

Agriculture

CENTRAL KANSAS EXTENSION DISTRICT NEWS

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May 2019

Upcoming Events

May

- 11** RVD Tractor Safety Training, Concordia
- 17** McPherson Co. Wheat Plot Tour
- 24** CKD Wheat Plot Tour, Mentor & Minneapolis
- 28** CKD Tractor Safety, Salina
- 30 - 31** Plant ID Workshop, Wilson

July

- 16- 19** Ottawa County Fair

August

- 8- 12** Tri-Rivers Fair

CKD Welcomes New Crop Production Agent

Hello everyone! My name is Jay Wisbey and I am delighted to begin my Extension career with the Central Kansas District. I grew up on a small farm in southern Cloud County and later attended Kansas State University where I majored in Agronomy.



Out of school, I started as an Agronomist with Boettcher Enterprises. I had an office at the Ada Grain elevator in Minneapolis, working with Ray McGavran. I spent several years there in agriculture retail and continued to do so after Boettcher was acquired by Canadian-based United Agri Products (UAP) and then Agrium, Inc. / Crop Production Services (CPS).

For the last seven years, my family has resided south of Bennington where I have worked on a farm with Jay Wagner and Marc Oldham. Along with daily farming responsibilities, I have also operated one day a week as an independent crop consultant.

When I found this job I thought that it would be a great fit for me as I enjoy working with producers and find general satisfaction in helping others. K-State Research & Extension has a tremendous network of people with knowledge that covers a wide spectrum of topics and it is exciting to be a part of the team.

If you have any crop production questions, please don't hesitate to call me at the office in Salina at 785-309-5850. I would be happy to assist!

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2019 CKD Wheat Variety Plot Tour Friday, May 24

10:30 a.m. – Vaughn Isaacson & Sons – Mentor, KS

Plot is located 1/2 mile west of Mentor at intersection of Old Hwy 81/Mentor Rd.

Noon – A complimentary meal will be served courtesy of Phillips Seed Farms, Inc. at the Mentor Fire Station

1:30 p.m. – Tim & Ryan Myers – Minneapolis, KS

Plot is located 1 1/2 miles west of K-106 Hwy on Justice Rd.

Speakers:

Romulo Lollato, KSRE Wheat Specialist
Erick DeWolf, KSRE Plant Pathologist
Jay Wisbey, CKD Crop Production Agent

Topics:

- *Wheat variety selection, agronomic traits and production practices
- *Diseases in the 2019 wheat crop and management practices

All wheat growers, landowners and other interested persons are invited to attend. No RSVP needed. New purple variety signs have been ordered and they should be up by May 1st. Feel free to stop by and take a look before the tour.

For more information, contact Jay Wisbey at (785) 309-5850.



Tractor Safety Training

Date: Tuesday, May 28

Time: 8:30 – 4:00pm

Location: K-State Polytechnic
Welcome Center
Salina, KS

Directions: From the I-135/Magnolia Rd. exit, go west on Magnolia Rd. to Centennial Rd., turn left, continue south to Beechcraft Rd. then turn right, finally turn right onto Scanlan Ave. Welcome Center is on your right.

Who: 14 & 15 year old youth operating a tractor of 20 HP or more on a farm other than of their legal guardian.

Cost: \$15.00 per student

Pre-register by Friday, May 11th at the CKD - Salina Office (2218 Scanlan Ave., 785-309-5850) or the Minneapolis Office (307 N. Concord, 785-392-2147)

Have Discussions on Soybeans

Now is a good time to start formulating a plan to control weeds in our upcoming soybean crop. Post emergence weed control options are all limited by weed height, weather conditions and proximity to susceptible off-target fields, structures and wood lots. It is now imperative to have a good pre-emergence herbicide program if we expect to have adequate weed control. Consider multiple modes of action and even adding a “pre” in with our post application to provide another layer of residual and extend our weed control further into the growing season.

