

NEWSLETTER

NOBLE COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

JANUARY | 2017



Dear Readers,

I hope that you have enjoyed the holidays with family and friends, reflecting on pleasant memories and sharing hopes for many more. Reflection is common this time of year for many. Taking some quiet moments to reflect on the past year can help shape resolutions for the next. What are your resolutions for 2017? Perhaps I can convince you of one.

This may seem mundane, but keep accurate and detailed records. As you prepare for tax season and gather together your records for 2016, take note of what problems you encounter. What items were missing or difficult to understand? How can you make the process more streamlined for next year? Tax time can often reveal overlooked financial gaps. What can you do to fill those gaps for next year? The best answer I have is to keep records.

Keeping all your information in a common book or file and in sequential order can save you frustration later on. Did you know that Extension provides helpful resources like farm record books and even helpful tools for managing an anticipated financial crisis? If you find record keeping a challenge, you are not alone. That is the very reason why we provide resources to help you get organized. Now is a perfect time to utilize these resources to help you have a financially healthy and happy New Year. Feel free to contact the Extension Office if you would like to learn more.

My best wishes to you and yours for 2017!

Sincerely,

Christine Gelley

Christine Gelley- OSU Extension Educator

Page 2: Farm Talk Breakfast
Page 3: Winter Weather Safety
Page 4: Pesticide Applicator Training
Page 5: Livestock Composting Class
Page 6: Fertilizer Applicator Training
Page 7-8: Hay Testing for Rationing
Page 9: Ag Webinar Schedule
Page 10: Farmer's Market Workshop
Page 11: Kindred Gardens
Page 12: Monthly Reminders

Noble County Extension Office

46049 Marietta Rd., Suite 2

Caldwell, OH 43721

Phone: 740-732-5681

Fax: 740-732-5434

Email: gelley.2@osu.edu

URL: noble.osu.edu

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



Farm Talk Breakfast

You are invited!

Farm Talk Breakfast will be held at the Noble County Extension Office on January 10, 2017 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 January 9th 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: Winter Mineral Supplementation for Beef Cattle
Presented by Chris Penrose
ANR Extension Educator, Morgan Co.

Tuesday,
January 10, 2017

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 January 9th.

noble.osu.edu



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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

Winter Weather Safety

By Christine Gelley

First Published in *The Journal* on January 2, 2017

Although I am excited to see what is in store for 2017, I wouldn't mind speeding through January. January always seems to drag along for me. Maybe it's the end of the holidays, the short days, or the cold temperatures that makes the difference. Any or all of these could be the culprit, considering that January is on average the coldest month of the year in Ohio. I am grateful that here in the southeastern region of the state snow and ice is less prevalent than for our northern neighbors who regularly experience lake-effect snow. However, snow and ice cause safety concerns for most of the nation during January and February. According to the *2017 Farmers' Almanac* the Midwest is expected to have a numbingly cold and snowy winter, with frigid temperatures ensuing in February. Get ready while conditions are still mild and stay safe till spring with some of these winter weather safety tips:

