

Jackson County Agriculture and Natural Resources Newsletter

Table of Contents

| | |
|-------|-----------------------|
| 2-3 | Water Quality |
| 3-4 | Feed Efficiency |
| 4-5 | Feedlot Management |
| 6-7 | Cattle on Feed |
| 7-8 | Gift Tax Exclusions |
| 8-10 | Black Vultures |
| 11-12 | FSA Newsletter |
| 13 | Farmer's Club Meeting |

Needs Assessment: Click below

https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5

<hFJ9OCq6II6MKO>

Hello, Jackson County! My name is Josh Winters, and I am the new Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Educator for Jackson County. I am excited to bring back the Jackson County Agriculture and Natural Resources Newsletter to bring articles about what's going on in the county, state, and nation.

Jackson County has been without an ANR educator since Dave Samples retired back in 2005. Since much of our current records are outdated, we have decided to release a "Needs Assessment Form" for Jackson County to receive input, from the community, to see what programs to provide. You can receive physical copies of these forms by visiting the Jackson County Extension office or filling it out online at the link below. Due to budget constraints, we will only be offering this newsletter online through our county website and by email. This may change in the future, but for now it is only in digital form. If you would like to be added the email list, please email, or call me.

To the left, you will find the table of contents of this newsletter. Articles in this newsletter come from other extension professionals in the state, as well as, myself. If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or what to see a specific program in Jackson County, please give me a call!

Sincerely,

Josh Winters

Josh Winters

Jackson County Agriculture and Natural Resource Extension Educator

The Ohio State University

College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences

17 Standpipe Rd., Jackson, OH 45640

740-286-5044 Office

winters.249@osu.edu

Water – The Most Important Nutrient

By: Garth Ruff

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2022/11/02/water-the-most-important-nutrient/>

At a recent East Central Grazing Alliance pasture walk in Noble County I was invited to speak on the broad topic of water for livestock. Hopefully by now we all know that water is the most important nutrient for all living organisms and without water, production agriculture today would look very different.

Water Quantity

One of the first discussion points regarding water, is quantity – how much water do we need for animals to perform at optimal levels? Do we have enough flow rate from our source to maintain several animals drinking at once, and is our drinking tank large enough?

Water requirements for beef cattle depend on body weight, stage of production (gestation vs. lactation), and temperature. Generally, cattle will consume 1 gallon of water per 100 pounds of bodyweight during cooler weather and nearly twice as much on hotter days.

Springs are handy sources of water especially in Eastern Ohio. However often spring developments and drinking troughs are in undesirable locations in our pastures, valleys, or lying wet spots. Even though additional infrastructure is required, consider installing a water holding tank and pumping water to where it is needed. Ideally cattle should not have to travel more than 800 feet to walk to water.

If you have been following along with current events and recent weather patterns, we have been very fortunate to continue to get timely rainfall here in the Eastern Corn belt. Our farming and ranching colleagues in the western half of the US have not been as fortunate and have had to alter their management practices or cull large numbers of beef cows as this drought lingers on.

Water Quality

We cannot manage what we do not measure. There are several accredited laboratories that regularly test water quality for livestock operations. When evaluating results of a water sample there are several key pieces of information that we should evaluate. At a minimum a water quality analysis for livestock will include total dissolved solids or salinity, pH (acid or alkaline value), nitrates, sulfates.

Sedimentation and Total Dissolved Solids

Extremely poor water quality can have adverse effects on animal performance and health. Water quality often varies depending on source with groundwater often being higher quality than surface water. Surface water is more likely to contain greater amounts of sedimentation due to runoff and erosion.

Occasionally I get asked about levels of salt in water. We measure salinity most often as part of total dissolved solids, TDS. To a degree, cattle seem to adapt to moderately high levels of mineralized water and will often avoid highly concentrated saline water.

Recommendations for livestock water used based on total dissolved solids (TDS). Meehan et. al 2021

TDS (ppm or mg/L)

Effects of Livestock:

<3,000 - Usually satisfactory for most livestock

3,000-5,000 - May not cause adverse effects for adult livestock.

5,000-7,000 - Should not be consumed by pregnant or lactating females.

