

Extension agent recommends checking, testing seed wheat

If you haven't already checked your seed wheat, make sure it has been germination tested. With the poor wheat quality in the past year, this is critical.

Also, the 2004 wheat variety results are in, and available at the extension office. Additionally, we have certified seed directories, wheat variety disease ratings, and many other useful publications as you prepare for wheat planting.

Forage Concerns and Considerations

There are many factors to con-



Joe Leibbrandt

- Farm and Home News

sider when deciding your forage options. Some of those factors include: Do you want to hay or graze the forage? Do you need extra fall grazing, spring grazing or both? Wheat, rye, triticale and oats can provide good fall and spring grazing. Rye is winter grazing, if ad-

equate moisture is present. If you have forage sorghum, grain sorghum, sudangrass or millet, beware of nitrate and prussic acid toxicity. Weed like kochia and pigweed are commonly high in nitrates, but under certain conditions wheat, corn, alfalfa and oats can be as well.

Prussic acid is primarily a concern for grazed forages. Once a forage is cut for hay, the prussic acid usually dissipates as the forage dries. Nitrate toxicity can be problems in both hayed and grazed forages. Nitrate levels are affected by

weather conditions and time of harvest. Regardless of when you do harvest, cut high, leaving 8 to 10 inches of stubble.

Tall stubble pays off three ways — it helps plants begin regrowth quicker, it holds hay off the ground so air can help dry underneath, and it keeps many nitrates out in the field rather than harvesting them all in your hay.

Also, remember to always have forage tested for nitrate levels prior to feeding to livestock.

Tomato Fruit Disorders

There are several fruit disorders of tomatoes that may be caused from soil nutrient imbalances in addition to blossom end rot that develops earlier in the season. Many of these problems have been seen by many local gardeners. Greywall, as the name implies, results from excessive nitrogen or potassium and is somewhat similar to blossom end rot. When tomato fruit are directly exposed to bright sun they many develop sunscald - a white to pale yellow patch on the exposed side of the fruit. Adequate

foliage usually prevents sunscald from happening. Yellow-shoulder (as the name implies, the top part of the fruit never develops pigmentation) can be traced to excesses of nitrogen or potassium. It seems to be worse on some varieties of tomatoes. Finally, blotchy ripening is a similar result of excesses of nitrogen. All of these disorders indicate that balanced, moderate levels of fertilizer are necessary to produce a good tomato crop. Excess fertilizer can lead to problems in fruit development and ripening.

Summer Show Choir entertained full house in Winona

We'd like to teach the world to sing was the message Susanna Smith, Rachael Smith, Fred Schertz and Jess Schertz, from this community, successfully conveyed to a full house Friday evening, along with 61 other performers.

The summer show choir, under the direction of co-directors Arla Homburg, Andrew Homburg and Holly Acton, entertained parents, grandparents and friends in the sanctuary of the Community Christian Church. The children and youth



Jean Lowe

- Winona Correspondent

ranged in ages three years through 17.

Aaron and Nichol Homburg's children KaiLee, August and Terran were members of the cast. They recently moved from Winona to

Natoma.

Fair time is a special time for grandparents who have grandchildren in 4-H. Roger and Marge Ausmus have enjoyed observing their grandsons, Wyatt and Layton Werth, show their cattle and seeing their creativity in arts and crafts. They boys are members of the Brewster 4-H club. Wyatt won grand champion on his entry in photography.

Layton entered a unique birdhouse which earned a grand cham-

pion title. Both boys won awards on their steers and bucket calves. Layton is a beginner in water color and received reserve grand champion on his water color entry. That's encouragement for a budding artist.

Candice and Ashley Latham were weekend guests of their grandparents, Brad and Linda Latham.

Winona may be only a speck on the map but it is always buzzing with activity.

Many of my contacts say, "But don't put this in the paper." Oh well,

this column would be too lengthy for the editor to accept anyway. The diversity of interests and hospitality of the WRSPC area have made the summer of 2004 a busy one.

One such story is Denise Shoff's interest in music and motivation to continue her education which took her to Kansas City for a week to attend a workshop on teaching guitar. IT was held at Blue Valley Middle School in Overland Park.

A classroom peer was a choir teacher of Denise's when she was a student in Great Bend High School. Denise also went to Wichita to meet with the Kansas Band Master's Association.

Hospitality has been extended to another foreign exchange student from Germany.

Dennis and Denise Shoff are opening their home to Britta Werners who arrived Thursday to spend the school year.

She will attend Oakley High School where Denise is a band instructor. A former exchange student from Germany, Anne Mantel, will arrive next week for a two-week visit with the Shoffs.

