

### Xtend Treatment Window Extended

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Dicamba applications to Xtend soybeans are supposed to be done within 45 days of planting or the R1 stage of soybean growth which is when they first start to bloom. This is for all of the dicamba products labeled for use on Xtend soybeans. Due to weather related difficulties this year the Kansas Department of Ag has approved a special local needs 24-c label for all the dicamba products for up to 60 days after planting, but maintains the or R1 growth stage. Regardless of the number of days, once the beans start to bloom you are through spraying with dicamba. This does not change the need to spray while weeds are small, especially the palmer amaranth and tall waterhemp. These need to be 2 inches tall when sprayed if you want decent control. It also doesn't change any other of the label requirements for use including buffers. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Gray Leaf Spot Control in Corn

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Gray leaf spot is about the only corn disease that I would consider routinely spraying for. Planting corn on corn greatly increases the risk and since we have a lot of corn that went back on failed corn acres, I'd keep a close eye on this disease. We normally start scouting a week or two before tasseling, but a lot of corn is already tasseling so get out and start checking. Look for rectangular lesions 1 to 2 inches long covering areas between the veins. Look for brownish leaf spots with a yellow halo. Also check the gray leaf spot rating on your hybrids. If they are resistant, don't worry about that field. For others, treat if the 3<sup>rd</sup> leaf below the ear has gray leaf spot lesions on 50% of the plants inspected. If you don't have that much gray leaf spot present, come back in 5 days and check again. Don't be in a hurry to spray too soon. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Basal bark and cut stump treatments

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. For the same reason that we tell you it's time to stop making foliar herbicide treatments on woody trees and shrubs we tell you that it is time to start making basal bark and cut stump treatments on trees and shrubs. It's all about sap flow and hitting a tree at it's weak area. By now most trees and shrubs have put on all the new growth that they are going to for the year. The plant is busy moving carbohydrates from the leaves down into the root reserves. The leaves at this time aren't efficient though at adsorbing herbicides. However a basal bark treatment or cut stump treatment does work very well. In fact doing a basal bark treatment on honeylocust or hedge and waiting for it to die before cutting it down can eliminate most if not all of those nasty root sprouts that all too frequently show up with a cut and treat approach. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Soybean Insects

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Soybeans are taking off and growing well. Remember that if you need post emerge weed control don't let the weeds get very big - less than 4" - less than 2" is better. We have an abundance of insects this year, thanks to the weather but don't get in too big of a hurry to spray. Bean leaf beetles are out there and eating nice little holes in the leaves. Defoliation this time of year, other than cutting a plant off at the ground, doesn't hurt yield in the least. We've also been seeing some garden webworm and thistle caterpillar. They are sort of moving into a quiet phase in between generations right now. It's a little early for the green clover worm and a lot early for the soybean podworm to be feeding so basically, what I'm trying to tell you is, don't worry too much by any foliage feeders right now and focus on weed control! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Plan Now for Brome Fertilization

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Yeah, I know, it's only almost the middle of July. You're still moving brome bales off of fields or maybe still trying to get it baled. And hear I come talking about planning for brome fertilization this fall. First of all, I'm still working on getting folks past this late winter brome fertilization. We need to get brome fertilized in late November and early December. IF you want to graze brome this fall, we also need to look at a split shot of nitrogen with 30 to 40 pounds going on in early September and the rest a couple of months later. We need to be planning on 20 to 30 pounds of phosphorus annually and 15 to 20 pounds of sulfur in addition to the nitrogen UNLESS you have a recent soil test that says otherwise. Bromegrass fertilization often becomes an afterthought and we need to get it a bit closer to the front of our thought processes! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.