

2023 Sowing Seeds for Success Small Farm Conference

Presentation Descriptions

Session Number and Presenter	Presenter Title	Presentation Title	Presentation Description
1: Lee Beers	OSU Extension	Growing Blueberries on a Small Farm	The addition of blueberries to a small farm can add increase revenue, with relatively little management compared to other small fruits. Selecting the appropriate varieties, and managing soil fertility will provide a solid foundation for a successful crop. This session will cover the basics of planning, variety selection, soil amendments, and IPM of highbush blueberries
2: Lee Beers	OSU Extension	Sweet Corn Production	Sweet corn is a summertime favorite, but variety selection, weed control, and soil fertility can be confusing for those interested in growing a crop on a small scale. This session will cover the basics of staggering varieties for continued harvest, cultural and chemical weed control options, and nutrient needs of sweet corn, and other practices specific for smaller scale production.
3: Jim Jasinski	OSU Extension	Basic Production Skills Needed to Grow Pumpkins on a Small Farm	This session will cover all aspects of getting started in pumpkin production from the type of equipment you might need, hybrid selection, major pests to be aware of (insects, weeds, diseases) and the means to manage them. Additional resources including access to specific pumpkin production bulletins and videos will be shown. Yield estimates and economics will also be touched on during the presentation.
4: Francesca Hand	The Ohio State University	Identification and Management of Common Diseases of Specialty Cut Flowers	Locally grown specialty cut flowers are facing a tremendous increase in popularity. Given the high expectations for product quality, disease management practices are necessary not only to secure yield, but also to meet the high esthetic standards that consumers expect. As the first step in any disease management effort is the accurate identification of the diseases affecting a crop, this presentation will teach attendants how to recognize symptoms and signs of common diseases of specialty cut flowers and will share information on available disease management strategies.
5: Bruce Clevenger	OSU Extension	Record Keeping	Record keeping is essential for farm managers/owners regardless of the size of the business. This session will share tips on what details make the end of year summary and decision making easier for the farm business. While financial records are important, production and activity records make up a complete foundation of what is happening in the business. Record keeping is an investment in yourself and your business.

6: David Marrison	OSU Extension	I Want to Buy the Family Farm: What Do I Need to Know?	Is your dream to buy the family farm? Join David Marrison, OSU Extension Field Specialist-Farm Management to explore some of the basics of farm ownership. Here we'll talk about the steps you need to take before buying a farm, including learning how to run a farm, deciding what to farm and getting into the details of the business. Discussions will be held on securing capital, developing a business plan and what management factors need to be considered as you plan for the future.
7: Peggy Hall	The Ohio State University	Selling Farm Food Products: When Do You Need a License?	Want to sell farm food products like meat, eggs, baked goods, honey, syrup, or jam? We'll help you understand when you need a license and what's involved in getting a license for your farm food products.
8: Mike Hogan	OSU Extension	SARE Grants: What You Need to Know	Learn how to develop simple grant proposals which can supply funding of up to \$18,000 to help make your operation more economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable
9: Rob Leeds	OSU Extension	Getting Started In Agritourism and Marketing Your Business	The Decisions you make when starting and developing an agritourism operation on the farm can seem complex. Many farms adopt new activities, marketing strategies and base their operations on the activities they see at other farms or venues. While lots of planning should be put into starting an agritourism operation, the process can be much less intimidating if you have an outline of putting together your operation. This session will discuss trends in the agritourism industry and themes to consider when starting an operation of your own.
10: Peggy Hall	The Ohio State University	Ohio's Agritourism Laws: Know Them and Use Them	Ohio has several laws that affect agritourism and we'll review them in this session. Learn about liability protection, zoning, and property taxation laws for agritourism, and steps you can take to ensure your agritourism operation benefits from these laws.
11: Studio 149	OSU Extension	Creating a Video to Market Your Business	Interested in learning how to promote your farm business to the next level? In this session learn tips and tricks for how to create a short, entertaining video to market your farm. We will also dive into the best practices for when and how to market your products and the latest trends in agritourism marketing.
13: Greg Meyer	OSU Extension	Setting Up Your Farm to Raise Livestock	Do I need a barn? Where do I put the barn? Pasture layout? Water? Fencing? So many questions when you are getting ready to set up your farm for livestock. During this session, Greg Meyer will walk you through the process of developing a whole farm plan for starting a livestock enterprise on your small farm. He will discuss shelter needs, dry lots, paddock layout, pastures and fencing to best utilize the space and time you have available for your livestock enterprise. This session is appropriate for someone with a blank slate or someone looking for ideas on improving their farm's current set up.

14: Lyda Garcia	The Ohio State University	Food Animal Processing	
15: Brady Campbell	OSU Extension	Small Ruminant Nutrition Considerations	Given the nature of the current grain market, producers may investigate incorporating alternative feedstuffs into their rations to reduce feed costs. In order to do so successfully, producers must first understand the nutritional needs of their sheep and goats. This presentation will review nutrition considerations for small ruminants as it relates to the annual production cycle.
16: Sandy Trushel	OSU Extension	Raising Livestock on 5 Acres or Less	So, you have some land, and you want some extra income or a supply of food for your family. This session will investigate all your options and possibilities.
17: Jordan Miller	Local Producer	Basics of Beekeeping	This session will cover what it will take to get started in beekeeping including: equipment, sources for bees, as well as basic bee information. This session cannot tell you everything there is to know about beekeeping, but will get you started in your beekeeping adventure and provide resources to build your knowledge.
18: Carrie Brown	OSU Extension	The Woods in Your Backyard: Creating, Enhancing, and Maintaining Small Woodlands and Natural Areas Around Your Home	Would you like to spend less time and money maintaining your lawn? Do you want to provide a sanctuary for wildlife? Would you like to enjoy the beauty of nature in your own backyard? This program will help landowners make informed decisions that impact water, wildlife, recreational opportunities, and forest health in their small woodland.
19: Erika Lyon	OSU Extension	Reading the Soil	This session will focus on evaluating the physical, biological and chemical properties of soils and how you can improve soil quality. An overview of the types of soil tests available and how to interpret a soil fertility report will also be covered.
20: Paul Snyder	OSU Extension	The Mystery of Fruit Tree Pruning	This session will focus on how to train young fruit trees, especially apple, and how to rejuvenate overgrown trees. In addition, time will be spent covering pruning practices to increase fruit production.