

Northeast Ohio Agri-Culture Newsletter

Your Weekly Agriculture Update for
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties

January 9, 2018



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Hello, Northeast Ohio Counties!

Wow was it cold last week! And now predictions for 50 degree temperatures on Thursday and then another wave of snow this weekend. This is why living in the Snow Belt keeps us on our toes.

We had a great Pesticide re-certification session last Friday and we have 80 scheduled for this Friday in Williamsfield.

We are excited about the line-up of programs planned for this winter and encourage you to keep watching this news column for complete details. Or if you can wait, just jump on the internet at <http://go.osu.edu/ne-events> to get a sneak peek at all the different workshops and events.

David Marrison
Extension Educator
Ag & Natural Resources
Ashtabula County

Lee Beers
Extension Educator
Ag & Natural Resources
Trumbull County

Ohio Maple Days on Tap Jan. 18, 19, 20:

Submitted by Gary Graham

With the less than great 2017 maple season behind us and we are all looking forward to the 2018 season. Hopefully the woods work was completed in the beautiful long fall we had and now it is just a waiting game until it's time to tap. The 2018 Ohio Maple Days workshops are set and again going to bring you the opportunity to prepare for a sweet season.

Remember 2018 is an FDA registration year, (every two years on the even years). There has been a lot of confusion on the process and rightfully so. In hearing from my colleagues across the maple region it varies as to whom should register according to the State FDA office. Dan Milo from ODA and I have been working to try and get clarity on the issue for our Ohio producers. Come to one of the meetings to learn the latest news and requirements.

The question I get a lot from producers is "how I can make more money?" My response is always marketing, marketing, and more marketing. Yes, there is money to be made selling bulk syrup. However, the most money is made in marketing your own products. Mr. Tom McCrumm from Massachusetts is going to join us this year to discuss how he has marketed his syrup over the years. Tom's talk of "Marketing is More than Filling a Jug" will be on his experiences and strategies to sell his syrup. Tom will also share tips on "Tubing for Any Size Operation" to get the most out of the system, no matter large or small scale.

Did you know that your sugarbush is a farming operation? Do you have a forest management plan for your sugarbush? Did you know if you have a forest management plan you could be saving money on your property taxes? Mr. David Apsley, a colleague at Ohio State, has 30 years' experience in forest management issues and he will be sharing how to manage the woods for increased production, health and profits. One of the ODNR Division of Forestry Service Foresters will be joining him to share with attendees "Sugarbush/Woodland Management Tips that Pay."

Also, there will be a trade show; reports from OSU Extension and the Ohio Maple Producers Association; Free testing of hydrometers, refractometers and Vermont Temporary Maple Syrup Grading Kits (bring them to the program); and a session called "Maple Nuggets" for sharing questions, ideas and information. You are encouraged to submit questions ahead of time so the speakers can be sure to cover that in their presentations. There is a place on the registration form for questions that should be mailed to the address below.

2018 Ohio Maple Days locations: **Note new location for Saturday the 20th in Geauga County**

- Jan. 18, Morrow County, 8 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. at the Lutheran Memorial Camp, 2790 State Route 61, Fulton, OH 43321.
- Jan. 19, Wayne and Holmes Counties, 8 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. at the Mennonite Christian Assembly Church, 10664 Fryburg Road, Fredericksburg, OH 44627.
- Jan. 20, Geauga County, **NEW LOCATION**, 8 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. at Huntsburg Community Center, 12396 Madison Rd, Middlefield, OH 44062 **NOTE: this is a new location from past years**

Pre-registration is required to receive lunch. Pre-registration cost is \$35 which includes lunch, refreshments and handouts, and is due before Jan. 12. Payment at the door is \$40 and may not include lunch.

Send your name, contact information, which day's program attending and check or money order (made payable to OSU Extension) to OSU Extension, Holmes County, 75 East Clinton Street, Suite 109, Millersburg, OH 44654.

For more information, go to <https://holmes.osu.edu/ohiomapledays> (with a link to the brochure and registration form) or call Ashley Gerber 330-674-3015.

Tractors and Parts - Making a Successful Trip for Parts

OSU Extension in Ashtabula County is pleased to share that our local Women in Agriculture group will be sponsoring a workshop titled **"Tractors and Parts - Making a Successful Trip for Parts"** on Saturday, January 13, 2018. This workshop will be held from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the Ashtabula County Extension office located at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, Ohio.



During this program, Dana Harju from Bortnick Tractor Sales will share tips on how you can have a successful parts run. He will also answer questions on pricing new and used equipment. Discussion will also be held on keeping track of equipment for insurance and tax purposes. Learn about paper and computer apps for farm equipment and maintenance.

