Good Morning! This is Debbie Brown, Ag and Natural Resources Educator for OSU Extension, Shelby County. Well, I have to say it’s been an interesting summer!! I feel like I’ve lost most/all of July and August: A broken wrist in July slowed me down a bit, but shoulder surgery for a detached bicep tendon (non-fixable) and a rotator cuff tear really put the skids on for August!! And, it sounds like most of September, too. Yes, I’m back to work, but . . .

The worst part is I’m not supposed to do anything with that arm! I’m tryin’, but it’s really tuff with grandkids that want to be picked up, boxes and bags to haul, and other stuff that needs to be done. And then there was the trip to the barn yesterday morning to feed and finding SirLoin in an area \*not\* on his “housing” list! I thought it was rather odd that Happy Meal met me at the gate; turns out “Houdini” ended up in the pen on the far end. Yep, I found and fixed the hole in the fence . . .

**Mercer County** is holding a three-hour **FertCert Training** next Tuesday, September 6th at the Wright State University Lake Campus from 6p-9p. This program provides the training for certification to apply commercial fertilizer to 50 acres or more for those who do not presently hold a pesticide applicator license. Contact Denny Riethman at 419.586.2179 for registration.

The last of the **2016 Lawn and Gardening Talks** will be held on Wednesday, September 14th at the OSU Extension office in Celina. This month’s topic will deal with Lawn Care Practices and Garden Clean-Up and Winter Prep. Steve Knapke with the Helena Chemical Company will be the presenter. As before this meeting will begin at 6p. Contact Denny Riethman at 419.586.2179 to let him know you’re planning to attend.

On Sunday, September 18th is the **2016 Shelby County Farm Tour**. This bi-annual event will be held from 1-5p and includes visits to three farms and a crop research site in southeastern Shelby County. In addition, UD’s “River Mobile” will be located at the Fairlawn School. This River Mobile highlights the history, benefits, and preservation of the Great Miami River watershed and will include hands-on activities and crafts for all visitors.

Tour participants will able to see baby calves and the milking of dairy cows (at about 4:15p) at the Dell Delight Farms on Johnston Slagle Rd., a 300,000 bushel grain storage facility and state-of-the-art farm machinery at the Everett Family Farm on Suber Rd., and beef cattle and sheep grazing in a managed forage system at the Voress Family Farm on Bulle Rd. Bambauer Fertilizer and Seed will be showcasing their Research Farm which they use to examine products and practices to further the ag industry. This is located on SR 706.

Refreshments from one of the Shelby County Ag Groups (Dairy Boosters, Cattlemen’s Association, Pork Producers) will be available at the various sites. We have fliers in our office with maps and info on each of the stops. You can also contact the Farm Bureau Office at (877) 775-7642 for additional information.

Well, **Farm Science Review** is coming soon: Tuesday through Thursday, September 20-22!! (Yeah, I know it sounds far off, but it’s only two and a half weeks away!!) We do have tickets for sale in our county extension offices for $7 (vs the $10 at the gate). So, why go?? The Review’s got a bit of Something for Everyone!!

At the Gwynne Conservation Area, you have the opportunity to learn about invasive species, trees and taxes, pollinators and native plants, things you should consider before selling your timber, low-impact logging, managing diseases on trees and shrubs, managing aquatic vegetation, and so much more!! And then there’s the Small Farm Center, Ask an Expert, Utzinger Memorial Garden, Health and Home Safety, Field Demonstrations, Ag Safety and Health, Ag Law Office, and the Aquaponics Exhibit, plus more!! Hours are 8a to 5p September 20th and 21st and 8a to 4p September 22nd. You can find details at [fsr.osu.edu](http://fsr.osu.edu/).

Well, the kids are making progress on the farm house. Stanley’s hoping to have them moved in by Thanksgiving. The upstairs is mostly done and they plan to move furniture up there this weekend so they can start working on the first floor. \*That\* renovation will take awhile!!

Catch ya later! ‘Bye!!