Hello, Northeast Ohio Counties!

A lot of activity in the fields this past week however we did not need all the rain which we got on Saturday evening through Sunday afternoon. It appears like the weather will break again this week. Time to finish soybean planting and get a good run on hay making!

Have a good and safe week!

Lee Beers & David Marrison
Extension Educators
Ag & Natural Resources
Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association to Meet on June 23 in Jefferson

The Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association will hold their next meeting on Saturday June 23, 2018 at the Jefferson United Methodist Church located at 125 E. Jefferson Street in Jefferson, Ohio. A pot luck dinner will begin at noon followed the meeting at 1:00 p.m. The featured speaker for this meeting will be Peggy Garnes, Vice President OSBA, who will present on Sustainable Nucs. The next meeting will be held on July 21, 2018

Powdery Mildew or Normal Wax on Peas?
By Lee Beers

We’ve heard several reports about field peas displaying a white residue on their leaves here in Ashtabula and Trumbull counties. With field peas the first fear is always powdery mildew, as it will destroy a harvest if conditions are right. Fortunately for us we have not entered the powdery mildew season yet.

David Marrison forwarded some pictures he took while scouting, and you can clearly see a white powdery substance on the leaves. Although from a distance it looks like powdery mildew, those white marks are actually a normal epicuticular wax that covers most plant leaves. This wax has many purposes – insect resistance, dehydration tolerance, diseases resistance, etc. All peas produce a fair amount of this wax, but some varieties have more than others.

The wax is present on all portions of the plant, but it is typically the heaviest on the leaves and lighter on the stem and pods. This is why the white disappears with a slight touch to the stem, but will not be removed with rubbing on the leaves. Wax is naturally white in color, and the spots on the leaves don’t appear until the plant leaves begin to mature. As the plant leaf grows and expands, new wax is created under the old and will eventually build up leading to the white spots.

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

Powdery mildew on peas. Notice the irregular, blotchy white spots. Cornell University

Normal epicuticular wax on field peas in NE Ohio in June 2018
Under a microscope you will not see any fruiting bodies, hyphae, or irregular round spots with epicuticular wax. Those are all symptoms of powdery mildew. When powdery mildew hits our area (usually July) the leaves will be covered in the namesake powder that you can rub off. They will look like they have been dusted with a powder. David and I will be scouting pea fields each week looking for disease and we will report here in the newsletter and on social media when/if it is discovered. Until then, please don’t hesitate to call either of us to come look at any problem you are noticing.

**US Senate Ag Committee Releases Their Version of Farm Bill**

Source: [https://www.morningagclips.com/leaders-find-common-ground-on-farm-bill/](https://www.morningagclips.com/leaders-find-common-ground-on-farm-bill/)

WASHINGTON — U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts, R-Kan., and Ranking Member Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., released on June 10 the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018. The Committee will meet to consider the legislation at 9:30 a.m. Eastern time on June 13.

“When Ranking Member Stabenow and I started this journey in Manhattan, Kansas, last year, we made a commitment to make tough choices and produce a good, bipartisan Farm Bill” said Chairman Roberts. “I’m pleased that today marks a big step in the process to get a Farm Bill reauthorized on time.”  “Whether it’s low prices, over burdensome regulations, or unpredictable trade markets, it’s no secret that farmers and ranchers are struggling. That’s why we need a Farm Bill that works for all producers across all regions. Simply put, our producers need predictability – and that’s just what our bill provides.”

“When from day one, Chairman Roberts and I agreed we would craft a bipartisan bill that works for farmers, families, and rural communities,” said Ranking Member Stabenow. “The 2018 bipartisan Senate Farm Bill goes above and beyond to provide certainty for rural America and our diverse agricultural economy in Michigan and throughout the country.”

“From revitalizing small towns, to promoting good stewardship of our land and water, to expanding local food economies, this Farm Bill is a major bipartisan victory.” The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 provides certainty and predictability for producers across all regions, as well as those in need of assistance, by:

**Providing Certainty for Farmers, Ranchers, and Growers**

- Preserving and strengthening crop insurance and other risk management tools for commodity, dairy, livestock, and other producers
- Providing flexibility for producers during times of natural disasters
- Continuing and strengthening export and trade-related programs
 Supporting agriculture research and encouraging research partnerships that make farmers more productive and profitable

