



Nuttin' but News

Caddo County OSU Extension Service



AGRICULTURAL NEWSLETTER

Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service • Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources • Oklahoma State University

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<http://oces.okstate.edu/caddo>

May 2010

Upcoming Agricultural Events

- May 6 Apache Risk Management Group / Apache Banking Center / **Apache, OK** / Noon / Speaker: Derrell Peel, OSU Ag Economist
- May 7 Musk Thistle Weevil Round-Up / Lions Club Park / **Nash, OK** / 9:00 am / Hosted by Grant County OSU Extension Office / Call Scott Price 580-395-2134
- May 10 - OSU Access Tour / Depart OSU Campus /
May 11 **Stillwater, Ok** / 7:15 am / Tour will cover Southwest Oklahoma including Caddo County / To register call 405-744-6489
- May 14 Apache Wheat Variety Plot Tour / Brian Vail Farm, 1 mile south of Apache / **Apache, OK** / 5:00 PM / Sponsor: Apache CO-OP
- June 16 Annual No-Till Tour / Eakly CO-OP / **Eakly, OK** / 9:30 am

Pastora for Sandbur Control in Bermudagrass From Dupont Crop Protection Press Release

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has granted DuPont federal registration approval for Pastora®, a new herbicide that provides selective control of problem broadleaf and grass weeds with no grazing restrictions.

"Weeds are responsible for significant reductions in hay crop quality and profitability, as well as long-term negative effects on livestock that graze Bermuda grass pastures," said John Chrosniak, regional director, North America – DuPont Crop Protection. "Pastora® will help clear problem weeds for visibly cleaner Bermuda grass, better grass and hay quality, and, ultimately, better protection of bottom-line profits."

Pastora® provides postemergence control of field sandbur and johnsongrass, which reduce quality

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Peanut Planting Considerations

By Chad Godsey, OSU Agronomist

With peanut planting time right around the corner I thought it would be good to mention a few key points. Over the last couple of years growers who have become more aggressive with their pre-emerge herbicide program have kept their fields cleaner all season long. Do not rely only on a pre-plant incorporated herbicide (i.e. yellow herbicide). Make the decision early as to which pre-emerge products you will use. Refer to <http://www.oilseeds.okstate.edu/prodinfo/index.htm> for more specific herbicide information. Also have a plan ready to go for post-emergence.

The standard recommended planting dates for Oklahoma peanuts are May 1 through May 15 for Runners and Virginias and May 1 to May 30 for Spanish varieties. They have proven to be reliable, and planting close to these dates usually results in greater success. Favorable soil temperature is also necessary for germination. Peanut seed will actually germinate over a wide temperature range (41 F to 104 F). Germination will be quick within a range of 77 F to 86 F. The optimum temperature for rapid germination and seedling development is 86 F to 91 F.

Planting should not commence until the soil temperature is 65 F at a 4-inch depth, measured at 7 a.m. for three consecutive days. This is rarely before May 1 in Oklahoma. The Mesonet is an excellent source to identify what the soil temperature is in your area. You may find this information at: http://ag-weather.mesonet.org/index.php/data/section/soil_water. Currently, the soil temperatures at 7 am have been in the mid to upper 50's.

The final point, growers need to manage their peanut crop to reach a realistic yield goal. Average yields have increased in Oklahoma over

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the past several years and as a result inputs may need to be increased. If you step back and think about it, how can we expect to increase yield without increasing inputs or increasing efficiency in the inputs? We can increase yield from genetic improvements in varieties but that will only take us so far. A common and realistic approach to setting yield goals is to consider past averages. With this approach the recent average (3-5 years) is increased by 10% to 20% with the higher yield becoming the yield goal. Most producers should have a yield goal of 4,000 lb/ac or higher. Carefully consider your inputs to reach this goal, whether it is fertilizer, fungicide, and/ or herbicide.

Here is to a successful peanut crop in 2010 and a "normal" fall!

Apache Wheat Variety Plot Tour

Attend the Apache Wheat Plot Variety Tour at 5 pm on May 14th at the Brain Vail farm south of Apache. It should be a good place to evaluate fungicide efficacy. OSU Wheat Specialist, Jeff Edwards sprayed ½ of every plot at Apache with Stratego fungicide on April 20th. If you want to see how a foliar fungicide affects disease severity (including Stripe Rust) on a wide array of varieties, this should be a good place to do so. Variety trial yield data will be published in July. Two months is a long time to remember the key points about those new varieties you were interested in at the field day in May. So, make a few notes and review them when yield data are published in July.

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and profitability of commercial hay production in Bermuda grass pastures and hay meadows. Pastora® also delivers long-lasting postemergence control of broadleaf weeds, including common broomweed, buttercup and musk thistle. In field trials, Pastora® controlled more than 25 grass weeds and 100 broadleaf weeds.

Forage and pasture experts consider effective weed control an essential part of an overall pasture management program that includes good soil fertility; adequate moisture, insect and rodent control; grazing/haying management; and other agronomic practices to optimize Bermuda grass growth.

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