Fruit and Vegetable School
Click here for more information and registration for the 2016 Southwest Ohio Fruit and Vegetable School

Perennial School
Set for April 14th. Further details and information are forthcoming.

“Opening Doors to Success – Small Farm Conference” Wilmington, OH – March 11 & 12, 2016
This conference offers a special Friday afternoon session, a variety of educational sessions on Saturday to help you improve your small farm operation and a trade show featuring small farm service providers. Additional information is forthcoming. Click here for more information as it becomes available.
2016 Ohio Beef School

The beef cattle industry is quickly evolving. Are you prepared to keep pace with it? We plan to explore that evolution with three fast-paced, forward-thinking sessions being planned for the 2016 Ohio Beef Cattle School webinar series.

January 19, 2016 the focus will be directly on the markets and marketing including outlook, and risk management. Dr. Derrell Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension Livestock Marketing Specialist, will kick off the program with his insight into the beef cattle markets . . . where they’ve been, where they may be going, and how they will get there. Peel will discuss the factors that have pressured the market and suggest if and when they will subside, and to what level they might recover. Sam Roberts of Producers Livestock will also join the broadcast on the 19th and offer suggestions on market risk management and capturing profitable pricing opportunities in the coming year.

During the second session on February 2, the attention will turn back to the basics in an effort to bust some myths that may be negatively affecting our bottom line. Members of the OSU Extension Beef Team will take turns addressing some of the management questions and comments we’ve received during Beef School sessions over the years. This will be a fast-paced look at a variety of profit-centered concepts including calving windows, genetic choices, breeding management, crossbreeding and economic traits that will be the most meaningful in coming years.

The series will conclude on February 16 with a focus directly on the end product. Dr. Lyda Garcia, Assistant Professor of Meat Sciences at Ohio State University, will discuss enhancing end product values from a point of view through the live animal.

Each session will last about two hours, each evening beginning at 7 p.m., and will be hosted in multiple locations throughout Ohio, Indiana and New York.

-Stan Smith, OSU Extension

Clermont County Location

Location: Felicity Franklin High School, Felicity FFA Classroom, 105 Market St., Felicity, OH 45120-9668

Contact: Gigi Neal, Office Phone: 513-732-7070 Cell Phone 937-483-6099
http://u.osu.edu/beefteam/

Clermont County OSUE Beef School is being sponsored by the Clermont County Cattlemen’s Association and the Felicity Franklin FFA.
Private Applicator Pesticide Recertification

A private applicator applies restricted-use pesticides on his/her own land, or rented land, and produces an agricultural commodity.

Recertification Requirements:
Remember, your 3-year recertification training must include the following:
1. 1 hour minimum Core
2. 1/2 hour minimum update training for each category for which you hold certification
3. A minimum of 3 total hours training (remaining hours can be in any approved category training)

Steps to get a Private Applicator License

1. Obtain study materials from your OSU Extension county office. You can also download some of the materials on the Private Applicator Study Materials page. - NOTE: Please be sure to call your local OSU Extension office before stopping by. This allows the office to make sure they have the materials on hand for when you stop in.

2. Study the recommended materials for Core and each category needed on your license. All new applicators must take Core, and at least one category exam to obtain a license.

3. Send in a completed application form (click for downloadable pdf) and $30 license fee to ODA.

4. Register with the Ohio Department of Agriculture for an exam date and location, register online or by calling the ODA, Pesticide Division at 614-728-6987. (Because of limited space, you may not be able to take the exam if not pre-registered).

Then:
5. ODA will mail your test results (and a license application form if you have not already sent one).

6. If not already done, send in the completed application form and $30 license fee to ODA. If you need to retake an exam, there are no additional charges.

$30 License Fees should be paid to:
Ohio Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Regulation
8995 E. Main St.
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-3399
Phone: 614-728-6987 or 800-282-1955

http://pested.osu.edu/
If I DO or DON’T have a pesticide license.

If you DO have an Ohio Pesticide Applicator License, follow these steps:

1. Attend a fertilizer certification training class for 2 hours offered in addition to your 3-hour pesticide recertification -- [click here for available programs for private applicators]. Click here for commercial applicator programs.
2. Complete and sign a fertilizer certification form at the end of the training class.
3. You’re done. Because you already have an Ohio private applicator license, there is no charge for the fertilizer certification. You will recertify your fertilizer certification every three years along with your pesticide license.

