

### Sweet Clover Control in Pastures

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Sweet clover is a biennial legume that is occasionally planted as a crop. Unfortunately it can move into pastures where it isn't wanted and can be very competitive with native grasses. It's presence will ebb and flow depending on the year and usually I don't like to spray it because there are a lot of beneficial plants in our native prairies that will be hurt by the herbicides to control sweet clover. BUT, if you have areas of pastures that are getting pretty solid with sweet clover than a spot treatment may be in order. Dicamba and triclopyr are probably our best choices and most reasonably priced. Mix according to label directions and treat anytime now. It's starting to bloom and you don't want it to make seed so get on it soon. Because of clover's hard seed you may need to treat areas for several consecutive years. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Corn or Soybeans or Something Else?

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. With the ongoing lack of days for field work we have rapidly lost the month of May with many acres yet to plant. No one knows WHEN it will dry out, but when it does it'll be well past the best time for corn. Soybeans still have a large window of opportunity for planting, truly through the month of June. But soybean economics have been losing some of the glow they've had of late. Grain sorghum may be an option as is sunflowers. Some may opt for prevented planting, take that payment and plant it to cover crops. Tomorrow I'll talk about late planted corn and yield potentials there, but before you make any drastic decisions you need to talk to the FSA office to make sure you aren't getting in a bind there and also talk to your Crop Insurance agent to check your options. But it's hard to know for sure, until the rain stops! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## How Late Can I Plant Corn?

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Everyone knows that not only are we past the optimum corn planting time, but we're also past the crop insurance final planting date. All of that aside, how late can we plant corn? When corn planting is delayed hybrids will mature somewhat quicker than under normal conditions due to day length. But you would still want to try to plant a shorter season crop as we get later. Based on research done in Indiana and Ohio, if you are delayed until mid-June you'd want something in the 103 to 110 day maturity. You'd also want to up seeding rate maybe 15%. The problem is that planting late WILL negatively impact yield. Compared to the same maturity hybrid planted in the late April early May time frame, about the best you could expect from a mid June planting would be 50 to 67% of that optimum yield. But it can be done. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Don't Forget Herbicide Residues

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. If there's a good point about the recent wet weather it is that a lot of our field work, including herbicide applications, hasn't happened yet. So we can make changes to crop planting decisions without fear of herbicide residue issues. IF residual herbicides had been applied and your original plans are in flux, keep a few things in mind. First of all, standing water doesn't necessarily cause residual herbicide to disappear. It may reduce the activity, but you still have to count on it being there for possible impact on a different crop. Moving water across a field can impact herbicides though. Herbicide tends to stay on the soil surface so if soil is lost through scouring, the herbicide is probably gone as well. Honestly though, this is a tough one because we simply don't have much research done on herbicides and flooding. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## After the Floods

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. When this is all said and done, it's going to be crucial to acknowledge that in many ways, this spring's wet weather and floods will have likely hit the re-set button on the fertility in many fields. Just standing water alone will greatly impact nitrogen, sulfur and chloride, all highly mobile nutrients. Then let's add the impact of soil scouring where the moving water has removed soil or soil deposition. When we look at soil profiles on river and creek bottoms we see layers upon layers of buried soils from past flood events. Both scouring and deposition literally change everything. From organic matter to pH and then all of the nutrients. All of this just to say that once fields dry out and deposits are leveled or removed, it'll be very important to get updated soil tests on all your fields. Things will have changed, and we need to know what's what! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.