

# Dry conditions add to wheat stress in western, central Kansas

Wheat fields in central and western Kansas could use at least one last good rain before harvest. "Wheat is under stress in much of western Kansas south of I-70 and west of Pratt and Great Bend," said Kansas State University's Jim Shroyer. "In areas east of U.S. Highway 281, there are also areas where wheat is under stress, especially on terrace tops." Shroyer, a crops specialist with K-State Research and Extension, said the stressed wheat is generally showing some combination of the following symptoms:

- White heads, which developed very quickly over a wide area,
- Curled and dried up flag leaf,
- Tillers that have sloughed,
- Loss of one or more small developing kernels in the spikelet,
- Poorly developing kernels,
- Chlorotic leaves due to poor root development and nutrient deficiencies.

Shroyer noted that the stress came on quickly this year. "There were general rains earlier in the spring, and topsoil moisture was adequate in most areas until recently," he said. "But where subsoils were very dry after last summer's drought, the wheat needed a regular supply of rainfall events this spring to support the top growth. Where that didn't happen the wheat quickly became stressed, especially during the periods of extreme heat this spring - the latest being May 4-5."

Heading and grain fill is a period of high moisture use, with wheat using about 0.25 to 0.30 inches of moisture per day. If the moisture isn't available, the wheat will show symptoms, Shroyer said. The combination of dry soils and heat, in particular, will cause heads to turn white quickly, almost overnight. Any additional stress, such as diseases or insects, will add to the stress.

The agronomist noted that while cool weather has returned, the crop still needs another rain or two where it is dry. "If rain comes to stressed wheat while the kernels are still in the milk stage of development or earlier, the wheat may be able to recover some yield and test weight potential as long as the flag leaves are still alive," Shroyer said. "If the plants are under severe stress and shut down while kernels are in the early dough stage, it is unlikely that any subsequent rain will help the kernels complete their fill. This will result in a loss of yield and low test weight regardless of the weather during the remainder of the season."

## On the Beat

### COLBY POLICE May 8

1:04 a.m. - Caller reported loud noises coming from apartment. Unable to make contact; music playing.

2:30 a.m. - Caller received a call from alarm company. Everything OK, building secured.

7:03 a.m. - Caller needed help getting subject up who fell. Provided assistance.

8 a.m. - Caller reported dead cat in roadway in the 900 block of S. Range. Disposed of.

9:36 a.m. - Child endangerment report filed.

9:48 a.m. - Subject came to station about theft or loss of two handicapped placards. Report filed.

12:06 p.m. - Caller reported two dogs left in pickup with windows up in parking lot. All OK; not hot and had shade.

1:29 p.m. - Subject reported juveniles possibly had stolen two iPods. Spoke to subjects, no report.

1:30 p.m. - Criminal damage to property: caller possibly had a tire knifed. Spoke to reporting party, no report.

2:19 p.m. - Subject came to station about theft of checkbook. No report; items lost in Colorado, had subject contact them.

5:57 p.m. - Caller reported vehicle keyed at the college dorms. Report filed.

6:07 p.m. - Caller reported semi hit stop sign at 1990 S. Range.

**Last Wednesday**

9:25 a.m. - Report filed for theft.

9:27 a.m. - Caller reported someone threatening her. Report filed.

11:06 a.m. - Caller reported car parked in front of his grass for at least three days. Posted 48-hour tow.

12:37 p.m. - Caller reported possible identity theft. Report filed for protection from abuse violation.

1:31 p.m. - Sexual offense report filed.

9:14 p.m. - Minor in possession report filed on incident.

11:53 p.m. - Caller needed a message delivered. Message delivered.

11:53 p.m. - Security check at Twister's.

### Thursday

1:13 a.m. - Security check at Twister's.

2:35 a.m. - Driving under the influence report filed on traffic stop. Butch's towed vehicle.

6:35 a.m. - Caller reported being harassed by a subject. Reporting party spoken to.

6:37 a.m. - Caller reported a subject laying on the ground. Report filed for drug paraphernalia.

10:32 a.m. - Third-party report of subject walking around residential area. Made contact, subject was OK.

