern in northeast Ohio so its biology and economic impact are something we are just learning about.

The western bean cutworm has been historically found in the western Corn Belt, where it was a common pest of dry beans and a sporadic pest of corn. Starting in the year 2000, economic damage from this pest was found on corn in Iowa and Minnesota. Since then, this pest has continued to rapidly spread eastward, reaching Ohio in 2006. The easiest way to monitor the presence of this pest is trapping of the adult moths.

During early July through early August, the adult moths will fly into Ohio and will lay eggs on the upper leaves of the corn plants, and once the eggs hatch, larvae begin feeding on the tassels silks or ears of the corn. Depending on the crop’s growth stage, yield losses can be significant.

In our monitoring for western bean cutworm adults, 3 traps were placed in Ashtabula County, 3 in Geauga, 2 in Lake, and 4 in Trumbull. These traps will be checked weekly during our summer growing season. More information about the Western Bean Cutworm can be found at: [http://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/ENT-40](http://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/ENT-40).
The Importance of Beef Exports
By: John F. Grimes, OSU Extension Beef Coordinator
Source: http://u.osu.edu/beef/2018/06/27/the-importance-of-exports/#more-5422

The subject of trade seems to be a daily topic in the national and agricultural media in recent weeks. The President appears to be determined to create an environment for “fairer” trade between the U.S. and many of our trading partners. Thus far, negotiations between the U.S. and other countries have yielded few results, tough talk, and the threat of tariffs.

Much of the uncertainty surrounding the issue of trade has created a level of anxiety within several U.S. industries. Agriculture is certainly one of those industries. Many agricultural commodities play an important role in our overall trade balance. The beef industry is greatly impacted by exports across the globe.

Annual U.S. beef exports have risen significantly over the past decade according to statistical data from the U.S. Meat Export Federation. In 2008, the U.S. exported 984,712 metric tons of beef at a total value $3.619 billion dollars. In 2017, U.S. beef exports were at 1,263,456 metric tons for a total value of $7.269 billion dollars. The top six destinations for U.S. beef exports in 2017 were 1. Japan, $1,890 billion; 2. South Korea, $1,220 billion; 3. Mexico, $980 million; 4. Hong Kong, $884 million; 5. Canada, $796 million; and 6. Taiwan, 410 million.

Exports of beef have continued their strong run thus far in 2018. Beef export volume was 111,213 metric tons in April, up 11 percent year-over-year. Export value was $676.7 million, up 23 percent and the fourth-highest on record. Through the first four months of 2018, exports were up 10 percent in volume to 429,286 metric tons. Export value was $2.59 billion, 20 percent above last year’s record pace.

Exports accounted for 14.1 percent of total beef production in April, up from 13.6 percent a year ago. Beef export value averaged $328.46 per head of fed slaughter in April, up 16 percent from a year ago. Through April, per-head export value averaged $318.91, up 17 percent. To put these figures in perspective, $318.91 on a 1,400-pound market steer equals an added 22.8 cents per pound.

The figures listed above should indicate the importance of exports to the beef industry. It certainly would be beneficial to the beef industry and many other agricultural commodities for our U.S. trade negotiators to make some agreements with our key trading partners sooner rather than later. To say a lot is at stake would be an understatement!
Impact of Corn Stover on Soil Microbes
By Tracy Hmielowski
Source: https://dl.sciencesocieties.org/publications/csa/articles/63/6/8

After harvesting the grain from a field of corn, leaves, stalks, and even some cobs remain. This residue, called corn stover, can be left in the field to return organic matter and nutrients, promote soil health, and help to reduce erosion. Stover can also be harvested and used as livestock feed or as feedstock for cellulosic ethanol production. Using stover in this way removes organic matter from the agroecosystem, but for a cash-strapped farmer, it may make or break their profits for the season.

