

# Over the Back Fence

## *Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Newsletter*

### Fall Sweet Fall

As the leaves start to change colors, gardens start to wilt, and crops are getting ready to be harvested; these are a sign that fall is here. This summer has brought a lot of unpredictable weather from hot temperatures to an abundance of rain. In agriculture, no matter the challenge or obstacle, everyone will persevere and keep going for what lies ahead.

I hope this past summer everyone was able to attend county fairs, state fairs, and local farmer's markets to see the showcase of Harrison County agriculture. It is truly amazing to see the amount of people who have a passion for agriculture and natural resources and being able to share knowledge and goods with each other.

I am very excited to see what fall brings. Be on the lookout for upcoming programs occurring throughout the year.

As always, if you have any questions, or ideas for programs which would benefit the county, please let me know!

Aniel Camm-Wilson







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## Ag Spotlight

Thank you to our 4-H youth who participated in a livestock project! You are the future of the agriculture industry!

The Harrison County 4-H Agriculture Fair and Indiana State Fair are now complete.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped to showcase agriculture in our county. Thank you to everyone who came to enjoy the variety of fair fun.

Whether it was watching 4-H livestock shows, viewing the 4-H Exhibit Hall and Homecomers Hall projects, grabbing a steak from the Cattlemen’s booth, or simply enjoying some delicious fair food, we appreciate that you came to have a good time and view all of the agricultural aspects the fair has to offer each year.

We hope to see EVERYONE next year for even more fun at the Harrison County 4-H and Agriculture Fair.





# FEATURED EVENT: PARP



## AREA 2 PESTICIDE APPLICATOR PROGRAM

Thursday, November 6, 2025

Obtain Private (PARP) and Commercial Applicator Credits:

CAT RT - 3 CCH Credits

CAT 1, 11 - 2 CCH Credits

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

- **OISC Update and Regulatory Topic - Nathan Davis & Mitch Trimble, OISC employees**
- **Row Crop Weed Management and Optimizing Spray Drones - Tommy Butts, Purdue Weed Science Specialist**

### **PURDUE EXTENSION CRAWFORD COUNTY**

**9:00 - 11:00 am**

Crawford County Fairgrounds

1095 IN-66

Marengo, IN 47140

**Info or RSVP: Molley Hasenour**

812-338-5466 or

scott422@purdue.edu

### **PURDUE EXTENSION WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**1:00 - 3:00 pm**

Washington County Extension Office

806 Martinsburg Rd, Suite 104

Salem, IN 47167

**Info or RSVP: Danielle Walker**

812-883-4601 or

dhowellw@purdue.edu

### **PURDUE EXTENSION SCOTT COUNTY**

**6:00 - 8:00 pm**

Scott County Fairgrounds

710 Fairgrounds Rd

Scottsburg, IN 47170

**Info or RSVP: Tom Springstun**

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 3, 2025, 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](mailto:tsprings@purdue.edu) by Monday, November 3, 2025.



# ANR RECAP

## Outdoor Explorers Nature Camp



On July 22, 2025 over ten youth attended Nature Camp and learned about invasive plants, native flowers, tree identification, relaxing in nature, and making compost. The day was filled with fun and education!



## Ag 101

A group of six adults attended Ag 101 at the Corydon Library, where participants were introduced to the six key areas of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) within Extension: Animal Science, Diversified Food and Farming Systems, Farm Management, Field Crops, Horticulture, and Natural Resources. Each sector was explored in detail, providing attendees with valuable insights into the wide range of agricultural topics. The program served as a great opportunity for individuals to broaden their knowledge and understanding of agriculture.





# ANR Community Garden Recap

As part of Purdue Extension's commitment to education and support, a recent program brought together hands-on learning, garden education, and health-focused resources in the garden. Adult participants took part in an interactive garden walk and informative presentations led by Extension staff.

