Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

Our March dry spell is continuing for the next couple of weeks. We’ll get some moisture later this week and then another dry spell for 6-days.

Although it’s dry, it is still too early to think about successful planting. Here in central Trumbull County our soil temps were hovering right at 45°F at four-inch depth. We need to get to that 50-55°F range for quick and even germination. We’re not too far away, so be patient and keep the planters in the shed for now.

Stay safe and healthy!

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Perch Fry Being Hatched in Ashtabula County
USDA Announces Pandemic Assistance to Farmers
By: Chris Zoller, Extension Educator, ANR, Tuscarawas County
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2021-06/time-now-purchase-right-nozzles-your-spraying-needs

Source of Information: https://www.farmers.gov/

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced this week it is establishing new programs and efforts to provide financial assistance to farmers negatively impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic.

The new program is called the USDA Pandemic Assistance for Producers and is intended to reach a broader representation of producers than previous COVID-19 aid programs. The program will place a greater emphasis on small and socially disadvantaged producers, specialty crop and organic producers, timber harvesting, as well as support for the food supply chain and producers of renewable fuels.

The USDA Pandemic Assistance for Producers program administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) includes four parts. Details below were provided in a news release from USDA.

Part 1:
USDA will dedicate at least $6 billion to develop a number of new programs or modify existing proposals using discretionary funding from the Consolidated Appropriations Act and other coronavirus funding that went unspent by the previous administration. Where rulemaking is required, it will commence this spring. These efforts will include assistance for:

- Dairy farmers through the Dairy Donation Program or other means;
- Euthanized livestock and poultry;
- Biofuels;
- Specialty crops, beginning farmers, local, urban and organic farms;
- Costs for organic certification or to continue or add conservation activities
- Other possible expansion and corrections to CFAP that were not part of today’s announcement such as to support dairy or other livestock producers;
- Timber harvesting and hauling;
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other protective measures for food and farm workers and specialty crop and seafood producers, processors and distributors;
- Improving the resilience of the food supply chain, including assistance to meat and poultry operations to facilitate interstate shipment;
- Developing infrastructure to support donation and distribution of perishable commodities, including food donation and distribution through farm-to-school, restaurants or other community organizations; and
• Reducing food waste.

**Part 2:**
USDA expects to begin investing approximately $500 million in expedited assistance through several existing programs this spring, with most by April 30. This new assistance includes:

- $100 million in additional funding for the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, administered by the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), which enhances the competitiveness of fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops.
- $75 million in additional funding for the Farmers Opportunities Training and Outreach program, administered by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement, which encourages and assists socially disadvantaged, veteran, and beginning farmers and ranchers in the ownership and operation of farms and ranches.
- $100 million in additional funding for the Local Agricultural Marketing Program, administered by the AMS and Rural Development, which supports the development, coordination and expansion of direct producer-to-consumer marketing, local and regional food markets and enterprises and value-added agricultural products.
- $75 million in additional funding for the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program, administered by the NIFA, which provides funding opportunities to conduct and evaluate projects providing incentives to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables by low-income consumers.
- $20 million for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to improve and maintain animal disease prevention and response capacity, including the National Animal Health Laboratory Network.
- $20 million for the Agricultural Research Service to work collaboratively with Texas A&M on the critical intersection between responsive agriculture, food production, and human nutrition and health.
- $28 million for NIFA to provide grants to state departments of agriculture to expand or sustain existing farm stress assistance programs.
- Approximately $80 million in additional payments to domestic users of upland and extra-long staple cotton based on a formula set in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 that USDA plans to deliver through the Economic Adjustment Assistance for Textile Mills program.

**Part 3:**
The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, enacted December 2020 requires FSA to make certain payments to producers according to a mandated formula. USDA is now expediting these provisions because there is no discretion involved in interpreting such directives, they are self-enacting.
• An increase in CFAP 1 payment rates for cattle. Cattle producers with approved CFAP 1 applications will automatically receive these payments beginning in April. Information on the additional payment rates for cattle can be found on farmers.gov/cfap. Eligible producers do not need to submit new applications, since payments are based on previously approved CFAP 1 applications. USDA estimates additional payments of more than $1.1 billion to more than 410,000 producers, according to the mandated formula.

