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NORTHEAST OHIO AGRI-CULTURE NEWSLETTER

Your Weekly Agriculture Update for Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties

March 28, 2023



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Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

It was great to see everyone at todays Agronomy School in Colebrook!

If you or anyone you know is planning to or currently attending college, check out today's Extension Talk article about the scholarships available for them. Deadlines close soon!

Free Dinner Theater for Mental Health is April

<u>11th!</u> In two weeks! Sign up today at <u>www.go.osu.edu/Theater</u> or call 440-576-9008. Read more in today's issue.

Have a great week!

Lee Beers Trumbull County Extension Educator

Andrew Holden Ashtabula County Extension Educator

When and How Much Nitrogen to Apply to Wheat

By: Ed Lentz, CCA, Laura Lindsey

Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2023-07/when-and-how-

much-nitrogen-apply-wheat

Wheat has already reached green-up across the state so spring N may be applied anytime fields are fit. Keep in mind that research has shown no yield benefit to early N applications as long as the application was made by Feekes GS 6 (one visible node). (If you need a reminder on how to assess if wheat is at Feekes GS 6, see this video:



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_f3VrqzV5c Nitrogen applied early has the potential to be lost

since wheat will use little N until after jointing. Urea-ammonium nitrate (UAN) or 28% has the greatest potential for loss and ammonium sulfate the least. Urea will have little potential for loss as long as it does not volatize. No stabilizer will protect the nitrate component of UAN, which is roughly 25% of the total N in UAN at application time.

Ohio State University recommends the Tri-State Fertilizer Recommendation Bulletin for N rates in wheat. This system relies on yield potential. As a producer, you can increase or reduce your N rate by changing the value for yield potential. Thus, a realistic yield potential is needed to determine the optimum N rate. To select a realistic yield potential, look at wheat yield from the past five years. Throw out the highest and lowest wheat yield, and average the remaining three wheat yields. This three-year average should reflect the realistic yield potential.

Table 10 in the Tri-State Fertilizer Bulletin recommends 120 lb N for yield goals of 100 bu/A, 110 for 90 bu/A crop, 90 lb for 80 bu/A crop, and 80 lb for a 70 bu/A crops. These recommendations are for total N. If you prefer to be more specific, the following equation may be used for mineral soils, which have both 1 to 5% organic matter and adequate drainage:

N Rate = $(1.33 \times Yield potential) - 13$.

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No credit is given for previous soybean or cover crops, since it is not known if that organic N source will be released soon enough for the wheat crop. The Tri-State Fertilizers Bulletin recommends that you subtract from the total (spring N) any fall applied N. I would take no more than a 20 lb/A credit even if you applied a larger amount. Whether you deduct fall N depends how much risk you are willing to take and your anticipated return of investment from additional N. Based on the equation above and deducting 20 lb from a fall application, a spring application of 100 lb N per acre would be recommended for a yield potential of 100 bu, 90 for 90 bu potential; and 70 for a 80 bu potential. Nitrogen rate studies at the Northwest Agricultural Research Station over the past 20 years have shown the optimum rate varies depending on the year. However, averaged over years, yield data from these studies correspond well with the recommendation equation given above. These studies have also shown apart from one year, yields did not increase above a spring rate of 120 lb N per acre.

Wheat generally does not benefit from a nitrification inhibitor since temperatures are relatively cool at application time and the application is made to a growing crop, this is especially true as the crop approaches Feekes GS 6. However urea may benefit from a urease inhibitor (products containing NBPT) if conditions for volatilization exist for several days after application. These conditions would include an extended dry period with warm drying temperatures (risk increases with temperatures above 70°F) and evaporating winds. Urea applications need at least a half inch rain within 48 hours to minimize volatilization losses unless temperatures remain relatively cool. The urease inhibitor will prevent volatilization for 10 to 14 days with the anticipation of a significant rainfall event during this time.

ESN or polymer coated urea will reduce the potential for N loss from leaching, denitrification, and volatilization. Since these conditions are unlikely to occur in most years, it may not be economical to use this product. Cool weather may prevent the timely release of N from ESN, so if ESN is applied, it should be mixed with urea or ammonium sulfate and be no more than 60% ESN.