- **Snow Removal-** Shoveling snow is strenuous exercise that can be compared to weight lifting. Overexertion is common with this task and most of us have probably heard stories about someone who had a heart attack while shoveling snow. It is very important to stretch first, dress appropriately, pace yourself, take breaks as needed, and stay hydrated. Getting an early start is a good idea. As snow sits, it compresses, increasing in density. One cubic foot of snow alone can weigh 12 lbs. Taking many small scoops is less strenuous on your body than taking fewer large scoops. Pushing snow to clear traffic areas is a less taxing method than shoveling. Be sure to use your whole body in the process; bending at the knees rather than the waist, holding the shovel head close to your body for better leverage, turning your body rather than twisting your torso, and dropping snow to the side rather than throwing it over your shoulder. Keep a supply of salt or ice melt on hand to sprinkle on walkways as you go. If possible, use labor saving tools like snow blowers and plows. These pieces of equipment have their own sets of guidelines and required maintenance for safe and efficient use.
- **Slips and Falls-** We would all like to avoid slips and falls. I tend to get caught off guard by ice at least once a year, finding myself cold, wet, and slightly stunned afterwards. Do your best to observe your surroundings before embarking on a walk. Wear good shoes with a non-slip sole. Don't carry too much at a time and be sure you have good footing before stepping out of cars or off/on stairs. Knowing how to fall can help protect you from injury if a fall occurs. Resist the urge to hold out your hands. Landing on your hands can easily break your wrist(s). Instead make a fist and throw up your forearm while tucking your head to your chest. Try to twist or roll to your side. The more of your body that hits the ground the more the force of the fall will be distributed. Stay loose. Don't stiffen your limbs to try to break your fall. Think about how you would land if you were jumping rather than falling. It is much better to absorb the shock of the fall with your bum than with your head or back.
- **Vehicle Maintenance-** Is your vehicle winter ready? Before winter really hits, it would be a good idea to check all your fluid levels, your battery, your windshield wipers, ignition, thermostat, lights, breaks, and tires. Avoid letting the fuel level drop below a ½ tank between trips during cold weather and take special considerations for long trips. In the day and age of smart devices and GPS units, road maps may seem obsolete, but once the power source for those devices fail, you'd wish you had a road map. So, keep one in your glove box just in case. In addition, make yourself a winter car kit in case of an emergency on the road. Good items to include are: flashlights with extra batteries, jumper cables, a first aid kit, a pocket knife, any necessary medications, eyewear, blankets, newspapers, plastic bags, matches, extra clothes, a bag of sand or kitty litter, a compact shovel, a common tool kit, non-perishable high-energy foods, and bottled water.
- **The Stranded Traveler-** If you become stranded in a car during adverse weather, stay in the vehicle until help arrives or becomes visible within 100 yards. Indicate that you are in distress by displaying a symbol like a brightly colored cloth on an antenna or by raising your hood. Conserve fuel and battery power by running the engine for 10 minutes each hour, using the car battery to charge devices and turn on the lights while the car is running. Be sure the tail pipe of the vehicle is clear to prevent a buildup of carbon monoxide and slightly crack a window for ventilation. Do minor exercises to promote circulation and use items in the car for insulation of your body heat. Stay hydrated and keep watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia. If you ever encounter someone developing these conditions offer them water. Do not offer them drinks with caffeine or alcohol, both can traumatically effect the victim's heart. Warm the trunk of the body before the extremities. This promotes the movement of warm blood to the extremities, rather than cold blood toward the heart. Do everything possible to stay warm, dry, and nourished until help arrives or the storm passes.



The best way to stay safe this winter is, to quote the Boy Scout Motto, "Be Prepared!"

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

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>.

A private pesticide applicator license is required to legally apply any pesticides labeled for *restricted-use*.

Do you need to become a licensed private applicator? Yes, if you are:

- Applying *restricted-use* pesticides to your own land or rented land to produce an agricultural commodity.
- Applying *restricted-use* pesticides to other areas on your farm such as grain bins, ponds, livestock, etc.

What is the purpose of licensing pesticide applicators?

Licensing is required to ensure applicators responsibly use restricted-use pesticides without causing harm to themselves, the public, or the environment.

Do you need the license to apply fertilizer?

Fertilizer applicator certification is separate from pesticide applicator licensing. Information about becoming certified for fertilizer applications is available at nutrienteducation.osu.edu or by contacting OSU Extension county offices.

License Renewal and Recertification

Your private pesticide applicator license will expire every **three years** on March 31. Before the license expires, you will need to:

- Pay \$30 to the Ohio Department of Agriculture.
- Re-test in Core and each category on your license **OR** attend 3 hours of recertification training.

Recertification training is available through OSU Extension county programs. For a listing of programs, visit pested.osu.edu or your county OSU Extension office.

You will receive a letter from ODA before your license expires reminding you to renew and attend recertification training (or retake the exams).



For questions about study guides, recertification, and training opportunities, contact your county OSU Extension office or:

Pesticide Safety Education Program
Ohio State University Extension
614-292-4070 • pested.osu.edu



For questions about licensing and exams, contact:

Ohio Department of Agriculture
614-728-6987 • agri.ohio.gov



OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION



Livestock Mortality Composting Training

January 31, 2017

6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Space is limited.
Call today!**

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.

Composting is an economical and efficient method of disposal for livestock. Certification is needed in the State of Ohio to compost cattle, horses, poultry, sheep, goats, and swine.

Official certificates will be mailed from OSU after completing the course.



Livestock Mortality Composting Registration

\$10 cost per person

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
E-mail _____

Detach registration and return with \$10 by January 24, 2017 or call to make other arrangements.

