

Auglaize County ANR

News from OSU Extension

June 2, 2023

Hay season is officially underway!

Author Christine Gelley, Edited by Jamie Hampton



Farming with Family and friends

Making hay in May and early June is worthy of celebration because the most influential factor on forage quality is plant maturity. As grasses and legumes emerge from the soil in springtime, energy is allocated to leaf production. This is the vegetative stage of growth. The leaves are the most nutritious part of forage crops for livestock to consume either by grazing or as stored feed. It is ideal to harvest forages before they bloom. In legumes, the ideal stage for harvest is "early bud" and for grasses the ideal stage is "early boot". Both stages describe the time in which the balance between nutritional value and yield is maximized before the flower fully emerges. As temperatures heat up and time passes, plants progress from the vegetative phase to the reproductive phase of growth. In

this window of time, the plants are allocating energy to the production of a flower. After flowering, energy is allocated to seed fill. While the focus is shifted to reproduction, leaves and stems become less nutritious and accumulate fiber. The increase of fiber in the stems and leaves helps support the flower and seed head as the plants become heavier. As fiber increases, the forage becomes more difficult for animals to fully digest. Animals eat less because it takes longer for food to pass through their digestive tract. The greater the amount of fiber in the forage, the lower the nutritional value for livestock, thus the more they must eat to maintain weight. When the rate of consumption cannot adequately supply nutrients to the animal, weight gain stalls and production ability of the animal

decreases.

In simple terms, if the weather allows, harvest should be accomplished before grasses and legumes begin producing seed. Having good weather now gives the hay maker the opportunity to achieve a timely first harvest and improves the odds of getting good results in subsequent cuttings in the same hay season.

As many of you know this is my favorite time of the year, as tractors roll and the thump thump of the baler sings to me in the field, please be safe and avoid rushing through tasks. It looks like we will have plenty of time for hay to dry down. Take the gift of dry conditions to give yourself time to maintain your machinery, your stamina, and your focus.

For the full article click [HERE](#)

Tile clogs and cover cropping

Jamie Hampton

I have read reports of field tile being clogged by roots. For a variety of situations and cover crop mixes in different growing conditions. This raises the question of why? Why are roots from cover crops causing a problem? It was difficult to find clear answers to this problem. I found information that explains the roots of some cover crops that are given an extended growing period may infiltrate tile. This reinforces the importance of cover crop management strategies for planting and termination. If you have shallow tile, this should be included in your management plan. Tile connectors can be a headache if installed improperly. Some clogs can result from roots that originated a long distance from where it accumulated, this is usually do to connectors that are installed poorly or incorrectly. Grade of your tile needs to be correct and not have “bellies” that allow water and sediment to accumulate.



“Root growth should be considered when making cover crop management plans.”

It is important to correct spots that may have been affected by rocks when installing tile. Properly installed tile should be full of air, this is not where roots want to grow.

If tile plugging is something you are concerned about, some things to consider are to delay planting your cover a while to reduce the time roots have to grow. Lowering your seeding rate of deeper-rooted covers like radishes and ryegrass. You can also look at other cover crop seeds to add to the mix.

I am a believer that not all ground

needs to be tiled. Cover crops offer an avenue to improve natural drainage of fields.

We will be chatting about tile and cover crops at our meeting this coming Friday, June 8th at Happy Daz restaurant in Wapakoneta Ohio, Please join us and share your experience or questions.

Resources for this article
[Progressive farmer](#)
[Purdue University](#)
[Ohio country journal](#)



2023 Western Ohio Wheat Field Day

Join us for the 2023 Western Ohio Wheat Field Day on June 13 at the Western Agricultural Research Station in South Charleston. Topics will include wheat planting date and seeding rate interactions, breeding and genetics, identification of cereal leaf beetle, Fusarium head blight ratings and management, and nitrogen management. The field day is sponsored by Ohio Corn and Wheat.

When: Tuesday, June 13; 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Where: Western Agricultural Research Station
7721 S Charleston Pike
South Charleston, OH 45368

Cost: Free! **(Please RSVP by June 6 to be included in the lunch count)**

RSVP: Online

registration https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eSh3QB4Fi0vUole

Call/email registration Grant Davis at 937-772-6022 or email davis.1902@osu.edu

For more information, please contact Laura Lindsey (lindsey.233@osu.edu).

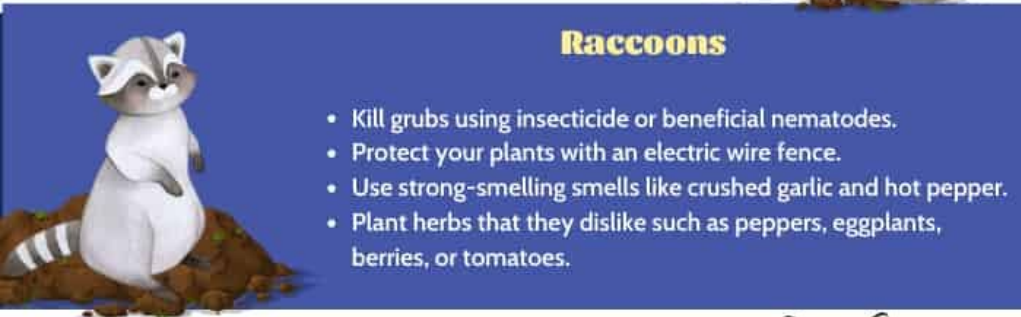


Easy Ways to Prevent Rodents

From Digging Your Plants at Night

Rats

- Removing potential food sources in your garden
- Clean up your yard to eliminate any food odors
- Cut your grass often to remove space.
- Make underground fences



Raccoons

- Kill grubs using insecticide or beneficial nematodes.
- Protect your plants with an electric wire fence.
- Use strong-smelling smells like crushed garlic and hot pepper.
- Plant herbs that they dislike such as peppers, eggplants, berries, or tomatoes.

Foxes

- Install motion-sensor lights and motion-activated sprinkler.
- Use Electronic Fox Deterrent.
- Use Fox Repellent Scents. Foxes hate the smell of hot pepper, garlic, chili, and white vinegar.



Chipmunks

- Trim bushes, grass, and weeds in areas where they might like to live.
- Plant herbs they dislike: Marigolds, Daffodil, Douglas Iris, and Common Camas.
- Fence your potted plants with Mesh Hardware Cloth. It is solely for seeds that have just been planted.

Skunks

- Get rid of grubs by using insecticide or nematodes.
- Build a fence around your plants or the whole yard for better security.
- Use bright lights at night.



What is digging up my plants?

Author William Golder, Edited by Jamie Hampton

Rodents like squirrels, rats, mice, and guinea pigs are possible animals digging up your plants at night. They are invading your garden to get some food, shelter, and water. Raccoons dig up our garden since they are looking for food. They consume everything, from seeds, vegetables, and fruits to insects, bugs, and even kitchen waste, because they are omnivores. A fox is another animal digging up plants at night. They are nocturnal animals. That's why most of them are actively destroying gardens at night. They are digging up the soils for the same purpose as everyone else: food. Chipmunks are one animal digging up my garden, and I bet they might be in yours as well. They may be the ones destroying your plants at night by seeing holes without piles of dirt around because they hide it in their cheeks. They do this in pursuit of shelter and food. Skunks are another animal digging in my flower bed at night. In case you don't know, they are capable of destroying your garden at night. They eat grubs, leaves, fruits, grass, and even garbage, as long as it is something they can reach.

We will continue discussing control over the next couple weeks including deterrents and removal when necessary.

For the full article click [HERE](#)

Sidedressing Manure into Corn

Author Glen Arnold

Most of the corn planted this spring has emerged with good stands. With the dry weather, corn is growing slowly and the opportunity to use manure as a side-dress nitrogen source for corn has arrived. The application of manure to corn can make excellent use of the available manure nutrients. Liquid manure has ammonium nitrogen which the corn crop can immediately utilize.

Incorporating manure into growing corn can boost crop yields, reduce nutrient losses, and give livestock producers or commercial manure applicators another window of time to apply manure to farm fields. Not everyone has access to manure incorporation equipment to side-dress corn. Spreading manure on the surface of corn fields can also capture most of the liquid manure nitrogen.

Surface applying liquid manure to corn fields with a drag hose can occur any time after the corn is planted until the corn is in the V4 (four true leaves with collars) stage. The manure will not harm the emerging corn when applied after planting. Most commercial manure applicators simply drive across the field at an angle to the planted rows. The more advanced the corn field, the more damage is likely to occur from the applicator tracks.



