

OSU EXTENSION

NORTHEAST OHIO AGRI-CULTURE ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER **Tuesday, October 7, 2014**

More rain is in the forecast this week. Looks like it may be a soggy fall harvest. We have had two really good CAUV Taskforce meetings with Representative Patterson. Reading many of our agricultural publications, it is evident the rest of the state is learning what we have known for a couple of months. The next meeting of the task force is Monday, October 20 at 9:00 a.m. in the downstairs meeting room of the Ashtabula County Extension office. It is open to the public. Have a good week!

David Marrison, AG Educator

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Northeast Ohio Twilight Beef Tour to be held at R.J. Nye Family Farms in Hartsgrove, Ohio on October 9, 2014.



OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Cattlemen's Association are pleased to announce their annual Fall Beef Tour will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2014 at R.J. Nye Family Farms from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. The farm is located at 5800 State Route 534 in Hartsgrove, Ohio. Northeast Ohio beef producers will not want the chance to tour this really nice cow-calf operation.

The Nye family operates a 50 head cow-calf operation in which the majority of the calves are fed out through a vertically intergraded stocker-feedlot system. Beef breeds raised include Angus and Angus Hybrids crossed with Simmental, Shorthorn and Maine Anjou. Beef sales include feeder calves, breeding stock, as well as finished cattle sold custom. The Nye family farms over 700 acres in Hartsgrove and Orwell Townships and raises nearly 300 acres of hay, 300 acres of soybeans, 100 acres of corn, and manages 60 acres of pasture land harvested through rotational grazing each year.

During the tour, participants will be able to learn about the rotational grazing system which has been in use since 2008; tour the steer and heifer development facility; view the wintering and calving facilities for the cow herd; and learn more about their A.I breeding and herd health programs. Participants will learn how EQUIP cost share funds were used to help fence in the 6 pasture paddock areas and to build their manure storage structure. Attendees will also see their cattle handling and creep feeding systems, self-catching headlocks, and how feed is kept "pushed" up.



The Nye Family has a long history of farming in northeast, Ohio. The Nye family settled in Hartsgrove during the mid-1800s as dairy farmers and the farming practices have continued to date by the following generations. It is family oriented and heavily invested in 4-H and community programs. The farm is located on State Route 534 approximately 1.1 mile south of State Route 6 (Hartsgrove Circle) or 3.25 miles north of Route 322 in Windsor.

All beef producers are invited to attend. No reservations are needed. Dress for the weather as the tour will be held rain or shine! And as tradition, an all-beef hamburger and hotdog meal will be served compliments of the Ashtabula County Cattlemen's Association at the conclusion of the walking tour. This twilight tour is sponsored by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen's Association, OSU Extension, and R.J. Nye Family Farms. Don't miss the opportunity to visit this outstanding operation. A complete program flyer can be obtained by accessing <http://go.osu.edu/ne-events> or by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

Dairy Farm Bill Programs to be held across Northeast Ohio

The dairy industry has been the cornerstone to our local agricultural economy for decades. As with typical agricultural commodity products, the prices established for milk are driven by market supply and demand. Ask any local dairy farmer and they will tell you how volatile the dairy industry can be.

The 2014 Farm Bill initiated a new dairy risk management program to help dairy farms overcome the highs and lows of producing milk. The new voluntary program is called the **Dairy Margin Protection Program (MPP-Dairy)** and will be in effect through December 31, 2018. Dairy farmers have until November 28, 2014 to decide whether or not to participate in this program. Locally, the MPP-Dairy program are operated through the USDA Farm Service Agency located in Orwell, Ohio and Cortland, Ohio.

The MPP-Dairy program offers protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all milk price and the average feed cost (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer. A major difference between this program and past payment programs is that the MPP-Dairy is based on average national feed prices and milk prices. It is not based on a producer's personal operation.

Farmers can elect the extent of the coverage that they will need for their operation. The beginning level of coverage is considered Catastrophic Coverage. This will trigger payments to dairy farms when the margin between milk prices and feed prices reaches \$4. The highest amount of coverage is 90 percent of the established production history from the farm. So if a farm produces 1 million pounds of milk, then 900,000 pounds will be used to calculate a payment. This CAT requires farmers to only pay a \$100 administrative fee to be a part of the program at this level. Dairy farmers can annually select a higher coverage. The coverage level ranges from \$4 to \$8, and the percentage of the milk production can be from 25 percent to 90 percent.

