

## Ag Radio Programs for November 26 - December 2, 2018

### Dicamba Label Update

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. I swear I hadn't anymore than recorded last weeks program on the dicamba label and I received word that the EPA had given the dicamba label another two year extension. So it has been re-authorized through December 20 of 2020. HOWEVER, there have been a bunch of new additional requirements added to it's use. Remember that training that you went through last year to be able to apply the Dicamba formulations to soybeans? You have to go through that every single year. The EPA has turned that over to the states and at this time the KDA hasn't announced how they are going to handle that. We don't have the manpower to do it like we did last year unless they will train county agents to do that and we just don't know yet. So stay tuned on that front. Application times have been reduced. We can now only apply from 1 hour after sunrise until 2 hours before sunset. AND postemerge applications on soybeans have to be done with 45 days of planting or R1 stage of growth. You have to indicate the planting date of the field that is being sprayed. There are a bunch of other restrictions and changes. You must use at least 15 gallons per acre of spray volume. You must use an enhanced cleanout procedure for the entire spray system. Records must be generated within 72 hours of application, not 14 days. Maximum ground speed of 15 mph and recommended 5 mph around field edges. Wind speed is still 3 to 10 mph. Buffer zones are still in effect but we now also have some additional buffer requirements. We've still got it but spend a lot of time minding the rules! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Weed Control Window Over?

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. For many weed situations I suspect that our fall treatment window is over. We've had cold weather. We've had snows, in the plural. The big problem is that any weed treatment, like fall treatment of marestail or mustards requires actively growing weeds and I'm afraid that with the cold weather and snow, many of our weeds may be shutting down now. Naturally, though, there are exceptions to just about everything. First of all, musk thistle. I saw some the other day that was still green and growing well. As long as the temperature at treatment time is around 50 or higher and you are using something more than just 2,4-D, especially if using Tordon, you can still do treatment. Bindweed is done growing for the year though you can write that one off. Fall treatment of mustards in wheat may still be possible but again, the plants have to be carrying on active metabolism to be controlled with most of the products. On the other side of that, if you are still trying to finish harvest up this should all be on the back burner or further back than that. One area of weed control where we are just coming into the treatment time though is dormant season treatments of alfalfa. Many of these products may not be very familiar to us but they work very well. This can include products like Karmex or Diuron. Both of these have a replant restriction of 2 years so don't apply to a field that you are thinking of tearing out. There are several versions of Velpar also available with 12 to 24 month replant restrictions. All of these work good against mustards and Velpar works well against grasses. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Dicamba Damage Studies

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. I was at agent update in agronomy last week and got to have an extended session with the professor who has been doing a lot of the dicamba drift studies at K-State this past summer. We know that it takes very little dicamba drift to create visual damage symptoms in susceptible soybeans. What we were able to show this year was that early season damage really doesn't impact yield. Anything in the vegetative growth states isn't likely to cause more than a few percent reduction in yield. BUT once we get into R1 and beyond growth stage, and that means once it starts to bloom, we are going to start to see damage at the 20% level and worse. What really makes it worse is repeated exposures. Two exposures during the bloom stage is liable to cause up to 50% damage and 3 or more can push that damage up to 70%. I think this is one of the driving reasons why we have the 45 day after planting restriction. What may really cause problems for us though is if we plant eXtend soybeans double crop after wheat and treat them. That's going to likely push potential treatments into early August and that is a real issue if there are nearby full season non-tolerant soybeans. For 2019 we need to continue the improved communication we saw between neighbors last year. IF you are planting non-eXtend beans I would let every neighbor around you know it. Regardless of what you are planting, you HAVE to be using a pre-emerge residual activity herbicide. We simply can not control these pigweeds with postemerge only products. Also, glyphosate still works on a lot of other weeds! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Start Planning Weed Control Now

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. I guess I'm on a soybean kick this week - blame it on the agent update I attended last week. Right now, as you finish up harvest OR start putting things away, before you have a chance to forget anything, start writing down the weeds that you were challenged with in each and every field this year. I'm willing to bet that you had pigweeds in every field so that's just going to be a given. But then start adding what else you were dealing with. Grassy weeds? Which ones? There are differences. Then lets talk about marestail or morningglory or sunflower or velvetleaf. Once we know what weeds you are dealing with and what crop you are wanting to put in that field, we can start planning a weed control program. For those of you still dreaming of the days when glyphosate did it all and did so cheaply, snap out of it! A good weed control program in corn or soybeans is going to cost you anywhere from \$45 to \$75 per acre. Just accept it and budget for it. Aim to get as much controlled with your pre-emerge and then use post emerge ONLY if you need it for break through issues or weather concerns. Here's another suggestion - use narrow rows in soybeans. 15 inch vs 30 inch showed that simply the advantage of having narrow rows to close canopy was worth anywhere from 5 to 10% improved control. In soybeans, plan to include metribuzin in your pre-emerge. In corn, you need to include atrazine. Both of these simply help establish a solid baseline of weed control to grow from. Beyond that we have lots of options with mixes of different modes of action that give excellent control but plan now! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Soybeans Will Drain Your Soil Nutrients

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. What have we always thought about soybean production? Why have we always so enjoyed growing soybeans? They are a legume crop so we don't need to fertilize them and they leave the soil in better shape than it was before we planted them. Well, for the way we USED to raise soybeans that might be the case. For the way we are growing soybeans today, paradigm shift. Forget everything you've always talked about. Soybeans eat soil nutrients and essentially soil health. All nutrients. Nodulation only accounts for about 60 to 70% of the nitrogen that a high yielding soybean crop needs. We know that soybeans need 5 pounds of nitrogen for every bushel of soybeans. A 60 bushel soybean crop is going to need 300 pounds of nitrogen. The plant starts by grabbing all the N that it can from the soil. It doesn't really start to kick in with the nodules until existing soil N supplies are exhausted. The more soil nitrogen there is, the higher the potential yield, water or rainfall allowing. Some of you have asked about growing soybeans multiple years in a row, well, in Argentina they have had soybeans in continuous production for 20 to 30 years and still cranking out 30 to 40 bushel beans. What happens in this scenario though is that organic matter crashes because microbes are trying to find nitrogen wherever it can and organic matter is the most readily available source. Soybeans take more K out of the soil and more P out of the soil than other grain crops. As we continue to grow more and more soybeans, soil testing and adequate fertilization will be increasingly crucial. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.