Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

Planting across our counties is wrapping up. This time last year we were also finishing up but with very different field conditions and rain every day in the extended forecast.

Those of you that didn’t have a chance to make hay last week, are hopefully out making hay this week.

Our wheat crop in NE Ohio is looking good.

Have a great week!
Ohio Department of Agriculture: dicamba use in Ohio ends June 30, 2020

By: Peggy Hall


The dicamba roller coaster ride continues today, with a statement issued by the Ohio Department of Agriculture clarifying that the use of XtendiMax, Engenia, and FeXapan dicamba-based products in Ohio will end as of June 30, 2020. Even though the US EPA has issued an order allowing continued use of the products until July 31, 2020, use in Ohio must end on June 30 because the Ohio registrations for the three dicamba-based products expire on that day.

As we’ve explained in our previous blog posts here and here, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals vacated the registration of the dicamba products on June 3, 2020. In doing so, the court stated that the EPA had failed to perform a proper analysis of the risks and resulting costs of the products. According to the court, EPA had substantially understated the amount of acreage damaged by dicamba and the extent of such damage, as well as complaints made to state agriculture departments. The court determined that EPA had also entirely failed to acknowledge other risks, such as the risk of noncompliance with complex label restrictions, economic risks from anti-competition impacts created by the products, and the social costs to farm communities caused by dicamba versus non-dicamba users. Rather than allowing the EPA to reconsider the registrations, the court vacated the product registrations altogether.

The EPA issued a Cancellation Order for the three products on June 8, stating that distribution or sale by the registrants is prohibited as of June 3, 2020. But the agency also decided to examine the issue on the minds of many farmers: what to do with the products. Applying its “existing stocks” policy, the EPA examined six factors to help it determine how to deal with stocks of the product that are in the hands of dealers, commercial applicators, and farmers. The EPA concluded that those factors weighed heavily in favor of allowing the end users to use the products in their possession, but that use must occur no later than July 31, 2020 and that any use inconsistent with the previous label restrictions is prohibited.
Despite the EPA’s Cancellation Order, however, the Ohio Department of Agriculture is the final arbiter of the registration and use of pesticides and herbicides within Ohio. ODA patiently waited for the EPA to act on the Ninth Circuit’s ruling before issuing its guidance for Ohio users of the dicamba products. In its guidance released today, ODA stated that:

- After careful evaluation of the court’s ruling, US EPA’s Final Cancellation Order, and the Ohio Revised Code and Administrative Code, as of July 1, 2020, these products will no longer be registered or available for use in Ohio unless otherwise ordered by the courts.
- While use of already purchased product is permitted in Ohio until June 30, further distribution or sale of the products is illegal, except for ensuring proper disposal or return to the registrant.
- Application of existing stocks inconsistent with the previously approved labeling accompanying the product is prohibited.

But the roller coaster ride doesn’t necessarily end there. Several dangling issues for dicamba-based product use remain:

- We’re still waiting to see whether the plaintiffs who challenged the registrations (the National Family Farm Coalition, Center for Food Safety, Center for Biological Diversity, and Pesticide Action Network North America) will also challenge the EPA’s Cancellation Order and its decision to allow continued use of the products, and will request immediate discontinuance of such uses.
- Bayer Crop Science, as an intervenor in the Ninth Circuit case, could still appeal the Ninth Circuit’s decision, as could the EPA.
- All of these orders add complexity to the issue of liability for dicamba damage. That issue has already become quite controversial, often pitting farmer against farmer and requiring the applicator or damaged party to prove adherence to or violation of the complicated label restrictions. But the Ninth Circuit’s attention to the risks of adverse impacts from the products raises additional questions about whether an applicator who chooses to use the products is knowingly assuming a higher risk, and whether a liability insurance provider will cover that risk. For this reason, growers may want to have a frank discussion with their liability insurance providers about coverage for dicamba drift.

The dicamba roller coaster ride will surely continue, and we’ll keep you updated on the next development.

Read the ODA’s Official Statement Regarding the Use of Over-the-Top Dicamba Products here.

Additional update from Peggy Hall.
It appears that there will not be an immediate federal order to cease use of dicamba, despite the emergency motion filed by the National Family Farm Coalition last Thursday that asked the Ninth Circuit to void the EPA’s order that allow use of existing stocks. Since then:

- The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has directed the EPA to respond to the emergency motion, giving the agency until the end of the work day on June 16 to do so.
- The court has also directed the Coalition to then file a reply to the EPA’s response, and to do so by the end of the workday on June 18.

