We had a great response to our Northeast Ohio Grape Field Day this past Thursday. I have included an article which Dave Scurlock wrote recapping this event. It was also nice to see about 30 of our local dairy farm family members at the Dairy Appreciation event on Saturday at the fairgrounds. Thank you to the Dairy Board for their hard work in putting this event together. On Sunday, my daughter and I were able to tour Aloterra Energy’s new production facility in Ashtabula Township. This plant will be in production by the end of the month and will be able to make over 10 million bio-degradable food containers annually from the miscanthus grown here in Ashtabula County. This plant is putting a shot in the arm to our local manufacturing community. A lot of people talk about green but Aloterra is actually doing it. Just imagine...a day when you the entire McDonald’s bag (BigMac container & fry bag) are all dropped in the compost pile when you get home instead of in the trash. Talk about an environmental impact. Have a good and safe week!

David Marrison, AG Educator

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OSU Searching for OSU Extension Educator for Trumbull County

OSU Extension in Trumbull County is now taking applications (until September 20, 2015) for an Agricultural & Natural Resources Extension Educator. The ANR Educator will provide overall leadership to developing and conducting a proactive applied research and education program in agriculture and natural resources to meet current and future needs in farm management, livestock and crop production, food security, home horticulture/Master Gardeners, commercial horticulture, farm land use issues, innovative agricultural business opportunities, environmental quality and sustainability, renewable energy, and bio-based products.

Required job qualifications include: Master’s degree and at least one degree in agriculture, natural resources, or a related field (plant science is preferred). The successful candidate will have strong written and oral communication skills, and experience working with diverse clientele and organizations; demonstrated success in working as part of a team and initiating collaborative partnerships is sought; leadership ability, and strong teaching and subject matter expertise in at least one area of agriculture is necessary. Candidates must be willing to work flexible hours with
minimal supervision. To learn more about this position (Job #400890) or to apply, go to: https://www.jobsatosu.com/postings/64757

Technology Use in Agriculture Survey
By Laura Lindsey
If you are a farmer, industry, and/or Extension professional, we need your input on technology use in agriculture. Ohio State’s Technology Commercialization Office will use this information to help guide future development of agricultural technologies. All responses will be anonymous. The survey takes approximately 5 minutes to fill out. Link to survey: https://aytm.com/r28c8d5

Spotted Wing Drosophila Found in NE OHIO Vineyards
Les Ober CCA, Geauga County OSU Extension

What started out as a simple educational exercise for the upcoming NE Ohio Grape Field Day turned into a whole lot more? On Thursday August 13th I set out a Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) trap at one of the vineyards scheduled to be on the agenda for the NE Ohio Grape field day. The intention was to demonstrate how these traps work and to educate the grape growers about SWD. The trap was checked one week later and the results were positive. A sample was brought back to the Geauga Extension Office for further examination under the microscope. The majority of the flies in the sample were SWD. This was later reconfirmed by Erik Draper the Geauga County Commercial Horticulture Extension Educator. So what happens now? First let’s talk a little about SWD.

The SWD is a fruit fly that likes to lay eggs and inhabit fruit that is ripening or is ripe. The SWD is commonly found on thin skinned small fruits like brambles, blueberries, grapes and strawberries. Most other common fruit flies inhabit fruit that is ripe or is starting to break down. Because the SWD infects fruit that is not yet harvested it can be a major problem when the fruit is picked. What does a SWD look like? The SWD are very small and magnification is necessary to get a positive ID. They are a fruit fly with the males having two distinctive spots on the wings and two black rings on each leg. The female does not have the black markings. She is identified by the distinctive saw like ovipositor on her abdomen. The ovipositor deposits eggs into the ripening fruit. The eggs hatch in 2-72 developing into larva that matures in 3-13 days. The larva lives in the fruit destroying the tissue causing the fruit to breakdown prematurely.

The SWD is capable of multiple generations in a single year. They regenerate on a 19-21 day interval when temperatures are at 60 to 70 degree Fahrenheit. In addition to fruit breakdown, the juice leaking from grapes attracts other common fruit flies that introduce a compound that crates a vinegar flavor. This can impact the quality of the wine or juice. It also is an attractant to the Multicolored Asian Lady Beetle.

