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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Harvest Time

As we head into the fall this week officially with the change from summer to fall, harvest time is here. Yeah, it is here. Normally most of the harvesting of soybeans and corn is done after the Brown County Fair, but with the dry weather that we have had, many crops are about ready to be harvested.

Despite the fact that many of the crops do not appear to be ready, you may be fooled if you check them closely. The windshield view may show some plants with green left that would make you tend to think that they are not yet ready for harvest. With the heat we have had the past few days things may be progressing quickly. I know late sweet corn is maturing very quick right now.

Also, it would be a good idea to scout the fields before harvest begins. You can check the stalks to see how susceptible they may be to wind. This practice helps identify fields that should be harvested early and dried down. A simple way to scout for lodging potential is to walk the field and push plants 12 inches from vertical at about chest height. Stalks that don't spring back have the potential to lodge in a strong wind. If 10-15% of the field shows such lodging potential, plan on harvesting the field soon after the grain is physiologically mature (development of black layer, about 30% grain moisture). In addition to the lodging possibility, you should be looking for some stalk rot. Some of the stalk rot that could show up in a year like we have had here in Brown County can cause problems next year. For example, if a lot of charcoal rot is observed, that is a yellow flag to be cautious about planting soybeans next season, since charcoal rot will aggressively attack soybean should drought conditions repeat next year. If charcoal rot is present in corn, it can be recognized by the charred appearance of the pith (the inside of the stalk). The charred appearance is due to the presence of many tiny black fungal structures.

Keep in mind to be careful as we get into the harvest time. Farmers, be careful, do not get into too big of a hurry. Everyone on the roads, take a little extra time keeping in mind that there will be more slow moving equipment on the roads for the next few weeks. Some of this equipment is really big, and will take up a large portion of the county and township roads.

Lawn Seeding

I often get calls and emails with questions about seeding or re-seeding a lawn. Some of the questions include when, how, what grass and so on. The answers to these questions is often, "it depends".

First thing, fall is a great time to seed. A soil test is recommended so you know what the fertility is in the soil that you wish to grow the grass in. The variety to use depends on many factors. There are several helpful factsheets to help with this. Some will do better in direct sun, some better in shade. Some are better for heavy traffic, while others may be more tolerant to drought.



This is a link to a factsheet from the University of Kentucky. This can be picked up at the OSU Extension office if you do not have the internet. https://franklin.ca.uky.edu/files/agr-51-renovating_your_lawn.pdf

Remember to water and water often if we stay dry. It is a good idea to put some type of measuring device in the lawn to measure the water so the seed gets off to a good start.

Dates to Remember

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| Oct. 14 | Tire Amnesty Day in Adams Co. |
| Oct. 16 | Pesticide Testing at Old Y at noon. Third Monday this month due to Columbus Day falling on the second Monday. |