

Plan to topdress winter wheat

Some wheat has begun to green up, so this is a good time to start planning for topdressing nitrogen (N) on the winter wheat crop. With fairly small wheat in some fields due to late planting plus concerns over stands, winter survival, and dry soils in some areas, there are several key elements that need to be considered when deciding on the exact program you plan to use. These include: timing, N source, application method and N rate.

Ideally, enough N was applied in the fall to meet the needs of the crop through green-up. Some combination of fall pre-plant or at-seeding N and/or early top-dressed N is also needed to supply adequate N to support head differentiation a little later in the spring. The stage when head size is being determined begins about two weeks before jointing.

Timing. The most important factor in getting a good return on top-dress N is usually timing. It is critical to get some N on early enough to have the maximum potential impact on yield. While some producers like to wait until spring just prior to jointing to top-dress, this can be too late in some years, especially when little or no N was applied in the fall. For the well-drained medium-to-fine-textured soils that dominate our wheat acres, the odds of losing much of the N that is top-dress applied in the winter is low. On poorly drained and/or shallow clay-pan soils, N applied in the

Views with Van Keith Van Slike, Extension Director



fall or early winter would have a significant risk of denitrification N loss.

Also, keep in mind that N should not be applied to the soil surface when the ground is deeply frozen and especially when snow covered. This will help prevent runoff losses with snow melt or heavy precipitation.

Source. The typical sources of N used for topdressing wheat are UAN solution and dry urea. Numerous trials by K-State over the years have shown that both are equally effective. In no-till situations, there may be some slight advantage to applying dry urea since it falls to the soil surface and may be less affected by immobilization than uniformly broadcast liquid UAN, which tends to get hung up on surface residues. Dribble (surface band) UAN applications would avoid much of this tie-up on surface crop residues as well. But if producers plan to tank-mix with a herbicide, they ll have to use liquid UAN and broadcast it.

Some of the new controlled-release products such as polyurethane coated urea (ESN) might be considered on very sandy soils prone to leaching, or poorly drained soils prone to denitrification. Generally a 50:50

blend of standard urea and the coated urea -- which will provide some N immediately to support tillering and head development and also continue to release some N in later stages of development.

Rate. Producers should have started the season with a certain N recommendation in hand, ideally based on a profile N soil test done before the crop is planted and before any N has been applied. N. Topdressing should complement or supplement the N applied in the fall, with the total application amount equaling that targeted rate. One excellent way to fine-tune N top-dress rates is with the use of sensors. Extensive research in Kansas for topdressing wheat resulted in the development of N rate calculators using input from NDVI sensors. More information on the use of these spreadsheets can be found at the K-State Soil Testing Laboratory web site at www.agronomy.ksu.edu/soiltesting/p.aspx?tabid=1

One other note: If the wheat was grazed this fall and winter, producers should add an additional 30-40 pounds N/acre for every 100 pounds of beef weight gain removed from the field. If conditions are favorable for heavy fall and/or spring grazing, additional N may be necessary, especially for a grain crop.

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Try something different in your garden

Kay Melia Master Gardener

It's absolutely amazing! No sooner do we recover from our encounter with a ground hog, but we enter the season of lions and lambs! It seems that Americans are never without their animals this time of year and before we know it, it will be raining cats and dogs, we hope, and the "zebras" will begin to ride herd on the Jayhawks, the Wildcats, the Buffaloes and the Shockers. (ever see one of those dangerous Shockers?)

It must be getting closer to spring. But not quite yet. But there is an intensely interesting project available to us right now that I'm looking forward to. It's time to bury a few seeds, indoors, and reap rich benefits from our efforts.

I'm about to plant a few perennial flower seeds. I will mainly plant a few of the NEW seed offerings of perennials that have caught my eye in the seed catalogs. Vegetable transplants will come later, but the flowers need to be started very soon because of their slower growth pattern. Most of the ones I will

start will bloom this year if I can get some good early growth inside.

I love columbines, and I have chosen a new one called Oregon Red and White, and I will attempt to grow a few transplants this weekend. They will, hopefully, produce 2 to 3 inch blooms this first year in the garden. I'll also plant a new snapdragon called Snap Daddy Pink. Snapdragons do well outside in my area of the world and this new variety looks gorgeous..