Growers selling newly picked fruit where a SWD infestation may have occurred can do a simple salt test to insure fruit quality. Place 1 teaspoon of table salt in a cup of water and add the fruit. If the fruit is infested the maggots will appear. We do not want to wait until the fruit is infested. The best way to head off an outbreak is find out if they are in the area by trapping the adults. Once they are identified growers need to take action immediately. A spray program is the best way to stop the problem.

We found enough SWD adults in that one trap to be very concerned. Several days later more were found in a different location and that means growers should take immediate action. The insecticides that are used for SWD are listed in the 2015 Midwest Small Fruit and Grape Spray Guide. The recommendation is to use one of the insecticides rated 3 + for SWD listed in Table 3 under the grape section. A spray application every 7 days is recommend. Here are few things to keep in mind when selecting a spray and there are several to choose from. First determine your harvest schedule. Several varieties may be ready to pick in the next two weeks. You need to choose a
spray with a Pre Harvest Interval (PHI) that fits in with the time you are going to harvesting. If you are spraying grapes where you anticipate several chemical applications use the longest PHI first and then move to a short PHI ahead of harvest. If you are going to spray two or three times before harvest you should interchange the Mode of Action (MOA), to avoid the risk of resistance. All of the insecticides listed have a number on the label and that number corresponds to the MOA of that chemical. For example Baythroid has a 3a MOA; several others are 1B and 5. If possible avoid using the same MOA in back to back sprays. Also many of the chemicals are listed as Restricted Use Pesticides (RUP) which means you have to have a private applicators license to buy them. If you do not have a private applicators license then look to a commercial applicator to get these chemicals applied for you.

The SWD is a serious pest, new to this area. For any small fruit grower this should be considered an immediate threat to their production. Ignoring it could cause damaged fruit and lost revenue something no wants. We will continue to run the traps that OSU Extension has out through the harvest. We will be posting up dates on this internet site weekly if possible. If you want to learn more about SWD contact your local extension office. You can also go on line to Michigan State University horticultural website and type in Spotted Wing Drosophila; they have an excellent Fact Sheet on SWD. If you want to put a trap out at your location they are easy to make and instructions for using them are on line or at the extension office.

Northeast Ohio Agronomic Crops Report
By Les Ober (August 27, 2015)

As we look back on the growing season of 2015 you can only feel a sense of frustration. What started with promise is now coming to the end with only a question mark. What we are seeing is about as much variability in crops as you could ever have. Corn and soybeans was planted on time in many areas but persistent heavy rain in June changed the game for many. Corn has reached the late dough to dent stage and this is a summary of what has happened this year. Soybeans are now in the R-5 to R-6 stage of growth and despite the lack of rain and a few insect problems most of the beans look fair to good.

The old adage is that corn never wants to see a bad day if it going to be an above average crop. Corn this year saw more than one bad day and the evidence is in the field. Above normal rainfall restricted root growth. Persistent rain delayed or in some cases cancelled out nitrogen applications. The nitrogen that was applied early was victimized by denitrification and leaching. It was surprising how fields that received some additional nitrogen close to tasseling did respond to the treatment. In those fields the corn actually improved quite rapidly after the application. The chance for a big yield is gone put there will be something worthwhile to harvest. Corn where nitrogen stabilizers were used saw the benefits of adding the product. The products that protect against denitrification definitely made a difference. Once the rain subsided the corn did recover. The last major hurdle in the corn field came in the form of drought. Corn with restricted root system does not respond well to dry weather. Firing up to the ear leaf was seen and some tip kernel abortion occurred. Many fields look like a roller coaster and you know that there will be significant yield loss. In other fields that received one of the few random showers in August are actually looking good despite a very challenging year.

In the Soybean field it has been an uphill battle. August is soybean month and where the random showers occurred the beans are looking good to excellent especially the early planted beans. The one benefit of all of this dry weather has been a reduction in disease in NE Ohio. We were destined to have a serious white mold problem based on the rain we received in June and early July. For the most part the dry august we have experienced has cancelled that threat. It has shown up in fields where highly susceptible varieties were planted. This highlights the need to select varieties very carefully to insure plant health. OSU Pathologist Dr. Ann Dorrance summarized what has happened to soybeans across the state. Some of it applies to NE Ohio and some does not but it does emphasize what we can learn from a year like 2015.
Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) Announced by USDA

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) recently announced another Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) sign-up. Producers have until September 25th to sign-up for the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) in northeast Ohio and parts of Pennsylvania. This program is not available in all counties but is does affect some of you. All acreage in Ashtabula County and parts of Geauga, Lake and Trumbull counties in Ohio and parts of Crawford, Erie and Mercer in Pennsylvania is designated to grow giant miscanthus under the BCAP program.