If you have any questions please call the Ashtabula County Extension office at: 440-576-9008. There is no registration fee for this program however pre-registrations are requested by January 10, 2018. A complete registration flyer can be obtained at: <http://go.osu.edu/ne-events>

Mark your calendars for future Women in Ag programs on February 17, March 17, and April 28, 2018

Growing Shiitake Mushroom Program

The Ashtabula County Extension office will be hosting a shiitake mushroom growing workshop on Thursday, March 15, 2018 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. During this workshop, participants will learn the basics of growing shiitake mushrooms at home- including the best species of trees to use, log preparation, types of spawn, and inoculation. After a short classroom discussion, participants will drill and inoculate an oak log to take home. Participants are encouraged to bring a cordless drill and a 5/16" diameter bit if they have it, though several will be available to share. The workshop is \$25 and space is limited. To register, contact the Ashtabula County Extension office at: 440-576-9008. A complete registration flyer can be obtained at: <http://go.osu.edu/ne-events>

DICAMBA Luncheon Slated for January 17, 2018 in Cortland

The Trumbull County Extension office will be hosting a Trumbull Crop Lunch on January 17, 2018 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Trumbull County Ag Center in Cortland, Ohio. OSU Weed Scientist Mark Loux, and Ag Law Professor Peggy Hall will be discussing the current research on dicamba, and what updates are currently being addressed at the Ohio Legislature. The cost for the program is \$5/person and includes a catered lunch. Pre-registration is required for an accurate count for food. To register, call OSU Extension at 330-638-6783.

Fertilizer Re-Certification Options for NE Ohio

2018 is the first year that Fertilizer Applicator Certificate holders are able to obtain recertification credits, and OSU Extension has multiple options for recertification this year to keep you current. We are offering 4 traditional sessions in Ashtabula (Jan. 12), Geauga (Feb. 2), Portage (Feb. 9), and Trumbull (Mar. 9) counties. These sessions are one-hour long and cost \$10/person.

Trumbull County is also offering individualized recertification sessions that will help you develop interpret soil test reports and help you customize your fertilizer rates based on the Tri-State Fertility recommendations. The cost for the individualized session is \$20/person. This session would work well if you are not able to attend a traditional session, or if you would like assistance developing a fertilizer plan for your farm. For more information about this recertification option, call Lee Beers at 330-638-6783.

Ashtabula County Extension Looking for Summer College Student Assistant

OSU Extension in Ashtabula County is looking for a Summer College Student Assistant to assist with the summer 4-H Youth Development program. The purpose of this county based extension internship program is to provide an opportunity for a college student to gain workforce preparation skills to prepare them for success as they enter the first position of their professional careers. This summer position provides valuable pre-professional experience for educational and community based careers.

The Student Assistant will be provided with a variety of county-based Extension workforce experiences. Job responsibilities include but are not limited to: assisting the County Staff with Summer Youth Camps, Summer School Enrichment programs, and Junior Fair activities. Applicants must have completed one year of college and have evidence of successful leadership experience in 4-H, school and/or community organizations. Candidates should be self-motivated, possess strong organizational skills and must be available to work a flexible schedule including occasional nights and weekends.

This student will be employed for a maximum of 15 weeks with proposed hourly wage is \$10-\$12.50 per hour depending on qualifications. Reimbursement for official job travel will be provided according to Extension travel policy. The successful applicant will be required to pass a criminal background check. Interested individuals should complete the employment application and submit a cover letter and resume at <http://go.osu.edu/OSUextensionapplication>

prior to February 18, 2019. Please contact Jenna Hoyt at the Ashtabula County Extension Office at 440-576-9008 for more information.

Northeast Ohio Pesticide Re-certification Session Slated for Friday, January 12

Does your Private Pesticide Applicator's License expire on March 31, 2018? If so, OSU Extension has planned a series of re-certification sessions for area farmers. The first pesticide re-certification session will be held on **Friday, January 12, 2018** at the Williamsfield Community Center from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. This session will offer 3 credits for pesticide re-certification for CORE and All Categories (1-7). The cost of this session is \$35 per registrant.

Many farmers will also need (for the first time!) to complete their **fertilizer re-certification** in 2018 as well. To help meet this need, a one-hour fertilizer re-certification session will be held immediately following the pesticide re-certification session from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The cost of this session is \$10 per registrant.

Pre-registration for these programs is required by January 4, 2018. A late fee of \$25 will be added for any registrations made after this time (so make sure to register on time!). Registration includes refreshments, speaker travel expenses, and program handouts.

New in 2018, registrations are being requested to be made on-line. The registration link for this program is: www.cvent.com/d/htqj00 The on-line registration procedure allows for payment via a credit card or by mailing a check. If you are unable to register on-line, please use the attached program flyer to register.

If you cannot attend on January 12, three other re-certification sessions will be held in northeast Ohio this winter. These will be in Geauga County on Friday, February 2, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; Portage County on Friday, February 9, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.); and Trumbull County on Friday, March 9, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Registration links and flyers can be obtained at: go.osu.edu/neohio-pat

More information can be obtained by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office 440-576-9008. A registration flyer can also be obtained at: flyer can be found at: <http://go.osu.edu/ne-events>.

