

Get a closer look at some of Ohio's finest sustainably managed farms and gardens. Whether you are a farmer, gardener, or discriminating food lover, this series provides innovative perspectives on how farmers can cultivate healthy farm products with an eye toward land conservation, profitability, and longevity.

Tours focus on a variety of topics including ways that farmers and consumers can cultivate vibrant food systems, preserve farmland, increase farm profitability, and learn more about livestock and grazing, season extension, crop rotation, marketing, and specialty crops.

# Farm Tours & Workshops

OEFFA Tours and Workshops OEFFA/CSP Tours IFO Tours and Workshops OSU Sustainable Ag Team Tours and Field Days

#### Most tours are free.

Workshops, as well as events that include a meal, require a fee and pre-registration. If there is a registration fee associated with an event it will be noted in the event listing. Tours are open to the public, and take place rain or shine. Please pre-register for events that include meals.

Sponsors do not endorse any commercial products diplayed or discussed on tours. Tour sponsors and farm tour hosts are not responsible for accidents. Tour-goers will be on private property at their own risk.

# TOURS AND WORKSHOPS IN THE 2008

#### June

Specialty Greenhouse – Erie Co.

Karen and Mark Langan – Mulberry Creek Herb Farm Saturday, June 7 • 2:00-4:00pm 3312 Bogart Road, Huron OH 44839 419/433-6126

*Tour sponsored by: OEFFA* 

Small Fruit – Knox Co.

Ann & Dan Trudel – Ann's Raspberry Farm Friday, June 13 • 9:15am - Noon (corrected date) 6645 Blair Rd., Fredericktown OH 43019 740/694-1935

Tour sponsored by: IFO

Organic Lawn Care - Franklin Co.

**OEFFA Workshop** 

Saturday June 14 • 9:00am-12:00pm

Columbus, Ohio

\*Preregistration (\$25 OEFFA members/\$35 non-members)

Organic Dairy / Grazing - Pickaway Co.

**IFO Workshop** 

Perry Clutts – Pleasantview Farm Saturday, June 14 • 9:30am-3:30pm 20361 Florence Chapel Pike, Circleville OH 43113 740/474-2840

\*Preregistration (\$20 IFO members/\$25 non-members)

Modified Relay Intercropping – Crawford Co.

Steve Prochaska – OSU Unger Farm Thursday, June 19 • 7:00-9:00pm 970 Nevada Road, Bucyrus OH 44820 419/562-8731

Tour sponsored by: OSU Sustainable Ag Team

Conservation Security Program – Van Wert Co.

**Clarence Oberlitner** 

Monday, June 23 • 7:00-8:30pm 14856 State Route 81, Venedocia OH 45894 419/203-5056

*Tour sponsored by: OEFFA* 

Conservation Security Program – Miami Co.

Dan & Tawni Batdorf

Tuesday, June 24 • 7:00-8:30pm 9291 N. State Route 48, Covington OH 45318 937/473-5329

*Tour sponsored by: OEFFA* 

Grass-fed Livestock – Ashtabula Co.

Ralph Rice – Riceland Meadows
Saturday, June 28 • 1:00-4:00pm
1485 State Route 307W, Jefferson OH 44047
440/576-7701

Tour sponsored by: IFO

**Grazing Meat Goats – Fairfield Co.** 

Mark Scarpitti – Amazing Graze Boer Goat Farm Saturday, June 28 • 10:00am-2:00pm 4395 Richland Road NE, Pleasantville OH 43148

740/468-1042 \*Preregistration (\$10)

Tour sponsored by: OSU Sustainable Ag Team

Berry Production / Solar Technology – Washington Co.

Jackie LeBerth & Mike Neeley- Bramble Creek Farm

Sunday, June 29 • 1:00-3:00pm

257 Old River Road, Little Hocking OH 45742 740/989-0334

Tour sponsored by: OEFFA

#### July

Diversified Farm – Geauga Co.

Savery & Louis Rorimer – Snake Hill Farm

Sunday, July 6 • 2:00-4:00pm

18174 Geauga Lake Road, Shaker Heights OH 44120

216/295-1105

*Tour sponsored by: OEFFA* 

Food Production on the Homestead – Fayette Co.

**OEFFA Workshop** 

Saturday, July 12 • 1:00-5:00pm Washington Court House, Ohio

\*Preregistration (\$25 OEFFA members/\$35 non-members)

Pasture / Sheep – Wayne Co.

Jim and Debbie Morris - Maple Ridge Farm

Saturday, July 19 • 1:00-3:00pm

7258 Columbus Road, Shreve OH 44676

330/264-6974

Tour sponsored by: IFO

Beneficial Insects / Soybeans – Wood Co.

**Agricultural Incubator Foundation** 

Hirzel Sustainable Research and Education Site

Thursday, July 31 • 9:00-11:00am

13737 Middleton Pike Rd. (St. Rt. 582), Bowling Green OH 43402

419/354-9050

Tour sponsored by: OSU Sustainable Ag Team (Co-sponsored by SARE)

#### August

Diversified Livestock – Knox Co. Lisa & Bruce Rickard – Fox Hollow Farm Sunday, August 3 • 1:00-4:00pm 20060 Gilmore Rd., Fredericktown OH 43019 740/694-8528

Tour sponsored by: IFO

## SUMMER FARM TOUR SERVES



Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) – Butler Co. Jim and Linda Rosselot – Gravel Knolls Farm Sunday, August 10 • 1:00-3:00pm 9257 Cincinnati Dayton Road, West Chester OH 45069 513/779-1190

Tour sponsored by: OEFFA

Grass-fed Livestock / Cheese Making – Paulding Co. Ralph, Brian, & Sheila Schlatter – C/J Farm & Natural Meat Saturday, August 16 • 1:00-4:00pm 18637 Road 168, Defiance OH 43512 419/399-2350

Tour sponsored by: IFO

Grazing Systems Field Day – Carroll Co.
Earl and Dan McKarns – Shamrock Vale Farms
Tuesday, August 19 • 10:00am-3:00pm
8002 Merline Rd. N.E., Kensington OH 44427
330/223-1389 (farm), 330/627-4310 (extension office)
\*Preregistration (fee by August 12)
Tour sponsored by: OSU Sustainable Ag Team (co-sponsored by OFGC)

Organic Grain – Logan Co. Kevin & David Bell – Paul Bell & Sons Saturday, August 23 • 1:00-4:00pm 5363 Road 206, Bellefontaine OH 43311 937/585-4653 (David), 937/593-6214 (Kevin) Tour sponsored by: OEFFA

