

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

Brown County Fair in Progress

The forecast for the week is unbelievable for the Brown Co. Fair. The previous Adams and Highland County Fairs also had nice weather, so it looks to be a full sweep of good fair weather for 2014. Some harvest discussion has already taken place during the first day or two of the fair, but more discussion about the number of acres of tobacco not yet in the barn. It looks to be a good week for cutting and housing, too.

Pricing Standing Corn for Silage Harvest – 2014

I have seen some silage harvested in the past couple of weeks and had a couple calls about the way to price standing corn for silage. The following appeared in the CORN newsletter this week and was written by OSU Extension Specialists Normand St-Pierre, Bill Weiss and Dianne Shoemaker.

If it's late summer it's time to talk about pricing a corn crop standing in the field for corn silage. This is always a challenging question as there are a number of factors that contribute to the final price agreed upon by the buyer and seller that are challenging to quantify.

This corn silage pricing discussion begins with a corn crop standing in the field. The grower's goal is to recover the cost of producing and harvesting the crop plus a profit margin. Their base price would be the price they could receive for the crop from the grain market less harvesting/drying/storage costs. Hopefully, this would meet their goal of covering production costs and generating a profit. During price negotiations, it should be recognized that harvest risk is also being shifted from the grower to the buyer.

To the grain farmer, the corn crop has value beyond the income from the sale of grain. If the crop is sold as silage, the corn fodder is no longer available as ground cover and/or as a potential source of nutrients and organic matter. This creates an opportunity for the dairy farm to provide nutrients and organic matter back to the corn fields from subsequent manure nutrient applications.

Keep Farm Safety in Mind

As we gear up for the harvest of corn and soybeans, we need to keep safety in mind. Safety on the roads with the equipment being moved from farm to farm is always an issue. While traveling on local roads, be aware that this equipment is wide, and does not move as fast as the car or truck that you may be driving. Be patient and do not take chances to pass when it might be unsafe. Farmers should make sure that all of the warning lights are in good working order before putting this equipment on the road.

Farmers also need to be patient. I know the rain may put you behind (if it ever rains) on getting things done when you would like to have things done, but you will get it done. Remember to get the rest you need. Between being tired and trying to rush, you really increase the odds of having an accident.

Farm Science Review

The Farm Science Review was held at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center; over the course of three days, more than 131,000 people passed through the gates to experience all that the show has to offer. If you missed the FSR this year, you missed a year with pretty nice weather compared to other years I have been there. The 2015 FSR will be held September 22-24. For more information about the Farm Science Review go to the web site at:

<http://fsr.osu.edu>

Dates to Remember

- October 9 Dairy Producer Farm Bill Meeting
- October 16 Dairy Producer Farm Bill Meeting in West Union at Frisch's at 9:30 a.m.
(Breakfast is on your own. Try to come early enough to be finished eating by 9:30.)
NOTE: Please call the Adams or Highland County OSU Ext. Office to pre-register.
- October 22 Dairy Producer Farm Bill Meeting in Hillsboro at FSA Office begins at 1:00 p.m.

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