Plant-based burgers are turning the grocery meat aisle into a protein aisle

By: Chase Purdy

Source: https://qz.com/1154934/beyond-meat-is-tripling-production-of-its-plant-based-burgers/?utm_source=AdaptiveMailer&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=GFA%20-%20FY18%20-%20GFFT&org=1364&lvl=100&ite=718&lea=140666&ctr=0&par=1&trk=

Less than a year after getting its plant-based burgers [into the meat sections](#) at mainstream grocery stores, Beyond Meat is ramping up production.

The Los Angeles-based food company announced this week that it's raised an additional \$55 million in funding, which will allow it to triple the amount of plant-based burger "meat" it makes. An undisclosed amount of that funding came from Tyson Foods, the largest US meat company, according to the [Wall Street Journal](#).

Beyond Meat is now tackling the food industry from three different angles and finding success:

- Retail: It has products in over 19,000 grocery stores around America, including Kroger, Albertsons, Safeway, Target, and Whole Foods Market locations. Beyond Meat's retail offerings include chicken strips, beef crumbles, and the Beyond Burger, a pea-protein burger patty sold [alongside conventional meat burgers](#).
- Restaurants: The burger patty is also now on the menu at a handful of [TGI Fridays restaurants](#), and is expected to be sold at most of the chain's locations by sometime in 2018.
- Food Service: Beyond Meat has inked a deal with the food-service giant Sysco, which could help get the Beyond Burger into hotels, small burger restaurants, other restaurant chains, and schools.



Beyond Meat, backed by tech titan Bill Gates and Hollywood [actor Leonardo DiCaprio](#), among other investors, is starting to make take some of the overall market share of meat products away from conventional meat producers. According to Food Navigator, sales of meat alternatives rose [more than 6%](#) between 2016 and 2017 to around \$554 million. With that kind of growth, the race between Beyond Meat and its chief plant-based competitor, Impossible Foods, is heating up.

Both companies are selling plant-based burgers, but they've approached the market [with different strategies](#). While Impossible Foods worked to tap celebrity chefs and get into restaurants, Beyond Meat focused primarily on grocery store placement. That move is starting to slowly transform the meat aisle into a protein aisle, where consumers can choose between meats or plants as the source for the primary protein on their plates.

For years, consumers hungry for convincing alternatives to meat have turned to black bean and mushroom burger options—many of which may taste okay but lack the textural qualities and appearance of conventional meat. This is where Impossible Foods and Beyond Meat step in, each promising to deliver a sustainable alternative to beef that is environmentally friendly and still tastes good.

GMOs Might Feed the World If Only Investors Weren't So Scared

By Deena Shanker

Source: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-12-14/gmos-might-feed-the-world-if-only-investors-weren-t-so-scared>

In the basement of Koshland Hall at the University of California at Berkeley is a trove of seeds with the potential to fix some of agriculture's most vexing problems.

There are wheat seeds—both hypoallergenic, so more people could eat it, and of a variety able to better withstand unpredictable rainfall—a growing problem because of climate change. UC Berkeley scientists also developed seeds for tomatoes resistant to bacterial spot disease, producing a plant that could combat a pock-marking that leaves the fruit scarred and undesirable. There's even a fast-germinating barley that could save beer brewers millions of dollars.



GMO eggplants in Bangladesh. Source: Cornell Alliance for Science

Aside from their potential, each of these innovations has something else in common: They're all the result of genetic modification. And that's where the problems start.

"None of what we've done has made it anywhere," says Peggy Lemaux, a crop biotechnologist at Berkeley.

From Lemaux's perspective, loud, anti-GMO sentiment from activists and consumer groups have kept investors away, even when there's a huge opportunity for benefits—and profit. That speedy barley, for example, was developed at the request of beer giant Coors Brewing Co. (now Molson Coors Brewing Co.) But when it was ready, Lemaux said, Coors no longer wanted it. "By the time we went back to them, they were like, 'oh no, we're not doing that.'"

Molson Coors said that while Coors funded research at Berkeley, it wasn't for "any of the findings to its barley breeding program." In a statement, the company emphasized, "Molson Coors does not actively pursue GMO research, nor do we use genetically modified barley in our beers."

The campaign by consumer activists who questioned the health effects of GMO food, and the drumbeat of nations that imposed tough regulations and labeling rules, has had a marked effect. In some quarters, the GMO label has become radioactive. But with the effects of rapidly advancing climate change shifting how and where the world gets its food, such people as Lemaux believe those who oppose genetic modification may want to reconsider.

In May 2016, a report on genetically engineered crops sponsored by the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine, concluded there is "reasonable evidence that animals were not harmed by eating food derived from [genetically engineered] crops." But public opinion has

proven harder to sway. Some 39 percent of Americans believe GMO foods are worse for you than non-GMO foods, according to a survey by the Pew Research Center published in December of last year.