• Additional CFAP assistance of $20 per acre for producers of eligible crops identified as CFAP 2 flat-rate or price-trigger crops beginning in April. This includes alfalfa, corn, cotton, hemp, peanuts, rice, sorghum, soybeans, sugar beets and wheat, among other crops. FSA will automatically issue payments to eligible price trigger and flat-rate crop producers based on the eligible acres included on their CFAP 2 applications. Eligible producers do not need to submit a new CFAP 2 application. For a list of all eligible row-crops, visit farmers.gov/cfap. USDA estimates additional payments of more than $4.5 billion to more than 560,000 producers, according to the mandated formula.

• USDA will finalize routine decisions and minor formula adjustments on applications and begin processing payments for certain applications filed as part of the CFAP Additional Assistance program in the following categories:
  • Applications filed for pullets and turfgrass sod;
  • A formula correction for row-crop producer applications to allow producers with a non-Actual Production History (APH) insurance policy to use 100% of the 2019 Agriculture Risk Coverage-County Option (ARC-CO) benchmark yield in the calculation;
  • Sales commodity applications revised to include insurance indemnities, Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program payments, and Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program Plus payments, as required by statute; and
  • Additional payments for swine producers and contract growers under CFAP Additional Assistance remain on hold and are likely to require modifications to the regulation as part of the broader evaluation and future assistance; however, FSA will continue to accept applications from interested producers.

Part 4:
USDA will re-open sign-up for CFAP 2 for at least 60 days beginning on April 5, 2021.

• FSA has committed at least $2.5 million to establish partnerships and direct outreach efforts intended to improve outreach for CFAP 2 and will cooperate with grassroots organizations with strong connections to socially disadvantaged communities to ensure they are informed and aware of the application process.
Summary
Applications for this program will open on April 5th. Anyone interested in additional information about the USDA Pandemic Assistance to Producers program is encouraged to see https://www.farmers.gov/pandemic-assistance/cfap or their local FSA office.

*Should you expect any freeze damage to winter wheat? Most likely, no.*
By: Laura Lindsey, Alexander Lindsey
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2021-07/should-you-expect-any-freeze-damage-winter-wheat-most-likely-no

The incoming cold temperatures are not likely to impact winter wheat. The magnitude of freeze damage depends on: 1) temperature, 2) duration of temperature, and 3) wheat growth stage.

**Prior to the Feekes 6 growth stage,** the growing point of wheat is below the soil surface, protected from freezing temperatures. Most of the wheat in Ohio is at the Feekes 4 (beginning of erect growth) or Feekes 5 (leaf sheaths strongly erect) growth stage and should be unaffected by the incoming cold temperatures, predicted to be mid-to low 20s on Wednesday and Thursday.

**At Feekes 6 growth stage,** our research has shown only a 5% reduction in wheat yield at a temperature of 20°F for 15-minute duration and 50% reduction in wheat yield at a temperature of 12°F for 15-minute duration. (Although, it should be noted, there is a great deal of variability in response due to environmental conditions for the remainder of the growing season. Additionally, greater soil moisture levels can help buffer against short-term temperature fluctuations.)

For more information on Freeze Symptoms and Associated Yield Loss in Soft Red Winter Wheat, please see our new FactSheet: https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/anr-93
Hoping to start a meat-processing plant? Here’s some help
By: Alayna DeMartini
Source: https://cfaes.osu.edu/news/articles/hoping-start-meat-processing-plant-here%E2%80%99s-some-help

Entrepreneurs wanting to start a meat-processing business in Ohio may be encouraged by the hearty demand, but there’s a whole lot more to consider.

What type of meat will the business process? Pork, beef, chicken? Want to sell the meat out of state or just in Ohio? What about employees? Will there be enough workers to staff the facility?

“It’s overwhelming,” said Lyda Garcia, an assistant professor of meat science and Extension meat specialist with The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

“The meat industry is a complex system. There are so many hurdles you have to jump over and loops you have to jump through. At any point, any of them can be a problem.” Garcia, as part of an effort to serve Ohioans, organized a team from CFAES that created a free online “toolkit” with questionnaires, links, and other resources to help people fully think through starting up a meat-processing facility.

Using the toolkit, a prospective entrepreneur can discover livestock inventories by county throughout Ohio, business model options, guides to creating a business plan, contacts in the meat industry, and a host of other resources.

“If they can go through and answer questions from the questionnaires, they’ll have a good idea of what’s involved,” Garcia said.

As COVID-19 spread through the nation’s largest meat-processing facilities last spring, some temporarily closed or reduced hours because so many employees were out sick. Meanwhile, orders piled up. Some local processing facilities took the orders instead, but then they quickly got backed up too.
And they are still working on overdrive. Most Ohio meat-processing plants are booked until 2022 with orders, Garcia said.

In response to that demand, at least eight new meat-processing facilities have started up in Ohio since last fall, she said.

Among the challenges for people launching a meat-processing business are finding land for the facility, securing a bank loan, getting commitments from enough producers, and attracting a customer base, Garcia said.

“There are a lot of moving parts many people don’t realize,” she said.

A business owner will need to decide whether the facility will follow and be inspected for state standards, allowing the meat to be sold within Ohio, or federal standards, allowing it to be sold out of state.

“The whole intent of the toolkit is to give people an idea of what’s coming their way,” Garcia said. “We’ve provided about 70% of what they need to know. The other 30%, they’re going to have to learn as they go.”

To access the free meat toolkit, visit go.osu.edu/meatoolkit.

To find out about a series of meat-cutting workshops, visit go.osu.edu/meatworkshops

**Selecting Forages for Your New Seeding**

By Christine Gelley

Source: https://u.osu.edu/beef/2021/03/24/selecting-forages-for-your-new-seeding/

The spring seeding window for the most popular forages in our region is quickly approaching. Producers looking for guidance on how to choose the best forage for their system should always start with a soil test rather than a seed catalog. Whether you have farmed your site for decades or days, soil testing is essential for success. Once you know the characteristics of your soil, you can formulate a timeline to adjust fertility if needed, sow your selected seed, and set realistic expectations for production. Soil testing should be conducted when site history is unknown, when converting from a different cropping system (row crops, woodlands, turfgrass, etc.), or on a three-year schedule for maintenance.

Additional factors worthy of consideration prior to purchasing seed include site drainage, sunlight exposure, weed competition, forage harvest method, and feed value for the end
Choosing a forage that is adapted to the conditions of the site may be more effective than adapting the site to fit an appealing forage.

Confronting the limitations of the planting site and implementing corrective action may take a whole season or more before the conditions are well-suited for establishing a new forage stand, but the results are worth the wait if you expect long-term success. It is ideal to begin preparing for planting in the growing season prior. Sometimes using a transitional forage crop for the short-term can provide both improved forage production and help resolve current challenges. This can be especially helpful when site history is unknown.

Most Ohio forage producers looking to plant in the springtime have plans to establish a perennial cool-season forage stand. These forages will typically need planted by the beginning of May into a weed-free, well-drained, and firm seedbed. After germination they require two to three months before subjection to frequent mowing or grazing. If soil conditions are saturated past the ideal planting time or weeds take hold prior to seeding, it may be best to re-evaluate your plans. Most perennial cool-season forages have a second window for planting in late-summer or early-fall.

In a situation where spring planting is less than ideal, but you have already committed to planting something new, you can consider the use of a summer annual forage planted in late-spring or early-summer instead. These forages will grow quickly and die with first frost. Most can be harvested within 60 days of germination and produce two to three forage harvests. The forage manager can choose to terminate the summer annual prior to seeding a cool-season perennial in the fall or drill into the existing residue if weeds are suppressed. Another option is to follow the summer annual with a winter annual forage and pursue spring planting of a perennial stand again in the following year.

When establishing a stand that is a combination of grasses and legumes, proceed with caution regarding weed prevention and suppression. Treating weeds in a mixed stand is exceedingly challenging compared to grass-only or legume-only stands. Also be mindful of herbicide residual that could remain in the soil or plant matter from the previously grown crop. It may be ideal to establish the grass species first and frost-seed or inter-seed legumes after the first growing season to allow for the control of broadleaf weeds.

Recommendations for planting timeframes, seeding depths, seeding rates, site preferences, fertility requirements, and care during early establishment for various forage crops can be found in the Ohio Agronomy Guide. A partial selection of commonly requested information is included in the following table.
After choosing the forage type that best suits your management style and site limitations, browse varieties available from reliable seed dealers. Varieties of the same species may be better suited for hay than for grazing, mature at different rates, differ in nutritional value, and/or expected yield. Look for details on seed tags and compare production dates, germination rates, and pounds of pure live seed as indicators of quality. If planting a legume, be sure that the seed comes inoculated or with an inoculant packet of the appropriate rhizobia (soil bacteria).