Ariel Camm-Wilson, ANR Educator, kicked things off with a discussion on common plant diseases and insect issues that were present on the plants in the garden. She shared how to identify these problems early, provided potential treatment suggestions, and emphasized early detection. She also introduced the idea of cool season crops, sharing tips on planting times based on local frost dates and recommending varieties best suited for the raised beds.

Following Ariel's segment, Tara Beckman, Health and Human Sciences and Community Development Educator, and Cindy Finerfrock, Nutrition Education Program Advisor, led a "Harvest to Health" session. They shared nutrition tips and resources like EatGatherGo.org, provided guidance on garden-to-table cooking and produce storage to reduce waste, and demonstrated how to make a fresh zucchini salad with a zesty lemon vinaigrette. This no-cook recipe was a perfect reminder of how easy and delicious it can be to bring freshly washed produce straight from the garden to the table.



## Invasive Species Series

The second of the three-part invasive species series was held July 28th at the Extension Office. Kaila Laplace, State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management Regional Specialist, led the class in discussion on tree of heaven, Japanese honeysuckle, and mimosa trees.





# FIELD DAY

Over 50 attendees from eight counties participated in the Harrison County Cattlemen's Field Day on Saturday, August 23rd.

Charlie Sieberns, Farm Operator, discussed their farm operation and the techniques they use.

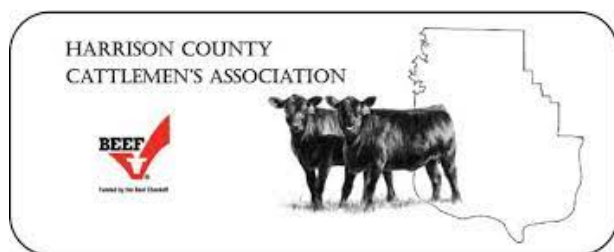
Cheryl Miller, BOAH District 5 Vet, discussed High Path Avian Influenza, Traceability of Beef Cattle and New World Screwworm.

Jason Tower, Superintendent, Southern Indiana Purdue Ag Center, discussed toxic weeds harmful to cattle in pastures, identifying weeds, and life cycle of weeds.

Robert Zupancic, Southeast Area Grazing Specialist, discussed soil health in pastures by minimizing disturbances, living roots to break up soil compaction, and not grazing too short.

Ariel Camm-Wilson, Purdue Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, spoke about the services and programs that are offered to assist with agriculture and natural resources to community members.

Cattlemen's members cooked a lunch with ribeyes and hotdogs. This was a great event for cattle farmers to learn from one another and ways to improve their overall herds.





## Upcoming ANR Events



Extension - Agriculture  
and Natural Resources



### Sheep & Goat Management Seminar

🐏 Basic Animal Care

🐏 Parasite Control

🐏 Land Management

**October 9, 2025 at 6pm**

**At Purdue Extension Office, 247 Atwood Street, Corydon**

*A free program*

RSVP not required but appreciated

Youth must be accompanied by an adult

### Invasive Species Series

**October 20 at 6PM**

**at Harrison County Purdue Extension 247 Atwood St. Corydon, IN**

Join Kaila Laplace, State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives  
Management Regional Specialist for the third of the three-part series.

**RSVP to 812-738-4236**



# Annie's Project



## ANNIE'S PROJECT

EMPOWERING WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE



**Our mission: To empower women in agriculture to be successful through education, networks, and resources.**

### Why Annie's Project?

This six-week course is a discussion-based workshop bringing everyone together to learn from experts in production, financial management, human resources, marketing and the legal field. Each session offers time for questions, sharing, reacting and connecting with presenters and fellow participants.

The classes are a relaxed, fun and a dynamic way to learn, grow and connect with other women in agriculture.

**Tuesday Evenings from 6pm-9pm  
September 30<sup>th</sup> thru November 4<sup>th</sup>  
Purdue Extension Harrison County  
247 Atwood St. Corydon, IN 47112**

- **Light Snacks will be provided with each class.**
- **Anyone 18 years or older can attend!**
- **Registration is required.**

To register please call the Purdue Extension Harrison County Office at 812-738-4236 or email [camm@purdue.edu](mailto:camm@purdue.edu) by September 22<sup>nd</sup> as space is limited.

