50th Anniversary

1976-2026

2026 Association of Ohio Pedologists (AOP) Fall Workshop

From the Field to the Screen: Investigations into till-derived soils of Madison County and explorations of mapping techniques

October 8th & 9th, 2026

Farm Science Review (FSR) Exhibition Building 1
135 State Route 38 NE
London, OH 43140

1) Registration

a. Standard registration: 1 day $100, 2 days $150
b. Students and speakers: free
c. Registration link: https://www.ohiopedologist.org/store/c1/Donations.html

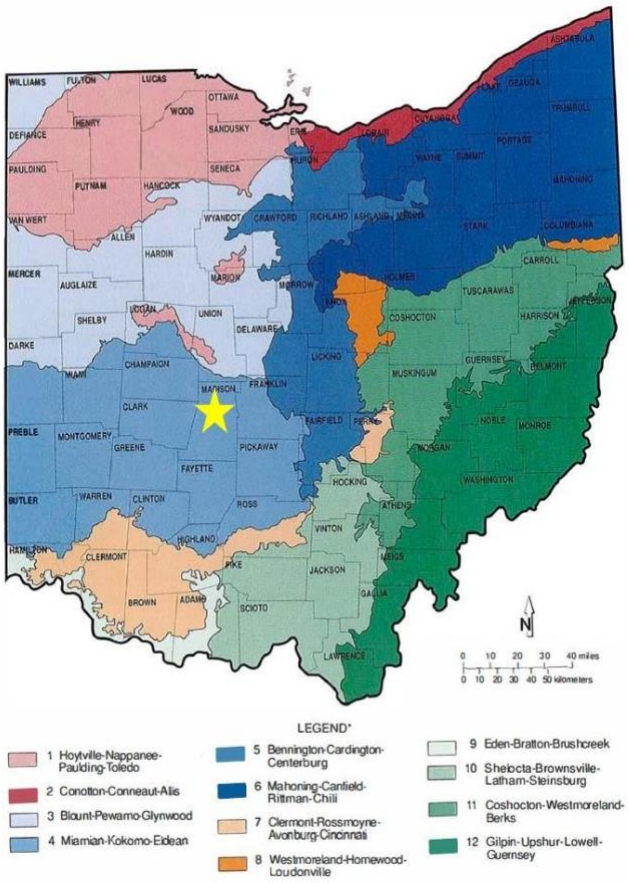


Figure 1. Location of workshop (star) in Madison County. Modified from Soil Regions of Ohio Map. Division of Soil and Water Conservation. Ohio Department of Agriculture.

2) Venue.

Farm Science Review (FSR) Exhibition Building 1
135 State Route 38 NE
London, OH 43140

3) Program Schedule. Note: Final schedule may deviate slightly.

October 8, 2026: Day 1 activities

Time	Activity	Responsible	Programming Duration
8:00-9:00 am	Registration and coffee/donuts (FSR Exhibition Building 1)	Jon Gerken, AOP treasurer	

9:00-9:15 am	Welcome and Introduction	Dr. Scott Demyan, AOP President	0:15
9:15-9:45 am	The Geologic History and Glacial Landscapes of Madison County, Ohio	Andy Nash, Ohio Department of Natural Resources	0:30
9:45-10:15 am	The Soil Survey of Madison County	Jon Gerken	0:30
10:15-10:30	Break		
10:30-11:00	FSR Update and Review	Nate Duridas and MC Staff	0:30
11:00-11:15 am	Mapping Activity Overview	Dr. Scott Demyan	0:15
11:15 am-12:15 pm	Lunch	City BBQ	
12:15-12:30 pm	Travel to the Gwynne Conservation Area		
12:30-1:30 pm	Texture Practice and Miamian Pit	Dr. Thomas Doohan	1
1:30-1:45 pm	Travel to South Fields		
1:45-4:15 pm	Soil Pits (Mapping Activity)	Group Leaders	2.5
4:15 onwards	Social Hour at Redbrick Tavern Address: 1700 Cumberland St. London, OH 43140	All	
		Total program time (CEUs)	5:30

Note: Green shading identifies field and travel time

October 9, 2026: Day 2 Activities

Time	**activity**	**Responsible**	**Programming duration**
8:30-9:00 am	Registration (FSR Exhibition Building 1)	Jon Gerken, AOP treasurer	

9:00-9:15 am	Welcome, Introduction, Review, and Instructions	Dr. Scott Demyan, AOP President	0:15
9:15-9:30 am	Travel to South Field		
9:30-10:30 am	Soil Map Validation	Dr. Scott Demyan and Dr. Thomas Doohan	1
10:30-10:45 am	Travel to Exhibition Building 1	All	
10:45-11:00 am	Group Discussion – Refine Maps	All	
11:00-11:30 am	Panel Discussion	Group Leaders	
11:30-12:30 pm	Lunch	City BBQ	
12:30-12:45	Travel to House Field	All	
12:45-3:45	Soil Pits	All	3
4:30 onwards	W. Pearl King Prairie Savanna State Nature Preserve (Tentative)	All	
		Total program time (CEUs)	5

Note: Green shading identifies field and travel time

4) Building and Field Activity Locations

Figure 2. Location of Farm Science Review (FSR) Exhibition Grounds and surrounding Molly Caren Farm and Gwynne Conservation Area.