Catherine Stewart, a researcher at USDA-ARS and member of the SSSA, is interested in the long-term impacts of management actions like stover removal on soil carbon and microbial communities. Stewart’s research is currently focused on continuous corn systems in the western Great Plains. In this region, farmers are encouraged to use no-till farming practices to reduce soil erosion. And, while no-till continuous corn is better for the soil, producers observe a slight decrease in yield. This decrease in yield, and therefore annual profits, results in many farmers harvesting stover.

Stewart and colleagues wanted to explore the short- and long-term impact of stover removal on the microbial community in no-till continuous corn systems. They established an experiment, which ran for seven years in Colorado. The site consisted of irrigated, no-till, continuous corn. The treatments included three levels of N fertilizer and comparing full retention of corn stover with partial removal of stover. The partial-removal treatment harvested an average of 66% of dry stover mass. The expectation, Stewart explains, was “no-tillage should mitigate the negative soil health impacts of stover removal, but we still expected to see a slight deterioration in microbial biomass since the system was already loosing soil C.” The results of this study were recently published in the Soil Science Society of America Journal (https://bit.ly/2Gpl9ge).

In general, the partial stover removal treatments had poorer soil health. This included lower soil organic carbon, soil N, and soil microbial biomass. These differences were expected, as removing organic matter from the system reduces nutrient inputs and provides less energy to the microbial community. It is notable that the decrease in soil microbes occurred rapidly, and...
after seven years, partial-removal treatments lost 40% of microbial biomass compared with full retention. While this is a dramatic decrease, there may be hope for recovery in these soils as the microbial community was similar between the stover treatments.

The researchers also report one surprising finding. They observed that the amount of new, plant-derived carbon, particulate organic matter, increased 11% in partial removal compared with full retention. Stover removal allows the soil to warm faster, and reach greater temperatures, which can stimulate root growth in corn crops. “Stover removal may have increased root growth, promoting [particulate organic matter carbon] despite residue removal. This was a very counter-intuitive result,” Stewart says.

Understanding the impacts of aboveground management on the microbial community in the root zone is essential to maintaining long-term soil health and productivity. This study demonstrates how unexpected results can provide a greater understanding of the impacts of management on soil microbes. More importantly, the results indicate that it would be better for soil health to maintain stover on the landscape. The rapid decrease in the microbial biomass observed when stover is removed is concerning from an ecological perspective. Stewart suggests that irrigated systems may be particularly sensitive to management changes and that greater caution should be taken to maintain the soil health and microbial communities in irrigated agroecosystems.

Northeast Ohio Grape & Wine Field Day & Grape Twilight Tour Slated for July 19

The 2018 Northeast Ohio Grape & Wine Field Day will be held on July 19, 2018 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station located at 2625 South Ridge Road East in Kingsville, Ohio.

The theme of the field day will be Vineyard Sustainability. The featured speakers will include Dr. Elizabeth Long (Sustainable Management of Vineyard Insects), Dr. Melanie Lewis Ivey (IPM Update and NEWA Disease Forecasting System), Dr. Doug Doohan (IPM Approach to Weed Management), and Andrew Kirk (Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station Sustainability Initiatives). This evening is open to the public and there is no fee to attend. Contact Andy Kirk at 440-224-0273 or kirk.197@osu.edu for more details about this event.

The 2018 Grape Twilight Tour will be held following the field day and will be held in the Main Hall Commons at Ashtabula Campus of Kent State University in Ashtabula, Ohio. The dinner will feature a regional Pinot tasting and will feature Dr. Roland Riesen, Professor of Viticulture & Enology at Ecole dingeniers de Changins. The cost of this event is $20 per person and reservations can be made at www.kent.edu/ashtabula/payhere. Reservations are requested by

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

Ohio State University Extension
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties
They’re Back…Japanese Beetles on the Rise
By Celeste Welty
Source: http://u.osu.edu/vegnetnews/2018/07/01/theyre-backjapanese-beetles-on-the-rise/

One of Ohio’s most recognizable leaf feeders, the copper-colored and metallic green Japanese beetle, is on the rise. According to scattered reports across the state, this beetle has been leaving a trail of skeletonized leaves on an array of landscape plants, field crops, vegetable and fruit crops.