Once you have settled on your best-case scenario, make a contingency plan, just in case Mother Nature has something up her sleeve that counteracts your ideas. Then, be

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forage Crop</th>
<th>Seeding Rate (lb./ac.)</th>
<th>Planting Dates Northern Ohio</th>
<th>Planting Dates Southern Ohio</th>
<th>Planting Depth (in.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cool-Season Perennial Grasses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky bluegrass</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3/20 - 5/1</td>
<td>3/5 - 4/15</td>
<td>0 - ¼</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>8/1 - 8/30</td>
<td>8/10 - 9/15</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Orchardgrass</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3/20 - 5/1</td>
<td>3/5 - 4/20</td>
<td>¼ - ½</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8/1 - 8/20</td>
<td>8/1 - 8/30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perennial ryegrass</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3/20 - 5/1</td>
<td>Not Recommended</td>
<td>¼ - ½</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>8/1 - 8/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reed canarygrass</td>
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<td>3/20 - 5/1</td>
<td>3/5 - 4/20</td>
<td>¼ - ½</td>
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<td>8/1 - 8/15</td>
<td>8/1 - 8/25</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Smooth bromegrass</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3/20 - 5/1</td>
<td>3/5 - 4/20</td>
<td>0 - ½</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8/1 - 8/20</td>
<td>8/1 - 8/30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tall fescue (Novel Endophyte Avoid KY-31)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3/20 - 5/1</td>
<td>3/5 - 4/20</td>
<td>¼ - ½</td>
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<td>8/1 - 8/20</td>
<td>8/1 - 8/30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy</td>
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<td>3/1 - 4/20</td>
<td>¼ - ½</td>
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<td>8/1 - 10/5</td>
<td>8/1 - 10/15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cool-Season Perennial Legumes</strong></td>
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<td>Alfalfa</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4/1 - 5/1</td>
<td>3/20 - 4/25</td>
<td>¼ - ½</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8/1 - 8/15</td>
<td>8/1 - 8/30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birdsfoot trefoil</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4/1 - 5/1</td>
<td>3/20 - 4/25</td>
<td>0 - ¼</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red clover</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2/1 - 5/1</td>
<td>2/1 - 4/25</td>
<td>¼ - ½</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7/20 - 8/10</td>
<td>8/1 - 8/20</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>White clover</td>
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<td>2/1 - 4/15</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7/20 - 8/10</td>
<td>8/1 - 8/20</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Warm-Season Annual Grasses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearl millet</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5/15 - 7/10</td>
<td>5/1 - 7/20</td>
<td>½ - 1 ½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorghum-sudangrass</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>5/15 - 7/10</td>
<td>5/1 - 7/20</td>
<td>1 - 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teff grass</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5/25 - 6/25</td>
<td>5/15 - 7/1</td>
<td>1/8 - ¾</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
patient for the right conditions to plant and allow adequate time for your new seeding to establish a healthy root system before first harvest.

For more information on forage selection and site preparations, contact your local Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator, visit https://forages.osu.edu, or see the recent presentation embedded below.

**Pesticide and Fertilizer Recertification Update**

Happy New Year! I’m sure some of you have received your private pesticide license renewal from the ODA, and are wondering how to get recertified. Admittedly, we are behind this year as we try to navigate changing guidelines from the state, county, and OSU on holding meetings. Hitting a moving target is a little challenging! We will make sure that everyone will get recertified one way or another.

While we prefer in-person programs, that is not possible in the near future. We have been granted permission by the ODA to hold virtual live meetings for pesticide recertification, and we have four sessions scheduled for the upcoming months. You can find those dates below, and registration links as well. These are live events and not recorded. We realize that not everyone has a computer, or reliable internet so we are working on some in-person events later this spring. We will provide updates on those in-person events when those are available.

Thankfully, the deadline for applicators with an expiration in 2020 and 2021 has been extended to July 1, 2021. We hope with the option of having recertification in warmer weather, we can move outside and get together in person. If you have any questions please give us a call and we will answer any questions you have.

