In This Issue:

- Applications Now Being Accepted for the SNAP-Ed Program Assistant Position at OSU Extension in Trumbull County
- Tropical Moisture Invades Ohio
- World’s Largest Script Ohio Shows the Power of Precision Agriculture
- Crop Damage Mounts for EU Farmers After Torrid Summer
- Wheat Management for Fall 2018
- Downy Mildew Confirmed in Pumpkins in Clark County, OH
- Farm Science Review Tickets Available
- 2018 Ashtabula County Beef Banquet Tickets
- Ohio Sheep Shearing School
- Upcoming Events

Hello, Northeast Ohio Counties!

I think corn and soybeans stopped drying down this past week! Here at the office in Cortland we received 4.3 inches over the weekend bringing our weekly total to just below 5 inches. I’m amazed at how fast our dry soils absorbed that much water. We should get back to a drier pattern for most of the week and warmer temperatures too.

The cool damp weather will also be bringing perfect conditions for plant pathogens. Field peas and vegetables should be scouted regularly for any evidence of disease. Downy and powdery mildews are being found in multiple locations in Ohio.

Lee Beers
Extension Educator - Ag & Natural Resources
Applications Now Being Accepted for the SNAP-Ed Program Assistant Position at OSU Extension in Trumbull County

Trumbull County Extension is currently accepting applications to fill a vacant SNAP-Ed Program Assistant position until September 23, 2018. The position is full time and will be located at the Extension office in Cortland, OH.

Job duties include using standardized curriculum materials to teach food, nutrition, food resource management, and other related topics to low-income adults, youth, and/or families as part of the Education branch of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed) in a variety of community settings; use standardized evaluation instruments to assess program participants’ knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors to determine educational needs and impacts; refer program participants to appropriate assistance programs; recruit adults for the program by collaborating with community agencies and programs, as well as using other tools of promotion; recruit youth for the program by collaborating with schools serving 50% or more free and reduced meals; participate in staff development and training opportunities to enhance knowledge of nutrition topics and successful methods for nutrition education; regular travel will be required throughout the county and occasionally to the state office and other regional locations around the state.

Bachelor’s degree in Nutrition, Family and Consumer Sciences, or other related field, or an equivalent combination of education and experience required.

You can find more information and details on how to apply here: https://www.jobsatosu.com/postings/89297

Tropical Moisture Invades Ohio

By Aaron Wilson, OSU Climate Science
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2018-30/tropical-moisture-invades-ohio

It was quite the wet week across the state of Ohio! Scattered thunderstorms throughout the week brought isolated 1-2” rainfall amounts. The big story began on Friday night, as a stalled out front provided a path for the remnants of Tropical Storm Gordon to move through the region, bringing steady to moderate rain and gusty winds from Friday night through Monday morning.
While rainfall was certainly heaviest across the southern counties of Ohio this weekend, almost the entire state picked up appreciable amounts of rain. Figure 1 shows estimated precipitation totals between Friday morning and Monday morning (September 7-10), showing many areas exceeding 2” of rain for the 72-hour event. Preliminary isolated totals of 7.44” and 6.35” occurred in northwest Montgomery County and northern Scioto County, respectively. Combined with rainfall from earlier in week, these rainfall totals represent 3-6 times the normal rainfall for a typical week in early September. With farmers throughout the state eager to continue or begin harvest, the big question is, how soon will we dry out?

The immediate forecast looks favorable. In the wake of this past weekend’s rainfall, high temperatures are expected to moderate from the low to mid 70s into the low to mid 80s by week’s end. Dew point temperatures in the 50s and low 60s means dry air will prevail, with partly to mostly sunny skies throughout the week. These weather conditions should help fields dry out throughout the state.

The 8-14 day projection (September 17-23) provided by the Climate Prediction Center, which includes Farm Science Review week near London, Ohio, suggests both near-normal temperatures and precipitation across Ohio. Normal high (low) temperatures throughout the state during mid-September range from the low 70s (upper 40s) across the north to upper 70s (mid to upper 50s) across southern Ohio, with anywhere from 0.5” to 1” of weekly rainfall.

