

# Farmers are waiting to get the fall crops out of fields

By Jeanne Falk  
K-State Agronomist  
Wallace, Sherman, and Cheyenne

There are certainly challenges with getting crops out of the field this harvest. And the question is how long will the crops wait?

There is no easy answer to this, but certain items can help farmers decide which fields they're going to target first for harvesting.

For corn, we would like to avoid the situation we were in last year with corn that had some issues with standing. Stalk rots were the main culprit.

Producers can check their corn for stalk rots by squeezing the lower stem with their thumb and fingers, said Doug Jardine, K-State plant pathologist. If the stalks crush easily, they are probably infected with one of the stalk rot diseases and may lodge at any time.

Producers can also cut open the stalks to determine the condition from the inside. If the fibers inside are discolored (dark gray or reddish) and look 'stringy,' then stalk rot has infected the stalk.

Check 100 plants to determine the percent of affected plants. If the percentage of stalk-rot-infected plants is high, corn should be harvested as soon as possible, even if it hasn't dried down adequately in the field. If the stalks are firm, the corn will

probably be able to stand just fine in the field for several more weeks if necessary.

Ear mold is another concern. If the corn has ear mold in it now, the problem may continue to worsen as long as the crop remains in the field. However, if there is no ear mold currently present, it will not develop on the standing corn now, even under wet conditions.

Ear molds can infect corn through the silks during the pollination period, or following injury from insects or hail. Producers can go out now and check throughout the field to determine presence of ear mold.

Be sure to check any low spots in the field, since those are the areas most likely to develop ear mold. If ear mold is present, the corn should be harvested as soon as possible and dried to a moisture content of 14 percent, if it is to be held in storage for more than just a short time.

The situation with grain sorghum is similar to corn. Grain mold can occur on grain sorghum, and turn the heads black, or greenish-black.

If sorghum currently has some grain mold, the mold problem may continue to worsen as long as the grain sorghum remains standing in the field. If there is no grain mold at this point, it should not develop now, since grain mold infections occur at an earlier stage of development.

As with corn, stalk rots can be a problem in grain sorghum, so producers should check the condition of the lower stalks now, just as described above for corn. Also check the strength of the peduncle (the neck of the plant - between head and leaves). Large sorghum heads and strong winds can stress this part of the plant.



Connett

## Card Shower requested

The family of Harold Connett is requesting cards for his 90th birthday Nov. 10. Cards can sent to P.O. Box 247, St. Francis, KS 67756.



JOE LEIBBRANDT, center, resigned as the Cheyenne County Extension agent and an open house was held Wednesday at the courthouse. He visits with board members, Randy Rueb and Cindy Burr.  
Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

## Rural health discussed

By Karen Krien  
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In March, two hospitals and five rural southwest Kansas communities agreed to work together in a way that would change the approached access to healthcare. What began as a simple fundraiser for breast cancer research grew into a movement that has gained the attention of regional and national media and impressed health leaders across the nation.

On Saturday, Oct. 31, at 1 p.m., Cheyenne County doctor, Mary Beth Miller, will be participating on a rural health forum. She will be among three other women, Corrie Edwards, executive director for the Kansas Health Coalition; Susan Kang, assistant secretary for policy and external affairs with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment; and Judy Johnson, research instructor with the department of preventative medicine and public health, University of Kansas School of Medicine.

Topics to be discussed include preventive care and access to care in rural areas.

Dr. Miller, who is a breast cancer survivor, is the chief of staff at Cheyenne County Hospital in

St. Francis. She has given numerous presentations on breast cancer prevention.

Dr. Miller is currently on the board of directors for the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians.

**Hoops for Home**  
Ashland Health Center in Ashland and Comanche County Hospital in Coldwater, serve the communities of Wilmore, Englewood, Protection, Ashland and Coldwater, have banded together to form the WEPAC Alliance, a non-profit organization that is dedicated to providing resources and education to encourage local women in those towns to take active responsibility for their health.

The alliance has partnered with the Kay Yow/Women's Basketball Coach Association Cancer Fund, a charitable organization committed to being a part of finding an answer in the fight against women's cancers and founded by Coach Kay Yow, former women's basketball coach at North Carolina State University, to host its first annual WEPAC Hoops for Hope event on Friday, Oct. 30, from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Ashland High School, 311 Clip-

per. Ashland. Earlier that day, the Ashland Health Center will hold a health fair from 8 to 11 a.m. at the elementary school. Following the game, the health care forum will be held.

