

January 24, 2017
 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 David Dugan
 OSU Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources
 Adams/Brown/Highland Counties
 Ohio Valley Extension Education Research Area

Grain Marketing Classes begin Feb. 14

Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of the Grain Marketing Program in Georgetown in just a few weeks. The information is available on our webpage or by calling the local OSU Extension Office. Our webpage is brown.osu.edu or you can look on Adams or Highland by substituting the name.

Classes will be held on Tuesdays beginning Feb. 14 at 1:00 p.m. Registration deadline is Feb. 1. Call the Ross Co. Extension office to register at 740 702-3200.

GAP for Tobacco Growers

The dates that I have confirmed are: Monday February 27 at 1:00 p.m. at the West Union Frisch's; Wednesday March 15 at 1:00 p.m. at the West Union Frisch's; Wednesday March 15 at 6:30 p.m. at North Adams HS in the Round Room; Tuesday March 21 at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday March 22 at 1:00 p.m. at the Board Office of Southern Hills Career Center in Georgetown.

As in the past, seating is limited at some sites so we offer several dates for training. Please pre-register for this training by calling Barbie at the Adams Co. Extension Office to reserve a seat for the date and location that works best for you. Barbie can be reached by phone Monday – Friday from 8:30 until noon and 12:30 until 4:00 p.m. at 544-2339 or by e-mail at rowe.316@osu.edu

Not Too Soon to Get Ready for Calving Season

As we continue through the muddiest month of January that I can remember, I am only glad that I am not having calves during this miserable weather pattern. Hopefully those who have started are having good fortune, but the conditions are not good so extra management is most likely needed.

If calving season is still several weeks away, it is important to keep mineral available to cows as the fetus develops, as well as good nutrition. Some of the hay made last summer was well past its prime when it was harvested. Supplemental feeding might pay dividends in the long run.

Another thought would be to discuss any recent issues you have had with your veterinarian. This may be a good opportunity to discuss calving season issues like scours or pinkeye as the calves grow. Some of these can be addressed by vaccinating the mother late in gestation. If you will need medicated feed, you may want to combine this visit with your veterinarian as part of your Veterinarian Feed Directive if you have not already done so.

Here are some addition thoughts from Dr. Les Anderson, Beef Specialist from the University of Kentucky. Dr. Anderson has been part of Extension programs here in the area in recent years including the Ohio Beef School.

Calving season will be here before we know it. Providing sound management during that time can mean more live calves, which translates to more profit for you. Dr. Les Anderson, UK extension beef specialist offers these points to consider. It is important to have a short calving period to allow frequent



observation and assistance if needed. Some specific things a producer can do to limit calf loss include:

Separate first-calf heifers from mature cows. Calving difficulty can run as high as 30 to 40 percent for 2-year-old heifers compared to just 3 percent for mature cows. Place them in a small, accessible pasture near a corral where assistance can be given if needed.

Provide a clean area for calving. The calving area should be a well-sodded pasture or clean, dry maternity pen, not a wet, muddy lot. It should also be large enough for adequate exercise and offer protection from prevailing winds.

Be familiar with the signs of calving. Within a few hours of calving, cows generally become nervous and uneasy. As contractions increase, a cow will likely wander away from the rest of the herd.

Check cows frequently. Observing cows three or four times a day and providing assistance when necessary results in more live calves. However, cows should be disturbed as little as possible during labor.

Know when a cow needs assistance. Intervention is justified when two or three hours have passed without progress or if delivery has not occurred within 90 minutes after the water sac appears. In a normal delivery, the calf's front legs and head will appear first.

There are also a few steps to take after the calf is born to help it get off to a good start. These include making sure the calf is breathing normally after it is delivered and that it consumes colostrum. Ideally, a calf should consume its first milk within 15 to 30 minutes after birth.

Immediately after calving, increase the cow's energy intake to about 16 pounds of total digestible nutrients per day. The extra energy will help the cow produce enough milk for her calf and allow her to rebreed on schedule.

Dates to Remember

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.
- February 27 GAP for Tobacco at 1:00 p.m. at West Union Frisch's.
- 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.
- March 15 GAP for Tobacco at 1:00 p.m. at West Union Frisch's and at 6:30 p.m. at North Adams HS.
- March 21 GAP for Tobacco at Southern Hills Board Office at 6:30 p.m.
- March 22 GAP for Tobacco at Southern Hills Board Office at 1:00 p.m.
- April 8 Ohio Tobacco Museum Fundraiser/Reverse Raffle at Ripley Elem.
- April 8 Highland County OSU Extension's Dinner and Auction at the Highland Co. Fairgrounds in the evening.

The Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation is again offering a great opportunity for college students with scholarships of \$7500. The deadline for application is January 31, 2017. For details go to <http://soacdf.net> or call (937)393-2700.