It is not too early to begin finding out what the neighbors have planned for the adjoining fields. Please, do not assume what they did last year will be the same for this year. These conversations are beneficial for both parties and could potentially lead to the re-evaluation of your plans. I find that producers generally appreciate interest from the neighbors as it demonstrates that they care about doing a good job by being aware of their surroundings.

If you rely on commercial applicators to control the weeds make sure they are aware of your intentions. Those businesses need to be as efficient as possible to cover all of the different producers. By keeping them in the loop they will have the best opportunity to provide good weed control. Some information that they will need includes the planting dates of fields with the dicamba traits.

Anyone who applies RUP dicamba products must complete an approved dicamba training AND hold either a private or commercial applicator license. To get a private applicator license contact the CKD Extension offices. You can come in and take an open book test

and pay the fee of \$25. Be sure to allot yourself enough time to take the test - 2 to 4 hours.

Jay Wisbey, Crop Production Agent

Pesticide Recordkeeping Survey

The Kansas State Pesticide Safety program is in the process of revamping the KSU *Pesticide Application Field Records* book in order to provide a record keeping book that will be up to date for our modern RUP herbicide requirements. They are asking for our help in determining what we would like included in this document, by doing a brief survey.

I understand that surveys are probably not on your short list of things to do around the farm, but this one is just seven questions and pretty simple. You can complete it by going online to: https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_86r84ilD5huDIUZ.

My hope is that the results of this procedure will generate a useful document that will benefit the recordkeeping of many producers.

Jay Wisbey, Crop Production Agent



Spring Cleaning

As if we don't have enough to do once spring arrives, one chore that is often put off for several years at a time is pen and winter feeding site cleaning. Given the winter we had, this would be a prime year to clean feedlots or areas of manure accumulation once cattle are removed for summer grazing.

Confined feeding pens or temporary feeding sites for the winter months are prime contributors to odor emissions if not properly cleaned and maintained. Also, fly production from these sites is much greater when manure and wasted feed is present, thus creating a nuisance and a potential reduction in animal performance for the remainder of the summer for their livestock.

Solid beef cattle manure can serve as a quality low cost fertilizer for your operation when applied properly. During the winter months, cattle can produce upwards of 5.67 tons of manure PER HEAD! When we look at this stuff on a nutrient basis, on average that would equate to around 74 pounds of actual nitrogen, 85 pounds of phosphorus, and over 100 pounds of potassium, plus all of the micro-nutrients.

Manure is a great way to reduce your fertility inputs in a cropping system while at the same time building a little bit of organic matter over time. If you would like assistance with management of your winter waste, we have several tools available to help.

Cade Rensink, Livestock Production Agent

Don't Forget About Paraquat Training

There have been some questions surrounding paraquat dichloride products and if the labels are requiring additional training. The Environmental Protection Agency is allowing the sale of paraquat that is already in the channels of trade, so some paraquat sold during this growing season may NOT require the new training requirement on the label. In the future all products featuring the new labeling with the active ingredient paraquat dichloride, such as Gramoxone, Firestorm, Helmquat and Parazone will require the additional training in order to apply these products. Remember, if the new training requirement is listed on the label of the product you are using, you MUST complete the training. The training is required every three years.

The newly labeled products state that "*Product may ONLY be mixed, loaded or applied by a certified applicator who has successfully completed the paraquat-specific training before use.*" Application "*under direct supervision of a certified applicator*" is NO LONGER ALLOWED. In the state of Kansas, this means that everyone purchasing and using these products has to either obtain a private applicator license (application to agricultural lands owned or operated by individual) or a commercial applicator license (applicators applying to other people's land for compensation). If you have been applying under someone else's license in the past you will need to get your own license before applying these products.

As of right now, the only training that meets the requirements is housed on the eXtension website and can be found by going to: <http://usparaquattraining.com>. If you don't currently have an account, you will need to create

one before it will allow you to take the training.

