I cannot believe that it is almost the end of June. Where has the month gone? I think we will be glad to see June get out of here due to all the rain. The excessive rainfall has really hampered crop growth, hay harvest and weed control. I hope it straightens out as we move into July. On behalf of our family, I would like to thank everyone who attended or attempted to attend my wife’s celebration of life last Tuesday evening. We were overwhelmed by the number of people who came and for all your kind words and hugs. It meant a lot to our family. I used a quote from George Forman in this week’s news article in the paper which holds true. This quote was “So many of us have loved ones and people we really care about, and the only time we show affection is when they are gone. I have preached at funerals, and you see loved ones who didn’t even say hello to dear ones when they were alive. Give them hugs, kisses while they are alive and need it.” Have a good week.

David Marrison, AG Educator

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**Disease Management Following Flooding Rains—What to Look For**

By Anne Dorrance

I looked at the soybean prices on Sunday – all were still less than $10/Bushel. This price combined with yield losses due to late planting, extra expenses for additional late weed control, and flood injury really put the kibosh on all but the most guaranteed return on investment for the remainder of 2015. Here are a few guidelines, results from our studies in Ohio that point to the best return on investment.

Foliar pathogens have the most impact on soybeans at the later growth stages (R3 to R6) by reducing the photosynthetic area of the leaves that contribute to pod development and seed growth ([http://www.oardc.osu.edu/soyrust/2007edition/10-SoybeanGrowthandDevelopment.pdf](http://www.oardc.osu.edu/soyrust/2007edition/10-SoybeanGrowthandDevelopment.pdf)). Soybeans also have an uncanny ability to compensate for missing neighbors. The profitability measure for the 2015 season will be to scout for the occurrence of diseases after flowering R3 and choose the best fungicide if necessary.
1. Septoria brown spot. This is a lower canopy disease, which surprisingly, we have not been getting too many reports of this year. Where we are, it is from fields that are planted into continuous soybean and have heavy residue. Even in these situations, the yield loss for this is still on average 2 to 3 bu/A.

2. Frogeye leaf spot. This disease we are monitoring, not only because there are a few highly susceptible varieties but also because there are reports from Illinois, Indiana, and up and down the Mississippi of populations that are no longer managed by the strobilurin class of fungicides. If you see it, please send this to the lab ASAP, so we can run some tests. We have seen yield differences with low levels of disease (5 to 12% leaf area affected) of 5 to 10 bu/Acre. This is the one to keep an eye out for but the timing for sprays is between R3 and early R4.

3. Sclerotinia stem rot or white mold. For those fields with a long history of this disease, this can cause problems when we have cool nights (a.k.a no air conditioning turned on in your house) and heavy dews. We have started our scouting for this pathogen as fields begin to get closer to flowering. However, for those historic areas where white mold is always present AND a susceptible to moderately susceptible variety was planted, a fungicide may be necessary this year. The key is the timing, and coverage of the fungicide in the field. The target area is the lower part of the stem.
   a. Approach – we have measured significant reductions in white mold when we applied this fungicide at Western branch right before flowering followed by a second application 10 days later.
   b. Endura – we have measured significant reductions in white mold with this fungicide with one application timing (R1 – a few plants are beginning to flower in the field).
   c. Phoenix and Cadet Herbicides – both have reduced the incidence of white mold in trials in northeast Ohio. If you are also going after weed escapes, this may also be a tool to consider.
   d. Tospin M – this has been the stand by white mold fungicide, but for the past 3 years, we have not been able to measure reductions in disease.
   e. Some cautions, we have not been able to reduce white mold with a fungicide nor with a herbicide if the field is planted to a highly susceptible variety and the crop is in full flower and infections have already occurred. These materials mainly work as protectants and have to be on the plant at those lower nodes to protect it prior to the arrival of the pathogen.

In summary, for foliar pathogens there is time to let the plants recover and take a look later in the growing season to determine if the pathogens are present. This is the year to focus those scouting efforts on highly susceptible varieties. For historic white mold areas, this will be another year to implement measures on those highly to moderately susceptible varieties.