This suggests that the court will make a ruling after June 18. For the time being, then, the Court of Appeals has not taken any further action that would disallow ODA’s allowance of the use of dicamba in Ohio until June 30.

However, as I mentioned in my last blog post on the Ohio Ag Law Blog, it would be wise for applicators to check in with their insurers to determine whether their insurers will cover a drift incident given the “vacated” registration status of XtendiMax, FeXapan and Engenia. Some insurers have already indicated that they will not ensure coverage. Be aware, also, that Corteva Agriscience (maker of FeXapan) and BASF (maker of Engenia) have filed motions to intervene in the case. Although it’s doubtful that the court will allow intervention at this point in the process, the motions suggest that the three companies (Bayer Crop Science is already an intervenor in the case) are planning an appeal of the Ninth Circuit’s decision to vacate the registrations. That appeal would go to the U.S. Supreme Court.

### Distribution of waterhemp and Palmer amaranth in Ohio

By: Mark Loux  

The maps that accompany this article show our current knowledge of waterhemp and Palmer amaranth distribution in Ohio. These are based on information from a survey of OSU Extension County Educators, along with information we had from samples submitted, direct contacts, etc. We still consider any new introductions of Palmer amaranth to be from an external source (brought in from outside Ohio) – hay or feed, infested equipment, CRP/cover/wildlife seedings. Palmer is not really spreading around the state, and as the map shows, we have had a number of introductions that were immediately...
remediated. The number of counties where an infestation(s) is being managed is still low, and within those counties, the outbreak occurs in only a few fields still. Waterhemp is much more widespread in Ohio and is spreading rapidly within the state from existing infestations to new areas via equipment, water, animals, etc. We do not have Ag Educators in all counties, and even where we do, infestations can occur without us knowing about them. Feel free to contact us with new information to update the maps.

![Palmer amaranth map 2019 Ohio](image)

Palmer amaranth map 2019 Ohio

Among the weed photos sent to the Agronomy Team members for identification, a fair number lately has been for the purposes of "pigweed" identification. "Pigweed" as used here can refer to waterhemp, Palmer amaranth, spiny amaranth, Powell amaranth, and redroot/smooth pigweed (these two are mostly the same for ID/control purposes). It’s almost impossible to tell these apart when they are very small, but this gets easier by the time they are 4 inches tall. Waterhemp and Smooth/redroot pigweed are still the most common. Waterhemp is smooth all over with a somewhat elongated leaf with smooth edges, and leaves sometimes can be a darker and glossier green than pigweed. Smooth/redroot pigweed will have a hairy/rough stem (more defined as it gets larger), with relatively nonglossy leaves that are widest in the middle with “rougher” edges. Various resources are available to help with identification, including our [pigweed ID fact sheet](link) and [Youtube video](link). Identification of pigweeds is not necessarily straightforward, so feel free to contact your local extension educator or OSU weed scientists (loux.1@osu.edu or ackley.19@osu.edu) for help with identification.
Changes in status of dicamba product labels for Xtend soybeans – a recap

By: Mark Loux

On June 3, the US 9th Circuit Court of Appeals issued a decision in a case concerning the use of dicamba on Xtend soybeans. This decision voided the labels for XtendiMax, Engenia, and FeXapan that allows use on Xtend soybeans. Tavium was not included in this decision, because it was not approved for use when the case was initially filed. Several excellent articles covering this decision can be found here on the OSU Ag Law blog (https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog). EPA stated on June 8, providing further guidance about what this decision means for the use of dicamba for the rest of this season. The gist of this decision was the following:

“EPA’s order addresses sale, distribution, and use of existing stocks of the three affected dicamba products – XtendiMax with vapor grip technology, Engenia, and FeXapan.

1. Distribution or sale by any person is generally prohibited except for ensuring proper disposal or return to the registrant.
2. Growers and commercial applicators may use existing stocks that were in their possession on June 3, 2020, the effective date of the Court decision. Such use must be consistent with the product’s previously-approved label, and may not continue after July 31, 2020.”

