

# NEWSLETTER

NOBLE COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

MARCH | 2017

*Dear Readers,*

## Farm Talk Lunch

You are invited!

Farm Talk Lunch will be held at the Eastern Agricultural Research Station on March 15, 2017 from Noon- 1:30 p.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 March 15<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. There is no cost to attend. For more information or to RSVP contact Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator-Christine Gelley at the Noble County OSU Extension office.

**Discussion Topic: Recognizing Dystocia & Bottle/Tube Feeding Newborn Livestock**

Wednesday,  
March 15, 2017  
Noon-1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Eastern Agricultural Research Station across the street from 16714 Wolf Run Road Caldwell, OH 43724

**Cost:** FREE!

**Contact:** ANR Educator-Christine Gelley at 740-732-5681 or [gelley.2@osu.edu](mailto:gelley.2@osu.edu) to register by 9 a.m. March 15<sup>th</sup>.

*Hope to see you there!*

Sincerely,

*Christine Gelley*

Christine Gelley- OSU Extension Educator

*Sponsored by:*



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COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
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**Noble County Extension Office**

**46049 Marietta Rd., Suite 2**

**Caldwell, OH 43721**

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**Fax: 740-732-5434**

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**URL: [noble.osu.edu](http://noble.osu.edu)**



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

# *Kindred Gardens*

## *Gardening for Seniors*



Kindred Gardens is 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 at the Noble County Senior Center- 300 Cumberland St, Caldwell, OH 43724.

**Segments will be offered throughout 2017, each including an activity associated with gardening. Sessions will begin at 10 a.m. and conclude by 11:30 a.m. Events are as follows:**

- **April 18<sup>th</sup> -April Showers Bring May Flowers**
  - Container gardening of flowers, herbs, and salad vegetables.
- June 1<sup>st</sup> -Homegrown Healthy Helpings
- September 14<sup>th</sup> -Abundant Harvest
- November 9<sup>th</sup> -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.

Please RSVP by phone to 740-732-5681 or by filling out this form and returning it to the Senior Center or to the Extension Office at 46049 Marietta Rd., Suite 2, Caldwell, OH 43724 by April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone &/or Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Lunch is available at the Senior Center with a reservation made by 9 a.m. the day of the event. Lunch is \$4.00 for those under 60. For those over 60, a \$2.50 donation is suggested. Call 740-732-5129 for reservations.*

*Personal identifiers such as name and contact information will only be used to provide you with program updates. Information such as age and gender will be anonymously reported to summarize program impacts to The Ohio State University and the Senior Center.*



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

**noble.osu.edu**

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# Ag Line in Review

By Christine Gelley  
Segments of Articles Originally Published in *The Journal*

## Leasing Land Rights to Industry

Oil and gas activity in our region is continuing steadily in line with the trends of 2016. An uptick in activity is expected later into 2017. Land owners continue to be contacted by rig operating companies about leasing options for future endeavors. There are many factors to consider before accepting or declining a lease agreement granting rights to subsurface natural resources. If you are considering a lease agreement, you definitely need to consult an attorney before you make any kind of commitment.



Terms of your lease agreement are negotiable, but it will take diligence and attention to details to comb through the agreement for potential loopholes or trapdoors. The language of the document can be confusing and vague. With an attorney's help you can identify dangerous words and propose other options to reach a compromise with the company drafting the agreement.

For example: The area that is up for lease passes between two sections of property, a pasture and a wood lot. If there is a clause in the agreement that states "No heavy machinery may pass over the leased area.", that may imply that you will not be permitted to drive your tractor, haul a load of timber, or drive your loaded livestock trailer across the leased area. Without another access point to your wood lot or pasture, this could cause significant difficulty for you. However, you may be able to negotiate that a secondary access point be constructed to compensate.

These terms need to be defined and negotiated with all parties satisfied, before you commit to an agreement. To be blunt, if you do not want to involve an attorney, you should not sign a lease agreement.

As an impartial party, I cannot recommend a specific attorney to you, but there are lists that I can provide of attorneys who focus on these issues. Farm Bureau members can also contact their local office for help on finding an attorney.