It can be overwhelming to consider all the options and combinations of price points and percentages. To help local dairy farmers learn more about MPP-Dairy program, OSU Extension is partnering with Farm Service Agency to offer workshops on the MPP-Dairy program across the state. Some of the workshops which will be offered in Northeast Ohio include:

- October 21, 2014 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Trumbull County Extension office, 520 West Main Street, Cortland, OH
- October 21, 2014 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Trumbull County Extension office, 520 West Main Street, Cortland, OH
- October 22, 2014 from 10:30am - 12:30pm, at Ashtabula Co Extension, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH
- October 22, 2014 from 1:00 - 3:00pm, at Mahoning Co Extension, 490 S. Broad Street, Canfield, OH
- October 24, 2014 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm, at Carroll Co Friendship Center, 100 Kensington Road NE, Carrollton, OH
- October 27, 2014 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm, at Geauga Co Extension, 14269 Claridon-Troy, Burton, OH
- October 30, 2014 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm, at USDA Service Center, 2650 Richville Drive SE, Ste. 100, Massillon, OH
- November 10, 2014 from 10:00am - Noon, at Mahoning Co Extension, 490 S. Broad Street, Canfield, OH

Dairy producers can also sign up on-line at: <http://go.osu.edu/2014dairyfarmbill> and Check out <http://dairy.osu.edu> for additional information on the MPP-Dairy program.

Roundheaded Borers/ Longhorned Beetles Being Found in Firewood

We have received quite a few calls into our office about some big larvae being found in slab wood and logs being cut up for fire wood. These larvae were diagnosed as Roundheaded Borers/Longhorned Beetles from the Cerambycidae family. The adult beetles in this group are called longhorned beetles because of their long antennae. The immature stage of most longhorned beetles is a woodboring larva called a roundheaded borer.



There are hundreds of species of longhorned beetles and many are very common. The beetles vary in size from 1/4 to 3 inches long. The longhorned beetles are attracted to dying, freshly cut or recently-killed trees where they lay eggs on the bark of the green wood. The larvae emerge from the eggs and burrow into the tree and spend one to three years tunneling through the wood. Tunnels may be just under the bark or in the heartwood, are usually about the size of a lead pencil, and are packed with coarse sawdust. The larvae are wormlike and white to yellowish with a brown head, round-bodied and deeply wrinkled. Holes and piles of sawdust mark where the adult beetles emerge from the infested wood.



Roundheaded borers are commonly found in firewood, and the longhorned beetles may emerge from wood brought into the house. These beetles may also wander into houses by mistake as "accidental invaders." Longhorned beetles crawl about the house creating a nuisance but they cannot bite, sting, attack furniture or damage the house structure. They do not infest cured lumber (such as in the house structure or in furniture) nor dried firewood.

The best way to prevent the nuisance of insects emerging from firewood is to leave the firewood outside until it is to be burned, bringing at most, a few day's supply into the house at one time. Beetles that do emerge from firewood inside the house need only be picked up and thrown away. Spraying firewood with an insecticide is of very little benefit and potentially dangerous. Therefore, we strongly advise against treating firewood. Insecticides will not penetrate deeply enough into firewood to control roundheaded borers or emerging longhorned beetles. Storing and burning insecticide-treated firewood indoors could be a health hazard as the insecticide is vaporized into the living area of the house.

Ohio Weather Outlook for October

By Jim Noel

We are now in transition season. We expect the rest of October to become more active with rain chances every 2-4 days. We will be in a battle zone between high pressure near the East Coast and low pressure near the central U.S. leaving Ohio and the Ohio Valley in the transition zone for stormy weather. Temperatures will swing from above to below to above normal with the overall trend close to normal for temperatures. Frost and freeze chances will be increasing but we are on track for about a normal frost and freeze season in October.

Rainfall:

We expect to see above normal rainfall for the rest of October. There is >80% chance of exceeding 2" of rain in the next two weeks over most of Ohio which is high for this time of the year. Normal rainfall is about an inch the next two weeks. This will increase pressure to get crops out of the fields along with muddy fields. The latest 16-day rainfall graphic for the region from the National Weather Service Ohio River Forecast Center can be found here: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/ohrfc/HAS/images/NAEFS16day.pdf>

Temperatures:

Temperatures should be about normal but with large swings. Normal highs are generally in the mid-60s and normal lows in the mid-40s. The latest two-week temperatures outlook can be found here: <http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/814temp.new.gif>

Frost and freeze:

The first frosts and/or freezes typically occur in the first half of October in the north and middle to later October in the south. We look to be about on track for this in the coming week. Some areas have already had frost conditions in the last few weeks.

Short-term outlook:

Rain chances are expected Tuesday Oct 7 with more rain chances especially southern Ohio later Thursday Oct. 9 into early Friday Oct. 10. Rain chances will come back about either late Sunday or early next week Oct. 12-15, 2014.