Organic Field Crops Field Day – Wayne Co. OFFER Program – OARDC West Badger Farm Thursday, August 28 • 1:30-4:00pm Apple Creek Road, Wooster OH 44691 330/202-3534

Cover Crops – Fairfield Co. David Brandt – Brandt Family Farm Thursday, August 28 • 4:00-7:00pm 6100 Basil-Western Road, Carroll OH 43112 740/756-4436

Tour sponsored by: OSU Sustainable Ag Team

Tour sponsored by: IFO

Organic Horticultural Crops Field Day – Wayne Co. OFFER Program – OARDC farms Thursday, August 28 • 4:30-7:30pm Oil City Road, Wooster OH 44691 330/202-3534 Tour sponsored by: OSU Sustainable Ag Team

#### September

Vegetables / Cover Crops – Trumbull Co. Vince Colandrea – Naturally Yours Farm Saturday, September 6 • 1:00-5:00pm 8079 Job-Greenville Road, Kinsman OH 44428 330/876-0202

Tour sponsored by: OEFFA

On-Farm Processing – Ashland Co. Douglas Raubenolt – Tea Hills Organic Farm Saturday, September 6 •3:00-5:00pm 276 Township Road 2450, Loudonville OH 44842 419/368-3831

Tour sponsored by: OEFFA

# Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) – Clark Co.

Tim & Laurel Shouvlin – Bluebird Hills Farm Saturday, September 13 •2:00-4:00pm 3617 Derr Road, Springfield OH 45503 937/390-6127

Tour sponsored by: OEFFA

Ridge Till Organic Grain – Darke Co. Tom Besecker – Besecker Farms Saturday, September 20 • 2:00-4:00pm 5136 Hogpath Road, Greenville OH 45331 937/459-5104

*Tour sponsored by: OEFFA* 

Organic Dairy / Conservation – Wayne Co. Scott Stoller – Stoller's Organic Dairy Saturday, September 27 • 10:00am-12:00pm 10451 Eby Road, Sterling OH 44276 330/939-3971

Tour sponsored by: OEFFA

#### October

Grazing / Organic Dairy – Logan Co. Lloyd Gingerich – Sleepy Hollow Farm Saturday, October 4 • 1:30-3:30pm 4825 CR 96, Belle Center OH 43310 937/464-7505

Tour sponsored by: OEFFA

Forest-harvesting / Permaculture – Athens Co. Michelle Gorman & Chris Chmiel – Integration Acres Saturday, October 11 • 3:00-5:00pm 9758 Chase Road, Albany OH 45710 740/698-6060

Tour sponsored by: OEFFA

The Ohio Ecological Food & Farm Association (OEFFA) was formed in 1979 and is a membership-based, grassroots organization, dedicated to promoting and supporting sustainable, ecological, and healthful food systems. The OEFFA membership is very diverse. It includes farmers, consumers, gardeners, chefs, political activists, teachers, researchers, retailers, and students. What members have in common is an interest in creating and maintaining a food system that is good for people, good for the earth, and good for the future. By coming together for the annual conference, farm tours, and workshops, and attending chapter meetings, members help each other do this in their daily lives. To help our members network and stay informed, OEFFA provides its members with a consumer guide to organic and ecological farms and gardens, which can be found at www.oeffa.org, a membership directory, and a bimonthly newsletter. In addition, OEFFA provides organic certification services for growers, and an apprenticeship program to help students gain hands-on experience. OEFFA is also

**Specialty Greenhouse** 

Karen and Mark Langan – Mulberry Creek Herb Farm Saturday, June 7 • 2:00-4:00pm 3312 Bogart Road, Huron OH 44839 • 419/433-6126

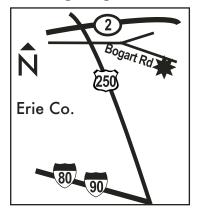
involved in research and development, farm and farmer

preservation, policy making, and product promotion.

Karen and Mark Langan, along with their sons Ben and Joshua, have owned and operated the Mulberry Creek Herb Farm since 1995. Over the past decade, they've endured plenty of trial and error, leaning on mostly experience and intuition and a bit of horticulture college fundamentals, to create a sustainable lifestyle and an income supported by retail, wholesale, and mail order customers. Each year they produce high quality, well rooted, certified organic herbs and miniature perennials. According to the Langans, "the number of varieties is getting out of hand." They sell over 700 varieties of potted herbs for cooking, ornamental, medicinal, and crafting uses, as well as vegetable starts and miniature plants for railroad or miniature gardens. Visitors will see the certified organic greenhouse,

seed production beds, and an extensive collection of mature plantings at the farm.

From I-80 and I-90 take 250 North toward Sandusky. Travel about 7 miles. From the horrendously large "Kalahari Waterpark Resort" go exactly 1 mile and turn right onto Bogart Road. Mulberry Creek Farm is 1.5 miles on the right hand (south) side of Bogart Road.



# OH#O ECOLOG#CAL FOOD AND FARM ASSOC#AT#ON

Berry Production / Solar Technology Jackie LeBerth & Mike Neeley – Bramble Creek Farm Sunday, June 29 • 1:00-3:00pm 257 Old River Road, Little Hocking OH 45742\* 740/989-0334

Jackie LeBerth and Mike Neeley established Bramble Creek Farms in 2000 on a shoestring budget. What started as a small patch of chemical-free blackberries and raspberries (and big ideas about "what could be") has now grown to include of blueberries, heirloom vegetables, heritage breed layers, new fruit tree plantings, two barns, a greenhouse, and plans to encourage a native stand of pawpaws.

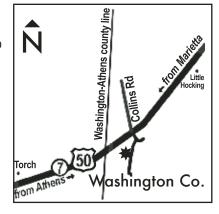
Farm products (including some value-added) are marketed primarily to local consumers through restaurant sales and farmers markets. The '08 growing season will be the first time Bramble Creek Farms' products will be sold directly from the farmgate. Jackie and Mike are dedicated to reducing their reliance on fossil fuels and their related expenses. Last summer, Mike manufactured a mobile solar charging station, making power available wherever it's needed. This winter, the station was stationary, charging batteries that powered the horse/goat barn's water and lighting systems. Conversion of a small farm tractor from gasoline to battery power began this spring. Hopefully, Jackie's "solar-powered tractor" will be operational by tour time.

\*(These directions are to the farm, the address listed above is the home address, not the farm address.)

From Athens: Follow Rt. 50 East away from Athens. About 26 miles outside Athens, notice a sign for the Athens-Washington County line. Turn right at the next crossroads onto Collins Road (see a church with a very steep steeple.) Immediately turn right onto a gravel road. Access to Bramble Creek Farms is about 1/4 mile down that road. Park anywhere along that road.

From Marietta: Follow Rt. 7 South to Belpre where it merges

with Rt. 50 and Rt. 32. Continue west for about nine miles. Turn left onto Collins Road (watch for the church), then immediately go right onto a gravel road. Access to Bramble Creek Farms is about ¼ mile down that road. Park anywhere along that road.



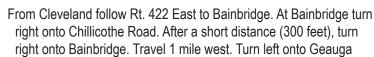


**Diversified Farm** 

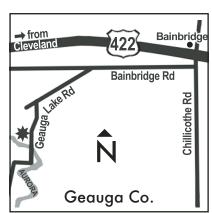
Savery & Louis Rorimer – Snake Hill Farm Sunday, July 6 • 2:00-4:00pm 18174 Geauga Lake Road, Chagrin Falls OH 44120

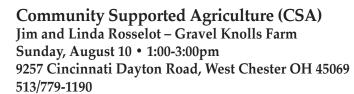
18174 Geauga Lake Road, Chagrin Falls OH 44120 216/295-1105

Members of the Rorimer family have lived on Snake Hill Farm for almost 100 years. Located in a valley of the Chagrin River, the Farm is named after the winding road that it is known to locals as Snake Hill. Today, Louis and Savery Rorimer produce organic vegetables, grass-fed beef, and maple syrup. (The maple sap is processed with a wood-fired evaporator.) They sell farm products through an on-farm market, and at the North Union Farmers' Market. The farm includes managed woodlands and historic buildings that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Lake Road, and travel approximately 1.2 miles south. The garden is on the right between a stream and a River. If you get to the river (the Aurora Branch of the Chagrin River), you have gone too far. Turn right into the driveway of a century farm house that is brown with red shutters and is next to the garden.

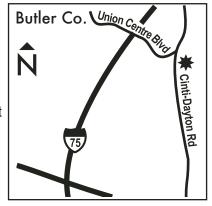




Jim Rosselot is the third generation to farm Gravel Knolls Farm in West Chester, Ohio. He works the farm with help from his dad, Eugene, his wife, Linda, and their 3 kids, Morgan, Erin, and Lane, plus their two Percheron draft horses, a 1953 G tractor, and a 1974 Massey Ferguson tractor. The Rosselots produce a diverse mixture of fresh market produce including lettuce, greens, carrots, onions, green beans, tomatoes, eggplant, cabbage, beets, garlic, broccoli, squash, sweet corn, peppers, potatoes, herbs, and pumpkins. Their produce is marketed through a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) system which provides customers with weekly deliveries of fresh produce from June to October.

**From the South:** Take I-75 northbound and exit at Union Centre Boulevard. Turn right onto Union Centre Boulevard. Turn right onto

Cinti-Dayton Road. Turn left into the farm at the first driveway. From the North: Take I-75 southbound and exit at Union Centre Boulevard. Turn left onto Union Centre Boulevard. Turn right onto Cinti-Dayton Road. Turn left into the farm at the first driveway.







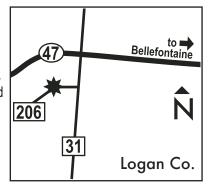
#### **Organic Grain**

Kevin & David Bell – Paul Bell & Sons Saturday, August 23 • 1:00-4:00pm 5363 Road 206, Bellefontaine OH 43311 937/585-4653 (David), 937/593-6214 (Kevin)



David and Kevin Bell produce corn, beans, wheat, spelt, and hay on roughly 400 acres. They also have a growing herd of beef cattles on the farm. Their crops have been certified organic since 1977. Kevin and David will lead visitors around the farm by wagon to look at the fields. They will share their experience managing fertility and show visitors their composting system. They will also discuss their weed management strategy and how they have utilized a modified crop rotation to help manage weed pressure. This is a unique opportunity to learn from two growers with a great deal of experience raising

organic field crops.
Go West out of Bellefontaine
on St. Rt. 47 about 5 miles to
Township Road 31. Turn left
(south) on Township Road 31.
Go to Township Road 206 and
turn right (west). The farm is
the only one on the road. The
road goes right between the
farm's buildings.



#### Vegetables / Cover Crops Vince Colandrea – Naturally Yours Farm Saturday, September 6 • 1:00-5:00pm 8079 Job-Greenville Road, Kinsman OH 44428 330/876-0202



Vince Colandrea, owner and operator of Naturally Yours Farm, was first certified organic in 1992. Vince has experimented with many techniques for raising organic vegetable, flower, and herb crops. He is currently working with a strip tillage system for tomato, garlic, and basil production. Visitors will see how composting and the use of cover crops and green manures have improved soil fertility and productivity on the farm. Vince will

also share his experience with straw bale planting systems.

From Rt. 11 take Rt. 88
eastbound to Vernon. Pass
Rt. 7 and take a left at the
first crossroad onto Orangeville Kidsman Road. Turn
onto the second road on the
right, which is Job Greenville
Road. The farm is the first on
the right after the stop sign.





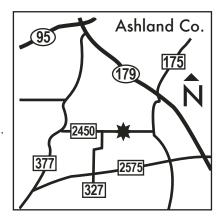
# On-Farm Processing Douglas Raubenolt – Tea Hills Organic Farm Saturday, September 6 • 3:00-5:00pm 276 Township Road 2450, Loudonville OH 44842 419/368-3831



In 2000, after years of experience as a dairyman producing certified organic milk, Douglas Raubenolt used his experience in grass farming and began raising poultry on pasture. He also built a processing plant on the farm for creating value added products. The Raubenolts now raise lamb, pork, beef, and poultry which is processed in their plant. They package poultry burger products, non-nitrate smoked bacon, smoked turkey, and a variety of red meat cuts. Doug has recently built a portable poultry processing unit for additional flexibility in his production process. Doug will describe their operation and the opportunities for increasing farm income through onfarm processing.

From Columbus: Take Rt. 3 North out of Sunbury. Follow Rt. 3 North through Loudonville. Turn left (north) onto Rt. 179. Turn left onto Township Road 2575. Turn right onto Township Road 175. Turn left onto Township Road 2450. From Wooster: Take Rt. 3 South toward Loudonville. Turn right (north) onto Rt. 179. Turn left onto Township Road 2575. Turn right onto Township Road 175.

Turn left onto Township Road 2450. From Mansfield: Follow 30 East to Rt. 89 South. Follow Rt. 89 South to Rt. 95. Turn right onto Rt. 95 South. Follow 95 South into Mohicanville. Turn left onto Rt. 179 South. Turn Right onto Township Road 175. Turn right onto Township Road 2450.





#### **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)**

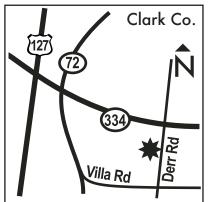
Tim & Laurel Shouvlin – Bluebird Hills Farm Saturday, September 13 •2:00-4:00pm 3617 Derr Road, Springfield OH 45503 937/390-6127



Laurel and Tim Shouvlin have been growing organic vegetables and raising alpacas for breeding stock and fiber production at Bluebird Hills Farm since 1994. Their farm produce is marketed through a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) system. CSA customers purchase a share in the farm at the beginning of each season and receive a box of fresh, seasonal, certified organic produce each week. Laurel will describe the benefits of marketing their produce through a CSA as well as the challenges that a farmer faces in producing a diversity of crops.

Take St. Rt. 68 to St. Rt. 334 and travel east. Immediately exit off St. Rt. 334 onto St. Rt. 72 to travel south. In less than one mile turn

east (left) onto Villa Road (first traffic light). Take Villa Road east to Derr Road (first light) and turn north (left) onto Derr Rd. Bluebird Hills is less than one mile on the west (left) side of Derr Road (opposite the entrance to Kingsgate Commons at the bottom of the hill).



#### Ridge Till Organic Grain Tom Besecker – Besecker Farms Saturday, September 20 • 2:00-4:00pm 5136 Hogpath Road, Greenville OH 45331 937/459-5104



The Beseckers have practiced renewable farming since 1989. They transitioned to certified organic in 1996, and have been producing certified organic grain crops and some vegetable crops since 2000. More recently they are adapting to a four year rotation of organic soybeans, corn, and wheat. The Beseckers utilize, in part, the "ridge till" system, a modified conservation tillage system that allows for the planting of seeds into the previous crops root zone. Their ridges are reformed and maintained for three of the four years of the rotation. Heavy tillage with a mini-moldboard the fourth year (after wheat or other small grains) helps overcome compaction and deep rooted weeds (like Canadian thistle). The fourth year also provides the opportunity to lime, manure, and add a cover crop like fall oats, brassicas, etc., after wheat harvest. This '08 season, buckwheat and/or another green crop will be interseeded into corn and left to winter kill on the ridge, prior to '09 soybeans. This tour will highlight the planting and cultivation equipment modifications that are necessary to accommodate their four year rotation. In addition, the Beseckers will share the success of foliar feeding for healthier crops and the results from ongoing organic corn and soybean variety trials.

From the East: Follow Rt. 36 to Greenville. Rt. 36 West turns to

Darke Greenville Co.

the left in Greenville. Follow Rt. 36 West to Rt. 127 South. When Rt. 36 West turns to the right, stay on Rt. 127 South for 1/2 mile. Turn left (east) onto Hogpath Road. From the South: Exit I-70 onto Rt. 127 North. Follow Rt. 127 North through West Manchester and through Castine. Turn right (east) onto Hogpath Road.

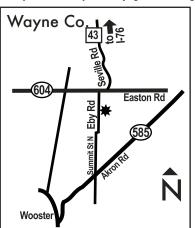
Special thanks to the photographers
who donated their photographs to
brighten up this publication:
Lisa Armstrong, David
Benchoff, Peter Bulford,
Lauren Lambert, and
Tony Cawley.



#### Organic Dairy / Conservation Scott Stoller – Stoller's Organic Dairy Saturday, September 27 • 10:00am-12:00pm 10451 Eby Road, Sterling OH 44276 • 330/939-3971

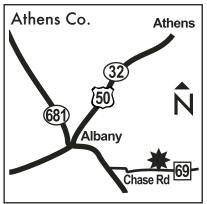
The Stollers are one of eight families nationwide who have recently been recognized for their commitment to conservation by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). The Stoller family operates a 350 acre certified organic dairy farm with a herd of 90 milking cows and a 90-100 head replacement herd. The farm includes 50 acres of permanent pasture as well as hay fields that are rotationally grazed. The tillable ground is devoted to the production of winter feed, including corn, wheat, oats, soybeans, rye, barley, and hay. The family's dedication to conservation is apparent in their development of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan, the protection of stream banks through fencing and tree planting, and their sustainable management of forested acreage. The Stollers grow much of their own food and will share their experience raising fruit trees, making maple syrup, and raising chickens and vegetables to feed their family.

**From Wooster:** Follow Rt. 585 North (Akron Road) out of Wooster. Turn left (north) onto N. Summit Street. N. Summit Street becomes Eby Road. Eby Road jogs to the right, and then to the left at Fulton



Road. The farm is on the east side of Eby Road. From I-76, exit #2: Follow Wooster Pike south. Wooster Pike becomes Center Street. In Seville, Center St. becomes County Road 43. Follow County Road 43 as it becomes Seville Road. Turn right onto E. Easton Road/OH 604. Turn left onto Eby Road/ Township Hwy. 73. The farm is on the east side of Eby Road at 10451 Eby Road.





# Grazing / Organic Dairy Lloyd Gingerich – Sleepy Hollow Farm Saturday, October 4 • 1:30-3:30pm Sleepy Hollow Farm, 4825 CR 96, Belle Center OH 43310 937/464-7505

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gingerich have owned and operated Sleepy Hollow Farm for 25 years. With the help of seven of their eight children, they have a dairy as well as pasture broilers and eggs from a flock of free range layers. Sleepy Hollow Farm has been certified organic for the past year. Their Management Intensive Grazing system will be highlighted. Feed corn and hay for supplemental feed are also raised on the farm.



From Bellefontaine follow Rt. 33 North out of Bellefontaine. Exit Rt. 33 North at Rt. 117. Turn right (north), onto Rt. 117 North. Follow Rt. 117 North to County Road 96. Turn right (east). Follow County Road 96 for about 1 mile. Look for a large egg sign on the south side of the road: 4825 County Road 96.

### Forest-harvesting / Permaculture

Michelle Gorman & Chris Chmiel – Integration Acres Saturday, October 11 • 3:00-5:00pm 9758 Chase Road, Albany OH 45710 • 740/698-6060

Living in the ""Pawpaw Capital of the World"" presented a golden opportunity for Chris Chmiel and Michelle Gorman to integrate their interests in agriculture and permaculture. With the support of a USDA-SARE grant, they developed semi-wild pawpaw cultivation techniques. Integration Acres has grown from selling fresh pawpaws in 1996 to currently producing a line of frozen and jarred pawpaw products as well as other forest-harvested items like spicebush berries, black walnuts, ramps (and ramp products) and black walnut hull compost. In 2007, Integration Acres began milking a small herd of goats and has added farmstead goat cheese to its

product line. Join Michelle and Chris for a tour of Integration Acres and an introduction to the principles of permaculture and forest products.

From Athens take US 50/US 32 West toward Chillicothe. In Albany, take the second St. Rt. 681 exit, and head south out of Albany. Follow it to Chase Road/County Road 69 and turn left. Follow Chase Road/County Road 69 to 9758 Chase Road. The farm is on the left.

## **@EFFA SPONSORED WORKSHOPS**



Class sizes are limited for our workshops, so sign up early! To register, send your check, along with your name, address, phone number, and email to: OEFFA Workshops, 41 Croswell Road, Columbus OH 43214. Questions can be directed to *laura@oeffa.org* or 614/421-2022. Workshop details will be sent to registrants. Please visit our website, www.oeffa.org, for more workshops throughout the year.

#### Organic Lawn Care Saturday June 14 • 9:00am-12pm Columbus, Ohio

Organic lawn care is a great option for those who want a vibrant lawn that they can be proud of, without using chemical applications that can be detrimental to the health of pets, people, and local wildlife. This do-it-yourself style organic lawn care class will present information on how to safely manage soil health, fertilization, disease, weeds, and pests that can cause problems in the yard. Different types of grass, good lawn care practices, and the use of native plantings as grass alternatives will also be discussed. There will be plenty of time for individual questions. This workshop will be taught be Nate Elfner of Elfner Landscape and Organic Lawn Care.

\$25 OEFFA members / \$35 non-members.

#### Food Production on the Homestead Saturday, July 12 • 1:00-5:00pm Washington Court House, Ohio

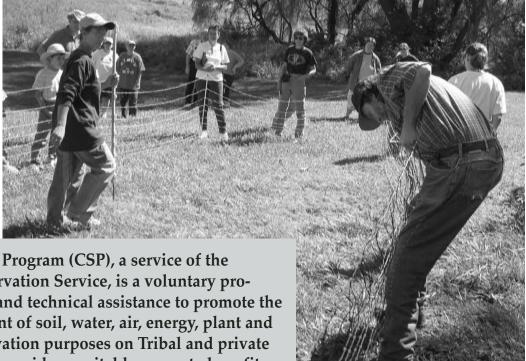
Recently featured in *Mother Earth News*, Tom and Mary Lou Shaw will share the "secrets" of how they have been able to provide most of their own food without going to the grocery store. The Shaws 13-acre farm is home to two Dutch Belted "family cows" and a small flock of Dorking chickens that together provide the eggs, meat, and milk products they need, as well as compost for their garden and orchard. Their garden and orchard provide a large variety of chemical free vegetables and fruits, many of which they enjoy all year, along with fresh herbs, and flowers in the summer months. Homesteading is a relatively new career for both the Shaws. With their delightful warmth and enthusiasm, they will share what they are learning as they sculpt their new life, and share what they have planned for the future. \$25 OEFFA members/\$35 non-members.





# CONSERVATION SECURITY PROGRAM TOURS

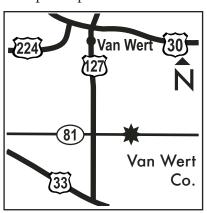




The Conservation Security Program (CSP), a service of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to promote the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life, and other conservation purposes on Tribal and private working lands. The program provides equitable access to benefits to all producers, regardless of size of operation, crops produced, or geographic location. (www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/CSP)

Van Wert County Clarence Oberlitner Monday, June 23 • 7:00-8:30pm 14856 State Route 81, Venedocia OH 45894 • 419/203-5056

Clarence Oberlitner and his son Steve farm 850 acres in Van Wert County. Using a no-till system, they raise popcorn and soybeans. Clarence has been farming for 47 years and the family has worked hard to create wildlife habitat on the farm. In 2003 they established a 9-acre wetland and planted filter strips and wind breaks surrounding their fields. They have experienced the challenges of putting conservation measures into practice on their farm and they will share their experience with tour participants. Steve Brown, the District Conservationist from the USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), will also share ideas with tour participants about other conservation measures



that farmers can employ to improve wildlife habitat on private lands. This tour will begin at the main farm and participants will then drive 1/2 mile to the wetland. From Van Wert take Rt. 127 South. Turn left, east, onto St. Rt. 81. The farm is located 2.5 miles east of Rt. 127 at 14856 St. Rt. 81.

Miami County
Dan & Tawni Batdorf
Tuesday, June 24 • 7:00-8:30pm
9291 N. State Route 48, Covington OH 45318
937/473-5329

Dan and Tawni Batdorf grow no-till corn, soybeans, and wheat, and raise hogs on 780 acres in Miami County. The Batdorfs have worked with the USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to implement conservation practices on their farm, including the construction of a manure lagoon used to better manage hog manure. They have established grass strips and waterways to limit soil erosion and protect water quality on the farm. They also manage CP 33 ground for pheasant and other bird habitat. Join the Batdorfs, and a representative from the USDA's NRCS, to learn more about what conserva-



tion measures farmers can employ to create wildlife habitat, and how these farmers are continuously improving their stewardship of natural resources. The Batdorf's farm is located 4 miles north of Covington on Rt. 48.

# #NNOVAT#VE FARMERS OF OH#O WORKSHOPS

The Innovative Farmers of Ohio (IFO) is a membership-based organization dedicated to the advancement of sustainable agriculture in the State of Ohio. Our members are farmers, food processors, and researchers who are improving the profitability of family farms, protecting our environment and communities, and improving the food system. Founded in 1993, IFO is an Ohio non-profit organization. For more information, write or call: Innovative Farmers of Ohio, 5555 Airport Highway, Suite 100, Toledo, Ohio 43615; 800/372-6092; www.ifoh.org.

#### **Small Fruit**

Ann & Dan Trudel – Ann's Raspberry Farm Friday, June 13 • 9:15am-12pm (corrected date) 6645 Blair Rd., Fredericktown OH 43019 • 740/694-1935

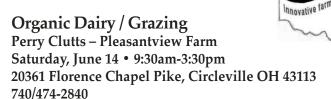
Arrive on-time to carpool to the nearby Wolf Creek Produce Auction house for a live auction experience. At 10:30 return for a tour of this fourth-season beginning farm to hear about production practices such as trellising berries, trimming suckers, and selecting early-, mid-, and late-season varieties. Learn from the Trudels about the challenges and rewards of establishing a U-pick operation, selling at a Farmers' Market and a produce auction, marketing to local grocers, developing a value-added product, and adding a new product line.