To use a drag hose, the field must be firm enough to support the manure hose. Spring tilled fields that were worked deeply are generally too soft to support the hose unless they were compacted by heavy rainfall. No-till and cover crop systems, where the field was not deeply tilled in the spring, generally work well.

Five years of university research has shown that surface applying manure can produce corn yields about 20 bushels per acre less than incorporated 28% Urea Ammonium Nitrate (UAN). When incorporated at application time, the manure produced yields about 15 bushels per acre higher than the UAN. University research has also shown that corn yields are reduced by about 50 bushels per acre when flattened with a drag hose at the V5 stage of growth.

It is important to know the nutrient content of manure if a livestock producer is counting on

using the nutrients to replace commercial fertilizer. Various swine integrators use different feeding rations, so a recent manure analysis is important. Numerous livestock producers have adapted manure tankers for side-dressing manure into emerged corn by modifying rims and wheels for traveling down corn rows. Even with the soil compaction concern, corn yields from side-dressing with manure are similar to side-dressing with commercial fertilizer. Using a manure tanker also allows the corn to be taller, providing a wider window for manure application.

A YouTube video created from the 2021 Conservation Tillage and Technology virtual Conference on side-dressing corn with liquid manure can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0nhw3GG6Q8&t=14s>

Planting Soybean in June: What Agronomic Practices Should I Adopt?

Authors: Fabiano Colet, Laura Lindsey



According to USDA-NASS, 66% of soybean acreage was planted in the USA by May 21, 2023. In Ohio, that number is similar, with 63% planted, and it is expected that the acreage planted will increase by the end of May due to dry planting conditions. However, planting will continue into June, and farmers may want to adjust their management practices to maximize soybean yield.

Seeding rate

Soybean planted in June tend to be smaller and have fewer nodes and pods than soybean planted in April or May. Therefore, the recommendation is to increase the seeding rate when the planting date is delayed. A small-plot field study conducted at Western Agricultural Research Station (WARS) in South Charleston, Clark Co., and Northwest Agricultural Research Station (NWARS), in Custar, Wood Co. for two growing seasons identified the agronomic optimum seeding rate (the seeding rate where

soybean yield is maximized). Conclusions regarding the seeding rate for June planting dates are shown in Table 1. For the first half of June, seeding rate should be between 150,000 to 180,000 seeds/acre. For the second half of June, increase seeding rate to 170,000 to 200,000 seeds/acre.

Row spacing

For soybean planted in June, the recommendation is to use narrow rows (7.5 to 15-inch row spacings). Soybean planted in narrow rows tends to out-yield soybean planted in wider row width (30-inch) because it intercepts more sunlight. Narrow width-rows can also positively influence soybean yield by improving weed control by shading out weeds and helping retain soil moisture.

Relative Maturity

Relative maturity (RM) plays a role in soybean production. When planting in June, farmers may need to choose a cultivar that will reach physiological maturity before the first killing frost. Choosing varieties with the preferential RM for that planting period will allow plants to grow vegetatively as much as possible before reducing speed of vegetative growth during reproductive stages. This will reflect in the production of nodes, pods, and seeds. The recommended relative maturity ranges are shown in Table 2.

	Western Ag. Research Station (WARS)	Northwest Ag. Research Station (NWARS)
	Seeding rate in seeds/acre	
June 1 – June 15	150,000 – 170,000	160,000 – 180,000
June 16 – June 30	170,000 – 190,000	180,000 – 200,000

Table 1

	Planting Date	Suitable Relative Maturity
Northern Ohio	June 1-15	3.2 - 3.8
	June 15-30	3.1 - 3.5
Central Ohio	June 1-15	3.4 - 4.0
	June 15-30	3.3 - 3.7
Southern Ohio	June 1-15	3.6 - 4.2
	June 15-30	3.5 - 3.9

Table 2.

June Events



Auglaize County Events:

- June 9th, Cover Crop Roundtable, Happy Daz Restaurant in Wapakoneta, 8:30 am
- Insect and Field monitoring

I will be out weekly, if you need me to check a specific field or crop send me a message or give me a call.

- **Have a safe and successful planting season.**

Nearby Happenings:

- 2023 Wheat Field Day, Western Agriculture Research Station, June 13th



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EXTENSION

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