- Normal/Agronomy
  - Date: April 7, 2021, Time: Daytime 10AM – 2PM
  - All categories, CORE and Fertilizer

You can register now at https://go.osu.edu/NEOPAT21

**Are Starlink Satellites the Solution to Rural Internets Setbacks?**
By: Andrew Holden

Hello Ashtabula County! Slow internet speeds are a problem faced here in the county and across the country. While there are currently a few different efforts working to improve internet access for rural communities, I wanted to share with you some
information about a high-speed internet provider that plans to reach those that are hardest to reach. By using a huge constellation of satellites, Starlink plans to bring fast internet to rural and hard to reach places. This article is to provide you with information about this new internet technology and is not an endorsement of the company or their services. I hope that this information will assist you in making informed decisions and help you learn more about the importance of high-speed internet for rural communities.

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Slow internet can frustrate almost anyone, but if you live in a rural area, slow internet, if any, can often be your only choice. The lack of highspeed internet access has been a concern for many years in rural America. While companies slowly improve service and governmental programs try to address these issues, many rural residents are left waiting for faster internet that can’t come soon enough. One company that is attempting to close this digital divide is SpaceX, with their high-speed satellite internet system called Starlink. While Starlink is just beginning to roll out service, the initial results appear to be promising.

Rural communities and Tribal lands have far less access to high-speed internet compared to those in more populated areas. The Federal Communications Commission considers high-speed broadband internet as being able to provide 25 Mbps download speeds and 3 Mbps upload speeds. According to the FCC’s, 2020 Broadband Deployment Report, “22.3% of Americans in rural areas and 27.7% of Americans in Tribal lands lack coverage from fixed terrestrial 25/3 Mbps broadband, as compared to only 1.5% of Americans in urban areas”. Those without high-speed internet access can often be categorized under the phrase ‘last mile’ customers. The last mile problem can be described as the customers at the end of the communication line that are more expensive to reach and located farther apart. As unfortunate as it is, in basic terms, companies rather run a mile of infrastructure in an area that will yield 25 customers than run a mile for just one customer. Diminishing returns leads to internet companies being unwilling to improve internet in rural areas, as well as less competition for existing providers.

The impact of the digital divide can be felt across the US by those living in small and rural towns. Many aspects of modern life are affected by access to high-speed internet, including education, healthcare, entertainment, and employment. In a report from Michigan State University’s Quello Center, students with slow or limited internet access lacked digital skills and preformed lower on standardized test. In addition to education, 2020 highlighted the future of working remotely and virtual healthcare appointments which rely on faster internet. Rural businesses from farms to manufacturing benefit from better internet speeds as well, making it quicker to send and receive information. As technology improves and expands, more people in rural areas are slowly receiving
better internet services, but one company that may have the ability to close the gap seemingly overnight is SpaceX.

SpaceX, short for the Space Exploration Technologies Corporation, is an aerospace manufacturer founded by Elon Musk. Musk is also the founder of the popular electric vehicle company Tesla Motors. One of SpaceX’s business endeavors is providing satellite internet access via a satellite consolation called Starlink. This isn’t like the traditional satellite internet that has been offered over the years. Starlink uses satellites in low Earth orbit that allow for shorter distances and speeds over 100 mbps for those in the beta testing program. Speeds like that would be a huge improvement for almost anyone in a rural area and can be offered remotely to the hardest to reach places. In February, Starlink opened pre-orders to the public and has been slowly filling orders ever since. With the high demand for the service, many orders are slated to be filled by the end of 2021 depending on your location. The current advertised cost for the service is $99.00 per month with the hardware, including a small satellite dish and a router, for a $499.00 onetime payment. On their website Starlink states service will be offered on a first come, first served basis and is currently taking $100 down payments to get in line for the service. If you are interested in seeing if service is available in your area, or signing up yourself, you can visit www.Starlink.com to do so.

So, will Starlink satellites be the solution to our rural internet woes? When considering access to high-speed internet service in rural areas, one thing that has historically lacked were options to choose from. Starlink will provide another option, or possibly the first option, to those living with poor to no access to internet and may solve the last mile problem for many rural communities. Even those who do not use Starlink’s service could benefit from the competition that will encourage traditional internet providers to improve their infrastructure and speeds. Rural communities here in Ohio and across the United States could benefit greatly with better internet access and Starlink is on its way to providing it.