While specific thresholds do not exist for most crops, below are listed a few guidelines that should help growers manage Japanese beetles in general.

Sweet Corn – During the early-silking stage, examine 50 ears in small plantings (< 2 acres) or 100 ears in large plantings (> 2 acres). Treat by spraying insecticide directed at the silks to prevent clipping by beetles during the early-silk stage if the average number of beetles is 2 or more per ear. If pollination has already occurred, silk clipping will not harm kernel development or ear, therefore control is not necessary.

Hops – At this time there is no established treatment threshold for Japanese beetles in hops. Growers should consider that established, unstressed and robust plants can likely tolerate a substantial amount of leaf feeding before any negative effects occur. Those managing hopyards with small, newly established, or stressed plants should take a more aggressive approach to Japanese beetle management, as plants with limited leaf area and those already under stress will be more susceptible to damage. It is also important to
carefully observe beetle behavior in the hopyard; if flowers, burrs or cones are present and being damaged, growers should consider more aggressive management as yield and quality are directly affected (excerpted from https://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/234/71503/Hop_JapaneseBeetle.pdf).

Fruit crops and Grapes – For most fruit crops, there is no economic threshold on the number of beetles or amount of damage that requires treatment. If a susceptible cultivar is being grown and growers previously have experienced high populations of Japanese beetles, an insecticide should be applied when beetles emerge and thereafter as needed.

A Japanese beetle lure and trap is available for monitoring this pest, however these beetles are easily detected while walking through the planting. If skeletonizing of leaves or feeding on the fruit becomes evident, the plants may need to be protected with an application of insecticide. The usual threshold for making a spray application is about 15% of the leaves damaged with adult beetles still present. Excerpted from http://extension.missouri.edu/sare/documents/MidwestSmallFruitPestManagement2012.pdf

Remember to consult the Midwest Fruit Pest Management Guide 2018 (https://ag.purdue.edu/hla/Hort/Documents/ID-465.pdf) for specific management details about this pest on apples, brambles, peaches, plums, grapes, and blueberries including pesticide recommendations. This resource is rich with details for each crop concerning insecticide group, product selection and efficacy, REI, PHI, and small tips to aid in control.


**David’s Weekly News Column**
For Publication in the Jefferson Gazette on July 4

Hello, Ashtabula County! Wow, the excessive rains of last week led to sauna-like conditions this past weekend. All the rain has put a damper on soybean planting and hay production. I know most farmers are glad to see the month of June come to a close. It was really a challenge to get

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties
things done. Here is hoping that July is kinder to us. Today, I would like to share information on
two great grape events being offered on July 19 and update you on a research project we are
conducting once again this year.

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Our local grape producers will want to set aside time on Thursday, July 19, 2018 to attend two
great events which are being held for area grape producers. The first is the 2018 Northeast
Ohio Grape & Wine Field Day which will be held from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Ashtabula
Agricultural Research Station located at 2625 South Ridge Road East in Kingsville, Ohio.

The theme of the field day will be Vineyard Sustainability. The speakers for this event will
include Dr. Elizabeth Long speaking on the sustainable management of vineyard insects and Dr.
Melanie Lewis Ivey who will share tips for controlling diseases through an Integrated Pest
Management (IPM) approach. She will also share details on the NEWA Disease Forecasting
System.

We are also excited that Dr. Doug Doohan will also be on hand to share his thoughts on
controlling weeds in a vineyard using an IPM Approach. Additionally, Andrew Kirk, the manager
of the research station, will share some of the Research Station’s Sustainability Initiatives.

This program is open to the public and there is no fee to attend. Contact Andy Kirk at 440-224-
0273 or kirk.197@osu.edu for more details about this event.

Immediately following the field day, producers are invited to make the quick trip to the Ashtabula
Campus of Kent State University for the 2018 Grape Twilight Tour. The twilight portion of the
day will be held in the Main Hall Commons at Kent State- Ashtabula.