7,000-10,000 - Do not use for swine. Do not use for pregnant or lactating ruminants or horses.

>10,000 - May cause brain damage or death.

When evaluating water quality TSD isn't the only factor to consider, but if there has been a noticeable reduction in water consumption it maybe a good place to start.

pH

Water pH will indicate acidity or alkalinity. A pH of 7 is neutral with acidic water being less than 7, and alkaline water being greater than 7. Water pH will depend on source and if groundwater, subsoil properties will have a great

impact on pH. Limestone ground water tends to be more neutral or alkaline whereas ground water in proximity or a coal seam may be more acidic.

Nitrates & Sulfates

Nitrates in water are often due to some form of contamination, commercial fertilizer, manure, or decaying organic matter. While water can be a source of nitrate poisoning, forages, especially summer annuals can also be a potential source.

Ruminant animals are more sensitive to high levels of sulfate in water than pigs and poultry. Ideal sulfate levels for cattle are less than 500ppm for growing calves and less than 1,000 ppm for mature cattle. Elevated sulfur intake can bind copper in the diet. If cattle test deficient for copper, a water sample should be tested for sulfates. If you have water quality concerns reach out to your local OSU Extension office for testing and sampling information.

Five Things to Do to Improve the Efficiency of Winter Feeding This Year

By: Dr. Katie VanValin, Assistant Professor Beef Nutrition, University of Kentucky

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2022/10/19/five-things-to-do-to-improve-the-efficiency-of-winter-feeding-this-year/>

Undoubtedly, 2022 has had its fair share of challenges thus far. High input prices likely led to fewer hay acres being fertilized, which with the added pressure of drought, can lead to lower quality and quantity of stored forages moving into this winter. You might be in for sticker shock if you haven't purchased feed recently. It can be easy to get caught up in things we have little to no control over, so here are five things we can do to improve this year's winter-feeding program.

- 1. Body condition score the herd:** Calves should be weaned from the spring calving cows (or will be very soon). It's easy to get caught up focusing on the weaning weight of the calves or managing a pre-conditioning program but don't forget about the cows. Now is the time to assess the body condition score of the herd. Spring calving cows will have their lowest nutrient requirements of the entire year shortly after weaning the calf. Now is the time to efficiently add condition to thin cows to set them up for success during the 2023 breeding season. Sorting cows by body condition score can allow for more efficient herd management and for those thin cows to receive the extra nutrition they require without overfeeding them in adequate condition. It is much more challenging to add condition to cows as they approach calving or have a calf at side. The ideal body condition score for mature cows is 5, while targeting younger females to a BCS 6 can ensure they have the extra condition required to meet their additional nutrient requirements for supporting growth.
- 2. Test your hay:** This is something we always recommend, but in years like 2022, this becomes even more important. Hay tests provide valuable information about the energy and protein concentrations in the sample. All lots of hay should be tested, and a lot is defined as hay harvested from the same field on the same day and stored under the same conditions. Testing all lots of hay allows producers to match lots of hay to the herd so that the lowest quality hay is being fed when the cows' nutrient requirements are the lowest while saving the best quality hay for when nutrient requirements are their highest. Feeding the right hay to the right cow at the right time can drastically decrease the amount of supplement required to maintain body condition.
- 3. Evaluate supplement costs:** At some point throughout the year, some supplementation is likely required to meet the energy and protein requirements of the herd. Using hay test results can help determine the most efficient supplement to match the energy and protein deficits in the hay. The University of Kentucky Forage Supplement tool is a simple-to-use online tool that provides recommendations for supplementation based on hay test results. Also, reach out to your local county extension agent or nutritionist to assist in interpreting hay test results. Now is the time to sharpen the pencil and determine which supplement options will be the most economical to pair with available forage. Remember, the feed that was the most economical last year may not be the most economical choice this year. Just because one feed costs more on a \$/Ton basis does not mean it is the most expensive supplement to feed. The amount of a particular supplement required must also be

considered.

