

May 16, 2017
 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 David Dugan
 OSU Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources
 Adams/Brown/Highland Counties
 Ohio Valley Extension Education Research Area

Beef Prices Trending Up

Two to Three years ago U.S. Beef producers were enjoying record high prices for cattle in all classes, from feeder calves to cull cows, and everything in between. Prices dropped significantly since those record prices, but in recent months the price trends have been up. However, prices did drop back some in the last part of last week.

There may be several factors including the issue in Brazil and the blizzard that hit the last week of April in parts of Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado and Kansas. Another factor that could continue that upward trend is the recent news that U.S. Beef will soon be back on the shelves in China. It has been 13 years since U.S. Beef has been in China, due to a ban of U.S. Beef in that country. A target date for mid-July has been established. China has a beef market of an estimated \$2.6 billion. I read a post on the Beef Blog from the President of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association stating that this was historic and that it would be impossible to overstate how beneficial this will be for America's cattle producers.

Hops Field Day at OSU South Centers in Piketon

The field day will be on Thursday, June 15, 2017 at the location of the OSU South Centers in Piketon, Ohio. The field day will begin at 10 a.m. with lunch provided at 12:30. The field day will include viewing and discussion in the hop yard, a viewing of the new hops harvester and new galvanized trellis system, and many educational topics for the beginner or advanced grower.

Registration is required and space is limited, so register early. You can register with Charissa Gardner at gardner.1148@osu.edu or at 740.289.2071 ext. 132. Deadline to register is June 13th. Cost to register is \$25.00 per person, or \$40.00 per family (up to three people). We will be having a working lunch with one-on-one conversations between the growers and the educators/researchers.

Palmer Amaranth, a National Pest Alert

In recent years I have talked about this problem weed that is making its way to Ohio. In fact, it has been found in several counties including Scioto, and more recently in Highland and Brown. I have not heard of it being found in Adams, but it is most likely here somewhere since it has been found in counties that surround Adams.

The National Pest Alert concerning this problem weed can be found at the OSU Extension Offices in Adams, Brown and Highland Counties. It can also be found on our web page in the Agriculture and Natural Resources section. The following is the first section of this informational sheet.



Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) is native to the desert regions of northern Mexico and the southwestern United States, and has spread into the Midwest, the East Coast and portions of Canada. Palmer amaranth is a relatively new introduction in Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and the Northwest U.S. Palmer amaranth can be distributed by birds, through livestock feed, manure, grazing, wind, farm equipment etc. Amaranth expansion was accelerated in 2016 as an unintentional contaminant in some native seed mixes purchased by growers participating in conservation programs.

Palmer amaranth grows 1–3 inches in height per day, up to 6–8 feet tall and occasionally will reach 10 feet or more. Emergence occurs from early May through late summer and a single plant can produce over 200,000 seeds. Compounding the concern over the expansion of this highly aggressive, fast-growing weed is its resistance to herbicides. It is similar to waterhemp in its ability to rapidly evolve resistance to many herbicides used in weed management programs.

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|---------|---|
| May 25 | Strawberry Workshop at OSU South Centers in Piketon. |
| June 12 | Pesticide Testing at the Old Y Restaurant at noon. Must pre-register at http://pested.osu.edu or call 800-282-1955. As always, this test is offered on the second Monday of each month. |
| June 15 | Hops Field Day at OSU South Centers in Piketon. |