If you DO NOT have an Ohio Pesticide Applicator License, follow these steps:

1. Attend an initial fertilizer certification training class for 3 hours -- [click here for available programs].
2. Complete and sign a fertilizer certification form at the end of the training class.
3. You will receive an invoice for $30 from the Ohio Department of Agriculture for your license. You will need to recertify for fertilizer certification every three years.

3-Hour classes can be found by clicking here for more information.

Agricultural Fertilizer Certification Training

Who needs a fertilizer certification?
Fertilizer certification is required if you apply fertilizer (other than manure) to more than 50 acres of agricultural production grown primarily for sale. If you have the co-op or other custom applicator make your fertilizer applications, you do not need the certification.

How long is the certification?
The agriculture fertilizer certification period is June 1 to May 30 and is valid for three years. Two hours of recertification training will be required every three years to keep the certification. Applicators who currently have a pesticide license will have their fertilizer recertification calibrate to their existing pesticide recertification cycle.

Who is exempt from the training requirement?
Applicators who are a Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) or Ohio Certified Livestock Manager are not required to attend training to become certified for fertilizer applications.

When do I need the certification?
The certification must be obtained by September 30, 2017.

What training is required for the certification?
Farmers and applicators need to attend a training course offered by Ohio State University Extension to become certified. Those who have a pesticide applicator license need to attend a two-hour fertilizer certification for private applicators or for commercial applicators.

If an applicator does not have a pesticide license, they will be required to attend a three-hour fertilizer certification.

How much is the agricultural fertilizer certification?
The agricultural fertilizer certification is $30 for a three-year certification. If an applicator already has a valid pesticide license, the $30 fertilizer certification fee will be waived.

What fertilizer is included in the certification?
Fertilizer is any substance containing nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, or other plant nutrient in a dry or liquid formulation. All application types (broadcast, side dress, sub-surface, knifing, etc.) are included in the certification requirement. The only application exempted is start-up fertilizers that are applied through a planter. For this certification requirement, lime and limestone are not considered fertilizers.

Are there any more details?
The final rules for the agricultural fertilizer certification are available at: [http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/901%3A5](http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/901%3A5)

[http://pested.osu.edu/NutrientEducation/index.html](http://pested.osu.edu/NutrientEducation/index.html)
Ohio Ag Managers News

December 2015

In this Issue:

- Farm Succession Workshop to be held in Medina County on January 21 & 28, 2016
- Ten Strategies to Survive Tight Grain Margins
- Ohio Nutrient Management Record Keeper (OnMRK) Available
- Examining Land Values, Rents, Crop Input Costs & Margins in 2016
- 2016 Ohio Corn and Soybean Enterprise Budgets Project Lower Costs But Low to Negative Returns
- Farm Management School Teaches Small, Beginning Producers Farm Finances
- EPA Proposes Changes to the Certification and Training of Pesticide Applicators
- Develop Written Farmland Lease Agreements

Subscribe
Readers can subscribe electronically to this newsletter by sending an e-mail message to: ohioagmanager-on@ag.osu.edu.

Contact your local Ohio State University Extension Office or e-mail David Marrison if you have problems subscribing.

FARMERS TAX GUIDES AVAILABLE

The Farmer’s Tax Guides are available at the OSU Extension Office in Clermont County. The Farmer’s Tax Guides are free and possibly the last year of a printed version.
Time to Garden…

Who has received their first 2016 gardening catalog? I did. I did - just before the New Year. Even though we have had a warm winter thus far, it still makes you start thinking about corn on the cob and sliced tomatoes.

Now is the time to start planning that garden for 2016. Gather your seed resources. Look at your garden plot from 2015 and think about your wants and needs for 2016. What grew well, what did not, and what needs changed.

It's a good idea to have a garden organizer for each year.

1. 3-ring binder or folder – type and size are up to you
2. Lined notebook paper
3. Blank hole punched paper
4. Graph paper
5. Divider sheets
6. 3-hole punch pocket zipper files
7. Pencils (mechanical, unless you carry your sharpener with you)
8. Colored pencils
9. Utensil holder
10. Ruler

Identifying plants
- Markers/Tags – works great if weather and critter proof, but is there a fool proof method, not really!
- Map of garden – label each section and plants located within each section
- Keep a backup map- make a copy, scan to computer, computer generated map, etc.