Wet Weather and Weed Management
By Mark Loux

1. Wet weather has delayed POST herbicide applications in both corn and soybeans. This can result in weeds and crops that are larger and more advanced in growth stage than anticipated. The larger crop is primarily a problem in corn, where a more advanced growth stage can start to limit herbicide options. Be sure to check labels and the OH/IN/IL Weed Control Guide for information on maximum crop size and stage for herbicides (Table 8 on page 68 of 2015 edition). Larger weeds may require higher rates or more complex POST herbicide mixtures. Glyphosate and Liberty rates can be increased in Roundup Ready and LibertyLink crops, respectively. Glyphosate usually does not need
much help to control large grasses, but the addition of a clethodim product or Fusion to Liberty in LibertyLink soybeans will be required for grasses more than a few inches tall (and always for control of barnyardgrass, yellow foxtail, and crabgrass). Maximum rates of glyphosate can be required for control of large giant ragweed, especially if they have developed some resistance. The addition of fomesafen or Cobra can improve control of glyphosate-resistant giant ragweed populations, and crop oil should be included where these herbicides are used. Various herbicides can be mixed with glyphosate in corn to improve giant ragweed control, including Status, Impact/Armezon, Callisto, Laudis, etc. Increasing spray volume can improve penetration of herbicide into a taller, denser weed and crop canopy, especially for contact herbicides.

2. Consider altering the weed management strategy in fields with late-planted soybeans. While we advocate strongly for the use of residual herbicides in soybeans, the need for full rates of residual premix products applied in late June is debatable. Two issues here: a) some residual herbicide labels specify 10 month or greater interval between application and corn planting next year; and b) we are through the period of peak weed emergence, so that the residual herbicide activity does not have to last as long (assuming that POST herbicides will be applied). In addition, soybeans grow more rapidly when planted in late June compared with early May, so there is less time until a crop canopy develops to help with weed control. Where residual herbicides will be applied, check labels and the Weed Control Guide for information on re-crop intervals to corn or other crops, and consider switching to a less persistent herbicide with shorter re-crop restrictions where appropriate. It’s probably also possible to forgo the residual herbicides in some fields with low weed pressure, and just use POST herbicides. Be aware however that Marestail can emerge into July, and relying on POST herbicides for control of this weed is not a good idea unless Liberty can be used.

3. Can I plant soybeans in fields where corn has failed when I have used pre-emergence herbicide X, Y, and/or Z? There’s a very straightforward answer to this question, and then a more complicated answer with less certainty requiring some knowledge not found on herbicide labels. Labels for corn herbicides provide re-crop intervals that should occur between application of corn herbicides and soybean planting next year, and these typically range from 6 to 10 months for any residual corn herbicides that are not also used in soybeans. Based on this, it’s not possible to plant soybeans anytime the same season where an atrazine premix has been used, and also Lexar/Lumax, Acuron, Halex GT, Balance, Corvus, or SureStart/Tripleflex among others. The grass herbicide components (metolachlor, acetochlor, dimethenamid, pyroxasulfone) of these products are not the problem since they are used in soybeans anyway. It’s the atrazine, mesotrione, isoxaflutole, and clpyralid components that result in re-crop intervals of 6 months or more. One of the options here always is to plant a preliminary test strip of soybeans in a field, and see how it looks after a few weeks, before planting the entire field (i.e. field bioassay). This approach can be impractical this late in the season, when planting as soon as possible can maximize soybean yield potential. Aside from this, we usually advise contacting a manufacturer representative directly or through a dealer to get their assessment of the situation. There may not be a concrete answer provided, but this can result in some information along the lines of “we think there is a good shot the soybeans might make it” or “absolutely do not do it”. The only one of these herbicides that we can provide any advice on really with regard to soybean planting the same season is atrazine, since it’s been around so long and subject to almost every situation possible. It is possible to sample soil and have it tested for atrazine levels, and the resulting numbers can provide some guidance on replanting (page 12 of the current Weed Control Guide). Beyond this, our experience based on feedback from growers and advisors over the past couple decades is that when 6 to 8 weeks and a lot of rainfall has occurred since atrazine application, there is a reasonably good chance that soybeans can survive and grow. However, this doesn’t mean there won’t be injury or reduced yield potential, and there isn’t any way to know really without a field bioassay and/or the lab analysis of soil.
Be Patient with Wet Hay Fields
By Mark Sulc

I know many hay producers reading this article are frustrated by the rainy weather. They know that forage quality is declining with each day that goes by (and why did I have to state the obvious, right?). However, I want to urge hay producers to change their focus and be patient, to make sure their hayfields are dry enough to support their equipment before they try to get out on them once the sun starts to shine again.