Those kinds of numbers keep companies away no matter how promising the technology. Proponents contend that corporate funding will be vital to jump through the hoops regulators require to sway regulators to approve such grains, not just in the U.S. Without their imprimatur, these crops will never make it into the marketplace.

“It’s been quite a frustrating period to see things done in academics and get them put on a shelf,” says Kent Bradford, director of the Seed Biotechnology Center and professor of plant sciences at the University of California at Davis. “The science is fully ready to go, but the opposition in some places is just a nonstarter.”

To the frustration of scientists working on these technologies, the opposition often has more to do with unrelated wars over major GMO crops than those actually being developed in university labs. Beyond consumer worries, opponents of GMOs often complain that intellectual property rights and restrictive contracts held by big agriculture companies allow them to exert too much control over the farmers who plant their products. While a reasonable complaint for commodity crops such as corn and soy in America, it’s less applicable, scientists said, in the realm of smaller crops.

Sarah Davidson Evanega, director of the Cornell Alliance for Science, works to enhance global food security. Her organization tracks biotechnology available in the public sector on its Database of Emerging Agricultural Learning, which currently lists 169 crops. The most common GMO crops in the U.S. are corn, soybeans, and cotton, but the alliance’s database shows how wide-ranging genetic modification technology can actually be. For example, it lists drought tolerant rice in Colombia, high-protein sorghum in Kenya, and a pest resistant lemon in Mexico. The database lists the crops’ various stages of development—and how only 12 have been approved.

When GMOs don’t make their way onto the market, the people who get hurt the most are farmers and consumers in the developing world, she said. Like many pro-GMO advocates, she points to two popular examples with widespread, positive impact: disease-resistant papayas introduced in Hawaii in the 1990s, which essentially saved the crop from total decimation, and pest-resistant eggplant that allows Bangladeshi farmers to dramatically reduce or eliminate the use of costly, poisonous pesticides. The database, she said, represents more opportunities to replicate these kinds of successes.

GMO researchers argue that using science to modify crops is a tool for handling the challenges of the modern world, such as producing more food in a harsher, less-predictable climate. Mankind, through greenhouse gases, changed the planet. Now agriculture needs the help of science to thrive in a volatile new environment.

“Classical breeding just takes so long,” said Lemaux. “Plants aren’t going to be able to keep up. The climate is changing too fast.”

But Bill Freese, a science policy analyst at the Center for Food Safety, disputes this. He said that sometimes conventional breeding actually produces better results and faster, pointing to drought-tolerant maize as an example.

The problem with GMO research, Freese said, isn't just about the crops it creates; it's also about the diversion of resources away from traditional breeding.

"The average cost to develop a single GMO is \$136 million," he said, citing a 2011 report done for Crop Life International. "Conventional breeding," he said, pointing to another report about corn from 2002, "is about \$1 million."

Just as Evanega points to papaya and eggplant to support her argument, Freese raises the once-lauded Golden Rice to make his. The private sector-funded, genetically modified, high beta-carotene grain was meant to help combat vitamin A deficiencies in children around the world. Thus far, the crop has failed to live up to expectations and there's no shortage of critics who assail its potential efficacy and the motives of the companies that developed it.



A farmer picks genetically engineered papayas in Oahu, Hawaii. Source: Cornell Alliance for Science

"How many millions of dollars were invested in this boondoggle?" Freese asked. The Golden Rice Project didn't respond to an inquiry about the cost of the initiative, but Freese points to a report from the Pesticide Action Network Asia & Pacific that estimates the cost at \$100 million.

In some instances, the desired end can be achieved by either genetic modification or regular breeding, but the science that created it plays an outsize role in determining which crop finds more success on the market.

Anyone who has ever bitten into an apple and then left it on the table for a few minutes knows what will happen: It will get brown. Unless, that is, it doesn't. Thanks to both genetic modification and traditional breeding, such magic apples have existed for almost 20 years. But while the one created with traditional breeding, known as the Opal apple, reached the market in 2010, the GMO version, called the Arctic apple, just hit shelves last month.

This year, FirstFruits, the Opal apple's exclusive purveyor in North America, harvested 35 million pounds of its product. Compare that with apples from Okanagan Specialty Fruits, which developed the Arctic apple, and its 170,000 pound haul. (Both companies contend its apple is best.)

The stakes might not seem so high to American consumers—a nonbrowning apple will probably cut down on wasted fruit but isn't going to fundamentally alter how people eat. But a high-protein potato in India or a drought-tolerant soybean in Argentina could have greater implications for populations in need. Researchers worry that ignoring these advances, simply because they carry the problematic GMO status, could have terrible results.

“You hate to think that it will take severe disasters to get people to accept these things,” Bradford said, “but sometimes that’s the case.”

2017 Farmer’s Tax Guides

The 2017 version of the Farmer’s Tax Guide (Publication 225) has been released by the Internal Revenue Service and can be found at: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p225.pdf>. Copies are also available at the Ashtabula and Trumbull County Extension offices.

2018 Northeast Ohio Small Farm Workshop Scheduled for January 20, 2018

The Ashtabula County Extension office is pleased to offer the **2018 Northeast Ohio Small Farm Workshop** for new, existing, and aspiring farm businesses. This workshop will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Ashtabula County Extension office located at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, Ohio. This workshop is designed to help landowners increase profits from their small acreage. This program is open to all new or aspiring farmers, new rural landowners, small farmers, and farm families looking for new ideas.

During this workshop, participants will be challenged to develop realistic expectations for their small farm. Participants will learn how to develop a business plan for their operation. During the workshop, participants will learn more about the current opportunities in small-scale farming; how to identify the strengths & weaknesses of your farm; how to keep records and develop budgets; and how to effectively price & market your products to consumers. Learn more about farm insurance, governmental assistance, farm taxes, and ways to mitigate risk. This workshop will provide the road map for small producers to move their hobby to a viable farm business. Make connections to resources, information and people that will help your farm business grow!

The registration fee for this workshop is \$25 per person. This includes a small farmer resource notebook, refreshments, and a hearty lunch! Reservations are requested by Friday, January 12, 2018. Space is limited to the first 35 registrants. We thank The Kellogg Insurance Agency for co-sponsoring this event. Pre-registration is required by January 12, 2018. Registration fee is \$25/per person. Make checks payable to OSU Extension, and mail to Ashtabula County Extension office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. If you have any questions please call 440-576-9008. A complete registration flyer can be obtained at: <http://go.osu.edu/ne-events>

David’s Weekly News Column

For Publication in the Jefferson Gazette on January 10

Hello Ashtabula County! It has already been a busy month for OSU Extension in Ashtabula County! We held a great pesticide and fertilizer certification session on January 5 and have over 70 farmers attending another one this Friday in Williamsfield. We are excited about the line-up of programs planned for this winter and encourage you to keep watching this news column for complete details. Or if you can wait, just jump on the internet at <http://go.osu.edu/ne-events> to get a sneak peek at all the different workshops and events. Today, I would like to

share details on two upcoming programs and to provide details for the search for our summer 4-H intern.

I am pleased to share that our local Women in Agriculture group will be sponsoring a workshop titled "Tractors and Parts - Making a Successful Trip for Parts" this Saturday, January 13, 2018 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the Ashtabula County Extension office located at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, Ohio.

During this program, Dana Harju from Bortnick Tractor Sales will share tips on how you can have a successful parts run. He will also answer questions on pricing new and used equipment. Discussion will also be held on keeping track of equipment for insurance and tax purposes. Learn about paper and computer apps for farm equipment and maintenance.

There is no registration fee for this program however pre-registrations are requested so that adequate program materials can be printed. A complete registration flyer can be obtained at: <http://go.osu.edu/ne-events> Mark your calendars for future Women in Ag programs on February 17, March 17, and April 28, 2018

The new formulation of the chemical DICAMBA has made quite the stir in the news across the country this past year and I am excited to invite our corn and soybean growers to an educational luncheon slated for January 17, 2018 in Cortland, Ohio.

My counterpart, Lee Beers, has put together an exceptional lunch workshop from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Trumbull County Extension office located at 520 West Main Street in Cortland, Ohio. During this program, OSU Weed Scientist Mark Loux and Ag Law Professor Peggy Hall will discuss the current research and status of dicamba. Learn more about this product and its special label restrictions. They will also provide a legal update on this product including discussions on insurance, pending litigation, and actions which may occur from the Ohio Legislature.

The cost for the program is \$5/person and includes a catered lunch. Pre-registration is required for an accurate count for food. To register, call the Trumbull County Extension office at 330-638-6783. A complete registration flyer can be obtained at: <http://go.osu.edu/ne-events>

For the 7th consecutive summer, our office will be hiring a college student to work with our 4-H Youth Development program. We have been truly blessed over past six years to have some incredible college students assist with our summer 4-H activities.

So what does the summer assistant do? Short answer- a little bit of everything. They will get to assist our 4-H staff with our Summer 4-H Youth Camps, Summer School Enrichment programs, help prep finalists for the State Fair and jump head first in helping with the Junior Fair activities at the Ashtabula County fair.

This student will be employed for a maximum of 15 weeks with a proposed hourly wage of \$10-\$12.50 per hour depending on qualifications. Applicants must have completed one year of college and have evidence of successful leadership experience in 4-H, school and/or community

organizations. They must be self-motivated, possess strong organizational skills and be available to work a flexible schedule including occasional nights and weekends.

Reimbursement for official job travel will also be provided according to our Extension travel policy. The successful applicant will be required to pass a criminal background check. Interested individuals should complete the employment application and submit a cover letter and resume at <http://go.osu.edu/OSUextensionapplication> prior to February 18, 2018. The application process must be made on-line. Please contact Jenna Hoyt at the Ashtabula County Extension Office at 440-576-9008 for more information.

