

Wheat winterkill study results explanation told

Research conducted by Kansas State University shows that when it comes to winterkill and wheat yields, things are not always equal. "Contrary to what some people might think, we found that a percentage of winterkill loss does not result in the same percentage yield loss," Merle Witt, southwest area agronomist with K-State Research and Extension, said. "Also, growing conditions in early spring when tillering is occurring and during the grain-filling period when kernel numbers and kernel size are being determined affect the extent to which winterkill damage expresses itself.

"Thus, 25-percent winterkill damage in one year may not be as damaging as the same percent winterkill in another year."

Mr. Witt's study, which simulated winterkill in Kansas wheat, was conducted over a two-year period at the Southwest Research-Extension Center near Garden City. The site was a Ulysses silt loam soil in a wheat-fallow rotation. To reflect a range of winterkill levels, four treatments were used: 0 (check) percent winterkill; 25 percent; 50 percent and 75 percent winterkill.

In the study's first year, wheat plants were hoed out in February to the appropriate winterkill levels. In the second year, a beardless, spring wheat variety was mixed at planting with winter wheat varieties so that when the spring wheat died during winter, the result was the desired levels of winterkill damage. Two winter wheat varieties, TAM

107 and Trego, were used. The average yield for the check treatment (0-percent winterkill) in the first year was about 59 bushels per acre. The yield for the 25-percent winterkill treatment was 55.3 bushels per acre or about a 6.5-percent yield loss. For the 75-percent winterkill treatment, the yield was 46.8 bushels per acre or about a 21-percent yield loss.

Average yields in the second year of the study were lower because growing conditions during grain-filling were not as good, Mr. Witt said. The check or 0-percent winterkill treatment yielded 46 bushels per acre. The 25-percent winterkill treatment yielded 39 bushels per acre or close to a 15-percent yield loss. The average yield for 50-percent winterkill treatment was 32.5 bushels per acre (29.5-percent yield loss), and the average yield for the 75-percent winterkill treatment was 18.5 bushels per acre (59-percent yield loss).

In both years, the most severe winterkill treatment resulted in a delay in the heading date. "This (delay) is a common occurrence and probably would be more pronounced in a field situation where there was winterkill in a pure stand of winter wheat, instead of the (killed) spring wheat of the spring-winter wheat mixture that was used in this experiment," Mr. Witt said.

"Also, it is common to observe a reduction in test weights with delayed heading dates. The first year there was only a small reduction in test weights, while in the second year, with less conducive growing conditions, there was a 3.5-pound-per-bushel reduction in test weight from the 0-percent winterkill treatment to the 75-percent winterkill treatment.

"The study gave us a range of expected yield losses over a range of winterkill damage. A limitation of the study, however, is the fact that winterkill damage was distributed uniformly over the study area and that doesn't normally occur in a field-wide situation," he said.

"Generally, winterkill damage occurs on terraces and elevated areas of the field where soils tend to be drier and it can be large areas of the field with little chance for the surviving plants to compensate."

Funds needed to sponsor projects

The Cheyenne County Kansans for Life will be hosting a spaghetti dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday at the First Christian Church in St. Francis. Each year, the organization holds the spaghetti dinner and funds raised are used to promote pro-life.

The organization is also giving away Life Saver Lollipops and asking that people give a donation which will be used to provide thousands of brochures, pro-life educational material, speakers, a pro-life voice in the media, pro-life lending library which is open to the public and a pro-life presence at the county fair.

The Kansans for Life reports

over 40 million babies have been killed in the United States since 1973. Jan. 22 marked the 31st anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, the infamous Supreme Court's decision that legalized abortion for any reason up to the ninth month of pregnancy.

"You can help support the sanctity of human life by participating in the Kansans for Life's Life Saver Lollipops Drive," said Elmer Kellner, member of the organization.

He is asking that churches in the county support the lollipop drive by sitting up a display which encourages people to take a lollipop and leave a donation.

Book Review

Book Review from the St. Francis Library

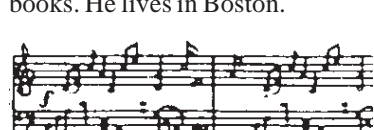
Stone Cold
By Robert B. Parker

In Stone Cold, Jesse Stone has a problem no officer of the law likes to face: Dead bodies keep appearing, but clues do not. A man takes his dog out for a run on the beach, only to be discovered hours later — with two holes in his chest. A woman drives her Volvo to the store to do some grocery shopping, and is then found dead, her body crumpled behind her loaded shopping cart. A commuter takes a shortcut home from the train, and never makes it back to his house.

untold pressures, Jesse feels considerable heat. Already walking an emotional tightrope, he stumbles; he's spending too much time with the bottle, and with his ex-wife — neither of which helps him, or the case. And the harder these outside forces push against him, the more Jesse retreats into himself, convinced — despite all the odds — that it's up to him alone to stop the killing.

As tough, clear-eyed, and sardonic as Jesse Stone himself, this is the Grand Master working at the peak of his powers.

Robert B. Parker is the best-selling author of more than forty-one books. He lives in Boston.



SCOTT MASTER Jerry Whitmore presented Jeremy Meyer, left, and David Meyer with their Tenderfoot ranking. Jeff Meyers also earned the Tenderfoot rank, but was unable to attend the ceremony Monday night.
Herald staff photo by Sandy Barnhart

Check for radon in the home

High levels of radon have been found in homes in every Kansas county including Cheyenne County. These finds have raised concerns about the dangers of human exposure to this often undetected hazard.

