

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 1/1/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: We often hear the term “conventional agriculture”, but with so many advancements in technology, farmers of all shapes and sizes are far from conventional compared to just a few decades ago. One of the newest trends in agriculture is growing food “vertically”. 80 Acres Farms, located in southwest Ohio, is taking that approach. They are the world's first fully automated indoor farm, capable of producing an abundance of crop varieties year-round. No soil, no pests and complete control of the environment 24/7. On the next Our Ohio Weekly, find out how vertical farming works and how it will fit into the future of American agriculture?

Guests - Rebecca Haders, vice president of creative and marketing for 80 Acres Farms

Chieri Kubota, professor of controlled environment agriculture at Ohio State University's College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences' Department of Horticulture and Crop Science.

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 1/8/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these past two years have been anything but normal. However, while most of the world was put on pause, farmers never stopped working and neither did their associations. Along with Ohio Farm Bureau, organizations like the Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Association and Ohio Soybean Association continue to advocate for trade policies that work for Ohio farmers, as well as monitor water quality and biofuel legislation, engage legislators and regulators, and talk with our farmer members. On this Our Ohio Weekly, hear from leaders of Ohio's corn, wheat and soybean groups.

Guests - Tadd Nicholson, Executive Director, Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Association

Kirk Merritt, Executive Director, Ohio Soybean Association

Jay Truitt, CEO, Policy Matters

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 1/15/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: The first part of a new year is always a great time to reflect on the past 12 months and set goals for the next 12. What went right, what went wrong and what did we learn? This week on Our Ohio Weekly, we ask those questions from an agricultural perspective and get the answers from an economist, an agronomist and an agribusiness leader.

Guests - Dr. Roger Cryan - Chief Economist, American Farm Bureau

Chris Henney – President and CEO, Ohio Agribusiness Association

John Brien – Eastern Agronomy Manager, AgriGold

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 1/22/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: Earlier this month, the American Farm Bureau Federation hosted their 103rd Annual Convention. Members from across the country traveled to Atlanta, Georgia to celebrate successes of 2021 and set the organization's priorities for 2022. Some VIPs also took part in the event, including AFBF President Zippy Duvall and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, to share their expectations for farmers for this year and further into the future.

Guests - American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 1/29/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: An Ohio State University study found that 1 million Ohioans – nearly 12% – can't get high-speed internet or are underserved where they live. Only 61% of rural residents have access to broadband. Rural Ohioans' quality of life depends on technology. Whether it be for education, business, health care, or technology on the farm, our need for reliable internet access is critical. The Ohio Broadband Expansion Program is hoping to change that trend, but will it be enough?

Guests - Tom Reid, Broadband Consultant with Reid Consulting Group
Jenna Reese, Director of State Policy, Ohio Farm Bureau

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 2/5/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: There is always a lot to take in at the Ohio Farm Bureau Young Agricultural Professionals Winter Leadership Experience, with plenty of educational seminars, resources for new and beginning farmers and an abundance of networking opportunities. At the event last weekend in Cincinnati, attendees also got some education and advice from a panel of more seasoned farmers. On this Our Ohio Weekly, hear some of their advice to younger farmers.

Guests - Steve Hirsch, a fifth-generation owner of Hirsch Fruit Farm in Ross County and board member for Nationwide
Rose Hartschuh, an Ohio Farm Bureau board member who operates a dairy and raises grain crops, alfalfa and cover crops in Northwest Ohio.

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 2/12/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: What started as an unprecedented meeting between members of American Farm Bureau and America's cattle organizations has turned into meaningful legislation that is looking to dramatically change how cattle are marketed. These changes would give more transparency to the process and more income for the farmer. On this week's Our Ohio Weekly, we talk about the issues involving cattle marketing and what is being done in Washington D.C. to give livestock producers a more fair market in the future.