**Strengthening Integrity and Food Access for Families**
- Strengthening the integrity of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Building on successful public-private partnerships and job training to improve SNAP participants’ path to sustainable employment
- Protecting food assistance for families and expanding access to healthy foods
- Reducing burdensome paperwork for seniors in need of assistance

**Strengthening Voluntary Conservation and Forest Management**
- Investing in voluntary conservation on working lands and expanding regional partnerships that leverage private funds to address natural resource concerns and improve water quality
- Providing forest management reforms to federal land managers and protecting against wildfires
- Securing opportunities for outdoor recreation by adding 1 million new acres to the Conservation Reserve Program and strengthening voluntary public access

**Investing in Rural America**
- Connecting rural America by expanding high-speed internet
- Fighting the opioid epidemic with prevention and treatment efforts
- Investing in water infrastructure for rural communities
- Preserving renewable energy investments that lower utility bills and support energy installation jobs

**Growing the Diversity of the American Agricultural Economy**
- Supporting farmer veterans and new farmers beginning careers in agriculture
- Strengthening local food economies that enable farmers to sell their products to their neighbors
- Growing emerging opportunities in organic production and urban agriculture
- Bolstering biodefense preparedness efforts to protect United States agriculture and food.

Read the legislation and a section-by-section summary at: https://www.agriculture.senate.gov/2018-farm-bill

Watch the Committee’s hearings in preparation for the Farm Bill at https://www.agriculture.senate.gov/hearings
Ohio Legislature Approves Orphan Well Plugging Bill
by Chris Kick, Farm & Dairy Newsletter

SALEM, Ohio — Ohio landowners who have an idle or orphaned well on their property may have a greater chance of getting some relief, following recent votes by the state legislature.

The House and Senate both voted in favor of H.B. 225 — a bill that requires the Department of Natural Resources to spend at least 30 percent of the state’s Oil and Gas Well Fund on plugging orphan wells.

The bill appropriates a total of $15 million for plugging wells in fiscal year 2019, an increase of $7 million. The House approved the final version June 7, with a vote of 50-38, and the Senate voted 32-0 in favor, May 23. The bill will now be sent to Ohio Gov. John Kasich for his consideration.

Intended use
Lawmakers and the oil and gas industry were concerned that only 14 percent of the funds were being spent on plugging wells previously — and that the state was using oil and gas funds outside of their intended purpose.

Some $15 million was removed from the fund last year to help fund a legal settlement against ODNR over property damage near Grand Lake St. Marys. And additional money was taken from the fund to help with the state budget. The state estimates there are around 700 known orphan wells — some dating back to the 1800s — which have been abandoned and are no longer producing.

Some of these wells present safety hazards because of the equipment protruding above ground, and the potential for water and environmental contamination. These wells were drilled before modern regulations were written, and many were never properly plugged. “Orphan wells present a big problem, not only in my district, but in 58 of Ohio’s 88 counties,” said Rep. Andy Thompson, R-Marietta, the bill’s primary sponsor. “It is one of the largest threats to groundwater quality we have, and I am happy we will be seriously addressing this issue with House Bill 225’s passage.”

Landowner process
According to the bill, property owners would have the opportunity to notify the ODNR about an orphan well on their property, prompting an inspection within 30 days. ODNR would then be
required to assign a priority level within 60 days from inspection, and those wells designated as distressed-high priority would be required to be sealed within six months by ODNR. The bill protects landowners from having to incur the charges associated with plugging an orphan well, and it requires the chief of the division of oil and gas resources management to report progress to the legislature. The Ohio Oil and Gas Association said the orphan well bill “will clean up legacy issues dating back to the early 1900s, and is the single best thing the state of Ohio can do to protect the environment.”

The association also praised the Legislature’s passage of H.B. 430 — a bill which clarifies oil and gas sales tax exemptions for oil and gas production property. The Senate approved that bill June 6, with a vote of 32-1, and the House concurred June 7, 73-13.

According to ODNR, orphan wells have been found under buildings, houses and streets, as well as in lawns and recreation areas. Some of the signs you may have an orphan well include the presence of a large diameter pipe or wellhead, an area where vegetation will not grow, the odor of crude oil or natural gas, the odor of rotten eggs, or your water well is contaminated by saltwater, crude oil or natural gas.

