Crop Report
Apple harvest is well underway in the region. Trailing thornless blackberries, *Triple Crown* and *Chester*, are just finishing up in this area—*Black Satin* was finished two weeks ago. Primocane-bearing varieties *Prime Jim*, *Prime Jan*, and *Prime Ark*, are still producing but more slowly with the shorter, cooler days. Without high tunnels they will not likely be able to finish ripening the berries already on the canes. Any hops remaining in the field are past prime at this point.

Pest Activity
Night temperatures in the 50's have slowed down most trap activity and mite counts. Some blocks are still getting low numbers of oriental fruit moth (OFM). Of particular interest is non-bearing peach trees; OFM numbers were still up as of last week, along with orange banded leaf roller (OBLR). This is in blocks with no crop and no subsequent applications for control of OFM. There is also general flagging of shoot tips. Growers are being cautioned that OFM numbers may be high going into fall and could present a problem next year when (we do hope) a peach crop will be present. Spotted wing Drosophila (SWD) continues to be a problem in brambles. Significant losses and decline in fruit quality is an issue if preventative measures are not taken. If you intend on picking into fall, applications for SWD should also be continued. As products labeled for SWD control are also limited on the number of applications that can be made per year, make sure you rotate to a product with a different mode of action. Brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) is being reported in small fruit crops. Traps we are trying out at a couple locations in our region have yet to pick up any BMSB.
FSA Reminds Producers of Approaching NAP Deadlines for 2016 Crops

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Sept. 28, 2015 -- The USDA Ohio Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers who are interested in the 2016 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), of the need to apply for coverage by the following crop deadline dates.

**October 1, 2015** is the deadline for 2016 NAP coverage on winter wheat, rye, barley and speltz.

**November 20, 2015** is the deadline for 2016 NAP coverage on apples, asparagus, blueberries, caneberries, cherries, chestnuts, forage for hay and pasture, grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, strawberries, honey, maple sap and hops. NOTE: Hops is a perennial crop and the application deadline moved from spring to fall for coverage.

**March 15, 2016** is the deadline for 2016 NAP coverage on forage sorghum, oats, potatoes, Soybeans, Sunflowers and all spring planted specialty crops grown for food.

The 2014 Farm Bill provides greater coverage for losses when natural disasters affect specialty crops. Previously, the program offered coverage at 55 percent of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of expected production. Producers can now choose higher levels of coverage, up to 65 percent of their expected production at 100 percent of the average market price. The expanded protection is especially helpful to beginning and socially disadvantaged producers, as well as farmers with limited resources, who will receive fee waivers and premium reductions for expanded coverage.

Eligible producers can apply for 2016 NAP coverage at their local FSA Office using form CCC-471, Application for Coverage. The service fee for basic NAP coverage is the lesser of $250 per crop or $750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of $1,875 for a producer with farming interest in multiple counties. Producers interested in buy-up coverage must pay a premium, in addition to the service fee. The maximum premium will be $6,564. Producer meeting the definition of a socially disadvantaged farmer, beginning farmer or limited resource farmer will have service fees waived. Producers meeting this definition that choose to purchase buy-up coverage will also have service fees waived and the premium will be capped at $3,282.

To help producers learn more about the NAP program and how it can help them, USDA, offers an online Web tool at [www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap). The webtool allows producers to determine whether their crops are eligible for coverage and gives producers an opportunity to explore a variety of options and levels to determine the best protection level for their operation.

For more information on NAP coverage or obtain coverage, please contact your [FSA County office](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap).
For most farmers, weeds are low on the agenda during the fine days of autumn. However, neglecting fall weed control can cost big-time. The longer nights and cooler temperatures of this week are triggering germination in a host of weeds that will form over-wintering rosettes and then grow rapidly as soon as the frost is out of the ground in spring. Right now as these weeds emerge is the time to ‘nip them in them bud’ with an early fall herbicide.

Fall germinating annuals (winter annuals) are a particular problem in strawberry. Chickweed, groundsel and dandelion infestations develop from seed at this time of year. Sinbar will kill most seedling broadleaf weeds provided application takes place prior to emergence or when the weeds are small (not more than ½ inch tall). Sinbar can be safely tank-mixed with a number of other PRE herbicides that will increase the range of weed control. Consider Dacthal to help suppress field violet and wood sorrel, and Devrinol for creeping buttercup (works very well in spring also). Experiment station trialing of Sinbar mixed with Stinger has not caused detectable crop injury but I don’t have confidence to recommend this, and by all means avoid tank-mixes of Sinbar with grass herbicides like Poast. On the subject of Stinger consider it for established infestations of vetch, thistle, red sorrel, dandelion, groundsel, nightshade or bur-cucumber. Stinger should work well on most weeds in the aster, legume, dock and nightshade families but will be almost completely ineffective on weeds in other plant families. Stinger can be applied once in the fall, anytime up to mulch, but never apply it to frozen ground.