Exit I-71 at Rt. 95. Take Rt. 95 South into Chesterville. In Chesterville turn left (north) onto Rt. 314. Turn right onto Mt. Gilead-Frederick-town Road. Turn right onto Lucerne Road, then turn left onto Blair

Road.







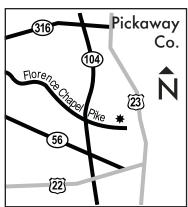


Registration required by June 4. Call 800/372-6092, ext. 3, or email sharon@ifo.org to register.

Bob Hendershot, a forage expert with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), will lead this organic dairy grazing workshop. It will be followed by a parliament meal of roasted lamb, small new red potatoes, and fresh peas. Cost is \$20 p/person, \$25 for nonmembers, children under 12 free.

South through the light at St. Rt. 316. Continue 17 miles to Florence Chapel Pike and turn left (east). Continue one mile to the dairy / homestead on the left. **From the South:** Take St. Rt. 104 North. Continue through the light at St Rt. 56. Continue four miles to Florence Chapel Pike and turn right. The dairy / homestead is on the left (1 mile).

From the North: Take St. Rt. 104



#### Grass-fed Livestock Ralph Rice – Riceland Meadows Saturday, June 28 • 1:00-4:00pm 1485 State Route 307W, Jefferson OH 44047 440/576-7701

Riceland Meadows is a diversified farm where Ralph Rice and his family raise grass-fed Dexter beef, polypay sheep, free range chickens, and bees. Their team of Percheron horses plow in spring and pull their weight by logging in winter. Ralph is a certified logger and writes for a logging publication. In the future the farm will have a sugar shack where the work horses will come in handy as well.

From the south, take Rt. 11
North to the first Jefferson
exit (Rt. 307). Turn left (west)
and go into Jefferson. Turn
right onto Rt. 46 (46 and 307
run together through town
for four traffic lights). The
fourth light is where 307 goes
west again, turn left here. Go
about 2.5 miles to the farm.
Riceland Meadows is on the
right (north) side of the road.

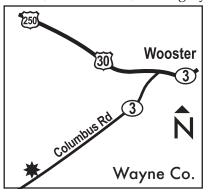


#### INNOVATIVE FARMERS OF OHIO WORKSHOPS



Pasture / Sheep Jim and Debbie Morris – Maple Ridge Farm Saturday, July 19 • 1:00-3:00pm 7258 Columbus Road, Shreve OH 44676 • 330/264-6974

Deb and Jim Morris are sheep grazers who have won acknowledgement from The Forage and Grassland Council for their sustainable practices and for their innovations in grazing. This summer they hope to have a field of Teff, a rather new, but highly prized forage. They also



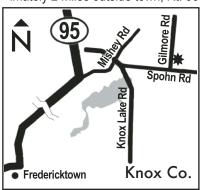
have a unique practice of lambing their cross-bred polypay flock year round. The lambs are sold between 40 and 70 lbs. as roasters for ethnic populations at Producers in Mt. Vernon, Ohio. Take St. Rt. 3 South from Wooster Fairgrounds about 10 miles.

#### **Diversified Livestock**

Lisa & Bruce Rickard – Fox Hollow Farm Sunday, August 3 • 1:00-4:00pm 20060 Gilmore Rd., Fredericktown OH 43019 740/694-8528

The Rickards have a diversified pastured livestock operation that includes beef, broilers, sheep and lamb. They utilize a hoop house February-April and put the livestock on pasture during the warmer months. Their broilers are slaughtered on farm in a mobile unit built by the Rickard's. They also have a flock of laying hens which moves about the farm in a homemade eggmobile. The family sells at the Mt. Vernon Farmers' Market and on-farm with limited deliveries. They are always willing to share their experiences with others.

Take I-71 North from Columbus. Exit at St. Rt. 95, Mt. Gilead and Fredericktown. Turn right at the end of the ramp going toward Fredtown. Follow Rt. 95 through Fredtown (multiple turns). Approximately 2 miles outside town, Rt. 95 bends sharply left. At the bend,



go straight onto Mishey Road. Turn right at the first intersection (Knox Lake Road), then at the first left (Spohn Road), then at the first left (Gilmore Road). The drive is the first one on the right. Follow it to the parking area. (45 minutes from Polaris Shopping Mall in Delaware Co.)

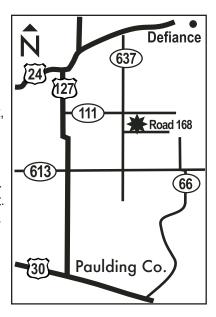
#### **Grass-fed Livestock / Cheese Making**

Ralph, Brian, & Sheila Schlatter – C/J Farm & Natural Meat Saturday, August 16 • 1:00-4:00pm 18637 Road 168, Defiance OH 43512 • 419/399-2350

This is a diversified family farm with an on-farm store and a cheese house where Ralph and Sheila Shlatter's son, Brian, is a licensed cheese maker crafting cheddars, jacks, colbys, emmantals, and blue. All livestock on the

farm is grass-fed and marketed through the farm, CSAs, and other local markets.

From St. Rt. 30: Exit St. Rt. 30 at St. Rt. 66 North. Continue to St. Rt. 613 West, then to St. Rt. 637 North. Turn East on Rd. 168 and go half a mile. The farm is on the north side of the road. From the North: Take St. Rt. 24 to St. Rt. 127 South to St. Rt. 111 East to St. Rt. 637 South. Then take 637 South to Road 168. The farm is 1/2 mile on the north side of the road.

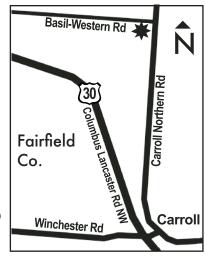


#### **Cover Crops**

David Brandt – Brandt Family Farm Thursday, August 28 • 4:00-7:00pm 6100 Basil-Western Road, Carroll OH 43112 740/756-4436

David Brandt, President of the Ohio No-till Council, farms 900 acres and is eager to show others how to increase profits. David has significantly reduced chemical and pesticide use and has lowered costs for nitrogen and fertilizer through effective use of cover crops. David

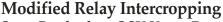
will share his experience with five different cover crops that are planted after wheat. He will also discuss his soybean variety trial, his August planted alfalfa variety trial, and his corn plot. Take Rt. 33 and exit southeast of Columbus at Winchester Road. Follow it east into Carroll. Turn left onto Carroll Northern Road. Turn left onto Basil Western Road.