Of all money raised, 10 percent will go to the Kay Yow Fund. The remaining 90 percent will go to the WEPAC Alliance, an organization committed to paying for cancer-preventative care for any woman currently residing in Wilmore, Englewood, Protection, Ashland and Coldwater.

This project was inspired dually by the life and death of Coach Kay Yow and what the Nike Foundation calls "The Girl Effect."

This unique project is a model for other communities across the country, showing that lack of size and/or resources should not hinder them in making a national impact while taking care of their local citizens. With the state of the economy, it is easy to find reasons to complain or excuse low performance. These are five rural Kansas communities (totaling approx. 2,500 people) that are finding solutions instead of excuses.

## Rehearsals begin

Rehearsal for the "Hallelujah Chorus" singers will begin on Sunday, Nov. 8, at Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis. The practice will be held from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Rehearsal packets will be available for pick up at Ross Manufacturing, 301 W. Washington, in downtown St. Francis during the week of Nov. 2.

All area singers are urged to come and be a part of this Christmas event, under the direction of Neala Carmichael.

Choral selections include the "Hallelujah Chorus" and other seasonal favorites.

Rehearsals will be held each Sunday afternoon with performances scheduled at Salem Lutheran Church on Saturday evening, Dec. 19, and Peace Lutheran Church on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 20.

For more information, call Mrs. Carmichael at 332-8996 or Louanne Isernhagen, 332-3624.

## Introducing

Kent and Becky Allard announce the birth of their daughter, Sara Emily Allard, at the Cheyenne County Hospital on Aug. 10, 2009. She weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces, and was 20 3/4-inches long. Sister Sidney Elizabeth welcomed her home.

Grandparents are Cody and Paula Lyon of Kensington; Mary Ann Allard of Gardner and the late Fred Allard and the late Debra Shellito. Great-grandparents are Dale and Delores Lyon of Athol, Berneta Tompkins of Smith Center, and the late Ronald Tompkins.



Sara Emily Allard

### Hadassah Rose Magley

Hadassah Rose Magley was born on Sept. 13, 2009, in her home near Bird City, Kan. She weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19 3/4-inches long. Her parents are Robin and Lori Magley.

Also welcoming her are big brothers, Adoniram and Thaddaeus. Grandparents are Dixie Magley of Bird City and Marvin and Wanda Marks of Montrose, Colo.

**St. Francis 14th Annual Craft Show**  
Saturday, Nov. 7 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. CT  
St. Francis Grade School • 307 E. Webster

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- Wood Items • Jewelry • Candles • Homemade Salsa • Dry Dip Mixes and Meal Makers • Baked Goods • Christmas Items • Herb Mixes & Plants • Denim Jackets & Vests • Children's Cloth Books • Much Much More!

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**Annual Holiday Craft Fair**  
Saturday, Oct. 31  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
American Legion Hall, Bird City

**Kid's Craft Corner**  
For \$5, your kids can have fun making their own crafts while you shop!  
Make your own Mask!!  
Masks available to decorate!

Lunch will be available  
Contact: Barb Gerdes 785-734-2421

**Texas Red's BBQ**  
will be at St. Francis Super's  
Wednesday, Nov. 4 thru Saturday, Nov. 7

Beef brisket, smoked pork, turkey breast, ribs & sausage

**Verizon Open House**  
Saturday, Oct. 31  
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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- \* Door Prizes
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In 1969, he was born on Halloween, but before long, he became a teen. He graduated high school in 1988, then onto college at Colby and K-State.

Banking's what he does now, although he has a love for cow's. He has two daughters and a wife, which are the loves of his life.

He'll be 40 on Halloween, So say "Happy Birthday" if he's seen!

**Haigler's 2nd Annual Fall Tumbleweed Festival**  
Saturday, Oct. 31

9 a.m. - noon Neighborhood Garage Sales (Maps available at corner of Porter & Hwy 34)  
1 p.m. Chili Feed at Country Schoolhouse  
\* Free drawings for prizes \* Maypole Award  
\* Bring your tumbleweed: Prizes for best decorated for Halloween & Prizes for biggest tumbleweed  
3 p.m. Kiddy Halloween Parade at Schoolhouse  
6 - 10 p.m. County Western Dance (Cover charge)  
10 p.m. Free-will Donation Breakfast sponsored by Sons of American Legion

\*\*Everyone invited for fun Halloween celebration. No admission fees. Free-will donation to help fund Haigler Museum Project.

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