BCAP provides financial incentives to eligible landowners or operators to establish and produce a biomass crop of Miscanthus Giganteus. This is a sterile hybrid warm season grass that is cultivated by planting rhizomes and then harvested and then converted into bio-based products.

Once enrolled the contract will last for 5 years. Cost share is paid on up to 50% of actual cost not to exceed $356 per acre for rhizomes and $144 per acre for establishment of the crop. Annual payments for 5 years are paid based on the soil rental rate in the field(s) being offered. There will be a payment reduction based on the final conversion of the product.

Aloterra Energy, LLC is the sponsor of this project. Their phone number is 440-594-5896, this is a great starting place if you are interested in having miscanthus on your farm. Additional information can be found at [http://www.aloterraenergy.com/](http://www.aloterraenergy.com/) Producers interested in participating in BCAP should contact the Ashtabula/Geauga/Lake County FSA office at (440) 437-6330 for additional information or to set up an appointment to make an application. Information about BCAP can be found at [www.fsa.usda.gov/BCAP](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/BCAP)

Enrollment for 2016 Dairy Margin Protection Program Ends September 30, 2015

Starting July 1, 2015, dairy farmers can enroll in Margin Protection Program for coverage in 2016. The voluntary program, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides financial assistance to participating dairy operations when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below the coverage level selected by the farmer.

The Margin Protection Program gives participating dairy producers the flexibility to select coverage levels best suited for their operation. Enrollment begins July 1 and ends on September 30, 2015, for coverage in 2016. Participating farmers will remain in the program through 2018 and pay a $100 administrative fee each year. Producers also have the option of selecting a different coverage level during open enrollment each year. Margin Protection Program payments are based on an operation’s historical production. An operation’s historical production will increase by 2.61 percent in 2016 if the operation participated in 2015, providing a stronger safety net.

USDA also has an online resource available to help dairy producers decide which level of coverage will provide them with the strongest safety net under a variety of conditions. The enhanced Web tool, available at [www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool), allows dairy farmers to quickly and easily combine their unique operation data and other key variables to calculate their coverage needs based on price projections. Producers can also review historical data or estimate future coverage based on data projections. The secure site can be accessed via computer, mobile phone, or tablet, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Dairy operations enrolling in the program must meet conservation compliance provisions. Producers participating in the Livestock Gross Margin insurance program may register for the Margin Protection Program, but this new margin program will only begin once their livestock dairy insurance coverage has ended. Producers must also submit form CCC-782 for 2016, confirming their Margin Protection Program coverage level selection, to the FSA office. If electing higher coverage for 2016, dairy producers can either pay the premium in full at the time of enrollment or pay a minimum of 25 percent of the premium by Feb. 1, 2016.
For more information, visit FSA online at [www.fsa.usda.gov/dairy](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dairy) for more information, or call the Ashtabula/Geauga/Lake County FSA office at (440) 437-6330 to learn more about the Margin Protection Program.

**Cover Crops After Corn Silage Harvest**

By Rory Lewandowski

A lot of corn was chopped for corn silage last week and harvest continues this week. We are about a month ahead of last year’s corn silage harvest and this year’s earlier harvest provides an opportunity to get cover crops established on those acres. Earlier planting of cover crops is good. The touted benefits of cover crops are dependent upon the crop producing forage mass above ground and developing a root system below ground. More growth is generally equal to more benefits. In addition to protecting the soil against erosion, cover crops can improve soil quality, provide supplemental forage for grazing or mechanical harvest, can use excess nutrients in the soil, and can provide an option for manure application during late fall and winter periods. The expectation here is that we get some rain so that the cover crop can germinate and grow to take advantage of an earlier planting date.