The Cost of a Windrow
By Dan Undersander, Extension Forage Specialist, University of Wisconsin
Source: http://u.osu.edu/beef/2018/06/06/the-cost-of-a-windrow/

When harvesting hay or haylage we tend to think in terms of how long it takes to get the hay off the field. However, the first concern for quality hay/haylage should be how long it takes to lose the first 15-20% moisture. Forages have 75-80% moisture when cut; they will continue to respire sugars (break down and give off heat and carbon dioxide) at a high rate until the plant is dried to 60% moisture. If we want to save the energy of the starch and sugars for our cattle, we need to dry off the first 15-20% moisture as quickly as possible.

Most of the respiration takes place in the leaves. We should remember that conditioning is for drying the stems but has little impact on drying the leaves. A wide swath has the biggest effect on rate of leaf drying. Leaves dry faster in a wide swath because:

- More sunlight falling on the field is intercepted for drying. (A windrow intercepts only 25-30% of sunlight falling on the field while a wide swath intercepts 70-100% of sunlight.)
- Light keeps the leaf stomates open longer, so moisture can leave through leaf openings. Since most of the forage in a windrow is in the dark, the leaf stomates close to seal the leaf surface.

Table 1 shows the losses that can occur due to making a windrow rather than a wide swath. Data indicate that starch and sugar loss can range from 2-8% of dry matter. If we assume a
median starch/sugar loss of 4% of dry matter due to hay in a windrow compared to a wide swath, then the dry matter economic loss is $6.40/ton, according to current hay prices in the Midwest for large square bales.

However, the respiratory losses of starch and sugar also increase the fiber content of the forage. If the forage was near 40% NDF (prime hay/haylage) when cut, then the 4% starch loss will increase fiber 3.4 units and lower the quality to Grade 1 hay (125-150 RFQ). Grade 1 hay is currently selling for $38/ton less than Prime hay. The value to dairy producers is about twice the price differential between hay grades.

Many farmers have switched to making wide swaths when mowing. A wide swath is the single most important factor affecting forage drying rate; it is more important than conditioning. Farmers who continue to put hay into windrows are increasing drying time and risk of rain damage. They are also currently losing about $44.40/ton due to yield and quality losses from increased respiration. Considering this dollar loss, most farmers could figure out a way to make wider swaths with their existing equipment; they should also look at wide swath mowers when replacing mowing equipment.

**Farm lives matter — Look out for one another**

BY COREY GEIGER, MANAGING EDITOR Hoard’s Dairyman  

Despair, depression, or even a sense of no other way out of a problem can cause people to do the unthinkable — take their own life. In many instances, attempts to end one’s life are made in very short windows, suggest mental health experts.
These short windows can make it difficult for family and friends to intervene with lifesaving mental health assistance. To make matters worse, this mental health crisis has escalated dramatically since 1999 — as suicide rates have climbed 30 percent nationally in the past 16 years. Those percentages vary by state, according to a June 8, 2018, report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Rural states impacted more
Suicide rates have climbed disproportionately in rural states. Moving from east to west, the following states had the highest percent change in annual suicide rates from 1999 to 2001 and 2014 to 2016, with increases of 38 to 58 percent:
• New Hampshire
• Vermont
• South Carolina
• Minnesota
• North Dakota
• South Dakota
• Nebraska
• Oklahoma
• Montana
• Wyoming
• Utah
• Idaho

Farmers face greatest tribulations
In a pair of separate studies — one by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and one by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), scientists found that farmers take their own lives at a higher rate than even military veterans.

The CDC reported that among veteran males ages 18 to 29, 86 suicides occurred among every 100,000 Americans in that age bracket. That rate climbed to 91 among males involved with farming, fishing, and forestry.
What makes that number even more tragic is that the higher rate of suicides among farmers is for men of all ages — not just the 18 to 29 demographic, which is higher among veterans. Among all occupations, construction is next at 53 self-inflicted deaths among 100,000 workers. Across all Americans, young and old, male and female, suicide rates are 15 per 100,000 citizens.

Farmers are tough and loyal
For many of us involved in agriculture, our identity is our family and our farms. When we falter financially and risk losing our livelihoods, some among us struggle to separate our careers and our farms in order to preserve our mental health. Caught in spiraling despair, some believe there is no other way but to end it all.

Agriculture’s tradition of self-reliance, both in America and throughout the world, also tends to create isolation as farmers internalize matters rather than appear vulnerable and discuss those matters with others.

What can we do?
If you have a family member or neighbor who might be suffering financial hardship or some other stressor, get them talking. Spend time with them. Help them envision a brighter future. And above all, seek professional help from a mental health specialist.

