

Ag Radio Programs for January 13 - 19, 2020

Ag Lease Meeting Reminder

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. This is a reminder that we are having our Agricultural Leases meeting Thursday evening at 7 p.m. at the 4-H/Sr. Citizens Building at the fairgrounds in Junction City. There is no charge for this meeting but to make sure we have enough handouts and refreshments I am asking everyone to call 785-238-4161 and register by close of business tomorrow, Tuesday the 14th. I'll be the speaker and I'll talk a little bit about the Kansas Ag Lease Law and quite a bit about equitable leases. I'm not going to tell you what your share's break down should be nor will I tell you what cash rent you should pay or ask for. I'll talk about how to get around to figuring those things out but you have to remember that averages are averages and virtually every field across the entire state of Kansas is different. But show up and let's talk about it! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Paraquat Label Requirements

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Paraquat is a non-selective burn down herbicide that has been used for almost 60 years. Because of the nature of the active ingredient it is one of the few herbicides that no plants have yet developed resistance to. But in some ways it is a nasty chemical and needs to be used with a great deal of caution with strict attention to the required personal protective equipment. New for 2019 is the requirement for additional safety training. Paraquat can only be handled and used by certified applicators and all handlers are required to take an additional online training. This second certificate is not required for purchasing any product containing paraquat, but you need to have it with you anytime you are handling, mixing, loading or applying paraquat. If you need help taking the training, we can set that up at the Extension Office for you. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Personal Protective Equipment

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Every time I hear a claim about someone contracting cancer after using pesticides for years, I have to wonder if they always took the time to wear the proper personal protective equipment. I know that when I worked in research, I wasn't the best at always wearing the recommended or even required equipment. It was the 1970s and we tried to fly under the radar. Even back to the 1960s I can remember my Dad loading up the sprayer dressed just like he was for everything else he did on the farm, short sleeved shirt and leather gloves. Those labels on those pesticides contain the required personal protective equipment you should wear. It's there to protect you from accidental exposure to those chemicals, both concentrated and diluted. You have enough risks out there every day, don't make it worse. Protect yourself! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Terminating Leases

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. When agricultural leases are terminated, the landlord and the tenant both need to go down a checklist to make sure it's within the requirements of the law. If it was an oral lease, was the termination done in writing, 30 days prior to March 1 and setting the end of the lease on March 1st? If wheat was planted, remember that the tenant has the right to harvest that wheat crop at the terms that were agreed to prior to notice of termination being given. If the tenant had applied inputs or done tillage in preparation for the spring crop planting, that all needs to be reimbursed to the tenant. Receipts can be provided by the tenant and I can provide average custom rates for any machinery usage involved. As the landowner you have the right to decide who farms your land. But the tenant also has rights that need to be protected and respected. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Radon Awareness

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Something different this morning - let's talk about your house. This is Radon Awareness month. Our part of Kansas is a bit of a hotspot when it comes to radon. Radon isn't like carbon monoxide. Problems from radon, mainly lung cancer, occur after several decades of exposure. I strongly encourage everyone to check the lowest level of their house every few years for radon. If high levels are detected it is something that can be remedied. Remediation isn't difficult and it isn't that expensive, but you need to know your levels. We have radon test kits at the Extension Office for \$5.50 and that price includes the testing. If you've never tested your home for radon, do it now. If it's been more than three years since you've tested your home, do it now. New homes, old homes, it really doesn't matter, just get your house tested. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.