4. **Feed hay efficiently:** Regardless of quality, when the quantity of hay is tight, available hay stores must be fed efficiently. Research has shown that feeding hay in a hay ring prevents feeding waste, especially rings that contain a solid skirted bottom. Hay feeding pads and fence line feeders can also reduce hay feeding losses. While these measures will not completely reduce hay feeding losses, these losses can be reduced from 45% to as little as 6% by using hay rings. Moving hay rings or utilizing bale grazing can help to limit trampling damage around these hay feeding sites and help to distribute manure evenly across the feeding area.
5. **Stockpiling forages:** Although nitrogen application can increase the amount of stockpiled forage available to graze during the winter, tall fescue can still stockpile even without a nitrogen application. Closing off certain fields during the fall growing season can allow the forages in these fields to stockpile, which can then be grazed during the late fall and early winter. While the nutrient quality of stockpiled fescue declines over time, nutrient content can remain adequate for supporting dry cows. Consider setting up a simple strip grazing system using temporary electric fencing to prevent trampling losses when turning cattle out on stockpiled forages.

Contact your local county extension office for more information about establishing an effective and efficient winter-feeding program.

The feedlot and manure management

By: Jerad Jaborek, Michigan State University Extension Beef Feedlot Systems Educator

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2022/10/26/the-feedlot-and-manure-management/>



As a byproduct of raising livestock, “shit happens” literally, and that is no different in a beef feedlot setting. Therefore, as the producer, we must carefully decide how to remove and utilize the manure produced from the cattle in the feedlot. By using the best manure management practices, the field application of manure produced in the feedlot can enhance soil productivity and contribute to overall farm profitability while maintaining proper environmental stewardship to prevent water contamination.

The first step to successful manure management is to determine the Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), and Potassium (K) levels of the manure being produced and of the soil in the fields. The level of these nutrients excreted in the manure can be impacted by the diets being consumed by feedlot cattle. For instance, some by-product feeds have a slightly greater P content and a greater inclusion of them in the diet could cause manure to have a greater P concentration. Likewise, higher protein diets or diets that supply excess protein can lead to greater N excretion, and therefore, a greater N concentration of manure. At the 2009 Cattle Feeder’s Conference: A New Era of Management, Russ Eken, an extension livestock specialist, reported that backgrounding and finishing cattle have been reported to excrete 6.3 lb. of manure per 100 lb. body weight, 0.22 to 0.48 lb. of N, and 0.035 to 0.085 lb. of P per head per day.

Other factors such as feedlot design, stocking density, time of year, and method of manure storage can influence the moisture and nutrient composition of manure. Eken also reported that on a dry matter basis, N, P, and K concentrations of manure from open earthen lots (1.64, 1.19, and 1.04%) and bedded confinement (3.08, 1.67, 2.00%) facilities are less and more variable when compared with deep pitted manure storage (20.0, 12.5, 17.5%;). Manure nutrient composition from open earthen lots is likely to be influenced by the amount of dirt collected when scraping. While manure accumulation from bedded confinement barns will likely be greater due to the inclusion of bedding. According to Applied

Engineering in Agriculture, manure from open lots will be dryer (33% moisture) due to a greater pen surface area and lesser stocking density compared with bedded confinement (70% moisture) and deep pit manure (90% moisture); especially during the summer and fall months as compared with the winter and spring months. Manure from open earthen and concrete lots, as well as bedded confinement facilities will lose more N due to the volatilization of ammonium (inorganic N) into ammonia gas compared with deep manure pits. According to the Nebraska Beef Cattle Reports, increasing the frequency of cleaning pens monthly compared with at the end of the feeding period can reduce the loss of N from volatilization by 12.5 to 15.0%. Storage of freshly scraped manure can also be stockpiled or composted when weather conditions are not favorable for spreading manure on fields due to run-off or compaction concerns.

The business management saying, “You can’t manage what you [don’t] measure,” also applies to smart manure management. Get into the habit of recording manure and fertilizer application dates and rates. Keep a record of manure and soil nutrient analyses to track changes in nutrient composition of the manure being produced and field/crop nutrient usage. Past field crop yields are also very useful when it comes to predicting the proper manure application rate for your fields. Knowing the total amount of manure produced, the nutrient concentration of the manure, and the nutrient requirements of the crop at an expected yield can allow you to determine the appropriate manure application rate for the field. Diligent record keeping of your manure management practices allows for better manure management decisions to be made and increase the farm’s profitability.

