

Guernsey County Agriculture News

Fall 2021



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Early November Is Beautiful,

The trees are in full color and the temperatures have returned to near normal. It is a beautiful time of the year to appreciate the seasonal transition. Much of the Ohio crop harvest has already taken place with the USDA “Ohio Crop Weather” report of October 25 listing 41 percent of the corn and 70 percent of the soybeans having been harvested. In the next 2 weeks and with drier weather predicted, I’m sure we will resume harvesting.

Have a safe Fall,

Clif Little

Private Pesticide Applicator Re-Certification & Fertilizer Re-Certification Sessions

Guernsey County Recertification Date:

January 20, 2022



The pesticide and fertilizer re-certification sessions will be held at the **Deerassic Education Center**, 14250 Cadiz Road. **Pesticide re-certification** starts at 6 pm and lasts until 9 pm. Sessions will offer 3 credit hours for Private applicators. One hour credit for Fertilizer Re-certification (Category 15). This session starts at 5 pm.

Fertilizer re-certification starts at 5 pm, and pesticide re-certification starts at 6 pm. You may attend re-certification at any location in the state of Ohio. Additional times and locations around the region can be found at: <https://pested.osu.edu/privaterecertification>.

Please bring your license to re-certification.

If you have questions regarding your license, contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) at 1-800-282-1955. **Call the Guernsey County OSU Extension Office at 489-5300 to register for these classes** or if you have questions concerning re-certification.

Agricultural Fertilizer Certification Training

Agriculture fertilizer certification training is scheduled **for March 15, 2022, 6:00-9:00 pm**, held at the **Deerassic Education Center**, 14250 Cadiz Road. Registration is required. There may be a cost. Please call the OSU Extension office at 740-489-5300 to register or for more information.

Who needs 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 (grain crops, hay, etc). If you have the co-op or other custom applicator apply your fertilizer you do not need the certification. Manure applications have separate regulations.

What fertilizer is included in the certification? Fertilizer is any substance containing nitrogen, phosphorus, or potassium that can be a dry or liquid formulation and includes all application types (broadcast, side dress, sub-surface, knifing, etc.). The only application exempted is start-up fertilizers that are applied through a planter.

NRCS Announces Conservation Funding Opportunities for FY2022

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Oct. 22, 2021 –



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is announcing fiscal year 2022 assistance opportunities for agricultural producers and private landowners for key programs, such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) and Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) program. While USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) accepts applications for these programs year-round, producers and landowners should apply by state-specific, ranking dates to be considered for this year's funding. For Ohio, this includes Jan. 14, 2022 for EQIP, CSP, RCPP, and AMA. ACEP ranking dates are Dec. 3 for Agricultural Land Easement and Dec. 17 for Wetland Reserve Program. CSP FY23 Renewal's ranking date is tentatively scheduled for March 31, 2022.

Through conservation programs, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to help producers and landowners make conservation improvements on their land that benefit natural resources, build resiliency, and contribute to the nation's broader effort to combat the impacts of climate change.

"NRCS conservation programs are good for Ohio's natural resources and for your operation's bottom line," said Lori Ziehr, NRCS Acting State Conservationist in Ohio. "Whether this is your first time working with NRCS or you want to take conservation to the next level on your land, we encourage you to contact your local NRCS field office to learn more."

Applying for Assistance

NRCS accepts applications for its conservation programs year-round. These dates account for producer needs, staff workload and ensure potential participants have ample opportunity to apply. Producers should apply by their state's ranking dates to be considered for funding in the current cycle. Funding is provided through a competitive process. Ranking dates for all programs and states are available at nrcs.usda.gov/staterankingdates. Applications received after ranking dates will be automatically deferred to the next funding period. Producers, landowners and forest managers interested in applying for assistance should contact the NRCS at their local [USDA Service Center](#), or contact Jay McElroy for the Guernsey/Noble County NRCS Office. He can be contacted at 740-421-3370; or at 1300 Clark St. Unit 10, Cambridge, OH 43725.

Program Options

EQIP provides cost share assistance for producers to use 170-plus conservation practices to address a wide variety of resource concerns. Within EQIP, Conservation Incentive Contracts allow producers to further target priority resource concerns. CSP helps producers take their conservation activities to the next level through comprehensive conservation and advanced conservation activities. ACEP helps producers enroll wetlands, grasslands and farmlands into easements for long-term protection.

Additionally, through RCPP, producers and landowners can work with partners who are co-investing with NRCS on targeted projects.

Historically Underserved Producer Benefits

Special provisions are also available for [historically underserved producers](#). For EQIP, historically underserved producers are eligible for advance payments to help offset costs related to purchasing materials or contracting services up front. In addition, historically underserved producers can receive higher EQIP payment rates (up to 90% of average cost). NRCS sets aside EQIP, CSP and ACEP funds for historically underserved producers.

NRCS also recently announced the [availability of funding for cooperative agreements](#) for partners to provide outreach and support for historically underserved producers. Applications from individuals and entities are due Oct. 25.

Conservation Practices and Climate

NRCS conservation programs play a critical role in USDA's commitment to partnering with farmers, ranchers, forest landowners and local communities to deliver climate solutions that strengthen agricultural operations and rural America. States may prioritize a variety of voluntary conservation practices through these NRCS programs, including those that support climate-smart agriculture and forestry (CSAF).

In fiscal year 2022, EQIP and CSP will provide targeted funding for CSAF practices, and Conservation Incentive Contracts – a new EQIP program – will be available nationwide with an emphasis on CSAF practices. Building on these efforts, NRCS will also prioritize climate investments through ACEP, RCPP and

Conservation Innovation Grants.

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is engaged in a whole-of-government effort to combat the climate crisis and conserve and protect our nation's lands, biodiversity and natural resources including our soil, air and water. Through conservation practices and partnerships, USDA aims to enhance economic growth and create new streams of income for farmers, ranchers, producers and private foresters. Successfully meeting these challenges will require USDA and our agencies to pursue a coordinated approach alongside USDA stakeholders, including State, local and Tribal governments.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.



Upcoming Events:

2021 Buckeye Shepherd's Symposium

The Ohio Sheep Improvement Association is hosting the 2021 Ohio Buckeye Shepherd's Symposium in Wooster, Ohio on Friday, December 3 and Saturday, December 4 at the OARDC Shisler Conference Center. The 2021 symposium will be offered in a hybrid format with in-person or online participation options for both days of the symposium. Registration can be found at: <https://www.ohiosheep.org/osia-programs.html>.

BQA Re-certification and Certification

Throughout the spring and summer, we have offered many BQA programs. If you were unable to attend, please call 740-489-5300, email Clif Little at: little.16@osu.edu, or go on-line at: <https://u.osu.edu/beefteam/bqa/> to complete BQA requirements at your convenience.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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