A split application of N may be used to spread the risk of N loss and to improve N use efficiency. However, Ohio State University research has not shown a yield increase from this practice compared to a single application after green-up. In a split system, the first application should be applied no sooner than green-up. A smaller rate should be applied with the first application since little is needed by the crop at that time and the larger rate applied closer to Feekes GS 6.

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Early Spring Weed Identification

By: Alyssa Essman

Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2023-07/early-spring-weed-identification



Winter annual, biennial, and perennial weeds are starting to become more noticeable up as fields green up across the state. Identification of these species can help in planning for spring burndown programs.

OSU weed science has resources to help with the identification and control of problematic overwintering weeds. Check out the YouTube page for 360 degree

videos of common species such as marestail, common groundsel, field pennycress, henbit, and purple deadnettle. The wild carrot and poison hemlock videos are especially helpful as they can be difficult to tell apart in the seedling stage. More indepth videos and fact sheets exist for dandelion, wild carrot, poison hemlock, and cressleaf groundsel. Identification of these and several other overwintering species are covered in the Common Ohio Winter Annual Weed Identification video. The Ohio State University Guide to Weed Identification and Identifying Noxious Weeds of Ohio are digital books available on iTunes or GooglePlay that can be helpful for ID and control recommendations on the go.

Each year Michigan State weed science diagnostician Dr. Erin Hill evaluates a number of plant ID apps. Results of these evaluations and considerations for their use can be found here. The best resource for weed control recommendations is the Missouri. Several of the species mentioned in this article are featured in the "Control of Problem Weeds" section towards the back of the guide, along with other problematic overwintering weeds.

Help us help you: take our farm legal needs survey

By: Will Robinson, Graduate Assistant, OSU Agricultural & Resource Law Program Source: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/tue-03282023-220pm/help-us-help-you-take-our-farm-legal-needs-survey

The Ohio State University's Farm Office is encouraging participation in a farm legal needs survey. The less than 10-minute survey will help OSU's Agricultural & Resource Law Program better shape legal content to target what's most impactful to agricultural professionals around Ohio.

The OSU Farm Office produces countless bulletins, webinars, and other content meant to help inform farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs on key agricultural and food legal

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issues. To help us better understand the legal needs of your operation, please take a few moments to fill out this

survey: https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a3lgngyA52jlt1c

Thank you for your participation!



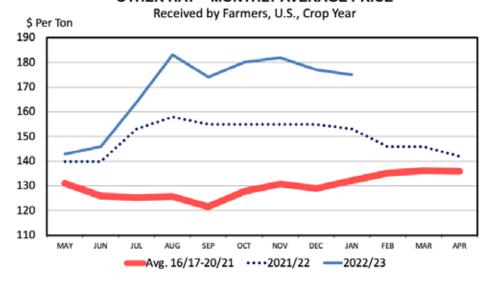
A Summary of Cost and Returns for the 2022-2023 Hay Crop

By: James Mitchell

Source: https://u.osu.edu/beef/2023/03/22/a-summary-of-cost-and-returns-for-the-2022-2023-hay-crop/

As we transition to spring in the coming months, we will naturally shift gears and begin thinking about and preparing for 2023 hay production. It is difficult to overstate how important it is for us to have improved forage and hay production in the Southeast. We hope it will be different than last year. In 2022, most Southern states experienced some degree of drought. Input prices for agricultural chemicals, fuel, supplemental feed, and labor were all at their highest in recent memory. As a result, hay production declined by 16%, 13%, and 20% in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Kentucky, respectively.

OTHER HAY - MONTHLY AVERAGE PRICE



Data Source: USDA-NASS Livestock Marketing Information Center

Part of planning for this year's hay crop is re-examining costs and breakeven prices. This article uses results from the 2022 Arkansas Hay Verification Program to examine hay production costs in Arkansas. The Arkansas Hay Verification Program (AHVP) is a collaborative effort between Arkansas forage producers, county Extension agents, and state Extension Specialists. Eight hay fields from seven farms participated in the 2022 AHVP and were all located in the Ozark district. The total acreage participating in 2022 AHVP was 252.5 acres or 36.1 acres per field. Hay production from the 2022 AHVP totaled \$26.2 tons or 3.27 tons per acre. The estimated value of production from the 2022 AHVP totaled \$127,239.42.