## **QSU EXTENSION SUSTAINABLE AG TEAM**

The OSU Sustainable Ag Team includes representatives from Ohio ■ State University Extension, the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC), and others, working to promote feasible

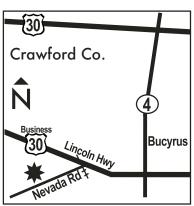
and ecologically sustainable agriculture. For more information, write or call: Mike Hogan, Carroll County Extension, 32 W. Main Street, Carrollton OH 44615; 330/627-4310.



Steve Prochaska – OSU Unger Farm Thursday, June 19 • 7:00-9:00pm

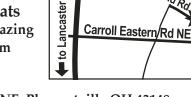
970 Nevada Road, Bucyrus OH 44820 • 419/562-8731

Modified Relay Intercropping (MRI) is the planting of soybeans into standing wheat. This system of doublecropping is being studied at the OSU Unger Farm. MRI planting occurs in late May and early June. Soybeans in the MRI system are generally sown into wheat with a grain drill or tool bar planter. Six years of replicated field trials on the MRI system have resulted in favorable average soybean and wheat yields (73 bu/acre for wheat, and 28 bu/acre for soybeans). Wheat yields in good years have exceeded 80 bu/acre, and soybean yields have exceeded 40 bu/acre. Because the soil is under the cover of a growing crop for twelve months, and few if



any pesticides are used, this system is beneficial to the environment. Contact Steve Prochaska, OSU Extension, with any guestions at 419/562-8731. Take US 30 to Bucyrus. Exit at St. Rt. 4, and go south to the center of Bucyrus (where Business US 30 crosses). Turn west, go 1 mile to Nevada Road. OSU Farm is 0.3 miles southwest.

**Grazing Meat Goats** Mark Scarpitti - Amazing **Graze Boer Goat Farm** Saturday, June 28 10:00am-2:00pm



37

Fairfield Co

Pleasantville

188

Lake Rd NE

4395 Richland Road NE, Pleasantville OH 43148 740/468-1042

#### \*Preregistration required

Diversifying your forage base as an effective, economic, and sustainable strategy to reduce internal parasites and enhance animal performance in meat goats will be discussed on this tour. Join us at Amazing Graze Boer Goat Farm, owned and operated by Mark Scarpitti and family, in the scenic rural community of Pleasantville. This small farm is home to a registered Boer Goat herd comprised of sixty does, bucks, and young stock. Mark has developed a unique grazing system as a holistic approach to effectively managing the herd. This holistic system incorporates cool season and warm season forages as well as forages containing moderately high levels of condensed tannins. Don't miss this field event which will feature a walking tour of grazing paddocks, a barbecue lunch, and several presentations related to designing holistic systems for meat goats. The fee for attending this field event is \$10 per person which includes lunch, refreshments, and workshop materials. From Lancaster: From Rt. 37 North, turn east onto Carroll Eastern Road NE. Turn left onto Lake Road NE. Turn left onto Richland Rd.

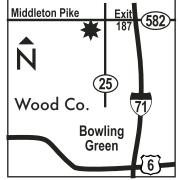
USDA Beneficial Insects / Soybeans Co-sponsored by **Agricultural Incubator Foundation** Hirzel Sustainable Research and Education Site Thursday, July 31 • 9:00-11:00am 13737 Middleton Pike Road (St. Rt. 582), Bowling Green OH 43402 • 419/354-9050



nince 1988, the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program has helped advance farming systems that are profitable, environmentally sound and good for sticky traps, a sweep net, communities through a nationwide research and education grants program. www.sare.org

Examine certified organic soybean plots and compare them to conventional soybean plots, viewing signs of beneficial insect activity. Through the use of and keen observation, the interactions between populations of beneficial insects and damaging

soybean insect pests will be discussed. Specific recommendations for control of soybean pests in certified organic production, and the effect of edge habitat on insect populations, will also be discussed. Featured speakers will include Dr. Ron Hammond (Ohio State



University Extension Entomologist), Dr. Andy Michel (Ohio State University Extension Entomologist) Dr. Dan Pavuk (Department of Biological Sciences, Bowling Green State University), and Alan Sundermeier (Wood County Extension Educator).

Take I-75 North of Bowling Green 5 miles to exit 187. Go west on St. Rt. 582 for 2 miles, cross over St. Rt. 25. The incubator site will be one mile ahead on the left side of the road.

### **OSU SUSTAMABLE AG TEAM**



**Grazing Systems Field Day** 

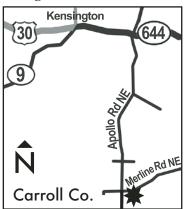
Earl and Dan McKarns - Shamrock Vale Farms Tuesday, August 19 • 10:00am-3:00pm 8002 Merline Rd. N.E., Kensington OH 44427 330/223-1389 (farm), 330/627-4310 (extension office)

\*Preregistration required

co-sponsored by

This field day will feature noted grazing expert Jim Gerrish who will show graziers how to take their managed grazing system "to the next level." The field day will also feature Dr. Fred Provenza, a livestock behavior specialist from Utah State University, who will show us how livestock (particularly young livestock) learn and remember what to eat, and what not to eat in a grazing system. The field day will take place at Shamrock Vale Farms, one of Ohio's oldest and most successfully managed grazing operations. The farm operation consists of 400 acres of grass and approximately 150 registered Angus seed stock cow-calf pairs managed in a total forage

system. This full-time operation supports two families. Lunch will be served during the field day, so advance registration and payment is required before August 12. To register contact OSU Extension at 330/627-4310.



From the West: Take US 30 to Kensington and take St. Rt. 644 East. Turn right onto Apollo Road. From the South: From Carrollton take St. Rt. 9 North to Kensington and turn right onto St. Rt. 644 East. Turn right onto Apollo Road. From the North and East: Take St. Rt. 9 or US 30 to Kensington, and turn left onto St. Rt. 644 East. Turn right onto Apollo Road.

