

Controlling tough winter weeds in wheat fields depends on timing

There are several herbicide options for controlling winter annual broadleaf weeds in wheat.

Generally, fall applications provide the best control of winter annual weeds with any herbicide, as long as the weeds have emerged. The majority usually emerge in the fall, although some come up in the spring, especially if precipitation after planting is limited in the fall. However, winter annual weeds that emerge in the spring often are not very competitive with the crop.

Some herbicides can work well even when applied during the dormant part of the season, while others perform best if the crop and weeds are actively growing. The key difference relates to the degree of soil activity provided by the herbicide.

Herbicides that have good residual activity, such as Glean, Finesse, Amber and Rave can be applied in January and February, when plants aren't actively growing, and still provide good weed control if you have proper conditions for the application.

Most other herbicides, which depend more on absorption through foliage, will not work nearly as well during midwinter, when the wheat and weeds aren't actively growing. They do better with fall or early spring application.

Spring herbicide applications can be effective for winter annual broadleaf weed control as well, but timing and weather conditions are



Clint Milliman

• Knowledge for Life

critical to achieve good control. Spring applications are most effective soon after green-up when weeds are still in the rosette stage of growth, and during periods of mild weather. Once weeds begin to bolt and wheat starts to develop more canopy, herbicide performance decreases dramatically.

Huskie is a relatively new herbicide that provides good control of a variety of broadleaf weeds with excellent crop safety from the two-leaf to boot stage of growth. Huskie is a premix herbicide of pyrasulfatole and bromoxynil. Pyrasulfatole is an "hppd" herbicide, and can be effective to control ALS-resistant broadleaf weeds. Because Huskie has limited residual activity, it works best when applied when weeds and wheat are actively growing and with milder weather.

Another important consideration with herbicide application timing is crop tolerance at different times. For example, 2,4-D should not be applied in the fall or until wheat is fully tillered in the spring. On the other hand, any

herbicide containing dicamba can be applied after wheat has two leaves, but should not be applied once the wheat gets close to jointing in the spring. Herbicides containing dicamba include Banvel, Clarity, Rave, Pulsar, and Agility SG.

There has been some discussion about wheat tolerance to herbicides, especially when applied with fertilizer carrier. The best advice regarding crop safety with herbicide-fertilizer combinations and application timing is to follow the label guidelines. We generally see minimal crop injury and no yield loss from topdress fertilizer/residual herbicide applications during the winter. However, these combinations can often cause considerable burn to the wheat if applied when the crop is actively growing and with warmer weather. The foliar burn is generally temporary in nature and the wheat usually will recover if good growing conditions persist.

For information on weed control or to pick up a free 2012 Chemical Weed Control guide, stop by the Thomas County Extension Office at 350 S. Range, Suite 16, or call (785) 460-4582.

Clint Milliman is the Thomas County agriculture and natural resources agent with Kansas State Research and Extension. A native of Illinois, Milliman works with area 4-H clubs, farmers and ranchers.

Deaths

Shathen LaVere Sawyer

Shathen LaVere Sawyer, 25, McAlester, Okla., grandson of John Brannick of Colby, died Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2012, in Okmulgee, Okla., following an illness.

Born Aug. 1, 1986, in Goodland, he was the son of Kevin LaVere and Rodena Lynn (Dizmang) Sawyer.

He graduated in 2005 from Indianola, Okla., High School, where he was active in the agricultural department. He was studying diesel gas compression at Oklahoma State University Tech in Okmulgee. A certified welder, he was a member of the New Hope Free Will Baptist Church in Indianola.

He was preceded in death by a grandmother, Beverly Brannick, and grandfathers Terry Sawyer and Merritt Walker Jr.

Survivors also include his moth-

er and stepfather, Rodena and Steve Brannick, McAlester; his father and stepmother, Kevin and Nicole Sawyer, Paola; siblings, Lexus (Daniel) Morrison, McAlester; Riley Sawyer and Lyndsay (Nathan) Carter of Paola; Jacob Clayton, Lawrence; Sandra Nichole Barrero, Wichita; and Atina Simpson, Kansas City, Kan.; and grandparents, Darel and Carolyn Dizmang, New Braunfels, Texas; and Gail Sawyer and Dorothy Hunnicutt, both of Paola.

Services were Friday, Feb. 10, 2012, at the church, with the Rev. Fred Morrison officiating and burial in the Indianola Cemetery.

The family suggests memorials to the St. Francis Hospital Neurology Department, 6161 S. Yale, Tulsa, Okla., 74136.

Women's retreat to feature singer

The Women of God ladies luncheon and retreat will be featuring women's speaker and inspirational Top 10 recording artist Ginger Millermon from Hutchinson on Saturday Feb. 25, at the Hoxie Christian Church, 1025 Queen Avenue.

Millermon is a nationally recognized songwriter and recording artist. Her current events and conferences are based on her life-changing testimony and music from her six albums.

Her testimony is chronicled in her book "Grace Thus Far," which was recently featured on *Focus on the Family*. She has spoken and

ministered in churches, women's conferences and pro-life events across the United States. She has a message for today's culture and her music will inspire and encourage hearts of all ages.

Tickets are \$15 and are available at Hoxie Office Supply, MOJO Salon of Hoxie and Plum Creek in Colby. Tickets may also be purchased at (785) 657-7116 or (785) 675-2273.

The luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m., with the retreat beginning around 1 p.m. Millermon will present two programs in the afternoon, closing with music.



G. Millermon

Photos of Kansans in Vietnam War needed

The people of the state of Kansas suffered deeply in the Vietnam War, sacrificing 626 servicemen and women in combat. The Vietnam Memorial Fund's mission to honor these heroes continues with the National Call for Photos, a movement to collect photos of the more than 58,000 service members inscribed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington.