Table 1 below reports summary information for operating costs, total specified costs, and breakeven prices. Operating costs generally include herbicides, fertilizers, insecticides, fuel, custom rate application, and labor. Hay hauling was assumed to be a separate farm enterprise. Fixed costs include depreciation, interest, and taxes and housing costs on tractors and equipment. Total specified costs equal operating costs plus fixed costs. Breakeven prices are total specified costs divided by per acre production.

Operating costs averaged \$375.14/acre with a range of \$192.96/acre – \$577.50/acre. Among all items, fertilizer represented the largest proportion of operating costs. Farms in the 2022 AHVP averaged \$244.43/acre on fertilizer (including poultry litter), with a range of \$92.00/acre – \$428.15/acre. Higher fertilizer expenses were positively correlated with per-acre hay yields. A negative correlation was observed between

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fertilizer expenses and breakeven hay prices. Realized yield gains offset the higher costs from applying fertilizer.

Breakeven prices are calculated by dividing total specified costs by production per acre (tons/acre). Note breakeven refers to the hay price where revenue equals costs. The average breakeven price of hay among farms in the 2022 AHVP was \$111.88/ton. Breakeven prices ranged from \$82.72/ton to \$160.99/ton. It is recommended that farms get accurate estimates for bale weights and price hay on a per-ton basis. Bales are not a standard unit of measurement and do not accurately reflect the value of production when priced on that basis.

Note: These estimates reflect summary data from eight farms in Arkansas that will not necessarily reflect any one farm's situation.

Table 1. Estiamted Costs and Breakeven Prices for AR Hay Producers

Variable	Average	Std. Dev	Min	Max
Total Direct Costs (\$/ac)	\$375.14	\$131.48	\$192.96	\$577.50
Total Specified Costs (\$/ac)	\$422.04	\$137.79	\$237.78	\$632.71
Breakeven Price (\$/ton)	\$111.88	\$32.42	\$82.72	\$160.99

The Farm Insurance Policy: Unique Assets and Activities

By: Robert Moore

Source: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/thu-03232023-209pm/farm-insurance-policy-unique-assets-and-activities

In the final installment of the farm insurance series, we look at unique activities and/or assets that may not be covered by a typical farm policy. Most farm policies will automatically cover traditional farming activities and assets related to crop and livestock production. However, many farming operations include assets or activities that may be non-traditional and thus not covered by the farm policy.

Below is a list of farm activities and farm assets that may not be covered by standard farm policies. Each of these activities and assets are a source of liability exposure. Farmers can review this list and identify any asset or activity that may apply to their farming operation. Then, the list can be provided to their insurance agent to ensure that the farm has full liability protection. Almost any asset or activity can be covered with the addition of an endorsement to the farm policy.

- Agritourism
- Aircraft application of pesticide/fertilizer (own or custom)

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- · Aircraft for personal use
- ATV/side x side/recreational vehicle
- Barns and structures that are not currently being used
- Confined animals
- Custom application of pesticides or fertilizer
- Custom farm operations such as planting or harvesting
- Drones scouting
- Drones application of pesticides/seed
- · Embryos stored or in recipient animal
- · Exotic or non-domesticated animals
- Farm Markets
- · FFA/4-H Projects
- Hauling crops, goods or cargo for others
- Holding products for customers after payment (seed, hay, inputs)
- Horse boarding, riding or training services
- · Hunting leases or other paid recreational uses
- · Leasing buildings or structures to others
- Non-owned livestock
- Off-premises use of ATV/recreational vehicles
- · Oil/gas wells
- · Ponds with docks, diving boards
- · Pick-Your-Own
- Portable buildings or structures
- Pulling tractor/truck
- · Purchased feed/seed/inputs purchased but not picked up/delivered
- Radio or TV Antennas
- Rental property
- Rental of grain bins
- · Sale or production of food or other consumable goods
- Solar panels
- Swimming pool
- · Tractor shows/parades
- Tours (paid or unpaid)
- Using borrowed equipment
- Using rented equipment
- Unoccupied houses
- · Valuable refrigerated or frozen products
- · Valuable or important information on computers
- Watercraft
- Wind turbines
- Website or online presence that collects money or stores customer information.

