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 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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 Ohio Valley Extension Education Research Area

Fertilizer Applicator Certification Needed by 9/30/2017

I have discussed this training several times over the past few years, but it is not 2017. Now this takes on a little different meaning. Remember these are not going to be offered throughout the summer as we near the end of September. Now is the time to get the training. I had scheduled two 3-hour sessions, but the afternoon session had only a very few sign up so it has been cancelled. We will still offer the evening session on January 18 at 5:30 p.m. at North Adams High School in Seaman. Again, you need to pre-register for all of these classes by calling the Brown Co. Extension Office at 937-378-6716 and Cindy will get your information. Please plan to make payments at least one week prior to the class so registration on site will be quick. The 2-hour Fertilizer sessions and Pesticide Re-certifications will take over 5 hours as it is.

The 2-hour Fertilizer sessions and Pesticide Re-certifications are: Feb. 8 at North Adams HS starting at 5:00 p.m.; Feb. 9 at Southern Hills Career Center Board Office at 10:30 a.m. and Feb. 15 at the central campus of Southern State Community College in Hillsboro, also at 10:30 a.m. Again, please register at least one week prior to the class and make payments of \$35 to OSU Extension and mail it to the Brown Co. Extension Office. Register by calling 378-6716.

The following is from this week's CORN Newsletter and was written by OSU Extension Field Specialist, Greg LaBarge. Greg explains the Fertilizer Certification in detail.

We are entering the last few months for fertilizer applicator certification which involves attending a training program offered by Ohio State University Extension then being issued a certification from the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Through the first two years of the program 12,000 farmers and ag retailers who apply fertilizer have been certified. Some common questions are answered below along with a link to the upcoming schedule through April. Attend soon to find the most convenient meetings to your home location.

Do I need agricultural fertilizer certification?

The certification is required if you apply fertilizer (other than manure) to more than 50 acres of agricultural production grown primarily for sale. If you hire a co-op or other custom applicator for fertilizer applications, you do not need the certification. If you do not have an Ohio Pesticide Applicator License, you need to attend a 3-hour class. If you have a license, you need to attend a 2-hour class.

Do I need the certification if I raise forage for my livestock?

The term "agricultural production" is defined as the cultivation, primarily for sale, of plants or any parts of plants on more than 50 acres. If you raise forage (e.g., hay, silage, corn) for use on your farm, and have questions about fertilizer certification, please contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture at 614-728-6987 or email: pesticides@agri.ohio.gov



When do I need the certification?
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
 AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Individuals are encouraged to obtain certification as soon as possible, or when renewing their pesticide applicator license. The certification must be obtained by September 30, 2017.

Beef School Next Week

The 2017 Ohio Beef School webinar series will begin on January 17 with a close look at what the cow/calf sector can do in the foreseeable future that will enhance profitability. What follows in subsequent sessions on February 7 and February 28 will be similar looks at the next two phases of production and how they all relate. Specifically, the second session will explore management of feeder cattle as they come from the cow and progress to the feedyard. During the last evening we'll closely scrutinize the demands of the consumer and whether the entire production system – cow/calf through the feedyard and to the retailer – is meeting those demands and what it will take looking forward to achieve that goal.

As we progress through each evening in the series, the goal will be to demonstrate how the relationships between the three primary sectors of the beef industry in Ohio – cow-calf, backgrounding/stocker, and feedlot – must work together to produce high quality beef for today's consumer. As we begin the conversation on January 17, Dr. Justin Rhinehart, Associate Professor, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist, University of Tennessee Department of Animal Science, will focus on key management practices that will help the cow-calf producer stay viable in the beef cattle business. He will discuss how genetics and nutrition are key components of reproduction management that will keep females productive. Dr. Amy Radunz, Associate Professor, Beef Cattle Production, University of Wisconsin – River Falls will follow with "Achieving the genetic potential of your calf crop – it starts at conception!" This presentation will cover how nutrition and management during gestation impacts the lifetime development of the resulting calf.

Dr. Francis Fluharty, Research Professor, The Ohio State University Department of Animal Sciences, will be the featured on February 7, 2017. This session will compare grazing versus confinement growing systems for feeder cattle. Dr. Fluharty will evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of these two distinctly different management systems and explore how calf health and management impact the end product.

The series concludes on February 28, 2017 with Dr. Justin Sexten, Supply Development Director for Certified Angus Beef, discussing "Meeting consumer demand: Perspective from the feed yard to the consumer." He will challenge the audience to consider questions such as: How do feeder, packer, grocer and restaurateur demands influence the decisions the cow-calf manager makes? ; Does an end-user focused cow herd work on the farm? ; What opportunities exist to capture value added processes?

We will offer the Beef School starting at 7:00 sharp at the Southern Hills Career Center Board office in Georgetown and at the Hillsboro High School in the Agriculture Science room.

Beef 509 Course in February

The dates have been set for the 2017 BEEF 509 program. The BEEF 509 program is held to raise the awareness level about the beef that is produced and the reasons why it sometimes misses its mark with consumers' palates and producers' pocketbooks. The program will take place on two consecutive Saturdays, February 25 and March 4, 2017.

For more information go to <http://beef.osu.edu> or call your local OSU Extension Office. My cell is 937-515-2314.

Tobacco Museum Fundraiser

Last week I wrote about the Tobacco Museum Fundraiser scheduled for April 8 in Ripley. Tickets are available now. I did receive a few calls and request for tickets in recent days. If you would like more information you can read my previous columns on our website at <http://adams.osu.edu> or you can go to Brown or Highland by substituting the county name into the link.

Dates to Remember

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| January 26 | Three hour Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training and Pesticide Re-certification at OSU South Centers in Piketon. Call to pre-register at the Pike County Extension Office at 740 289-4837. |
| February 1 | Ohio River Valley Agronomy Day at the Mason Co. Extension Office. |
| February 4 | Brown Co. Cattlemen Annual Banquet. |
| February 7 | Beef School. |
| February 8 | Two-hour Fertilizer Certification and three-hour Pesticide Re-certification at North Adams HS with Fertilizer starting at 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. meal, then Pesticide Re-certification 7:30 until 10:30 p.m. Pre-registration is REQUIRED. Call Cindy at the OSU Extension Office at 937-378-6716. |
| February 9 | Two-hour Fertilizer Certification and three-hour Pesticide Re-certification at Southern Hills Board Office in Georgetown with Fertilizer starting at 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. meal, then Pesticide Re-certification 1:00 until 4:00 p.m. Pre-registration is REQUIRED. Call Cindy at the OSU Extension Office at 937-378-6716. |
| February 14 | Start of Grain Marketing School at the Southern Hills Board Office in Georgetown on five Tuesdays. (Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 7 and 21) The classes will begin at 1:00 p.m. and go until approximately 4:00 p.m. Charge is \$25 and the same class will be offered on Wednesday evenings (the next day) in Chillicothe. |
| February 15 | Two-hour Fertilizer Certification and three-hour Pesticide Re-certification at Southern State Community College in Hillsboro with Fertilizer starting at 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. meal, then Pesticide Re-certification 1:00 until 4:00 p.m. Pre-registration is REQUIRED and space is limited at this location. Call Cindy at the OSU Extension Office at 937-378-6716. |
| Feb. 28 | Beef School. |
| March 3 | Agriculture is Everyone's Business at SSCC in Hillsboro. |
| March 7 | Farm and Family Night at Maysville Community and Technical College. |
| March 10-11 | Southern Ohio Small Farm Conference at Wilmington College. This will include another 3-hour Fertilizer Training. |