Guests - Scott Bennett, Director of Congressional Relations with American Farm Bureau
Brandon Kern, senior director of state and national policy for Ohio Farm Bureau
Dr. Juan Leon, Chief of the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Division of Meat Inspection

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 2/19/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: The average Ohio farm real estate value, including land and buildings, averaged \$6,600 per acre last year, according to the National Ag Statistics Service. That's a 3.9 percent increase from 2020. Ohio's cropland value was \$6,800, an increase of 5.3 percent from the previous year and pasture values in the Buckeye State were up 2.1 percent from 2020 at \$3,440 per acre. On this Our Ohio Weekly, find out what has caused this spike in land values and if the bubble will pop anytime soon.

Guests - Randy Dickhut, senior vice president of real estate operations with Farmers National Company
Chip Carpenter, Auctioneer/Broker at United Country Real Estate & Auction Services

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 2/26/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: According to the USDA Economic Research Service, food-at-home prices increased 3.5 percent and food-away-from-home prices increased 4.5 percent in 2021. That trend looks to continue throughout this year with the food we eat at home predicted to increase between 1.5 and 2.5 percent, and food-away-from-home prices are predicted to increase between 3.5 and 4.5 percent. This, of course, has an impact on every American in a different way, but why are food prices so high and what types of food items are being affected the most? On this Our Ohio Weekly, we talk about food prices and inflation.

Guests - Dr. Zoë Plakias, Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics at Ohio State's College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 3/5/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: Ohio Farm Bureau keeps close tabs on many things that may impact their members and their way of life. Most of the time that would be proposed legislation or regulation, but we also keep tabs on litigation at the local, state and federal levels. At Farm Bureau's recent Ag Day at the Capital, nearly 350 members traveled to Columbus to visit with lawmakers and were invited to a special panel to hear from some very important people, including Supreme Court Justices Pat DeWine and Patrick Fischer, for an inside look at the workings of the highest court in Ohio.

Guests - Ohio Supreme Court Justices Pat DeWine and Patrick Fischer

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 3/12/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: From Waters of the U.S., to the Enlist ban, to the Renewable Fuels Standard, EPA has ruffled quite a few feathers in agriculture lately. As those challenges come, organizations like Farm Bureau jump in and join in the conversation to make sure the agency has all of the information needed when new ideas that may have an impact on farmers across the country are introduced. On the next Our Ohio Weekly, find out about new policies being put forth by the EPA and what Farm Bureau is doing to help them make sure their rules make sense for everyone involved.

Guests - Ryan Yates, Managing Director of Public Policy with American Farm Bureau
Brandon Kern, Senior Director of State and National Policy with Ohio Farm Bureau

Our Ohio Weekly

Aired on WJAW-FM 3/19/2022, 6 am

Show synopsis: Some important deadlines are looming for farmers wanting to join the nearly 2,000 already signed up for the H2Ohio water quality program. To date, over 1 million acres have Voluntary Nutrient Management Plans, a key component of H2Ohio. This week, we visit with the Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Dorothy Pelanda, to find out more about the initiative, and other important items, like food security and their work with county fairs, that fall under the purview of ODA.

Guests - Dorothy Pelanda, Director, Ohio Department of Agriculture

Show synopsis: Last month, the Ohio Agriculture Conservation Initiative released their findings of the 2021 Assessment Survey Report on practices being used by farmers in the Lower Maumee watershed to manage water and nutrients. The survey results establish a baseline of adoption for various farming practices in the Lower Maumee watershed. The information will allow for a more targeted approach to help increase some practices, while also displaying that some practices are already adopted at an adequate level. What do the results tell us? What are farmers doing right and what could be improved to protect soil and water? On this Our Ohio Weekly, learn about the entire report.

Guests - Kris Swartz, farmer and Chair, Ohio Agriculture Conservation Initiative
Jordan Hoewischer, Director of Water Quality and Research, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Dr. John Fulton, Professor and Extension Specialist, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University