Poor Internet connection leaves rural students behind: https://msutoday.msu.edu/news/2020/poor-internet-connection-leaves-rural-students-behind#:~:text=Slow%20Internet%20connections%20or%20limited,college%20admissions%20and%20career%20opportunities.

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Andrew Holden is an Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Educator for Ohio State University Extension. Andrew can be reached at 440-576-9008 or Holden.155@osu.edu
CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit cfaesdiversity.osu.edu
Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training

April 14, 2021  6 – 9 P.M.

Do you apply fertilizer to 50 acres or more for crops that are primarily for sale? If so, you are required by Ohio law to attend a training session or take a test to become certified. OSU Extension Trumbull County is offering a training session (no test) that will meet all certification requirements. **Pre-Registration is required a week in advance. Due to COVID-19 restrictions only 10 registrants will be allowed.** Cost for this training session is $35/person and includes training materials, and handouts. To register, complete the back portion of this flyer and mail with check to the address below. Please make checks payable to OSU Extension or go to [https://go.osu.edu/aprfact2021](https://go.osu.edu/aprfact2021) to register online and pay with a credit card which is the preferred method.

**Location:** OSU Extension Trumbull County, 520 West Main St, Cortland, OH 44410

**Cost:** $35/person

**Contact information:** 330-638-6783 or beers.66@osu.edu
SPONSOR: Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation

ExploreAg

Camps are open to Ohio students interested in science, food and a variety of ag careers. Students must be a high school freshman, sophomore or junior.

DATES OF WEEKLONG CAMPS:
June 13-18 - Ohio State University Main Campus
June 20-25 - Ohio State University ATI Campus

DATES OF WEEKEND CAMPS:
Locations will be announced in conjunction with colleges or universities across the state
July 9-11
July 16-18
September 10-12

COST FOR CAMPS: Free

APPLICATION DEADLINES:
Priority Deadline - March 5th
Final Deadline - April 2nd

REGISTRATION: exploreag.org

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:
- A one-three minute video "Please tell us about one agricultural career and why that interests you."
- One reference that is not a friend or family member

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM:

Why and who should attend
With an ever growing population and concerns over food security, there is a need for a workforce of talented young scientists who are able to think critically about the issues associated with providing safe, economical, and aesthetically pleasing food and fiber. This one of a kind STEM camp will engage students in the various careers in science, engineering and technology in the food, fuel, and fiber industry that will be needed to face our world’s challenges. Through hands-on tours and activities in state-of-the-art laboratories, campers will get a unique look at what careers in STEM can entail. Days will be filled with learning from the top agricultural science companies and researchers at Ohio State and Central State Universities. Campers will have the opportunity to network with leaders in the industry while gaining a new perspective on the variety of careers available to them in Ohio related to food, fuel, and fiber production. At the end of each day, counselors will lead the students in leadership development activities and programs to show them how to prepare for college and their future careers.

This action packed week will be highlighted each day with a field trip to a different agricultural/food business (i.e. Smuckers, Mohican State Park, Select Sires) followed by an interactive, on-campus lab activity (i.e. food science, greenhouses, meat lab). Students will be challenged through various activities to discuss current scientific issues facing Ohio and the world. Daily activities will engage them as they critically think through such issues.
The Ashtabula County Master Gardeners Present

The Beginning Gardener Series

TUESDAYS, MARCH 16TH - APRIL 13TH, 7:00 P.M.

Learn vegetable and flower gardening basics from the Ashtabula County Master Gardeners! Join us for this 5-part webinar series every Tuesday at 7:00 PM starting March 16th. Each program will be about 30 minutes long, with time to ask questions at the end. If you are wanting to plant a garden for the first time, or looking to improve your basic gardening skills, this series is for you! From types of garden, to plant care, to pest management, you'll have the knowledge to help you grow fresh produce and flowers in no time!

| Tuesday, March 16th | Types of Gardens and Site Selection |
| Tuesday, March 23rd | Soil Preparation and Testing |
| Tuesday, March 30th | Plant and Seed Selection |
| Tuesday, April 6th  | Plant Care Through the Season |
| Tuesday, April 13th | Garden Pest Management |

Location: Online via zoom  
Cost: Free

Details: Sign up today at: [https://go.osu.edu/bgs21](https://go.osu.edu/bgs21)

Contact information: For any questions or assistance signing up, please contact Andrew Holden at Holden.155@osu or call 440-576-9008