Farm lives matter.

**Nominations Sought for Ashtabula, Geauga and Lake FSA County Committee**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) encourages America’s farmers to nominate candidates to lead, serve and represent their communities on their local county committee. USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) will accept nominations for county committee members beginning June 15, 2018. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections as the FSA county committees are a direct link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Producers across the country are already serving on committees where they play a critical role in the day-to-day operations of FSA, making important decisions on programs dealing with disaster and conservation, emergencies, commodity price loan support, county office employment and other agricultural issues. FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.
You are probably asking yourself, “I wonder if I am eligible to participate in the nomination process and/or election?” All Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be eligible to be nominated and vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program and reside in the area where the election is being held.

The election is being held for agriculture producers in the following townships:

The following townships in Ashtabula County LAA#1:
- Colebrook, Hartsgrove, Lenox, Morgan, New Lyme, Orwell, Rome, Windsor

The following townships in Geauga & Lake Counties LAA#4:
- Burton, Hambden, Huntsburg, Middlefield, Montville, Parkman, Thompson, Troy

Producers can nominate themselves or others. Organizations, including those representing beginning, women and minority producers, may also nominate candidates to better serve their communities. Nominations will be accepted until August 1, 2018. To be considered, a producer must sign an FSA-669A nomination form. The form and other information about FSA county committee elections are available at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections. All nomination forms for the 2018 election must be postmarked or received in the local FSA office by August 1, 2018. Visit farmers.gov for more information.

Election ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning November 5, 2018 and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by December 3, 2018. If you feel you are an eligible voter and did not receive a ballot, please contact your local FSA county office before the final date to see if your area is holding an election and request a ballot.

Please don’t miss out on voting in your local FSA Committee Election. FSA is counting on you!
Beef Quality Assurance National Guidelines
By Steve Boyles, OSU Beef Extension Specialist
Source: http://u.osu.edu/beef/2018/06/06/beef-quality-assurance-national-guidelines/

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) is a nationally coordinated, state implemented program to ensure that beef and dairy cattle are maintained in a manner which will result in a safe and wholesome beef product for the consumer. Times and locations for the series of upcoming BQA certification programs being held for producers throughout Ohio are posted under the EVENTS/PROGRAMS link at our OSU Beef Team website: http://beef.osu.edu. Producers interested in getting BQA certified can also do it on-line at the National BQA website https://www.bqa.org/

The following are the BQA Guidelines being relayed at the Ohio BQA events.

Care and Husbandry Practices
- Follow a “Quality Assurance Herd Health Plan” that conforms to good veterinary and husbandry practices
- Handle/transport all cattle in such a fashion to minimize stress, injury and bruising
- Regularly inspect facilities (fences, corrals, load-outs, stations, freestall areas, alleys, etc.) to help ensure proper care and ease of handling
- Keep feed and water handling equipment clean
- Provide appropriate nutritional and feedstuff management
- Maintain an environment appropriate to the production setting
- Evaluate and enforce biosecurity
- Keep records for a minimum of 2 years or longer as required by laws/regulations (ie. 3 years for Restricted Use Pesticides)

Feedstuffs
- Maintain records of any pesticide use on pasture or crops that could potentially lead to violative residue in cattle
- A quality control program is in place for incoming feedstuffs that is designed to help eliminate contamination from mold, mycotoxins or chemicals incoming feed ingredients. Supplier assurance of feed ingredient quality is recommended.
- Analyze suspect feedstuffs prior to use.
- Do not feed ruminant-derived protein sources per FDA regulations
• Support feeding of by-product/co-product ingredients with sound science

Feed Additives and Medications
• Use only FDA-approved medicated feed additives in rations
• Use medicated feed additives in accordance with FDA current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMPs)
• Follow Judicious Antibiotic Use Guidelines
• Extra-label use of feed additives is illegal and strictly prohibited
• Strictly adhere to medication withdrawal times to avoid a violative residue
• Where applicable, keep complete records when formulating or feeding medicated feed rations
• Records are to be kept a minimum of two years or longer as required by laws/regulations
• Assure that all additives are withdrawn at the proper time to avoid a violative residue