To close, I would like to share the thoughts of Jim Rohn who stated, "Learning is the beginning of wealth. Learning is the beginning of health. Learning is the beginning of spirituality. Searching and learning is where the miracle process all begins." Have a good and safe day!

Donors Sought for 2018 Ashtabula County Ag Day

On May 12, 2017 nearly 1,100 members of the class of 2028 descended on the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds to participate in Ashtabula County's "Ag Day." Coordinated by OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Farm Bureau, the primary goal of this event was to educate first graders on where their food comes from and to showcase the different types of agricultural commodities which are being produced in Ashtabula County.

During this interactive day, students were able to get up close and personal with farm animals, crops, fruits, and vegetables at interactive stations relating to our county's agriculture. During the day, the students:

- Learned about bees, dairy cows, sheep, horses, beef cows, goats, pigs, alpacas, chickens, ducks, and turkeys.
- Made their own home-made butter and tried their hand at milking a cow.
- Learned how seeds are planted to give us an array of tasty fruit and vegetables and how they are processed into foods that we enjoy.
- Learned what type of machinery is used in agriculture.
- Learned the importance of healthy nutrition and exercise.



Ashtabula County's Ag Day program has become a community supported effort as over 300 volunteers and donors help to make this day a reality for the students. The cost of hosting this event is nearly \$22,000 (both monetary and in-kind) and without the support of many this program would not be possible. **We are asking you to considering becoming a donor for the 2018 Ag Day which will be held on Friday, May 11, 2018.** We are once again offering 5 levels of sponsorship:

- Platinum Sponsorship - \$1,000 +r
- Gold Sponsorship - \$500 to \$999
- Silver Sponsorship - \$250 to \$499
- Bronze Sponsorship - \$100 to \$249
- Friends of Ag Day - \$1 to \$99

We are asking all Ashtabula County farms, agribusinesses, and supporters of Ashtabula County Agriculture to consider making a donation to help us educate our youth about agriculture. Your gift to this program is 100% tax deductible. Donors are recognized in a variety of manners (see back for more details). If you are interested in helping with this year's program or would like to be a sponsor, please contact Abbey Averill at 440-576-9008.

| | | | |
|--|---------------|---|-----------------|
| Yes, I would like to be a sponsor of the 2018 Ag Day! | | | |
| Sponsor Name(s) _____ | | | |
| Address _____ | | | |
| Phone _____ | | Email _____ | |
| \$ _____ Platinum | \$ _____ Gold | \$ _____ Silver | \$ _____ Bronze |
| \$ _____ Friends of Ag Day | | | |
| _____ In-Kind, I can offer the following in-kind support _____ | | | |
| Make checks payable to: | | OSU Extension | |
| Return to: | | OSU Extension, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047 | |

All donations are tax deductible. Donors are recognized in a variety of manners. Listed below is how your company's donation will be recognized by the committee and some ideas for donation opportunities.

Platinum Sponsorship - \$1,000 and over

- Company/Individual name on back of shirt which all volunteers wear.
- Sign at the 12 interactive stations.
- Listed in the donor brochure sent home to every student's home.
- On sponsorship list for media publication.
- Recognition at Ag Day for being a sponsor.
- Ideas for in-kind donation- Sponsor three or more classrooms from your local school or help sponsor the bus transportation (\$3,500 total for busing) or sponsor the "Adventures in Agriculture with Chris Clover" coloring book (\$1,500). Donate an agricultural based-giveaway valued over \$1,000. For example, an Ag Day lunch box for every student.

Gold Sponsorship - \$500 to \$999

- Company/Individual name on back of shirt which all volunteers wear.
- Sign at all 12 interactive stations.
- Listed in the donor brochure sent home to every student's home.
- On sponsorship list for media publication.
- Recognition at Ag Day for being a sponsor.
- Ideas for in-kind donation- Sponsor two classrooms from your local school or sponsor your local school's busing. Donate an agricultural based-giveaway valued over \$500, provide milk and ice cream for each student, sponsor the dwarf cherry tomato plants to be taken home by every student or help provide lunch for the over 300 volunteers. Donate reusable Ag Day tote bag for each classroom.

Silver Sponsorship - \$250 to \$499

- Listed in the donor brochure sent home to every student's home.
- On sponsorship list for media publication.
- Recognition at Ag Day for being a sponsor.
- Ideas for in-kind donation- Sponsor a classroom from your local school. Donate an agricultural based-giveaway valued over \$250, sponsor the supplies needed for one of the stations (example: whipping cream to make the homemade butter), or sponsor the Callie the Cow milking station.

Bronze Sponsorship - \$100 to \$249

- Listed in the donor brochure sent home to every student's home.
- On sponsorship list for media publication.
- Recognition at Ag Day for being a sponsor.
- Ideas for in-kind donation- Donate an agricultural based-giveaway valued over \$100. We can use money to purchase program supplies (example: potatoes, carrots, flower pots, soil) for the 12 interactive stations.

Friends of Ag Day - \$1 to \$99

- Listed in the donor brochure sent home to every student's home.
- On sponsorship list for media publication.
- Recognition at Ag Day for being a sponsor.
- Ideas for in-kind donation- Sponsor a child to attend- \$25. Donate an agricultural based-giveaway valued up to \$99. We can use money to purchased program supplies (example: hand sanitizers for the 12 interactive stations).

We need over 300 volunteers to help with this program. Your company can provide volunteers to be presenters at one of the 12 interactive stations, be a group leader to lead a classroom from station to station, or help with safety coordination or in logistics. Contact Abbey Averill at OSU Extension at 440-576-9008 for more details on volunteer opportunities.

2017 Ashtabula County Ag Day Sponsors

Platinum Sponsorship

Bill & Ruth Service Foundation
Centerra Co-op
Albert M. Ford Charitable Trust
Ashtabula County Farm Bureau
OSU Extension-Ashtabula County
Ashtabula County Fair board

Gold Sponsorship

Ashtabula County Holstein Club
Crosswinds Grille at the Lakehouse Inn
John & Nancy Patterson
Katherine S. Riedel – Attorney
Hal & Constance Cooper
Erie Bank- Dave Bogardus
Country Doctor Veterinary Clinics in
Jefferson, Geneva & Conneaut
Jefferson Garden Club
Linda Springer
Red Eagle Distillery
Western Reserve Animal Clinic
Wright Farms, LTD

Silver Sponsorship

Alfa Creek Farms- Boggs Family
Brian & Abbey Averill
Ashtabula County Educational Foundation
Barb Schaab, Ashtabula County Recorder
Bossy's Way Inc.
Cherry Valley Slaughtering & Processing
COBA Select Sires, Inc.
Grand River Cellar Winery & Restaurant
Grand Valley FFA Chapter
H. Hamilton Farms LLC
Cassie & Larry Korland
Marrison Farms

Bronze Sponsorship

Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association
American Legion Post 151 - Conneaut
Ashtabula Local Food Council
Arms Trucking Company
Ashtabula County Soil & Water
Conservation District
Bissell Maple Farm
Robin & Debbie Boggs & family
Northeast Ohio Agriculture

Bronze Sponsorship (continued)

Chalet Debonne Vineyards
Ashtabula Co. Commissioner -Casey
Kozlowski
Bortnick Tractor Sales
Brant's Apple Orchard
Countryside Vet Clinic
Ashtabula Co. Commissioner - JP Ducro IV
Easton Culligan
Ferrante Winery
Honey Hollow Herb Farm
Brian & Jean Forman
Tracey L. Housel
The Jefferson Milling Company
Jefferson Grange #1311
Lenox Equipment Company, Inc
Ohana Farm
Piper Processing
Pat & Ralph Pankowski
Springer Dairy Farm
Tony & Sue Stocker
Roll'N B Cowboy Café LLC
Eddie's Grill & The Sezon Family
Sherrie Tersigni
Dan Whitmire

Friends of Ag Day

Roger & Shirley Corlett
Cheryle Chiamonte
Covered Bridge Gardens
Geauga Credit Union Inc.
Mike & Wendy Gruskiewicz
Mary Howe
Kalas Dairy Farm
Kassay's Greenhouse
Manner's Christmas Tree Farm
Mechling's Maple Farm
Pymatuning Valley Primary PTO Inc
Pymatuning Valley FFA Chapter
Saybrook Raiders 4-H Club
Saybrook Grange #1739
Sheffield Star Grange #1610
Tree Tyme Nursery Inc
Larry & Donniella Winchell

Upcoming Extension Program Dates

The following programs have been scheduled for Northeast Ohio farmers. Complete registration flyers can be found at: <http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/upcoming-educational-programs-deadlines>

Women in Agriculture Programs

January 13, 2018

February 17, 2018

March 17, 2018

Private Pesticide Applicator & Fertilizer Re-certification Sessions

January 12, 2018 from 8:00 to 12:00 noon in Ashtabula County

February 2, 2018 from 8:00 to 12:00 noon in Geauga County

February 9, 2018 from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Portage County

March 9, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Trumbull County

Crop Lunch – What’s New with Dicamba

Trumbull County Extension Office 11:30am – 2pm

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Exploring the Small Farm Dream

Saturday, January 20, 2018

2018 Northeast Ohio Winter Agronomy School

Wednesday February 21, 2018

2018 Winter Beef School (Calving School)

Thursday, February 22, 2018

Winter Grape School

March 2, 2018

Backyard Chickens

Trumbull County Extension Office 5-7pm

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

2018 Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet

Saturday, March 24, 2018

21st Annual Joe Bodnar Memorial Northern Classic Steer & Heifer Show

Saturday, April 21, 2018

Hydrangea Workshop
Thursday, April 26, 2018



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

David Marrison

Ashtabula County Extension Office
39 Wall Street
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-9008
marrison.2@osu.edu
ashtabula.osu.edu

Lee Beers

Trumbull County Extension Office
520 West Main Street
Cortland, OH 44410
330-638-6783
beers.66@osu.edu
trumbull.osu.edu



Ashtabula County Women in Agriculture:

Tractors and Parts

Making a Successful Trip for Parts

Saturday, January 13, 2018

9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

OSU Extension Office
39 Wall Street
Jefferson, Ohio 44047

How many times have you made a trip to the parts store and couldn't answer a question they had? Dana Harju from Bortnick Tractor Sales will be joining us to share tips on how you can have a successful parts run. He will also answer questions on pricing new and used equipment. Discussion will also be held on keeping track of equipment for insurance and tax purposes. Learn about paper and computer apps for farm equipment and maintenance.