Some cover crop grass options after corn silage include spring oats, spring and/or winter triticale, winter cereal rye, barley, and winter wheat. Note that winter wheat even if used only for a cover crop should still be planted after our hessian fly-free date. Legume options are more limited but include crimson clover and winter peas. Generally these would be included in a mix with one or more of the small grains. Legumes have the potential to produce some nitrogen for the next crop, but for that to happen they have to be planted as early as possible, preferably at least 4-6 weeks before frost, and make sure the seed is inoculated with the correct rhizobia bacteria. Winter peas planted early, probably before that mid-September time frame will most likely winter kill. When winter peas are planted late they often will overwinter. I have talked with farmers who have planted winter peas in the late September to early October time frame and had that crop overwinter. The downside is those late planting dates generally do not produce much fall growth so if soil cover is the goal, plant earlier.

With regard to the small grain crops, oats (or spring triticale) drilled immediately after corn silage by the end of the first week in September could provide 0.5 to 1.5 tons of dry matter before a killing frost depending upon moisture, fall temperatures, and days until that killing frost. Since oats and spring triticale winter kills spring termination management is not needed, but from a manure management perspective oats or spring triticale as a cover crop does not provide an option for a winter manure application to a living crop. Barley when grown for grain in the succeeding year is usually planted between September 15 and 30. Triticale is generally planted with timing similar to winter wheat and cereal rye for grain production is planted between September 15 and the end of October. With the exception of winter wheat, any of these crops can be planted earlier if the primary purpose is as a cover crop and supplemental forage. All of these small grains except oats and spring triticale will overwinter and begin growing again in the spring. The grower must have a plan for the spring forage growth and/or crop termination before planting corn or soybeans. Remember that both oats and spring triticale will produce more forage in the fall, so either of these crops plus a winter-hardy small grain like winter rye, winter triticale, winter wheat or barley can provide forage later in the fall and again next spring. It is worth mentioning that cereal rye begins growth early in the spring and it has a rapid maturation so the grower must be prepared to either utilize it as forage early or terminate it early.

Another cover crop and supplemental forage option after corn silage that I am a little reluctant to mention is annual ryegrass. The reluctance is because some growers have had problems terminating the annual ryegrass with herbicides in the spring. Growers who have taken a mechanical harvest off first with a later spring herbicide application have fared better. If the goal is provide cover and forage then variety selection for winter hardiness is important. Refer to the Ohio Forage Performance Trials for selecting varieties ([http://hostedweb.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/perf/](http://hostedweb.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/perf/)). Mark Sulc, OSU Extension forage specialist, has planted annual ryegrass in early September for several years, and says that one can expect 800 to 2000 lbs. of dry matter/acre by late November and early
December, with yields of 3 to 5 tons of dry matter/acre the following year from improved varieties with good winter survival and with adequate nitrogen fertilization rates.

Another factor that needs to be considered with fall cover crop planting is potential herbicide residual in the soil. The residual activity of an herbicide in a soil is dependent upon a number of factors including soil type, soil pH, organic matter level, rainfall, and temperature. In addition, when a particular herbicide was applied in terms of time between application and the planting of a cover crop is important. Unfortunately most herbicide labels may not have information about potential residual effects on cover crops.

Purdue University has been evaluating the impact of commonly used residual herbicides on cover crop establishment and recently posted an article summarizing their results in the Purdue Pest and Crop Newsletter (http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/pestcrop/2015/Issue22/). Quoting from that article “As a general rule, residual herbicides that have activity on grass weeds can interfere with the establishment of some cover crop species, especially the smaller seeded ryegrass species. Residual herbicides from the group 2 (ALS), group 5 (triazine), group 14 (PPO), or group 27 (bleacher) can interfere with the establishment of some of the broad leaf cover crop species.”

Cover crops can provide a number of benefits when they have time to get established and grow sufficient biomass. A winter hardy cover crop may become part of a nutrient management plan and provide an additional option for manure application. This year’s early corn silage harvest is an opportunity to get some cover crops planted and established in a timely manner. For more information about cover crop timing, specific species recommendations, seeding rates, and potential forage yields and quality, contact a member of the OSU Extension Ag Crops Team.

**What's Left in Your Pastures?**  
**Mark Landefeld**, OSU Extension Educator, Monroe County

How quickly things can change here in Ohio! Not much longer than a month ago, while I was moving cattle from one paddock to another, I was amazed at how wet it was for the middle of July. It seemed more like early March weather because it was really muddy when I put the cows through a gate into a new paddock. I don't ever remember my livestock pugging paddocks in July before, but there was some this year.