Other	
Other	

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Ohio Agritourism Conference is April 1

By Peggy Kirk Hall, Associate Professor, Agricultural & Resource Law Source: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/fri-03172023-357pm/ohio-agritourism-conference-april-1

OSU Extension's <u>Ohio Agritourism Conference</u> on April 1 is not an April Fool's Day joke, but it does promise to be fun learning! If you're thinking about adding or expanding agritourism activities on your farm operation, consider joining us as we learn more about what makes a successful agritourism operation. We'll visit two popular agritourism operations in southwest Ohio-- <u>Blooms & Berries Farm Market</u> and <u>The Marmalade Lily -- with touring and talks planned at both locations.</u>

Here's the full agenda for the day: 9 a.m. – Registration at Blooms & Berries.

 Blooms & Berries, an Inside Look. Jeff and Emily Probst -Owners. Meet the team and take a closer look at how we serve about 100,000 guests a year by staying authentically true to our brand and our team!



Morning breakout sessions, featuring
Blooms and Berries Farm Market personnel:

- Love Your Staff. Erica Clayton Retail and Events Personnel Manager. Learn how Blooms & Berries uses culture to create buy-in and develop an amazing guest experience while easing the burnout.
- Ag and Operations Show and Tell. Ben Autry Ag Production Manager and Derek Rice Operations Manager. This Q&A session explores the equipment barn, workshop and organizational systems, and specialized equipment.
- The Market Barn Shopping is an Attraction Too! Emily Probst Owner. Emily shares top sellers and guest favorites!
- The Pie Dough \$. Marie Graves head baker and Cathy Probst Owner. Hear how the team makes and sells 5,000 pies from scratch each year, plus cookies and much more.

Noon – Lunch at The Marmalade Lily Event Venue and Floral Farm, with an operation overview from owner Laura Fisher.

Afternoon general session

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- Pouring a New Revenue Stream for Your Operation: Adding Alcohol to Agritourism – Peggy Hall, OSU Agricultural & Resource Law Program and Jeff Probst, Blooms & Berries Farm Market
- Pre-sale Ticketing Trends Shadi Hayek, Ticket Spice
- Minding Your P's and Q's Trademark/Copyright Concerns in Marketing Your Business – Hannah Scott, CFAES Center for Cooperatives
- Employee Hiring, Training, and Empowerment: People Make Your Business –
 Rob Leeds, OSU Extension Delaware County
- Ask Us Anything Ask that burning question of our experts and your peers

Registration for the conference is \$50 and is now open at: https://go.osu.edu/agritourism.

Extension Talk - College Ag Scholarships Offered

Applications: www.go.osu.edu/ne-events

By: Andrew Holden

Today I want to share with you some of our great agricultural scholarships that are available for Ashtabula County students planning on, or currently, attending college. Last year thousands of dollars were awarded to local students to assist them in pursuing a college degree. If you or someone you know has an agriculture/4-H background or is planning on or currently pursuing an agricultural degree, I encourage you to check out the great opportunities below. All of these scholarships can be found on our website, www.Ashtabula.osu.edu, or by contacting your school's guidance counselor. Some of the dates for submission have changed, so please read carefully so that you don't miss it! If you have any questions about the scholarships, you can also call me at the Ashtabula Extension Office at 440-576-9008.