Later in the fall, before applying mulch, a second application of Sinbar can be used. However, the grower has alternatives during late fall and if Sinbar was used early, consider Chateau or Spartan instead. Both are soil active, primarily kill seedlings as the emerge from the soil, but will also kill small chickweed, shepherd’s purse, and Virginia pepperweed (to name a few). Spartan has been especially effective, along with Stinger, in helping strawberry farmers achieve control of common groundsel. When I first moved to Ohio, groundsel was the number one weed berry growers complained of, and I’m glad to say that I almost never hear about it today! Devrinol should be used mainly if you think grasses and/or volunteer grain are going to be a problem in spring. Perennial grass infestations can be managed with Select or Poast but remember, do not mix either of these with other Sinbar. Perennial grass control will be best when Select or Poast are applied before a hard frost occurs.

Bramble and blueberry growers should also consider fall as a prime time to act preventively as well as tackle persistent problems. Winter annuals and perennials are germinating in bush berry fields, just as they are in strawberry. Apply PRE sprays now to prevent establishment and avoid the grief that will come next spring with weed infested fields. More herbicide choices than available for strawberry should make for more effective weed control. For brambles, Sinbar, Karmex, Princep and Sандea are all labeled. Of the four Sinbar is most effective on broadleaf weeds but can be hot on the crop especially when soils are sandy and low in organic matter. As a rule of thumb keep the rate at 1 lb/ A (1 lb/ A of Sinbar will kill a ton of weeds!) or less and problems are unlikely to occur. Karmex controls just a few more weeds than does Princep, but overall I rank their performance as similar. You might wonder why one would consider Sандea at this time of year; after all its main target nutsedge in on the way out with the cooler weather. However Sандea is very effective on ground-ivy that may be growing rampantly in the grassed alleyways and spreading into the row. Remember to use surfactant with Sандea, and I would not count on this working after hard frost.

Moving into late fall Casoron and Solicam are additional options for brambles and blueberries. Casoron should not be used until daily temperatures are consistently below 50F. Chateau too can be used in brambles, providing both burndown of small rosettes and residual activity to keep early spring germinating weeds under control.
Southern Ohio Vegetable and Fruit Update
from Brad Bergefurd, Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources, The Ohio State University, Scioto County & South Centers

Vegetable, Fruit Field and Harvest
The region has been very dry the past month requiring irrigation of late summer squash, zucchini, cucumber, cauliflower, broccoli, cabbage and sweet corn plantings. Rains did roll through the area 10/1 through 10/3, with 1 to 3 inches of rainfall being reported. Harvest includes pie and jack-o-lantern pumpkin, gourds, ornamental corn, potato, tomato, pepper, lettuce, greens, radish, beet, turnip, sweet potato, winter squash, zucchini, cantaloupe, watermelon, grapes, summer squash, cucumber, pickles, sweet corn, green beans, apples, day neutral strawberry, and cabbage. Other field operations include fungicide and insecticide applications, ground preparation and planting of cover crops and malting barley, planting of garlic, clean up of hop yards, new hop yard field preparation and trellis installation and construction and planting of new hop yards. High tunnels are being cleaned up and seeded with lettuce, winter greens, radish, carrot and spinach. Downy Mildew continues to be reported on southern Ohio pumpkin, late melon and squash crops. Growers south of I-70 are reporting jack-o-lantern pumpkin harvests ranging from total crop losses to 70% of a crop. Fruit size seems to be reduced some on these early harvests and there is a split set on early plantings, probably due to high rainfall amounts during the main bloom, making harvest difficult. The market demand for the pumpkin harvest has been strong with higher than average retail and wholesale prices being reported.

Hops
Hop growers continue to prepare new hop fields for fall planting which will continue through mid October weather dependent. Field operations include deep tillage, deep incorporation of lime and fertilizer, pulling up beds, applying herbicide and laying fabric mulch & drip irrigation, seeding cover crops, soil testing and building high trellis systems.

Strawberry
The plasticulture strawberry crop is looking very good with great growth and no problems being reported except a small amount of herbicide damage where the boom sprayer overlapped one bed. Day neutral strawberry harvest has increased with the cooler temperatures with great market demand. (Article continued on the next page)
Southern Ohio Vegetable and Fruit Update continued...