Stephanie Schafer, Extension office professional, reported that the county Extension office has home test kits available and several have already been picked up. Those having questions about radon should contact the Kansas Radon Hotline at 1-800-693-5343 or the National Radon Hotline at 1-00-SOS-RADON.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas found throughout

the United States which seeps up from the earth's crust into the atmosphere and becomes a health hazard when it is concentrated inside an occupied building such as a home, school or business. It is odorless, tasteless and invisible and can go undetected for years, placing the health of those exposed to it at significant risk for cancer.

"Indoor radon may contribute to as many as 200 lung cancer deaths per year in Kansas and chronic radon exposure is considered the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States," said Secretary of health and Environment Roderick Bremby. "In addition, being exposed to radon can also compound the risk of lung cancer associated with smoking."

Governor Kathleen Sebelius proclaimed January as Kansas Radon Action Month to encourage people to take the steps needed to minimize that risk, including home testing.

The only way to know a home's radon level is to test. A typical radon home test kit costs about \$5 to \$10 and is simple to use. The kit collects radon gas from within a building and is sent to a lab for analysis. The results are then reported to the purchaser. Companies will also perform radon tests and may use electronic instruments to determine radon levels in buildings.

"Nearly four out of 10 home tests completed in Kansas exceeded Environmental Protection Agency levels," Mr. Bremby added. "The Kansas Department of Health and Environment recommends that homeowners talk with a certified radon contractor of levels above 4 pCi/l are consistently detected."

The higher the concentration within a home and the more time residents spend there, the greater their health risk.

Student Graduates

Kansas Wesleyan University has announced the names of students who completed degree requirements in the fall 2003 semester.

Jennifer Henderson of St. Francis received a bachelor of arts degree in physical education and recreation.

Government Foreclosure Sale

Date: February 11, 2004
Time: 11:00 A.M.
Place: Front Door Hallway, Dundy County Courthouse

Location of Property:
3 miles east and 3 miles north of Haigler, NE

Legal Description:
The South Half (S1/2) of Section Seven (7); the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4), the North Half of the Northwest Quarter (N1/2NW1/4), the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (SE1/4NW1/4), and the North Half of the Southeast Quarter (N1/2SE1/4) of Section Eighteen (18), Township One (1) North, Range Forty (40) West of the 6th P.M. Dundy County, Nebraska.

The Government Plans to Bid: \$163,850.00
The sale is subject to unpaid real estate taxes.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Property (ies) are not available for normal inspection. They are owned by private individuals and permission of the owner may be required for onsite inspection otherwise persons could be liable for trespassing. Foreclosure is still pending in the United States District Court:
Case Name: United States of America vs Stute Company, Inc., et.al.
Case Number: Civil 4: 01CV369
Under some circumstances the sale may be cancelled.

TERMS OF SALE
The terms of the sale require at least 10% down with balance due within 10 days from date of sale. Payment must be made in United States currency or by cashier's or certified check.
Additional information about this property or sale may be obtained from the court file or by calling FSA at: (308) 345-4163.

PLEASANT HILL

4-H'ER OF THE MONTH

Jandy Dunn

Jandy has been in 4-H for 3 years. Her favorite project is the Bucket Calf. Jandy feels that 4-H has taught her responsibility and the many different good nutritious foods there are to choose from.

Laura Brunk

Laura has been in 4-H for 3 years. Her favorite project is the Horse. Laura feels that 4-H has taught her responsibility in taking care of her animals. She also enjoys learning from the projects she does, not to mention the fun she has doing the projects with her friends.

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2003 St. Francis City Budget				
	Balance 2002	Expenditures	Receipts	Balance 2003
General	\$ 79,198.43	\$ 522,052.48	\$ 452,665.82	\$9,811.77
Library	3,228.49	29,784.64	29,261.75	2,705.60
Special Highways	54,523.64	7,089.60	40,756.34	88,190.38
Special Parks & Rec.	2,720.60	479.89	292.29	2,532.99
Internet	-	-	57,573.76	57,573.76
Utilities	430,869.12	1,536,344.08	1,285,624.31	180,159.35
Refuse	60,464.60	127,987.02	125,374.59	57,852.17
Capital Improvement	404,146.30	80,965.54	5,671.54	328,852.30
Equipment Reserve	1,719.25	147,263.96	146,387.42	842.71
Employ Benefits	9,080.34	214,377.46	208,741.63	3,444.51
Sewer	41,834.90	50,486.51	140,256.40	131,604.79
Water Users Fee	1,261.85	5,273.50	4,580.62	568.97
Sales Tax	1,444.67	41,120.19	40,986.95	1,311.43
Tenant Deposit	41,381.93	7,230.55	7,974.27	42,125.65
Theater	1,848.75	13,430.86	14,641.73	3,059.62
Housing Authority	0.00	20.73	20.73	0.00
NOW Accounts	12,099.84	12,612.93	4,739.14	4,226.05
Totals	\$ 1,145,822.71	\$ 2,796,509.95	\$ 2,565,549.29	\$914,862.05
Cash	\$ 100.00			\$100.00
Petty Cash	1,000.00			1000.00
1st National Bank	127,262.03			28662.44
1st National Collections	79,483.52			80755.97
Bankwest	320,977.16			187343.64
Certificate of Deposit	617,000.00			617000.00
	\$ 1,145,822.71			\$914,862.05

I, Connie J. Weems, do hereby certify that the above statement is correct.

Signed Connie J. Weems, CITY TREASURER, CITY OF ST. FRANCIS, STATE OF KANSAS, CHEYENNE COUNTY. Be it here remembered that on the _____ day of _____, 2004 before me a Notary Public in and for the above-mentioned State and County, came Connie J. Weems, Treasurer of the City of St. Francis, Ks who is personally known to be the same person who executed the above instrument of writing therefore in acknowledgment of the same, I hereby set my seal.

Connie J. Weems
Notary Public

My Commission expires: 11/23/06

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