## Is it Spring Yet?



The weather seems to have many of us questioning what season we're actually in. Although we have had many mild days, we should try not to get too carried away in anticipation. The first day of spring is March 20, but our estimated frost-free day isn't until May 21. That means there are about 3 months between now and when it should be safe to put frost-sensitive plants outside. So, what can we do in the meantime?

You could draw up a garden plan. Rotate your designs from previous years. Think about spacing requirements, planting and harvest dates, weeds, wildlife, and potential pests and disease concerns. Consider starting seeds inside and transplanting later when it gets warm. Don't forget about water. Maybe this year will be the year you install that rain barrel you've been thinking about. It's not too early to think about your harvest this fall. Keep your eyes peeled for special pricing on canning and freezing supplies. If you intend to plant and harvest more than what you can eat fresh, canned, or frozen, perhaps you could contribute to the health and vibrancy of our community by becoming a vendor at a farmers' market.

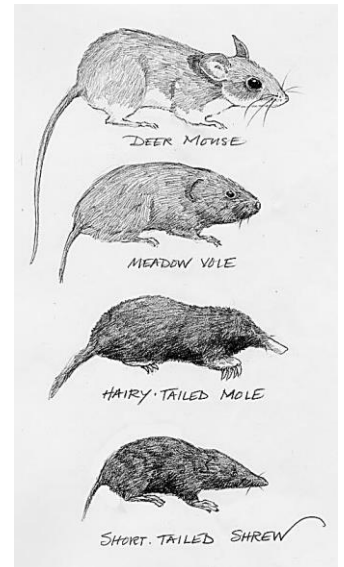
***To learn more about our local farmers' market and/or associated state policies for selling cottage foods, turn to pages 5-7.***

## Yard Pests in Early Spring

Moles and voles are common lawn and garden pests that often become noticeable in early spring. There are many stark differences between these two creatures, but they are commonly misidentified.

Moles are 5-7 inches long, have a long pointed nose, no visible ears, and forefeet shaped like paddles. Moles are solitary animals that rarely come to the soil surface. Their diet is mostly composed of insects. Loose moist soil filled with earthworms and grubs is their ideal environment. A high population of moles may indicate a high population of grubs in the soil.

Voles are more similar to mice. They are about the same size as a mole, but they stubby noses, visible ears, and short toes. Voles tend to spend more time above ground, and frequently use mole tunnels to get around. Voles consume a wide variety of plant materials including grasses, forbs, seeds, tubers, roots, and bulbs. Unlike moles, voles nest together and often breed throughout the whole calendar year. The population fluctuates greatly year to year with noticeable “booms” when conditions are ideal for breeding and survival.



Both moles and vole damage can be mitigated using barrier methods and/or deterrents. For most cases, the use of rodenticides is not recommended. Burying deep barriers around garden beds can discourage tunneling through from below. Unreliable methods of frightening/repelling these mammals include electronic, magnetic, and vibrating devices, borders of marigolds around gardens, and repellents that contain thiram or capsaicin to control voles. Since none of these methods are 100% effective, it is a good idea to implement a combination of techniques.

If you believe that a pesticide is warranted for control, consult a licensed pesticide applicator to be sure that the product you use is approved for your situation and applied appropriately. Other beneficial mammals could be impacted by the application. The same is true for insecticides to control grubs and other insects that moles find tasty.

## A New Home

A year ago, I sent out my first newsletter. Year one as the Noble County ANR Educator has flown by. I want to thank you for accepting me as one of your own. It has truly been a pleasure to serve this community.

It is such an incredible blessing that when people ask me “How’s work?” I can genuinely say, “I love it.” Every day in this job is different. There are crazy days, quiet days, office days, field days, research days, kid’s days, and so much more. It is a smorgasbord of activities. When someone asks me what I do for work, I carve out a half-hour to get through the overview, and it is completely worth it. This past fall, Noble County showed continued support for Extension by passing our county levy. This inspires me to do more each day, because this work is highly valued by our community.

The beginning of this second year in Noble County brings a new and exciting change for my family. Over the past year, I made a significant commute to work, but now, when I say things like “our community” it has a new ring to it, because we recently became Noble County residents. It really is our community too. We have a long list of people to thank who were influential in helping us through this transition time. We are grateful for each of you.