If you have questions, feel free to contact either CKD Extension Office or your local retailer.

Jay Wisbey, Crop Production Agent



Beware of Creeping Stocking Rates

The number of cow-calf pairs placed on a pasture is often determined based on previous experience and/or conventional wisdom. One of the factors that easily can be overlooked in establishing stocking rates is cow weight.

Range scientists typically use a 1,000 pound cow with calf as the base definition of one animal unit and cattlemen often use 1,200 pounds to describe the mature body weight of their cows. However, the average mature weight of cows in the U.S. has changed in the last 20 years. If we use feedlot exit weights as a base and the relationship between hot carcass weight and mature dam weight, the estimated mature weight of the 1990 U.S. cowherd was 1,228 pounds compared to 1,386 pounds in 2010. Therefore, using 1,200 pounds for a cow in 1990 was accurate, but using a weight of 1,350 or 1,400 pounds would be more appropriate for this era.

Now, are our cows still that big in 2019? I can't really say for sure, but my suspicions are that we're still north of that 1,200-pound average. So, the bottom line is if the total number of animals per unit of land, per month has not been adjusted, then the pounds of animal per unit of land may have increased by about 150 to 200 pounds per animal. This scenario can be referred to as "creeping stocking rate."

For example, a particular pasture supporting 40 cow-calf pairs in 1990, with the cows weighing about 1,200 pounds each, equals a total stocking number of 48,000 pounds. If the number of pairs turned out every spring has not been changed, the actual stocking number today would be 54,000 pounds, an increase of 12.5%! This could have serious implications on long-term forage quality and quantity. To get a comparable stocking rate today versus 1990, using 1,350 pound cows, only about 35 pairs should be placed on the pasture.

As you make plans or are on your way to turn out, weigh a few cows and give this some thought. It may lead to some difficult decisions, but the long-term sustainability of your forage base depends on it.

Cade Rensink, Livestock Production Agent



Soil-Applied Residual Herbicide Options For Soybeans

With the introduction and use of new herbicide resistant technologies in soybeans, it will be important to utilize an integrated weed management system that includes soil-applied residual herbicides to optimize weed control and sustain the technology.

Broadly speaking, there are many good reasons to use a soil-applied residual herbicide for soybeans, including:

- Get early-season control of weeds and grasses to minimize early-season weed competition.
- Provide more flexibility with postemergence treatment timing.
- Provide additional herbicide sites of action to help manage and slow the development of herbicide resistant weeds.
- Help reduce the weed seed-bank over time.

There are a number of good soil-applied residual herbicide options for soybeans depending on the primary target weeds.

Pigweeds (including waterhemp and Palmer amaranth). Glyphosate-resistant waterhemp and Palmer amaranth are now fairly common in many fields throughout Kansas. Pigweed emergence will generally start in April but the greatest amount of emergence will occur in May and June. Preemergence or burndown-plus -residual herbicide applications will need to be targeted before pigweed has emerged or while it is still at small growth stages.

For early-season pigweed control, the Valor-based herbicides (Valor SX, Valor XLT, Rowel, Encompass, Outflank, Panther, Fierce, Fierce XLT, Gangster, Surveil, Trivence, Aforia, Envive, and Enlite) and Authority-based herbicides (Authority First, Sonic, Au-

thority Assist, Authority MTZ, Authority Maxx, Authority Elite, Blanket, Broadaxe XC, Spartan, and Spartan Elite) can all provide very good to excellent control to supplement a postemergence program. If glyphosate-resistant pigweed is suspected, higher use rates may be required to give adequate residual control.

Prefix, Zidua, Zidua Pro, and Anthem, are other excellent “foundation” herbicides for residual pigweed control in soybeans. Metribuzin, Warrant, Dual, Boundary, Outlook, and Prowl products can also provide some early-season pigweed control, but may not provide as much residual control as those previously mentioned products. Split applications of overlapping residual herbicides -- early preplant and at-planting or early postemergence -- may be the best approach to manage glyphosate-resistant pigweed in no-till systems.