Processing/Treatment Records
• Follow all FDA/USDA/EPA guidelines for each product
• Follow all label direction for each product
• Extra-label drug use shall be kept to a minimum, and used only when prescribed by a veterinarian working under a Veterinary/Client/Patient Relationship (VCPR)
• Strict adherence to extended withdrawal periods (as determined by veterinarian within the context of a VCPR) shall be employe
• Individual animal or group identification
• When cattle are treated/processed individually, treatment records will be maintained with the following records:
  – Individual animal identification
  – Date treated
  – Product administered and manufacturer’s lot/serial number
  – Dosage
  – Route and location of administration
  – Earliest date animal will have cleared with withdrawal period
  – Name of individual administering the treatment
• When cattle are treated/processed as a group, all cattle with the group shall be identified as such, and the following information recorded:
  – Group or lot identification
  – Date treated
  – Product administered and manufacturer’s lot/serial number
  – Dosage
  – Route and location of administration
  – Earliest date animal will have cleared the withdrawal period
  – Name of individual administering the treatment
• All cattle (fed and beef or dairy market cows/bulls) shipped to harvest will be checked by appropriate personnel to ensure that animals that have been treated have met label or prescription withdrawal times for all animal health products administered
• All processing treatment records should be transferred with the cattle to next production level. Prospective buyers must be informed of any cattle that have not met withdrawal times

Injectable Animal Health Products
• Always follow label requirements
• Products labeled for subcutaneous (SQ), Intravenous (IV), Intranasal (IN) or oral administration are recommended
• Products with low dosage rates are recommended and proper spacing of injections should be followed
• All products labeled for intramuscular use shall be delivered in the neck region only (no exceptions, regardless of age)
• All products can cause tissue damage when injected IM. Therefore all IM use should be avoided if possible
• No more than 10 CC of product is administered per IM injection site

**David’s Weekly News Column**
For Publication in the Jefferson Gazette on June 13

Hello, Ashtabula County! Do you know what the month of June is known for nationally? If you guessed that it is National Dairy Month then you are absolutely correct! June marks a month-long salute to our nation’s dairy farmers. It began in 1937 and has grown into an annual tradition. It honors the hard work of our nation’s dairy farmers and highlights the importance of dairy in our diets.

Just imagine a world without ice cream, butter, cheese, or a cool refreshing glass of milk! To me it would be unbearable not to have these products around the house! In fact, we must love milk as the average American drinks over 23 gallons of milk per year, eats 22 pounds of ice cream, and munches away over 33 pounds of cheese.

Do you know that Thomas Jefferson was the first "Big Cheese?" The phrase was coined when a cheese-maker gave a 1,235-pound cheese wheel to President Jefferson in 1801. Passers-by were amazed by the spectacle and dubbed it "the big cheese."

Do you know milk is the only major crop that is harvested daily? Do you know the average cow produces 90 glasses of milk each day and that more ice cream is produced and eaten in the United States than in any other country? Do you know that it takes 21.2 pounds of whole milk to make one pound of butter and 10 pounds of milk to make a pound of cheese? Do you know
that a Holstein cow’s spots are like a fingerprint or a snowflake? No two cows have exactly the same pattern of spots!

With all the alternative beverages and snacks on the market today, one would think that the consumption of milk would have declined during the past decade—wrong! Instead, the consumption of dairy products has remained steady. I think this is fabulous! After all, since milk is such a nutritious treat, why shouldn’t we want to eat dairy products?

The backbone of Ashtabula County agriculture has for many years been the dairy industry. In fact, there are currently 31 dairy farmers milking a total of 6,500 cows producing over fifteen million gallons of milk with a wholesale value of over 18 million dollars in Ashtabula County.

I have always been impressed with the dedication our local dairy farmers have to their businesses. They have a spirit that transcends all reason even in the face of adversity. This past year has been one full of adversity as milk prices continue to be at an all-time low. Over production, slowing demand and now trade wars have really impacted milk prices.

How about helping out our local dairy farmers by increasing your consumption of milk, cheese, yogurt, ice cream and other dairy products? Rain, shine, sleet or snow never stops these dedicated individuals from producing high quality milk 365 days a year.

Ashtabula County residents as we enjoy this great month of June, do not hesitate to ask the questions, “Got milk?” or “Where is your milk mustache?” of your neighbors. In fact, wouldn’t it be nice to walk down the street and hear someone say; “Ich liebe die milch,” “J’aime let lait,” “Yo amo la leche,” or “Ik hou van melk.” Because no matter whether you say it in German, French, Spanish, or Dutch, it is okay to say, “I love milk!” Have a good and safe day!