ODA subsequently issued a statement regarding the registration and use of these products in Ohio, stating that any application must happen before July 1, 2020. Partial text from this statement:

“The registration of these products (XtendiMax, FeXapan, and Engenia) in Ohio expires on June 30, 2020. After careful evaluation of the court’s ruling, US EPA’s Final Cancellation Order, and the Ohio Revised Code and Administrative Code, as of July 1, 2020, these products will no longer be registered or available for use in Ohio unless otherwise ordered by the courts.

While the use of the already purchased product is permitted in Ohio until June 30, 2020, the Court’s decision and US EPA’s order make further distribution or sale illegal, except for ensuring proper disposal or return to the registrant. Application of existing stocks inconsistent with the previously approved labeling accompanying the product is prohibited. If you have questions about returning unused products, please reach out to your pesticide dealer’s representative.”

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

Ohio State University Extension
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties
So what is the impact of all of this, and how do we adjust herbicide programs to deal with it? Some things to consider:

The majority of the POST applications on Xtend soybeans occur prior to the end of June anyway, although some certainly do occur in July. And while XtendiMax, FeXapan, or Engenia cannot be applied after June 30, the previous label restrictions are also still in place – POST application must occur before the R1 stage or no later than 45 days after soybean planting, whichever occurs first. So if the soybeans were planted by May 15, products would have to be applied prior to June 30 anyway, and if planted later, they would have to be applied before R1 or before June 30, whichever occurs first.

It’s important to keep in mind that the emergence of most summer annual weeds peaks in early to mid-June and then starts to decline, although there can be later flushes of weeds with rainfall events especially. So except where soybeans are planted late and are still small, applying POST herbicides in mid to late June catches most of the weeds and provides effective control. We expect the soybean canopy to have developed adequately to suppress weeds emerging after the POST application. Based on our research, this can work even in later-planted soybeans just due to the fact that weed emergence slows down towards the end of June.

Given how difficult it can be to find suitable weather to apply the dicamba products, we suggest looking for a window to apply and doing so. We have 15 days left in June to apply legally, and probably more like seven days factoring in weather and application stewardship requirements. Waiting until the end of next week is possibly not a great plan.

Registration of Tavium, the premix of s-metolachlor and dicamba with VaporGrip, was not affected by this decision and remains a legal option even after June 30. Tavium can be applied through the V4 soybean stage, or through 45 days after planting, whichever occurs first.

Without the availability of dicamba to use POST, the Xtend soybean becomes an old school Roundup Ready soybean. THE primary POST option would be a mix of glyphosate with an ALS inhibitor (Classic, FirstRate, etc.) or PPO inhibitor (Flexstar and generics, Cobra/Phoenix, Ultra Blazer). These would also be the options where a second POST application is necessary after June 30. Not all of these may be viable in July due to soybean growth stage, PHI, or crop rotation restrictions.

Weeds of greatest concern here are marestail, waterhemp, Palmer amaranth, giant ragweed, and also common ragweed in NW Ohio. These five weeds are mostly glyphosate and ALS resistant in Ohio, and PPO resistance is fairly common in waterhemp and also occurs in some common ragweed and Palmer amaranth populations. None of these mixtures will be effective for POST marestail.
control. Effectiveness on the other weeds will be variable among and within fields across Ohio. Some giant ragweed populations are still partially controlled by glyphosate, so plant size and glyphosate rate and the number of applications make a difference. We would expect a complete lack of waterhemp control in some fields.

Another option would be to replant Xtend soybean fields with another type of soybean that provides for the POST options of 2,4-D choline and/or glufosinate – Enlist, LibertyLink, or LLGT27 – should seed still be available. This strategy should be used for double-crop soybeans also unless weeds can be handled well enough with the mixtures mentioned above.

**CFAP Program for Beef Producers**

By: David Marrison  
Source: [https://u.osu.edu/ohioagmanager/2020/06/08/cfap-program-for-beef-producers/](https://u.osu.edu/ohioagmanager/2020/06/08/cfap-program-for-beef-producers/)

Since the beginning of January, market prices for major commodities have fallen sharply since COVID-19 reached the United States. There have been many efforts through federal and state legislation to offset the impact of COVID-19.

Enrollment is currently being taken by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) for one such program targeted to help agricultural producers. This program called the **Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)** is providing financial assistance for losses experienced as a result of lost demand, short-term oversupply and shipping pattern disruptions caused by COVID-19.

