Wheat Production, Budgets & Market Outlook Meetings

Beaver County

Producers in the Gate area of both Beaver and Harper counties, and again at Bryans Corner, were offered information pertaining to budgeting for the 2009 crop by Area Ag Economist JC Hobbs. Even with production input increasing significantly the take home message, “that this is not the time to reduce fertilizer inputs if soil tests call for additional fertilizer.” Nitrogen costs would need to triple before that expense should be the limiting input. JC also provided a market outlook with profit potential for the 2009 year. World demand will continue to support wheat prices.

Rick Kochenower, Area Agronomist OPREC, covered the necessity of wheat seed treatments as there has been a variety of diseases detected. Seed treatment costs are minimal in comparison to harvested wheat infected with fungal diseases. Seedling diseases can reduce stands to a point allowing weeds to successfully compete for nutrients and moisture. Kochenower reviewed the 2008 Wheat Performance Test data and commented on varieties to consider for planting in the future. The Wheat Streak Mosaic resistance varieties generated discussion and scenarios where their use would be beneficial.

Midwest Crop Protection Services cooperated by providing meeting facilities in Gate.

A total of 48 producers attended meetings held in Gate and Bryan’s Corner on August 4th.