However, there is some uncertainty in the forecast given the eventual path of another tropical cyclone currently moving toward the southeast U.S. coast. At the time of this article, Hurricane Florence has reached Category 4 (sustained winds of 130 mph) and is expected to come ashore near Wilmington, NC late Thursday (September 13). While the storm will weaken after moving inland, wind damage and a tremendous amount of rain are...
expected across the Carolinas and mid-Atlantic regions. Whether Florence will have a large impact on weather conditions in Ohio beyond this weekend is still uncertain, but the situation should be monitored over the next several days. If Florence does make it far enough inland to affect Ohio, the areas to watch right now are the southern and eastern counties. With the ground already saturated from this past weekend’s rainfall, additional heavy rain could quickly deteriorate field conditions once more and stall harvest activities further during the third week of September.

World’s Largest Script Ohio Shows the Power of Precision Agriculture

On their way to the 56th annual Farm Science Review, Sept. 18-20, some 130,000 visitors will likely pass hundreds of acres of soybean fields. But one field in particular is sporting more Buckeye pride than any other. From an aerial view, the world’s largest Script Ohio emerges from a 100-acre field just east of the Molly Caren Agricultural Center in London, site of the Review. For the past four years, The Ohio State University’s Precision Agriculture program has demonstrated GPS-guided “smart planting” using multiple corn hybrids. The team brought Buckeye spirit to the field with a simple block “O” in 2015, Brutus Buckeye in 2016, and Ohio State Athletics Block O last year. Now, Precision Agriculture has brought the Ohio State Marching Band’s famous Script Ohio to a soybean field.

“We decided to start and continue this project to show the potential of new multi-hybrid/variety planting technology and demonstrate that it can complete tasks with accuracy and precision to the point of making logos in field scenes,” said Andrew Klopfenstein, senior research associate engineer in the Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering (FABE), part of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) at The Ohio State University.
The Script Ohio demonstration is part of Farm Science Review, an annual three-day agricultural trade show, sponsored by CFAES. The Review, held at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center, features educators, specialists and faculty from CFAES who will provide research-based information on issues from pest management to water quality. The Review also features field demonstrations showcasing the most current technology and agricultural techniques.

The Script Ohio demonstration of precision agriculture is thanks to components from Precision Planting that turn a traditional planter into a “smart planter.” From the monitor, farmers can control the plant population and hybrid type planted in coordination with a mapping of GPS coordinates.

“This year’s design was slightly more difficult than some of the previous years because it was a single continuous piece with more curves than we had attempted in the past,” said Ryan Tietje, research associate and graduate student in FABE, who designed the past two field demonstrations.

Although more difficult, Script Ohio also had many similarities to previous years’ designs. “It’s still a multi-hybrid variable rate prescription that utilizes the same Precision Planting technology and equipment as in years past,” Tietje said. “However, this year’s design is very different in that we used soybean plants—the last three years have all been in corn.” The difference in soybean maturity between the two prescriptions is what gives the field its distinctive color variation between the more mature and yellowing Script Ohio versus the rest of the healthy green field.

While growers and Ohio State fans alike might enjoy seeing more Buckeye-spirited fields pop up across the state, this demonstration aims to prove the practical benefits of precision planting.

“There are benefits to matching plant hybrids/varieties to soil landscape,” Klopfenstein said. “Farmers in the future will consider multiple factors when generating prescriptions. Some of these factors may include moisture holding capacity, soil organic matter content, slope, and historical yield data, just to name a few.”

By creating a map using GPS coordinates, a grower can program their planter to distribute less seed to an area with rocky terrain with an expected lower yield as opposed to an area rich in organic matter where higher plant populations will increase productivity. “We have several years’ worth of studies and continue to work with Beck’s Superior Hybrids. We’ve seen a 6.1 bushel per acre benefit in corn and a 1.9 bushel per acre gain in soybeans,” Klopfenstein said.
As agricultural technology continues to evolve, Ohio State’s Precision Agriculture program aims to help growers understand the economic and agronomic benefits of such tools. “Over the past four years, there have been few or no changes mechanically to the planters used in this demonstration,” Klopfenstein said. “We’ve had software updates that have made the meters and monitors run more efficiently, as well as collect more data that can be visualized near real-time in the cab of the tractor.

“This past year, Precision Planting introduced mSet, which allows the use of SpeedTube (high speed planting) in conjunction with multi-hybrid planter technology. We hope in the future to be able to combine our high-speed and multi-hybrid testing on one planter and continue to draw the interest of growers.”

The team extends its thanks to Case IH, Precision Planting and Trimble for making the demonstration possible. Details about the department’s ongoing precision agriculture research are at [fabe.osu.edu/programs/precisionag](http://fabe.osu.edu/programs/precisionag). A podcast discussing the technology is available at [go.osu.edu/iTunesAFM](http://go.osu.edu/iTunesAFM) or [go.osu.edu/StitcherAFM](http://go.osu.edu/StitcherAFM).

