

### Weed Inventory Time

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. As you are looking at your soybean fields this month and cussing all those darn weeds and the weather, or whatever, that contributed to the problem, keep in mind that the first step to getting that problem under control is to determine what kind of weeds that you are dealing with. Keep in mind that one of the best ways to get weeds under control is to rotate crops and wheat is a great one to include in that rotation. But what you really need to do now is to start walking your fields and mapping what weed problems you have where. If you've got certain weeds, like pigweeds, that didn't seem to be phased by herbicides, make a note. It may be herbicide resistance, it may be application error or failure, but we need to know of the possibility of resistance. It doesn't matter what your next crop is going to be, better weed control next spring starts with identifying issues and culprits right now. What isn't helpful is to simply say, I've got everything out there everywhere. If you aren't sure what a weed is, pull it up and bring it in to me, preferably shortly after you pull it, not after it's sat on the dash of the truck for 3 days. By mapping I don't mean GPS coordinates on the edges of the worst issues, I mean getting a copy of the aerial photo and just marking where the biggest problems were this year. Then remember that the days of glyphosate as our sole weed control are gone. Mixed modes of action are needed in the burndown and then a good pre-plant or pre-emerge residual activity herbicide also. This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte.

## Wrap Up Native Hay Harvesting

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. I've been seeing a lot of prairie hay getting swathed and baled and that's good. I've also been seeing some really good prairie hay at county fairs that I've been judging the past couple of weeks. I've noticed over the past few days a lot of seed stalks shooting up in prairies. Once those start showing up, it really signals that we are at the end of being able to put up quality prairie hay. Seed stalks steal protein away from the leaves but also mark the passing season when plants start to harden off, get ready for winter and generally just lose quality. So you want to be finishing up your prairie hay harvest in the next week or so before you lose any more quality. The other reason you want to wrap up haying pretty soon is for the health of the hay meadow. Especially given the rain that we've had this year, as soon as you clip that meadow the plants are going to start regrowing. Regrowth takes carbohydrate reserves out of the roots and crowns. Once the new leaves get big enough the plant starts to put carbohydrate reserves back into the crown. These reserves are the fuel for growth next spring and you want to make sure that your plants have a full tank of gas for spring. From cutting until the tank is full takes about 6 weeks. Which is how much time we've got left this growing season. I'd also encourage you to borrow our hay probe and sample all of your different cuttings of hay and that includes alfalfa, brome and prairie, just so you know what kind of quality you've got as you start feeding hay later this year. What I can tell you is that most hay is not as high in protein as producers think. This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte.

## Are There Any New Wheat Varieties To Try?

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. This is the time of year that wheat growers are finalizing their wheat seed supplies and are often thinking about any new varieties that they should be trying this year. I'm cautious about this year as it was such a crazy year. While I have the 2015 variety test plot results, I do not have access yet to the updated multi-year average so these 2015 results need to be treated cautiously on their own. I also discourage against trying to chase the latest and best leaf disease resistance. I think we are often bushels ahead to go with something that we know has a long history of yield potential and then making sure that we are poised and ready to roll with foliar fungicides at critical times around heading. So I took a look at the 2015 results from testing locations with 75 to 100 miles of Geary County. Then I looked at the varieties that were in the statistically significantly higher yield category across several of the test locations. Two that immediately jumped out at me were Syngenta Monumnet and Westbred Grainfield. These were consistently above average if not one of the tops in yield. They are both fairly new and they have that minimal disease package that I want to see. They are both varieties that in heavy leaf disease pressure we'll need to spray. Another one that may surprise a few folks is 1863. This is one that generally has been in that above average yield group if not in the top significant yield group. Another one that I think should be considered. Other general thoughts: I feel we're too far north for most Oklahoma releases, Nebraska releases often don't have SBM resistance. This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte.