



Field Day, Sept. 6

The Nebraska Corn Board and Nebraska Corn Growers have partnered with University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension to conduct a Field Day addressing Irrigation Management and Energy Conservation on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at the Agricultural Research & Development Center (ARDC) near Mead.

Topics include:

- Crop ET measurements with ET Gauges
- Furrow irrigation management demonstration
- Soil water measurements
- Sprinkler package selection above
- In-canopy demonstration.

Participants will meet at the ARDC Building at 8:30 a.m., rain or shine. Bring rain gear if raining. Training is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Registration is free but is limited to the first 100 registrants. Register by Monday, Aug. 28 by calling (800)529-8030 or using the registration link at <http://ardc.unl.edu/cmdc-corn.htm>

Chemical Control of Eastern Redcedar

Herbicides can be used to control eastern redcedar, however, they should be viewed as just another tool in the integrated management program. Depending on the application method and chemical type, the use of herbicides can be time consuming and expensive, especially when used on denser tree infestations or large tracts of land. Effectiveness also is variable depending on the tree size and label directions and/or restrictions. Always read and follow herbicide label directions. Herbicide information on control of troublesome plant species, including eastern redcedar, is updated annually in UNL Extension's Guide for Weed Management in Nebraska (EC-130). In general, herbicides for eastern redcedar control can be used for broadcast application or individual-tree spraying.

Broadcast Treatments

Broadcast application is the most common method of applying herbicides in agricultural settings. The key message for the efficacy of broadcast treatments in eastern redcedar control is: "the shorter the tree the better control."

Since tree height was the most important factor influencing the level of chemical control (tree injury) with broadcast treatments, the herbicide efficacy data from a Nebraska study was categorized by tree height. Recommended herbicides for trees up to two feet tall include: Surmount,



Vicki Jedlicka, University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County

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Grazon P&D and Tordon. However, the same herbicides will not provide satisfactory control of trees taller than two feet, indicating the importance of tree height. Surmount at a rate of five pints per acre can cause short-term grass injury in the form of leaf yellowing and top growth burning.

Individual-Tree Treatments

Individual-tree treatments can be applied directly to the tree foliage or to the soil around the tree base. Soil treatments can minimize the amount of herbicide used and the exposure to non-target species; however, soil treatments may not be effective

unless applied before rainfall, preferably in spring or fall. Rain water is needed to move the herbicide into the root zone, allowing easier uptake by a tree. Recommended herbicides for soil application around a tree base include Tordon 22K at the rate of 1 cubic centimeter (milliliter) per foot of tree height or Velpar-L at 4 cubic centimeter (milliliter) and Spike 20P at 1 cubic centimeter (milliliter) for every inch of tree diameter.

Adapted from Crop Watch Newsletter article by Steven Knezevic, Extension Integrated Weed Management Specialist, UNL, June 30, 2006. To access the complete article, go to <http://cropwatch.unl.edu/archives/2006/crop14/redcedar2.htm>

Eastern Nebraska Farmers are Rediscovering Wheat

Tom Dorn

UNL Extension Educator

We normally think of central and western Nebraska as winter wheat country but dryland producers in eastern Nebraska are starting to come back to wheat as well.

Improved varieties with greater resistance to foliar diseases respond to the higher rainfall we typically receive in this end of the state. Farm yields of 60 to 70 bushels per acre have become common in recent years.

The highest yield in the 2006 University of Nebraska–Lincoln variety test plot in Lancaster County was 112.4 bushels per acre. Nine of the 47 varieties tested exceeded 100 bushels per acre. The average yield across all varieties (including some old public varieties, planted strictly for comparison) was 90.7 bushels per acre. Results can be found on the Web at <http://varietytest.unl.edu/winterwheat/2006/wh0613.htm>.



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workload over two harvest periods rather than harvesting all crops in the fall. Some folks take advantage of the post wheat harvest slack time to apply biosolids and manure.

If weeds are controlled with herbicides following wheat harvest, the soil retains much of the July–September precipitation resulting in more moisture in the soil profile in the spring than is found following fall harvested crops. In dry years, this can result in much higher yields of corn or soybeans planted into wheat

stubble as compared to the normal corn/soybean rotation.

Finally, if alfalfa is a part of the crop rotation, one has the opportunity to fall seed alfalfa into wheat stubble. If there is adequate rainfall to get a good stand established in the fall, the first year yield of fall planted alfalfa can be nearly double the yield of spring planted alfalfa.

Wheat price is always higher than corn price per bushel. Current Kansas City Board of Trade prices are hovering around \$5 per bushel. When differences in production costs are considered, wheat should continue to compete quite favorably with corn and soybeans on a net profit per acre basis.

Other advantages of adding wheat to the crop mix include: One can spread the



These three ears of corn were collected in eastern Lancaster County on Aug. 1 by Extension Educator Tom Dorn. The ear on the left was from no-till corn planted into soybean stubble. It had reached late dent stage with no tip-back. The ear in the middle was from a from a tilled field planted into soybean stubble. It was in dough stage when picked. The ear on the right was from a late planted field no-till planted into corn stubble. It had just finished shedding pollen. An average of 5.5 western and northern rootworm beetles per ear were clipping silks back into the shucks interfering with pollination.

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Sponsored by the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

Saturday, Oct. 7

8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. • East Campus Union



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To register or more information, call 472-4445 or go to <http://casnr.unl.edu/future/experience.htm>

Registration deadline: Sep. 29

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