Tickets to the Review are $7 online, at OSU Extension county offices and participating agribusinesses, and $10 at the gate. Children ages 5 and under are free. Details on event hours, buying tickets online and more are on the Review’s website at [fsr.osu.edu](http://fsr.osu.edu).

**Crop damage mounts for EU farmers after torrid summer**

By Gus Trompiz

Source: [https://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-grains/crop-damage-mounts-for-eu-farmers-after-torr-idUSKCN1L71F5?org=1364&lvl=100&ite=2100&lea=140666&ctr=0&par=1&trk=](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-grains/crop-damage-mounts-for-eu-farmers-after-torr-idUSKCN1L71F5?org=1364&lvl=100&ite=2100&lea=140666&ctr=0&par=1&trk=)

European farmers are counting the cost of a summer heatwave that has shrunk cereal harvests and shriveled pastures, leaving some farms struggling to survive and shutting the EU out of lucrative export markets.

The severe weather in Europe has coincided with adverse growing conditions in other major grain producing zones such as Russia and Australia, raising the risk that supplies in exporting countries will be eroded to their smallest in years.

The latest harvest estimates have underlined the impact of drought and heatwaves in northern Europe. Germany’s farmers’ association DBV on Wednesday forecast a 22 percent plunge in grain production this year in the European Union’s second-largest cereal grower. Germany endured its highest summer temperatures in over a century as extreme weather gripped northern Europe from Britain to the Baltic states.
The combination of poor harvest yields and shriveled grassland has led to spiraling costs for animal feed, putting pressure on livestock farms. German Agriculture Minister Julia Kloeckner said the government would launch a special aid program for farmers worth up to 340 million euros following the drought damage. The DBV had called for around 1 billion euros ($1.1 billion) in aid.

In Denmark, drought is expected to lead to losses of around 6 billion Danish crowns ($920 million), research institute SEGES, part of the Danish Agriculture & Food Council lobby group said, adding that low pork prices could bring farm losses to almost 8 billion crowns this year. Danish farm bankruptcies in 2018 have almost reached the level for all of last year.

At the EU level, the European Commission has offered earlier than usual payments of annual subsidies and will allow fallow land to be used to feed livestock.

SHRINKING EXPORT SUPPLY
A sharp drop in the EU’s wheat harvest will also limit exports from the bloc, adding to nervousness about global supply given weather issues elsewhere, including in top wheat exporter Russia.

Consultancy Agritel on Wednesday said it projected EU wheat exports, including durum, to fall to a seven-year low of around 21 million tonnes in 2018/19 as the bloc was set to see all-wheat production drop by some 15 million tonnes from last year. France should fare better than other EU exporting countries, but yield losses related to heavy spring rain could cap its wheat exports outside the EU at around last season’s disappointing level, Agritel said.

The lower EU supply comes as weather-hit output in Russia is expected to push its exports down to 31.5 million tonnes from a record 42 million last season, it forecast.

“If Russia exports 10 million tonnes less this season, who is going to supply the world market,?” Alexandre Boy of Agritel, said in a presentation to journalists.

“It's not the EU that is going to make up for the drop in Russian supply.”

Ukraine, another major grain supplier via the Black Sea, is meanwhile facing lower crop quality this year, traders said, which could limit its exports of milling wheat.
Analysts see the onus on the United States to make up for reduced availabilities in other exporting countries, given relatively high U.S. stocks, and to a lesser extent Argentina after a successful sowing campaign there. The weather woes in northern Europe and speculation about possible Russian government restrictions on grain exports have contributed to renewed price volatility on international markets.

Euronext wheat futures struck five-year highs earlier this month, although prices have fallen sharply this week after Russia cooled talk about curbs on its exports. [GRA/EU] [GRA/]

**Wheat Management for Fall 2018**

By Laura Lindsey, Pierce Paul, Ed Lentz CCA


Wheat helps reduce problems associated with the continuous planting of soybean and corn and provides an ideal time to apply fertilizer in July/August after harvest. With soybean harvest around the corner, we would like to remind farmers of a few management decisions that are important for a successful crop. For additional information on winter wheat management, download a free pdf of the Ohio Agronomy Guide available here: [https://stepupsoy.osu.edu/wheat-production/ohio-agronomy-guide-15th-edition](https://stepupsoy.osu.edu/wheat-production/ohio-agronomy-guide-15th-edition)