**Only \$60 for all six sessions!**



Extension - Agriculture  
and Natural Resources

### Annie's Project

#### September 30<sup>th</sup>

- Welcome and Introductions
- Overview of Annie's Project
- Real Colors

#### October 7<sup>th</sup>

- Drones in Ag
- Farm Insurance

#### October 14<sup>th</sup>

- Land Leasing
- Code Red
- Farm Stress
- Round Table Discussions

#### October 21<sup>st</sup>

- Succession Planning
- Local Organizations

#### October 28<sup>th</sup>

- Grain Marketing
- Crop Insurance

#### November 4<sup>th</sup>

- Beef Cattle Operations and Marketing
- End of Course Reflection and Celebration

If you are in need of accommodations to attend this program, please contact Ariel prior to the program at 812-738-4236 or [camm@purdue.edu](mailto:camm@purdue.edu) by September 22, 2025. If you need an interpreter or translator, please contact Ariel prior to the meeting at 812-738-4236 or [camm@purdue.edu](mailto:camm@purdue.edu) by September 22, 2025. For special dietary needs please contact Ariel at [camm@purdue.edu](mailto:camm@purdue.edu) or 812-738-4236 by September 22, 2025.

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# OTHER ANR INFORMATION

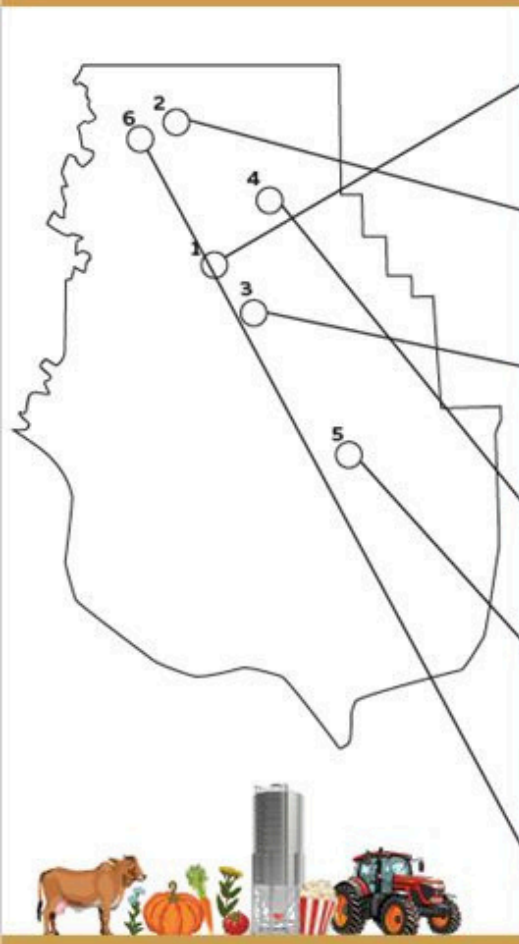
## Harrison County Farm Tour

Saturday, September 20, 2025 9am-6pm



### HARRISON COUNTY FARM TOUR

Bring this map with you to each stop on the tour, then fill in each circle after you visit that location. Visit and mark all locations, then turn in a completed tour map to the Harrison County Farm Bureau office in Corydon (270 Federal Dr. NW, Suite 1, Corydon, IN 47112) in-person or via mail by Oct. 1 to be entered to win a RTIC cooler filled with local produce, meat and more!



