

NEWSLETTER

NOBLE COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DECEMBER | 2016

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org



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Noble County Extension Office

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Season's Greetings Readers,

December has begun! For Extension, that means it is time to start planning for a new year of training courses. This winter there will be many open education events and certification courses offered to help you gear up for a successful year. There is always something new happening in the realm of ag-certifications. The big thing for 2017 is Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training (FACT). Check out the flyer on page 6 to see if FACT is something you need to acquire before September 2017. Livestock Mortality Composting Training (LMCT) will be offered this winter. Composting is an economical and efficient method of disposal for livestock. Certification is needed in the State of Ohio to compose cattle, horses, poultry, sheep, goats, and swine. Find out more about this training on page 4. Pesticide Applicator Training (PAT) will also be offered this winter. If you need to recertify this year, be sure to mark your calendar for January 26. If you are new to PAT or need a commercial license, let us know and we can direct you to the appropriate training class. Extension will also be offering a series of educational webinars that you may find of interest. More details are available on page 5. I hope you will join us for one. Best wishes to you and yours this holiday season!

Sincerely,
Christine Gelley

Christine Gelley- OSU Extension Educator



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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>.

Farm Talk Breakfast

You are invited!

Farm Talk Breakfast will be held at the Noble County Extension Office on December 15, 2016 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. Farm Talk is held on a rotational basis around Noble County and serves as a chance for agriculturalists to meet for discussion about current events and pressing issues in agriculture. RSVPs are appreciated by December 12th at Noon. A hot, fresh, homemade breakfast will accompany discussion. For more information or to RSVP contact Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator-Christine Gelley at the Noble County OSU Extension office.

Discussion Topic: Veterinary Feed Directives
Are you prepared for January 1, 2017?

Thursday,
December 15
8:30-10:00 a.m.

Location: Noble County OSU Extension Office at the Noble County Service Complex- 46049 Marietta Rd. Caldwell, OH 43724
Enter through Suite 2 and proceed to the large conference room.

Cost: \$5 donation

Contact: ANR Educator-Christine Gelley at 740-732-5681 or
gelley.2@osu.edu to register by Noon on December 12th.



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Veterinary Feed Directive-Frequently Asked Questions

Originally Published on May 5, 2016 by [Christine Gelley](#)

Effective January 1, 2017 livestock producers will need a Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) to purchase feeds/supplements that contain “medically important” antibiotics (antibiotics used for both animal and human medicine), including tetracycline, penicillin, neomycin, and others. The implementation of this federal policy sparks many questions within the livestock community.

1. **What is a VFD?** A VFD is a written statement from a veterinarian which authorizes the use of antibiotic feeds for a specific situation. While this sounds like a prescription, by definition it is not. The main difference is that a prescription must be filled by a pharmacist, while a VFD does not.
2. **Why do we need VFDs?** Within the multitude of producers, there are a handful who have used these feeds as a crutch to support sub-par animal husbandry practices or to take advantage of the increased feed efficiency linked to the feed, rather than to treat, prevent, or cure disease. Over use of these antibiotics increases the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria.
3. **Can I stockpile feed before January 1, 2017?** You should not. If you notice, the tags on these feeds already state that they should not be fed without a VFD and when 2017 begins the policy is effective whether the feed was purchased before or after January 1st. If misuse of the feeds is discovered, the producer will be reprimanded. In turn, if a retailer sells the product without a VFD from the buyer, both parties will be reprimanded.
4. **If I get a VFD and follow the rules, does it mean that when I finish the treatment regime I have to discard the leftovers and buy a new bag next time?** No, you can keep the product until it expires, but you must have a valid VFD to feed it at any time. VFDs do expire.
5. **Can my vet renew my VFD?** Yes.
6. **How long do I have to keep record of my VFD?** You, your vet, and the retailer should all keep a copy on file for at least 2 years and it should be accessible upon demand from the FDA.
7. **What do I need to do before January 1st?** Maintain your relationship with your veterinarian. If you do not already have a relationship with a vet, establish one.
8. **How much does a VFD cost?** There will be cost associated with a VFD, although there is no set price. Cost will depend on the circumstance and your relationship with your veterinarian.
9. **Are there exceptions to obtaining VFDs based on the number of livestock in consideration?** Whether you intend to offer these feeds or supplements to one animal or your whole herd, you still need a VFD which explains the scope of the situation.
10. **How can I learn more about VFDs?** Visit <http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/ucm455413.htm> or talk with your veterinarian.

The information in this article is adapted from the words of Dr. Justin Kiefer, DVM at The Ohio State University and announcements from the Food and Drug Administration.

