

Ag Radio Programs for December 30, 2019 - January 5, 2020

A Farmer's New Year's Resolutions

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. We've got two days left in 2019 so let's have some fun. Here's a few New Year's resolutions for my farmer friends to consider. All in fun with a hint of seriousness! Resolve to keep better records. Not just financial records but records on each and every field that you farm. You should have notebooks full of information because I know you can't remember all of that stuff without notes! Resolve to not spray for insects or diseases UNTIL they've reached an economic threshold. Resolve to not waste time looking at snake oil products that look too good to be true! Resolve to avoid coffee shop talk about your neighbors. Nobody wins at that game! Resolve to soil test all fields at least once a year. Resolve to do a deep profile soil test in every field once every five years. Lastly, resolve to call me, BEFORE you try something new! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

A Rancher's New Year's Resolutions

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. I picked on all my farmer friends yesterday so I'll do the same today with New Year's resolutions for ranchers. Resolve to be prepared for any weather extreme well before it happens. Get those hay bales in place and ready to go well before the forecast turns into a winter weather watch. Resolve to call the Vet sooner. And I'll just leave that at sooner. Resolve to keep better records not just on your cow herds but also on pastures, pasture care, when fencing was repaired, when you put out mineral, just absolutely everything. It can have a big payoff later. Resolve to feed cows by body condition so you aren't over feeding those ladies. Resolve to do a better job of adjusting stocking rates to match grass condition and abundance or lack there of. Lastly, resolve to be a little bit firmer when it comes to culling the herd! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

NO PROGRAM - NEW YEAR'S DAY

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Get to Work on Your Leases

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Over the next couple of weeks I'm going to be hitting ag leases pretty hard because of some crucial dates coming up. In the next couple of weeks, tenants need to be meeting with landlords to talk about last year and plan for this year. Landlords, if you don't hear from your tenant don't wait until the last minute. Call them up and ask for some time to visit. There are important things to consider with leases and lack of contact is not a good thing. The most important thing for both the landlord and the tenant is to have open and honest communications. Not mean, not spiteful, but very very honest. If changes need to be made take your time in the negotiations but get it done in a timely manner to avoid last minute hasty decisions. Even if your lease is a few decades old, you've got to keep those communication lines open! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Critical Lease Dates to Remember

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. For all oral agricultural leases as well as written leases that do not state a specific date, ag leases run for one year starting and ending on March 1st. If an oral lease is going to be terminated it has to be done in writing, at least 30 days prior to March 1st and setting March 1st as the termination date. Because 2020 is a leap year, we have one extra day. Notice of termination doesn't have to be in the tenants hands until January 31st. Which brings up an important point that the notice to terminate must be in the tenants hands 30 days prior to March 1, not just mailed. If you do terminate a tenant you can take your time getting a new one as there is no critical date to start a new lease, only ending an existing lease. If you have questions on ag leases remember our ag lease public meeting at 7 p.m. January 16th at the 4-H/Sr. Citizens Building. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.