

Production meetings planned

At this time of year, farmers take stock of what happened this past summer and decide what they want to improve for next year.

All will likely say a few unkind words about "Mother Nature," but what she does is out of our control. Farmers may want to look at planting a different crop or trying a new weed management scheme.

If these topics are of interest, you should attend a couple of upcoming meetings. Many have indicated that the charge at the door needs to be considerably less, so these will be sponsored by various organizations.

A Limited Irrigated Production meeting will be held at the Hoxie 4-H Building from 8:30-11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9. A free breakfast of biscuits and gravy, sausage and eggs will be served, with no charge at the door.

This meeting is targeted to farmers with marginal wells who are looking for an alternative crop like sunflowers. The meeting is sponsored by the National Sunflower Association and many seed and chemical companies. This meeting will discuss sunflower production practices, revenue assurance crop insurance for sunflowers, economics of production, insect and weed control, crop rotation, new technology, and irrigation strategies.

Some farmers may have had a bad experience with sunflowers in the past, but things have changed. Hybrids are improved, weed and insect control is better, and all in all, we have a much better understanding of sunflower management. They are not a perfect crop, and there are definite management concerns, so farmers should attend so they can decide if sunflower production is right for their farm.

Two In-depth Weed Management schools will be held. The first will be at the Grainfield 4-H building from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16. The second will be at



Extension Lines

By Brian Olson
Extension Agronomist

the Norton 4-H building from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17.

The purpose of these schools is to provide farmers and industry professionals with more knowledge about all aspects of spraying. For farmers who have their own sprayer and are unfamiliar with sprayer calibration, this is an excellent opportunity to gain hands-on experience. The meeting will cover calibration, integrated weed management, plant growth and development, weed identification, herbicide mode of actions, and general weed control in field crops.

Thanks to the sponsorship of BASF, FMCCorp., Monsanto Co., and DuPont Ag Products, the first 60 people to register for the meeting will only be charged \$10. For every person thereafter, the charge will be \$30. Five continuing education units for certified crop applicators will be offered.

A detailed book covering weed management will be provided to all who attend, along with lunch. To

register, please send a check payable to Kansas State University along with name, phone number, and what meeting you are attending to Northwest Area Extension Office, Attn: Brian Olson, Box 786, Colby, Kan., 67701.

These meetings are for farmers, to provide information so you can improve your operation. All are provided at minimal cost, so please come join us.

For more information, please click on the Upcoming Events icon at the Web site: www.oznet-ksu.edu/agronomy-block2, or pick up a copy of the flier at the extension office.

Brian Olson is multi-county extension agronomist for Decatur, Gove, Norton, Sheridan, and Trego counties. E-mail bolson@oznet-ksu.edu if you have any questions or would like to see a newspaper article on a specific crop production topic. For more information, contact the county extension office, 475-8121.

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7th Grade	Angel Lobato Tanner Moss Briana Taylor	Kendra Spresser Ivonn Vargas Candee VanLehe
8th Grade	Dan Rogers Victoria Schwarz Jennie Staats Levi VonLehe	Andrew Broeckelman Caitlyn Moss
9th Grade	Katelyn Spresser Kyle Spresser Elizabeth Staats Drew Stevenson Ryan Stevenson Jacob Unger Jami Wark	Megan Juenemann Stephanie Juenemann
10th Grade	Samuel Meserve Lukas Peters Linda Trevino	Valerie Broeckelman Scott Johnston Jessica Shaw
11th Grade	Darcie Spresser Homero Vargas	Nichole Spresser Kristin Wark
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