When collected, all photos will be displayed permanently at The Education Center at The Wall.

With the support of schools, volunteers, friends, and family from around the country, the fund has collected more than 25,000 pictures to date, but only 246 from Kansas.

Support from volunteers, fellow service members, family and friends is still needed in order to gather the remaining 380 photos necessary to honor our heroes from Kansas for display at the

center.

With a groundbreaking planned for November 2012, The Education Center at The Wall is a multi-million dollar, state-of-the-art visitor's center and learning facility to be built on the grounds of the Vietnam Veterans and the Lincoln Memorials. Visitors will better understand the profound impact the Vietnam War had their friends and family members, their home towns, and the nation. The center will feature the faces and stories of the 58,272 men and women on "The Wall," honoring those who fell in Vietnam, those who fought and returned, as well as the friends and families of all who served. For information, go to www.buildthecenter.org.

Kansans are urged to assist the national call for photos by submitting photographs of fallen service members and supporting the education center.

Sheep-herding bunny a hit

By Louise Nordstrom

Associated Press
STOCKHOLM — Champis the bunny doesn't only hop — he also knows how to herd his masters' flock of sheep, possibly having picked up the skill after watching trained dogs do the job.

The 5-year-old pet rabbit from the small village of Kal in northern Sweden shot to online fame, having garnered more than 700,000 YouTube hits, after a clip of his sheep herding skills surfaced.

The June video shows a persistent Champis running back and forth on the farm, trying to keep Nils-Erik and Greta Vigen's sheep together.

Greta Vigen said she first noted this talent last spring when they let out the sheep to graze for the first time after the long winter.

"He just started to behave like a sheepdog," she recalled, adding that while he likes to round up the sheep, he leaves the hens alone, treating them more gently.

"He's like a king for the whole group. He thinks he rules over both the sheep and the hens. He has a very big ego."

Dan Westman, a sheepdog breeder who shot and posted the video of his friends' bunny, said he was in awe when he first witnessed the phenomenon, noting Champis does the job even better than most dogs would.

"It's really incredible, it's a herding rabbit," he said. "He rounds them up, and if they get close to escaping through the gate he sometimes stops them," he said.

"I mean I work with sheepdogs and know how hard this is. There are very few dogs that could do what this rabbit does."

Westman, who's known both Champis and its owners for years, said the beige little mix-breed bunny had never been trained for the job but seemed to have learned the ropes all on his own.

"He's probably picked some of it up from watching the dogs," he said.

Despite his tiny size, Westman said the sheep seem to pay their minder a world of respect, letting him herd them around when he feels they need some moving.

Online: bit.ly/Aixo8I

Brewster students play



The High School Band at Brewster School participated in the Western Kansas Liberty League instrumental clinic Feb. 6 at Wheatland. Pictured are Ashley Barrie, bass clarinet; Will Allen, clarinet; Dara Roulier, alto saxophone and Jessica Williams, flute. Kristi Musgrave is Brewster's band director. The clinician was Lane Weaver, from Fort Hays State University.

Corrections

The item "Oakley has business reception" on Page 3 of the Monday, Feb. 13, *Colby Free Press*, listed an incorrect date. The Business After 5 gathering at S&T Communications in Oakley will be this Thursday, not Feb. 22. This was a reporting error.

☆☆☆☆

The *Colby Free Press* wants to maintain an accurate record of

Square Dance

The Shooting Stars Square Dance Club will have a dance from 8 to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Roosevelt Elementary School, 2000 MacArthur in Hays.

Steve Bailey from Nebraska will call the squares. Everyone is welcome.

There will be refreshments and a Pot 'O Gold. For information, call Opal Flinn at (785) 726-4432.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.30
Corn (bushel)	\$6.17
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.55
Soybeans (bushel)	\$11.12

Please Recycle

our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

President Anita Thiel led the meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Wednesday, Feb. 8, at the First Christian Church in Colby.

Roll call of officers was read and opening prayer offered. Reading of patriotic instructions was followed by the flag salute.

The minutes were read and approved and the treasurer's report given, with note made of the quarterly audit report done before the meeting, and approved.

Thank you notes from Jack Fromholtz and Santa City were read.

For the legislative report, there

was an item from *VFW Washington Weekly* about veterans' affairs.

The Veterans and Family Support chairman reported a box of vendor coupons were sent to the military base in Turkey.

Membership reported that 81 letters were sent to members with tickets for the Cancer Aid and Research drawing and honorary luminaries for cancer victims. Money received will go to Cancer Aid and Research.

Publicity reported the January meeting item in the *Colby Free Press*.

The Americanism chairman read a item about flag etiquette

and discussed giving a flag to a local business.

A monetary donation was made to Cancer Aid and Research as a memorial for Helen Hagler.

Following discussion, a monetary donation was allowed for a local family.

The National Home Prayer was offered and the meeting closed with ritual prayer.

The next meeting will be at 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at the church.

We want your local news: e-mail to colby.editor@nwkansas.com

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Fun Activities

We like living here just fine. The activities are wonderful and Keela likes to play Bingo and cards with the other residents. The other residents and staff are friendly and helpful. I especially like having no yard work to do and the food is good.

Keela & Cleo Case

The Josties

IN CONCERT

The Jost family share the faithfulness of God through music and testimony. Based from Milk River, Alberta, Canada their music is a unique blend of acoustic country, folk and light contemporary.

Mingo Bible Church • February 16th • 7 p.m.

For more information call Pastor Tom Peyton 785-462-2930.

THANK YOU

to all our sponsors for their help in making the Kansas Pioneer banquet a success.

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Pheasants Forever Kansas Pioneer Chapter #120

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