

Ag Radio Programs for January 14 - 20, 2019

Chemical Weed Control Books Are In!

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Back before Christmas I mentioned that the 2019 Chemical Weed Control books were finished and available electronically. Well, we now have printed copies in the Extension Office and Geary Grain has a supply as well so you can stop by either place and pick up a copy! A couple of other popular publications are not yet in the office. The 2018 Corn Variety Test books are printed - but were special delivered to the Topeka Farm Show by the folks at the High Plains Journal, so we don't have them in to the Extension Office yet. I will let you know when they do arrive. The soybean and grain sorghum variety trial booklets are still in pre-print production. I imagine it'll be another 10 days or so before they're done. All the data is in it just has to be set up and then printed. But the weed control books are available! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Why So Long for New Herbicides

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. I was reading an article last week about new herbicides being evaluated by a chemical company. One in particular is a new herbicide with a new mode of action to be used pre-emerge in corn and soybeans that is very effective against Palmer amaranth, waterhemp and redroot pigweed. They were hopeful it could be on the market in 8 years. That seems like a long time and if you're fighting pigweeds, it is. But it takes companies, once a new product is potentially found, about 6 years for internal testing and discovery, 2 years in regulatory review and a cost of \$150 to \$170 million plus! In the research and development side, it isn't uncommon for a company to test several thousand versions of the same basic ingredient to find the right one with good efficacy on the weed but safe enough to use on the crop. But, in the meantime, hang in there! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Dicamba Training is an Annual Event

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Those of you who used or are using Engenia, FeXapan, or Xtendimax formulations of dicamba on soybeans likely remember the special training you had to attend last year. Well you get to do it again!

Apparently, at least for the time being, this will be an annual event, not a once and done or once every few years sort of thing. Additionally, K-State has lost two weed scientists since last year so they are very limited on being able to do the training at least for now. There are industry sponsored programs popping up - there's one in Salina February 7th - call me for details. All three companies that registered these dicamba formulations are also working on online certification options but none are up and running yet. So at this time, my recommendation to you would be if you see a session offered, take it! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Farm Shows Are Always Interesting

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. I spent an evening at the Topeka Farm Show last week. I get the chance to stand in an Exhibitor Booth for several hours and talk to all sorts of folks. And I get to walk around and look at the exhibitors before hand. It's a little like going to the state fair in that you can find almost anything. There's good products being sold and there's questionable products being promoted. Farm Shows are where you go to see what's out there and collect some information. Then it's time for you to come home and do your homework. You see, there's a lot of stuff being offered for sale at farm shows that likely aren't worth your time, starting with anything that makes a claim that sounds too good to be true. It probably is too good to be true and you need to be very careful. Be skeptical, ask questions, and if you want to try it, do so on a limited basis. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Look at all options

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Talking to a lot of producers at the Farm Show last week it was good to see folks looking at options for weed control. Especially in corn and soybeans I think it's very important to look at all sorts of options. Step outside your traditional approach. Instead of Roundup Ready, switch a year to the Liberty Link trait. Get a good multiple mode of action pre-plant or pre-emerge herbicide combo package applied. Then, if it's glyphosate, glufosinate, or dicamba that you are using for a postemerge, remember that you need to hit those weeds when they are small. Small being only 2 to 3 inches tall. We get caught in the trap of doing the same thing over and over and complain when it isn't working. So try something new. If it doesn't work any better, you aren't out anything more. But give "different" a try and see what happens! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.