Make check payable to OSU Extension and mail to: OSU Extension Noble County Attention: Christine Gelley 46049 Marietta Rd.
Suite 2, Caldwell, OH 43724.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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

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



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Hay Testing for Efficient Winter Feeding

By Christine Gelley

First Published by Farm and Dairy on January 5, 2017

As the new year begins, most Ohio graziers are probably feeding a good portion of hay as a part of their animals' daily ration. Even if there is a supply of stockpiled forage available, we tend to make hay available just in case they need a little extra. It is likely that grain is also part of that daily ration. Well, how do you know how much hay, grain, and pasture they need? No one wants to leave their animals hungry. In addition, we don't want to waste time or money with unnecessary feeding. Figuring out the balance can seem like a guessing game, but a great place to start is with a hay test.

Testing the hay you are feeding is well worth the price of sample analysis. Collecting a sample is not complicated and typically results are available from the lab within two weeks. You can acquire the tools and kits on your own to submit samples, or you can find them at most county Extension offices and often from Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Ag co-ops usually offer sample analysis services as well. Whoever you chose to go through, be sure to select the analysis package that will give you the detailed results you desire. The package that costs the least will probably still leave you guessing. My typical suggestion is to select a test that will give you values for moisture, crude protein (CP), acid detergent fiber (ADF), neutral detergent fiber (NDF), total digestible nutrients (TDN), and Relative Feed Value (RFV). Once you receive the results of your analysis, the challenge of interpreting the values arises. How do you know what values are good or bad?

Your hay test results will list values on a dry matter (DM) and an as-fed basis. Nutrients will appear to be higher for DM basis, because all the remaining water (% moisture) in the hay has been factored out. For CP, values of 8% or greater are desired. For ADF, lower is better. Increased ADF values equal decreased digestibility. Neutral detergent fiber is the amount of total fiber in the sample, which is typically above 60% for grasses and above 45% for legumes. As NDF increases, animal intake generally decreases. For TDN and RFV, the greater the values, the more desirable the forage. These values are useful for comparing your forage to other feeds available on the market. Once you have these values compiled you can start formulating rations based on nutritional values of the hay.

First, consider the needs of your animal. Stage of life, current weight, desired weight, and environmental conditions are all important factors. For the sake of an example, let's assume we are developing a ration for a growing Angus heifer. Currently, she weighs about 800 lbs. and we want her to gain about 200 lbs. by the end of March. Ideally, we would like her to gain about 2 lbs./day. Now, let's take a look at a hay test example and assume it is for our hay (see Figure 1.1). *cont'd...*

Figure 1.1:

Sample #:	Field 1
Sample Type	Fescue Hay
Moisture (%)	15.91
Dry Matter (%)	84.09
Crude Protein (DM%)	12.53
Fiber ADF (DM%)	37.79
Fiber NDF (DM%)	72.03
Total Digestible Nutrients	59
Relative Feed Value	77



According to the information from our hay sample and the recommendations from the National Research Council for beef cows, we could expect this animal to eat about 21 lbs. of hay daily and gain 1.75 lb./day, coming in just short of our goal. This hay should be adequate for meeting the heifer's energy needs as her main feedstuff. If we think it is worth the investment, supplementing with some high energy, high protein grain could help reach our desired average daily gain (ADG).

Soybean meal has an average of about 44% CP. Supplementing 1-2 lbs. of soybean meal (a pelleted form will increase animal intake) should provide the additional nutrition to reach our goal. Whole shell corn is about 9% CP, which is lower than the CP content of our hay. Unless we are concerned about our hay supply, supplementing corn may not be significantly beneficial.

This was just one example of how a hay test can help with the development of livestock rations. Recommendations will vary depending on types of hay, time of year, animal species, stage of life, and production goals. With so much possible variation, every little bit of knowledge we can secure is helpful for developing production goals and expectations.

Hay tests may not reveal ideal results and they can vary drastically between cuttings. That is the reality of attempting to manage nature. We can rarely do anything under ideal circumstances, but we do the best we can. As you look ahead to the next growing season and putting up hay once again, do everything you can to efficiently improve forage quality and nutritive value of your stored resources. The better the nutritive value of your forage, the less you will need to supplement and the more money you can keep in your pocket. Testing and formulating rations takes some effort, but once it becomes routine it will come with greater ease.

With that, I will leave you with a quote from Jim Rohn, "Success is neither magical nor mysterious. Success is the natural consequence of consistently applying the basic fundamentals."



Noble County
MASTER GARDENER
VOLUNTEERS



- Do you want to learn more about plants and gardening?
- Do you enjoy sharing your knowledge with others?
- Are you eager to participate in a practical and intensive training program?
- Do you have the time to attend training and serve your community as a volunteer educator?

If you answered **"YES!"** to these questions, then you may enjoy joining the Noble County Master Gardener Volunteers in 2017!