The weather and soil conditions greatly dictate the timing for proper manure application practices to prevent water contamination. Michigan State University (MSU) has partnered in developing the Michigan Enviro-Impact tool, which provides a short-term daily forecast for nutrient run-off risk across Michigan. The Michigan Enviro-Impact tool factors in precipitation, soil moisture and temperature, and landscape topography to assess the risk of nutrient run-off. Use of the Michigan Enviro-Impact tool can be an extremely valuable resource to determine proper timing of manure application due to variable weather events with possible email and text alerts. In addition to the weather and soil conditions, it is also very important to be aware of nearby water bodies, wells, and tile lines, so you can maintain an adequate distance away when applying manure to prevent water contamination. Consult with your local MAEAP technician to determine the appropriate distance away from water resources before applying manure.

It is also important to consider manure application methods and the use of cover crops to improve manure nutrient efficiency, soil composition, and reduce nutrient run-off. In a 2010 article “Nutrient transport in runoff as affected by diet, tillage, and manure application rate”, by Transactions of the ASABE, reported incorporating or injecting manure into the soil versus only surface broadcasting manure has been found to reduce the loss of the manure N applied due to volatilization during manure application. Tilling fields after broadcasting manure can also result in a lesser total P concentration in run-off but results in a greater NO₃ concentration in run-off collections compared with no-tilling after manure application. Cover crops offer protection from nutrient run-off after manure has been applied to fields and can be harvested or grazed as a feedstuff. The roots of cover crops help to bind field soil to prevent erosion and prevent nutrient leaching from the soil. According to a 1998 article “Cover crop impacts on watershed hydrology” by the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation, cover crops allow for greater water infiltration to help reduce water run-off and increase the water storage capacity of the soil (Dabney, 1998).

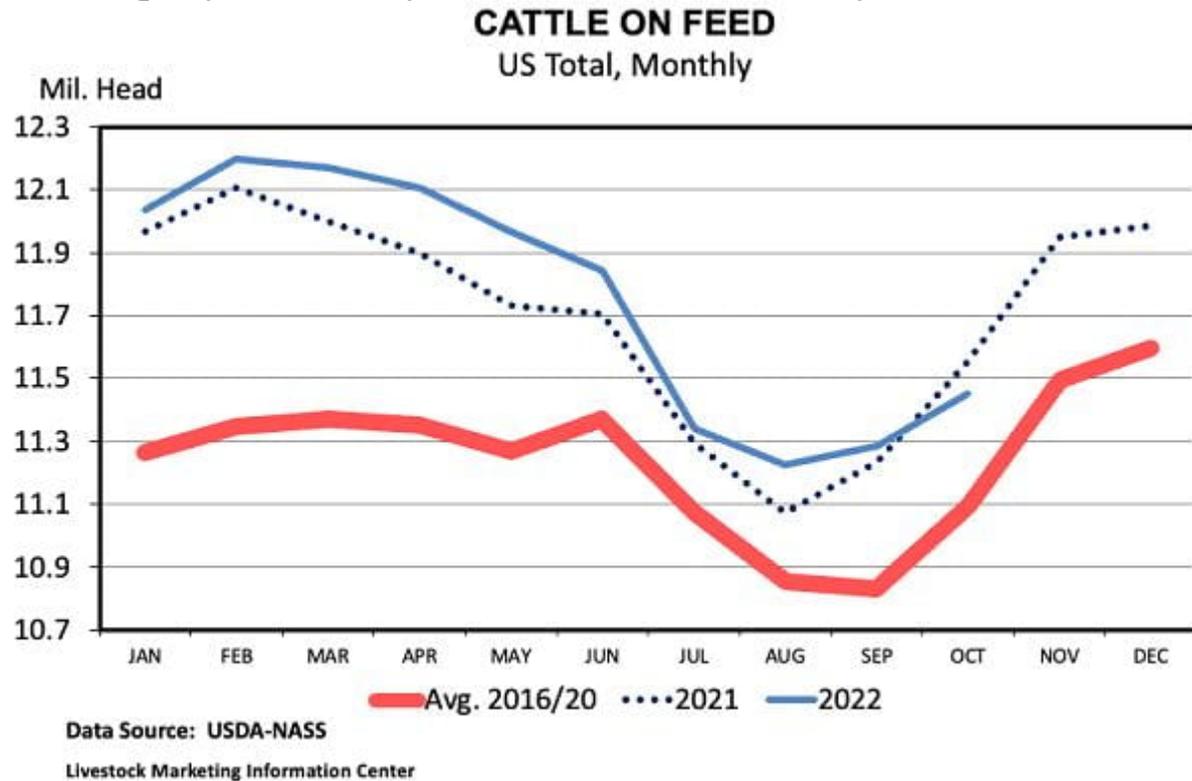
If you are interested in additional information regarding the best management practices for manure management application, consider completing the online Michigan Manure Hauler Certification Program.

