

Ag Talk with Jeanne

By
Jeanne
Falk



Agronomy Specialist

Planning for planting wheat: seeding rates, depth

In the scheme of planting wheat, many factors have been determined when the tractor pulls into the field. However, seeding rate and depth can still be decided, within reason.

Seeding rates in western Kansas range from 600,000 to 900,000 seeds per acre planted (40 to 60 lbs at a rate of 15,000 seeds per pound). Considering 80% germination and emergence, the plant population may vary from 450,000 to 750,000 plants per acre. Seeding rates for irrigated wheat are 900,000 to 1,350,000 seeds per acre (60 to 90 lbs/ac of 15,000 seeds per pound). This would result in a final stand of 720,000 to 1,080,000 plants per acre.

Traditionally, seeding rate is viewed as pounds of seed per acre. However, seeding rates of wheat are increasingly viewed similar to corn seeding rates, as seeds

per acre. This is due to the variability of seed size in seed wheat. For example, Overlay is a variety that normally has large seeds when compared to other varieties. This would result in fewer seeds per pound and if planting in pounds per acre, fewer seeds planted per acre.

Lower seeding rates will tiller more than higher seeding rates. This can allow the wheat plant to make adjustments based on the available soil water. During tillering in the fall (mid Oct.), wheat can use over 0.6 in/wk.

Seeding rates can be adjusted upwards by 10 to 20%, if planting conditions are good or if quicker cover is desired. Seeding rates should also be increased 50 to 100% when double-cropping behind row crops. This is due to the later planting date and compensating with challenges associated with seed-to-soil contact and

residue. In addition, this also potentially compensates for the decreased time for tillering by adding more plants per acre.

Wheat can emerge from various depths, but a planting depth of 1½ inches is optimal. The important part of planting depth is the length of the coleoptile. Coleoptile length is related to the height of the wheat. Many times a taller variety will have a longer coleoptile, although there are always exceptions. In addition, wheat emerging in hot soils can experience problems with the coleoptile. Extremely warm soil can cause the coleoptile to shorten and prevent it from emerging from the soil surface.

In dry soil, a hoe drill can help place seed deeper into soil moisture. However, when creating deep furrows, be aware that a heavy rain can further bury the seed. This can cause a deeper 'planting depth' than intended and decreased seedling emergence.



HOMECOMING BANNERS were painted in art class. **Martin Hnizdil** was concentrating on his painting.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

BATTLE

Continued from Page 1

The object of golf is to complete each hole in the least number of strokes. In Frisbie golf, the player needs to put the disc in the basket in the least amount of throws.

The 9-hole course is a series of baskets mounted on a pole. The disc is thrown from a tee area to the target.

The roadside park, Mr. Zwegardt said, is better than most courses. There is not only rest room facilities, but there is a place for picnics and water.

Atwood has an 18-hole course, Goodland and Sharon Springs have nine-hole courses. In the future, Mr. Zwegardt is hoping to organize tournaments.

In the future, the school physical education teacher may want to use the course as one of the activities. "It is good to be able to utilize the roadside park," he said.

All ages, from the young to the elderly, can enjoy the sport. Not only is it a fun sport but it is good recreational exercise. Frisbie golf provides upper and lower body conditioning, aerobic exercise and promotes a combination of physical and mental abilities. The upside, there is little risk of physical injuries.

Concentration skills are increased by mastering shots and negotiating obstacles.

Check out the course, watch the players or become one. For more information, talk to Mr. Zwegardt.

TOURNEY

Continued from Page 1

On Sunday morning, Willie Sharp and A Few Good Men will showcase some of the vocal talents of our area residents.

At 1 p.m. on Sunday, the auditorium will come alive with the sound of The Denver Mandolin Orchestra. The acoustic performance features nearly a dozen players on different instruments of the mandolin family. They play a wide variety of music every thing from a John Philip Sousa march to old world traditional songs.

Following the mandolins will be a rendition of the song Arikaree.

Rounding out the afternoon, Paul Barkey, an author and historian from Manhattan will give a presentation on the life of Lt Fred Beecher.

