

# NEWSLETTER

NOBLE COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

JUNE | 2017



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## Dear Readers,

June in rural America is one of my favorite times. The scent of the wind carries hints of hay and honeysuckle. Tractors work the fields. Kids are out of school. Wildlife stirs all around you. It is the perfect time to explore the outdoors. Be adventurous, but stay safe. It is a good idea to expect the unexpected. Before you embark on an adventure, whether it is work or play, let someone know where you are headed in case of an emergency. Keep some basic essentials with you, like these:

- Water- Stay hydrated.
- Snacks- Stay energized.
- Sunscreen- Protect the skin you're in.
- Bug Spray- Repel mosquitos & ticks.
- First Aid Kit- For when good ideas go bad.

Although there is always work to be done, don't neglect to make a little time for play this summer. Rest is essential for recuperating and rejuvenating. So, make time to enjoy the people, places, and endeavors you love. Happy summer!

Sincerely,

*Christine Gelley*

OSU Extension Educator



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>.

**You are invited to:**  
**Farm Talk Lunch**  
**Hay Sampling & Testing Techniques**

**Free  
event!**

**Wednesday,  
June 21, 2017  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**RSVP by  
June 20**

**Eastern Agricultural Research Station  
16870 Twp. Rd. 126  
Caldwell, OH 43724**

*Twp. Rd. 126 connects with SR 215 near Belle Valley.*

**To RSVP call 740-732-5681.**

Lunch will begin at 11:30 a.m. with program and discussion to follow.

**Menu:**

**Loaded Hot Dogs, Picnic Sides, Assorted Desserts, Iced Tea & Lemonade**

## **Hay Test Terms and Abbreviations Defined**

*Definitions from the International Plant Nutrition Institute's Forage Crop Pocket Guide*

**Crude Protein (CP)** – The total quantity of true protein and nonprotein nitrogen present in plant tissue. This can be calculated by multiplying the nitrogen fraction by 6.25.

**Dry Matter (DM)** – The percentage of a plant sample that remains after all water is removed.

**Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF)** – The percentage of cell walls or other plant structural material present. This constituent is only partially digestible by animals. Lower NDF levels are generally associated with higher animal intake.

**Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF)** – The percentage of highly indigestible plant material. Higher ADF levels are generally associated with lower digestibility.

**Digestible Dry Matter (DDM)** – The percentage of the sample that is digestible. DDM is a calculated estimate based on feeding trials and from the measured ADF concentration.

**In Vitro Digestible Dry Matter (IVDDM)** is similar to DDM, but indicates that the digestibility level was determined via a laboratory test as opposed to one which utilized live animals fitted with a port open to the rumen which allows digestion of small samples inside the animals.

**Dry Matter Intake (DMI)** – This is the amount of forage an animal will eat. Estimates of DMI are based on the results from animal feeding trials and the measured NDF concentration of a forage or feed.

**Digestible Dry Matter Intake (DDMI)** – An estimate of how much an animal will consume. It is calculated as follows:  $DDM \times DMI / 100$ .

**Relative Feed Value (RFV)** – An expression of a forage's expected intake by animals and its energy value. It compares one forage to another according to the relationship  $DDM \times DMI / 100$  divided by a constant. RFV is expressed as percent compared to full bloom alfalfa, which has an RFV of 100. In most cases, as RFV increases, forage quality also increases.

## **Gardening Quick Tips & Tricks**

**Need to spray a weed near a sensitive plant?** *Use a contact herbicide (one that must touch the leaf surface to be effective) and cover the sensitive plant with a large box or bucket to prevent off-target application.*

**When you water matters.** *Watering in the evening is the best time. Morning is second best. Avoid watering from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. when the sun's intensity can scorch wet leaves and soil. Water at the roots, not the leaves.*

**Sanitize Tools and Hands.** *Many plant diseases are easily spread by touch. Sanitize tools and hands after working with plants that have pests or disease. Wash your hands after smoking. Tobacco mosaic virus can be passed from cigarette tobacco to other plants (350ish different plants) such as tomatoes and petunias.*

**Keep Plants Flowering & Fruit Setting.** *Pluck off dead heads (spent blossoms) on flowering plants to keep flower production going. When harvesting fruits and veggies, remove the stem with the ripe fruit so that the plant believes it needs to produce more offspring.*

**Heavy Fruit on Upright Plants?** *This may sound unconventional, but old bras work great for supporting heavy tomatoes. Attach the bra to sturdy stakes, as if you are fashioning a clothesline, and position heavy tomatoes to rest in the cups. This will help keep the plant upright and prevent early fruit loss. Light colored bras are better than dark for nearly ripe fruit, because they will reflect sunlight. Dark colors will absorb the sun's light and heat.*



