



Dear Readers,

Even amid the challenges we have faced together this year, I am encouraged by our spirit. Our resilience to ever present change, loss, and concern has been impressive. My holiday wish for you is that even on the most difficult days, you will find peace and joy in the constants of nature and routine- the natural cycles of life on the farm; the sunrise; the sunset; songbirds at the feeder through the window pane; a phone call with a friend; a book and a cozy blanket; a steaming cup of your favorite brew. Our challenges will not dissolve away this holiday, but we can choose to find peace anyway. Peace in the stillness and reflection of the good that surrounds us.

Through the changes of life, OSU Extension remains a resource for you to consciously enhance your life with knowledge and skills in the fields of agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer science, youth development, and community development. We have and will continue to adapt the way we bring this information to you as needed. Currently statewide, all county extension offices will be physically closed and in-person services postponed until January 4, 2021. All staff will observe telework arrangements during this time. We will continue to be available by phone, email, and video conference with the exception of Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and personal scheduled vacation time.

There are many virtual programs coming up that would be of local benefit and I hope you will consider joining. Details are included in the following pages. If you know of a family member or friend that would enjoy these programs but is unfamiliar with Zoom on a smart-device or computer, I suggest offering them a tutorial as a gift. It is a gift that will keep on giving throughout the winter and beyond. I certainly would enjoy seeing your friendly faces and hearing your voices over a virtual program this winter.

From my family to yours, I send you wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season!

Sincerely,

Christine Gelley

Noble County OSU Extension ANR Educator

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A New Teacher Joins OSU Extension

On December 1, 2020 a new teacher joined the Noble County OSU Extension team. She began her career in Alberta, Canada with the mission of helping veterinary students practice appropriate beef cattle handling. Specializing in reproductive health and dystocia assistance, she will be an influential addition to our county and state community for years to come.



Cow #122 is a bovine simulator cow crafted by hand to be as close to a real cow as possible. Specially designed to mimic a full-sized pregnant Hereford cow, she comes with a fifty-pound calf replica that can be inserted into an internal uterine bag in various positions to model common and difficult calf presentation during labor and delivery. Along with a functional birth canal, Cow #122 also has a functioning udder, a set of vaginal, ovarian, uterine, embryonic, and fetal models, and calf assistance tools to help teach good cattle handling, palpation, artificial insemination, and dystocia assistance.

Bovine simulators like Cow #122 are rarely found outside of colleges with veterinary medicine programs. It is truly special that Noble County OSU Extension was able to acquire this simulator. Although she will be featured in state and regional reaching programs, Cow #122, her calf, and all of her accessories will only be used in Noble County under the supervision of the Noble County OSU Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator and the Eastern Agricultural Research Station.

This new teaching tool opens the door to a multitude of learning opportunities that will complement existing education for beef cattle producers and expand programmatic opportunities to climb to new heights.

In-person programs are currently paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but OSU Extension assures you that when we can resume in-person programs, you will be seeing more of Cow #122 up-close.

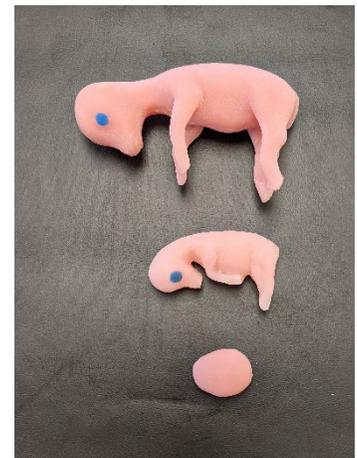
A video of Cow #122 titled “ANR Update- Dec. 3, 2020: Worth the Wait” is available on the Noble County OSU Extension Facebook page and can be viewed at: <https://facebook.com/osuenoble/videos>.



Cow #122 and her calf need new names. OSU Extension will offer a creative naming contest this December to reach a consensus and reveal the decisions at a virtual naming ceremony in January, 2021. To submit your suggested names for Cow #122 and her calf:

Send an email with the subject line: COW #122 to gelley.2@osu.edu and include the name of the person making the submission the cow name, the calf name, and one paragraph per name explaining why they should be considered. The top three names will be on a ballot for public voting in January.

Thank you to all of our county constituents and supporters for the opportunity to expand our programmatic efforts! Questions about Cow #122 can be directed to Christine Gelley at gelley.2@osu.edu or 740-732-5681.



Beef Programming Scheduled This Winter

Extension personnel across the state are collaborating to offer a slate of interesting and influential programs for beef producers this winter. Although formats have and may continue to change in response to the pandemic, OSU Extension is working to make resources available in multiple formats that are easily accessible.

Join the OSU Extension Beef Team as we kick off 2021 with our Ohio Cow-Calf Outlook meeting from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. This program will take a look at the cattle markets and how management decisions influence marketing outcomes, including calf value in the marketplace with special guest- Dr. Kenny Burdine, Livestock Marketing Specialist University of Kentucky Extension.

