Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

We are all at Farm Science Review this week assisting with the many displays, presentations, and booths. FSR is held today through Thursday. We hope to see you there!

While we will be unavailable most of this week, our offices are still open for business and for anything urgent.

Have a great week!

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Lee Beers  
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Join Farm Office Live from OSU's Farm Science Review on September 23

By: Peggy Kirk Hall
Source: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/wed-09152021-925am/join-farm-office-live-osus-farm-science-review-september-23

Farm Science Review is back! OSU's Farm Office Team will be there, and we'll broadcast the next Farm Office Live from our farm office at the Review. We can't promise we'll be able to ignore biscuits and gravy, pork tenderloins, bahama mamas, or Northeast Ohio Agriculture.
milkshakes during Farm Office Live, but we can promise you updates on recent developments in the world of farm management and agricultural law.

The broadcast will be on Thursday, September 23 beginning at 10 a.m. Here’s what’s on the agenda:

- Carbon market programs and carbon agreements
- Legislative update
- 2022 crop budgets
- 2020 Farm Business Analysis program results from crop farms
- Ohio cash rental rates
- Dairy Market Volatility Assistance Program
- Highlights of FSR and upcoming programs

Who’s on the Farm Office Live Team? OSU experts ready to help farmers, landowners and agribusiness professionals navigate the issues we all deal with in the farm office. Our team includes:

- Peggy Kirk Hall - Agricultural Law
- David Marrison - Farm Management
- Dianne Shoemaker - Farm Business Analysis and Dairy Production
- Barry Ward - Farm Management and Tax

The Ag Law Roundup: your ag law questions answered

By: Peggy Kirk Hall
Source: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/fri-09172021-1131am/ag-law-roundup-your-ag-law-questions-answered

It’s time to round up another batch of legal Q&A. Here’s a sampling of questions from around the state that we’ve recently received in the Farm Office.

My township recently notified me of having noxious weeds. They identified "ragweed" as the problem, but the Ohio Revised Code’s list of noxious weeds doesn’t list “ragweed.” What are my rights? Under Ohio law, you have five days to respond to the township trustees to explain that no action need to be taken because no noxious weeds exist on the property and that plants were incorrectly identified as noxious weeds. Therefore, your conversations with the township trustees should have met the legal requirements because you notified them that plants were incorrectly identified as noxious weeds. Having a written record is always best, just in case there is ever a dispute, so you may want to follow up with the townships trustees in an email, just to confirm that no action need to be taken.

I read that each landowner has a ten foot right of access on either side of the fence row. How does that work? The ten foot right of access is for a situation where...
one neighbor hasn’t shared in the construction of the line fence. If a landowner chooses to build a line fence and the adjoining neighbor doesn’t share in the construction of the fence. Ohio Revised Code Section 971.08 allows the landowner to enter the neighbor’s property for up to ten feet for the length of the fence to build and maintain the fence. A landowner who stays within that ten feet strip cannot be held guilty for trespassing, but can be liable for any damages caused on the neighbor’s property, including damages to crops.

A neighbor is spraying herbicides on the fence row where an adjoining neighbor is raising organic livestock. Is there anything the livestock operator can do? There could be a spray drift issue if the herbicides are coming over onto the organic producer’s property. The most common legal action for dealing with spray drift is negligence, and another legal theory is trespass. If the drift causes harm, there would be a legal claim under either of those theories and the sprayer could be liable for harm caused by the drift. Before moving right to a lawsuit, however, a letter from an attorney that explains the potential liability for the drift could be helpful. Losing the organic certification would be costly, and an attorney would likely point that out. Those types of letters don’t take a lot of time and wouldn’t be as costly as filing a lawsuit. Additionally, the sprayer’s insurance policy might address negligence for spray drift and could provide a mechanism for compensation to the livestock producer.

We are in the process of buying a farm property to raise horses and relocate a small craft brewery to the location and grow hops and barley for the brewery. Can you provide information to help navigate the legal issues in doing this? Let’s start with two separate issues—the liquor licensing issue and the zoning issue. You may already know that Ohio has a relatively new licensing law that eases the liquor license process for small brewers—the A-1c license, explained at https://www.com.ohio.gov/liqr/permitclasses.aspx. That would allow you to brew and sell onsite if you meet the license requirements.