# **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

## **Small Farm and Gardening Safety and Health Series**

**S. Dee Jepsen, Associate Professor and State Safety Leader, Agricultural Safety and Health, Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering**  
**Jeffery Suchy, Graduate Student and Lecturer, Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering**

Farmers and gardeners participate in numerous activities that have the potential to lead to injury. Exposure to chemicals, machinery, environmental conditions and other farm-related activities—without proper training and knowledge—can lead to increased danger and injury. Hospitals or emergency care may be limited or unavailable due to inaccessible locations or distances. Emergency numbers such as 911 should not be relied upon as the primary emergency preparation plan. Follow these planning guidelines to help reduce risk, prepare for unexpected events and minimize the impact of such events.

### **Reducing the Risk of Emergency Events**

- Take classes to learn first aid and CPR, and keep a well-stocked first aid kit readily available at all times.
- Read operator's manuals and learn how to properly operate all equipment before using it for the first time.
- Understand the tasks to be performed and the safest way to complete them.
- Keep track of all potentially hazardous materials and make sure safety data sheets (SDSs) are available in the event of exposure to such materials.
- Recognize when personal protective equipment (PPE) is needed, and make sure it is available and maintained.

### **Preparing for Emergency Events**

- Develop an emergency plan to implement during and after situations and events. Keep others informed of the emergency plan and review it regularly.
- Identify likely on-site hazards:
  - Chemicals, equipment, livestock, etc.
- Establish an emergency contact list and a notification order:
  - Local EMS, county Extension service, insurance company, veterinarian, etc.
- Create a workplace site map, if the location is consistent.
  - Show buildings, roads, barriers, chemical storage areas, utility disconnects, etc.

### **Minimizing the Impact of Emergency Events**

- Stay Calm
- Overreaction can complicate the situation and lead to further confusion and injury.
- If possible, reassure the victim by keeping one rescuer nearby at all times.

### **Designate a Leader**

- Someone experienced in first aid or who has first-aid training should assume leadership. This person should direct rescue efforts until the emergency squad arrives. He/she should communicate with the squad in order to update them on the current situation and the treatments that have been administered.

### **Assign a Specific Person to Call for Help**

- The dispatcher will need to know the location and condition of the rescue site. Notify the dispatcher if the field is muddy, steep, rocky or has otherwise adverse working conditions. Indicate the type of equipment involved in the emergency incident, the number of victims and the extent of their injuries.
- Stay on the phone until help arrives or until dismissed by the dispatcher.

### **Provide Emergency First Aid**

- Restore breathing and circulation if necessary. Apply pressure to lacerations and open wounds. Administer any additional first-aid treatment.

### **References**

- "Plan and Prepare." American Red Cross. 2014. [redcross.org/prepare](http://redcross.org/prepare).
- All Hazards: Resources to help rural communities prepare for disasters and other hazards. Iowa State University: The Center for Food Security & Public Health. 2010. [prep4agthreats.org/All-Hazard-Preparedness/index.php](http://prep4agthreats.org/All-Hazard-Preparedness/index.php).

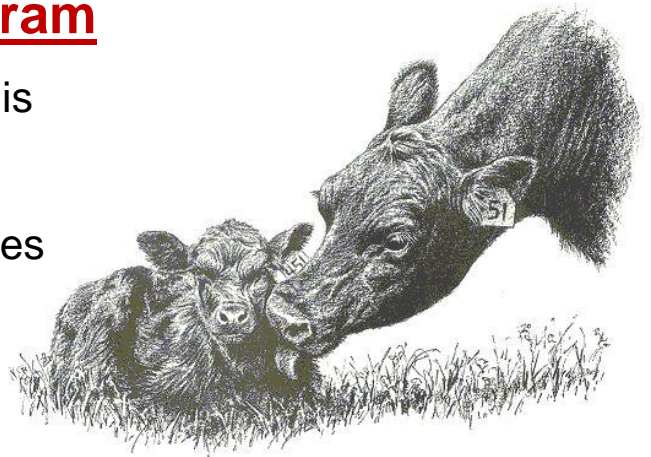
**Reviewer:** Kent McGuire, CFAES Safety and Health Coordinator, Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering

## **Coshocton County Pasture Walk**

Coshocton County OSU Extension is hosting a Beef Pasture Walk on June 27<sup>th</sup> in partnership with the Soil and Water Conservation District and the Natural Resource Conservation Service. This event is located at Mr. Josh Henderson's farm on the Guernsey/Coshocton county line beginning at 7:00 p.m. Noble County OSU Extension's ANR Educator, Christine Gelley, will be part of the program which will focus on water systems for beef cattle, heavy use pad construction, and pasture management. Surrounding counties are welcome to attend. For more information and directions, contact Coshocton County OSU Extension at 740-622-2265.