Cattle on Feed Dips Below Year-Ago

By: Josh Maples, Assistant Professor & Extension Economist, Department of Agricultural Economics, Mississippi State University

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2022/10/26/cattle-on-feed-dips-below-year-ago/>

The latest Cattle on Feed report was the first month in 2022 that feedlot inventories were below year-ago levels. The report was largely in line with pre-report expectations. Total cattle on feed as of October 1 was estimated at 11.45 million head which is about one percent lower than the same date in 2021. As shown in the chart below, inventory increased from September to October, but this was driven by the usual seasonal pattern of building inventories in the fall. The decline from a year-ago is a more telling comparison and has implications for inventories this fall and beef production in 2023.



Feedlot inventories were destined to dip below year-ago levels at some point. Declining calf crops the past few years should eventually lead to lower feedlot inventories. However, herd liquidation impacts and large placements of lighter cattle kept feedlot inventories elevated through the summer. More light cattle were placed in the spring and summer than usual. While that pushed up feedlot inventory numbers in the summer, those same cattle will not be around for placement this fall when they might have typically moved into feedlots.

Additionally, the number of heifers on feed is higher as producers have decided to retain fewer heifers for breeding purposes. Drought and high input costs are major drivers of these decisions. The latest report included the quarterly feedlot mix estimates and the percentage of heifers in feedlots was just under 40 percent on October 1st. This is the largest share of heifers in feedlots over the past 20 years as shown in the chart below. The number of steers on feed is about two percent below year-ago while the number of heifers is more than one percent higher.

HEIFERS ON FEED AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL CATTLE ON FEED



Data Source: USDA-NASS, Compiled by LMIC

Livestock Marketing Information Center

This report could be the beginning of a streak of lower feedlot inventories when compared to a year ago. There is still uncertainty surrounding placements moving forward, though. Poor pasture conditions and an unfortunate outlook for winter wheat suggests continued placements of lighter cattle that might normally spend more time grazing.

Tighter cattle and beef supplies in 2023 appear to be a foregone conclusion at this point. Decreasing feedlot inventories this fall will likely lead to lower beef production in 2023 and there will be fewer cattle to be placed next year. Fewer cows and heifers to calve next year implies tighter supplies of feeder cattle next year, too. These market fundamentals provide significant support for stronger cattle prices moving forward.

New Gift Tax Exclusions Announced

By: Robert Moore

Source: <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/tue-10252022-1159am/new-gift-tax-exclusions-announced%C2%A0%C2%A0>

Every few years, the IRS adjusts the annual gift tax exclusion. The IRS recently announced that the gift tax exclusion for 2023 will be increased to \$17,000. This means that a taxpayer may gift up to \$17,000 to an unlimited number of persons without having to pay gift taxes or reduce their estate tax exemption amount. Because the gift tax exclusion is available to all individuals, married couples can gift up to \$34,000 annually.



For example, Mom and Dad want to gift money to Daughter. Mom and Dad can each gift \$17,000 to Daughter for a total of \$34,000. Daughter is married and Mom and Dad also gift a combined \$34,000 to Daughter's spouse. Daughter has three children, Mom and Dad can gift to each grandchild as well for a total of \$102,000.