Now as we near the end of August I see a lot of water tanks on trucks hauling water for livestock to drink and many pasture fields are brown from forage plants going dormant due to lack of moisture. Rotationally grazed paddocks appear less affected than continuously grazed areas, but forage regrowth has really slowed down leaving some producers short on pasture for their livestock to graze.

Poisonous weeds that are in pastures and not appealing to livestock before may now become the forage that is left and sometimes eaten. There are also weeds, normally non-toxic to livestock, which build up nitrates when stressed and can cause death. A perennial grass such as johnsongrass and weeds like pigweed, mustard, nightshade and lamb's quarters can accumulate dangerous levels of nitrogen along with stinging nettle, elderberry, burdock and Canadian thistle to name a few. If you haven't observed your pastures much lately, now would be a good time to take a walk and see what is growing in your fields.

During drought type conditions cases of poisoned livestock are usually documented and more suspected. Included here are some plants to be aware of if they are in your livestock's forage.

**Poison hemlock** - All parts of this plant are poisonous, though roots are more toxic than leaves or stems. Leaves are especially poisonous in the spring, whereas the root becomes more toxic over time.

**Groundsel, Ragwort** - All parts of common groundsel contain toxins; however, toxin concentrations are greatest in the flowers, and in the leaves just before flowers reach maturity.
**Milkweed & Hemp dogbane** - All parts of the plant, whether green or dry, are poisonous to horses. The toxic properties are steroid glycosides and toxic resinous substances. Livestock generally avoid these plants unless other forage is unavailable. Hemp dogbane can be a threat to livestock in all seasons.

**Ohio buckeye** - Toxicity of buckeye nuts is attributed to glycosides (e.g., aesculin, fraxin), saponin (aescin), and possibly alkaloids. Sprouts and leaves produced in early spring and seeds can be especially poisonous. Note, experimental feedings have shown that poisoning does not always follow consumption of buckeeyes.

**Jimsonweed** - All parts of the plant, and seeds in particular, contain tropane alkaloids (atropine, scopolamine, hyoscyamine). Because of the strong odor and taste, animals seldom consume enough of the green plant to be affected, but poisonings result from eating the dry plant in hay or silage, or from seeds mixed with grain.

**Black Nightshade & Horsenettle** - The glycoalkaloid, solanine, is produced in leaves, shoots, and unripe berries, and causes gastrointestinal irritation and central nervous system problems.

**Ground Cherry** - Leaves and unripe fruit are poisonous.

**Johnsongrass** - Hydrocyanic acid (cyanide) is produced in the leaves and stems of Johnsongrass when it is subjected to drought, trampling, frost, herbicide treatment, and even cutting.

**Common Burdock** - Is considered toxic due to potential diuretic effects, and there are reports of allergic reactions when the hooked bristles of burs lodge under the surface of the skin.

**Pokeweed** - All parts of common pokeweed are toxic to humans, pets and livestock. Roots are the most poisonous, leaves and stems are intermediate in toxicity (toxicity increases with maturity), and berries are the least toxic. Since common pokeweed is not very palatable, most animals avoid eating it unless little else is available, or if it is in contaminated hay. Horses, sheep and cattle have been poisoned by eating fresh leaves or green fodder.

**Cocklebur** - The plant is most hazardous at the seedling stage because of its toxicity as well as palatability. Ingestion of young seedlings in the amount of 0.75% of the animal’s weight may result in clinical signs of toxicosis in a few hours and death in 24-48 hours. The seeds are poisonous at 0.3% of animal weight, but are seldom eaten because of their spiny capsule. Occasionally the eating of the ripe spiny capsules is said to result in intestinal obstruction. If you have these plants in your pastured areas and available forage is dwindling, feeding hay is an option that should be considered. This may keep your livestock from ingesting poisonous forage and allow your wholesome forage plants critically needed extra time to regrow.

**Bee Buffer Strip Initiative Seeks 100 Ohio Farmers**

The U.S. Bee Buffer Project, an initiative of the Pollinator Partnership (P2), Burt’s Bees and The Burt’s Bees Greater Good Foundation, is immediately seeking 100 Ohio farmers, ranchers and orchardists to set aside small plots of land as bee buffer zones. Once established, the nectar-rich honey bee forage will support pollinator-dependent crops, which represents one-third of the food we eat.

