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## Agronomy Information and Tips

Wayne Flanary, Agronomist

**Winter Wheat School Scheduled for Thursday, December 11 at the Lions Club building in Forest City.** This is a wheat growing simulation with decisions being made through the growing season on how to manage the crop. Fee is \$75 with a guarantee that if you are not satisfied with the class, simply let me know after the class and we will return the fee. Class will be taught by Flanary. Preregistration required with payment.

**Estimating Yields of Corn Stover**— A good estimate of corn stover yield per acre is to multiply the number of bushels harvested per acre times 56. For example, 140 bushels X 56 = 7,840 pounds per acre of stover or about 3.9 tons per acre. At yields less than 100 bushels, this formula will underestimate the pounds of stover and if over 140 bushels per acre, will over estimate.

**The Amount of Stover Removed Depends on How it is Harvested.** Shredding and raking will have 80% removal, Raking only 65%, Combine windrow only 50% and grazing with cattle 25%. (Iowa State Extension-Brian Lang, Fact Sheet BL-112).

**Nutrient Value of Corn Stover.** 15 lbs N/ton, 6 lbs P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>/ton and 25 lbs K<sub>2</sub>O/ton. These are approximates and will vary with hybrids and different soils.

**Time to leave alfalfa alone.** Growers short of hay are tempted to cut a late cutting but alfalfa should not be cut after September 15 to a heavy frost. Harvested alfalfa will try to regrow once cut especially with warm weather and moisture. This regrowth will make the plants more susceptible to winter kill and will reduce alfalfa yields next year.

**Bronzing on Soybeans.** Jim Specht, University of Nebraska, indicates that soybeans containing a gene responsible for making anthocyanin pigmentation has caused some varieties to take on a bronzed appearance. Sunny days with cool nights increase the affect. This occurred in certain varieties this fall.

**Update on Soybean Rust.** The recent hurricanes increased the probability of bringing spores from the Gulf upward into the Midwest. The sentinel plots at Faucett and Forbes indicate no rust spores as of this week. Soybeans that have reached the R-6 stage are out of danger from any yield loss.

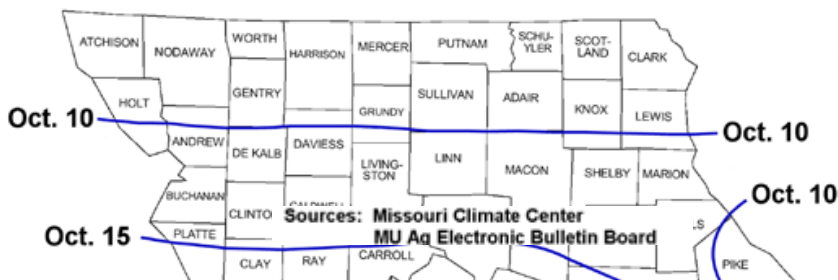
**Glyphosate Resistant Waterhemp results in higher and higher glyphosate rates to control plants. Sometimes, high rates will not control plants.** It is important for growers to realize that the first sign of resistance is more glyphosate product having to be applied to control waterhemp at labeled heights. We are in the process of screening additional fields for resistance.

**Hessian Fly can be a problem when you ignore the fly-free date. The fly-free date in northwest Missouri is October 3 north of highway 36. October 6, north of I-70.** This insect is very damaging and the flies appear in September and lay eggs on the leaves of young wheat plants. The maggots hatch from eggs and move to the base of plants where they feed on the plant juices. Maggots complete their growth before cold weather and pass the winter as a pupae which is called “flaxseed” stage. The maggot in the spring feeds near the bottom node causing lodging.

**When is the average frost date in Northwest Missouri?**

**Average Date of First Fall Frost ( $\leq 32^{\circ}\text{F}$ )**

1971-2000



Frost dates will likely vary each year and can also depend on local conditions.

**Harvest Losses Are Especially Important to Consider With High Grain Prices.** This is the number of seeds per square foot which equal one bushel of yield loss

1 bushel of corn = 2 kernels/ft<sup>2</sup> and 1 bushel of soybeans = 4 beans/ft<sup>2</sup>

**Have a safe harvest.**

**If you would like to be added to our electronic mailing list, please contact Rosa Matthews, Holt County Secretary at 660-446-3724.**

Information contained in this newsletter is intended for use in Northwest Missouri and may need to be adapted to other locations. We ask that you credit University of Missouri Extension if you use this information.

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