# Ag Talk with Jeanne

## **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, Overley 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



Agronomy Specialist

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  $1\frac{1}{2}$ 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 concentrate ing 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 lest 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. Zweygardt 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. Zweygardt 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



### **Continued from Page 1**

of our area residents.

old world traditional songs.

a rendition of the song Arikaree.

Paul Barkey, an author and his- 22 to 785-626-3192 or cdixson@ torian from Manhatan will give a ksu.edu presentation on the life of Lt Fred Beecher.

**Across the County** 

## **Beef fall calf conferences planned in three locations**

University State Kansas will host the K-State Beef Fall 2011Calf Conference in three locations - Atwood, Oakley and Stockton, in late September. Key-On Sunday morning, Willie note presentations and speakers at Tonsor, livestock marketing spe-At 1 p.m. on Sunday, the audi- cialist with K-State Research and torium will come alive with the Extension, and "Calf and Stocker sound of The Denver Mandolin Research Highlights: Updates Orchestra. The acoustic perfor- in Management, Nutrition and mance features nearly a dozen Health," by Dale Blasi, stocker players on different instruments of and forage specialist with K-State the mandolin family. They play a Research and Extension. Each wide variety of music every thing conference will include a meal from a John Philip Sousa march to and location-specific speakers, as well. Dates, times and site-specif-Following the mandolins will be ic presentation topics include:

Sept. 27 – Atwood - 6:30 p.m. Rounding out the afternoon, - 4-H building - Reply by Sept.

Beef quality assurance

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

Sept. 28 - Oakley- 10 a.m. - 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

eas. These all can be grazed this fall and winter.

winter wheat growing in many ar-

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

County Extension Agent

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

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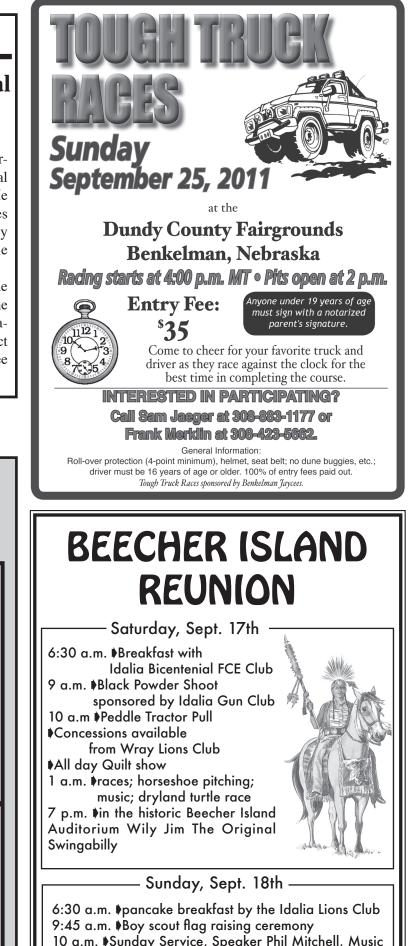
Marty

Fear

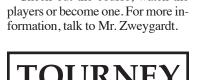
But don't let these challenges prevent you from using these resources. Not only will you get some good quality, less expensive feed for your animals, grazing also could be good for the land.

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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Sharp and A Few Good Men will all three conferences are the "Beef showcase some the vocal talents Cattle Market Outlook," by Glynn

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vices 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.

> 10 a.m. Sunday Service, Speaker Phil Mitchell, Music Willie Sharp and A Few Good Men 1a.m. Denver Mandolin Orchestra, Paul Barkey History Speaker.

Raffle drawing Beecher Island Helping Hand Club



The Saint Francis Herald

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