As the above example shows, it is possible to gift substantial amounts of wealth to others by gifting. Mom and Dad are able to gift \$170,000 each year to their family using the gift tax exclusion. None of the gifts will be subject to gift taxes or reduce the estate tax exemption because the gifts are all less than the annual gift exclusion.

Gifts can be made in excess of the annual gift tax exclusion amount. Gifts exceeding the gift tax exclusion will either cause gift taxes to be owed or will cause the person gifting to have their estate tax exemption reduced by the amount of gift exceeding the annual exclusion. The lifetime estate tax exemption for 2023 will be \$12.92 million, up almost one million dollars from 2022.

Consider the following example. In 2023, Dad gifts \$1,017,000 to Daughter. The annual gift tax exclusion will cause \$17,000 to be a free gift with no tax consequences. The remaining \$1 million exceeds the annual gift tax exclusion and thus will reduce Dad's lifetime estate tax exclusion by \$1 million. Dad's estate tax exclusion will be reduced from \$12.92 million to \$11.92 million.

Gifts can be an effective means of transferring wealth to other family members or friends. Before gifting, be sure to seek advice from tax advisor as to the advantages and disadvantages of gifting. For a thorough discussion of the implications of gifting, see the Gifting Assets Prior to Death bulletin available at farmoffice.osu.edu.

Managing Black Vultures Presents New Challenges for Ohio Farmers

By: Sarah Donaldson, Farm & Dairy Reporter

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/sheep/2022/10/18/managing-black-vultures-presents-new-challenges-for-ohio-farmers/>

In 2005, Tom Karr saw black vultures hanging around his cattle farm, in Meigs County, Ohio, for the first time. That same year, he lost 11 calves to vultures during the calving season.

"I didn't know much about them then, but I've learned a lot about them since," Karr, board president for the Ohio Cattlemen's Association, told Farm and Dairy in a phone interview.

Now, 17 years later, he regularly sees them on his farm, and all over the nearby town of Pomeroy. They perch on houses, dumpsters, cliffs, and trees, and intermingle with turkey vultures. But unlike turkey vultures, they also attack live animals. In recent years, Karr has downsized from about 300 brood cows to 150 and cut back on fall calving, partly due to issues with the vultures.

Black vultures may have been in the area even during pioneer times, but only in small numbers. Their territory centered in Central and South America, but over the years, they have moved north, said Gary Ludwig, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services, in a Sept. 21 talk at Farm Science Review, in London, Ohio. They can now be found throughout Ohio, especially in the southwestern and southeastern parts of the state.

"Those birds are exploiting those areas where they can find food, and they find a lot of their food where people produce cattle for a living," Ludwig said.

Vultures

Vultures play an important role in ecosystems, as scavengers that eat dead animals. Black vultures and turkey vultures look similar in a lot of ways, but turkey vultures don't pose the same threat to live animals.

The easiest ways to tell them apart are by watching them in the air or looking at their tails. Turkey vultures have a long wingspan and narrow tails. When they fly, their wing tips are higher than the rest of their bodies, and they rarely flap their wings, mostly soaring.

Black vultures have shorter wings and shorter, wider tails. They hold their wings straighter and flap more often. Their feathers are also a deeper black than turkey vultures, which are more of a brown color, and their heads are black, not red.

“If you see those two birds they will be flying together. But you see the birds that are constantly flapping their wings ... those are going to be the black vultures. Those are the ones that are causing economic damage,” Ludwig said.

Damage

Because black vultures will attack live animals, they are a major threat to calves and other vulnerable livestock. They typically attack soft tissue first, starting around the head with the eyes, nostrils, and tongue. They also tend to gather in large numbers, sometimes with dozens of vultures attacking a calf, Ludwig said.

Black vultures accounted for 26,770 cattle and calf losses across the U.S. in 2015, according to the most recent National Animal Health Monitoring System study on cattle and calf death loss, released in 2017.

Karr hasn't had as many losses on his farm since the first year, but the vultures continue to be a threat. He patrols his fields heavily, but still typically loses one or two calves each year, between the spring and fall calving seasons. And while black vultures are a migratory bird, he's noticed he sees them in town and at his farm year-round now.

“The trouble is, you never know when it's coming. I can't be out there all the time,” he said. “Both of the calving seasons are a problem, because they don't leave.”

