# **CFAES**

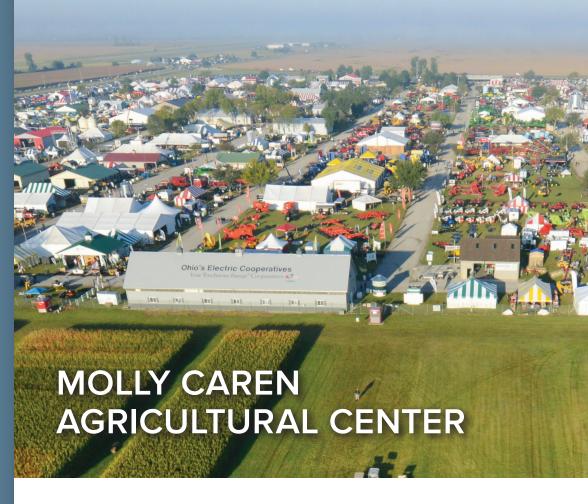


## **HISTORY**

Land for the Molly Caren Agricultural Center, located two miles north of London, Ohio, was donated in 1982 by Molly Caren to The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES). Caren wanted her 993-acre family farm to be a showcase for the agricultural industry, and a resource for future generations of farmers to see the latest in farming technologies. Ohio State's Farm Science Review moved from Don Scott Field to the Molly Caren Agricultural Center in 1983. The move provided the opportunity to expand FSR's presence in the Midwest. In 1992, Ohio State had an opportunity to add 1,104 acres of land to promote production agriculture across the state of Ohio and the nation.

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#### A LIVING LAB TO ENHANCE KNOWLEDGE AND PROFITABILITY



With agriculture being Ohio's No. 1 industry, a world-class facility such as the Molly Caren Agricultural Center is setting trends and showcasing production agriculture and natural resource conservation in Ohio. Each year, more than 130,000 people visit the Farm Science Review to see one of the largest farm shows

in North America. Along with FSR, the 67-acre Gwynne Conservation Area—and Deer Creek, which runs through the Gwynne—is available year-round for visitors to experience natural resource conservation practices.

Generations of students and faculty are benefitting from Caren's land donation to Ohio State. Research using the latest agricultural technology with crops and farm equipment is improving the lifestyle of millions of Ohioans.

# KEY OUTREACH, PRODUCTION, AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

#### **FARM SCIENCE REVIEW**



The Molly Caren Agricultural Center is home to the annual Farm Science Review, a shining star in the agricultural exhibition world. The three-day event annually attracts upwards of 130,000 visitors from across the United States and Canada. Visitors at FSR can experience 80 acres of exhibits with more than 600 agricultural companies that showcase 4,000 product lines of equipment and agricultural supplies. Another 600 acres is used for various field demonstrations such as corn and soybean harvest, tillage, precision agriculture, drainage management installations, and nutrient application



techniques.
Educational
programs
ranging from
agronomy,
small farm
education,

pesticide education, ag safety, universal design, and horticulture are offered by Ohio State and Purdue University specialists. FSR offers producers and landowners information that can benefit all aspects of their homes and agricultural businesses.

### **MOLLY CAREN AGRICULTURAL CENTER**

The land focus at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center is crop production of corn, soybeans, and wheat. More than 1,200 acres of crops are grown with the latest technology available in the agricultural industry. This technology provides the opportunity to evaluate the best way of producing a crop and the best method of generating important crop information. A wide scope of projects is conducted at

the center throughout the year. The majority of these projects are related to agronomy and precision agriculture technologies such as remote sensing, nutrient utilization, equipment/soil interactions, crop population intensities, and drainage management. Other projects include wastewater treatment evaluations, alternative ditch designs, and pollinator health studies. All of these projects provide ways to evaluate what is happening on the large-scale producer farms and land at the center. Working together to make all of this happen are more than 30 corporate partners, 12 state and national associations, several state agencies, Ohio State departments, and the Molly Caren Agricultural Center staff. In addition to FSR, the center hosts various outreach events such as corporate trainings, Master Gardener Volunteer trainings and meetings, field days, and 4-H and FFA camps and events.

### **GWYNNE CONSERVATION AREA**

The Gwynne is a 67-acre demonstration and education area for agriculture and natural resource management practices. Conservation topics emphasized are water management, prairie and timber habitats, soil conservation, and alternative land uses.

The Gwynne is used year-round for educational programs conducted by local and state agencies, as well as by other natural resource-related organizations. A four-season cabin is available for educational activities.



A new addition is the wetland deck, where visitors can experience nature up close. Each year during

FSR, more than 4,000 people visit the Gwynne, where exhibitor and university staff provide resources to landowners. A unique resource for Ohio citizens and other visitors, the Gwynne shows landowners ways to enhance their land for economic, environmental, and enjoyment purposes.

# THINGS TO SEE AT THE GWYNNE

#### **WATER MANAGEMENT**

- A constructed wetland and a wetwoods
- A dugout pond and an embankment pond
- · A low-impact stream crossing
- · A dry hydrant
- · Grassed waterways

#### **ALTERNATIVE LAND USES**

- Crop tree plantings of pines, nut trees, and timber species
- Conservation landscaping
- · A wildlife food plot and a nesting cover
- A walnut, a pawpaw, and a mixed hardwood plantation

#### SOIL CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT

- Riparian buffer plantings and reforestation
- Windbreak plantings
- · Streambank stabilization
- · A soil pit

#### **HABITATS AND ECOSYSTEMS**

- Early successional forests
- Miamian silt loam soil
- A wetland
- · Grasslands and native prairie plantings
- A floodplain
- Riparian forests
- Ponds and streams
- Cropland
- · A bluebird trail and bat houses