Ashtabula County OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Agricultural Scholarship Committee are pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for a minimum of thirteen scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year to Ashtabula County students enrolled in either an accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute. The Ashtabula County Agricultural Scholarship Fund was founded on April 29, 1952 to promote interest in the study of agriculture, family and consumer science, environmental sciences or natural resources in an accredited full four-year college or an accredited two-year technical institute. This fund awards scholarships to students attending an accredited four-year college or two year technical school. Each year the general scholarship fund awards at least two \$1,000 scholarships. The committee also works with local organizations and farm families to offer

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additional scholarships. Both graduate and undergraduate students are encouraged to apply for the scholarships which they meet the eligibility requirements. The scholarships are for a one year period. A student may apply and be awarded a scholarship in three years from the scholarship fund. Application forms with complete instructions for applying are now available and can be received by stopping in at the Ashtabula County Extension Office or by calling 440-576- 9008. Applications can also be accessed at: http://go.osu.edu/agscholarship. The application deadline is April 15th and no late applications will be considered. More information can also be obtained by emailing, and submissions may be sent to, ashtabulacountyagscholarship@gmail.com

Ashtabula County OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Cattlemen's Association are pleased to announce they will be awarding two youth beef scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year. One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a deserving high school senior who will be attending an accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute in 2023-2024. In addition, one \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a current College Student who is currently attending an accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute. Applicants must be resident of Ashtabula County. The first preference by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen's Association is the scholarships be awarded to deserving students who have been involved in the beef industry as a youth. Applications must be received by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen's Association by April 17th, 2023 by 4:30 p.m. for consideration for the scholarship. No late applications will be considered. The application can be obtained at: Ashtabula.osu.edu. Additional information can be obtained by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

The *Bloom Family 4-H Scholarship* was established by Cliff and Janis Bloom Eldredge to honor the memory of George (Wally)& Ina Bloom and Jim & Nancy Bloom who collectively provided leadership to Ashtabula County 4-H for more than 80 years. **Up to two \$2500.00** scholarships may be awarded annually to incoming freshman residing in Ashtabula County with a 4-H background enrolling at The Ohio State University. The completed application must be submitted online at http://go.osu.edu/bloomscholarship. Supporting documents including current transcript of grades and two letters of support from the academic advisor, school guidance counselor or teacher must be uploaded or submitted to the Ashtabula County Extension Office, 39 Wall St., Jefferson, OH 44047, by **April 1.**

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CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit <u>cfaesdiversity.osu.edu</u>

Upcoming Extension Events

Pesticide and Fertilizer Applicator Trainings
March 30 – 5PM to 9PM – Online ZOOM

<u>Dinner Theater for Mental Health</u>

April 11 – 6:00 PM – Pymatuning Valley Highschool Cafeteria

Cow-Calf School

April 14 – 3PM to 7PM – Novak Townline Farm, Trumbull County

Chainsaw Safety and Maintenance

April 22 – 9AM to 12PM – Trumbull County Extension Office



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Join us at the (Dinner) Theater?

Tuesday, April 11th
Pymatuning Valley
Highschool Cafeteria

Doors Open 6:00 PM Curtain Time 6:30 PM Run Time 90 Min



Talking about mental health can be difficult, but it is an important topic for the agriculture community. Join us for a delicious free meal and enjoy a theatrical performance that addresses common issues that add stress to our lives.

Join Ashtabula County Ohio State Extension and the Ashtabula County Farm Bureau for dinner and a show, all at no cost to you!

No babysitter? No problem! Childcare will be provided by 4-H teen leaders.

This event will be limited to just 50 attendees so sign up today!

Reserve your spot today by visiting www.go.osu.edu/Theater or by calling OSU Extension at 440-576-9008





PROGRAM OVERVIEW

OHIO COMPOST OPERATOR EDUCATION COURSE

April 4 & 5, 2023

Secrest Arboretum Welcome Center
OSU Wooster Campus

1680 Madison Ave.. Wooster. Ohio

Learn composting from the experts! Researchers, facility operators, and other compost professionals share what they know and why it's important.

Tuesday, April 4 from 9:00 am to 4:15 pm

- The whys of composting
- Mini case studies from Ohio composters
- Compost science
- · Compost testing
- Field and laboratory activities
 - Pile sampling and measurements
 - Windrow turning
 - Compost properties

Wednesday, April 5 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

- Feedstock mixing, compost quality
- Troubleshooting
- Site design and management
- · Managing the operation
- Composting regulations
- Growing a compost business

Continuing education credits will be available for:

Ohio Registered Sanitarians (request pending)

Ohio Professional Engineers (self report)

Registration fee includes all materials, continental breakfast, and lunch):

\$250 for members of the Ohio Organics Council (OHOC) chapter of the USCC*

\$300 for non-members

Complete the registration form on page 2 and mail with payment.

