

NORTHEAST OHIO AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER

Your Weekly Agriculture Update for
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties

May 29, 2024



Planting in Ashtabula County is moving along!

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Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

June is only a few days away, but many acres in the region remain unplanted as rain this week further delayed field work. With an extended planting season, we have corn in need of side-dressing, and some corn seed still in the planter. With any luck, and good weather, this long planting season will come to an end soon.

We're also waiting for the first good hay window, which some may squeeze into the short dry weather window before Saturday afternoon. Overnight temperatures in the 40's might slow down the drying process, so if you go for it, be sure to monitor moisture to avoid a hay fire.

Stay safe!

Lee Beers
Trumbull County
Extension Educator

REGIONAL UPDATES: MAY 21 – 28, 2024

By Kendall Lovejoy, Lee Beers, CCA, Caden Buschur, Trevor Corboy, Dean Kreager, Stephanie Karhoff, CCA

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2024-16/regional-updates-may-21---28-2024>

Starting this week until harvest, Ohio State University Extension professionals across the state will report on crop progress and field conditions. This past week, growers made significant planting progress before weekend rains, and wheat continues to mature. OSU Extension Educators and Specialists report emergence issues in earlier planted corn and soybean fields from soil crusting and in some cases slug damage. Besides planting, main field activities have included tillage, manure and herbicide applications, nitrogen side-dressing in corn, and limited hay or haylage being made. Keep reading for region-specific field reports:



Northwest – Extension Educator Kendall Lovejoy reported that planting progress in northwest Ohio ranges from 40 to 90% completed, with early-planted corn and soybean approaching the V4 and V1 growth stage stages, respectively. Weather last week was conducive for spring manure and pre-emergent/burndown herbicide applications. The region received 0.5 – 1.5 inches of rainfall over the weekend, and some emergence issues are being reported from soil crusting and now excess moisture. In parts of northwest Ohio, periodic rainfall has delayed alfalfa harvest and alfalfa weevil has reemerged as previous insecticide applications only provide control for 10 – 15 days. Potato leafhopper has also been observed in forage fields in the region.



Figure 2. Wheat showing signs and symptoms of stripe rust. Photo courtesy of Lee Beers.

Northeast – Lee Beers of Trumbull County estimated that 75% of northeast Ohio has been planted. Emerged corn and soybean are in good condition though slug

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damage has been reported in soybean. There has been an increase in black cutworm moth numbers, but armyworm is declining based on insect monitoring efforts across the area. Weed pressure continues, especially in late-planted fields where cressleaf groundsel is in full bloom. Stagonospora leaf blotch, stripe rust, and cereal leaf beetle were reported in wheat this past week (Figure 2).

Central & West Central – Extension Educator Caden Buschur reported that 70 – 100% of central and west central Ohio have been planted, with area growers busy in the fields ahead of rainfall this weekend. Precipitation ranged from 0.5 to 0.8 inches, along with localized reports of hail and heavy winds. Main field activities included hay chopping and baling, corn and soybean planting, corn side-dressing, and post-herbicide applications. Emerged soybeans are between VE and V2 growth stages with reports of slug damage in Knox County. Corn is in good condition and between VE and V3 growth stages depending on planting date.

Southeast – Dean Kreager of Licking County estimated that 80 – 90% of the region is planted. Some emergence issues have been reported, though average corn and soybean conditions are good, with corn in the V1 – V3 growth stage and soybean between VE and V2. Besides planting, corn side-dressing and herbicide applications occurred last week, though there has been limited forage harvesting at this point. Additionally, Extension Educators and Specialists in southeast Ohio are still receiving reports of cressleaf groundsel and poison hemlock in forage fields.

Southwest – Trevor Corboy reported on behalf of OSU Extension Educators and Specialists in southwest Ohio that about half of the area is planted, with a wide variation in planting and crop progress throughout the region. High rainfall in Brown and Clermont counties has led to soil crusting and emergence issues in soybean and may require replanting in some cases. Wet conditions have also limited hay activity.

Check back next week for continued updates from across the state. Here are some helpful Extension resources as you scout and make management decisions in the week ahead:

[Leaf Blotch Diseases of Wheat Factsheet](#)

[Making Replant Decisions - Corn](#)

[Soybean Stand Evaluation and Re-Plant Decisions](#)

[Slugs on Field Crops Factsheet](#)

The Cow: Should She Stay, or Should She Go?

By Stan Smith, PA, Fairfield County OSU Extension

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2024/05/29/the-cow-should-she-stay-or-should-she-go/>

If she's bred, today, is a bad udder reason for culling an otherwise healthy cow?

Fed cattle and feeder calf prices are presently ranging in the vicinity of historical highs. But then, so are cull cow prices. Knowing historically the income resulting from cull cows in a beef herd has made up roughly 20% of the beef cattle farm's annual income, today with careful management it could be even greater.



Presently at a time when cattlemen might be trying to retain any breeding female that can produce a live and marketable calf, let's carefully consider how we might optimize the profitability of the beef herd by employing a strategic culling plan.

Typically, when discussing culling considerations it might start by simply choosing based on condition, health or pregnancy status which cows need to go versus which should stay. Instead, let's start by carefully considering the present reality of the economics of cull cows.

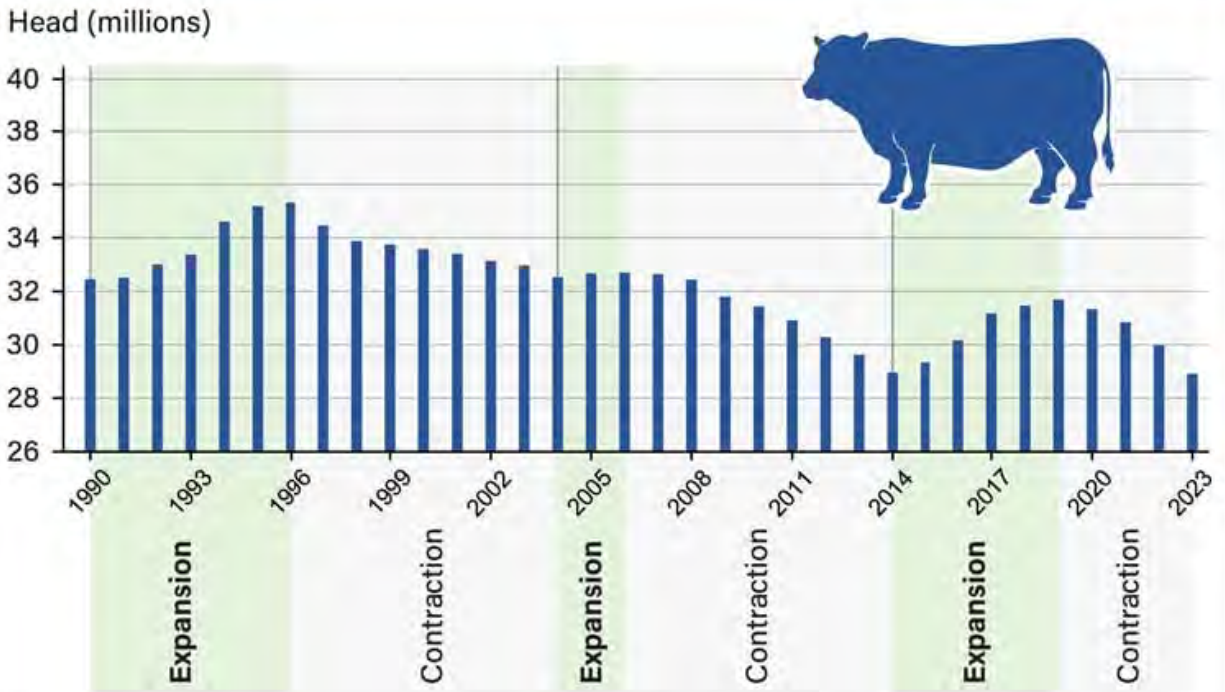
While in the past culls might have resulted in 20% of the annual beef cow herd income, consider that average cow size has increased 30% over the past 30 years. In fact, USDA's AMS recently reported the average cow live weight sold was 1500+ pounds. Early this spring average condition cull cows were bringing \$1-1.25 per pound and expectations that would increase throughout spring have become reality. When considering the cost and value of money is greater now than in recent past, it becomes apparent cull cows are a very real profit center for an operation that deserves careful marketing consideration.

As we consider the economics of cull cows and the development of a strategic culling plan it's also important to realize that cattle inventory cycles are real and have been well documented for more than 130 years. Over those years cycles have averaged 8-12 years in length. Accepting the fact reduced cow numbers resulting from this cycle have been exaggerated by drought in the west, today we may only be nearing the bottom of U.S. cow inventory numbers and high cattle prices could easily be with us for 2-5 more years.

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U.S. beef cow inventory and cattle cycle phases, 1990-2023



Note: Data reflect inventory on January 1 of each year. Black vertical lines show the start of a new cattle cycle.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The next piece of this cull cow economic puzzle is crunching some numbers. For this example, keep it simple.

Value of a cull cow: 1500 pounds X \$1.13 =	\$1,700
Interest on the money borrowed that could be repaid with cull cow income @ 9%:	\$150
Feed for the next year until a retained cow calves:	\$600
Total value realized if a cow was culled now:	\$2,450
The value of calf the cull might have yielded next year: 500 lbs X \$2.50, \$3, or \$3.50=	\$1250-1750
Average cost of bred heifers/cows in Ohio during the winter of 2023-24:	\$2500+/-

The next piece of this cull cow economics puzzle is considering how when during the year we might cull her impacts the bottom line as much as if we cull her. Cull cow

values are commonly lowest in the Fall and highest in the Spring. Add to this a cow that just weaned a calf in the Fall is likely as pounds light as she'll be during any given year. Using those assumptions, and again keeping it simple, speculate further on cull cow values.

In Fall of 2024 at weaning a cow might weigh 1300 lbs. with a value of \$1.00/lb =	\$1,375
Four months later we'd hope she gained weight and be weighing 1500 lbs. valued at \$1.25/lb =	\$1,875
Gain in cull value resulting from better condition, and stronger spring market:	\$500

What would it have cost to feed this potential cull cow four more months?

Admittedly there may be times when the delay in culling a cow is not warranted. Cows at risk of becoming unmarketable or significantly less valuable due to health concerns such as feet and leg issues which could cause her to go down, cancer eye, and lumpy jaw, etc. are non-negotiable if contemplating a delay in culling a cow. Considering the current value of a cull, preg checking a cow at the conclusion of the breeding season has never been more affordable. Accepting that available feed resources may also dictate when cows need to go, today retaining an open is another nearly non-negotiable.



Is she sound enough to travel the pasture and wean one more calf?

Additional considerations when determining if she should stay or go might include teat and udder conformation, disposition, cow condition and general health of the cow. When each cull cow pound is worth \$1.00+, anything that prevents her from sustaining weight and condition is cause for economic concern.

The point made is that no single culling strategy is most profitable each year or the same for each farm. The time and place within the cow inventory cycle, the time of year, the value of the calf that might have resulted from a retained cow, and available feed resources all play a role in developing a strategic culling plan in any given year for any given farm. The check list for developing that strategy may change in priority over time, but will always include:

- Consider breeding status and/or productivity of the calf at side (or past calves).
- Current and future market expectations (where are we in THE cycle?)
- Time of year.
- Soundness (structure, teats, udder, etc.) and/or immediate health concerns.
- Condition/marketability including drug residue status.
- Age and/or temperament.

- Available feed resources and space.
- Present cow herd numbers and/or replacement female availability.

As U.S. cow numbers begin to recover and reach a peak in the coming years and we approach the next bottom of the price cycle, makes plans to own the most consistently productive, small (relatively speaking) group of cows possible with plans at that time to retain heifers that will then likely be less valuable than today as feeders. In the meantime, today, plan to produce as many calves as possible while capturing maximum value for those cows that need to go.

For those cows with health or performance concerns, and knowing her value as a cull is significantly greater than the calf she might raise next year, today, is it worth the financial risk of trying to squeeze one more calf out of her?

Hay barn fires a real hazard when the rain keeps coming

By Jason Hartschuh

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2024/05/29/hay-barn-fires-a-real-hazard-when-the-rain-keeps-coming/>

At over 20% moisture, mesophilic bacteria release heat, causing stored hay temperature to rise.

Mother nature has been at it again, hardly giving us enough days to make silage or balelage let alone dry hay. There is a risk of pop-up showers every afternoon it seems like. The ground is also wet so the forage laying against the ground does not dry very well. These conditions are very dangerous for hay harvest since wet hay does not just rot it may also burn. Hay fires are



caused when bacteria in wet hay create so much heat that the hay spontaneously combusts in the presence of oxygen. At over 20% moisture, mesophilic bacteria release heat, causing temperature to rise between 130 F to 140 F with temperature staying high for up to 40 days. As temperatures rise thermophilic bacteria can take off in your hay and raise the temperature into the fire danger zone of over 175 F.

Assessing your risk

If hay was baled between 15-20% moister and acid preservatives were used there is

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still potential for a hay fire but not as great as on non-treated hay. Having a moisture tester on your baler can help you know the variability across your field in moisture and when to use hay preservatives. Without a moisture tester if you find darker green damp spots occasionally or humidity is high be sure to monitor for heating. Most propionic acid-based products are effective if applied at the correct rates at inhibiting bacteria growth in hay up to 25% moisture, with variable effectiveness at 25-30% moisture.

Temperature assessment

- 125 F – No Action needed.
- 150 F – Hay is entering the danger zone, check temperatures twice per day. Disassemble haystacks moving bales outside to allow air circulation to cool the hay.
- 160F – Hay has reached the danger zone. Carefully check hay temperature every few hours. Disassemble stacked hay to promote air circulation to cool hay be very careful of even hotter spots. Have a tank of water present while unstacking.
- 175-190 F – Hot spots or fire pockets are likely. Alert fire service to the possible hay fire incident. Close barns to minimize air movement around the hay. With the assistance of the fire service, remove hot hay. Be aware that bales may burst into flames, so keep tractors wet so the tractor does not catch fire.
- 200 F – Fire is present within the haystack near the temperature probe. With the assistance of the fire service, remove hot hay. If possible, inject water into the hot spot to cool hay before moving. Most likely a fire will occur, keep tractors wet and fire hose lines charged in the barn and along the route to where bales will be stacked.

Monitoring the haystack

There are a couple of options available to monitor hay temperature. One uses technology like the cables that can be used to monitor the temperature in stored grain. There are a couple of companies that produce cables that would be placed between bales in a stack or monitoring probes that are placed in bales and use radio frequency to transmit signals to the web.

If you believe that you are at risk for hay heating, monitoring temperature is critical. It should be done daily until temperatures stabilize in the safe zone or reach 150 F when monitoring needs to be increased to twice daily. This can be done with technology or manual temperature probes. When monitoring hay temperature, be very cautious, hot hay can burn within the stack and cause cavities underneath that you can fall into. Use planks to spread out your weight while walking on the stack and have a harness system attached to the ceiling in case you fall into a burned-out cavity. Also, work in pairs with someone on the ground within voice range to assist you if you find yourself in a bad situation. Temperature monitoring should continue for possibly six weeks until values stabilize in the safe zone.

Temperature monitoring depends on the stack size but should be taken close to the center of the stack. In larger stacks ideally, this is 8 feet down in the stack. Any time temperatures are above 175 F, hay shouldn't be removed from the barn until the local fire department is present because you are at risk for fire. Once the fire department is present, hay should be carefully removed with charged fire hoses ready if spontaneous combustion occurs.

IT'S HIGH SEASON FOR OHIO'S NOXIOUS WEEDS LAWS

By Peggy Kirk Hall

Source: <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/wed-05292024-130pm/it's-high-season-ohio's-noxious-weeds-laws>

The poison hemlock popping up across Ohio and the questions we're receiving in the Farm Office both signal that the high season for "noxious weeds" has begun. Ohio has several statutes and regulations intended to curtail the spread of the invasive and potentially harmful weeds we refer to as noxious weeds. The most common question we're hearing is this: if there is a weed problem spreading onto or around my property, what can I do about it?



There are several answers to this question, and the first is to have a civil discussion with the landowner or agency responsible for the property, alerting them to the problem. Sometimes that party simply doesn't know about the weeds or doesn't know how to remedy the problem. If the neighborly discussion strategy fails, then the legal answer to the question depends upon two factors: 1) whether the weed is one named in the law or on the "noxious weeds" list, and 2) the location of the weed.

1. Does the law apply to the weed?

There are two ways Ohio noxious weeds law would apply to a weed situation. One way is if the law specifically refers to the weed. For example, one law specifically names wild parsnip, wild carrot, oxeye daisy, and wild mustard. The second way is if the law refers generally to noxious weeds, which applies to weeds named on Ohio's noxious weeds list. The Ohio Department of Agriculture has the

responsibility of identifying and maintaining a list of noxious weeds—that list is in Ohio Administrative Code 901:5-37-01 and includes the following:

- Shatter cane (*Sorghum bicolor*)
- Russian thistle (*Salsola Kali* var. *tenuifolia*)
- Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense* L. (Pers.))
- Wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*)
- Grapevines: when growing in groups of one hundred or more and not pruned, sprayed, cultivated, or otherwise maintained for two consecutive years.
- Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense* L. (Scop.))
- Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*)
- Cressleaf groundsel (*Senecio glabellus*)
- Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*)
- Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
- Mile-A-Minute Weed (*Polygonum perfoliatum*)
- Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)
- Apple of Peru (*Nicandra physalodes*)
- Maretail (*Conyza canadensis*)
- Kochia (*Bassia scoparia*)
- Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*)
- Kudzu (*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*)
- Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*)
- Yellow Groove Bamboo (*Phyllostachys aureasculata*), when the plant has spread from its original premise of planting and is not being maintained.
- Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*)
- Heart-podded hoary cress (*Lepidium draba* sub. *draba*)
- Hairy whitetop or ballcress (*Lepidium appelianum*)
- Perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*)
- Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*)
- Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)
- Hedge bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*)
- Serrated tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*)
- Columbus grass (*Sorghum x almum*)
- Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*)
- Forage Kochia (*Bassia prostrata*)
- Water Hemp (*Amaranthus tuberculatus*)

2. What is the location of the weed?

There are several different noxious weeds laws, and which one applies depends on the location of the weed. Here are the three most common locations we receive questions about:

- **If a noxious weed is in the fence row on land outside of a municipality**, Ohio’s line fence law addresses noxious weeds in ORC 971.33—971.35. The law states that a landowner or occupant may give notice to an adjacent landowner or tenant to clear “brush, briars, thistles, or other noxious weeds” within four feet of the line fence on the owner or tenant’s side of the fence. If the adjacent owner or tenant fails to do so within 10 days, the landowner or occupant may provide notice to the board of township trustees and the trustees must view the premises and determine if there is just cause for the clearing. If there is, the trustees must “cause the weeds to be cut, by letting the work to the lowest bidder, or by entering into a private contract.” The county auditor must assess the costs on the landowner’s property taxes.
- **If noxious weeds, wild parsnip, wild carrot, oxeye daisy, wild mustard, or other harmful weeds are on private land beyond the fence row**, a person may send written information to the township trustees of the weeds and where they exist. The trustees must then notify the owner or about the existence of the weeds. The owner must either destroy the weeds or show the township trustees why there is no need for doing so. If the owner does not take one of these actions within five days of the trustee’s notice, the township trustees “shall cause the weeds to be cut or destroyed and may employ the necessary labor, materials, and equipment to perform the task.” The county auditor must assess the costs on the landowner’s property taxes.
- **If noxious weeds are along a public roadway**, Ohio law requires counties, townships and municipalities to cut or destroy the noxious weeds every year between June 1 and 20, August 1 and 20, and if necessary, September 1 and 20, or whenever it’s necessary to destroy the vegetation to prevent or eliminate a safety hazard. ORC 5579.04 and 5579.08.

There are other laws that help us deal with the noxious weeds high season, and we review each of those in our law bulletin, **Ohio’s Noxious Weeds Laws**, in the Property Law Library on farmoffice.osu.edu.

ANOTHER LAKE ERIE LAWSUIT: HOW DOES IT AFFECT OHIO AGRICULTURE?