The zoning question is not as straightforward and instead is an “it depends” answer. Ohio zoning law does specifically exempt wineries from local zoning regulation, if the winery is growing grapes. There is not a similar specific exemption for breweries, though. In some situations, the agricultural exemption from zoning authority applies and prevents the township from prohibiting an agricultural use if it meets the definition of “agriculture.” Some of the activities you describe, growing hops and grains and raising horses, do fit within that definition. Processing and marketing activities, like making and selling beer on-site, only fit within that definition if they are “secondary to” the growing/production activities. Showing that the brewery would be a “secondary” use to the primary production activities could be difficult, and there aren’t clear standards on how to prove which is primary and which is secondary. Some townships have examined amount of the property dedicated to the different uses, some have examined
financial returns of the different uses, some have looked at amount of time… it’s a bit
gray and open to interpretation.

The other way to be exempt from zoning regulations would be to prove that the brewery
is “agritourism.” This requires first showing that the activity is a cultural, recreational,
entertainment or historic activity that is “agriculturally related” to the property and that
the property qualifies as a “working farm” that is engaged in commercial agricultural
production. Townships vary on how closely they examine these different components,
but it seems that many are becoming more strict about what is and is not “agriculturally
related” to the property. If none of the exemptions apply, whether you could engage in
the land use would depend on your district zoning provisions. You’d want the zoning
district to allow a brewery activity as a permitted use in the zoning district, or to be able
to seek a “conditional use” permit for it.

If someone has a hornet’s nest in the yard in a neighborhood with a sidewalk, is
there concern if the hornets were to attack someone walking by? This is one of
those “maybe” answers. We don’t have clear legal guidance or court cases on liability
for stings in Ohio, and my guess is that’s because the cases may settle out in the
insurance process. The hornet nest, though, is probably a natural situation that is less
likely to result in liability on the landowner’s part than a manmade condition, especially if
the nest is out in the open and easily seen. The law expects people to bear
responsibility to protect themselves from open and obvious natural dangers. However,
the fact that the landowner knows it is there could be problematic given the
neighborhood situation, as in “you should have done something about it because you
knew people would be walking by,” especially if it’s not easy for passers-by to detect it
or if the landowner knows someone in the neighborhood is allergic to bees. To avoid
the risk of potential harm or problems, the landowner could consider either putting up a
sign warning about the nest or have it removed. The cost of removal would probably be
less than an injury claim or a lawsuit. The landowner may also want to talk with her
insurance agent to see if there would be coverage for an incident—likely not, but it’s
worth an ask. That might bring the landowner some peace of mind if he or she allows it
to remain.

If you have an agricultural law question, send it to aglaw@osu.edu and we'll do our best
to provide an answer. We can't give you legal advice, of course, but we can explain the
laws that apply to the situation. Also be sure to check for answers in our law bulletins
on the Ag Law Library, here on the Farm Office website.
Lots to see, learn at Gwynne Conservation Area: Farm Science Review 2021
By: Kurt Knebusch
Source: https://cfaes.osu.edu/news/articles/lots-see-learn-gwynne-conservation-area-farm-science-review-2021

There’s a place you can go to discover such things as:

- How grazing goats can help control invasive plants in your woods.
- How to call turkeys, identify frogs, stock your pond with the best types of fish, and grow your own edible mushrooms in a bucket.
- How and when to harvest timber, and what today’s volatile lumber prices can mean for you and your woods.
- How to identify the spotted lanternfly, an invasive species new to Ohio that can damage your fruit and shade trees and grape vines.

If you want to learn more about woods, water, wildlife, and grazing lands—and walk among them while you do it—check out the Gwynne Conservation Area at this year’s Farm Science Review.

The nearly 70-acre demonstration site—home of a forest, a stream, a wetland, ponds, pastures, wildlife food plots, and trails leading past or through them—will offer 50-plus talks, tours, and demonstrations during all three days of the Review. Go there and you’ll also find prairie plants blown by the wind, shade from trees, sunlight glinting on rippled water, butterflies, green frogs, bluegills, and bluebirds.

Farm Science Review runs Sept. 21–23 at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center, 135 State Route 38 near London, and besides exploring the event’s 100 acres of commercial vendors, equipment displays, and educational exhibits, you can also take a short free wagon ride from the main grounds to the Gwynne. (It’s the same ride that goes to the Review’s field crop demonstrations.)