For years now, I've started my own annual petunias, or at least most of them, and will do a few again. Ever since the Wave series of petunias has been available, particularly the Tidal Wave, I have been attracted to them and raise a few transplants for several patio containers. This year, I will also try a new one named Cha Ching Cherry, a spreading, boldly colored petunia that is a real eye-catcher.

I will add to my list of indoor starts as I prepare for planting times of the vegetable transplants toward the end of the month. As mentioned, perennial flower transplant development

is much slower than the vegetables such as tomatoes and peppers, so it's high time to move.

Let me be among the first to strongly urge you to try your hand at starting a few of your own transplants, before "dirty hands time" actually arrives. It can be a gratifying gardening project for anyone who loves gardening. But your greatest reward will be to successfully grow some of the very newest forms of plant life that will not be available elsewhere for several years. It can be a simple challenge to carve a new notch in your belt of garden successes, accomplished before the outdoor gardening season begins.

All the materials you need for growing your own can be found at your favorite garden center. Next week in this space, I will proceed to give you a step by step, play by play schedule of how I do this, for whatever it may be worth, as well as a list of materials you will need.

Maybe it's time to try something different in your gardening, and above all, beware the Ides of March!

PUBLIC RECORD

District Court

These transactions were taken from the records of filings in the offices of the District Court clerk at the Norton County Courthouse.

Traffic and Wildlife and Parks cases are given to the paper when the fines are paid.

Feb. 20

Feb. 15-Joyce Elaine Mosbarger, Broomfield, Colo.; Charge: Speeding 76 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$147.

Jan. 14-Marjorie Richard, Edmond; Charge: Speeding 81 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$177.

Jan. 19-Dakota Ridpath, Oxford, Neb.; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt (14-17 yoa); Found: Guilty; Fine: \$60.

Dec. 17-Joseph Carrol Sanko, Norton; Charge: Speeding 76 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$147.

Jan. 3-Joseph Carol Sanko, Norton; Charge: Speeding 76 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$147.

Jan. 15-Stephanie Rosemarie Krystal Stone, Alma; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Feb. 2-Stephanie Rosemarie Krystal Stone, Alma; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Jan. 15-Lucille Louann Stone-Masoner, Dresden; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Feb. 17-Kevin L. Tubbs, Alma; Charge: Speeding 98 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$336.

Jan. 15-Jeremy D. Vanboening, Orleans, Neb.; Charge: Speeding 80 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$171.

Jan. 15-Lawrence Edward Whidden, Norcatur; Charge: 1. Failure to wear seatbelt, 2. Registration on trailer; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$106.

Jan. 24-Mark Woodrow Whitehead, Summertown, Tenn.; Charge: Parking, standing, or stopping in prohibited area; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$141.

Feb. 28

Feb. 18-Jesse Scott Gallentine, Norton; Charge: Speeding 74 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$141.

Feb. 25-George Zane Harris, Baytown, Texas; Speeding 87 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$219.

Feb. 26-Darin Gene Hawkins, Smith Center; Charge: Speeding 76 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$147.

Nov. 28-Miranda Mock, Norton; Charge: Vehicles; unlawful

acts; e.g., registration; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$171.

Jan. 20-Ricky Lee Ravinsborg, Johnstown, Colo.; Charge: Speeding 80 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$171.

Feb. 17-Monte W. Williams, Ewing, Neb.; Charge: Speeding 67 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$153.

March 6

Jan. 16-Charles Jason Emmert, Clinton Ark.; Charge: Speeding 74 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$147.

Feb. 17-Charles J. Faltin, Springfield, Neb.; Charge: Failure to yield at stop or yield sign; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$171.

Jan. 30-Mark Henry Henderson, Norton; Charge: Speeding 76 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$147.

Feb. 24-Kendrick Ray Howard, Indianola, Neb.; Charge: 86 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$210.

Feb. 3-Lance Ryan Roe, Norcatur; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Oct. 24-Jeremy C. Sauer, Phillipsburg; Charge: Speeding 68 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$291.

Leadership Award Winners



February's Northern Valley Elementary School Leadership Award Winners are (from left to right) Gavin Thalheim, Mary Baird, Sierra Kester, Stephanie Whitney and Haley Hansen.