Permitting

Farmers who suspect they've lost an animal to black vultures can contact USDA's Wildlife Services to confirm it, and to get help with starting an indemnity claim with their local Farm Service Agency. It's important to get photos of the damage, then bury the dead animal to avoid attracting more predators, Ludwig said.

Black vultures are protected as a migratory bird, but farmers can still get a depredation permit to kill vultures that are causing economic damage. Farmers who get permits can get approved to kill up to five vultures. Permits are free, and farmers do not have to wait until they have a loss to apply for a permit, Ludwig said.

He recommends that people start looking into getting permits before their calving season starts, so they can use it to kill some of the vultures if they start seeing them congregating. The permits are good for a year, and those who get permits should keep records so they can report how many black vultures they actually killed.

To get a permit application and instructions, call the Wildlife Services Ohio office at 1-866-487-3297 or 614-993-3444.

Management

While depredation permits can help, they aren't meant to control the overall population of black vultures, Ludwig said. But there are ways to manage the vultures outside of killing them.

Hanging an effigy of a vulture can deter them. Selectively removing large trees that vultures like to perch in near cattle and removing any dead livestock from fields can also help. Ludwig also suggested moving cows that are close to calving into areas where it's easier to keep an eye on them.

Effigies have worked well for Karr, but his farm spans 1,250 acres, which means setting up one won't keep the vultures away from all of his cattle. He has been able to limit how much they bother his calves and make the most of his permits by killing a bird or two near the calves, then leaving a vulture carcass nearby.

Finally, harassing vultures with pyrotechnics can help scare them off. There are a few different versions designed for bird control, but they're all "basically like glorified fireworks," Ludwig said. He reminded farmers to use eye and ear protection if they use pyrotechnics as a management technique.

"Quite frankly, you're never going to kill enough of them to make a difference in your population. It's to the point now where we're going to have to live with them. We're going to have to do what we have to do to discourage them," Ludwig said.



**Jackson-Vinton
Scioto-Pike
FSA Office**

2026 Fairgreens RD
Jackson, OH 45640
740-286-5208 Ext 2
FAX: 855-835-8359
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

12167A State Route 104
Lucasville, OH 45648
740-259-3075 Ext 2
FAX: 855-839-5689
Wed. & Thur. ONLY
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Closed Holidays

Committees:
Jackson-Vinton
Constance White, Chair
Jim Edwards
Mark Chevalier
Frank Hoover
Tom Jolly
Joe Tanner, Advisor

Scioto-Pike
Howard McClay, Chair
Don Brown
Debbie Pendleton
Barry Hayward
Scott Johnson

Office Staff:
Carl Andrew Nelson,
CED
Diana Phillips
Susan Button
Tim Corcoran
Christina Reiter

Farm Loan Staff:

Ann Hupp
Tina Mellinger

November 2022

NEWSLETTER

2023 Crop Acreage Reporting Deadlines

Producers of fall seeded small grains, apples, hay, pasture, and grapes are reminded of the following acreage reporting deadlines.

December 15 – Fall-seeded small grains (wheat, oats, barley, rye, speltz) all uses.

January 2 – Honey/honeybees (Number of colonies)

January 15 – Apples and Grapes

Failure to file acreage reports by these deadlines will result in late filing fees being applied in order to remain eligible for USDA program benefits or even the loss of benefits.

Non-Insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

Basic coverage under this crop disaster program covers all crops not covered by Federal Crop Insurance at 50% of approved yield and 55% of the established price. The cost of this coverage is an administrative fee of \$325 per crop up to three crops. There is no fee for additional for more than first three crops. The following buy-up options available are:

50, 55, 60, or 65% of Yield at 100% of Price
Direct Market Price (available for some crops)
Organic Price (if established)

The cost of the buy-up coverage is the \$325.00 administrative fee plus a premium of 5.25% of the calculated guarantee. The fee is due with the application for coverage and the premium will be billed later in the year after all information needed to calculate the premium is finalized (i.e. the yield and final crop report). Weather related quality losses are now covered under the buy-up options for Hay crops.