My phone line gets busier by the week, I have more office visitors, people I can truly call friends, great neighbors, playmates for our little one, and places around town where I am a “regular”. I wear my nametag less and wave more. When I began looking for a job after graduation, I was looking for a place where I would belong and I feel like I do here.

If we have not met yet, stop me if you see me and say “Hi.” If you have ideas of programs you think would be enriching for the community in the realm of agriculture and natural resources, I want to hear them. If you want to learn more about what OSU Extension offers and upcoming events, call, click, or stop by the office (see the front page for contact information). I hope we will meet soon!

Sincerely,  
*Christine Gelley*



# Caldwell Farmers' Market 2017 Survey

Please complete this survey about the Caldwell Farmers' Market and return it to the Noble County Extension Office in person or by mail before April 1<sup>st</sup>. Your answers will provide influential feedback for the 2017 season. Thank you!

1. Have you shopped at the Caldwell Farmers' Market before?

Yes

No

I Don't Remember

a. If so, what did you like?

b. If so, what did you dislike?

2. How did you hear about the farmers' market?

3. What are your favorite things to buy at farmers' markets?

4. Where do you mainly shop for food?

5. How do you prefer to pay for your purchases?

Cash

Card

Check

*Flip to continue*



6. Which timeframe would be most convenient for you to visit the market on a Friday?

9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Either

Neither

7. What is the maximum distance you would be willing to walk from your car to the market to shop?

I am unable to leave my vehicle

About 10 yards

About 50 yards

About 100 yards (one football field)

*fold here*

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Place  
Stamp  
Here

**Noble County OSU Extension  
C/O Christine Gelley  
46049 Marietta Rd., Suite 2  
Caldwell, OH 43724**

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*fold here*



Have you ever thought of selling **baked goods**, **canned goods**, or marketing your **produce or eggs**?  
*Then you will want to attend:*

## **“Selling Food as a Small Producer-The Rules?”**

**On Wednesday, March 29th at 7 PM at the  
OSU Extension Regional Office  
on SR 215 in Belle Valley**



Tim Tewksbary with the Ohio Department of Agriculture will be our presenter for the evening. He will address the rules, regulations and questions of how to market items at the local farmers market and other venues.

### **Products of Discussion Include:**

- Baked Goods      • Honey
- Canned Goods    • Cider
- Eggs                • Meats
- Produce

**For additional information  
contact the  
Noble County Farm Bureau  
at  
740-425-3681  
[www.noble@ofbf.org](http://www.noble@ofbf.org)**

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***Save the date!                      Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>***

***April's Farm Talk Breakfast will focus on:  
Cottage Food Sales in Noble and Surrounding  
Counties-Rules, Regulations, and Reporting  
Noble County Extension Office on SR 821 at 8:00 a.m.***

# *Fairy Garden Workshop*

**Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 2-3 p.m.**

*Noble County Extension Office on SR 821*



*Brought to you by...*

**The Noble County Master Gardener Volunteers**

*Featuring Special Guest- Marti Reed*

*Come and create your own fairy garden at this instructional workshop. All materials will be provided.*

**\$25 per attendee**

Pre-registration is required by April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Space is limited. Don't delay. Call today!

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Please RSVP by phone to 740-732-5681 or by filling out this form and returning it to the Extension Office at 46049 Marietta Rd., Suite 2, Caldwell, OH 43724 by April 14<sup>th</sup>. Checks can be written to OSU Extension with the memo "Fairy Garden Workshop."

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25= \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone &/or Email \_\_\_\_\_



## Livestock Updates

### From Veterinary Extension:

#### Avian Influenza Update (Excerpt)

**Mohamed El-Gazzar, DVM, MAM, PhD, DACPV**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced on March 5, 2017 the detection of H7 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in the state of Tennessee. The affected flock is a Broiler Breeder, 30 to 45 weeks of age, located on an 8 house farm (~10,000 birds in each house) in Lincoln County, located in South Central Tennessee, 2 miles from Alabama border. On Thursday March 2<sup>nd</sup>, mortality increased to 132 dead in one house. On Friday March 4<sup>th</sup>, mortality jumped up to 500. Positive samples from only one house out of 8 were determined to be H7 by Tennessee NAHLN and confirmed by National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) late Saturday. By Sunday March 6<sup>th</sup> afternoon, all houses had been depopulated and onsite burial operations were underway. A control zone of 10 miles (not 10 Kilometers) was immediately started and the initial surveillance of commercial and noncommercial poultry premises within this zone (which extends into the state of Alabama) is near completion. No further positive samples within the zone have been detected thus far.

