

Ag Radio Programs for September 2 - 8, 2019

LABOR DAY - NO PROGRAM

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent.

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## 2018 Farm Bill Program Takeaways

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. We had a good turnout and a good meeting last week on the 2018 Farm Bill. Here's a few highlights. Signup will run through March 15<sup>th</sup>. I wouldn't even go in to signup until November. It may take a while for FSA National to get all the software properly written and the bugs worked out of it. Bring in your RMA production records because they can now be used to prove yields. You will be able to update yields. Bring in your records, FSA will tell you what the new farm yield would be. If it's higher, update it! One of the biggest changes, to me anyway, is that when you signup this winter it will be for 2019 and 2020. After that you will have annual signups and you can switch between PLC and ARC with each signup. None of this locked in for 5 full years. But be sure to signup or no payment for 2019! That's not an option. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Establishing Bromegrass

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. There's an old saying that you can plant bromegrass any month of the year that has a letter R in the name. While there is a fair amount of truth in that, September and early October are probably the best time. Being a cool season grass brome will really crank up its growth in the fall. Planting it now it goes into warm soil for fast germination and the cooling weather really encourages it to grow and get a good root and crown system in place. While brome isn't as sensitive to low pH as alfalfa, it may be more sensitive to low phosphorus levels. I strongly encourage soil testing before planting but if you don't have time then be sure to apply about 100 pounds of 18-46-0 or 11-52-0 at planting. I tend to go a bit heavy on seeding rates especially with un-named varieties of seed. Plan on 15 to 20 pounds of pure live seed per acre. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## No Need for Fungicides Now in Soybeans

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. I know that there are some folks applying fungicides to soybeans right now but to be right honest the soybean foliar disease level is pretty low in the state right. Most full season beans are in the R3 to R5 growth stage, although late August rains did put on more growth and more blooms. Regardless, with low disease pressure it just doesn't make sense to be applying fungicide at this time. I know that many of you are likely going to be flying insecticides for stink bugs and maybe you already have. At that point someone is probably telling you to toss in some fungicide because it's not going to cost much. But using any pesticide when it isn't needed is one way that we start to select for resistant strains of weeds, bugs or fungi. If you've got some double crop that look like they've got diseases, that's a different story though. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Stink Bugs

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Stink bugs are those green, sometimes brown, shield shaped bugs we'll find in the wagon at wheat at harvest time or in soybean fields in the late summer. Stink bugs are true bugs. They have a piercing sucking mouthpart - think mosquito here - and young ones look sort of like adults but no wings. Juveniles also tend to have yellow, black or orange on their backs. Stink bugs, both adults and juveniles, at this time of year take that mouthpart, stick it into soybean pods right into the seed and suck the juices out. That bean dies and the other beans in the pod are at risk of disease. Stink bugs are getting active right now and all it takes is an average of 10 stink bugs per 30 foot of row to justify spraying. The synthetic pyrethroids are going to give you fast knockdown and pretty good residual control so get scouting, they're out there! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