A. Pumpkin market demand has been strong at the wholesale and retail markets
B. Hop yards are being cleaned up for winter
C. Hop product sensory evaluations are being conducted of this season’s crop
D. Plasticulture strawberries are looking great with no problems being reported
E. Pumpkin market demand has been strong at the wholesale and retail markets
F., G., H. Apple growers are reporting one of Ohio’s best crops
I. Beautiful basil and zucchini crops are being harvested at the Ohio City farm in downtown Cleveland
J. Hops continue to be planted this month here is Jenny and Mike Napier with their high quality plants
K. Walmart Produce Buyers recently visited southern Ohio pumpkin farms
L. Beautiful basil and zucchini crops are being harvested at the Ohio City farm in downtown Cleveland

Photos by Brad Bergefurd, Welch Farms, and Paige’s Produce
Save-the-Date

Ohio Hops and Malting Barley Conference & Trade Show

Sponsored by The Ohio State University

Presentations will be broken into separate courses for the beginner and advanced growers

Presentations will cover:

- Malting Barley in Ohio
- Mechanical Harvesting of Hops
- Pelletizing and Processing Hops
- Planting for Profits
- Growing for the Brewing Market
- Overview & Managing Diseases
- Collaborative Hop & Barley Marketing
- Giving Hops a Jumpstart
- Management for Beneficial Insects
- Overview of 2015 Hop Pests
- Hop Plant Propagation & Sales
- Cover Crops for Soil Health
- Weed Control & Herbicide Options
- Management of Nitrogen in Hops

2 day conference
February 24 ~ 25 2016
To be held at the Fisher Auditorium and the Shisler Conference Center
Wooster, Ohio

Conference will include:

- Speakers from OSU, other universities, growers, and the brewing industry
- Lunch and snacks for both days
- Flash drive with presentations
- Conference booklet with vendor, speaker, and other program information
- Access to the Trade Show
- And more!

Hops & Malting Barley Banquet
to be held on the evening of February 24th

This banquet will include a full course meal, variety of beverages, and a special guest speaker.

The banquet is optional, and the cost is separate from the conference fee.

For more information, go to
[go.osu.edu/OhioHopsAndBarleyConference](go.osu.edu/OhioHopsAndBarleyConference)
4th National Vegetable Grafting Symposium
Growing New Roots for the U.S. Vegetable Industry

Monday, December 7, 2015

Held in conjunction with the Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market Expo at the DeVos Place Convention Center and the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

University, government and industry experts will come together to share the latest research findings on, techniques for, and experiences with vegetable grafting as it applies to commercial vegetable production in the U.S.

Topics to be covered at the symposium include propagation technology (including grafting methods), rootstock breeding and evaluation, and the performance of grafted plants under many conditions. Growers will discuss their successes and challenges in preparing and using grafted plants at all scales and for grafted plant use in various production systems.

A full Symposium schedule with speakers and topics is available at http://go.osu.edu/4th_grafting_symposium.

Online registration will begin on September 28, 2015 at http://www.qlexpo.com. We encourage you to register and make hotel accommodations early as they fill up quickly.

For more information and to register visit http://www.qlexpo.com. To learn more about vegetable grafting, visit the grafting portal at www.vegetablegrafting.org

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A Day in the Woods
from Dave Apsley, Natural Resources Specialist, The Ohio State University

“A Day in the Woods” and the “2nd Friday Series” are sponsored by the Education and Demonstration Subcommittee of the Vinton Furnace State Forest with support from the Ohio State University Extension, ODNR-Divisions of Forestry and Wildlife, U.S. Forest Service, Vinton County Soil and Water Conservation District, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Hocking College, National Wild Turkey Federation, Glatfelter and Ohio’s SFI Implementation Committee. Other “2nd Friday Series” programs scheduled for 2015 include: Monitoring Woodland Wildlife (October 9) and Identifying Trees in Winter (November 13). For brochures and more information, visit http://u.osu.edu/seohiowoods.

A registration fee of $10 will include meal and program materials. To help prepare materials and plan for meals, please RSVP no later than the Monday preceding the event by returning a registration form, calling 740-596-5212 (OSU Extension Vinton County) or emailing Dave at apsley.1@osu.edu.
Hops
First Friday Tour

Date:
First Friday of
Every Month
10:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M.

Locations:
OSU South Centers
1864 Shyville Rd.
Piketon, OH
AND
OARDC Horticultural
Research Unit 2
5082 Oil City Rd
Wooster, OH

Cost: $15 per family

To Register: (you must preregister)
Contact Charissa McGlothlin
at mcglothlin.4@osu.edu or
at 740.289.2071 ext. 132

DEADLINE to Register:
The Wednesday before the
first Friday of the month

Hosted by Brad Bergefurtd & Mary Gardiner

The tour will include:
• Hop yard construction
• Establishment cost
• Bine training
• Irrigation
• Variety Selection
• Fertilization
• And more!

For more information on Hops go to
go.osu.edu/hopsinformation

oardc.osu.edu | extension.osu.edu

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a
nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: go.osu.edu/cfAESdiversity
Brad Bergefurd, MS
Extension Educator, Agriculture and Horticulture Specialist with Ohio State University Extension

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