1.) Select high-yielding varieties with high test weight, good straw strength, and adequate disease resistance. Do not jeopardize your investment by planting anything but the best yielding varieties that also have resistance to the important diseases in your area. Depending on your area of the state, you may need good resistance to powdery mildew, Stagonospora leaf blotch, and/or leaf rust. Avoid varieties with susceptibility to Fusarium head scab. Plant seed that has been properly cleaned to remove shriveled kernels and treated with a fungicide seed treatment to control seed-borne diseases. The 2018 Ohio Wheat Performance Test results can be found at: [http://oardc.osu.edu/wheattrials/](http://oardc.osu.edu/wheattrials/)

2.) Optimum seeding rates are between 1.2 and 1.6 million seeds per acre. For drills with 7.5-inch row spacing this is about 18 to 24 seeds per foot of row. When wheat is planted on time, actual seeding rate has little effect on yield, but high seeding rates (above 30 seeds per foot of row) increase lodging and the risk of severe powdery mildew development next spring.

3.) Plant after the Hessian Fly Safe Date for your county. This date varies between September 22 for northern counties and October 5 for southern-most counties. Planting before the Fly Safe Date increases the risk of insect and disease problems including...
Hessian Fly and aphids carrying Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus. The best time to plant is within 10 days after the Fly Safe Date (click here for fly safe map). Fall wheat growth is reduced when planting is delayed resulting in reduced winter hardiness. If planting is delayed until the third or fourth week after the fly-safe date, plant 1.6 to 2.0 million seeds per acre (24 to 30 seeds per foot of row).

4.) Planting depth is critical for tiller development and winter survival. Plant seed 1.5 inches deep and make sure planting depth is uniform across the field. No-till wheat seeded into soybean stubble is ideal, but make sure the soybean residue is uniformly spread over the surface of the ground. Shallow planting is the main cause of low tiller numbers and poor over-winter survival due to heaving and freezing injury. Remember, you cannot compensate for a poor planting job by planting more seeds; it just costs more money.

5.) Apply 20 to 30 lb of actual nitrogen per acre at planting to promote fall tiller development. A soil test should be completed to determine phosphorus and potassium needs. Wheat requires more phosphorus than corn or soybean, and soil test levels should be maintained between 25-40 ppm for optimum production. If the soil test indicates less than 25 ppm, then apply 80 to 100 pounds of P₂O₅ at planting, depending on yield potential. Do not add any phosphorus if soil test levels are higher than 50 ppm. Soil potassium should be maintained at levels of 100, 120, and 140 ppm for soils with cation exchange capacities of 10, 20, or 30 meq, respectively. If potassium levels are low, apply 100-200 pounds of K₂O at planting, depending on soil CEC and yield potential. Soil pH should be between 6.3 and 7.0. In Ohio, limed soils usually have adequate calcium and magnesium. Sulfur should be added in the spring to sandy soils and soils with low organic matter. Ohio research from the past four years has not shown a yield response to supplemental sulfur on medium to fine-textured soils that have adequate organic matter. The key to a successful wheat crop is adequate and timely management.
Downy Mildew Confirmed in Pumpkins in Clark County, OH

By Sally Miller


A severe outbreak of downy mildew was confirmed on pumpkins from a field trial at OSU-OARDC Western Agricultural Research Station. This is the first confirmed outbreak of downy mildew on pumpkins in Ohio, although it is likely elsewhere in central Ohio, if not even more widespread. Symptoms on pumpkins are somewhat different than on cucumber – the lesions on pumpkins are smaller than on cucumber, although both are angular, look watersoaked on the underside of leaves (upper right photo) and yellow on the upperside (upper left photo) initially. On pumpkins the older lesions appear bronze-brown in color (lower right photo). Pumpkin leaves can be completely destroyed if not treated with effective fungicides.

With cooler temperatures expected for the rest of this week, as well as rain showers and storms, downy mildew risk is high for most of Ohio and all cucurbits should be protected with fungicides that are effective against downy mildew.

Although the season is winding down, if pumpkins still need some time to reach maturity, the foliage should be protected. Information on fungicides can be found in the Midwest Vegetable Production Guide for Commercial Growers 2018; in addition, fungicide efficacy rankings from our 2017 bioassays can be found here. Control of downy mildew requires preventative fungicide application – inadequate control is often observed when fungicides are applied after infection, even if symptoms have not started to appear.