The loss of quality in one cutting, even the complete loss of the value of one cutting, is less than ruining a forage stand for the remainder of its productive life by running equipment on ground that is still too soft, especially if it is a younger stand. So do what is really easy for me to say, but super hard to practice right now – just be patient. Take the long look and wait until the field is dry enough to support the equipment without damaging the forage stand. There is potentially a silver lining for those of you who have overgrown hay fields that were saturated before you could harvest them. That is this: Flooding damage is usually much more severe in newly harvested stands than in stands with full growth present during periods of soil saturation.

Research conducted in Wooster, OH by Dr. Al Barta a number of years ago demonstrated that alfalfa damage was most severe when the alfalfa had been harvested right before a flooding event. In contrast, flooding damage was much less severe in alfalfa that was full grown, in flower stage, and had not been cut prior to the flooding event. So place your focus on that and watch how over-ripe fields recover compared with fields that were cut right all the saturated soil conditions developed. This is probably good news for some of you, but bad news for others who did get their hay cut before all the rain. But whatever the case, let’s keep hoping that we will all soon be making hay while the sun shines!

Multiflora Rose Problems in Pastures? Control it Now!
By Dwight Lingenfelter, Program Development Specialist and William Curran, Professor of Weed Science, Penn State University
Source: http://beef.osu.edu/beef/beefJun1715.html

Now is a great time to address problems with multiflora rose. As spring progresses, multiflora rose aggressively grows and eventually blooms in late May/early June. Several tactics can be used to control this problem weed and these methods will be briefly discussed.

Mechanical control methods include mowing, which requires repeated mowings per season for several years, and excavating, which involves pulling individual plants from the soil with heavy equipment, can be costly, time-consuming and laborious. However, these are viable means for multiflora rose management. Also, management techniques which include biological controls have been used. Two of the more prominent biocontrol agents are rose rosette disease (RRD) and herbivores such as goats or sheep. RRD is a virus which is slowly spreading in our region of the country. Multiflora rose plants infected with RRD usually die within two years. Though RRD may not eradicate the multiflora rose problem, it should help reduce it over the long run. If managed properly, goats and sheep can help control multiflora rose. Research has shown that initially 8 to 10 goats and/or sheep pastured with compatible livestock (cattle) can help reduce rose and other brushy infestations.

Although the above control practices help, several herbicides provide good control of multiflora rose, especially when applied during the bud to bloom growth stages. Three foliar applied herbicides suggested for late-spring/summer are: metsulfuron (Cimarron Plus), Crossbow and glyphosate. Glyphosate has been more effective in Penn State research at fall application time. Products like Milestone and ForeFront generally are not as effective on multiflora rose; while 2,4-D and dicamba (Banvel/Clarity) are not effective.
Metsulfuron (sold as a generic or as Cimarron Plus) provides good control of multiflora rose and can be used as a broadcast or spot treatment. For best control apply either product at a rate of 1 oz/A plus a surfactant for broadcast treatments or 1.0 oz/100 gallons water plus surfactant for spot treatments. Applications should be made in the spring, soon after plants are fully leafed-out. Rose plants must be less than 3 feet tall for treatment to be effective. There is no application to grazing interval for metsulfuron.

Foliar applications of Crossbow can be effective on multiflora rose. For spot treatments, use 4 to 6 fl oz/3 gallons water and spray until foliage is uniformly wet. For broadcast applications, use 1.5 to 4 gallons of Crossbow in enough water to deliver 10 to 30 gallons of spray per acre. Early to mid-June is an excellent time to make these applications. Follow-up treatments may be necessary. An interval of 14 days is required for lactating dairy if using 2 gallons/A or less.