1. **Fulkerson Farms - Fall Flowers**  
Open 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
5796 Corydon Ramsey Road NW  
Ramsey, IN 47166


2. **Lunch at McAfee Brothers Farms - Grain and Equipment**  
Lunch: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Sponsored by Indiana Farm Bureau)  
Lunch will be served by the Harrison County Cattlemen's Association.  
12345 North Road  
Depauw, IN 47115

3. **Gypsy Rain Organics - Produce, CFA's**  
Open 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
3470 Old SR-135  
Corydon, IN 47112

4. **Otherwise Farm - Sheep Production**  
Open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
1345 W. Whiskey Run Road NE  
New Salisbury, IN 47161

5. **Schoen Family Farms - Popcorn Production**  
Popcorn talk at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.  
Sponsored by Preferred Popcorn.  
830 St. Peters Church Road SE  
Corydon, IN 47112

6. **Churchill Farms - Local Beef Production and Sales**  
Open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
4880 Adams Road NW  
Depauw, IN 47115



An illustration at the bottom of the map section showing a brown cow, a pumpkin, a red tractor, and a red and white striped cooler.

### National Cattlemen's Beef Association Redbooks

The Redbook is a pocket-sized record book containing more than 100 pages to record calving activity, herd health, pasture usage, cattle inventory, AI breeding and sales, plus a date book and notes section. The book also includes Beef Quality Assurance national guidelines and proper injection technique information. Available while supplies last.





# AG EDUCATION & INFORMATION

## Red Crown Rot Showing Up in Indiana Soybean Fields

Red crown rot in soybeans has been far more common in southern states, but its appearance in the Midwest is still a relatively recent development, having been detected in Indiana for the first time in 2022.

“This is a warning for everybody across the state,” says Darcy Telenko, Purdue Field Crop Pathologist, “that where you think you might have sudden death syndrome, SDS, in your field, I want you to check it this season. Because it may not be SDS, or it may not only be SDS. It might be red crown rot, and we’re trying to document that in the state.”

Telenko says red crown rot is difficult to diagnose because the symptoms are nearly identical to other diseases like sudden death syndrome and brown stem rot. She shared this conversation with Purdue Extension’s ‘Soybean Shaun’ Casteel on the latest Purdue Crop Chat podcast.



“The problem is they all turn and have similar foliar symptoms as we reach the reproductive stages. We have some of our plots where we’ve targeted SDS and inoculated. We’ve seen some of the bright yellow flecking occur already early. So, initially, some of those leaves may have yellow flecking and then eventually those lesions are going to coalesce, and you have leaf veins that are green and then brown, dead tissue between”

Telenko says there’s nothing that can be done now to mitigate red crown rot this season, but you need to know if it’s there.

“You have to know to figure out where we’re going, how we’re going to manage it going forward. If we’re looking at making variety selections or maybe even seed treatments to try to protect that, but those are things you need to do beforehand. We can’t do anything now.”

As of Thursday afternoon, red crown rot had been detected in 8 Indiana counties: DeKalb, Allen, Adams, Rush, Decatur, Bartholomew, Knox, and Spencer. Hear more from Telenko in the Purdue Crop Chat below or wherever you listen to podcasts.



# Japanese Chaff Flower

By Kaila Laplace, Regional Specialist State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management

Japanese Chaff Flower (*Achyranthes japonica*) is an invasive species that is spreading across southern Indiana fast. It is spread by water, wildlife, and people who get the seeds stuck in their shoes and clothes. Chaff Flower thrives in a variety of habitats including wetlands, roadsides, ditches, field edges, and gardens. Land managers and property owners are concerned about this plant because of how fast it forms dense monocultures that negatively impact native plant communities, biodiversity, and water quality. You can identify this perennial herbaceous plant by its opposite leaves with smooth edges and prominent arching veins. The stems are square with nodes that turn bright red in the fall. Small green flowers occur in a bottlebrush-like spike that turns into seeds as they mature. Seeds have two stiff bracts that allow them to stick in fur and clothing very easily. Chaff Flower will die back in the fall leaving behind yellow to tan stems.



The 19th Annual Midwest Hair Sheep Sale is Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025, at the Washington County Fairgrounds (118 Fair St., Salem, IN 47167) at 1 p.m. The Washington County Sheep Association is accepting consignments until Saturday, Sept. 6, 2025 on the required Consignment Form with payment.