While surveillance and quick diagnosis are essential tools to detect the virus and limit the spread of the disease and eventually control the outbreak, it's the **BIOSECURITY** efforts that will prevent the infection from reaching your flock, whether it is commercial or noncommercial. Biosecurity can be defined as **"the sound sanitary practices that are used to stop the infectious agent from reaching the host"**. Infectious agents are mostly microscopic in nature (cannot be seen by the naked eye). That means that it is very difficult to detect their movement and transmission from one place to another or from one individual to another. So the only option we have to stop their transmission is to put barriers in the face of these microbes to protect our poultry flocks, even though we can't see them. In case of Avian Influenza and other microscopic infectious disease agents, these "biosecurity" barriers can be physical or chemical. Examples of physical barriers include, fences, gates, enclosed poultry houses, or even washing and cleaning. On the other hand, chemical barriers include disinfectants and detergents that are used to kill these microbes.

See the whole report from Dr. El-Gazzar at:

<http://vet.osu.edu/sites/vet.osu.edu/files/documents/extension/Vol%2043%20No%202.pdf>

### Upcoming Events:

#### **30<sup>th</sup> Ohio Beef Expo: March 17-19, 2017 at the Ohio Expo Center in Columbus**

Set up begins on March 15. The expo opens to the public at 8 a.m. on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Find out more at [www.ohiobeefexpo.com](http://www.ohiobeefexpo.com)

#### **Statewide Sheep Shearing School: April 7-8, 2017 at Dave Cable Farm in Hebron**

Class is from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m and limited to 15 people

The registration form and fee (\$50) is due March 31<sup>st</sup>

Find out more at [www.ohiosheep.org](http://www.ohiosheep.org).

#### **Grazing School 2017 Kickoff: April 20, 2017 from 6-8 p.m. at the Eastern Agricultural Research Station in Belle Valley (details to be announced).**

#### **A-I School: April 25-27, 2017 at the Eastern Agricultural Research Station in Belle Valley**

Class is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and has reached max participation. For questions, concerns, or to get on the waiting list, contact Guernsey County Extension at 740-489-5300.

#### **Ohio Sheep Day: July 15, 2017 at the Ohio Research and Development Center in Wooster**

Registration will be \$15 for members of the Ohio Sheep Improvement Association and Students, \$25 for non-members, and children age 10 and under-free. Additional details will be announced in the months to come. Find out more at [www.ohiosheep.org](http://www.ohiosheep.org).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

- **The Noble County Cattlemen's Association *Annual Meeting*** will be March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. and the ***2017 Spring Classic*** will be on April 29<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8 a.m. Mark your calendars!
- **The Noble Soil and Water *Annual Tree & Seed Sale*** ends soon! Supplies are limited and available on a first come, first serve basis. The deadline for all orders is March 17<sup>th</sup>. Products will be available for pick-up in April. Forms are available at the office or at [www.nobleswcd.org](http://www.nobleswcd.org). Call 740-732-4318 for more information.
- **Extension Advisory Committee** will meet on March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Noble County Extension Office.
- **Noble County Master Gardener Volunteers** will meet on April 11<sup>th</sup> from 9-10 a.m. at the Noble County Extension Office.
- **Pesticide & Fertilizer Applicator Courses** are available in neighboring counties if scheduling conflicts arise for our local classes. Call for additional locations and dates.
- **Noble County is looking for volunteers to host pasture walks this summer.** Let Christine know if you are interested.
- 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](http://noble.osu.edu).
- Check out Christine's ANR blog at [u.osu.edu/gelley.2](http://u.osu.edu/gelley.2) and the Buckeye Hills ANR blog at <http://u.osu.edu/bhanr/>.