Glyphosate can be used as spot treatments on isolated patches of multiflora rose. Apply a 1 percent solution (about 1 qt/25 gallons water) of glyphosate with a hand-held sprayer. Uniformly wet leaves and green stems, but avoid runoff. Application should be made in late summer or early fall when plants are actively growing (after fruit formation). A 7 day interval is required for grazing animals.

No matter which control tactic is used, follow-up maintenance practices are a must for long-term control. Removal of dead brush, annual mowing and adequate soil fertility are examples of practices that should be used to maintain control of multiflora rose and in turn, will encourage pasture growth.

For more information on multiflora rose and its management refer to Multiflora Rose Management in Grass Pastures at: http://extension.psu.edu/pests/weeds/control/multiflora-rose-management-in-grass-pastures-an-integrated-approach

**Safe Repellents that Protect Fruit from Spotted Wing Drosophila Found**


Insects destroy a very large fraction of the global agricultural output - nearly 40 percent. The spotted wing Drosophila (Drosophila suzukii), for example, feeds on ripening fruits. A nuisance especially in Northern California and Europe, it lays its eggs inside ripe berries, and, when its larvae emerge there, the fruit is destroyed. As a result, each year D. suzukii causes hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of agricultural damage worldwide.

Scientists at the University of California, Riverside have now identified a safe repellent that protects fruits from D. suzukii: Butyl anthranilate (BA), a pleasant-smelling chemical compound produced naturally in fruits in small amounts. In their lab experiments, the scientists found BA warded off D. suzukii from blueberries coated with it. The finding, when extrapolated to other agricultural pests, could provide a strategy for controlling them and increasing the productivity of crops and fruit.

Study results appear June 22 in Scientific Reports, an online and open-access Nature publication. "Toxic insecticides are often risky to use directly on fruits - especially when they are close to being harvested," said Anandasankar Ray, an associate professor of entomology and the director of the Center for Disease Vector Research at UC Riverside, whose lab performed the research project. "A safe and affordable repellent such as BA could provide protection and reduce use of toxic chemicals."

To test whether BA can protect fruit from D. suzukii, Ray and his graduate student Christine Krause Pham conducted a series of experiments using two bowls of fresh, ripe blueberries - a preferred fruit of D. suzukii. They applied BA to blueberries in one bowl and solvent on the blueberries in the second bowl (the latter served as the control). They
placed the bowls in a glass chamber and exposed them to D. suzukii for a week, repeating the experiment subsequently for a variety of BA concentrations. They found a clear dose-dependent decrease in the number of larvae and pupae emerging from the BA-treated blueberries.

"We saw decreases after only a single treatment," Pham, the first author of the research paper, said. "We saw substantial decreases at 2.5 percent of BA and nearly complete protection at the 10 percent concentration, strongly indicating that insect repellents with good safety profiles can be useful to reduce fruit damage during ripening." Found in low concentrations in a number of fruit, BA smells like grapes and is commonly used as a flavor and fragrance component. It belongs to a category called generally recognized as safe (GRAS) and is approved for human consumption as a food additive.

"Most flies are attracted to rotting fruit," Ray explained. "D. suzukii, however, is specialized in that it is attracted to ripening fruit. What makes BA especially appealing is that not only does it repel D. suzukii, but it also reduces the flies’ desire to lay eggs. There is good potential in the future to develop brand-new strategies for reducing crop damage using repellents like BA. From previous studies we have done in the lab, we have hundreds of such compounds to explore and test."

Initially, Ray and Pham investigated conservation of insect olfactory pathways to do the current research. They found that the DEET avoidance pathway is conserved across insects. Because DEET is costly and could elicit safety concerns if applied on food, they focused on DEET substitutes they had discovered in 2013, that are approved for addition to food. Upon testing these compounds, they found that a number of them worked well in repelling a variety of flies such as D. melanogaster, D. yakuba, D. suzukii, D. pseudoobscura and D. virilis. They found best results with BA and D. suzukii.

"The natural repellents discovered by Dr. Ray are particularly promising for supporting multiple possible applications," said Michael Pazzani, the vice chancellor for research and economic development. "The safe and inexpensive compounds are not only effective for the protection of fruit and agricultural produce from pests, but also from biting insects that transmitting disease to us and livestock."