Basic Disease Prevention Goes a Long Way in Herd Health

Originally Published on October 31, 2016 by [Christine Gelley](#)

Caring for groups of livestock and groups of young children share many similarities when it comes to disease prevention and control. I am reminded of this a week after Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease (HFMD) came home with our daughter for the third time since August. Since they often inhabit the same spaces, they eat, drink, and play together. Both young children and livestock taste surfaces while exploring their environments. It's wonderful for developing social skills and also wonderful for spreading pathogens. Neither toddlers or livestock can effectively wash their bodies after every encounter with an infected individual or contaminated surface. As caregivers, we have to do our best to prevent disease from entering the system, because once it is there, control becomes increasingly challenging. Some illnesses can be treated effectively with antibiotics, but the more we use antibiotics, the greater resistance is built within the bacterial population. Not to mention, that viruses (like HFMD) cannot be treated with antibiotics. Given all this, the best way to fight illness is through prevention.

Beginning on January 1, 2017 Veterinary Feed Directives (VFD) will be required for use of any fed antibiotics for livestock that are also medically important for humans. A VFD is similar to a prescription, but does not need to be filled by a pharmacist, only approved by your veterinarian. Feed stores can continue to sell feeds and minerals containing antibiotics, but the seller must have a current VFD to buy them. Antibiotic feeds have been used for years as ways to prevent and treat bacterial illnesses in livestock and this has helped improve herd health. In conjunction, antibiotic feeds have been used unethically by some parties to promote weight gain or to compensate for sub-par management practices. Research has shown and concluded that overuse of antibiotics increases resistance to their effectiveness in the long run. Therefore, it is important for human and animal health to only use antibiotics when disease is a present threat (not just suspected) and in an ethical manner.

There are many ways to stop disease before it starts and they have been identified for livestock producers in quality assurance (QA) guidelines. To quote the [Good Production Practices \(GPP\)](#) factsheet, “It is every animal owner’s responsibility to assure that proper management and welfare are at the core of animal care.” There are ten core GPPs:

1. Use an appropriate veterinarian/client/patient relationship as the basis for medication decision-making.
2. Establish and implement an efficient and effective health management plan.
3. Use antibiotics responsibly.
4. Properly store and administer animal health products.
5. Follow proper feed processing protocols.
6. Establish effective animal identification, medication records and withdrawal times.
7. Practice good environmental stewardship.
8. Maintain proper workplace safety.
9. Provide proper animal care.
10. Utilize tools for continuous improvement.

Bees need VFDs too!
Find out more about VFDs for bees
at: <http://u.osu.edu/beelab>



These are the core guidelines for herd health. Inevitably, disease will still get through our barriers on occasion. When it does consult your veterinarian about how to treat the herd, whether it be with medication, isolation of infected animals, or improved practices. The best things you can do in preparation for VFD implementation in 2017 is to establish and maintain a relationship with your veterinarian and follow QA guidelines.

Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification Training

Sections Offered: Core, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7

January 26, 2017 6-8:30 pm

Mid-East Career and Technical Center
57090 Vocational Rd, Senecaville, OH 43780

Contact: Clif Little- Guernsey County OSU Extension
Email: little.16@osu.edu Phone: 740-489-5300

More information is available at <http://pested.osu.edu>.

Livestock Mortality Composting Training

January 31, 2017 6-8:00 pm

OSU Extension Southeast Regional Office
16714 Wolf Run Road Caldwell, OH 43724

Certification Class Taught by OSU ANR Extension Educators:
Christine Gelley- Noble Co. & Marcus McCartney- Washington Co.

Cost: \$10 includes training manual and light refreshments

Please call Noble County OSU Extension at 740-732-5681
to register before January 24th.

Certificates of Completion will be mailed from OSU after completing the course.

Beef School and Ag Crops Webinar Schedule

Beef School: The 2017 school will take a close look at each of the three primary areas of production: cow/calf, backgrounding, and the feedlot.

- January 17, 2017
- February 7, 2017
- February 28, 2017

Beef School webinars will have a small cost to attend and will be determined based on the number of people expected. Please call to RSVP.

Ag Crops: The Corn, Soybean and Wheat Connection Webinars are an outreach tool of the OSU Agronomic Crops Team that are of interest to producers and Certified Crop Advisors across the state.

- January 31, 2017
 - Topic: Corn & Fungicide
- February 21, 2017
 - Topic: Cover Crops & Soil Health

*All webinars will be broadcast live
on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at the
OSU Extension Southeast Regional Office
16714 Wolf Run Road Caldwell, OH 43724
Call 740-732-5681 to RSVP.*

Get Certified!

Ohio Agricultural Fertilizer Certification

Time is Running Out!

Who needs 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.

What kind of fertilizer is included in the certification?