Registration deadline: March 24, 2023

Note: Course is limited to the first 30 participants.

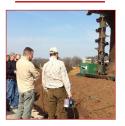
*Your membership in the OHOC is automatic when you join the US Composting Council To join, click here. Be sure to choose 'Chapter' from the 'Who referred you?' menu.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,

AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES











Questions?
Contact:
Mary Wicks,
OCAMM Coordinator
wicks.14@osu.edu

330.202.3533

REGISTRATION

OHIO COMPOST OPERATOR EDUCATION COURSE

REGISTRATION FORM Complete the form and send it with your check (<u>no</u> credit card <i>Registration includes materials, continental breakfast, and lunch.</i>	ds). Send form and payment to:
Name(s):	
Company:	Mary Wicks — OARDC/OSU
Street/City/Zip:	1680 Madison Ave.
E-mail: Phone:	Wooster, OH 44691
OHOC* Member: \$250 each Non-member: \$300 each	Make checks payable to:
* Ohio Organics Council. Join OHOC by becoming a member of the USCC, click here.	Ohio State University
Be sure to choose 'Chapter' from the 'Who referred you?' dropdown menu.	

LODGING INFORMATION

Lodging, dinner, and travel expenses are the responsibility of each participant. The following accommodations are in Wooster near the OSU Wooster Campus:

Best Western Wooster	330.264.7750
Black Squirrel Inn B &B	330.317.6627
Comfort Suites	330.439.0190
Days Inn	330.439.5749
Econo Lodge	330.264.8883
Hampton Inn	330.345.4424
Hilton Garden Inn	330.202.7701
Market Street Inn	330.262.4085
Mirabelle B&B	330.264.6006
St. Paul Hotel	330.601.1900



DIRECTIONS

COURSE LOCATION:

Secrest Welcome Center*

OSU Wooster Campus 1680 Madison Avenue Wooster, Ohio 44691

DIRECTIONS TO CENTER:

From the east or west:

Follow US 30 to Wooster. Exit at Madison Ave. Turn left at the traffic light at the end of the exit ramp. Go halfway up the hill (~0.5 mi) and turn left onto Secrest Road. Drive 0.6 mi and turn right onto Mill Road. The parking lot will be on your left. The brick building is the Welcome Center.

From the south or southwest:

Take State Route 3 or I-71 north to US 30 east. Follow directions for east or west.

From the southeast:

Follow US 250 West. After you pass Guerne, do <u>not</u> turn right at the 250/83 bypass but continue past the Agricultural Technical Institute and Wooster Campus main entrance to Secrest Road. Follow direction for east or west.

From the north:

Take Route 83 South to US 30. Go west on US 30 to Madison Avenue. Exit. Follow the directions from east or west.



^{*}Building #29 on campus map



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Ohio Department of Agriculture - Pesticide Exams

To get a new pesticide license, or to add a category to an existing license, producers need to pass one or more exams. Exams are offered at no cost, but registration is encouraged. Call your local office for more information.

♦ Northeast Ohio Test Dates ◆

Ashtabula County

Exams start at 9 AM

- February 2, 2023
- March 8, 2023
- April 4, 2023
- June 1, 2023

Geauga County

Exams start at 10 AM

- February 15, 2023
- March 22, 2023
- April 26, 2023
- May 24, 2023
- June 28, 2023

Trumbull County

Exams start at 10 AM

- February 13, 2023
- March 13, 2023
- April 10, 2023
- May 8, 2023
- June 12, 2023
- July 10, 2023
- August 14, 2023
- Sept. 11, 2023
- Nov. 13, 2023

Portage County

Exams start at 10 AM

- February 21, 2023
- March 21, 2023
- April 18, 2023
- July 18, 2023
- August 28, 2023
- Sept. 19, 2023
- October 24, 2023
- Nov. 28, 2023

To register for an upcoming exam call 614-728-6987 or visit https://go.osu.edu/neoexams



College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences