

Over the Back Fence

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Newsletter

Happy Fall Y'all!

With fall just right around the corner, we have a lot to reflect on from this past summer here in Extension. From fair, to camps, to farmers markets, and other educational opportunities, it has been a busy summer. I would like to thank the community for all of the support and making the transition into this position very smooth. It is great to be back in my home county and continue building relationships. Fall can be a busy time of the year with harvest going on. I hope that all of the farmers have a successful year and the crop yields are exceptionally high. If anyone has any ideas for the ANR sector of extension please let me know by calling the office or emailing me at camm@purdue.edu.

Aniel Camm

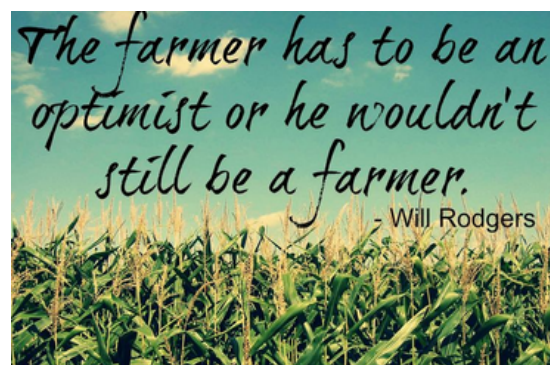




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AG Fun Facts



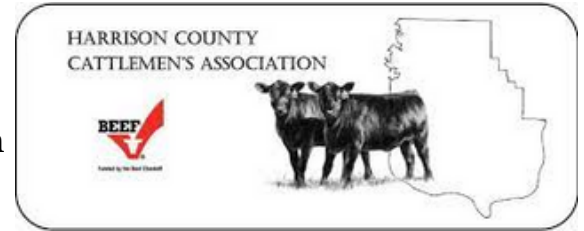
ANR EVENTS

Harrison County Cattlemen's Association Meetings 2023

We meet on the First Wednesday of every other month at 7:30pm at the Extension Office (even numbered months).

Visit the Purdue Extension Harrison County ANR page for more information about the Harrison County Cattlemen's Association.

- October 4th
- December 6th

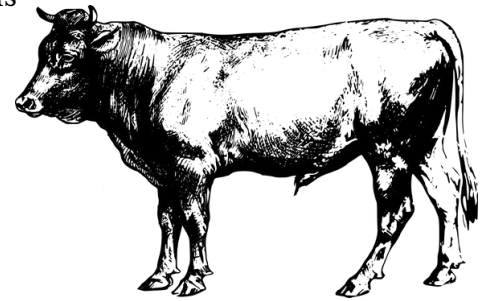


<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/harrison/ANRHomePage.html>

Bull Soundness Exams

The Harrison Co. Cattlemen's Association is still offering to cover the cost of 1 bull soundness exam for the year 2023. There are only a few months left to take advantage of this opportunity!

- CURRENT members ONLY (2023 dues are paid)
- **1**BSE per current member for the 2023 year
- Utilize ANY vet, anytime during 2023
- vaccines, farm visit, any additional costs NOT included
- Call or text 502-554-5124 for information on reimbursement. Must provide proof of payment/services.



Volunteers Needed for Lanesville Heritage Weekend!

The Harrison County Cattlemen's Association is in need of volunteers for Lanesville Heritage Weekend September 7th - 10th (Thursday - Sunday)

Volunteers will be entered for a chance to win the main prize at the annual dinner in 2024 (value of at least \$500.00)

- volunteer must be present for their scheduled volunteer time
- volunteer must be present for at least 2 consecutive hours on the day they are scheduled to volunteer
- volunteer can be entered multiple times if they volunteer for multiple days. For example if you work 12-2 Friday and 12-2 Saturday, you will earn 2 entries for the main prize. If you volunteer 1 day for more than 2 hours, you earn 1 entry.
- If we sell out early like we did last year and do not restock/open the booth, your volunteer time will be cancelled and you will not be eligible for the prize entry

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Please call or text Cassidy at 502.554.5124 to sign up to volunteer.

Harrison County Master Gardeners



We meet on the Third Thursday of every month at 6:30pm at the Harrison County Extension Office.

Visit the Purdue Extension Harrison County ANR page for more information about Master Gardeners.

- September 21st
- October 19th
- November 16th
- December 21st

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/harrison/ANRHomePage.html>

Anyone is welcome to attend "Grow It, Cook It, Learn It: Root Vegetables" with ANR educator, Ariel Camm, and HHS educator Tara Beckman, at the Fall Guest Speaker Series with the Harrison County Master Gardeners to learn how to grow and cook root vegetables.

There is no program fee but RSVP is required, so call the Extension Office at 812-738-4236 to get signed up!



Soil Sample Testing

Prepare for fall and get a soil sample done!!



Extension - Harrison County

Your local Extension Office can submit soil samples for you to A&L Labs. Typical turn around for results is 10-14 days.

SOIL SAMPLING

SUBMITTING TO A&L LABS

BASIC ANALYSIS

Measures the organic matter, available phosphorus, exchangeable Potassium, Magnesium, Calcium, Soil pH, Cation Exchange Capacity, Percent Base Saturation of Cation Elements.

247 Atwood Street
Corydon, IN 47112
812-738-4236



1 SAMPLE - \$19.00

TESTING YOUR SOIL

In a soil test elements are chemically removed from the soil and measured for their available content to the plant. The quantity of the nutrients in the sample determines the amount of fertilizer that is recommended. Soil tests also measure soil PH, humic matter and exchangeable acidity. Soil tests can be taken at any time, the important thing to remember is to take the sample at the same time every year!. It is however, recommended to take it in the fall when application of fertilizers is possible.

STOCKMANSHIP

with Curt Pate



**SOUTHERN INDIANA PURDUE AG CENTER
DUBOIS, INDIANA**

11371 E. Purdue Farm Rd | Dubois, IN 47527

\$30 person per event

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023
1:00pm - 7:00pm EST
Beef focused program
supper will be served

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023
10:00am - 5:00pm EST
Sheep & Goat focused program
lunch will be served

From Ryegate, MT, Curt Pate uses his personal experience incorporating effective stockmanship principles supports a "for profit" mindset and focuses on highlighting the increased economic benefits of handling stock correctly. In addition, Curt recognizes the growing public scrutiny surrounding live- stock production and the impact that improved livestock handling practices create for the sustainability of the cattle industry.

Direct questions to towerj@purdue.edu or 812-678-4427

Register Online under the events tab

www.indianabeef.org
www.indianasheep.com
www.indianaforage.org



Mail-in Registration: IBCA 8425 Keystone Crossing, Suite 240 Indianapolis, IN 46240

Full Name: _____ Circle if member of - IBCA ISA IFC
Email: _____ Registration Type: (Day 1, Day 2, or Both)
Phone Number: _____ Payment Type: Credit Card or Check **\$30/day/person**
Address: _____ Credit Card Type (Visa, Mastercard, Discover)
City: _____ Total enclosed _____ Credit Card # _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Expiration Date ___/___/___ CV Code _____

*Please make checks payable to Indiana Beef Cattle Association
8425 Keystone Crossing, Suite 240 Indianapolis, IN 46240
If accommodations are needed please contact 812-678-4427.*

Registration closes Sept 21st

AREA 2 PESTICIDE APPLICATOR PROGRAM

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Obtain Private (PARP) and Commercial Applicator Credits:

CAT 1, 11 & RT - 2 CCH Credits,

CAT 2, 3A, 3B, 4, 5, 6, 8, 7A, 7B, 7D - 1 CCH Credit

- **OISC Update and Regulatory Topic - Joe Becovitz, OISC Field Investigator**
- **Update on Weeds in Corn & Soybeans - Marcelo Zimmer, Purdue Weed Science Specialist**

PURDUE EXTENSION CRAWFORD COUNTY

9:00 - 11:00 am

Crawford County Extension Office

527 W Old State Rd 62

Leavenworth, IN 47137

Info or **RSVP**: 812-338-5466 or
scott422@purdue.edu

PURDUE EXTENSION LAWRENCE COUNTY

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Otis Park Bath House

607 Tunnelton Rd

Bedford, IN 47421

Info or **RSVP**: 812-275-4623 or
odavis@purdue.edu

PURDUE EXTENSION SCOTT COUNTY

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Scott County Fairgrounds

710 Fairgrounds Rd

Scottsburg, IN 47170

Info or **RSVP**: 812-752-8450 or
tsprings@purdue.edu

Program Reminders:

- Participants earn PARP & CCH credit by attending one program only.
- Program is free due to sponsorship by the IN Corn Marketing Council and IN Soybean Alliance
- RSVP's appreciated by Monday, November 6, 2023, but not required.



Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution. If you are in need of accommodations to attend this program, please contact Tom Springstun, ANR Educator, prior to the meeting at 812-752-8450 or tsprings@purdue.edu by Monday, November 6, 2023.

BALE GRAZING



Livestock folks: Bale Grazing can help you keep your animals on pasture for more of the year; deal with drought; and renovate your pastures. Attend one or both:

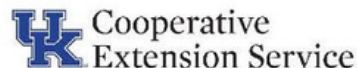


- October 5th, 10am-3pm - Madison, IN.
Meet at Jefferson County fairgrounds.
- October 6th, 10am-3pm - Dubois, IN.
Meet at SIPAC.

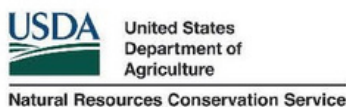
FREE WORKSHOP:

- How-to workshop with Greg Halich, Forage Systems Economist from University of Kentucky
- Insights from graziers who use bale grazing in southern Indiana
- Free lunch
- Pasture walk to see how graziers set up their bale grazing, and the results it can have for pastures and livestock

Brought to you by:



Extension



RSVP and details at www.indianafarming.org.

ANR RECAP

Farmer's Market: Pop-Up Booth



Purdue Extension Educators, Ariel Camm: Agriculture and Natural Resources and Tara Beckman: Health and Human Sciences/Community Development hosted a pop-up booth at local farmers markets.

At the Purdue Extension booth people were able to stop by, sample and learn about the featured produce item each week, get a take-home recipe and info sheet, and then have the opportunity to shop the market in order to remake the recipe (or others that inspire you) on your own.

This was an ongoing opportunity in July and August.

-The Harrison County Farmers Market runs every Wednesday from 3-6pm and every Saturday from 8am-12pm @ 1390 Old Hwy 135 NW in Corydon (the church parking lot by El Nopalito).

-The Corydon Farmers Market runs every Friday from 4-7pm @ 124 S. Mulberry St. in Corydon

Nature Camp

The 2-day 2023 ANR Nature Camp took place on July 17th and 18th at Patoka Lake. All of our youth had a blast with hands-on experience while learning about wildlife, trees, water quality, habitats, and healthy living. We ended our time with a boat ride on Patoka Lake. Thank you to the Patoka Lake Marina for your support!



ANR RESOURCES

Harrison County SWCD: New No-Till Drill Available to Rent

Harrison County SWCD has a new Great Plains 6' no-till drill to rent to landowners. The drill purchase was funded in part by a Clean Water Indiana Grant from the Indiana State Soil Board. The Great Plains compact drill is designed in narrower working widths while still providing the same features as a larger drill. Whether you are planting the smallest clovers to the fluffiest native grasses, doing landscaping, food plots, waterways or pastures, the Great Plains is an excellent choice to use for your project.

Rental rate for Harrison County residents is \$25.00 per acre, \$250.00 minimum if doing less than 10 acres. \$100.00 additional charge to out of county renters.

For availability, call Virginia at the SWCD office at 812-738-8121 Ext. 3.



PARP Information

Indiana Pesticide Regulation Changes

The Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC) and the Indiana Pesticide Review Board have approved regulatory changes effective January 1, 2023. Changes will be addressed at all 2023 Private Applicator Recertification Programs (PARP). Changes focus on restricted use pesticide application by certified applicators, recordkeeping, and restructuring of penalties/fines. Additional info can be found:

<https://oisc.purdue.edu/pesticide/index.html> under “News.”