Figure 3. Location of Exhibition Building 1 within the FSR grounds.

a. <u>Oct. 8 Afternoon Field Practice at Gwynne Conservation Area Miamian Pit 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm</u>

Gwynne Conservation Area (Fig. 4)
640 Arbuckle Rd
London, OH 43140

Figure 4. Location of the Gwynne Conservation Area and driving directions from FSR Exhibition Building 1. Attendees are encouraged to carpool to each location.

b. **Oct. 8 Afternoon Field Visit 1:45 pm to 4 pm**

Molly Caren Farm South Field (Fig. 5)
Marysville-London Road

Note: Vehicles should pull into the gravel drive and park in the grass

Figure 5. Location of the Molly Caren South Field and driving directions from Gwynne Conservation Area. Attendees are encouraged to carpool to each location. Parking areas are noted by rectangles.

c. Oct. 9 Field Visit 10:45 am to 11:45 am

Molly Caren Farm South Field (Fig. 6, see pg. 9)
Marysville-London Road

Note: Vehicles should pull into the gravel drive and park in the grass

Figure 6. Location of the Molly Caren South Field and driving directions from FSR Exhibition Building 1. Attendees are encouraged to carpool to each location. Parking areas are noted by rectangles.

d. <u>Oct. 9th: Field Visit 1:45 pm to 3:45 pm</u>

Molly Caren Farm House Field (Fig. 7, see pg. 10)
Marysville-London Road

Note: Vehicles should pull into the gravel drive and park in the grass

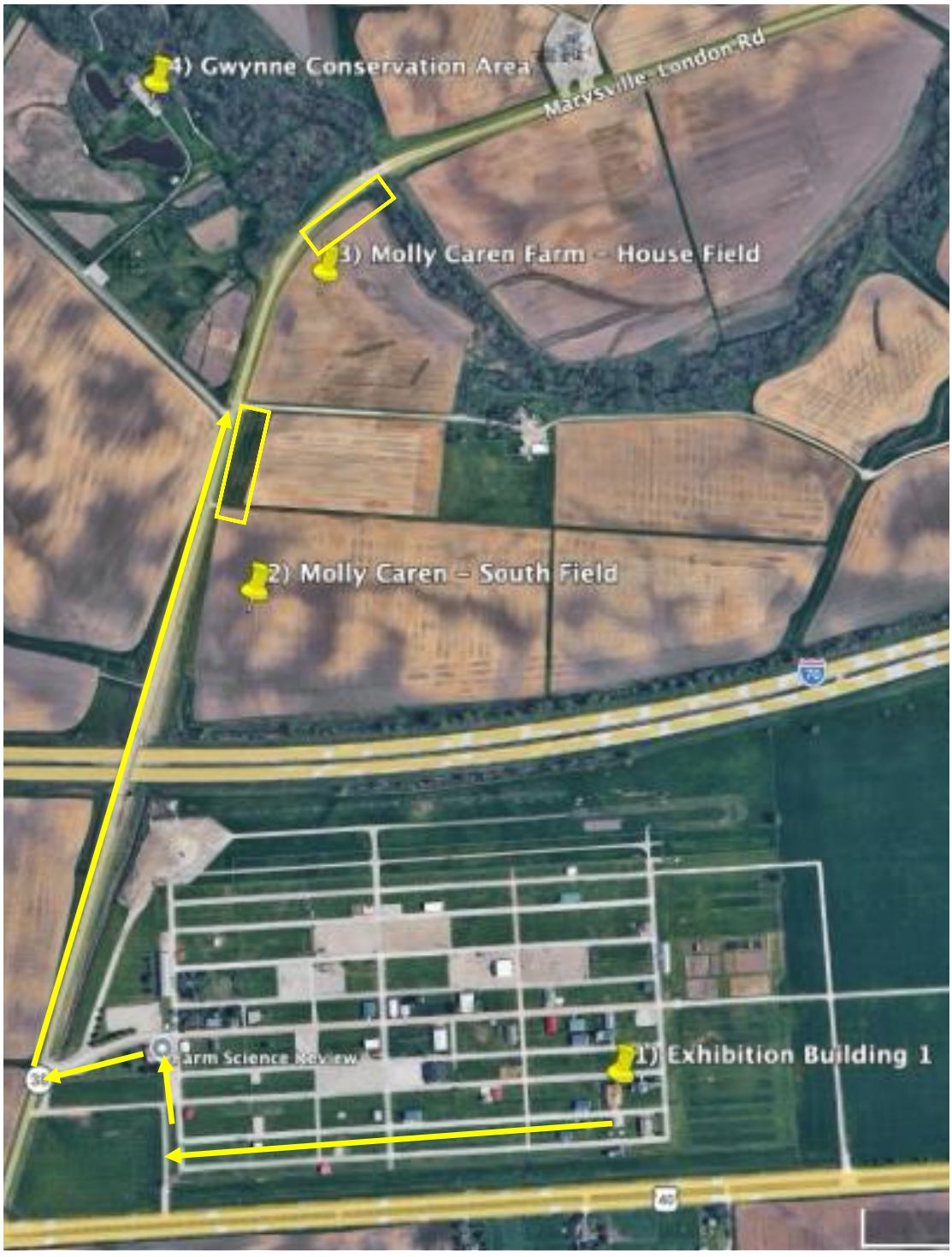


Figure 7. Location of the Molly Caren House Field and driving directions from FSR Exhibition Building 1. Attendees are encouraged to carpool to each location. Parking areas are noted by rectangles.

5) Area Hotels

Hotel names provided are for informational purposes only and are not endorsements or recommendations. Numerous hotels can be found a short drive (20-30 minutes) from Molly Caren in nearby Hilliard and Columbus.

Hotel Name	Phone	address	notes
Holiday Inn Express	740-852-2700	100 Holiday Trail NE, London, OH 43140	
FairBridge Inn Express	740-852-9415	870 US-42 EXIT 79, London, OH 43140	

Speaker Bios

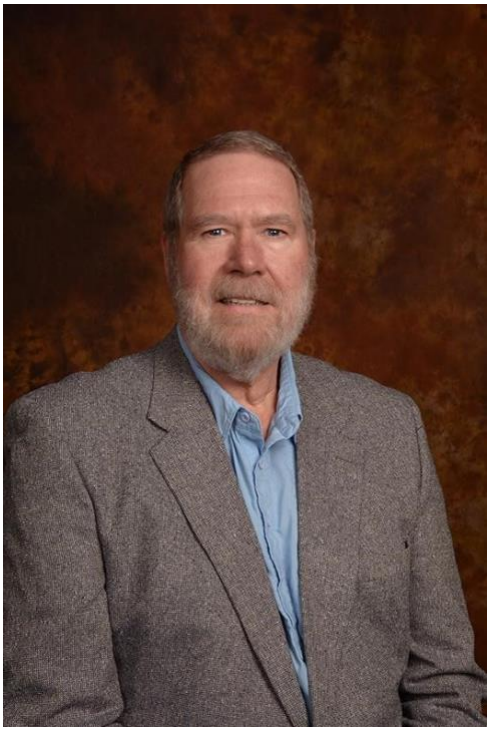
Andy Nash

