

## Soybean Management Field Days



For 21 years, Soybean Management Field Days have been helping Nebraska growers stay competitive in the global market place. These events, sponsored by Nebraska Extension and the Nebraska Soybean Checkoff, bring research-based information to help soybean growers maximize productivity and profitability through smart decisions and efficient use of resources.

The 2019 field days will be held at four Nebraska locations, including Friday, Aug. 16 at the Lynn Neujahr Farm near Waverly. Driving directions: from Waverly, travel south on 148th Street for about 2 miles. Turn right and travel west on Alvo Road for 0.7 miles and the destination is on the south side of the road.

The field days begin with 9 a.m. registration and conclude

at 2:30 p.m. Free registration is available the day of the event. Lunch included.

According to the 2017 U.S. Ag Census, there were more than 5.6 million acres of soybeans in Nebraska, up from about 4.9 million acres in 2012. This is second only to corn acres in Nebraska, which was about 9.5 million in 2017. Lancaster County had approximately 362,000 acres of cropland and 158,000 of those acres were in soybean production in 2017. For reference, Cass and Otoe Counties had 142,000 and 151,000, respectively, acres of soybeans. Gage County had the highest number of soybean acres of any county with about 197,000 acres and produced about 9.5 million bushels of soybeans, which was also the highest of any county.

At the Soybean Management

Field Days, soybean growers will learn how to profitably apply the products of technology and research at the farm level. University of Nebraska-Lincoln presenters and industry consultants will cover these topics:

- Making sense of production costs and policy changes.
- Hail damage impact on growth and development of soybeans.
- Management of soybean insects and pathogens.
- Soybean weed control.
- Cover crops — pros & cons associated with soybean production.
- Soybean production and agronomic topics — planting rates, row spacing, planting dates, maturity groups, irrigation management.

More information and maps can be found at <https://go.unl.edu/2019smfd>.

## Landlord-Tenant Cash Rent Workshop, Aug. 21

Nebraska Extension will present a Landlord-Tenant Farmland Cash Rent Workshop on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 1-4 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek, Road, Lincoln. Check-in starts at 12:45p.m. Please register by Aug. 19 by calling Karen Wedding at 402-441-7180. Cost is \$15 per person or \$25 per two people sharing handouts. Pay at the door with check, cash or debit/credit card. Refreshments provided.

This workshop will cover current trends in cash rental rates and land values, lease provisions, crop and grazing land considerations, plus current UNL crop budget information. It is very helpful if both the tenant and landlord can attend together.

Nebraska Extension land specialists Allan Vyhnalek, Austin Duerfeldt, Glennis McClure and Jim Jansen conduct research and outreach in land management, crop budgets, communications and negotiations. They will address common agricultural landlord and

tenant questions such as:

- What does an equitable rental rate look like for my land?
- How do I manage a farm-land lease?
- How could the lease be adjusted for recent flood damage?
- What should I expect for communications between the landlord and tenant?
- What are key pasture leasing considerations including stocking rates?
- Who is responsible for cedar tree removal from grazing land?
- What does it cost to raise crops on my ground?

The workshop in Lincoln is one of six presented in Eastern Nebraska during July and August. Information about all workshops, as well as related resources, are online at <https://agecon.unl.edu/landlord-tenant>.

For more information about workshop topics, contact Allan Vyhnalek at [avyhnalek2@unl.edu](mailto:avyhnalek2@unl.edu) or 402-472-1771, or contact Jim Jansen at [jjansen4@unl.edu](mailto:jjansen4@unl.edu) or 402-261-7572.

## Fall is Best for Control of Tough Weeds

**Sarah Browning**  
Extension Educator,  
Lancaster Co.

It's time to get ready — the best time of year to control those perennial, biennial and winter annual weeds is just a couple weeks away. Did you have pretty purple blooming henbit back in March and April? Ground ivy creeping through your lawn? Or dandelions that popped out with the first warm days in May? Fall is the time to begin taking back control of your landscape. This weed-control window of time starts in early September and stretches into late October. Just keep in mind the perennial and biennial weeds must have green, living foliage so they can take in the herbicides applied.