10:33 a.m. - Dog at large returned to owner.

12:18 p.m. - Caller found a credit card. Brought item to station, attempting to find the owner. Owner picked card up at the station.

12:32 p.m. - Trespassing: caller reported subject not supposed to be there, requested officer to remove him. Subject left before officers arrived. Later made contact, told to stay away.

1:17 p.m. - Manager advised of shoplifter. Report filed.

2:48 p.m. - Caller reported subject hanging around.

3:56 p.m. - Driving while suspended report filed on traffic stop.

4:19 p.m. - Caller reported loud music. Spoke with subject; music turned down.

6:25 p.m. - Theft: caller reported

ed someone taking his prescriptions. Report filed.

8:03 p.m. - Provided motorist assistance at Horton and Country Club.

8:29 p.m. - Disorderly conduct: caller reported possible assault. Report filed.

### Friday

8:30 a.m. - Caller reported possible vandalism. Report filed.

10:40 a.m. - Subject came to station about phone harassment. No report.

3:10 p.m. - Caller had questions pertaining to conceal carry laws. Provided information.

3:33 p.m. - Subject called about child custody matter. Civil matter, spoke to reporting party.

5:55 p.m. - Dog at large caught, turned over to Colby Animal Clinic.

7:07 p.m. - Theft of bicycle. Report filed.

8:07 p.m. - Caller reported subjects might be starting a fight in parking lot. All OK; no fight occurred. Male subject thought someone was going to show up.

### THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF May 8

10:44 a.m. - Provided traveler's aid for subjects.

3 p.m. - Released Michael D'Angelo.

3:30 p.m. - Booked Valentin Pejic.

4:45 p.m. - Report filed for cash seizure.

5:23 p.m. - Booked Tyler Robinson.

6 p.m. - Booked Shanley Lamastres.

**Last Wednesday**

7:06 a.m. - Report filed for domestic problem.

3:40 p.m. - Probation violation report filed.

3:49 p.m. - Booked Brandon Boutte.

4:42 p.m. - Released Taylor Brown.

9:58 p.m. - Booked Alexia Blake.

10:22 p.m. - Released Blake.

10:16 p.m. - Booked Tanesha Davis.

10:22 p.m. - Released Davis.

11:30 p.m. - Driving under the influence report filed on traffic stop at Fifth and Country Club.

### Thursday

12:26 a.m. - Booked Eric E. Holub.

12:34 a.m. - Released Holub.

3:29 a.m. - Booked Carlos Martinez.

3:36 a.m. - Released Martinez.

3:44 a.m. - Booked Katie J. Clancy.

3:52 a.m. - Released Clancy.

4:12 a.m. - Booked Marshall W. Carson.

4:21 a.m. - Released Carson.

6:50 a.m. - Booked Charles M. Bloom Jr.

12:42 p.m. - Released Meagan Renee Weaver.

4:24 p.m. - Booked Kirt Dugger.

4:32 p.m. - Released Dugger.

4:47 p.m. - Booked Skylar Justice.

5:05 p.m. - Released Justice.

5:23 p.m. - Released Charles Bloom.

5:34 p.m. - Released Pejic.

5:57 p.m. - Provided traffic control and ride for subjects with flat tire on I-70.

7:44 p.m. - Caller reported semi eastbound on I-70 leaking diesel. Unable to locate.

11:21 p.m. - Booked Tammy L. Woodman.

### Friday

8:59 a.m. - Caller reported possible hay bale on I-70 at mile 64. Debris removed.

10:27 a.m. - Booked Wesley Page.

10:53 a.m. - Booked Hannah

Pyle.

11:13 a.m. - Booked Nelson Justiss.

2:02 p.m. - Released Justiss.

1:27 p.m. - Took two inmates to Sherman County Sheriff's Office, then brought another one back to Law Enforcement Center.

1:45 p.m. - Took four inmates to Rawlins County Sheriff's Office.

3:25 p.m. - Caller reported two

dogs left tied up to a tree on property. Contacted owner to come get them.

8:10 p.m. - Assisted Colby police.



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