–Courtesy photo

February Northern Valley Elementary School Leadership Award Winners Kindergarten – Gavin Thalheim

Gavin has shown leadership in the Kindergarten classroom during the month of February. During instructional time Gavin has excellent listening and demonstrates to his friends what a good listener looks like. Gavin is on his best behavior and shows his friends how to behave in the classroom and at other events outside of the classroom. Gavin treats his friends and classmates with respect. Gavin continues to do his best in all that he does throughout his school day. – Michael Thompson

1st Grade – Haley Hansen

Haley Hansen is the first grade leadership winner for February. Haley is a good leader and shows her class how to act. After she completes her work, Haley always has a book in her hand and reads while others are finishing their

work. Haley tells the truth and does the right thing even when no adults are watching. She listens to directions and waits her turn while classmates are talking. She is a positive person who has a good sense of humor. –Tammy Vincent

2nd Grade – Mary Baird

Mary Baird is the recipient of the second grade leadership award for February. Mary consistently follows school rules and demonstrates respect for her classmates and adults. She has intrinsic motivation and takes responsibility for her learning as she completes assignments and tries to work to her full potential. Mary is a kind and helpful classmate to all of her friends. She has shown integrity and honesty and makes good choices even if an adult is not present. –Julie Thompson

3rd Grade – Stephanie Whitney

Stephanie is the 3rd Grade Leader for the month of February. She works very hard in

class and has a positive attitude. She works hard to reach her reading goal and math objectives. Stephanie always has her planner signed, comes prepared for class and always has a smile. She has proven to be a great role model and shows others what it is like to be a leader. Stephanie is honest and hard-working. –Jill Gebhard

4th Grade – Sierra Kester

Sierra Kester is the 4th grade leadership winner for the month of February. Sierra always works hard and never disturbs others while they are doing their work. She always turns her work in on time and asks questions whenever she needs help. Sierra is very motivated! She is a great friend and very caring. Sierra is also a very positive student. She is a great role model for other students. Congratulations Sierra! –Monica Wilson

Leadership award winners receive a certificate and Northern Valley book bag.

STUDENT NEWS

Northern Valley Junior High
Honor Roll 2013-14
3rd Quarter
Highest (4.00)
8th Grade
Katie Johnson
Chaylee Lowry
Brianna Johns
7th Grade
Kale Cox
Micah Kasson
Riley Sides
Ross Cole
Zoe Cox
Paige Baird
6th Grade
Gunner Yocum
Isabelle Schemper
Honors I (3.50-3.99)
8th Grade
HalLee Linner
Makensey Schroeder
Jeremy Thummel
7th Grade
Aidan Baird
Brianna Sammons
Nick Stutsman
Makenna Hammond

Chris Lowry
Jaden Smith
6th Grade
Jasmine Covington
Zach Hall
Honors II (3.00-3.49)
Brandi Hall
Kailey Hammond
Caden Kinderknecht

Keegan Smith
7th Grade
Kim Lowry
Caden Bach
Shayna Speer
6th Grade
Matthew George
Savanah Kindall
Alex Van Patten

April 1

VOTE

Harriett Gill

WARD I

CITY COUNCIL

“Keep Norton Moving Forward!”

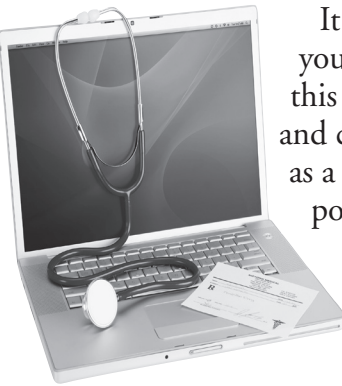
PAID FOR BY HARRIETT GILL

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NCHS
Monday, March 17 - Friday, March 21
No School- Spring Break
NJHS
Monday, March 17 - Friday, March 21
No School- Spring Break
EES
Monday, March 17 - Friday, March 21
No School- Spring Break
Northern Valley
Monday, March 17 - Friday, March 21
No School- Spring Break



Over the next 3-6 weeks, the Norton County Hospital and Medical Clinic will be changing to a new computer system.



It is essential that we update your current contact details -- this includes your home, work and cell phone numbers as well as a current mailing address. If possible, please arrive at least 10 minutes in advance of your appointment time so staff can have time to verify your information.

We also ask that you bring your current insurance card with you when you come to the Hospital or Clinic for an appointment. You will also be asked to pay for any co-pay due at the time of service.

The Norton County Hospital remains committed to providing the quality health care services you and your family have come to know and trust.



We appreciate your patience during this transition time to our new computer system.