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Agronomy Information and Tips

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**Private Applicator
Training, Tuesday,
March 25 at 7PM at the
Holt County
Courthouse. Enter
through the East Door.**

The strong demand and competition in the world for fertilizer resources have growers struggling with costs tripling from levels of 2002. Gary Hergert, Soils Specialist, at University of Nebraska-Lincoln Panhandle Research and Extension Center at Scottsbluff.office, suggests a resource for fertilizer information. This is a website at <http://fertilizerworks.com/> and at the web site, click on "The Market" in the left column to find pricing of fertilizer world supplies. These do not reflect transportation, marketing or other local costs. This information was reported in the February Crop Watch Newsletter of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Spring oats can serve as a solution to bridge April and May forage needs. Oat hay can be stored and used in the future to bridge gaps. Two bushels per acre seeding rate would be adequate, but if grazing, you might increase seeding rates to three bushels. Seeding depths are from on-half to one inch deep. Oats should be sown in March when field conditions allow. Also, be careful of herbicides used on previous crops, as these may injure oats.

Private Applicator Licenses need to be renewed at your local Extension office after the last meeting scheduled for March 25, 7:00PM at the Holt County Courthouse. If you missed your County Ag Update this winter, then you will have to proceed to your local office to view the training. Sorry, wish you would have went to the meeting.

Do not apply nitrogen fertilizer when establishing legumes in pastures. When you apply nitrogen, the grasses will shade out the clovers and will result in poor stands or even stand failures. This is the main reason we are having stand failures with clovers. Secondly, we are trying to establish clovers in low pH soils. Be sure to check soil test levels. Old research indicates even a ton of lime will help with establishment.

Forage plots to be established at Hundley-Whaley Farm. The Extension Ag staff are working with Bruce and his staff to establish legumes and other best economic strategies to help produce forages cheaply and efficiently. We will focus on establishing different legumes in tall fescue and producing forage after corn and soybeans during fall and spring. Be watching for more information as the plots get established.

Atrazine seems to be in short supply. Dealers that I have been in visiting are questioning about supplies. Better check with your supplier.

Roundup PowerMAX is the new glyphosate product from Monsanto. It's a 4.5 pound material and will be replacing older product lines. More information contained on next page.

Roundup PowerMAX with Corn Hybrids with Roundup Ready 2 Technology have a combined total per year maximum rate for all applications of 5.3 quarts per acre. Maximum total of all Pre-plant, At-planting, Pre-emergence applications are 3.3 quarts per acre. Maximum total of all In-crop applications from emergence through 48-inch corn is 64 fluid ounces per acre and maximum of 32 fluid ounces per application. Maximum Pre-harvest application rate after maximum kernel fill is complete and the crop is physiologically mature (black layer formation) until 7 days before harvest is 22 fluid ounces per acre. Follow restrictions for pre-harvest intervals.

Roundup PowerMAX with Roundup Ready Soybeans have a combined total per year maximum rate for all applications of 5.3 quarts per acre. The maximum application rate of all Pre-plant, At-Planting, and Pre-emergence applications is 3.3 quarts per acre. The total of all In-crop applications from cracking through flowering (R2 stage of soybeans) is 64 fluid ounces per acre. The Maximum pre-harvest application rate is 22 fluid ounces per acre.

Some more specifics.....to control giant ragweed, it is recommended to apply 22 fluid ounces when the weed is 8 to 12 inches tall. The maximum rate of a single application is 44 fluid ounces per acre post-emergence. Always check label before making any applications.

High prices gross a lot of crop revenue, don't forget about crop insurance. There has been a lot of grain forward contracted so be sure to check with your insurance professional.

Check center pivots before you are in need of them. There has been copper wire stolen from many of the center pivots from the Iowa line to Kansas City. Be on the look-out for anything suspicious.

Nitrogen is high priced and one the most simple strategies is to apply nitrogen as close to the time the plants will need this nutrient. Yes, the weather is a consideration and the ability to get over the acres in a timely fashion.

There are several label changes with fungicides on corn. Be sure to follow these new changes and follow the label to prevent any phytotoxic effects on corn.

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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