For questions contact Jason Webster, Wash. Co. Sheep Assoc. President, at 812-725-5700 or [jason@greenpastures.farm](mailto:jason@greenpastures.farm) or Purdue Extension-Wash. Co. at 812-883-4601 or [dhowellw@purdue.edu](mailto:dhowellw@purdue.edu).



For complete details visit: <https://www.morningagclips.com/midwest-hair-sheep-sale-consignments/>



# Why test soil in the fall?

By: Brent Crain, Michigan State University Extension

Soil testing is a best practice recommended by Michigan State University Extension to optimize agronomic, economic and environmental outcomes from fertilizer practices. MSU Extension recommends that soil be tested every two to four years. Nutrient levels vary by season. To accurately assess changes in soil nutrient levels, it is important to test soil at the same time of year. There are several reasons why testing in fall might be preferable to testing in spring.

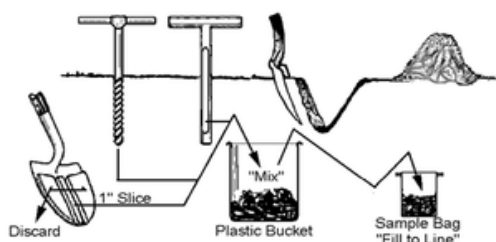
There is more time available in the fall to collect soil samples and make fertilizer decisions compared to spring. Based on the soil analysis, fall season allows additional time to think about upcoming management decisions. Farmers usually apply phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) fertilizer in the fall when there is more time and equipment available and soil compaction is less of a concern. This simplifies spring operations and streamlines planting.

On soils with optimum fertility levels, field research has shown that fall applications of P and K would be equally effective compared to a spring application prior to corn and soybean planting. For winter wheat, all the P and K requirements are best applied at fall planting. Also, dry fertilizers can be safely and quickly applied in the fall. Some tillage will help ensure nutrients are placed below the soil surface. This will help reduce stratification and lower the concentration of dissolved P in the runoff water.

Weather conditions typically are more favorable for collecting soil samples as compared to spring. It is often easier to get into the field after harvest in the fall. Fields are often too wet in the spring, when Michigan's unpredictable weather conditions can force postponement or even abandonment of soil testing for that year.

Fall offers the best opportunity to apply lime as it provides more time to neutralize soil acidity. The soil test results should indicate the soil pH and if lime is needed to rectify excess acidity. Long-term experiments in Michigan have shown that liming will improve nutrient availability and generate a good return for investment.

Based on the soil test results, fertilizer can be purchased prior to the end of the year. Fertilizer is often cheaper in the fall compared to spring when demand is high. Also, purchasing fertilizer prior to the end of the year could potentially have favorable tax implications. Soil testing laboratories are less busy. Generally, soil testing laboratories are busier in spring than fall, as a majority of farmers, gardeners and homeowners wait until spring to test their soil. Therefore, the turnaround time in the spring may be much longer. A longer wait for soil testing results may force delays in fertilizer timing.



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



# Soil Sampling



Extension - Harrison County

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

## SOIL SAMPLING

### SUBMITTING TO A&L LABS

#### BASIC ANALYSIS

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

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



**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.

### HOW TO TAKE THE SAMPLE

**First**, using a sample probe, (available for loan at our office) spade, trowel or long knife, dig 6-8 inches deep for gardens, shrubs or trees and 3-4 inches for turf. Sample different areas of the turf, garden or landscape separately. Choose 8-10 locations to extract soil from (more if its a large area). Discard any surface residue, thatch or stone.

**Second**, combine the samples in a bucket and mix well. Transfer 1-2 cups of the mixed sample to our provided bag or a plastic bag. Label the bag with location, the address and your contact information.

**Finally**, drop your soil sample at the extension office with your payment (we can only accept cash or check), we'll take care of the rest. We can email your results, call you for pickup or mail them. Let us know your preferred method.

Purdue Extension  
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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- Agriculture and Natural Resources

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