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 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 David Dugan
 Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources
 and Community Development

Timber Marketing Workshop

Timber is something most people have the opportunity to market two or three times in a lifetime. You hope to get it right. Here is an opportunity to learn more about the process. The program is on August 29 at 6:30 p.m. in Chillicothe.

Topics include if it is the right time to harvest timber; determining the value; best management practices to reduce soil erosion; where to get professional assistance; how to develop a good contract; and understanding taxes with a timber sale.

Corn Silage – Do's and Don'ts

This information may be useful for anyone looking at a corn crop that may not make it for grain due to being planted late in Southern Ohio due to the wet spring. Quality hay may also be in short supply, so this may be an option that will help grain farmers and livestock farmers. This is from Erika Lundy from Iowa State University, Beef Specialist. I think it provides some information that may answer questions when it comes to making silage.

Many beef producers rely on corn silage to develop cost-effective, high-quality rations. Proper timing of harvest and storage management has a big impact on the success of feedstuff quality throughout the winter months and into the spring.

The ideal target moisture content for harvesting corn silage is often described as 65% moisture for proper ensiling to take place. However, many beef producers may target harvesting at a slightly drier moisture content (55% to 60% moisture) to avoid handling less water. Keep in mind: Harvested at a drier content does lower silage quality and can impact storage and fermentation success.

There are plenty of storage methods for silage, including upright silos, bunkers and bags; however, bagging may be preferred over small piles for all but the larger cow-calf producers. Each method has advantages and disadvantages, but the importance of packing density to limit oxygen exposure and rain infiltration pertain to all.

For proper anaerobic fermentation to occur, silage needs to remain untouched for approximately 30 days. Feeding greenchopped silage is also a health risk for cows, especially nitrate toxicity, which can cause abortions.

Consider other factors such as chop length, kernel or grain processing and the use of inoculants to aid in the fermentation process, and ultimately increase feeding value to the cow herd and help maintain stability of the silage face when feeding from the pile.

Prior to feeding, submitting a sample for nutrient analysis is beneficial to determine dry matter, protein



and energy levels to properly formulate diets to meet cow requirements without overfeeding nutrients. Often, corn silage is priced at 10 times the price of corn. For example, if corn is \$4.50 per bushel, then corn silage would be priced at \$45 per ton (as-fed).

Don't forget to plant an annual forage such as cereal rye, oats or a combination of small grains and brassicas behind your corn silage acres to optimize forage productivity and provide some erosion control and build soil fertility. Deciding if you would like extra fall or spring growth will help determine which species of cover crop you use. Additionally, small-grain silage can also be made on prevent planting acres on or after Sept. 1.

Adams County Farmer's Market

The Adams County Farmer's Market is open for business every Saturday Morning for the coming weeks. The market is set up on the west side of the Adams County Courthouse in West Union starting at 9:00 a.m. and is open until 1:00 p.m. Anna Adams at the OSU Extension Office is a contact for more information about the market. The OSU Extension Office phone number is 544-2339.

Dates to Remember

- August 22 Beef and Forage Field Night at OARDC in Jackson at 5:00 p.m.
- August 29 Timber Marketing Workshop in Chillicothe at 6:30 p.m. Must RSVP by August 27 by calling 740 702-3200. Cost is \$15 per person or \$25 per family.
- Sept. 9 Pesticide exams at the Old Y Restaurant at noon. Pre-register at <http://pested.osu.edu> or call the Ohio Dept. of Agriculture at 800-282-1955. **Note:** for October and November the exam dates will change to the third Monday of the month due to Columbus Day and Veterans Day falling on the second Monday of both months.
- Sept. 14 Adams Co. Cattlemen Feeder Calf Show at Adams Co. Fairgrounds.
- Sept. 17-19 Farm Science Review. Tickets are available at the OSU Extension Offices.