“Whatever your interests might be, you can head over to the Gwynne to learn something new,” said Carri Jagger, an educator with Ohio State University Extension, the outreach arm of The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

CFAES is the host of the annual Review. Jagger is co-coordinating the Gwynne’s educational sessions during the event with Marne Titchenell, wildlife program specialist in the CFAES School of Environment and Natural Resources.

“I learn something new at the Gwynne every year,” Jagger said.

Here’s a look at some of what’s to discover at the Gwynne:
TREES AND WOODS
Identifying Ohio’s trees, identifying the fungi that grow in your woods, a seasonal guide to woodland management, the chestnut agroecosystem, and how Farm Bill programs can help you manage your woods.

FOREST PRODUCTS
Maple syrup production for beginners, managing a sugar bush, cultivating oyster mushrooms in a bucket, how to manage your woods to produce pawpaw fruit, what fluctuating market conditions and timber prices can mean for your woods, and how Ohio’s “Call Before You Cut” program can help you sign a fair timber harvest contract and keep your woods healthy for the future.

WILDLIFE
Creating backyard wildlife habitat, Ohio’s owls, Ohio’s snakes, Ohio’s frogs and toads, calling wild turkeys, and preventing landscape damage by wildlife.

FISH AND WATER
The best fish bets for stocking a pond, pond aeration basics, backyard aquaponic basics, managing invasive species in ponds, and all about vernal pools, streams, and ponds.

GRAZING AND FORAGES
Getting started with grazing, forages for soggy sites, forages for acidic soils, wildlife-friendly forages, growing native warm-season grasses, intensive rotational grazing, and high stock density grazing.

INVASIVE SPECIES
All about kudzu (which, yes, is in Ohio), identifying the spotted lanternfly, the latest updates on Ohio’s top 10 invasive species, and how grazing goats can help control invasive plants in hardwood forests.

POLLINATORS
All about wild bees, trees you can grow that are good for bees, and details about the Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative’s Roadsides for Pollinators program.

You can find the full schedule of sessions at the Gwynne at go.osu.edu/gwynne2021 or in the Review’s free program booklet.

The speakers at the sessions will be from CFAES, elsewhere at Ohio State, other universities, conservation groups, and local, state, and federal agencies.
Also while at the Gwynne, you can see demonstrations of electrofishing, monarch butterfly tagging, the Ohio Division of Wildlife’s working canines, and chainsaw maintenance, safety, sharpening, and cutting.

Last year’s Farm Science Review was held online because of the pandemic.

Jagger said she’s looking forward to having the event in person again.

“It’s a lot more fun to learn and teach in person than it is virtually,” she said.

“There’s just something about being at the site and seeing a good demonstration in person or getting to visit with the other folks in a session.”

Hours for Farm Science Review are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 21–22 and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 23. Tickets are $7 online, at county offices of OSU Extension, and at participating agribusinesses, and $10 at the gate. Children ages 5 and under are admitted free.

For more information, visit fsr.osu.edu.

Get Ready To Crunch!

Looking for a fun way to support farm to school, Ohio farmers, and resilient communities? Register for the eighth annual Great Apple Crunch this October! Crunch into local apples at noon on Thursday, October 14th at schools, early care sites, colleges and hospitals across Ohio (and the region) to celebrate Farm to School Month and local food in cafeterias. Everyone is invited to Crunch!

It’s simple and easy to participate. Register at https://go.wisc.edu/rjw2e3, purchase local apples, and Crunch in October. You even get FREE Crunch stickers! After you register you will receive the Crunch Guide with tools to find local apples, tasty apple recipes, and social media tips. For teachers, the Crunch Guide also includes student lesson plans listed by age group.

Share your Apple Crunch with us! Take a photo or video and share to Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram with the hashtags #GreatAppleCrunch, #OHAppleCrunch, #F2SMonth, #OHLittleCrunchers, and #OneMillionCrunches!

Check out these new Crunch training videos!