Next, Ray wants to test how efficacious BA is in field trials, and if they are, to request approval from the Environmental Protection Agency. "We hope that BA and other similar chemicals we have in our portfolio will be able to work against the Asian citrus psyllid, Mediterranean fruit flies, whiteflies and other flies that can damage fruits and crops," Ray said. "In the future we can begin developing repellents for agricultural use that could cover fruits, crops like wheat and corn, and produce. The long-term grand vision is that one day we will be able to integrate safe naturally-occurring repellents into the repertoire of farmers to reduce their dependence on insecticides. It is conceivable also that similar chemicals and approaches could be developed to protect homes, humans and farm animals."

Last year, the UCR Office of Technology Commercialization helped Ray launch a company, Sensorygen Inc. around this technology. The office has filed a patent on the technology reported in the research paper, which has been licensed to Sensorygen Inc.

"The world needs additional tools to minimize the impact insects have on humans but without impacting the health of those people and the communities that we are working to protect," said Paul Zorner, chairman and CEO of Sensorygen Inc. "Dr. Ray has developed a remarkable and novel method to find safe, powerful insect repellants that won't kill anything but will simply keep them away from people as well as their homes, pets and food. It's an exciting and unique discovery that has great global commercial potential to resolve some of the most challenging human health and food concerns facing us today."
A New Blueberry for Home Growers
By Sharon Durham http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2015/150619.htm

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) was recently awarded a patent for Nocturne, a blueberry cultivar developed by Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists at the Genetic Improvement of Fruits and Vegetables Laboratory.

The new cultivar came from a blueberry cross made by ARS plant geneticist Mark Ehlenfeldt in 1993, and the plant was subsequently selected and evaluated from 1996 to 2011. Nocturne, tested under the name “US 1056,” is a cross between US 874 (a mixed species hybrid) and Premier (a commercial rabbiteye blueberry). This cross incorporates germplasm from three different blueberry species, including one with extreme cold-hardiness.

Nocturne is a vigorous, winter-hardy, black-fruited blueberry. This variety is intended to be a specialty market plant for home, landscape, and ornamental use, according to Ehlenfeldt. Nocturne is especially notable for having winter hardiness comparable to northern highbush blueberry cultivars and for being slow to break dormancy in spring, making it unlike any other rabbiteye blueberry hybrids currently available.

The new blueberry bears fruit reliably in New Jersey, averaging 12 pounds per plant. Although, it is self-pollinating, yields and size are likely to be improved by cross-pollination. Unripe fruit is vivid and red-orange, providing attractive landscape interest. Ripe fruit is black, sweet and medium-sized, with a flavor atypical of either rabbiteye or highbush blueberries. Fruit ripens in late midseason to late season. The scar quality—how cleanly the fruit separates from the stem—is fair, and the fruit has only moderate firmness, so Nocturne is not recommended for storage or shipping. Nocturne plants may be available to growers within a year or two.

Read more at: http://agresearchmag.ars.usda.gov/2015/jun/blueberry/

Vegetable of the Week – OKRA (Abelmoschus esculentus).
Author: Julie S. Crook; crook.46@osu.edu

Okra is a tall-growing, warm-season, annual vegetable that belongs to the Mallow family. Also included in the Mallow family are cotton, hollyhock, rose-of-Sharon and hibiscus. Okra is referred to as lady fingers or gumbo in other areas of the world. The immature young seed pods are the edible part of this plant and are used for soups, canning and stews or as a fried or boiled vegetable. The hibiscus-like flowers blooming on the upright plant (3 - 8’ or more in height) also have ornamental value for backyard gardens.

Okra grows in any well drained good garden soil. Seeds should be planted after the soil has warmed in the spring, at least 7 - 10 days after the last frost date for your area. To accelerate germination the seeds may be soaked in water at room temperature overnight. The seeds should be sown 1” deep in hills 12 - 24” apart. Thin all but the strongest plant per hill when the seedlings are 3” tall. Shallow cultivation near the plants will help keep down weeds.

