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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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All Kinds of Dates

The locations will be in the Hillsboro area and in Adams Co. this year, as we were in Brown last year. The dates are January 19, February 2, and February 16. These are all Tuesdays and will begin at 7:00 p.m. sharp. The following is from the OSU Beef Cattle Letter:

On January 19, 2016 the focus will be squarely on the markets and marketing including outlook, and risk management. Dr. Derrell Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension Livestock Marketing Specialist, will kick off the program with his insight into the beef cattle markets . . . where they've been, where they may be going, and how they will get there. Peel will discuss the factors that have pressured the market and suggest if and when they will subside, and to what level they might recover. Sam Roberts of Producers Livestock will also join the broadcast on the 19th and offer suggestions on market risk management and capturing profitable pricing opportunities in the coming year.

During the second session on February 2, the attention will turn back to the basics in an effort to bust some myths that may be negatively affecting our bottom line. Members of the OSU Extension Beef Team will take turns addressing some of the management questions and comments we've received during Beef School sessions over the years. This will be a fast paced look at a variety of profit centered concepts including calving windows, genetic choices, breeding management, crossbreeding and economic traits that will be the most meaningful in coming years.

The series will conclude on February 16 with a focus squarely on the end product. Dr. Lyda Garcia, Assistant Professor of Meat Sciences at Ohio State University, will discuss enhancing end product values from a point of view through the live animal.

The New and Small Farm College will be conducted at three locations this year. The first college will be held in Brown County at the Southern State Community College, Brown County Campus, 351 Brooks-Malott Rd., Mt. Orab, Ohio on Wednesdays, beginning January 20, 2016 through Monday, March 16, 2016. Classes run from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. each week. This class will be limited to the First 50 registrations. The other locations are Athens and Miami Counties.

The cost of the course is \$150 per person, \$100 for an additional family member. Along with the vast resources and knowledge gained, participants will receive a notebook (per each \$150 registration) of all resource materials, a soil test, refreshments, and the bus tour. Registrations are now being accepted. Individuals interested in the program may contact the Brown County Extension office at (937) 378- 6716, the Athens County Extension office at (740) 593-8555, or the Miami County Extension office at (937) 440-3945. Registration brochures for the program can also be found online at the following websites



<http://brown.osu.edu> , <http://athens.osu.edu> , <http://miami.osu.edu> , or at <http://agnr.osu.edu/node/283> and are also available in area Ohio State University Extension offices. It is also available at <http://clinton.osu.edu>.

For further information contact Tony Nye, OSU Small Farm Program Coordinator at (937) 382-0901 or E-mail at nye.1@osu.edu.

Pesticide and Fertilizer Dates

With the new year approaching quickly, I have had a few questions concerning the requirements, and/or need for, a fertilizer certification. Who will need it and who will not need this certification is a common question. First of all we all need to remember that this does not go into effect until September 30, 2017. However, as people become certified they are required to keep records and follow the requirements.

The Ohio Agricultural Fertilizer Applicator Certification Requirements states the following to these questions.

Do I need a fertilizer certification? Fertilizer certification is required if you apply fertilizer (other than manure) to more than 50 acres of agricultural production grown primarily for sale. If you hire a co-op or other custom applicator to make the applications, you do not need the certification.

Do I need the certification if I raise forage for my livestock? *The term “agricultural production” is defined as the cultivation, primarily for sale, of plants or any parts of plants on more than 50 acres. If you raise forage (e.g., hay, silage, corn) for use on your farm, and have questions please contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture by phone at 800-282-1955. This part is not in the flyer, but basically if you are raising crops, like hay or corn, that is going to primarily be fed to your livestock, you will not need certification.*

The other thing that must be clearly understood is the difference between a 2-hour certification and a 3-hour certification. If you have a pesticide license, you are only required to attend a 2-hour certification. If you do not have a pesticide license you must attend a 3-hour certification. Without a pesticide license a 2-hour session **WILL NOT** get you the credit needed for certification.

Pesticide testing is available on the second Monday of every month except October (3rd Monday) at the Old Y Restaurant at noon. You must pre-register through <http://pested.osu.edu> or call the Ohio Department of Agriculture at 800-282-1955 and extension 3 followed by a 1.

The sessions are as follows: Monday, February 8, 2016 at North Adams High School. This session will begin at 5:00 p.m. with Fertilizer training until 7:00 p.m. Then we will break for pizza followed by the pesticide re-certification from 7:30 until 10:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 18, 2016 at Southern State Community College in Hillsboro. This session begins at 10:00 a.m. with Fertilizer training until noon. Then we will break for pizza followed by pesticide re-certification from 12:30 until 3:30 p.m.

Monday, February 22, 2016 at Southern Hills Board Office on Hamer Rd in Georgetown. This session begins at 10:00 a.m. with Fertilizer training until noon. Then we will break for pizza followed by pesticide re-certification from 12:30 until 3:30 p.m.

Remember to pre-register early. You can also e-mail Cindy at kratzer.11@osu.edu. Please mail payment to the Brown Co. Extension office at 325 W. State St. Bldg. B Georgetown, OH 45121.

I will have more dates including programming on GAP for Tobacco Growers, Vegetable Programming, Bee Keeping Programs and more in the coming weeks.