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

Beef 509 Course in February

Beef production is more than just feeding cows. Understanding what consumers value and look for when purchasing meat can help livestock producers increase their profit potential and become more competitive in the cattle industry.

Beef 509 is a two day course that will provide beef producers with a more in depth look at their industry. I went through this class a few years ago and found it to be very informative and an eye opener.

“This workshop can offer producers a view beyond the farm gate to the consumer’s plate,” John Grimes, Beef Coordinator for Ohio State University Extension said. “This very hands-on class lets producers see the other side of the business by evaluating actual carcass differences, understand how these differences translate to economic value, and to learn how their farm management decisions can impact their financial bottom line.”

To help bridge the knowledge gap, beef experts with the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences are offering a two-part Beef 509 series Feb. 20 and 27, designed to help producers take advantage of increasing consumer demand for high-quality beef products as well as position themselves for continued long-term success. Each workshop runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The program will take place at Ohio State’s Animal Sciences Building, 2029 Fyffe Road, Columbus.

Topics to be discussed include:

- * Beef harvesting procedures and innovations.
- * Carcass aging.
- * Grid pricing.
- * Beef industry update.
- * Taste panel and shear force evaluation.
- * Genetic and environmental carcass merit factors.
- * Beef carcass grading and fabrication.



* Live, carcass and boxed-beef valuations.

Registration is \$150 by check made payable and sent to: Ohio Cattlemen's Foundation, 10600 U.S. Highway 42, Marysville, Ohio 43040. For more information on the Beef 509 program, contact Grimes at 740-289-2071, ext. 242, or grimes.1@osu.edu.

Maple Syrup Meeting

This seminar is free and open to the public, and is sponsored by the OSUE Brown County Master Gardener Volunteers as part of a series of programs held on the third Thursday of the month. Christine Tailer will talk about the History of Making Maple Syrup at the Mt. Orab campus of SSCC at 7:00 in room 107 on Thursday, January 21.

2016 Beef School

The locations will be in the Hillsboro HS Ag Room and in the round room at North Adams HS. 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.

Pesticide and Fertilizer Dates

Without a pesticide license a 2-hour session **WILL NOT** get you the credit needed for fertilizer certification, for private or commercial. If you do not have a pesticide license you are required to have a 3-hour training session. Three hour trainings are available in Pike Co. on January 26 at 2:00 p.m. and Wilmington College on March 10. To register in Pike Co. call 740 289-4837 and Wilmington call 937 382-0901.

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.