Fertilizer is a dry or liquid product with a guaranteed analysis containing nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, or other plant nutrient. All application types (broadcast, side dress, sub-surface, knifing, etc.) are included in the certification requirement. Fertilizer application through the planter, and lime or manure application are **exempt**.

When do I need certification?

Before September 30, 2017 — but don't wait — most classes will be offered in WINTER 2017!

How do I become certified?

Take a Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training (FACT) offered through your county OSU Extension office. If you have an Ohio Pesticide license, take a two-hour course; if not, you must take a three-hour course. **Don't wait until September 2017 because most classes will be offered between January and March of 2017.** Look for these to be posted in late fall 2016 at NutrientEducation.osu.edu. Sign up online or call your county office!

Next Certification Meeting:

Date Thursday, February 16 Time 6-9 p.m.

Place OSU Extension Southeast Region Office
16714 Wolf Run Rd. Caldwell, OH 43724



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Noble County Agriculture & Natural Resources Clientele Interest Survey

Please take a few minutes to complete this questionnaire. We will use the information we receive to provide programming and information that will be of value to your interests. Personal information is optional. *Thank you for helping us better serve our community!*

Please circle the areas below that you would be interested in receiving information/programming on in the future.

- Livestock Management
 - ☐ Beef
 - ☐ Sheep
 - ☐ Goats
 - ☐ Swine
 - ☐ Poultry
 - ☐ Bees
 - ☐ Other:
- Crop Production
 - ☐ Corn
 - ☐ Beans
 - ☐ Wheat
 - ☐ Vegetable
 - ☐ Fruit
 - ☐ Other
- Pasture Management
 - ☐ Forage
 - ☐ Fencing
 - ☐ Water Systems
 - ☐ Other:
- Master Gardener Volunteers
- Home Gardening
- Meat Processing
- Forestry
- Machinery
- Composting
- Mineral Rights
- Pond Management
- Wildlife Management
- Other:

Name	Address	Phone/Email



Return form to:
Christine Gelley, ANR Educator
OSU Extension Noble County
46049 Marietta Rd., Suite 2 Caldwell, OH 43724
740-732-5681
Email : gelley.2@osu.edu

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<http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity>.

Farmer's Market Workshop

Do you want to learn more about what can take your farm market stand from good to great? Join us for a workshop on ways to make it happen!

**Wednesday
February 22, 2017
1-3 PM**

**Noble County Extension Office
46049 Marietta Rd., Suite 2
Caldwell, OH 43055**

Featuring Special Guest:

Amanda Osborne
Cuyahoga County OSU Extension

Amanda is a Community Development Educator with expansive experience in food access and farmers' markets. Amanda is also member of the Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association and the American Community Garden Association.

November Recap

Here's what was happening through our office in November 2016:



The Venison: From Field to Table workshop was held on November 16th drawing a great crowd for the demonstration and presentations. Thank you to all who volunteered time and materials for this event! Thank you Hunter Schott for donating your buck for the demo!

The **Holiday Wreath Making Workshop** left lasting impressions with the 24 ladies who joined the Noble County Master Gardener Volunteers for the class. Each fresh evergreen wreath was beautiful and unique.



Do you have a 2016 levy sign?

If you have an Extension Levy support yard sign from the past 2016 election, we would like to collect it. Give us a call with your name, address, and phone number and we will arrange to have it picked up. You can also drop signs off at our office anytime. Thank you for supporting OSU Extension in Noble County!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

- **The Ohio Sheep Improvement Association's *Buckeye Shepherd's Symposium*** will be held on December 9th & 10th at OARDC in Wooster. This year's focus will be "Increasing Flock Productivity through Health, Genetics, Nutrition and Labor Saving Devices."
- **The Ohio Christmas Tree Association's *Winter Meeting*** will be held on January 20th & 21st in Newark. The meeting will feature 7 educational topic sessions and catered lunch.
- **Knox County & Morrow County Extension are offering the "New and Small Farm College"** this winter. *If you are interested in learning how to make the most of a few acres, this eight-week course is just for you! It's filled with practical knowledge on a variety of topics.* Classes will be Monday evenings from 6-9 p.m. January 9th – February 27th in Fredericktown. Enrollment is \$150/person including class materials, dinners, and a soil sample evaluation. The first 50 to register will be enrolled. January 2, 2017 is the deadline to submit registration.
- **Registration forms and schedules are available for these events at the Noble County Extension Office. Drop by to learn more or visit us online.**
- You can now follow Noble County OSU ANR on Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest! Links to these sites can be found at the county website: noble.osu.edu.
- Check out Christine's ANR blog at u.osu.edu/gelley.2 and the Buckeye Hills ANR blog at <http://u.osu.edu/bhanr/>.