The general details about the CFAP program can be found in a previous article written by the OSU Farm Office team. This article can be accessed at: [https://go.osu.edu/CFAP-2020](https://go.osu.edu/CFAP-2020)

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this article is to describe how CFAP can provide financial assistance to beef producers and to answer questions posed on the classification of animals. Complete details about the livestock portion of CFAP can be . . .

Continue reading [CFAP Program for Beef Producers](https://u.osu.edu/ohioagmanager/2020/06/08/cfap-program-for-beef-producers/)
**Time to Start Scouting for Potato Leafhoppers in Alfalfa**

By: Kelley Tilm, Mark Sulc, Andy Michel


We are receiving reports of near- or at-threshold levels of potato leafhopper in alfalfa. As second cut alfalfa grows, farmers should scout for resurging numbers in their fields. Younger alfalfa is more susceptible to damage at lower leafhopper numbers.

If alfalfa is more than seven days from a cut and plants are under normal stress, a good rule of thumb for a treatment threshold is: when the number of leafhoppers in a 10-sweep set is equal to or greater than the height of the alfalfa. For example, if the alfalfa is 8 inches tall, and the average number of leafhoppers per sample is eight or higher, treatment is warranted. If the average is seven or lower, the grower should come back within a few days to see if the population is higher or lower. Vigorous alfalfa can tolerate higher numbers, and stressed alfalfa can tolerate fewer.

A video on scouting techniques can be found [HERE](https://forages.osu.edu/news/time-start-scouting-potato-leafhoppers-alfalfa).

A video with detail on damage, ID, and control options can be found [HERE](https://forages.osu.edu/news/time-start-scouting-potato-leafhoppers-alfalfa).

Our extension factsheet on potato leafhopper in alfalfa is [HERE](https://forages.osu.edu/news/time-start-scouting-potato-leafhoppers-alfalfa).

**The importance of diversity in Ohio Grazing systems**

By: John Kellis, ODA Grazing Management Specialist

Source: [https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/06/10/the-importance-of-diversity-in-ohio-grazing-systems/](https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/06/10/the-importance-of-diversity-in-ohio-grazing-systems/)

Diversity is normally a good attribute to have. Whether that means diversity of thought, diversity in a workforce, diversity in your investments, or diversity in a population. Having too many eggs in one basket has always been considered risky and lacking the flexibility to adjust and react to outside influences.

While grazing livestock in Ohio and the Midwest might not seem to fit that same analogy, it is critical for producers trying to maximize returns and diversify their grazing operations. Most grazing operations are more exposed to negative influences from the weather than they need to be. There are options available that can reduce that exposure significantly.
Many livestock operators simply turn their cows into our cool season grass pastures until grasses go dormant in these summer months, feeding hay and/or exercising the cows until the cool-season pastures begin to regrow in the fall. Such practices expose an operation to more risk than necessary and if you evaluate the efficiency and total costs of such an operation, producers might want to start rethinking their assumptions about their grazing systems.

Diversifying to some may mean building a Heavy Use Area so they can pull the cows off the dormant pastures and feeding hay waiting for rain and cool temperatures to return. Well, growing, managing, cutting, conditioning, baling, and storing hay is not an activity that is easy or cheap. Such a plan is simply a contingency plan when weather does not cooperate. Diversifying your forage plan can make the seasonal weather changes work FOR you instead of AGAINST you.

Bob Hendershot, livestock producer and former NRCS Grazing Specialist, tells livestock producers to maximize the animal’s input and minimize the human input. “Make the cows work for you rather than you working for the cows.” The longer the livestock are grazing on actively growing pasture, the less need for hay or supplemental feed.

The Ohio Department of Agriculture, Division of Soil and Water has entered into a cooperative agreement with NRCS in Ohio to assist the local field offices and their producers in developing Grazing Management Plans. These plans provide producers access to cost assistance for infrastructure such as watering facilities, fence, Heavy Use Areas, Access Roads, and seedings. Many producers develop Grazing Mgt. Plans to gain access to financial assistance, but the Plan is designed to protect the resources and improve the profitability of the livestock operation. A well implemented Grazing Plan will ensure the long-term quality of the forages and improve the cost and labor efficiency of the grazing system.

Good planning allows producers to evaluate alternatives that can greatly increase the volume and quality of forage available to livestock. It can also help producers extend grazing through the hot summers of Ohio and well into the late fall or winter when the cool season pastures are dormant. Producers can “weatherize” their grazing operations.