- For early care sites: https://go.wisc.edu/42v826
- For apple growers: https://go.wisc.edu/65fxue
- Celebrate #F2S Month with everyone! : https://go.wisc.edu/v80k09
**Adventures in Local Food**

By: Julie Wayman

**Shift Into Fall**
September 22nd will mark the first day of Fall here in NE Ohio. And with that shift comes cool weather crops. Many people are under the mistaken impression that local food can only be found in the summer. In fact, there are many crops that appreciate the cooler temperatures, and local fruit and produce can be abundant well into the fall. Currently available in-season local fruit and produce includes: Apples, Beets, Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Collard Greens, Garlic, Grapes, Green Beans, Kale, Lettuce, Onion, Parsnips, Pears, Peas, Potatoes, Raspberries, Shallots, Spinach, Sweet Potatoes, Swiss Chard, Turnips, Winter Squash.

**Storage**
Several items on this list store well including garlic, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and winter squash. Purchase these items in abundance to have local food longer into the year. You will need to have a cool, well-ventilated location to store them in, and it would be important to check on them occasionally to cull any that have begun to rot. More detailed information on proper storage techniques by individual crop, can be found here: [https://ohioline.osu.edu/topic/home-yard-and-garden](https://ohioline.osu.edu/topic/home-yard-and-garden)

**Last days for the Farmers Markets**
If you haven’t had an opportunity to visit all of the county’s Farmers Markets yet this year, make plans to do so in the coming weeks as the end of the season will soon be upon us.

The last day for area Farmers’ Markets is as follows:
- Ashtabula Farmers Market: Sundays - through **October 10, 2021**, 10 am – 2 pm
- Conneaut Farmers Market: Saturdays - through **October 9, 2021**, 9 am – 1 pm
- Four Corners Farmers Market: Third Saturday of the month, through **October 2021**, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Geneva Farmers Market: Saturdays - through **October 16, 2021**, 9 am – 1 pm
- Jefferson Farmers Market: Saturdays, through **October 9, 2021**, 9 am – 1 pm
- My Neighborhood Farmers Market: Tuesdays through **September 21, 2021**, 11 am – 2:00 pm or until sold out
- N Kingsville Presbyterian Farmers’ Market: Fridays, through **September 24, 2021**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Pierpont Farmers’ Market: Saturdays, through **Sept. 25, 2021**, 8:00 am – Noon
After the market season ends, you can still find local produce at local retailers, farms, and farm stands around the region. Check out the Local Food Guide to find a farm near you: www.go.osu.edu/ashtabulalocalfoodguide

Fall Crops on sale at Moore’s Heritage Farm Market

Fall Recipe
Fall is a good time to experiment with warm dishes, roasted root vegetables, soups, stocks, and stews. Here is a fun recipe that uses both apples and squash. It is simple to prepare and requires minimal ingredients. You can adapt it to your taste by choosing your preferred winter squash. If you need a little more sweetness, you could add sweet potatoes to the mix, or try adding some local honey or maple syrup.

_Squash-Apple Casserole:_
Serves: 6

**Ingredients**
2 1/2 cups winter squash (such as Acorn, Butternut, or Hubbard)
1 1/2 cups apples (cooking, such as Macintosh, Granny Smith, or Rome)
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
1 teaspoon cinnamon

**Directions**
1. Wash and prepare squash and apples (for extra fiber, keep peel on apples).
2. Alternate layers of squash and apples in 8x8 inch pan; end with apples.
3. Sprinkle spices over top layer.
4. Cover with aluminum foil.
5. Bake at 350 degrees for 45-60 minutes, until squash is tender.

(Source: https://www.myplate.gov/recipes/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap/squash-apple-casserole)
Ashtabula County
32nd Annual Beef Banquet

November 6th, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
Expo Building at the Fairgrounds
127 N Elm St, Jefferson, OH 44047

Tickets for the prime rib dinner are $30 per person. The dinner is dine-in only. Ticket includes your 2021 membership into the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association.

This year’s banquet will include live entertainment, ticket drawing prizes, and a great Prime Rib Dinner!

To purchase/reserve banquet tickets, call or text a director:
David Nye 330-559-9846  Bryan Elliot 330-240-5533
Zach Ward 330-666-3793  Garret Love 419-566-6570
Evan Flack 440-221-1668  OSU Extension 440-576-9008

New this year: Tickets can now be purchased through Venmo
Send your name(s) and $30 per ticket to @ashcattlemans or scan QR:
Ticket reservations are required by October 29th, 2021 to ensure adequate meal preparations can made.