Farm Science Review Tickets Available

OSU Extension is pleased to announce that Advance tickets for the Farm Science Review are available at all Ohio State University Extension county offices for $7. This year’s Farm Science Review will be held at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center in London, Ohio on September 18-20, 2018. Tickets are $10 at the gate; however, presale tickets can be purchased at your local OSU Extension.
Extension for $7 per ticket through Monday, September 17, 2018. Children 5 and under are admitted free. The review hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on September 18 & 19 and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on September 20.

Farm Science Review is known as Ohio’s premier agricultural event and typically attracts more than 130,000 farmers, growers, producers and agricultural enthusiasts from across the U.S. and Canada annually. Participants are able to peruse 4,000 product lines from roughly 620 commercial exhibitors and engage in over 180 educational workshops, presentations and demonstrations delivered by experts from OSU Extension and the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center. More information about the Farm Science Review is at http://fsr.osu.edu

**2018 Ashtabula County Beef Banquet Tickets**

OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association will be holding the 29th Ashtabula County Beef Banquet on Saturday, October 27 at the Lenox Community Center beginning at 7:00 p.m. Banquet activities will include a prime rib dinner; business meeting; election of two members to the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s board of directors; entertainment; door prizes; and fine fellowship.

Tickets for the banquet can be purchased from the Directors of the Cattlemen’s Association. Directors are: Bart Kanicki, Pierpont Township; David Nye, Hartsgrove Township; Zach Ward, Austinburg Township; Dr. Bryan Elliott, Cherry Valley Township and Garret Love, Linesville, PA. Tickets are $25 per person. Call the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008 for more information. Pre-reservations should be made by October 19, 2018. A program flyer can be found at: http://go.osu.edu/ne-events

**Ohio Sheep Shearing School**

The Ohio Statewide Sheep Shearing School will be held Friday and Saturday, September 14-15, 2018 from 9 AM to 4 PM at the Dave Cable Farm (10491 Canal Rd. Hebron, OH 43025). Students will be taught the proper techniques for productive sheep shearing through first-hand experience. Class space is limited and registration is due by Tuesday, September 4. The cost to attend is $50 per student for both days combined and includes a boxed lunch. Call Roger High at 614-246-8299 to register. Registration form is attached.
Upcoming Events

Ashtabula County Master Gardener Recognition Banquet
October 15, 2018

Ashtabula County Beef Banquet
October 27, 2018

Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet
March 26, 2019

Pesticide Applicator Training Dates
Lake County “Early Bird” – November 8, 2018
Trumbull County – January 16, 2019
Geauga County – February 1, 2019
Ashtabula County – February 28, 2019
Geauga County “Last Chance” – March 28, 2019
2018 Statewide Sheep Shearing School – September 14-15, 2018
Sponsored By: Ohio Sheep Improvement Association and OSU Extension

The Statewide Sheep Shearing School will be held Friday and Saturday, September 14-15, 2018 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Dave Cable Farm, 10491 Canal Rd., Hebron, OH 43025. **Class Minimum: 15 participants** and the cost is **$50 per student**, which must be returned with registration form by Tuesday September 4, 2018. As part of the registration fee, a box lunch and drinks will be provided each day of the school.

If you decide to register after that date or have further questions, please call Roger A. High at 614-246-8299.

Make checks payable to: **Ohio Sheep Improvement Association**. Return bottom portion of this form with payment by Monday April 2, 2018 to Ohio Sheep Improvement Association – Sheep Shearing School, c/o Roger A. High, 280 N. High St. P.O. Box 182383, Columbus, OH 43218. Applications will also be available at [ohiosheep.org](http://ohiosheep.org). Payment is nonrefundable after September 4, 2018.

---

**2018 Sheep Shearing School Registration Form – September 14-15, 2018**

*Please print:*

Name ____________________________
Street Address ____________________________
City ____________________________ State ______ Zip ____________
Cellphone ____________________________ Email ____________________________

*Please provide a cell phone and an email if possible in case we would need to contact you prior to the school, in case of class cancellation or reminders about the school.*

**Shearing Experience (check one):**

Beginner ____________________________ Intermediate ____________________________ Advanced ____________________________

Right-Handed ____________________________ Left Handed ____________________________

*Payment of $50 per student is due with registration form.*

*Make check payable to Ohio Sheep Improvement Association.*

**Disclaimer (must be signed):** By signing this form I am hereby releasing the Ohio Sheep Improvement Association and any of its members of any liability for injury or accident as a result of participating in the Sheep Shearing School.

Signature: ____________________________ Date ____________