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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

Additional Winter Meeting Dates

As I typed that title it seems crazy that we already have snow on the ground. Many area farmers are nowhere near finished with harvest. In addition to the Farm Bill Meetings that I listed last week, and appear later in today's column, I have dates for a Forage School, a Beef School, Pesticide Re-certification/Fertilizer Certification, and GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) for tobacco producers.

I do not have locations finalized for the Forage or Beef Schools, but do have the dates and times. The Forage School will be held on Wednesdays in January at 12:30 p.m. The dates are January 7, 14, 21, and 28 and the program is scheduled for 3 hours each day. The cost for the Forage School is \$30. Please call Tami to pre-register for this program at 393-1918.

The Beef School is scheduled for Tuesday nights. The 3 dates are January 27, February 10 and February 24. The location is still in the works. I hope to have the topics for each night in the next week or two. The start time is 7:00 p.m. for each night.

Now for the Pesticide Re-certification and Fertilizer Certification dates and the explanation of who needs to attend which of the following sessions. For those who have a private applicator license for pesticides, if you need to obtain a Fertilizer Certification, you will need to attend a 2 hour session. The Pesticide and Fertilizer will be offered in each of the three counties. They will be offered so you can attend both sessions the same day, or evening. For those who do not have a pesticide license, but need a Fertilizer Certification, you will need to attend a 3 hour session. These dates will be offered in March after we get the Pesticide/Fertilizer sessions completed. If you questions about the Fertilizer Certification you need to contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture at 800-282-1955. We have materials at the OSU Extension Offices and I have placed them around the area in Farm Supply stores, Stockyards, Barber Shops and other businesses. I can also e-mail one to you if you want. Send me a request to Dugan.46@osu.edu

Pre-registration is REQUIRED for these programs and the fees need to be paid at least 5 days prior to the date of the class. Cindy in the Brown Co. Office will do all pre-registrations for Pesticide Re-cert and Fertilizer Certification. Call Cindy at 378-6716.

The dates are: Wednesday, January 21 at North Adams HS beginning with the Fertilizer Certification at 4:00 p.m. and the Pesticide Re-certification begins at 6:00 p.m. with a light meal; Thursday, Feb. 5 at the Southern Hills Career Center Board Office in Georgetown on Hamer Road. The program will start at 11:30 a.m. with lunch and the fertilizer section followed by the pesticide re-cert; the final date will be in Hillsboro at Southern State Community College beginning at 11:00 a.m. for the Fertilizer Certification and lunch, followed by the Pesticide Re-certification. You can go to the Pesticide Education web page to fine other opportunities for this training in surrounding counties by logging onto <http://pested.osu.edu>

Farm Bill Meetings Scheduled

Last week I posted the dates for the upcoming Farm Bill Meetings throughout the 3 counties. The new Farm Bill of 2014 has a bunch of information that farmers need to be aware of. You can always travel to another meeting in another county if the dates and times do not fit your schedule. Some of the sites have a limited number of seats, so please call the OSU Extension Office in the county for the meeting you plan to attend. All we need is your name

and your county of residence, with a contact number in the event of a last minute cancellation due to weather. With the snow that we have already had this week, many of the schools closed. We need your contact number in the event we need to cancel at the last minute due to weather. For the meetings in Adams Co. call Barbie at 544-2339, in Brown call Cindy at 378-6716, and in Highland call Tami at 393-1918.

December 18 – Southern State Community College in Hillsboro at 1:00 p.m. off of US 62, north side of town.
December 18 – North Adams HS. Starting at 6:30 p.m. in Seaman just north of SR 32 near the hospital.
December 22 – Southern Hills CTC Board Office Bldg. in Georgetown next to JVS on Hamer Road at 1:00 p.m.
December 22 – Hillsboro H.S.(Cafeteria) located off of US 62 south side of Hillsboro beginning at 6:30 p.m.
February 2 – Frisch’s in West Union on SR 41 South, at 1:00 p.m.
February 2 – Southern Hills Career Center in Georgetown at 6:30 p.m.

Local Tobacco Auction

There will again be an auction for selling tobacco in Maysville, KY in 2014-15. Elden Ginn is planning to have auctions for tobacco again this year. Last year there was no auction at this location, but the plan is to have an auction, with the first auction being sometime during the first week of December at the Kentucky King Warehouse located at 1216 Forest Avenue, behind the IGA Grocery. You can contact Elden Ginn for more information. I will provide details once they become available.

Applications Available For Educational Excellence Grant

The Southern Ohio Ag and Community Development Foundation has made the applications available for the \$7,500 Educational Excellence Grant for 2015-16 year. The applications are available at FSA and OSU Extension offices, or you can go online to www.soacdf.net and print one. This is directly from the application as far as who is eligible.

Individuals who have a current Farm Service Number on record with the Farm Service Agency at the time of application submission and reside in the 22 counties the Foundation serves OR tobacco quota owners, quota owners/growers, or grower/tenants of Farm Service Agency record in any single crop year from 1997 through 2004, and their immediate family dependents, that are enrolled at an accredited institution and are seeking a Bachelor degree are eligible. Applicants must be enrolled as a **full time** sophomore, junior or senior in the 2015-2016 school year to be eligible.

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