Soybean Aphid Prediction for 2015

By Andy Michel

Two observations on soybean aphids surprised us in 2014. First is that we saw soybean aphids at all. Since 2001-when soybean aphids were first detected in Ohio-we have had aphid outbreaks every other year (i.e. in odd numbered years). But in 2014, soybean aphids could be easily found in most areas and, in a few fields, even reached economic threshold. Part of the saving grace was that the aphids came on late, and most soybeans made it to R6 before aphids reached threshold. Second is that aphids were not found in the typical northern sections of Ohio, but rather in the central part of the state. While it is tough to say if this "officially" broke the every other year pattern, more important is what might happen next year. Even without the 2014 observations, there would be a high likelihood of soybean aphids in 2015 based on the historical pattern. In addition, we have started to see soybean aphids on buckthorn, their overwintering host. It is still too early to know for sure, but it does seem to be setting up for soybean aphids to be present in 2015. Over the next few weeks, we will re-check buckthorn trees for the presence of soybean aphid eggs as well as triple check them in the spring of 2015 to confirm successful overwintering and egg hatch.

Northeast Ohio "Snow Bird" Private Pesticide Applicator Re-Certification Session & Commercial Fertilizer Application Certification to be held on Tuesday, November 25 in Burton, Ohio.

Do you head south for the winter? Does your Private Pesticide Applicator's License expire on March 31, 2015? If so, OSU Extension in Northeast Ohio has planned his session with you in mind! This workshop will be held on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at Geauga County Extension Office, 14269 Claridon-Troy Road, Burton, Ohio 44021

This workshop will offer 3 credits for re-certification for CORE and All Categories (1-7). Private Pesticide Applicators from any county in Northeast, Ohio are welcomed to attend this session. This session will be held from 9:00 to 12:00 noon. A special afternoon session will be held from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for private applicators who would like to complete their Commercial Fertilizer Application Certification. Due to Ohio's new legislation, any producer who applies commercial fertilizer to 50 or more acres must be certified by no later than September 30, 2017. Attend this session to complete your certification. This session is open only to current licensed private pesticide applicators who wish to become certified.

The registration fee is \$35/per person for the morning private pesticide applicator re-certification. There is no fee for the afternoon fertilizer certification session. A hearty farmers lunch will be provide for those who are staying for the afternoon session for \$15/person. Pre-registration is required by November 17, 2014. An additional late registration fee of \$25 per person will be added for any registration received after November 17, 2014. Make checks payable to

OSU Extension and mail to OSU Extension-Geauga County, PO Box 387, Burton, Ohio 44021. More information can be obtained by calling the Geauga County Extension office 440-834-4656. Additional private pesticide re-certification and commercial fertilizer certification sessions will be held in 2015 on January 16 (Williamsfield), January 30 (Burton), February 9 (Cortland) and February 26 (Perry).

Ashtabula County Master Gardener Volunteers Sought

If you have a strong interest in gardening and enjoy helping others, you are invited to apply to become an Ohio State University Extension Master Gardener volunteer for Ashtabula County. The main purpose of the Master Gardener Program is to help meet the horticultural needs of Ashtabula County.

To become an OSU Extension Master Garden volunteer, you must attend 11 training sessions held from January to April 2015 and volunteer 50 hours of horticultural service to the community through Extension educational programming. Such service could include teaching 4-H youth gardening, planting and maintaining Extension demonstration gardens, answering gardening questions from the public, judging flower and vegetable projects at local fairs, and assisting community garden participants. As a benefit of becoming a Master Gardener, you will increase your knowledge and understanding of such varied horticultural topics as best cultural practices for growing flowers and vegetables, house plant care, plant disease, and insect pest identification and control and much, much more.



Course topics include: history of OSU Extension, plant physiology, soils, composting, fertilizers, herbs, houseplants, plant propagation, plant pathology, diagnostics, entomology, integrated pest management, vegetables, lawns, woody ornamentals, fruits, landscape maintenance, and making effective presentations.

Three informational meetings will be held for those interested in being selected for the 2015 training program. These meetings will be Tuesday, October 7, 2014 from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.; Tuesday, October 21, 2014 from 12:00 to 12:45 p.m. and Wednesday, November 5 6:30-7:15 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room of the OSU Extension office at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson. Specifics with regards to the application process, training schedule, course fee, and fingerprinting requirements will be shared at this meeting. It is recommended that applicants attend this orientation meeting.

The dates for this year’s training program are: January 22 & 29; February 12, 19, & 26 and March 5, 12, 19 & 26 and April 16. This program is taught in conjunction with the Lake County Master Gardener program. Five of the sessions will be taught at the Ashtabula County Extension Office in Jefferson and five will be taught in Lake County. All courses will be taught from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. There is a \$200 course fee that covers course materials, refreshments, and speaker travel costs. Registration is limited and all applications are due by November 24, 2014. Please call the Ashtabula County Extension Office at 440-576-9008 for more information or for a complete application packet.

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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