Harvest the okra pods 4 - 7 days after the flowers open. The pods should be cut while they are tender and free of fiber, 2 - 4” long for most varieties. Harvest every other day as the pods go rapidly from tender to tough with increased size. When the stem is difficult to cut, the pod is probably too mature to use. Remove these pods and discard as they reduce the plant’s production capability. The plant will continue to grow and produce pods until frost.
Baseball Field Management On-Line Course Offered
Interested in wanting to learn more about what it takes to manage a baseball field? The course contains 7 modules which includes: Introduction & Field Layout; Infield Skins; Pitcher's Mound; Turfgrasses; Best Management Practices; Turf Problems; and Sports Turf Administration. Each module is stocked with short high quality lectures, "how-to" instructional videos, games and/or assignments. There are also tips from field managers. The course is assessed by quizzes. The student can learn from their chosen remote location and at their own pace. For more information, go to the Plant Science Online Website at http://hcs.osu.edu/plantscienceonline/certificates/baseball

Small Unmanned Aerial Systems in Agriculture: Preparing for Legal Issues Webinar
The Agricultural & Food Law Consortium will be hosting a webinar on Tuesday, June 30, 2015 from 12:00 – 1:00 (EDT) on the legal issues of using small unmanned aerial systems (drones) in agriculture. This webinar will address the current legal and future status of Unmanned Aerial Systems/Vehicles (UAVs) operation in the United States. Issues to be discussed include the current rules and conditions for operating UAVs, the proposed federal regulations for small commercial UAVs released by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in February of 2015, and the range of proposed and enacted state laws across the country dealing with concerns around privacy, nuisance and trespass.

Presenters for this webinar include Peggy Kirk Hall from the Ohio State University Agricultural Law and Taxation Program and Rusty Rumley B.S., J.D., LL.M. from the National Agricultural Law Center. This webinar is offered free of charge and is limited to the first 100 registrants. It is recommended that you test your computer for software compatibility prior to the webinar. More information on how to connect to the webinar can be found at http://nationalaglawcenter.org/consortium/uawebinar/

Ashtabula County to host Cloverbud Fun Days
OSU Extension in Ashtabula County is pleased to announce the annual Cloverbud Fun Days will be held on July 7, 8 & 9, 2015 from 9:00 am to 12 noon at the Ashtabula County fairgrounds in Jefferson, Ohio at the 4-H Expo Building. This is a special 4-H summertime activity for kids ages 5 - 8. Plan now to make this year’s fun a part of your summer! Activities will include nature study, creative arts, songs, stories, games and much, much more! The number of participants is limited to 40 with a registration fee of $35 per camper. Pre-registration is necessary to insure adequate supplies and supervision for your children. More details can be obtained by calling the OSU Extension Office at 576-9008 for more information.

Mamma Mia! Italy Dishes up World's Longest Pizza

ITALY has beaten the world record for the longest ever pizza, serving up a sizzling margherita over one and a half kilometres long at Milan’s 2015 Expo. Guinness World Records judge Lorenzo Veltri handed Italy the crown for a 1595.45m long masterpiece made with 1500kg of tomatoes, over one and a half tonnes of mozzarella and a river of extra virgin olive oil.

The 80 chefs from all over Italy who took part in the creation snatched the title from Spain, which had held the record with a pizza 1141.5 metres long. Admiring crowds in Milan gathered alongside the cheese-topped bonanza, which was stretched out over 800 tables, before hungrily getting in line for a slice.
It was first come first served for the 30,000 or so visitors to the Expo, with 300m of the pizza destined for the city’s Banco Alimentare food bank. The Italian delicacy, which took three minutes to cook per metre and was prepared in five special-adapted ovens, was made to celebrate the 126th anniversary of the margherita. The recipe was first whipped up in 1889 by cook Raffaele Esposito of the Brandi pizzeria in the grand Bourbon palace in Naples in southern Italy — a summer residence for the kings of the Two Sicilies — for Queen Regina Margherita. Pizza-lovers hope winning the record will help boost international support for Italy’s bid to get the classic dish on the UNESCO cultural heritage list, with pizza associations gathering over 300,000 signatures so far.

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

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