By Peggy Kirk Hall

Source: <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/wed-05222024-934am/another-lake-erie-lawsuit-how-does-it-affect-ohio-agriculture>

A new chapter is developing in the legal battle over resolving water quality problems in the Western Lake Erie Basin. Earlier this month, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners, City of Toledo, and Environmental Law & Policy Center filed a federal lawsuit against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The lawsuit targets the EPA's approval of Ohio's Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) plan for the Maumee River Watershed. If it feels like déjà vu, that's because it is. In the ten years since Toledo experienced a drinking water crisis caused by harmful algal blooms in the Western Basin, there have been four federal lawsuits demanding a plan for improving water quality in the lake and a legal battle to protect the lake with a "Lake Erie Bill of Rights."



The current litigation arises from a 2023 settlement agreement that led the Ohio EPA to create the TMDL for the Maumee River Watershed. A TMDL establishes a framework for future decisions that affect water quality by identifying the links between sources of impairment and pollutant load reductions necessary to reduce impairment and attain water quality standards. The EPA reviewed and approved Ohio EPA's Maumee River Watershed TMDL last year, against opposition from environmental groups and the parties in the current lawsuit. That approval of the TMDL is the source of the new lawsuit.

According to the plaintiffs, the EPA should not have approved the Maumee River Watershed TMDL because it "will not remediate Lake Erie." The parties claim that the plan "fails to limit pollution caused by dissolved reactive phosphorus and does not meaningfully address the concentrated feeding operations, or CAFOs, that are responsible for polluting the watershed." In support of their argument, the parties cite the following five "legal defects" in the plan, each an alleged violation of the Clean Water Act:

- Failure to set Dissolved Reactive Phosphorous (DRP) limits.
- Failure to set an adequate "margin of safety" that accounts for lack of knowledge about the relationship between effluent limitations and water quality.
- Failure to assign waste load allocations to discharging CAFOs.
- Failure to apportion load allocations to all nonpoint sources.
- Inadequate implementation plan and failure to provide reasonable assurances.

The lawsuit asks the federal court to vacate the current Maumee River Watershed TMDL and order the EPA to prepare a new TMDL that “will actually clean up Lake Erie.”

What does this mean for Ohio agriculture?

If the plaintiffs are successful, the lawsuit could result in the preparation of a new TMDL for the Western Basin. The current Maumee River Watershed TMDL plan prepared by the Ohio EPA encourages an “adaptive management” approach for agricultural activities, based on voluntary adoption of management practices coupled with monitoring and progress evaluation. A new TMDL could more directly affect agricultural activities, particularly if the EPA agrees with the plaintiffs’ arguments that the TMDL should assign waste load allocations to discharging CAFOs and apportion load allocations to all nonpoint sources. But remember that the EPA approved the current TMDL plan, suggesting that the agency will not be inclined to make significant alterations if the court orders it to prepare a new plan.

Other than the possibility of a new TMDL, the lawsuit does not directly affect agricultural operations right now. It does not name any specific farms or bring them into the litigation. The lawsuit does not affect current voluntary efforts to reduce water quality impacts, such as H2Ohio.

Nor is the litigation likely to generate additional lawsuits against agricultural operations that currently comply with all applicable laws, a question we’ve heard from some producers in the Maumee River watershed. Several Ohio laws provide defenses to such lawsuits and those laws will continue to be in effect throughout the federal litigation, unless the Ohio legislature makes any changes to the laws. Those legal defenses, explained in our law bulletin on “[Laws that Provide Defenses for Agricultural Production Activities](#),” apply to operations that meet the specific requirements of the laws and include:

- The Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training (FACT) defense for claims involving the application of nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium and plant nutrients.
- The Right to Farm Law defense and exemption from Statutory Nuisance for allegations that agricultural activities are creating a nuisance that unreasonably interferes with health, comfort, or property rights.
- The Ohio Agricultural Pollution Abatement Law for nuisance claims involving “agricultural pollution,” defined as the failure to use practices to abate erosion, or degradation of waters of the State by residual farm products, manure, or soil sediment.
- The Confined Animal Feeding Facilities (CAFF) defense for nuisance claims against farms operating under a CAFF permit.

What happens next?

