

Take care when overseeding crops

With many wheat fields still looking suspect, farmers may be wanting to overseed or replant with a spring crop.

Make sure not to use a winter barley, triticale or wheat as you will be disappointed with the results. The best time to plant these spring crops for our area would be now through March 25 using a seeding depth between 0.75-1.5 inches. Spring oats and barley should be planted between 40-64 lbs/A while spring triticale and wheat should be planted at 50 to 70 lbs/A.

Typically, spring barley, wheat and triticale are not grown in our area because they do not perform as well as a winter type. Winter barley, triticale, and wheat will typically mature earlier than the spring counterpart, which will allow for more grain fill before the crop shuts down due to the heat in June. However, with many fields of poor winter wheat, spring crops may be more appealing.

Because spring barley, triticale and wheat are not normally grown here, finding yield information for the different varieties will be difficult, but seed dealers may have some information. To find a university crop performance test on these, the closest information comes from Nebraska, and a web link to this entitled "Spring Small Grain Variety Selection" is located at www.oznet.ksu.edu/agronomy-block2.

If a farmer would like to overseed his winter wheat with a spring wheat, there is some concern about whether the wheat will be taken, so they should check with their local elevator.

Ron Koehn, general manager of Midwest Coop, has said in the

About ag
Brian Olson,
K-State
agronomist



past, "Midwest would be willing to take spring wheat if the producer let them know what type of wheat it was. As for a mixed load of spring and winter wheat, the coop will likely take it, but there may be a discount".

Unlike spring barley, triticale and wheat, spring oats is regularly grown in this area. Varieties that did well at the K-State Research and Extension Center in Colby were Jim from Minnesota which won the test with a yield of 67.9 bu/A. The rest of the top five was Blaze from Illinois at 66.7, INO9201 from Indiana at 66.2, Don from Illinois at 65.0, and Rodeo from Illinois at 64.4 bu/A. Other yields from commonly grown varieties were Bates from Missouri at 59.7 and Jerry from North Dakota at 46.6 bu/A. The average yield for the test was 58.4 bu/A.

Nitrogen is needed by all of these crops for optimum growth; however, lodging can occur when excessive amounts are present.

For oats and barley, applying one pound of nitrogen/A for every bushel of expected yield is a good guideline. However, putting on more than 40 to 60 pounds of nitrogen/A may cause significant lodging and increase the potential for high nitrates in the forages.

For spring triticale and wheat applying the same amount of nitrogen as if you were growing winter wheat would be acceptable.

For more information, a publication entitled "Small Grain Cereals for Forage" along with the a report entitled "Winter Cereals for Forages" will be very useful. These can be downloaded at www.oznet.ksu.edu/agronomy-block2 under the "Production and Pests" page or visit your county extension office to acquire a hard copy.

Please e-mail me at bolson@oznet.ksu.edu if you have any questions or would like to see a newspaper article on a specific crop production topic.

County hopes to save banking fees

(Continued from Page 1) down to zero," he said.

The NOW account, he explained has per check charge after the first 30 each month and an 8 cent charge for each check deposited from another bank.

However, the county could get a regular business account and if it keeps at least a \$20,000 balance there would be no service charges on it.

He said that no one from the county has ever asked about service charges before.

"Business people ask all the time," he said.

The commissioners asked Mr. Wyatt and Treasurer Cynthia Linner to sit down with the auditor and figure out the best deal for the county before moving or changing any accounts.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Talked to Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan about the hearing he had attended in Phillipsburg about a tax appeal on road maintenance. Mr. Brannan said that he should hear how the case turns out within 30 days.

- Heard that the county road crews are replacing missing or damaged road signs.

- Were told by Sheriff Troy Thomson that it was probably time for the commissioners and city council to get together on the dispatch contract. Sheriff Thomson said that he has done all he can to further the contract and now the two entities need to get together to iron out the details.

- Held a 15 minutes closed session with Acting Ambulance Director Andy Nielsen to discuss non-elected personnel.

- Came together with county employees at a meeting with Blue Cross and Blue Shield representative Charles Krull to discuss changes the insurance company has made to the county's medication copay contract. After talking with employees the commissioners decided to turn the problem over to their lawyer.

- Agreed to forward a contract for work on a bridge on the Norton-Decatur county line to the Decatur County commissioners. Decatur County will pay 45 percent of the costs up to \$20,790.



Hop, skip for fun, for heart

Students in Joan Bolt's physical education classes were learning the finer points of rope jumping last week. Some were jumping for both physical fitness and for the American Heart Association. Several students collected pledges for their hopping and skipping in the association's annual fund raiser, "Jump Rope For Heart". Jumpers earned prizes depending on the amounts they raised. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts



Norton could lose group homes

(Continued from Page 1) ways to express themselves.

Ms. Graham said these improvements have happened because of the dedication of the staff. If the Norton homes close, then that stability will be shaken.

"We need help," she said. "The best thing the residents of Norton

County can do is to write Governor Sebelius — plead with her, beg her, whatever it takes — to put back the 10 percent cut, put the \$2 million from the waiting list back into the Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded.

"If the community wants to keep us here, to keep \$1.2 million in the

local economy, then it has to get involved in our cause."

Norton County Commissioner John Miller said the commissioners are gathering information and will see what they can do to help.

(See Letters to the Editor on Page 4)

Oberlin to hold home show

Oberlin will have a home show on Saturday and Sunday, March 20 and 21, at The Gateway.

The show will be open Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Chamber of Commerce Manager Glenva Nichols said they already have 23 booths signed up, including banks, appliances, air conditioning and heating, hardware, gardening and computer and phone lines.

There is still time to register for a

booth, she added, noting that they would like all registrations in by Friday. To register, call the chamber office at (785) 475-3441.

Mrs. Nichols said the show is a great way for homeowners to see the new line of products that are available and also a way to visit with professionals.

The Gateway staff will be running a concession stand both days.

The home show is free for spectators.

Urgent news for people who have used
WELDING RODS
Scientists report that elevated manganese exposure from welding rod fumes has been associated with Parkinsonism (like Parkinson's disease) and manganism. Symptoms include shakiness, distorted facial expression, loss of equilibrium, decreased hand agility, difficulty walking, joint pain, loss of short term memory, slurred/slow speech, stiffness in muscles and tremors. If you have experienced any of these problems, call us today toll free at 1-800-THE-EAGLE for a free consultation to evaluate your potential claim. We practice law only in Arizona, but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.
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