Andy Nash supervises the geologic mapping group at the Ohio Geological Survey, a division of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Andy received this bachelor's degree in geology from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio in 2014. At Wooster, he used dendrochronology on buried logs in Holocene glacial sediments to assess the movement of glaciers in Glacier Bay National Park, Alaska. Andy then attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, receiving a M.S. in geology in 2016. There he conducted research in collaboration with the Illinois State Geological Survey on the Jules Geosol, a buried soil complex with alternating A-C horizons that formed in thick sequences of Peoria Loess along the eastern bluff of the Illinois River. Andy joined the Ohio Geological Survey in 2016 as a glacial geologist and began producing surficial "stack" maps as part of an effort to complete statewide coverage of this mapping product. Andy also authored and co-authored maps depicting Quaternary geology, bedrock topography, groundwater vulnerability, and hydrogeologic settings. In 2021, Andy was promoted to supervisor of the geologic mapping group. While now in a more administrative role, Andy still enjoys being directly involved in the mapping of glacial sediments across Ohio.

Jon Gerken

Jon Gerken attended The Ohio State University and received a bachelor's degree in agriculture with a major in agronomy (soils) in 1970. He worked as a soil scientist with the Soil Conservation Service/Natural Resources Conservation Service for 42 years. He mapped soils in Crawford, Williams and Franklin Counties and did farm plan mapping in numerous counties in the Scioto River valley prior to serving as project leader in Madison and Hocking Counties. In 1980 he moved into the Ohio State Office where he served in numerous capacities in quality control/assurance before assuming the role of State Soil Scientist. The last 5 ½ years of his career were in Washington D.C. serving as the Assistant Program Manager for Soil Survey for the United States.

Since retirement in 2012 Jon has spent his time maintaining his 13 acres which include a 1 ½ acre pond and a 0.2 acre garden, which keeps him very busy.



Nate Duridas

Nate Duridas is the Farm Manager at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center, which is home to the annual Farm Science Review (FSR). Nate is involved in carrying out farm operations at Molly Caren, which includes OSU research and farm demonstrations for FSR.