Across the County

By
Marty
Fear



County Extension Agent

Beef fall calf conferences planned in three locations

Kansas State University will host the K-State Beef Fall 2011 Calf Conference in three locations - Atwood, Oakley and Stockton, in late September. Key-note presentations and speakers at all three conferences are the "Beef Cattle Market Outlook," by Glynn Tonsor, livestock marketing specialist with K-State Research and Extension, and "Calf and Stocker Research Highlights: Updates in Management, Nutrition and Health," by Dale Blasi, stocker and forage specialist with K-State Research and Extension. Each conference will include a meal and location-specific speakers, as well. Dates, times and site-specific presentation topics include:

Sept. 27 - Atwood - 6:30 p.m. - 4-H building - Reply by Sept. 22 to 785-626-3192 or cdixon@ksu.edu

Sept. 27 - Atwood - 6:30 p.m. - 4-H building - Reply by Sept. 22 to 785-626-3192 or cdixon@ksu.edu

Beef quality assurance
Sept. 28 - Oakley- 10 a.m. -

Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center - Reply by Sept. 22 to 785-743-6361 or rsbarrow@ksu.edu

Keeping pastures productive; and local forage analysis, feed costs and ration balancing; lowering winter feed costs:

Sept. 28 - Stockton - 5 p.m. - Rooks County Fairgrounds, Harding Hall 4-H building - Reply by Sept. 26 to 785-425-6851 or rboyle@ksu.edu

Winter grazing opportunities

As our growing season winds down, it's time to plan and assess your winter grazing options. Some options may be better this year than most. Hay and silage are really expensive. If you can find something for your animals to graze rather than be fed hay and silage, you will probably save over a dollar per day per cow.

Extra rain in many areas this summer and fall produced more

than the usual amount of growth on rangeland, plus good re-growth on alfalfa and grass hay fields. A few fields of summer annual grasses have nice new growth. And there's even a lot of volunteer winter wheat growing in many areas.

These all can be grazed this fall and winter.

Yes, you may need to take some slight precautions to do it safely. Alfalfa has a slight risk of bloat. Green wheat and grass re-growth might have a tendency to cause some grass tetany or respiratory problems if animals are moved to these lush pastures from dry, brown pastures without any adaptation. Be careful following a hard freeze, or maybe wait until a few days after a killing freeze happens before putting animals on these lush pastures. And many fields

may need some temporary fence or have water hauled to them.

But don't let these challenges prevent you from using these resources. Not only will you get some good quality, less expensive feed for your animals, grazing also could be good for the land.

Most of the nutrients in the plants will be recycled back to the soil via manure and urine, making them available to support next year's crop. Look around, wherever you have grazable growth remaining, take advantage of it. It's like money in the bank, and good feed, too.

Contact the Cheyenne County Extension office at 332-3171 or cfear@ksu.edu with questions or comments. Till next week - Marty

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Wray Community District Hospital

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Introducing

Dr. Bruce Kornfeld has been providing Dermatology services at the Wray Hospital since 1996, and the Wray Hospital is proud to have had such a long relationship with him. He is a graduate of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center's School of Medicine and completed his Residency in Dermatology at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center while serving in the US Military.

Dr. Kornfeld has been Board Certified since 1988 by the American Board of Dermatology and currently is part of the Dermatology and Laser Center in Fort Collins. He sees patients in the Specialty Clinic at Wray Community District Hospital every other month. To make an appointment to see Dr. Kornfeld in Wray call his office at 1-800-542-2001.

TOUGH TRUCK RACES

Sunday
September 25, 2011



at the

Dundy County Fairgrounds
Benkelman, Nebraska

Racing starts at 4:00 p.m. MT • Pits open at 2 p.m.



Entry Fee:
\$35

Anyone under 19 years of age must sign with a notarized parent's signature.

Come to cheer for your favorite truck and driver as they race against the clock for the best time in completing the course.

INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING?

Call Sam Jaeger at 308-883-1177 or Frank Merklin at 308-423-5662.

General Information:
Roll-over protection (4-point minimum), helmet, seat belt; no dune buggies, etc.; driver must be 16 years of age or older. 100% of entry fees paid out.
Tough Truck Races sponsored by Benkelman Jaycees.

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BEECHER ISLAND REUNION

Saturday, Sept. 17th

6:30 a.m. ♦ Breakfast with Idalia Bicentennial FCE Club
9 a.m. ♦ Black Powder Shoot sponsored by Idalia Gun Club
10 a.m. ♦ Paddle Tractor Pull
♦ Concessions available from Wray Lions Club
♦ All day Quilt show
1 a.m. ♦ Races; horseshoe pitching; music; dryland turtle race
7 p.m. ♦ In the historic Beecher Island Auditorium Wily Jim The Original Swingabilly



Sunday, Sept. 18th

6:30 a.m. ♦ pancake breakfast by the Idalia Lions Club
9:45 a.m. ♦ Boy scout flag raising ceremony
10 a.m. ♦ Sunday Service, Speaker Phil Mitchell, Music Willie Sharp and A Few Good Men
1 a.m. ♦ Denver Mandolin Orchestra, Paul Barkey History Speaker.
Raffle drawing Beecher Island Helping Hand Club