

### Late Planting of Wheat

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Harvest was rolling right along when damp weather a couple of weeks but the brakes on everything. So here we are into November and just getting soybean harvest wrapped up and trying to get some wheat planted right behind. I really feel that planting wheat after about November 10<sup>th</sup> is a bad idea. We are also into the late plant period for wheat for crop insurance so there is that angle to consider as well BUT, if you are still planting wheat or plan to plant some wheat yet, boost the seeding rate to 120 pounds per acre, but no higher. Late planted wheat has fewer tillers and heads are smaller so we've just got to try to make more heads. Planting more than 120 pounds per acre can actually start to depress yields. Make sure you include some starter fertilizer regardless of phosphorus soil levels and get your nitrogen on sooner than later! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Wheat - Replant or Abandon?

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Early planted wheat looks pretty good. Since then it's been spotty, some hasn't come up at all and you may be looking at it and scratching your head and wondering if you should replant or just go forward with what you've got? Well, we could spend time digging around in the wheat field and looking for sprouted seed to if it is alive or dead and then do a lot of calculations to figure potential yield etc, but let's just save a whole lot of time. We're in the first week of November. We are a month past the optimum planting date. Right now you might as well ride it out until March. Go ahead and apply fertilizer between now and early March but don't treat for weeds. If you've got a decent looking stand in early March then you just go forward with it. If the stand is poor, you fence it and graze it and then go ahead with a spring crop! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Evaluate Cow's Body Score Now

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. If you have a spring calving cow herd, the next month or two can be an easy time to get some extra weight and body condition on to cows that are a little bit thin. As you wean those calves off spend time evaluating body condition score. Any cows that are body condition score 3s and 4s should be sorted off and given a little extra alfalfa hay and 2 to 3 pounds of grain or 20% protein supplement to flesh those cows out a bit. The closer we get to calving the more protein and energy it's going to take to put that weight on. Getting those cows up to a body condition score of 5 now will result in a cow that can provide more milk and will also rebreed better when that time comes. If you're also using crop residues remember that sometimes phosphorus and Vitamin A can be limiting so keep the mineral out there for them! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Start Inventorying Feed Supplies

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. We had a little early cold and just enough snow to help us remember why we hate it, especially when we have cattle to feed and cows to calve, eventually. We've now been through that early wakeup call and back into a little bit nicer weather, a little more seasonal weather. This would be a good time to sit down and start to inventory your cattle feed supplies and not just list what you have but where it is located. If you have multiple cuttings of alfalfa, consider testing each cutting and even each field so you've got a good idea of the lower quality feed you can feed now or early or higher quality feed that you hold back for cold times or soon after calving. Taking time to inventory feed now allows you to figure out how much you'll need and what you might be short of so you can plan ahead and not have to make quick expensive decisions. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

## Cull Cow Management

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Hopefully by now, even perhaps before weaning, you knew which cows were going to get culled. If not, figure that out now! The four Os still work well, looks for cows that are old, ornery, odd and obstinate. Once you know which cows you're going to cull, get them grouped up. If the markets are good get them to market. If the markets are a little soft yet, consider putting some pounds on those cows. Right now maintenance costs are going to be pretty low so it doesn't take much feed to put some pounds on those cows and extra pounds may yield better returns 45 or 60 days from now. Consider utilizing crop residues, or a little grain to add a pound or two per day. You can easily add 50 to 100 pounds of gain before you take those cull cows to market and that extra weight can translate to profit at a reasonable cost! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.