

Ag Radio programs for August 5 - 11, 2013

Weed control in wheat stubble fields

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. What a change we've seen in the past couple of weeks given all the rain and the break in temperatures. Last week I talked about volunteer wheat in stubble fields but I think it's really important to discuss this again. We had a lot of double crop get planted which to me shows an incredible amount of faith OR a crystal ball that I don't have. We're far enough past the rains that the volunteer wheat is going to be coming like a green carpet. Going on the assumption that your double crop beans are Roundup Ready, then you need to get out there and get a treatment of glyphosate applied before the beans get too big. I think one of our problems is that we hold off on that glyphosate treatment on double crop beans and then the wheat get's covered and we don't have adequate coverage to get good control of the volunteer. Wheat isn't necessarily the easiest thing to kill with glyphosate so we need to make sure that we are going with full rates of glyphosate. If you aren't planting roundup ready beans then consider using one of the other grass control products like Poast Plus, Assure II or Targa. The bottom line is that we need to get that volunteer wheat controlled. Sure, I'm a little concerned about the other weeds out there, from the double crop soybean yield potential view, but volunteer wheat and the wheat curl mite/wheat streak mosaic issues that it brings concern me even more. In stubble fields not planted you can wait a little bit longer, but don't let weeds get too big! This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte.

Last Round of Wheat Variety thoughts

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. With it being early August you need to be finishing getting wheat seed lined up so I'm going to give a few final thoughts on wheat varieties. I've spent a bunch of time looking over the variety field test trials from around central and eastern Kansas. What it comes down to is that there is no one best wheat for all situations. I selected 11 of the wheat variety test locations that I thought had any relevance to Geary County. Then I selected the top yielding varieties (usually those that were significantly above average or at least above average) that also had the necessary soil borne virus disease resistance. Then I counted up how many times those varieties were in the top yield group. I wound up with 29 different wheat varieties. Now that would be one heck of a blend! Based on this analysis I would consider the following for new varieties to add you to your farm. Westbred WN-4458, Redhawk and Cedar, Oklahoma Ruby Lee, Iba and Gallagher, SY Southwind and an experimental from Limagrain that is going to be renamed. Several of these have not yet been released so it will be 2014 before you can probably get some seed. In the meantime - see what worked well for you last year and this year. If a variety or blend worked well in both years, stay with it. Early varieties got hammered by frost in some parts of Kansas this year, but it was an unusual year. Make sure that you use varieties with good leaf disease resistance OR plan to spray. And consider one with Hessian Fly resistance if you are going to plant prior to October 5th. We're finally getting some good fly resistant varieties. This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck

Otte.

Basal Bark Treatment Time

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. Once we get past mid July, and especially into early August, we need to pretty well forget about foliar spraying of trees and brush in pastures. By this time of year the woody plants are busy moving nutrients into the root system for winter, but the leaves have developed a thick waxy cuticle on the leaf surface and it becomes very difficult to get the herbicides to penetrate that cuticle to get into the leaf. Oh sure, you can knock leaves off of trees easily enough in August, but the actual control you get will be very poor. However, from mid-July on, clear into January actually, is a great time to be doing basal bark, cut stump or frill applications. These are things we're going to be doing primarily on larger trees, but you can also do it on shrubs. If you have larger locust or hedge trees that you want to cut down, you know how often you cut them off, treat the stump, the main trunk then dies but root sprouts start showing up everywhere. An effective way to get around this is to leave the tree standing and do a basal bark treatment. Basal bark treatments most often are going to be a triclopyr product often mixed in diesel or kerosene and sprayed on the bottom 15 to 20 inches of the trunk to the point of runoff, all the way around the trunk. Then you wait until next year and you don't cut the tree down until it is obvious that it is dead. The number of root sprouts you get from this form of control will be far less than the traditional cut and treat. If you have brush species that you still want to control, consider bush hogging a clump and then immediately get off and treat with one of the many products available. This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK, I'm

Chuck Otte.