

### Managing herbicide resistant weed populations

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. I want to remind everyone a couple more times about the managing herbicide resistant weeds meeting we are having Thursday January 21<sup>st</sup> at the 4-H/Sr Citizens Building. Registration at 4, meeting starts at 4:30, break for a BBQ dinner and then wrap up by 7:30. There's a \$5 fee for this meeting and you need to call and pre-register so we don't run out of food! Curtis Thompson, K-State Extension weed management specialist is presenting this program. Curtis has a lot of experience dealing with this issue. First half of the meeting will really focus on dealing with glyphosate resistant waterhemp, Palmer amaranth and marehail. The second half will be an update on herbicides, what's new, changes in labeling and I'm guessing Curtis will even address the Enlist herbicide technology situation. A recent addition to this meeting: if you are a commercial pesticide applicator, you can get 2 hours of recertification credit for this meeting in commercial applicator categories 1A, 6, 7C or 9. One of the items that I know Curtis will hit and hit hard is having a multi pronged attack on weeds. Use a multiple mode of action herbicide mix pre-plant or pre-emerge. We have to reduce that early weed pressure while giving the crop time to canopy over. This was one of the issues we had last year. Then if you are using post emerge product to get those weeds that made it through, you need to hit the weeds when they're small. The days of controlling 3 foot tall weeds are gone, time to change tactics. This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte.

Watch out for questionable products

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. Spent an afternoon at the Extension Service booth at the Topeka Farm Show last week. I always enjoy doing this for two reasons. It gives me a chance to visit with producers from all over eastern Kansas, and it also gives me a chance to see who is in the other booths promoting their product. In typical fashion, I saw a lot of stuff being promoted that is of questionable value. What I'm talking about are those products that are being sold to allegedly replace fertilizer or to enhance it and make it work better. These products always come out, often times the same product under different names, whenever crop prices drop or fertilizer prices spike. This timing is not by coincidence. No, the sellers of these products know that some producers will always be looking at ways of improving profitability without using sound science. So here's a couple of things to keep in mind. First of all, if the product's claim sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Before you spend one dime, start doing some fact checking. If you aren't sure, call me. Many of these products have been tested by universities and the results have shown that they don't work. But these companies will take the one trial that did show a significant response and they will publicize and promote that, even though 28 other tests showed that the product did nothing. If you do want to try a product, do it on a small area and then use side by side check strips. You want to be able to compare the product to see if it works and side by side in the same field is better than comparing 2 fields. If you have questions, give me a call! This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK,

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## Need to renegotiate Cash Rental Rates

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. Landlords, listen up! The last few years has seen a real escalation in the cash rental rates that were being paid for crop land and grazing land throughout the region, state and country. The cause of this runup was very simple, high commodity prices for crops and livestock. Well, we all know that prices are cyclical and what goes up, always comes down. With that in mind, any of these cash rents that went up with the commodity prices the past couple of years needs to start coming back down. I've heard of some really high pasture rental rates the past couple of years based on the high price of cattle. As the cattle market slides back down, those new pasture rates need to slide down as well. There's a procedure called equitable share rent that calculates cash lease payments based on if the lease had been a typical share's lease. I ran a bunch of these in November and December comparing back to the high commodity price days of about 3 years ago to forward contract prices for the coming harvest and using farm management association average production costs. Depending on the crop you were looking at equitable share cash rent should back off 30 to 50% on crop land, and easily 25 to 35% on pasture land. That is assuming that prices were pushed up the past few years. If you held cash rental rates fairly flat over the past few years, then you are probably about where you should be given today's prices. I can provide these breakdowns on a crop by crop basis upon request, but remember, these are calculated numbers and should only serve as a starting point for lease negotiations. This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK,

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