FREE and Reduced Cost Available - The current program provides for waivers of the administrative fee and a 50% reduction in the premium for beginning farmers (less than 10 years), historically underserved farmers (which includes all minorities and females), and limited resource farmers.

The application deadlines for the 2023 crop year are as follows:

November 21, 2022 – Peaches, Nectarines, Strawberries, Caneberries (blackberries and Raspberries), Cherries, Plums, Grapes, Pears, Blueberries, Asparagus, Honey, Hops, and Forages for Hay and Pasture.

Notes: While the deadline is stated above, the committee is authorized to accept late filed applications for coverage within 30 days of the deadline for those who cannot make it to the office by the deadline.

Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC)/Price Loss Coverage (PLC) Programs

March 15, 2023 – This is the deadline for farms with grain base acres to enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs to late file for 2023.

The ARC provides income support payments on historical base acres when actual crop revenue declines below a specified guaranteed level either at the county or at the farm level. PLC provides income support payments on historical base acres when the effective price for a covered commodity falls below its reference price.

Please do not wait. Call for an appointment as soon as possible.

GRAIN LOANS AVAILABLE

Need operating money for spring crop materials? The FSA commodity/grain loan program can offer all grain producers with storage capabilities an alternative to hauling grain to the elevator when prices are traditionally lowest. These loans work equally as well for livestock producer who feed their grain by repaying the loan on the grain as it is fed.

These low interest loans can provide timely operating capital while holding the grain for future sale or feeding. The interest rate is currently 5.25%. Call for a more detailed discussion of the program.

Farm Storage Facility and Handling Loan Program

The following commodities/crops are eligible for on-farm storage, drying, and handling equipment loans under this program: grain crops (harvested as grain or silage), hay, fruits, vegetables, renewable biomass, aquaculture, floriculture, hops, maple sap, meat and poultry, milk (bulk tanks), eggs, and cheese.

While storage structures (grain bins and hay barns) are the major components of the program; refrigeration units, freezers, package/handling equipment, trucks, trailers, bale wrappers/baggers, loaders, grain carts, and wagons are just a few examples. Equipment can be new or used, permanent or portable. Basically, if a crop is produced on the farm; this program can loan on handling and/or storing it on the farm.

FSFL Microloan Option – Producer applying for a loan amount of \$50,000 or less qualify as a microloan which only requires a 5% down payment and may choose a shorter term of 3, 5, or 7 years for the loan.

The following are some of the basic eligibility requirements and provisions:

- Must show a need for the storage or additional storage of the loan commodity based on current production.
- Loan terms can be 3, 5, 7, 10, or 12 years depending on the loan amount.
- Loan amounts are 85% of net cost of the facility except for microloan option which is 95% of the net cost.
- Must maintain insurance coverage on the facility through the term of the loan.
- Must obtain crop insurance or NAP coverage as applicable.
- Maximum loan amount is \$500,000.
- Application fee of \$100 per borrower to cover lien searches and filings.

The November 2022 interest rates range from 4.0% to 4.25%. The interest rate changes monthly but locks in at the rate in effect for the month the loan is approved. Details and provisions can be discussed as they pertain to the specific individual or operation by scheduling a time to stop by the office.


**DATE:**

November 21, 2022

TIME:

7pm – 8pm

LOCATION:17 Standpipe Rd. Jackson,
Ohio 45640**Speaker:**Dr. Thomas W. Blaine
*Associate Extension Professor
at The Ohio State University*THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION

Jackson County Farmer's Club**Global Warming and its Effect on Agriculture**

Dr. Thomas W. Blaine, Associate Extension Professor with The Ohio State University, will be speaking via Zoom to the Jackson County Farmer's on November 21st about Global warming and the effects it will have on agriculture. Questions that will be answered are:

- Hasn't global temperature always fluctuated?
- Hasn't Earth been much warmer than it is now for most of its history?
- Why the concern about global warming now?
- Why worry about a few degrees warming in the next 50-100 years?
- Isn't it likely that the warming is natural and not caused by humans at all?

For more information or any questions, you can call the Jackson County Extension Office at (740) 339-9228.

Jackson County OSU
ExtensionJackson County Ohio Farmers
Clubwww.Jackson.osu.edu