Marestail is probably the most widespread glyphosate-resistant weed in Kansas. Marestail control in soybeans should begin in early spring by controlling fall-germinated seedlings and rosettes before they start to bolt. 2,4-D LV4 is 1 week for up to 1 pt/acre. The preplant interval for Clarity is 14 days following an application rate up to 8 oz/acre and accumulation of 1 inch of rainfall.

Dicamba has generally provided better marestail control than 2,4-D. Xtendimax, FeXapan, and Engenia can be utilized ahead of Xtend soybeans without a preplant waiting interval.

The Kixor-containing products Sharpen, OpTill, Zidua Pro, and Verdict can be used any time before soybean emergence (cracking), but are most effective if applied before plants get too big. To optimize marestail control with Kixor products, use an adequate spray volume to insure good

spray coverage and apply in combination with a methylated seed oil.

Liberty herbicide may be the best option as a rescue treatment to burn down bolted marestalk prior to planting. There is no waiting interval required between a Liberty application and planting soybeans, but it will not provide any residual marestalk control. Other pre-plant herbicides that can help with burndown and provide residual marestalk control include FirstRate based herbicides, such as Authority First, Sonic, Gangster, or Surveil in combination with glyphosate.

Crabgrass and other small-seeded grasses. Glyphosate usually gives good control of most grasses, but producers may want to apply a foundation herbicide to control grasses early, followed by a postemergence grass control herbicide. Fierce, Fierce XLT, Prefix, Zidua, Zidua Pro, Anthem, Dual II Magnum, Outlook, Warrant, and Prowl H2O can all provide early season grass and pigweed control ahead of postemergence treatments. Of these, Fierce, Fierce XLT, Prefix, and Zidua, Zidua Pro generally provide the best pigweed control, and Prowl H2O the least.

Strategic Mineral Supplementation

With margins tightening in all areas of farm production, many cattle producers are looking for ways to cut input expenses. Since feed makes up such a large portion of our annual cow carrying cost and mineral is often the smallest line item in the feed budget, it may be tempting to cut it out completely.

I would caution doing this for multiple reasons that I don't have room to go into here. So, rather than eliminating it (or for those on the other end that feed the same mineral year

-round), consider reducing mineral cost and the risk of overfeeding phosphorus (P) by doing strategic supplementation.

Cow mineral requirements change throughout the year much like they do for protein and energy. Depending on forage quality, cow size, reproduction phase and milking ability, a female may need anywhere from a 16% mineral down to a 6% formulation.

For medium milking, spring calving cows in Ottawa and Saline Counties, our native pastures usually provide enough forage P content that we only need to be using an 8-10% mineral supplement from calving til July. Then we can drop down to a 6-8% product for the remainder of the year.

If you know your cow's requirements and do a little monitoring of feedstuffs, I think you'll find they don't need the typical 12-12 mineral all of the time and that there is a tremendous opportunity for cost savings.

Cade Rensink, Livestock Production Agent

New Extension Publications

-Kansas Agricultural Land Values and Trends 2018

-2018 Kansas Crop Performance Tests

-Kansas Crop Management Guides for 2019

-2019 Chemical Weed Control for Field Crops, Pastures, Rangeland and Noncropland

-Foliar Fungicide Efficacy Ratings for Wheat Disease Management 2019

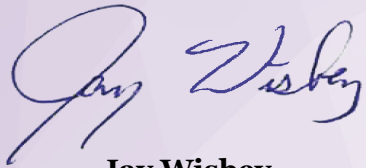
-Managing Spring Planted Cover Crops for Livestock Grazing under Dryland Conditions in the High Plains Region

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Address Service Requested


The enclosed material is for your information. If we can be of further assistance, feel free to call or drop by the Extension Office.

Sincerely,



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