Hardin County Extension News Release
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Conservation Tillage Club Breakfast Series Planned
by Mark Badertscher, OSU Extension Educator

Hardin County – The 2015 Conservation Tillage Club breakfast program series will begin on Tuesday, January 13 at the Plaza Inn in Mt. Victory. Each session will begin at 7:30 am with complimentary buffet breakfast followed by the program at 8:00 am. On January 13, the program will feature Dr. Mark Loux, Weed Scientist, Department of Horticulture and Crop Science, The Ohio State University. Dr. Loux will present a program on New Weed Management Options. He will provide information about new herbicide management options that are on the horizon for control of resistant weeds, as well as current weed management programs to control problem weeds while increasing crop yields.

The January 20 program will feature Cal Whewell, Risk Management Consultant, FC Stone. Whewell will present a program on the grain marketing outlook, addressing what to expect in the 2015 crop year in regards to the agricultural commodity markets and the risk associated with marketing options for corn, soybeans, and wheat. This information will provide additional tools for the farmer’s marketing toolbox to use when considering their marketing strategy.

February 3 Dr. Barry Ward, OSU Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics, will present a program on budgets, cash rent, and the bottom line. Topics that will be addressed are decisions in the area of farm management that will take into consideration relatively high input costs such as land, equipment, fuel, seed, fertilizer, and pesticides, with regard to decreasing crop receipts. Managing input costs will be an increasingly important aspect of farm operation profitability.
The February 17 program will feature a dual presentation on Water Quality by Cheryl Rice, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Urban Conservationist from Lucas County. With the algae bloom in Lake Erie this summer, this issue has been on the forefront of the public and government agenda. Rice will be joined by Greg LaBarge, Agronomic Systems Field Specialist, Ohio State University Extension for a discussion on Best Management Practices in Nutrient Management and how the Ohio Agricultural Nutrients Law requirements will assist farmers in being proactive with use of fertilizer to increase crop yields, while at the same time keeping the nutrients in the field to protect the environment.

The Conservation Tillage Breakfast program series is jointly sponsored by OSU Extension and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Hardin, Logan, and Union Counties and in cooperation with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Breakfast is provided by the generous support of agricultural lenders and agricultural businesses. All events are open to the public and no advance registration is required. Continuing education credits for Certified Crop Advisers is pending.

For more information about OSU Extension, Hardin County, visit the Hardin County OSU Extension website at www.hardin.osu.edu, the Hardin County OSU Extension Facebook page or contact Mark Badertscher, at 419-674-2297.