# OHIO FORAGE AND GRASSLANDS COUNCIL

The Ohio Forage and Grasslands Council (OFGC) **L** exists to enhance the profitability of Ohio farmers through the use of forage and grasslands resources, and to facilitate the opportunity for collective interactions between producers and other forage workers--both public and private. OFGC provides a forum or means for the exchange of ideas, problems/opportunities, and solutions in forage-animal agriculture; encourages research, education, and services efforts so as to improve forage production, utilization, and marketing; represents a collective voice for issues affecting forage animals; and works to develop present and future leaders in the forage industry. **Organic Field Crops Field Day** OFFER Program - OARDC West Badger Farm Thursday, August 28 • 1:30-4:00pm co-sponsored by Apple Creek Road, Wooster OH 44691

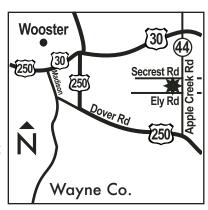
330/202-3534

The Organic Field Crops Field Day will feature the latest research being done at Ohio State University's Ohio Agriculture

Research and Development Center on organic field crops. This will include an organic corn variety trial, specialty small grains, organic disease bio-controls for seeds and plants, organic no-till and more. Visitors will have a chance to taste products made with organic crops, including various vegetables, and grains. Organic Grain Field Day participants will meet at OARDC's West

Badger Farm. From US 250: Go north 1.8 miles on County Road

44 (Apple Creek Road). Look for OFFER Field Day signs on the west side of Apple Creek Road between Ely Road and Secrest Road. From US 30: Go south 1.1 miles on County Road 44. Look for OFFER Field Day signs on the west side of Apple Creek Road between Ely Road and Secrest Road.

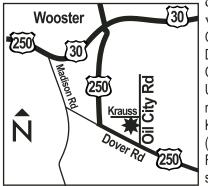


**Organic Horticultural Crops Field Day** OFFER Program - OARDC farms Thursday, August 28 • 4:30-7:30pm Oil City Road, Wooster OH 44691 co-sponsored by

330/202-3534

The Organic Horticultural Crops Field Day will feature the latest research being done at Ohio State University's

Ohio Agriculture Research and Development Center Wooster campus on organic horticultural crops. It will include transition strategies for weed control, high tunnel season extension, grafting, ecological modular design polyculture systems and more. Visitors will have a chance to taste products made with organic



crops, including various vegetables, and grains. Organic Horticultural Field Day participants will meet at OARDC's Fry Farm. From US 250, go 0.2 of a mile north on Oil City Road to Krauss Road and turn left (west). Look for OFFER Field Day signs on the west side of Oil City Road.





OFFER

## SUMMER 2008 FESTIVALS

# The Ohio Lavender Festival June 20-22 • Streetsboro, Ohio

The owners of DayBreak Lavender Farm will share their love for this wonderful, generous, and versatile herb. There will be a food tent, entertainment for the family, lectures, and free workshops. Last year topics included soap making, essential oils, a general tour, complexion makeover and skin care, music, cooking, aromatherapy, and flower pounding (dying). The farm's special goal is to involve more farmers in growing lavender. Throughout the festival there will be free lectures for lavender growers, both amateur and farmers. It's agritourism at its finest. One day admission, \$8. (Family pass \$20) More info is available at www.ohiolavenderfestival.com or by calling 330/626-3235. DayBreak Lavender Farm, 2129 Frost Road, Streetsboro, OH 44241.

# Fiber Arts Festival July 12 • Lucas, Ohio

Visitors to this festival will experience the crafts and handwork of our ancestors. Visitors will also learn about fibers, their content and how to use them. Demonstrations will include weaving, spinning, bobbin lace, tatting, crocheting, knitting, rug hooking, penny rugs, quilting, appliqué, and more. This event is open to the public free of charge and will be held rain or shine in the Malabar Farm Main Barn by the Big House. Refreshments will also be available. For more information about this and other summer events at Malabar Farm, call 419/892-2784 or visit www.malabarfarm.org.

#### Ohio Green Living Fayre September 1 • Johnstown, Ohio

Join the Flying J Farm, Blue Rock Station, and other organizations in promoting green living in Ohio by attending the Ohio Green Living Fayre on Labor Day weekend. This family-oriented fun event will offer opportunities to teach and promote sustainable living in Ohio, and to build a financial base to support sponsoring organizations who promote these same causes. The event will include workshops, a tour, exhibits, games, horse drawn wagon rides, demonstrations, booths, music, great local food, fishing, nature walks, camping, a pre-fayre building workshop on Saturday and Sunday, and more. Everyone can join in and learn during workshops on sustainable agriculture, alternative energy, sustainable health, and living simply. Small entrance fee. Please check the website at ohiogreenliving.org for more information. You may also email Dick Jensen at rjensen@core.com (www.flyingjfarm.com, 740/967-4030), or Jay and Annie Warmke at jay@jaywarmke.com (bluerockstation.com, 740/674-4300).

#### The Lithopolis Honeyfest Saturday, September 6; 10am to 6pm The Wagnalls Memorial; Lithopolis, Ohio.

Ohio's only honey festival and one of a handful of honey festivals in the nation. Experience the science and art of apiculture (beekeeping), and create a robust atmosphere of art, music, food, fun and people. Over 2500 visitors. The American Honey Princess, Rachel Bryson, will be an honored guest along with many other interesting activities of the day -- bee beards, honey tasting, observation hives and beekeeping education, honey cook-off, fine quality artisans and continuous live music. Please visit www.lithopolishoneyfest.com or call Ginger at 614/837-2031.

# The Tenth Annual Ohio Pawpaw Festival September 13-14 • Lake Snowden, Ohio

The Pawpaw, Ohio's first fruit (*Asimina triloba*), will be celebrated with music, vendors, tastings, a cook-off, contests, kid's activities, and more for the whole family. To find out more visit www.pawpawfest.com or email info@pawpawfest.com.

# The Oldtime Farming Festival September 20-21 • Centerburg, Ohio

Kick-off at 10:00 with a town parade, tractors, crafters, old fashioned demonstrations, pet parade, horse pulls, square dancing tractors, kiddie pedal tractor pull, an open horticulture show, kid's corner with games, games & contests tent, historical tent and lots of GOOD FOOD and entertainment on 2 stages. Free family entertainment with so much to see and do. Free parking, free entertainment, and handicap accessible. For more info, please call 740/625-6134, visit www.oldtimefarmingfestival.org or email info@oldtimefarmingfestival.org.

# WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE?

Sustainable agriculture integrates three main goals: environmental stewardship, farm profitability, and prosperous farming communities. These goals have been defined by a variety of disciplines and may be looked at from the vantage point of the farmer or the consumer. To some it is a means of continuing agriculture as usual with increased care for these three factors, while for others it is a deeper commitment to practicing agriculture in a manner that accords with natural flows. The latter is considered the only real form of sustainability while the former is a practical approach for gradual improvements, which in themselves introduce other negative factors that require further modifications.

—Reprinted from the IFO website at www.ifoh.org



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#### 2008 FARM TOURS AND WORKSHOPS

(All tours are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.)

