

David Dugan  
OSU Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Adams/Brown/Highland Counties  
Ohio Valley Extension Education Research Area

## **Black Vultures Continue to be Costly**

We have all seen carcasses along the roadways with vultures all around them. Some of the vultures are red headed turkey vultures, while others are black headed. The black headed vultures are less likely to be seen soaring overhead. This is partially due to a shorter wingspan than the red headed turkey vultures. The black headed vultures will flap their wings more than soaring.

The black headed vultures are the problem bird among the vultures for livestock producers. There have been numerous reports of these birds being aggressive, especially during the time of birth. These birds will often be in large groups and have attacked the mother and the young with the results sometimes being fatal. These birds may attack the soft tissue of the mother during birth if she is having trouble. They attack the soft tissue of the newborn if the animal is not protected by the mother, or if the newborn has trouble getting up and moving. The eyes, the nose/mouth, navel, and around the tail are areas that these birds will go after if they can.

These birds are protected federally because they are migrating birds. In the past, there was money available when attacks killed livestock. The money is not available now however, it is still VERY IMPORTANT to report such attacks ASAP. The more documentation we have, the better chance we can make a case to make changes in the future. You can currently get a permit to remove a set number of these birds if you have a problem. In order to report problems contact the local Soil and Water Office and ask for the Wildlife Specialist or contact your local Wildlife Officer for the county.

## **SOACDF Scholarships**

For the past several years the Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation has been actively supporting new and expanded enterprises on the farm. The countless number of barns, cattle and equipment that has been purchased as many farmers, who once depended on tobacco production, continue to expand their operations.

Another part of the SOACDF has been the educational assistance. There have been hundreds of our youth go to college, or other post-secondary education, with financial assistance from the foundation. In recent years this has expanded to a competitive scholarship that includes an application and interviews. The rules and details are in the following news release from the SOACDF.

The Southern Ohio Agricultural & Community Development Foundation will be accepting applications January 1 – 31, 2014 for the Educational Excellence Competitive Grant Program for the 2014 – 2015 school year. Individuals who have a current Farm Service Number on record with the Farm Service Agency as of July 1, 2011 and reside in the 22 counties the Foundation serves OR tobacco quota owners, quota owners/growers, or grower/tenants of Farm Service Agency record in any single crop year from 1997 through 2004, and their immediate family dependents, that are enrolled at an accredited institution and are seeking a Bachelor degree are eligible. Applicants must be enrolled as a **full time** sophomore, junior or senior in the 2014-2015 school year to be eligible. Applications and guidelines are available at your local FSA Office, the Foundation Office or online at [www.soacdf.net](http://www.soacdf.net).

The Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation serves 22 counties in southern Ohio by providing educational assistance, agricultural and economic development grants. The Foundation has awarded more than \$13 million in educational grants alone since the programs began in 2001. For questions regarding the

Educational Assistance Grant Program, call the Foundation office at 937-393-2700 or Ed Vollborn at 740-441-1479.

## Dates to Remember

- January 16      Gardening Seminar by Brown Co. Master Gardeners at Southern State Community College in Fincastle, starts at 6:00 p.m. in the library. This session discusses moving into a new landscape. Details are listed on the web in the newspaper article for Jan. 6. Web address is the name of the county.osu.edu. Example: adams.osu.edu, then go to Ag and Nat. Res.
- January 17      Agriculture is Everyone's Business sponsored by Highland Co. Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are required for this event at the Patriot Center on the Central Campus of Southern State Community College in Hillsboro. The program features national Ag Broadcaster Max Armstrong and Ohio Department of Agriculture Director David Daniels.
- January 17      Tobacco Expo and Kentucky Cattlemen Convention, Heritage Hall, Lexington, KY.
- January 22      Southwest Agronomy Day at Fayette Co. Extension Office in WCH. For more info go to <http://Fayette.osu.edu> Register by Jan. 17, cost is \$20.
- January 22      Pesticide Re-certification at SSCC Fincastle starts at 5:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required by calling 378-6716 and asking for Cindy.
- January 27      Pesticide Re-certification at SSCC Fincastle starts at noon. Pre-registration is required.
- January 28      First night of Beef School. Other dates are Feb. 18 and March 11 with all starting at 7 pm. The Beef School will be held at the Frisch's in West Union. Class is also offered in Piketon and at the Fayette Co. Extension office in Washington Court House. Session details in Jan. 6 newspaper article and on the OSU Extension County webpage.
- January 30      Day one of the Agronomy Series at the Ponderosa in Hillsboro. Program begins at 10:00 a.m. Please call the Highland Co. Office to register. Remaining dates are **Feb. 27** and **March 27** at the same time and location. Topics, in order are Dr. Terry Niblack discussing nematodes in soybeans and corn, Dr. Mark Loux with weed control and new weed problems, and Dr. Andy Michel with crop insect damage.
- Feb. 3      First night of Sheep and Goat School at Greenfield HS Ag Classroom starting at 7pm, with other nights being every Monday night in February. Sessions will be held at the same location every Monday in February.
- Feb. 10      Pesticide Testing opportunity for anyone wanting a Private or Commercial Applicator license for Ohio. Testing requires pre-registration with the Ohio Department of Agriculture. This can be done online at <http://pested.osu.edu> or call toll free at 800-282-1955.

Ohio State University Extension embraces human diversity and is committed to ensuring that all research and related educational programs are available to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. This statement is in accordance with United States Civil Rights Laws and the USDA.

Keith L. Smith, Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration; Associate Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences; Director, Ohio State University Extension; and Gist Chair in Extension Education and Leadership.

For Deaf and Hard of Hearing, please contact Ohio State University Extension using your preferred communication (e-mail, relay services, or video relay services). Phone 1-800-750-0750 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. EST Monday through Friday. Inform the operator to dial 614-292-6181