For more information, visit noble.osu.edu or call: 740-732-5681.

Beef School and Ag Crops Webinar Schedule

*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. Please RSVP at least 1 week before the broadcast.*

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. There will be a \$10 cover charge to include attendance to your choice of one, two, or all three webinars:

- January 17, 2017
 - Topic: Cow & Calf-Enhancing Profitability- Dr. Justin Rhinehart, Associate Professor, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist, University of Tennessee Department of Animal Science, will discuss how genetics and nutrition are key components of reproduction management that will keep females productive. Dr. Amy Radunz, Associate Professor, Beef Cattle Production, University of Wisconsin, River Falls, will cover how nutrition and management during gestation impacts the lifetime development of the resulting calf.
- February 7, 2017
 - Topic: Background/Stocker Cattle Management- Dr. Francis Fluharty, Research Professor, The Ohio State University Department of Animal Sciences, will compare grazing versus confinement growing systems for feeder cattle. Dr. Fluharty will evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of these two distinctly different management systems and explore how calf health and management impact the end product.
- February 28, 2017
 - Topic: Managing Feedlot Cattle for the Consumer- Dr. Justin Sexten, Supply Development Director for Certified Angus Beef, discussing “Meeting consumer demand: Perspective from the feed yard to the consumer.” He will challenge the audience to consider questions such as: How do feeder, packer, grocer and restaurateur demands influence the decisions the cow-calf manager makes? Does an end-user focused cow herd work on the farm? What opportunities exist to capture value added processes?

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. These webinars are free to attend.

- January 31, 2017
 - Topic: Corn & Fungicide- Dr. Peter Thomison and Dr. Pierce Paul, OARDC, Plant Pathology will speak on “Assessing Growing Conditions and Impact on Ear Rots, Mycotoxins and Malformation in Corn”
- February 21, 2017
 - Topic: Cover Crops & Soil Health- Dr. Steve Culman and Dr. Ryan Haden, Ag/Eng Technologies, OARDC, will speak on “Improving Soil Health and Using Cover Crops”



CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: <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.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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

New Program in 2017!

Kindred Gardens

Gardening for Seniors



Kindred Gardens will be a program that offers stimulating gardening activities to seniors through a series of hands-on classes.

All activities will be offered at no charge, but space may be limited. Please RSVP for each session. Programs will be held in rotation at central senior gathering places in Noble County where transportation and facilities are accessible for all. More details will be available soon!

Five series segments will be offered throughout 2017, each including an activity associated with gardening.

The planned segments are:

- *February-Fighting Cabin Fever*
- *April-April Showers Bring May Flowers*
- *June-Homegrown Healthy Helpings*
- *September-Abundant Harvest*
- *November-Winter Windowsill Wonders*

To find out more about Kindred Gardens call Christine Gelley at the Noble County OSU Extension Office
740-732-5681
or email
gelley.2@osu.edu.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

- **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.
- **Power Show Ohio** will take place January 26-28th at the Ohio Expo Center in Columbus. The show is open from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. daily and admission is \$10 per carload. \$2 off coupons are available at the Extension Office! Visit www.PowerShowOhio.com to learn more.
- **Farm Bureau's 5 County 2017 Membership Kickoff** will be held on Monday, January 30th at Meadowbrook High School in Byesville with dinner beginning at 6 p.m. Ohio FB Exec. VP-Adam Sharp will be the featured speaker. Attendance is free for paid members and their spouse. RSVP by January 20th to 1-740-425-3681 or email noble@ofbf.org.
- **The Guernsey-Noble Beekeepers *Beginners' Beekeeping Class*** will be held on Saturday, February 4th commencing at the Noble County Soil and Water Conservation District Office and ending at Noble County Bee Inspector- Don Crock's apiary. The class is \$35 and includes membership to the association. To register call Don Crock at 740-581-1883 or email doncrock@yahoo.com.
- **The Noble County Cattlemen's Association *Annual Meeting*** will be March 30th at 6 p.m. and the **2017 Spring Classic** will be on April 29th beginning at 8 a.m. Mark your calendars!
- **The Noble Soil and Water *Annual Tree & Seed Sale*** has begun! Supplies are limited and available on a first come, first serve basis. The deadline for all orders is March 17th. Products will be available for pick-up in April. Forms are available at the office or at www.nobleswcd.org. Call 740-732-4318 for more information.
- **Pesticide & Fertilizer Applicator Courses** are available in neighboring counties if scheduling conflicts arise for our local classes. Call for additional locations and dates.
- **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/>.