SPRING:
Most Ohio Grazing systems await cool-season pastures to begin growing before initiating grazing. Some producers are augmenting the early-season pasture growth with fall planted cover crops such as cereal rye or Triticale for spring grazing or for green-chopped feed to be fed during the year. While many row-crop farmers are using cover crops to protect the soil over winter, good planning can utilize this crop for feed and serve to remove the crop for improved planting conditions.
SUMMER:
As our cool-season pastures stop growing in late spring and early summer, many will leave the cattle on these paddocks too long to gain a little more forage. This can end up stunting the pastures and delaying the critical regrowth they need for fall grazing. These producers end up feeding hay and exercising their cattle in the summer, when resting those cool-season grasses and legumes would be the better solution.

An alternative is to establish some acres of warm-season grass pastures. While many have complained that it takes too long to establish these warm-season grasses, in the long run, this alternative can reduce inputs, put weight on the cattle, and allow cool-season pastures to rest and regrow for fall or early winter grazing, a practice called stockpiling.

The aggressive growth rates of these warm-season C4 native grasses in June, July, and August will allow producers to rotate through these paddocks at a faster rate reducing the typical 30-day rest period to around 20 days. This allows the livestock to fulfill their forage needs on fewer acres in the hot, humid summer months while the cool-season grasses are in a semi dormant state. The warm season grasses will become available in late May to early June at an 18 to 24-inch height and are typically grazed down to about 12 inches before moving to the next paddock.

Many producers have enrolled acres in Conservation Reserve (CRP) Program in the past and some have warm-season grass planting on those contracted acres. NRCS, ODA, and the Division of Wildlife are working together to find efficient ways to revamp the pure grass stands to a more diverse cover that could be utilized as summer forage. Everyone agrees that a quality warm-season grass with a good mixture of clovers and other forbs will provide better wildlife cover and extend active grazing for livestock into September. “What’s good for the Herd is good for the Bird”. Any forage that bridges that summer forage slump will reduce the need to feed hay and provide a way to continue putting weight on the cows.

FALL and WINTER:
As cool season grasses begin to regrow in early fall, the assumption has been to get the cows back on our cool-season pastures as soon as you can. Again, there are alternatives and options for grazers. One would be to plant summer annuals for grazing, particularly after a wheat crop. These include sorghum Sudan grass, pearl millet, or forage brassicas such as radishes or turnips, that tend to loosen the soil and can provide an early fall source of pasture forage. Another fall feed-stuff many producers use is to graze corn stalks.
70th Annual Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet Awards Announced

This winter the Ashtabula County Dairy Service Unit and OSU Extension planned to have our annual dairy banquet on June 14th in conjunction with the Ashtabula Farm Bureau Ice Cream Social. Unfortunately, like many other in person events, we have decided not to hold the banquet this year due to the current health pandemic. Though we will not be joining together this year for the banquet, we still find it important to celebrate the 2019 dairy accomplishments and recognize the great work that all the Ashtabula County dairy farms do every single day.

The Ashtabula County Dairy Service Unit and OSU Extension are pleased to announce the 70th Annual Dairy Banquet Awards!

The first award recognizes the farms who are ranked top in the state of Ohio for energy corrected milk that have at least 10 cows and have been tested at least 10 times. Alfa-Creek Farms had the 13th ranked Holstein herd and Bossy’s Way Farm had the 6th rank Holstein herd. Alfa-Creek Farms also had the number 1 ranked Brown Swiss herd in Ohio. Bossy’s Way Farm had the number 1 mixed breed heard in the state. Congratulations to both farms on this great achievement.

Next we recognize farms that averaged a somatic cell count under 100,000. Wilson Dairy Farm of Jefferson averaged 78,000 and Bossy’s Way Farm of New Lyme averaged 62,000.

The Best of the Month Herd award was received by Bossy’s Way Farm for every month of 2019.