We are very excited that an old friend of our industry, Dr. Roland Riesen will be traveling from
Switzerland to be the keynote speaker for this event. Dr. Riesen is a Professor of Viticulture &
Enology at Ecole dingeniers de Changins. He will be here sharing his experiences and will
provide insight on making high quality Pinot wines.

The cost of this event is $20 per person and includes dinner and a regional Pinot tasting.
Reservations can be made at www.kent.edu/ashtabula/payhere and are requested by July 16,
2018. More information can be obtained by contacting Danielle Weiser-Cline at
dweiser1@kent.edu.

******

Towards the end of June, I placed out Western Bean Cutworm traps across northern Ashtabula
County. This will be the eighth year in which we are part of a state-wide monitoring program for
the Western Bean Cutworm. This corn pest just recently has become a concern in northeast
Ohio so its biology and economic impact are something we are just learning about.
The western bean cutworm has been historically found in the western Corn Belt, where it was a common pest of dry beans and a sporadic pest of corn. Starting in the year 2000, economic damage from this pest was found on corn in Iowa and Minnesota. Since then, this pest has continued to rapidly spread eastward, reaching Ohio in 2006. The easiest way to monitor the presence of this pest is trapping of the adult moths.

During early July through early August, the adult moths will fly into Ohio and will lay eggs on the upper leaves of the corn plants, and once the eggs hatch, larvae begin feeding on the tassels silks or ears of the corn. Depending on the crop’s growth stage, yield losses can be significant.

In our monitoring for western bean cutworm adults, 3 traps were placed in various locations across the region. These traps will be checked weekly during our summer growing season. Last year we trapped 1,204 moths which was a 37% increase from previous year. These numbers are always significantly higher when compared to other parts of Ohio. So it will be interesting to see the results again this year.

More information about the Western Bean Cutworm can be found at: http://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/ENT-40. This factsheet can also be obtained by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

To close, I would like to leave you with a quote from Cory Booker who stated, “Patriotism is love of country. But you can't love your country without loving your countrymen and countrywomen. We don't always have to agree, but we must empower each other, we must find the common ground, we must build bridges across our differences to pursue the common good.” Have a good and safe day!
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<tr>
<td>David Marrison</td>
<td>Ashtabula County Extension Office</td>
<td>39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047</td>
<td>440-576-9008</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marrison.2@osu.edu">marrison.2@osu.edu</a></td>
<td>ashtabula.osu.edu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee Beers</td>
<td>Trumbull County Extension Office</td>
<td>520 West Main Street, Cortland, OH 44410</td>
<td>330-638-6783</td>
<td><a href="mailto:beers.66@osu.edu">beers.66@osu.edu</a></td>
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THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

2018 NORTHEAST OHIO GRAPE FIELD DAY

TOPICS

IPM Update and NEWA Disease Forecasting System – Melanie Lewis Ivey, Plant Pathology.


IPM Approach to Weed Management – Doug Doohan, Horticulture and Crop Science.

Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station Sustainability Initiatives: Under Vine Cover Cropping Demonstration, Plant Health Monitoring Through NDVI Sensing, and NEWA Forecasting Demonstration Vineyard – Andrew Kirk, Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station.

Location: 2625 South Ridge Road E, Kingsville, OH 44048

Cost: Free and open to the Public

Contact information: Andrew Kirk, 440-224-0273, or kirk.197@osu.edu

Please note: Immediately following the field day event, the 2018 Twilight Grape Tour will take place at the Kent State University’s Ashtabula campus. Please contact Danielle Weiser-Cline, dweiser1@kent.edu, for detailed information and reservations.
2018 Grape Twilight Tour

Dinner w/ regional Pinot tastings

Featuring Dr. Roland Riesen
Professor of Viticulture and Enology at École d’ingénieurs de Changins

July 19th at 5:30 p.m.
Kent State University at Ashtabula
Main Hall Commons

Cost: $20 | RSVP by July 16th

www.kent.edu/ashtabula/payhere

Advanced payment is preferred, however, if you wish to pay at the door, please indicate so on the RSVP form.