David Marrison is Associate Professor and Extension Educator, Agriculture & Natural

Lee’s Monthly News Column

Hello Trumbull County! I’m starting to think that “make hay while the sun shines” is a myth in Northeast Ohio. I know there are a lot of anxious farmers out there (me included) getting wanting to cut and bale hay. Making quality hay depends on cooperation from the weather – 3-4 days of sunny and dry weather – and having forage at the correct growth stage for optimum nutrition and tonnage. This year the forage is cooperating with most grass species having reached maturity, or slightly passed. Weather on the other hand is not cooperating. Rain is incredibly variable this year and I have watched several hay making windows in the weather forecast close up due to unpredictability.
Getting the first cutting of hay off from a field sets the growth for the rest of the season, and making that first cutting too late may have negative effects on the second and third cutting later in the season. Given our current weather we may need to make the most of any opening in the weather forecast. Rain is not your friend once hay has been mowed, but you can mow after a slight rain to gain extra drying time as long as the soils are not too damp. If possible, waiting to mow after the dew has dried will generally promote faster drying times, and the plant will be producing more sugar at this point making the hay more palatable.

Once mowed your goal is to get the hay to dry as fast as possible locking in nutrients and reducing the risk of being rained on. Properly adjusted conditioners (if equipped) on your mower will aid in drying time, as will wider swath widths. Clumped up hay coming out of the back of the mower inhibits air movement and access to the sun which slows down drying. Spreading hay out evenly in the field promotes drying. Mower settings can help with spreading the hay out, but the best tool for spreading hay is the tedder. A tedder will take clumped hay and throw it like confetti throughout the field. Tedding shortly after mowing is advisable, and will need to be done at least once a day until the hay is almost dry enough to bale. Remember, the more you handle hay the more likely you are to lose nutritional leaves. Balance drying with quality, but rained on hay is definitely not good quality.

Shortly before the hay is ready to bale is when you should rake the hay. Allowing the windrows to rest in the sun/wind for a few hours before baling will help remove any remaining moisture picked up from the soil. Knowing when to bale can be tricky, and the old farmer test of twisting hay will work for the experienced farmer, but a more modern (and precise) moisture tester will ensure quality forage. Small square bales should be baled at a moisture below 18% unless a preservative is used. Round bales and square bales require even drier conditions because they are larger and more compacted preventing air flow. Once baled move the hay to a dry location for storage.

Your hay is baled so you are done right? Not really. You should monitor your hay stacks for up to 2 months for unusually high temperatures that could lead to a barn fire. Most hay fires happen within 6 months of being baled. You can check the temperature at the center of the hay stack with a pipe and a thermometer on a string suspended inside. Once hay is harvested microbes begin to breakdown the plant cells and release heat in the process. Temperatures up to 120F are normal, but anything above that can lead to mold or fire. If your hay stack reaches a temperature of 160F or more call the fire department immediately. You can read more about storing hay safely here: https://agsafety.osu.edu/newsletter/ag-safety-stat/june-2018/emergency-management/hay-and-straw-barn-fires-real-danger

The Trumbull County Master Gardeners “Wednesdays in the Garden” programs will be continuing every other Wednesday throughout June and July. Next up on the schedule for June 11th is a program dedicated to selecting, growing, and maintaining Hostas. On June 25th come
learn how to properly maintain and care for your garden tools to keep them sharp and functioning properly. As always, the Wednesdays in the Gardens events are free, are always at 6:00pm, and will be held rain or shine at the Trumbull County Ag and Family Education Center at 520 West Main St., Cortland, OH 44410.

Interest in small grains continues to grow. OSU Extension and OARDC will be hosting a Small Grains Field day on June 12 at the OARDC Shaffter Farm in Wooster. Topics for the field day include malting barley economics, small grains as cover crops and forage, disease management, and many other topics. You can find the agenda, registration, and more information here: [https://wayne.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/small-grains-field-day](https://wayne.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/small-grains-field-day).

For more information about farming, gardening, the Master Gardener program, or any other program, call the OSU Trumbull County Extension Office at 330-638-6783 or visit trumbull.osu.edu. Don’t forget to check out and “Like” OSU Extension Trumbull County’s Facebook page for current programs and up to date information.

**Upcoming Extension Program Dates**

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

Soil Health Testing Field Day - Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Cattlemen’s Meeting & Tour – Thursday, August 30, 2018