

Crop Update
1/4/17

Upcoming Meetings

Crops and Cattle Workshop

Topics: Marketing, Budgets, and Herbicide Technology for Row Crops

Tuesday, January 10th, 2017

Start: 7:00 pm

University of Missouri Extension Center Lower Level Room, Jackson, MO

\$5 at the door for this program.

Soybean Crop Management Conference

Missouri Soybean District 7 Meeting

Wednesday, January 18, 2017

Miner Convention Center, Miner Missouri

Registration: 8:00 a.m. Program: 8:30 a.m.

CEU's will be applied

Agenda: [Agriculture Extension Calendar of Meetings & Events](#)

Private Applicator Training

Thursday, January 26th, 2017

University of Missouri Extension Center Lower Level Room, Jackson, MO

Two Training Event Times: 9:00 am and 6:00 pm (Choose only ONE that best fits your schedule)

Contact Anthony Ohmes (573-243-3581) or by email to register and for more information or needs.

Frost Seeding Legumes

The window for frost seeding legumes is typically January - February. Late planting will reduce overall success of establishment since it is the freezing and thawing action of the soil that moves seed into the soil/seed zone. In order for a frost seeding to be successful, broadcast seed must come into contact with soil. Thick vegetation will decrease the potential for good soil to seed contact.

White (Ladino) clover is the most suited companion legume for pastures. Annual lespedeza should be considered in the mix and germination generally occurs after risk of late frost has passed. Red clover is more suited for hay production since it less tolerant to grazing than white. Alfalfa is not recommended as a frost seed legume. Seeding rates for ladino clover, red clover and annual lespedeza are 2 lbs/A, 10 lbs/A, and 25 lbs/A of pure live seed, respectively. It is important to have nutrient and pH at levels suitable to maintain legumes, a soil test should be considered. Also, consider inoculating clover seed to insure good nodulation especially in fields where legumes have not been in the mix for some time.

For more information on frost seeding legumes into existing pasture review MU Guides [Dairy Grazing: Pasture Establishment](#), [Renovating Grass Sods with Legumes](#) and [Seeding Rates, Dates, and Depths for Common Missouri Forages](#).

Evaluate Wheat Stands

January to early February is a window to evaluate wheat to make some management decisions. Wheat maturity is driven primarily by variety response to temperature and photoperiod and not specific dates on the calendar. Therefore, it is important to evaluate a crop by growth stage to help make nutrient, pest management decisions and to determine when to stop grazing. For grazing, to protect yield, pull cattle off just prior to jointing when the base of the stem is hollow. A good guide for following wheat development is Purdue University's guide: [Managing Wheat by Growth Stage](#).

Initial evaluation of fields should include overall condition of stand and number of tillers present. With the warm fall and early winter, wheat tiller numbers may be greater than 80/square foot. When tiller numbers reach approximately 80 or more, holding off nitrogen applications until pre-jointing green-up (Feekes 4-5) provides available nitrogen just before the time of greatest need, jointing (Feekes 6). Also, holding off can potentially reduce nitrogen loss and excessive early spring growth which can reduce sensitivity to freeze injury. Fields with less than approximately 80 tillers per square foot in the fall to late winter, during tiller development stages (Feekes 2-3), may benefit from split applying nitrogen. However, with favorable fall growth, early planted wheat may complete tillering prior to winter dormancy. Consider using urease inhibitors containing the active ingredient NBPT when applying urea based fertilizer. Tissue tests just before jointing can help determine nitrogen needs at jointing. Remember that low organic matter (<3%), low CEC (<10) soils of southeast Missouri are also prone to low sulfur conditions and sulfur fertilizers should be applied early. Most low sulfur soils require 10 to 15 pounds per acre of sulfur. Spring sulfur should come in the form of sulfate sulfur found in products such as ammonium sulfate.

For more information on wheat management during green-up refer to MU IPM Guide: [Management of Soft Winter Wheat](#).

Thank You,

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