Next is the award for most improved heard that looks at energy corrected milk averages from the last year and the year before. The winner of this award receives the travelling trophy and their name added to the award. Both Gaylord Millard & Son of Pierpont and Alfa-Creek Brown Swiss of Andover saw an increased ECM of 505# and 424#, respectively, but Springer Dairy Farm of Lenox saw the biggest increase from 2018 to 2019 with a 740# addition.
Individual cow awards are as followed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Farm Name</th>
<th>ECM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brown Swiss</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Alfa-Creek Brown Swiss</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>29,620# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Alfa-Creek Brown Swiss</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>31,720# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Alfa-Creek Brown Swiss</td>
<td>911</td>
<td>31,096# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged</td>
<td>Alfa-Creek Brown Swiss</td>
<td>788</td>
<td>38,496# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Crossbreds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Alfa-Creek Farms</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>32,460# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Alfa-Creek Farms</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>35,240# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Alfa-Creek Farms</td>
<td>923</td>
<td>29220# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged</td>
<td>Alfa-Creek Farms</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>45,520# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Holstein</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Bossy’s Way Farm</td>
<td>2024</td>
<td>37,936 # Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Bossy’s Way Farm</td>
<td>2043</td>
<td>39,672 # Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Bossy’s Way Farm</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>40,200# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged</td>
<td>Gaylord Millard &amp; Son</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>42,664# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jersey</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Ringbyre Jersey Farm</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>26,820# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Ringbyre Jersey Farm</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>28,252# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Ringbyre Jersey Farm</td>
<td>632</td>
<td>27,072# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged</td>
<td>Ringbyre Jersey Farm</td>
<td>421</td>
<td>25,044# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Red &amp; White</strong></td>
<td><strong>Holstein</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Bossy’s Way Farm</td>
<td>2089</td>
<td>30,812# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Bossy’s Way Farm</td>
<td>2083</td>
<td>39,256# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Yr. Old</td>
<td>Alfa-Creek Farms</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>40,336# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged</td>
<td>Alfa-Creek Farms</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>42,616# Energy Corrected Milk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^ Top ECM cow for breed

Congratulations to all award winners and we look forward to gathering and celebrating in 2021.
For more information about this program, contact the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

**There is Still Time to Fill Out the US Census**

There are several reasons you should fill out the US Census. Below is an article from the US Census giving a snapshot as to why census data is important. You can fill out the census online at [my2020census.gov](http://my2020census.gov).

**Importance of the Data**


The 2020 Census will provide a snapshot of our nation—who we are, where we live, and so much more.

The results of this once-a-decade count determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. They are also used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

Over the next decade, lawmakers, business owners, and many others will use 2020 Census data to make critical decisions. The results will show where communities need new schools, new clinics, new roads, and more services for families, older adults, and children.

The results will also inform how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding are allocated to more than 100 programs, including Medicaid, Head Start, block grants for community mental health services, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as SNAP.

**Redistricting**

[https://youtu.be/83UNSPG3BHA](https://youtu.be/83UNSPG3BHA)

The U.S. Constitution mandates that the country count its population once every 10 years. The results are used to adjust or redraw electoral districts, based on where populations have increased or decreased.

State legislatures or independent bipartisan commissions are responsible for redrawing congressional districts. The U.S. Census Bureau provides states with population counts for this purpose.

**Federal Funding**

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

Ohio State University Extension

Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties
The results of the 2020 Census will inform decisions about allocating hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding to communities across the country—for hospitals, fire departments, school lunch programs, and other critical programs and services.

**Business Decisions**

The 2020 Census will be valuable to businesses, as the results will provide a rich set of data on the communities they serve, including population trends and growth projections.

https://youtu.be/l3yQylmBbNA

Learn more about how census results can have an impact on your community.

Business owners rely on census results to make decisions, such as where to open new stores, restaurants, factories, or offices, where to expand operations, where to recruit employees, and which products and services to offer.

https://youtu.be/JaRbYZc1tRk
The 2020 Ashtabula County Pollinator Symposium is now VIRTUAL

Wednesdays at 7 PM starting June 24th

Join us for great webinars that show you your role in a pollinator’s life

June 24th—Planning Your Own Pollinator Garden
Let the Ashtabula County Master Gardeners show you that small actions can have big impacts on pollinators. Learn how to layout a garden, where to buy plants, and some tips to keep it growing strong!

July 1—Bee Aware! Native Bees: 500 and Counting
The Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association and the Ashtabula County Master Gardeners will introduce you to our local hardworking pollinators. Come away knowing where to find them, when to see them, and what you can do to help them thrive.

July 8—Bee Smart with Pesticides
Before your next lawn and garden chemical treatment, let Ashtabula SWCD guide you toward making pollinator-friendly decisions. Find out how to achieve your turf goals without compromising the lives of beneficial bugs.

July 15—Reclaiming Acres for Pollinators
Stay tuned for more details!

Register now at go.osu.edu/neops