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 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Sampling for Soybean Cyst Nematode – Fall is the time!**

As you read this, it is apparent we have had more rain than areas north of here. Dr. Anne Dorrance, OSU Extension Soybean Specialist wrote this in this week's CORN newsletter (<http://corn.osu.edu>), and her office is in Wooster. It would be a sloppy mess to pull soil samples where I live this week. I need to work on water gaps and fences that the 2.1 inches of overnight rain took out on November 6 before I could pull any soil samples. However, soil samples need to be pulled once the ground actually does dry some.

As we wait another week for the fields to dry out, this provides some time to sample soil for the SCN populations. The SCN Coalition theme for the next few years is, "What's your number"? Do you know where SCN is in your fields and what the current population is sitting at? If it is high, then there is a second number – what is the SCN type? Which addresses the bigger question can it reproduce on the SCN resistance source PI 88788 or Peking. All of these numbers can impact management of this root pathogen and future losses.

The situation in Ohio: We know that the state is now "polluted" with SCN, fortunately most of those fields are at very low levels – which is where they should be kept. From samples received to date as part of an initial survey for Ohio of 33 counties as part of the SCN Coalition sampling. Our first round is from members of the American Soybean Association sponsored by Ohio Soybean Council.

### **Beef Quality Assurance and More \$\$**

Over the past few months we have offered Beef Quality Assurance certification for producers who want to obtain the certification for marketing their cattle. This certification is not currently required to market cattle. It may never be required, but then again, it may at some point in the future.

What I have been told, and I have seen some paperwork to back it up, is some companies will only be buying cattle from certified herds after the first of the year. This is November, so that is not far off. We did four programs to certify producers in August, September and October. We certified well over 300 producers at these four events. The certification is good for 3 years. So make note, if you were certified a few years ago, you may need to re-certify. Make sure the stockyards you market your cattle through are aware of your certification. They will need to see documentation.

If for no other reason, getting certified should improve the price for your cattle. Beef Quality Assurance certification along with other things can improve the selling price. This could all be included in a marketing plan. A marketing plan would include everything that you "can" do to improve the value of your cattle to ALL potential buyers. The Beef Quality Assurance would allow



more buyers to bid on, or purchase your cattle. The class is free except for the few hours it will take for you to travel to and from, plus the training, which is less than 2 hours.

Now, I want to address some of the other things that you can do to increase the value of your calves. First thing I want to do is to have you reverse rolls. Yes, that means you are now the buyer. How would you prefer the calves health issues to be for the calves you buy?

We have all been at the auction and heard the manager or the auctioneer announce that these calves are weaned and had all of their shots. What does this mean? You really need to work with your veterinarian and stockyards to clarify what this means where you market your calves, but I can give you a general idea. First of all, just to be clear, all of their shots means more than vaccination for preventing blackleg, and weaned does not mean when you separated them from their mother last night or this morning.

Over the last several years there have been programs to assist producers with marketing. One of those programs was in Kentucky, where there are lots of feeder calves marketed every year. The program is the CPH-45. The CPH stands for Certified Pre-conditioned for Health. Remember, you are the BUYER. You want to buy sick calves or healthy calves?

So, pre-conditioned may need more explaining, too. Again, your stockyards and veterinarian are key here. Discuss this with both so you can obtain the best price as a seller. Part of the pre-conditioned is having the cattle weaned for 45 days, thus the CPH-45. Now some markets discuss having calves weaned even longer. Talk to the people that help you market your cattle.

You want to sell healthy calves, and you want all calves to go to market, so let your veterinarian give you the tools (vaccines) to manage the health of your calves so the buyer can buy healthy calves. These vaccines will include respiratory vaccines for diseases. The list may include vaccines for other diseases, too. Do not forget the wormer that might be part of the plan, too.

The BQA is scheduled for January 22 at the Union Stockyards. The meal starts at 5:30 p.m. and the program starts at 6:30 p.m. Call the stockyards to register at 937-393-1958.

### **Dates to Remember**

November 9 Join us to learn about GMOs as well as the myths and facts of heirloom, hybrid and grafted plants! **Dinner at 5 P.M. | Program at 5:30 P.M.** at OSU Extension Greene County, 100 Fairground Road, **Xenia**, Ohio 45385 **Cost: \$20** includes educational materials and catered dinner. Register online at [go.osu.edu/greenegmo](http://go.osu.edu/greenegmo) or call 937-372-9971 **Deadline:** by November 5.

November 19 Pesticide Testing at the Old Y Restaurant at noon. Third Monday versus the normal second Monday of the month due to Veteran's Day on November 12. Please pre-register at <http://pested.osu.edu> or call the Ohio Dept. of Ag at 800-282-1955.

January 16 Small Farm College will begin. This is an 8-week course offered from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday nights. This OSU Extension event will be in the round room at North Adams High School. Registration material will soon be available at the OSU Extension offices throughout Ohio including the Adams County Office. Materials are available online today. Go to the OSU Extension Website, <http://adams.osu.edu>