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 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Fall Weed Control and Sprayer Care

Now that we have had our first below freezing morning, and several plants were not able to survive it, it is time to do a few things when it comes to weed control. First of all, some of the problem weeds may be controlled with a fall application. Several weeds that are causing problems in row crops may not fit that description, but there still may be a reason to control some of the weeds that appear in crop fields after harvest and before planting next spring. Some of the weeds that I am talking about here are the weeds that simply may just delay planting a day or two in the spring.

While those weeds may only delay the soil from drying in the spring, there are several other weeds are more than just a little bit of a nuisance that may be controlled with a fall application. While most of our weed concerns seem to center around our crop fields, there are weeds around the edges of fields or fence rows, in our hay fields and maybe around some areas used for grazing. Some of these weeds have become more and more of a problem in recent years because they seem to be spreading at an alarming rate. Some of the weeds that I am referring to are weeds like Canada Thistle and Poison Hemlock. These weeds will stay green and actively grow for the next few weeks until it gets really cold. Some of these weeds are actively growing right on, so spot spraying these on a warm day with little to no wind in the next couple of weeks would be ideal. You may need to come back in a few days to make a second application if some are missed. Then again in the spring before everything else takes off growing.

Since we are talking about spraying, it is also a good thing to consider winterizing your sprayers before it gets really cold. Rinsing completely is also a necessity for the sprayer to perform at its best next spring. Keep in mind, as I encourage you to make spots sprays in the next few weeks we could experience a cold blast, so don't forget those small ATV type sprayers when it comes to winterizing or store them in a warm area until you are finished for the year.

A more in depth sprayer winterizing article appears in this week's CORN newsletter. You can access the CORN newsletter at <http://corn.osu.edu> or stop by your local OSU Extension Office.

Scholarship Applications from SOACDF

This is a reprint with some corrections from a couple of weeks ago. There were some changes and I unfortunately used an older version of the application to prepare what I wrote. Just a reminder that you should always make sure you are using the most current application.

The Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation has been in existence for a number of years now. This is also known as the "Tobacco Foundation".

The SOACDF was formed after the Master Settlement Agreement back in the late 1990's between the Tobacco Companies and nearly all of the States.



The Foundation's purpose was to help the farmers and communities that have traditionally raised and depended on tobacco transition into other enterprises and other means of income.

The SOACDF has assisted several farms with cost share on equipment, fencing, livestock, lime, buildings, etc. over the past 16 years. There have been several new enterprises like vineyards and shrimp ponds, but most of the help has gone to assist with expanding existing operations on the farm. There have been several expansions to beef operations, hay, grain, and dairies, just to mention a few. These have all been helpful to the farmers, but they have also been good for the businesses in the area. However, as good as all of these sounds for the farmers and the businesses, the best money spent may be on education.

Since very early in its existence, the SOACDF has offered an Educational Assistance Program. This program has offered grants for college degrees and technical training for both youth and farm families. There has always been a set amount per family, with a cap per family and per individual for a given year.

This year there will be another opportunity for those currently in college. Individuals who have a current Farm Service Number on record with the Farm Service Agency and reside in the 22 counties the Foundation serves and their immediate family dependent are eligible for the Educational Excellence Competitive Grant. In addition, you must be enrolled full time as an upcoming sophomore, junior or senior for 2018-2019 at an accredited institution. This is a competitive grant, which can be used toward tuition, room and board and lab fees for the 2018-2019 academic year. The grant may be up to \$7,500. Applicants may only receive this grant one time.

The applications are available now online or you may pick them up at the local OSU Extension Offices, FSA Offices, or the SOACDF Office in Hillsboro. To obtain the application online go to <http://soacdf.net> The application period is January 1, 2018 until January 31, 2018. The guidelines are available with the application. If you have questions, call the SOACDF Office at 937-393-2700.

Dates to Remember

Nov. 13 Pesticide Testing at the Old Y Restaurant at noon. Pre-register by calling ODA at 800-282-1955 or online at <http://pested.osu.edu>