Record Information
- Variety of plant (ie. Tomato Big boy)
- Date planted
- Expected harvest date
- Fertilizer and pesticide dates
  - Pesticide really important for withdrawal before harvest

Clermont Master Gardeners

Master Gardener’s of Clermont County work with OSU Extension to provide education about horticultural topics. Each Master Gardener volunteer has received training through OSU and has volunteered their time to several projects in Clermont County.

A few of their programs include:
- Cincinnati Nature Center
  - Krippendorf Herb Wall
  - Butterfly Garden
- Clermont County Public Library System – educational programs
- Valley View Foundation – gardening education series
- Garden Clubs and Civic Organization
- 4-H project judging
- Clermont County Fair Display

Like Clermont Master Gardeners of Facebook. Click here!
The New and Small Farm College is an eight-week program that introduces new and even seasoned farmers to a wide variety of topics. The program will teach participants how to set goals, plan, budget, and where to find resources available for them if they choose to start a small farming operation. The course will lay out how to manage financial and farm records. Extension Educators will illustrate many different enterprises that can be profitable on land as small as one acre. The educators will show the benefits and pitfalls of each enterprise so that the participant will be able to pick and choose what may work best for them and what suits their interest. To round out the experience, a tour will be held around area farms so that participants can see firsthand how small farm life works, and also make contacts with practicing farmers in the area.

Topics covered in the program include:
- Getting started in the planning process
- Sources of assistance
- Agricultural legal issues
- Insurance considerations for the farm
- Inventory of natural resources
- Financial and production record keeping
- Crops and horticulture production
- Animal Production
- Marketing

Class Locations: All classes are from 6:30 – 9:00 pm

Cost: $150.00 for single attendee
- Price includes one notebook, meals, refreshments, soil test and farm tour
- Additional family member = $100.00 per individual (does not include a notebook)

Southern State Community College
Brown County Campus
351 Brooks-Malott Road, Mt. Orab, OH 45154
- Brown Co. classes are Wednesdays, Jan 20—Mar 16. Limited to 50 participants.

OSU Extension Athens County
280 W. Union Street, Athens, OH 45701
- Athens Co. classes are Thursdays, Jan 21—Mar 10. Limited to 40 participants.

Miami County: First Baptist Church
53 S. Norwich, Troy, OH 45373
- Miami Co. classes are Mondays, Jan 25—Mar 14. Limited to 40 participants.

GAP for Tobacco Producers

The first Good Agricultural Practices session for 2016 tobacco producers will be held on Thursday, February 25 at the West Union, OH Frisch’s at 1:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required by calling the Adams County Extension office at 937-544-2339. Barbie will take your registration information. Space is limited. David Dugan, Extension Educator will be the trainer. For additional dates and locations contact the same number above.

Hops & Malting Barley Conference

February 24th and 25th, 2016 at the Fisher Auditorium and the Shisler Conference Center in Wooster, Ohio

New this year - sessions for the beginner and advanced hop growers, and also barley growers!
For full details and registration, go to http://go.osu.edu/OhioHopsAndBarleyConference

Deadline for attendees to register is Friday, February 5, 2016. Seats are limited!
Tri-State Green Industry Conference

The Tri-State Green Industry Conference is a collaborative effort between Ohio State University Extension, Purdue Extension, University of Kentucky Extension, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, and the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden. It features a variety of high quality education and training for professionals and also features a vendor trade show.

- 8 Education Tracks: Annuals & Perennials, Tree & Shrub Care, Turfgrass Management, Garden Center & Greenhouse Innovation, General Pest & Disease Management, Emerging Ideas & Issues, Sustainable Landscaping and Sediment & Erosion Control.
- Credits pending for Ohio/Kentucky/Indiana Pesticide Applicators, CEU’s for ISA Certified Arborists, Landscape Architects and ONLA Certified Nursery Technicians
- Keynote Speaker - Tom Smarr, Director of Horticulture of the Parklands at Floyds Fork in Louisville, KY

Thursday, February 4, 2016
Sharonville Convention Center
11355 Chester Rd
Cincinnati, OH 45246

Prices are the same as the 2015 Conference!!

Program Details and Registration now online at:
http://go.osu.edu/BHDz

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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.

LOCAL FOODS PROGRAM
March 17, 2016
“Marketing Training with Ohio Proud”
Clermont County Fairgrounds 4-H Hall
Further information to come!