In addition, with the recent volatility in the fed cattle markets, risk management for livestock producers is of increasing importance. So is providing an environment where cattle efficiency and performance can be maximized. Join us as we address these topics at our virtual Cattle Feeding School. This webinar will be offered from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. Presentations will include: Risk Management- Livestock Risk Protection and Livestock Gross Margin Insurance by Justin White of Hudson Insurance and Feedlot Ventilation Requirements by Jason Hartschuh of OSU Extension Crawford County.

Those wishing to attend either of these Beef Team webinars must pre-register online to receive the Zoom webinar link by visiting <https://go.osu.edu/2021beefschool>. For questions about the webinars, please contact OSU Extension Beef Cattle Field Specialist- Garth Ruff at ruff.72@osu.edu.

OSU Extension had planned to offer a cow-calf management school in Noble County this winter, but these have recently been revised to be virtual sessions with the plan to offer in-person events later in 2021 that complement the material offered in the virtual format. Session topics will focus on forage management, breeding season management, genetic selection, brood cow longevity, semen handling, feeder calf management, and culling decisions. Virtual sessions will be offered over multiple webinars staggered throughout the winter. Any updates or changes to the program will be communicated when known. Contact OSU Extension Beef Cattle Field Specialist- Garth Ruff for related questions at ruff.72@osu.edu or 740-651-7140.

Localized plans for Beef Quality Assurance recertification classes are also in development for the Noble-Guernsey area with tentative dates scheduled for in-person classes in February. These plans are also subject to change due to the pandemic, but we will contribute our best efforts to make them available to all beef producers seeking recertification. Additional details will be announced and those with certification expiring in 2021 will be individually notified of available classes.



Pesticide Recertification & Fertilizer Recertification for Guernsey and Noble Counties Offered

January 21, 2021

Location: Deerassic Park Education Center
14250 Cadiz Rd, Cambridge, OH 43725

**Time: Fertilizer recertification starts at 5 PM
Pesticide recertification starts at 6 PM**

Some producers need one of these, others need both, your expiration date is printed on your license and you will have received notice from the Ohio Department of Agriculture if you need recertification.

There are changes for this year because of COVID:

Absolutely no walk-ins!

Call to register for each class you plan to attend by calling 740-489-5300. Please leave your name and number. Seating is limited and social spacing practiced.

Please bring your license.

Private applicators whose certification expired in 3/31/20 or will expire 3/31/21 have until 7/1/21 to recertify, there will be online opportunities to recertify starting later this winter.

• **Be alert for symptoms:** Within the past 24 to 48 hours, do you have NEW symptoms consistent with a viral syndrome such as fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, vomiting or diarrhea, muscle or body aches, loss of taste or smell? If so, please do not attend this recertification.

- Please be respectful and maintain a distance of six feet from one another.
- **Face masks are required inside and outside at all times.**
- Follow CDC/ODH guidance if symptoms develop.

Please know that dates are subject to change or the format of a program (in-person vs. virtual) may change, depending on the current public health situation.

Pastures for Profit Offered Virtually Statewide

This year between January and March in 2021, the Pastures for Profit curriculum will be offered as a virtual course. One live webinar will be offered per month along with “work at your own pace” videos and exercises that accompany each webinar. The Pastures for Profit program is a collaboration between Ohio State University Extension, Central State University, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Ohio Department of Agriculture, and the Ohio Forage and Grasslands Council.

Each webinar will be offered live on Zoom at 7 P.M. and feature three presentations in a 90-minute span. Attendees will be able to interact with the speakers and ask questions in real time. Once registered, attendees will be granted access to the online course including the webinars and complementary resources.

Participants that attend all three webinars will have the opportunity to earn a certificate of completion. Registered participants will also receive their choice of a curriculum binder or USB drive of the traditional course by mail.

The webinar schedule and topics are as follows:

Webinar One- Core Grazing Education: Wed., January 13th at 7 p.m.

- Evaluating Resources and Goal Setting
- Getting Started Grazing
- Soil Fertility

Webinar Two- The Science of Grazing: Wed., February 3rd at 7 p.m.

- Understanding Plant Growth
- Fencing and Water Systems
- Meeting Animal Requirements on Pasture

Webinar Three- Meeting Grazing Goals: Wed., March 3rd at 7 p.m.

- Pasture Weed Control
- Economics of Grazing
- Creating and Implementing Grazing Plans



A series of additional videos that complement each webinar will be accessible to registered participants. These videos will focus on more specific pasture management topics at the beginner and experienced manager levels.

Cost of the course is \$50, which includes the Pastures for Profit manual. Current and new members of the Ohio Forage and Grasslands Council are eligible for a \$10 discount on registration. Look for registration details soon at <https://forages.osu.edu> or through the Ohio Forages and Grasslands Council at <https://afgc.org/ohio>.

Small Ruminant Webinar Series to Begin in January

The OSU Sheep Team will host three webinars offered via Zoom in 2021. The information provided will be applicable to both sheep and goat producers large and small. Dates and times are listed below.