## **2017 Livestock Indemnity Program**

The Livestock Indemnity Program, which is administered by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides assistance to eligible producers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality rates due to adverse weather and attacks by animals reintroduced onto the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law.



Notice of loss must be reported to FSA within 30 days of livestock loss and supporting documentation must be filed within 90 days. For more information contact FSA at 740-432-5621 or visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/oh](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/oh).

## **Noble County Oil and Gas Update Lunch & Learn**

In July (DATE TO BE DETERMINED) Noble County will host a Lunch and Learn program at the OSU Extension Southeast Region Office at 16714 Wolf Run Rd. Caldwell, OH. The featured speaker will be Mike Chadsey- Director of Public Relations for the Ohio Oil and Gas Association. Mr. Chadsey will provide an update on the state of oil and gas activity in Noble County. Questions about this event can be directed to the Noble County Chamber of Commerce at 740-732-7715.

# **What's Buzzing About Pollinators?**

## **Second Lady & Agriculture Secretary Urge the Public to Protect Pollinators**

*From The Office of the Second Lady- June 6, 2017*



Washington D.C.- On June 6<sup>th</sup>, Second Lady Karen Pence and Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue unveiled a newly-installed beehive on the grounds of the Vice President's residence, drawing attention to the plight of pollinators whose numbers are in decline. Together, the two urged Americans to do their own part to help reverse the population trend among the creatures, which are essential to producing much of the nation's food.

"All types of pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, birds and bats, are critical to providing our nation's food, fiber, fuel and medicine," Mrs. Pence said. "However, our beekeepers have been losing colonies for many years. This presents a serious challenge to our ability to produce many of the agricultural products that we enjoy today. The bees at the Vice President's Residence will provide an added bonus to the vegetable and flower gardens by making them well pollinated and taste even better at harvest."

Perdue released a proclamation he has signed declaring June 19-25, 2017 as "National Pollinator Week." Perdue noted that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Environmental Protection Agency led efforts to create a National Pollinator Health Strategy. The two agencies are working with a number of other federal departments to implement that strategy, which includes significant USDA research.

"Most farmers and consumers have no better friends and few harder workers than the honeybee, as more than one-third of all U.S. crop production requires insect pollination," Perdue said. "But our honeybee population has been losing ground at an alarming rate. The problem represents a diverse mix of challenges requiring a wide range of solutions. And at USDA we are leading the way in research to help out our pollinator friends."....*Read the rest of the article at [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov).*

## **Montreal Homeless Men Find Fulfillment in Urban Beekeeping**

*From CBS News-Reported by Marilla Steuter-Martin on June 12, 2017*

Montreal, Canada- Helping homeless people in Montreal reintegrate into society by teaching them to care for bees may seem like an unusual approach, but organizers of the Accueil Bonneau honey program say it's been a real success story.

"When they get to be hands on, they see that it's all about being confident and being at peace with the bees," said Geneviève Kieffer Després, director of communications and special projects.

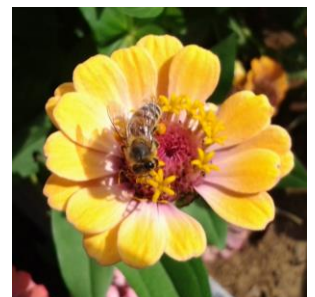
Accueil Bonneau, a local group that offers a drop-in day center and variety of services for homeless men, partnered with Montreal urban beekeeping company Alvéole four years ago. Now the program, whose aim is to teach job skills and encourage social interaction, has 60 hives in seven locations across the city.

"The most important thing is that it's not just a job. It's learning to do something you love and getting rewarded for it. That is something we want to teach," she said.

John Levasseur, an apprentice in the program, sees beekeeping as "meaningful" work. He says bees are "so important, not only economically, but as a barometer" for the environmental state of the world. "It's like therapy for me," he said, explaining that tending to them requires a certain calmness and focus. "In a former life I was a DJ. I enjoyed the work, but often I had to get smashed to enjoy it."

The honey harvested from the hives is sold at various locations in the city, the proceeds of which help fund the program and provide a small fee for participants. Kieffer Després says that working with the bees teaches participants, homeless men aged 25 and up, to be calm, gentle and more comfortable with socializing. She recalls one example of a man who started out very shy interacting with the public at one of points of sale and eventually was able to come out of his shell.