“Offering the U.S. Bee Buffer Project in Ohio supports the state’s farmers and honey bee population; both play an integral role in the success of American agriculture,” says Laurie Davies Adams, Executive Director of the Pollinator Partnership. “By fostering the health and growth of honey bee colonies, farmers are helping to enrich their crops and, ultimately, improve their bottom line.”
This is year-two for the U.S. Bee Buffer Project; last year the program launched exclusively in California and North Carolina – where now 200 bee buffer zones are established. Bee buffer zones help offset losses for the bee industry while improving the health of crops and orchards within four miles of the buffer site.

Honey bees are valuable to the nation’s crops and economics, contributing approximately $24 billion to the U.S. economy each year. Still, U.S. honey bees are struggling to find food to store for winter months, and our goal is to reduce their stress. In 2014, Ohio’s high-value crops requiring pollination had a production value of more than $66 million, which includes the following crops. “We are excited to be a partner with the U.S. Bee Buffer Project and to work with Ohio’s many farmers providing nutritious forage for Ohio’s honey bees,” says Kim Flottum, Editor of Bee Culture magazine in Medina, Ohio. “Habitats created by these buffers go a long way in ensuring a sustainable future for not only Ohio’s honeybees, but all of Ohio’s pollinators ... which in turn ensures a diverse and healthy future of our agricultural environment.”

Ohio farmers, ranchers and orchardists willing to dedicate and maintain .25 to 3 acres – collectively impacting 6,000 acres – can apply for the U.S. Bee Buffer Project until December 15, 2015. Those selected will receive free bee buffer seed kits to plant in their buffers.

**What Is A Bee Buffer?**
A strip of land alongside crops full of nectar-rich plants – creating vital, nutritious honey bee habitats. The buffer allows bees to forage on the plentiful nutrition in the diverse buffer areas, while also pollinating adjacent crops. Research has shown a little Bee Buffer can go a long way—just one acre of pollinator-friendly plants is enough to impact 33 acres of farmland, together offering bees a broad expanse of diverse forage.

To learn more, reference the U.S. Bee Buffer Frequently Asked Questions. To review the eligibility requirements and complete participant application, visit [http://beebuffer.com/](http://beebuffer.com/).

**NE Ohio Grape Field Day Recap**
August 27 2015 by Dave Scurlock, OSU/OARDC Viticulture Outreach Specialist

We have really been blessed with some of the most beautiful weather I have ever experienced in August. The evening was perfect if not even a little on the cool side for the NE Ohio Grape Field Day. The first stop was held at the Ferrante’s vineyard where Tom Todaro is carrying on some of his master’s research work under the direction of Dr. Imed Dami. Dr. Imed Dami, along with Nick Ferrante discussed some of their strategies for managing winter injured vines. Nick Ferrante presented his methods on hilling & dehilling practices. The process requires at least 2 passes with the Maximus plow pictured here.

The goal is to get the hill up 18 to 24 inches to protect the graft union and as much of the bottom portion of the trunk and buds with soil. The soil along with the snow, that accumulates and insulates the vine, both provide protection from the extreme winter cold. In the event of a severe winter, the portion of the vine that was covered should not be killed. If the top is killed, new trunks can be reformed from the protected portion of the vine. This was the case the last 2 winters of 2014 and 2015. The next step is the hills need to be taken down as soon as the soil is fit in the spring to prevent scion rooting. Pictured below is the Clemens hoe that is used to dehill the vines. In this picture of the Clemens hoe the attachment for weed control is attached.

Dr. Imed Dami discussed the retraining experiment that is being done by Tom Todaro for his masters research project. There are 3 training systems in the experiment, the Fan, VSP and a combination of the Fan and VSP. All 3
training systems employ multiple trunking. The main difference between the 3 systems is the Fan system is allowed to fruit to help slow the growth of the shoots down and the other 2 systems are totally defruit in an effort to reestablish the training system quicker and hopefully put it back into full production the following year. The VSP and the combination system will be ready to prune next year with minimal effort and the crop will be located where it is supposed to be in the 36-40 inch fruiting zone.