For info on upcoming PARP Events:

<https://ppp.purdue.edu/private-applicators/recertification-parp/parp-events>

AG EDUCATION & INFORMATION

HISTORIC FARM FAMILIES PRESENTED HOOSIER HOMESTEAD

PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 17, 2023 | MORNING AG CLIPS

INDIANAPOLIS — Recognized for their families' longstanding commitment to agriculture, 103 Indiana family farms were presented the Hoosier Homestead Award at the Indiana State Fair from Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and Indiana State Department of Agriculture Director Don Lamb.

"The Hoosier Homestead ceremony is always a highlight of the Indiana State Fair for me," said Crouch, Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "Celebrating these longstanding farming families and their ancestors for their work and commitment to our state and Indiana agriculture is a true honor."

To be named a Hoosier Homestead, farms must be owned by the same family for more than 100 consecutive years, and consist of 20 acres or more, or produce more than \$1,000 in agricultural products per year.

Based on the age of the farm, families are eligible for three different distinctions of the Hoosier Homestead Award. They can receive the Centennial Award for 100 years, Sesquicentennial Award for 150 years or Bicentennial Award for 200 years of ownership.

"Keeping a farm operational for 100 years or more is no simple task," Lamb said. "Each passing generation has certainly had to adapt and evolve their farming practices and techniques to ensure their farms continued success."

Since the program's inception in 1976, over 6,100 families have received the award. Often, a Hoosier Homestead farm is easily recognized because most recipients proudly display their awarded sign on their property.

During the ceremonies, three Indiana farms received the Bicentennial Award for 200 years of continuous ownership: the Craig / Day family from Lawrence County, the Harry Goss Dow & Bessie M. Dow family from Morgan County and the Wise/Hobbs family from Madison County.



September 9, 2023

INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL TRAINING FOR LANDOWNERS

Learn how to control out-of-control invasive vegetation on your forest property.

Practical, hands-on training by foresters and natural resource professionals.

Topics:

- Assessing your invasive plant problem – species, size, amount
- Three pillars of invasive management – prevention, early detection, strategic management of existing infestations.
- What are your control options and deciding which methods are best for your situation.
- Herbicides? Which to use, how to read the label, calculating rates, how to mix, application methods and techniques, timing, safety, laws and regulations.
- Funding and technical assistance
- Hiring a contractor
- Set your goals and objectives. Put it all together in a plan.

Saturday, September 9
9AM-5PM

Southern Indiana Purdue
Ag Center
11371 Purdue Farm Rd,
Dubois, IN

Lunch Provided

See First Hand Results of
Invasive Species Control
Practices

Hands on! Practical!

Registration:

Cost \$25
Make Checks Payable to:
Dubois County SWCD

Register By Sept 1st

Contact:
Veronica Helming
1486 Executive Blvd. Suite A
Jasper, IN 47546 812-482-
1171, Ext. 3
duboisswcd@gmail.com

In Cooperation With:



17TH ANNUAL Midwest Hair Sheep Sale

Washington Co. Fairgrounds - Salem, IN
Buyers & Consignments Wanted
1:00 P.M. EDT October 7, 2023
Open to all Registered & Commercial Hair Sheep born prior to 4/15/23.
Consignment fee of \$15 per head paid with consignment form prior to 9/2/23. **Fees are non-refundable.**
No late consignments accepted. No substitutions allowed after 9/2/23.
Each consignor may consign individual ewes, 2 individual rams, 2 Pens of Ewes and 2 Starter Flocks. A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection is required. A health inspection committee must also approve consignments prior to unloading on sale day. Registration transfer fees paid by seller.
• Visit www.extension.purdue.edu/washington or Washington County Sheep Association on Facebook for additional information.

Sponsored by Washington Co. Sheep Assoc.
Aaron Walker - 812-620-3356
Jason Webster - 812-725-5700
Wash. Co. Extension Office - 812-883-4601
Concessions available on sale day!



Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service is an equal access/equal opportunity institution

PERSIMMONS

RICHARD A. HAYDEN | PURDUE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE

The persimmon is native to the southeastern United States and grows wild over much of southern Indiana. But, occasionally individual plants are found in northern Indiana. While native persimmons are not widely cultivated commercially, the fruit is prized by southern Indiana residents as a real delicacy, both fresh and in persimmon dishes such as persimmon pudding. The trees are often grown in home fruit gardens to provide a ready supply of fruit in the fall. The wood is extremely dense, hard and uniform in texture. Its property of becoming and staying very smooth and polished under continued wear make it prized in use in shuttles for textile weaving. Its smoothness, density and resistance to mechanical shock make it very desirable for golf club heads. A small amount of the wood is used in veneer for furniture.

About The Tree

The native persimmon is botanically known as *Diospyros virginiana*. The species is native throughout the lower midwest and the southeastern states. It is known to be hardy to temperatures of 20 to 25° below zero without apparent winter injury. The native persimmon is a small tree, but may often reach a height of 40 to 50 feet and occasionally even larger under ideal conditions. The tree has a round topped head and a spreading form with often pendulous branches. The leaves are oval or elliptical, tapered, shiny on the upper side and smooth or finely hairy underneath. The leaves are 3 to 6 inches long. The bark is a dark gray-black and is attractively and deeply fissured. The greenish yellow flowers are borne on very short stalks. The staminate (male) flowers are usually borne in threes; are about 1/4 to 1/3 inches long, and contain usually 16 stamens. The pistillate (female) flowers are borne singly, ranging 1/2 to 3/4 inches in length with four two-lobed styles.



About The Fruit

The fruit of the native persimmon is round or oval, resembling some plum varieties. The calyx becomes much enlarged and is considered quite decorative. The fruit color is usually orange, ranging to black, and the skin usually has a heavy waxy bloom. Fruit size is quite variable, ranging from 1/2 inch diameter to 1-1/2 to 2 inches in the better varieties or selections. The flavor and quality is also variable, ranging anywhere from a flat, insipid flavor to good, sweet, quite delectable quality. In most cases the flesh is very pungent and astringent, and until the fruit is soft ripe it will pucker the mouth. But fully ripe persimmons are sweet and mellow. However, the idea that frost is required before persimmon fruit become edible is incorrect. Many varieties, including some of the best, lose their “pucker-power” as they become ripe long before frost has a chance to do its work. Native persimmons have from one to ten large brown, smooth seeds 1/3 to 1/2 inches long. Occasionally seedless forms occur, and several of these are propagated as varieties.



To read more, visit: www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2016/10/HO-108.pdf

RESEARCHERS DISCOVER YOUNG HELLBENDER IN BLUE RIVER

JULY 31, 2023 | INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Biologists with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Purdue University recently documented a very young hellbender salamander, a gilled larva, in the Blue River while conducting routine surveys in south-central Indiana. This discovery is significant because over the past three to four decades, only adult hellbenders have been documented in the Blue River. The presence of a young salamander suggests that conservation efforts and rearing programs are accomplishing their goals for the recovery of this endangered species.



The hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis*) is a large, fully aquatic salamander. Hellbenders do not reach sexual maturity until they are 7-8 years old and require specific habitats to thrive and reproduce. Their decline statewide has been documented as far back as the early-to-mid 1900s as a result of habitat loss and poor water quality. Hellbenders play an important role in aquatic ecosystems and are indicators of clean water.

Finding hellbender larvae is a huge benchmark of the program's success," said DNR's Nate Engbrecht, the state herpetologist. "It tells us that there has been successful breeding, hatching, and recruitment in the wild. It's a wonderful sign that captive-reared and released hellbenders are doing what we want them to do at this site."

The hellbender found by Engbrecht and Purdue hellbender program coordinator Nick Burgmeier was a gilled larva measuring 6.5 centimeters in total length with a 5 centimeter snout-vent length. Based on its size, this animal is estimated to be eight months old.

While hellbender larvae may have been found by fisherman while seining over the years, none have been officially reported to the state herpetologist or to fisheries biologists of the Indiana DNR. The last documented juvenile was reported by William H. Kern Jr. in 1983.

In the event anglers accidentally hook a hellbender, they are reminded to cut the line, let the salamander go unharmed and report the sighting to a natural resource professional.

The importance of the larval sighting is that it shows that the Help the Hellbender partnership's conservation efforts, breeding and rearing programs are trending in a positive direction.

"Our early research on the lack of reproduction and recruitment indicated it was most likely the result of low population numbers," said Dr. Rod Williams, director of the Help the Hellbender lab at Purdue. "For the past 12 years, Purdue and zoo partners have worked tirelessly to rear and release animals back into the wild, increase population sizes, and ultimately the chance for natural breeding. This finding, the result of nearly two decades of collective effort, signifies a milestone for our conservation program. While we have much left to do, we have evidence our approach is working."



RESEARCHERS DISCOVER YOUNG HELLBENDER IN BLUE RIVER: *Continued*

The Indiana Hellbender Partnership is a collaboration between the Indiana DNR and Purdue University with funding support from the Indiana DNR Nongame Wildlife Fund, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and partners in local governments, universities, non-governmental organizations, and zoos that are working to recover the state-endangered hellbender. Developed over 15 years, the Indiana Hellbender Partnership is the largest and most comprehensive group working to recover an imperiled amphibian in Indiana.

"The partnership has grown from just Purdue, the IDNR and a couple of zoos rearing hellbenders to a diverse group of Indiana and surrounding states' best conservation minds collectively providing input to advance hellbender conservation," Burgmeier said. "The Nature Conservancy, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Indiana DNR and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts among others have really helped push the partnership towards its goal of restoring hellbender populations in the region."



For much of the last 17 years, Williams and his team have been researching eastern hellbenders, spearheading regional conservation efforts and advancing hellbender captive propagation, or the rearing of this ancient animal in captivity and their eventual return to the wild.

Since 2017, Purdue University's Help the Hellbender Lab and its conservation partners have reared and released nearly 500 juvenile hellbenders into the Blue River.

Williams' hellbender lab is actively collaborating with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife, The Nature Conservancy, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and multiple Indiana zoos, as well as several other partners across 13 states on a number of conservation projects and educational opportunities for teachers and children, farmers and more.

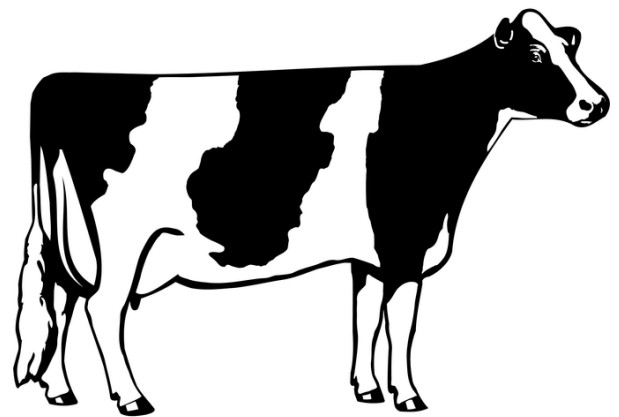
The "Farmers Helping Hellbenders" project, led by Williams and Burgmeier was selected in August 2022 to receive \$2.7 million in funding through the RCCP Classic fund. The project aims to improve hellbender habitat in a four-county region in south central Indiana, the only remaining habitat for hellbenders in the state, by expanding the use of agricultural conservation practices that lead to decreased sedimentation in local rivers systems. Williams talks more about hellbenders and the project in this YouTube video.

The Williams lab and its partners will continue their hellbender conservation efforts through a new grant "Expanding Hellbender Recovery in Indiana" through a nearly \$940,000 grant from the Indiana DNR. The project, which is slated to last from July 2023 through the summer of 2027, will result in the release of more than 500 animals back into the Blue River. The project will also expand releases into a new waterway as efforts continue to restore hellbenders throughout suitable habitat within the state.

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Harrison County
247 Atwood Street
Corydon, IN 47112

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ANR Newsletter



Extension - Harrison County

Over the Back Fence

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Newsletter

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Extension Educator
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Rebecca Wilkins
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Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development

Tara Beckman
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Floyd, Clark, and Harrison Counties

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