



Ohio Department of Agriculture Director James Zehringer (center) welcomes state, federal, and local leaders to the Spring 2011 Planting Season Assessment Meeting. Panelists (left to right) include: Terry Cosby, United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service state conservationist; Ted Lozier, Ohio Division of Soil & Water Resources chief; Fayette County farmer and State Representative Bob Peterson; David Hall, Chairman, Ohio House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee; Fred Shimp, Ohio Department of Agriculture assistant director; James Ramey, National Agricultural Statistics Service Ohio Field Office director; Lisa Schacht, Ohio Produce Growers & Marketers Association president; Peter Thomison, Ohio State University Agronomist; and Barry Ward, Ohio State University Agricultural Economist.



More than 40 Ohio agricultural stakeholders gathered on May 26 to hear the assessment of spring planting conditions, hear discussions about the impact it will have on Ohio farmers, and receive updates on available resources for assistance.



Ohio Division of Soil & Water Resources Chief Ted Lozier (standing) gives an update on the impact on soil resources and assistance available to farmers. Also pictured (left to right), Terry Cosby, United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service state conservationist; Fayette County farmer and State Representative Bob Peterson; and David Hall, Chairman, Ohio House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee.



Ohio Department of Agriculture Director James Zehringer (right) moderates the meeting. Pictured (left to right): Ted Lozier, Ohio Division of Soil & Water Resources chief; Fayette County farmer and State Representative Bob Peterson; David Hall, Chairman, Ohio House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee; and Steve Maurer, United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency state director.



David Hall, Chairman, Ohio House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee, addresses the group. Also pictured (left to right): Fayette County farmer and State Representative Bob Peterson, and Ohio Department of Agriculture Director James Zehringer.



Fayette County farmer and State Representative Bob Peterson gives a farmer's perspective on current conditions and potential impacts from wet weather conditions. Also pictured (left to right): David Hall, Chairman, Ohio House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee; Steve Maurer, United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency state director; and (standing) Ohio Department of Agriculture Director James Zehringer.



Lisa Schacht, produce grower and Ohio Produce Growers & Marketers Association president, gives a farmer's perspective on current conditions and potential weather impacts.