The Fan system is producing a crop this year but there will be some effort involved to hand harvest the crop located within 2 feet from the ground. Predicted yields are estimated at 2 to 3 tons per acre on the fan system. Normal training in photo 5 is merely bringing up at least 4 canes, leaf pulling the fruiting zone near the bottom to expose the fruit and training the shoots upwards. Next spring, canes will be selected and laid down as fruiting canes.

Stop #2 was M Cellars. Matt Meineke presented information on how M Cellars changed their winter protection strategies for vine protection through the practice of burying canes. Matt discussed that they laid down a couple of canes and in the direction that the canes indicated they wanted to go and then hilled them with soil. The canes were then removed from the soil using pitch forks to find and lift the canes from the hills and trained back onto the fruiting wire. Matt stated that he expects 80% plus of a full crop and said he would continue this practice. “It’s like insurance, you hope you don’t have to use it but it is there, if you need it.” Matt also stated that it cost around $600 dollars an acre to bury the canes and retrain them.

Kosicek Vineyards was stop 3, where we were hosted by Tony Kosicek to a picnic style dinner on the deck. Dr. Erdal Ozkan, from OSU’s Department of Food, Agriculture, and Biological Engineering, had an interactive workshop on air blast sprayer calibration and optimizing spray coverage for better control of pests and diseases. Dr. Ozkan showed us the math behind sprayer calibration and how to use water sensitive paper strips to check our spray coverage. Dr. Ozkan discussed the various parameters such as tractor speed, pressure regulation, GPA and recent nozzle advancements to increase coverage and reduce drift. Mike, from Fred’s Water Service supplied several different sprayers and the tractor used in the sprayer demonstration, so a special thank you is extended to Fred’s Water Service in Madison, Ohio for supplying the air blast sprayer for this workshop. Two hours of Commercial & Private CORE Pesticide Applicator Credits were earned by the attendees. Another special thank you to Dave Marrison, for organizing the event, Les Ober, for providing an update on the SWD, and Eric Draper, for providing additional information on chemical application and providing assistance during the sprayer demonstration.

A special thank you to all of our hosts, Nick Ferrante, Matt Meineke and Tony Kosicek who shared their locations and information so all of us can benefit from their experience. Thank you to Drs. Imed Dami and Erdal Ozkan for sharing their expertise in the fields of winter damage and sprayer technology. Thank you, Dave Marrison, Les Ober and Eric Draper for your expertise and organization of the meeting and the food. Thank you for all who attended! Without your participation, these meetings are not possible. If you have suggestions for future workshops or field days, please let someone know. Together we are better!
Great Bulbs of Garlic Workshop to be held on September 10, 2015

Join the Ashtabula County Master Gardeners as they host an educational seminar titled “Great Bulbs of Garlic” on Thursday, September 10, 2015 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Ashtabula County Extension office located at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, Ohio.

This program will offer the opportunity for home gardeners to learn how to plant, maintain, and harvest garlic. Learn the common pests and diseases of garlic and their solutions. Participants will also learn fun facts about garlic through the ages and highlights of cooking with garlic. This class is geared to the home gardener.

The registration fee for this workshop is $3 per person and registration is limited to the first 30 persons. Light refreshments will be served. More information about this program can be obtained by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008. A program flyer can be found at: http://go.osu.edu/ne-events

Farm Science Review Tickets Available at OSU Extension Offices and On-Line

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 22-24, 2015. Tickets are $10 at the gate. Children 5 and under are admitted free. The review hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on September 22 & 23 and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 24, 2015.

Tickets can be purchased at OSU Extension offices through Monday, September 21, 2105. Tickets can also be purchased on-line at fsr.osu.edu/onlineticketform. Online tickets are available to purchase for $7 until Sept. 11. Tickets ordered online will be mailed to the buyer.

Farm Science Review is known as Ohio’s premier agricultural event and typically draws 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 educational workshops, presentations and demonstrations delivered by experts from OSU Extension and the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, which are the outreach and research arms, respectively, of the college. More information about the Farm Science Review is at http://fsr.osu.edu/

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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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Readers can subscribe electronically to this newsletter by sending an e-mail message to: marrison.2@osu.edu. If you would like to opt-out of receiving this newsletter, please e-mail marrison.2@osu.edu with the words: UNSUBSCRIBE

The Ohio State University
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

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