### Use the Weed's Life Cycle to Your Advantage

Fall is the best time of year to control troublesome weeds for several reasons. Perennial weeds, like dandelions, ground ivy, poison ivy, field bindweed, curly dock and Canada thistle, respond to shorter day lengths and cooler nights by moving carbohydrates from the leaves down to their roots for winter storage.

Starting in September, herbicides are transported to the roots along with the carbohydrates killing the entire plant instead of just the leaves. And even if

the chemical doesn't completely kill the weed, the plant goes into winter in a weakened condition and is much more susceptible to winter kill.

Biennial weeds, like musk thistle, grow into a small flat rosette of foliage their first year of growth. These rosettes are the ideal stage for herbicide control in fall.

Winter annual weeds, such as henbit, marestail and the mustards (field pennycress, shepherds purse, tansy mustard, blue mustard, etc.) germinate in the fall, overwinter as a small rosette of foliage and begin growing again very early next spring. In fall, they can be killed as they germinate with preemergence herbicides or targeted as young plants with post-emergence products.

Before applying any herbicide, know the weeds you are trying to control. If you're not sure, get help from your local garden center or Nebraska Extension office. Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County offers free plant identification, as well as control recommendations. Horticulturists are available Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. -noon. Samples can be dropped off 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Email photos to [sarah.browning@unl.edu](mailto:sarah.browning@unl.edu).

Fall control of annual weeds like crabgrass, foxtail, knotweed or purslane is unnecessary and wasteful. These weeds only live for one summer and naturally

die in fall. Target them with the application of preemergence herbicide the first week of May and again in early July.

### Perennial & Biennial Weed Control

Begin perennial and biennial weed control in mid-September. Many products are available for broadleaf weed control. Look for products containing the active ingredients 2,4-D, carfentrazone, sulfentrazone, quinclorac or triclopyr. These products are selective and won't damage grass, but use them with caution in landscape beds since accidental spraying or spray drift can damage trees, shrubs and ornamental plants. Quinclorac is particularly effective at controlling wild violets.

If grass growing into landscape beds is a problem, fluazifop (Ortho's Grass-B-Gon and similar products) selectively kill grasses, but won't damage your perennials.

Consider adding a spreader-sticker to your tank mix for even better control. Spreader-stickers are additives that help the chemical you apply spread over the weed leaf surface and adhere to it better. When you're trying to control weeds with waxy leaf surfaces, like wild violets, a spreader-sticker is particularly helpful. Look for products like Earl May's Turbo Spreader Sticker.

When targeting diffi-

cult weeds, don't expect 100% control with one herbicide application. Two or three herbicide applications, 2-3 weeks apart will usually be necessary to control them. Make your first application and, if in 2-3 weeks there is regrowth or green leaves still remaining on the plants, make a second application.

After making the herbicide application, don't mow for 2-3 days to allow the plants to take in the chemical.

### Winter Annual Weed Control

If winter annual weeds, such as henbit, chickweed, and annual bluegrass, are a problem in your lawn or landscape, a fall preemergence herbicide application should be made in early September.

Barricade (proflam), Dimension (dithiopyr) and Pendulum (pendimethalin) are commonly available home-use preemergence products labeled for use in turf or landscape plantings. Check the product's active ingredient statement on the front of the label for these chemicals to make sure you are using the correct herbicide.

If you miss the application of preemergence herbicide in early September, then a post-emergence herbicide can be applied from late September to late October and will kill many newly germinated winter annual weeds.

## Free Water Screening for Nitrates

Did you know there are many requirements for public water systems to monitor their water quality, but there are no such requirements for private water wells? It's important to know about the water you drink. Nitrates above 10mg/L can be a threat for infants, pregnant or nursing women, anyone with a compromised immune system and also livestock.

Nebraska Extension will screen private-well-water samples for nitrates at no cost during the first weekend at the Lancaster County Super Fair:

- Saturday, Aug. 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Sunday, Aug. 4, 12-4 p.m.

Bring 2-4 ounces (1/4-1/2 cup) of your water in a clean container (avoid medicine containers) to the Extension information table in the Lincoln Room at the Lancaster Event Center, 84th & Havelock, Lincoln. There will also be information on water quality, water treatment and private well ownership.

Special thanks to the state Water Well Standards and Contractors' Licensing Program for the use of its water screening equipment.