Babies

Lear Ev Eicher

Eric and Vanessa Eicher announce the birth of their son, Lear Ev Eicher, on Thursday, May 19, 2004 at Citizens Medical Center. He weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and was 19 1/4 inches long.

Grandparents are Antonio and Catherine Vera of Liberty, Mo. and Curtis and Beverly Eicher of Colby. Sister Sabrina, 3, welcomes Lear home.

Woman unhappy with boyfriend's affection

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Ron," and I have been together for six years and have lived together for two. We are planning to be married. I work close to home and sometimes Ron meets me for lunch nearby. When he drops me off, he insists on kissing me in the car in front of the building, a long, lingering tongue kiss. I think it is inappropriate, because my bosses and co-workers have windows right there, and there are often clients outside.

When I try to pull away, or explain why it makes me uncomfortable, Ron gets upset and says I must be ashamed of him or something. That's not true! I would simply rather keep such displays of affection confined to our house, or at least away from my workplace. Am I wrong?

— EMBARRASSED

DEAR EMBARRASSED: You are right to be embarrassed. What your boyfriend is doing isn't showing affection; it is displaying the extent of his insecurity. By kissing you in such an inappropriate way, he is trying to show others the control he has over you. To insist on doing it after you have told him it makes you uncomfortable is insensitive, immature and disrespectful of your feelings. Please consider putting marriage on "hold" until your boyfriend grows up, which may be never.



Abigail Van Buren

- Dear Abby

started dating the following July, and by August, my 6-year-old told me that Mom's "friend from high school" was sleeping in her bed and taking showers in the morning.

I was furious. I told Erin that what she did when I had the kids was her business. But when the kids were with her, her boyfriend should not spend the night. She told me her bedroom was no longer any of my business. The sleepovers continued, and in November, Erin informed me that her boyfriend had officially moved in. She claims that this is a loving and committed relationship — but they have broken up twice that I know of in the past six months.

I am legally powerless to fight this, but I think that in addition to being confusing and unsettling for our daughters, Erin is setting a bad example. What is your opinion, Abby?

— LEGALLY POWERLESS

DEAR POWERLESS: No, I do not. Your ex-wife is setting a bad example and sending a poor message to her impressionable daughters. When the girls are older, Erin may come to regret her stance on this. Although you are legally powerless in this situation, I hope that you will continue to be a stabilizing influence in your daughters' lives, because it appears they are going to need one.

DEAR ABBY: I am married, with a 12-year-old daughter. We share a three-bedroom apartment with a lady who is a friend of the family. She is always doing dishes, even though I have repeatedly requested that she not do so.

When she does the dishes, more than half of them are still dirty. What should I do about this? Continue to rewash them? It seems like a waste of effort and water.

— FRUSTRATED

DEAR FRUSTRATED: Try this: Assign another chore to this well-intentioned but vision-challenged lady. That way she will feel like she's doing something useful — and you won't have to worry about sanitation.

DEAR ABBY: My second wife found herself with a far stronger libido than I could match. This, of course, left me with a lot of disappointment. She, a nurse, said, "Off to the doctor with you!" The doctor said, "Let's do some lab work." Sure enough, there was a little brain chemistry issue I needed to deal with. I am now on medication, which solved our problem.

— HAPPIER NOW

DEAR HAPPIER NOW: I'm pleased that your problem was resolved. Thank you for pointing

out that a low sex drive may be an indication of a medical problem.

DEAR ABBY: That letter from "Needs More" could have been written by me 20 years ago. I married my best friend, who also had very little interest in sex. During our six-year marriage we argued frequently and I felt more and more undesirable. When I finally found the strength to leave the marriage, it broke both our hearts.

Two years later, my ex realized that he was gay. It made so much sense in retrospect. I agree with the advice you gave "Needs More." She should keep her fiancé as a friend, but she should not marry him.

— BEEN THERE, DONE THAT IN VIRGINIA

DEAR BEEN THERE: Thank you for sharing your experience. The mail I have received from readers has been divided on this issue. About one-third came from women, like yourself, whose husbands turned out to be gay. Another third said the problem had been caused by a hormonal or chemical imbalance or depression, which had been successfully treated.

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Open House
for Troy T. Dillinger
August 21
2-4 p.m. CDT
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Main Street in Winona, KS

Thank You

Thank you for your support on August 3rd.

I would appreciate your continued support and vote in the General Election on November 2nd.

Andrea Wyrick
Republican Candidate for County Attorney

Paid for by Andrea Wyrick for County Attorney, Jerry Vincent, Treasurer.

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Paid by Peterson for Senate, Chris Gordon, Treasurer

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COLBY (S. Range Ave.)

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