Registration information will be available soon at <https://sheep.osu.edu>.



- **Webinar One- Lambing and Kidding: Tuesday, January 19th | 7 p.m.**
 - *Members of the OSU Sheep Team will cover preparing for lambing/kidding season, ewe/doe and lamb/kid care before, during, after birth, managing dystocia, troubleshooting and addressing health concerns, colostrum, bottle feeding, creep feeding, castrating, tail docking, vaccinations, and allow time for Q&A.*
- **Webinar Two- Small Ruminant Nutrition: Tuesday, February 16th | 7 p.m.**
 - *Members of the OSU Sheep Team will address the importance of providing adequate protein, carbohydrates, and minerals in the forms of processed grains, hay, grazed pasture, minerals, and supplements to your flock/herd. Q&A included.*
- **Webinar Three- Weaning, Sorting, and Selling- Lambs, Kids, and Spent Breeding Stock: Tuesday, March 16th | 7 p.m.**
 - *Members of the OSU Sheep Team will offer strategies for weaning lambs/kids and preparing them for joining the breeding flock or entering the meat processing chain. Also included will be examples of marketing strategies and determining what to do with ewes/does and rams/bucks that are no longer meeting breeding needs of the flock/herd.*

2020 Farm Talk Breakfast Programs Recorded and Available

Noble County's Farm Talk Breakfast has changed in response to the challenges of 2020 and has been converted to a series of virtual events on Zoom. The schedule remains consistent with that of previous in-person programs, being held on the third Friday of each month at 8:30 a.m. These programs will continue following the same pattern into 2021 with a new topic each month.

All virtual programs were recorded and can be watched at your convenience utilizing the web addresses below:

- April- *Understanding GMO's* (<https://youtu.be/uRBX2PvzGmE>)
- May- *Ohio Oil and Gas Update* (<https://youtu.be/80TeeVFAbU0>)
- June- *Considering Solar* (<https://youtu.be/vpnHSkuJ58s>)
- July- *Extending the Grazing Season* (<https://youtu.be/TjVojMoTRos>)
- August- *Fall Victory Gardens* (<https://youtu.be/eCLq9B95niQ>)
- September- *Hemp Lessons Learned* (https://youtu.be/etKD769_5rU)
- October- *Cultivating Oyster Mushrooms* (<https://youtu.be/2Q9cDRssqgw>)
- November- *Robotic Dairy Farm Tour* (<https://youtu.be/J9MenLIZLtl>)
- December- *Winter Supplementation for Beef Cattle*
(<https://go.osu.edu/FarmTalkBeefSupplements>)



Reminders!

- Follow Noble County ANR on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/NobleCountyAgEd>, on the county page on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/osuenoble/>, on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/osuenobleag/>, and on YouTube at <https://go.osu.edu/youtubeljellybean>.
- Every weekday Noble ANR will be live on the Facebook page at Noon to provide an educational talk and allow for open conversation with anyone who joins the live stream. Follow the page and turn on notifications to be notified when the live streams begin. Previous talks are all saved and available for viewing on the “videos” tab of the page. Even if you don’t have a Facebook account, you can still watch any of the previous recordings there: <https://www.facebook.com/osuenoble/videos/>
- Don’t forget to visit and subscribe to the OSU Extension Teams that fit your interests. Many are offering virtual events and by subscribing to the pages, you will be notified when new articles or events post:
 - Beef Team- <https://u.osu.edu/beefteam/>
 - Sheep Team- <https://u.osu.edu/sheep/>
 - Agronomic Crops Team- <https://agcrops.osu.edu/home>
 - Swine Team- <https://porkinfo.osu.edu/>
 - Poultry Team- <https://u.osu.edu/poultry/>
 - Dairy Team- <https://dairy.osu.edu/>
 - Fruit & Vegetable Team- <https://u.osu.edu/vegnetnews/>
 - SE OH Woods- <https://u.osu.edu/apsley.1/>
 - Extension Energy Outreach- <https://energizeohio.osu.edu/>
 - Buckeye Yard, Lawn, and Garden Team- <https://bygl.osu.edu/>

Program Survey:

We anticipate that programming will continue to be offered in virtual format. Please help us plan for 2021.

Please provide feedback on what type of **VIRTUAL programming** (videos, webinars, podcasts, articles, etc.) and topics you would like to see from OSU Extension.

Email responses to gelley.2@osu.edu

or

call 740-305-3173 to provide feedback.

Suggested responses. →

Regardless, published articles in the newspaper and paper newsletters in the mail will continue.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Beef ○ Sheep ○ Goats ○ Swine ○ Poultry ○ Bees ○ Other: • Crop Production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Corn ○ Beans ○ Wheat ○ Vegetable ○ Fruit ○ Other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pasture Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forage ○ Fencing ○ Water Systems ○ Other: • Master Gardener Volunteers • Home Gardening • Meat Processing • Forestry • Machinery • Composting • Mineral Rights • Pond Management • Wildlife Management • Other: |
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