



Field Notes for The Week Of

9-26-2022

60 years of The Farm Science Review

The dry weather continues as we approach the end of September. The county has seen very little amounts of precipitation in last 10 days and with a few days reaching the upper 80's our pastures and lawns are beginning to show some stress. At this point in the growing season a little drier weather can be a welcome sight for row crop producers preparing for corn and soybean harvest, but for livestock producers this equates to feeding hay a little earlier than expected as forages in the pasture slow down in growth. This past week was another very productive week for Adams County producers. Field activities include hay cutting, fence building, conservation practice installation, feeder calf weaning, and hay or pasture renovations. This week was very busy for me, but I still managed to check my insect pest traps as the trapping season winds down. The Fall armyworm numbers were slightly higher this week and the stink bug population was lower than what it has been. I have seen more damage than usual from corn earworm, and this is something that warrants attention. Most of my week was spent at the 60th Farm Science Review. The Farm Science Review is well known for its vast array of technology demonstrations and information that provides farmers with the knowledge, assistance, and tools to make their farm more productive, efficient, and sustainable. The same goals and aspirations of the Farm Science Review today was the same 60 years ago. I love history and it is amazing to learn about the challenges that farmer faced 60 years ago and how technology and science has helped overcome those challenges today. The first farm science review in 1963 had around 100 exhibitors on 20 acres of land but the overall goal of the venue was to showcase the latest technology and agriculture research of the day. Here are some fun facts of agriculture 60 years ago:

- In 1962 and 1963 Maize Dwarf mosaic virus was one of the number one yield robbing diseases in Ohio. In the fall of 1962, the disease was found in southern Ohio along the river. Adams county corn yield loss was estimated to be between 16-20% loss! Later research connected the disease with populations of Johnsongrass.
- Hereford was the dominant cattle breed in 1963.
- In 1962 The Rural Electrification Administration sanctioned the financing of educational television in rural regions of the country.
- In 1963 International harvester remained the top selling row crop tractor with John Deere in a close second.
- In 1963 U.S. farmers planted 299,163 acres of principle crops compared to todays 320,00 acres.

