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Buy Local Foods Seminar

This coming weekend is the annual Buy Local Foods Seminar that is sponsored by the local group of OEFFA (Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association). This is the seventh year for this program. This program will be held in the Saint George Catholic Church Hall in Georgetown (located on SR 125 between Armstrong Insurance and CVS), on Sunday, January 26, 2014 starting at 1:45 p.m. For more information, call Julie Kline (937) 392-1543 or Pat Hornschemeier (937) 378-4769 (day); (937) 378-4560 (evening).

Kristin Gangwer, Manager of the Our Harvest Cooperative Food Hub Project in Cincinnati, will give the keynote speech about her food hub which is creating jobs, training farmers and getting more local produce into area institutions, grocery stores and restaurants. Ms. Gangwer will also lead a discussion telling local producers and consumers about the nuts and bolts of Our Harvest. In addition there will be other workshops and discussions on topics such as raising sheep, gardening through different times in one's life span, the state of local food in the central Ohio River Valley, maple syrup production, farm to school, and intensive gardening on a small lot.

On another note, the OEFFA will have their annual state conference coming up on February 15 and 16 in Granville, OH. This will be the 35th annual conference. For more information log onto <http://www.oeffa.org>

Farm Truck Safety Awareness

Farm trucks are on the road hauling grain to sell, seed for the coming crop, fertilizer and more. Safety is always an issue. This program will feature presentations from Ohio Farm Bureau director of Agriculture Law, Ohio State Patrol Motor Carrier Division, Insurance and more.

The program is held on February 17 in the Sabina area starting at 2:00 p.m. followed by the Southwest Ohio Corn Growers Annual Meeting and Banquet. Registration begins at 1:30. The program is sponsored by the Southwest Ohio Corn Growers and is free. The location is 12282 US 22, which is about half way between Wilmington and Washington Court House.

Soybean College in Wilmington

The Soybean College will be held on February 13, 2014 in Wilmington at the Clinton County Extension Office. Pre-registration is required for this program and can be done by calling the Clinton Co. Extension Office at 937-382-0901 by February 10. The cost is \$70 and includes lunch and several OSU Publications that cover soybean production.

This workshop will feature Dr. Laura Lindsey, Ohio State University Soybean/Wheat Extension Specialist; Dr. Andy Michel, Ohio State University, Field Crop Extension Entomologist; and Dr. Anne Dorrance, Ohio State University's Field Crop Extension Pathologist.

Topics covered during this workshop include: Agronomic factors to maximize yield, Hands-on evaluation of soybean yield components, What's "bugging" Soybeans, identification of key insects, Thresholds and insecticide timing, Stink Bugs – a bug that won't go away, Key Soybean diseases for Ohio, Pathogen biology, Genetic resistance, Foliar fungicides, Seed treatments, and Hands-on identification of soybean pests and diseases.

Ohio Commercial Berry Production School

The Ohio Commercial Berry Production School will be an all-day event on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at the OSU South Centers in Piketon. The program begins at 9:00 a.m. and registration is required by February 25. You can register by calling 740-289-2071 ext. 132. The cost is only \$25.

The school will cover several topics including: Strawberry Production and Marketing; Commercial Wine Grape Production; Commercial Raspberry Production Systems; Assessment of Winter Injuries of Grapevines; Pruning demonstrations of Grape, Blueberry, Blackberry, Raspberry and more.

Dates to Remember

- 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 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.

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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.

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