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The EPA is likely to respond to the complaint with a request that the federal court dismiss the claim, and we probably won't see a decision on that request before the end of the year. If the court declines to dismiss the case, the plaintiffs must then convince the court that the current TMDL plan does not comply with the Clean Water Act. Arguments will focus on the five legal defects presented by the plaintiffs. As has been true for the previous litigation, a decision would take a year or more. Yet again, we await the outcome of a Lake Erie lawsuit. [Read the complaint in *Lucas County Commissioners v. EPA*.](#)

Lee's Monthly News Column

Hello Trumbull County! Spring is moving along quickly, and I hope you have stopped to admire all the flowers in bloom. Like the peonies in our garden, most flowers are welcome additions to the landscape, but others can be more problematic. You may have noticed the beautiful yellow flowers of Cressleaf Groundsel (*Packera glabella*) currently blooming throughout the county. Although it can grow just about anywhere, Cressleaf Groundsel really thrives in no-till agricultural fields and pastures. Despite its beauty, this plant can be highly toxic to livestock if ingested. This toxicity, in part, is why this beautiful yellow flower is included in Ohio's Prohibited Noxious Weeds list (ORC 901:5).

Plants that injure agricultural crops, are invasive, cause harm to livestock, or negatively impact people can all be added to this notorious list. To see the current list of offenders, visit this link: <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-901:5-37-01>.

Many of the plants on this list can be attractive, and for some it is their beauty that led to them being added to this list. Purple Loosestrife is native to Europe and Asia, but was likely brought to North America in the 1800's as an ornamental plant. Now you can find this invasive species in most ditches, crowding out our native plant species.

Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) is a plant that not even its own mother could love. This toxic plant is a member of the carrot family, but unlike its tasty cousin, it can reach heights of 15 feet. Unsuspecting individuals who try to remove this plant without skin protection may develop severe burns if they come into contact with the plant's sap. Other members of the carrot family on Ohio's Noxious Weed list include wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) and poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*). Wild parsnip can cause a rash similar to hogweed, but usually only when exposed to sun. Poison hemlock? Well, it's poisonous if you eat it.

We know that the plants on the Noxious Weed List are generally bad, but what are the consequences of being on the list? In short, it means that growing plants on the list must be destroyed. The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) also provides guidance on how to

remove them, when to do so, and who is responsible for controlling the weeds. For example, noxious weeds in the roadside ditches are the responsibility of the County, township, or municipality that is responsible for the maintenance of that road. The ORC also requires that roadside vegetation be mowed at least twice a year- once in June, and again in August.

Noxious weeds on private property can get a little more tricky because it is the responsibility of the landowner. Once notified that there are noxious weeds on their property, a landowner has five days to respond. If they don't respond, township trustees have the authority to step in, including to destroy the plants.

What should you do if you encounter a noxious weed? First, it is important to properly identify the plant and make sure it is actually on Ohio's Prohibited Noxious Weed list. The OSU Extension office in Cortland can identify the plant and provide additional information on control measures, and, if necessary, protection measures needed to reduce toxicity (such as gloves or only handling the plant at night). If the plants are on your property, you can destroy them in a way that works for you, which can include hand pulling, herbicides, tillage, or other measures. Contact your township trustees or local municipality for noxious weeds growing in roadside ditches. You can also report noxious weed populations on private property to your township trustees if you are not able to or uncomfortable with contacting the landowner yourself. If you want to read more, visit <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/sites/aglaw/files/site-library/NoxiousWeedLawBulletin.pdf>

I hope you don't encounter any of the above-named weeds, but if you do, and you are not sure where to start, you can always call our office at 330-638-6783 for assistance.

CFAES

Thursday

JUNE

13

at 6:00 PM

Bloomfield Livestock Auction
2211 Kinsman RD NW
North Bloomfield, OH 44450

BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE (BQA)

This program offer the opportunity to earn your certification or renew you expiring one. The certification cycle is 3 years.

Haley Shoemaker and Noelle Barnes will cover a multitude of topics, including carcass quality, injection protocol, and animal handling, that will provide your BQA certification and ultimately impact your success at marketing.



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Call 330-638-6783 to RSVP

**Please arrive at least 10 minutes
prior to 6:00 PM**

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