"We started selling honey at the beginning of October, and by November, he was the guy going up to people telling them, 'come see the stand, come try the honey.' Amazing change, I could witness those kinds of changes everyday."





## Farmers' Market Cooking Demo by OSU Extension

At Noon on Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> Noble County OSU Extension will provide a cooking demonstration at the Caldwell Community Farmers' Market, located on the courthouse square in Caldwell. Utilizing fresh and local ingredients the Extension team of Samantha Schott, Christine Gelley, and Lori Harris will prepare some quick and healthy recipes for the audience to taste, talk about healthy eating, and Ohio Local Foods.

Don't forget to visit our local Farmers' Markets on Fridays in Caldwell. The Noble County Farmers' Market is open next to Family Dollar from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the Caldwell Community Farmers' Market is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the Courthouse on the Village Square.



## *Mmmm... Zucchini...*

### Zucchini Italian Style

*Serves 8*

2 zucchini, sliced  
1 (16 oz.) can stewed tomatoes  
1 small onion, sliced  
1 (3 oz.) can sliced mushrooms  
12 oz. mozzarella cheese, shredded

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Layer the zucchini, tomatoes, onion and mushrooms in a 9x13-inch baking dish. Bake for 30 to 45 minutes or until the zucchini is tender. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes or until the cheese melts.

#### *Per serving*

Calories 156  
Protein 11 g  
Carbohydrates 7 g  
Total Fat 10 g  
55% Calories from fat  
Cholesterol 34 mg  
Fiber 2 g  
Sodium 442 mg  
Sugar 4 g

## **Announcements & Reminders- *Mark your calendars!***

- The Southeast Ohio Woodland Interest Group will gather for a **Woodland Management Tour and Cookout on June 26<sup>th</sup>** at the property of Jeff and Shirley Latta at 42280 Staley Rd. Albany, OH 45710 beginning at 6 p.m. For more details about this event contact Ed Brown at Athens County OSU Extension 740-593-8555.
- Athens County OSU Extension is offering a **Lunch and Learn Workshop on Alternative Energy for Agriculture** with OSUE's Energy Specialist-Eric Romich on **Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup>** from 11 a.m. - 1p.m. This event is free to attend, thanks to the sponsorship of the Southeast Ohio Public Energy Council, but registration is required by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Call Ed Brown for more details at 740-593-8555.
- The **Guernsey Noble Beekeepers Association** will meet on **Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>** for a picnic at the Seaton's at 6 p.m. Call Don Crock for details at 740-581-1883.
- **Ohio Sheep Day is Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>** from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the OARDC Sheep Research Unit in Wooster. This packed program, which includes lunch, is open to members of the Ohio Sheep Improvement Association for \$15 and non-members for \$25. The Ohio Forage and Grasslands Council will also host a pasture walk the evening before Sheep Day. For more information about this event, including lodging information, contact Roger High at 614-246-8299. This year will also include a kid's program for children ages 4-8, but space will be limited to the first 20 children. Contact Christine Gelley at 740-732-5681 for details on the kid's program.
- July's Farm Talk Program hosted by Noble County OSU Extension will be held in the evening on **Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>**. The topic will be **"When, Why, and How to Preg Check Cattle, Sheep, and Goats."** Location to be determined.
- On **Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>** Belmont Co. and Monroe Co. will host a **Vegetable Production Field Walk** from 2-5 p.m. Six OSUE State Specialists will be present at the program to discuss topics including: entomology, weeds, season extension, grafting, disease, and integrated pest management. The group will meet at the Captina Produce Auction 39050 West Captina Highway (St. Rt. 148) Barnesville, OH 43713 to begin the program. Call Monroe County Extension at 740-472-0810 for additional information.
- The **Ohio State Fair** begins Wednesday, July 26 and runs through Sunday, August 6 in Columbus.
- OSU Extension and JD Equipment are hosting a **Hands-On Tractor Night for Women in Agriculture on August 1.** The purposes of this fun evening are to provide a comfortable environment for operating equipment and asking questions, as well as networking with other women involved in agriculture in our area. The evening will begin at 5:30 pm at JD Equipment, 4394 Northpointe Drive, Zanesville. Dinner is included with the \$5 registration fee. RSVP with payment is required by July 28 to the Coshocton County Extension Office. Visit [coshocton.osu.edu](http://coshocton.osu.edu) for a registration flyer or call 740-622-2265 with questions.
- The Noble County Extension Office will be closed on July 4<sup>th</sup> in observation of Independence Day.
- ANR Educator- Christine Gelley will be in and out of the office often in July. For the best chances of reaching her quickly, send her an email at [gelley.2@osu.edu](mailto:gelley.2@osu.edu).