Please call the O.S.U. Extension Office (440-576-9008) or email Abbey Averill (averill.10@osu.edu) to register by Wednesday, January 10, 2018.

Mark your calendars for future dates also:
February 17, March 17, and April 28, 2018



Questions? Contact Abbey Averill at 440-576-9008 or averill.10@osu.edu

Trumbull Crop Lunch

What's Going On With Dicamba?

Mark Loux, OSU Weed Scientist

and

Peggy Hall, Professor of Ag Law

January 17, 2018

11:30 – Registration and Lunch

OSU Extension Office

12:00 – Local Update

520 West Main Street

12:30 – Dicamba Update

Cortland, OH 44410

2:00 – Adjourn

Cost is \$5/person - includes lunch, pesticide and CCA credits

Join us on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 for lunch at the Trumbull County Extension office to learn about the current status of dicamba use in Ohio. Mark Loux and Peggy Hall will be joining us via video link to discuss best practices for using a dicamba resistant soybean program, updates from the ODA, and the Ohio Legislature. Pre-registration is requested for an accurate count for food. A catered lunch is sponsored by the Trumbull County Holstein Club.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Cut at the dashed line, and mail lower portion with check payable to OSU Extension to OSU Extension Trumbull County, 520 West Main St. Suite #1, Cortland, OH 44410. On-site payment is available, but please call our office to let us know you will be attending so we have enough food. Call our office or email Lee Beers (beers.66@osu.edu) with any questions. 330-638-6783

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number attending _____ x \$5/person = _____ Enclosed

trumbull.osu.edu



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CF A E S provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity

GROWING SHIITAKE MUSHROOMS



Thursday, March 15, 2018
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Ashtabula County
Extension Office

39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047

Registration begins at 5:30 p.m.

Ever thought about growing shiitake mushrooms? Native to Japan, shiitake mushrooms (*Letinula edodes*) are becoming increasingly popular for their distinctive nutty flavor and high nutritional content. During this workshop, participants will learn the basics of growing shiitake mushrooms at home- including the best species of trees to use, log preparation, types of spawn, and inoculation. After a short classroom discussion, participants will drill and inoculate an oak log to take home. Participants are encouraged to bring a cordless drill and a 5/16" diameter bit if they have it, though several will be available to share.

Space for this workshop is limited and will fill up fast so register today!

Pre-registration is required by March 8, 2018. Registration fee is \$25/per person. Make checks payable to OSU Extension, and mail to Ashtabula County Extension office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. If you have any questions, please call 440-576-9008.

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip code _____
Email _____
of Reservations _____ \$25 per RSVP



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CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information:
<http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity>.

2018 Northeast Ohio Small Farm Workshop



Saturday, January 20, 2018
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Ashtabula County Extension
 Office**

39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH
 Registration begins at 8:37 a.m.

The Ashtabula County Extension office is pleased to offer the **2018 Northeast Ohio Small Farm Workshop** for new, existing, and aspiring farm businesses. This workshop is designed to help landowners increase profits from their small acreage. This program is open to all new or aspiring farmers, new rural landowners, small farmers, and farm families looking for new ideas.

During this workshop, participants will be challenged to develop realistic expectations for their small farm. Participants will learn how to develop a business plan for their operation. During the workshop, participants will learn more about the current opportunities in small-scale farming; how to identify the strengths & weaknesses of your farm; how to keep records and develop budgets; and how to effectively price & market your products to consumers. Learn more about farm insurance, governmental assistance, farm taxes, and ways to mitigate risk. This workshop will provide the road map for small producers to move their hobby to a viable farm business.



Make connections to resources, information and people that will help your farm business grow! The registration fee for this workshop is \$25 per person. This includes a small farmer resource notebook, refreshments, and a hearty lunch! Reservations are requested by Friday, January 12, 2018. Space is limited to the first 35 registrants. We thank *The Kellogg Insurance Agency* for co-sponsoring this event.

✂-----✂-----✂
Pre-registration is required by January 12, 2018. Registration fee is \$25/per person. Make checks payable to OSU Extension, and mail to Ashtabula County Extension office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. If you have any questions please call 440-576-9008.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Email _____
 # of Reservations _____ \$25 per RSVP

Phone _____
 City _____ Zipcode _____