



# Grant County Agricultural Newsletter

June July 2009

Grant County OSU Extension Office 112 E. Guthrie Room 301 Courthouse  
Medford, Oklahoma 73759—580-395-2134

Volume 9 Issue 3

## Farmers Market

A local Farmers Market is being organized to be held on Saturday mornings at 8 a.m. and Wednesday afternoons at 5 p.m. on the west side of the courthouse in Medford. The purpose is to provide local gardeners and farmers an opportunity to market their products in season, while providing others with access to locally grown produce.

Only fruits and vegetables grown in Grant County in raw form may be sold, no processed foods. No pets, surplus property, or baked goods may be sold.

No fees will be charged to sell. Vendors may sell out of the back of a pickup or from a small table (card table size). No scales will be used, items will be sold by piece or container.

For more information, contact the Grant County OSU Extension Office at 580-395-2134.

## Cash Leases

Cash leases are common rental arrangements for cropland in Oklahoma. Rental rates are influenced by many factors, including the location and quality of land, improvements on the land, the landowner's costs, the tenant's expected earnings, previous rates charged, competition for the land, and the relationship between the landowner and the tenant. With market volatility, flexible cash lease agreements may become more common. These agreements can adjust the established rental rate by the actual price received, actual yield, selected input prices such as fertilizer, or some combination of these.

The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service Intensive Financial Management and Planning Support (IFMAPS) program assists Oklahoma farmers and ranchers in evaluating business plans and farm financial situations. IFMAPS specialists can develop a financial plan showing the total cost and potential returns for a particular piece of land, for the entire operation or for alternative rental arrangements. The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service offers the IFMAPS program as a free and confidential service. Call toll free 1-800-522-3755 to schedule an individual consultation. More information on cash rental rates is available in OSU CR-230, Oklahoma Cropland Rental Rates, 2008-09 at your local Extension office or online at <http://pods.dasnr.okstate.edu/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-5994/CR-230web08-09.pdf>

## Storing Large Round Bales

University of Tennessee animal scientists conducted a trial to compare different methods of storing large round bales of grass hay. The hay was cut and baled in June in Moore County, Tennessee. The bales were weighed at the time of harvest and storage. Then they were weighed again the following January at the time of winter feeding. The following table lists the type of storage and the resulting percentage hay loss.

Type of Storage	Percentage (%) Hay Loss
On ground, no cover	37%
On tires, no cover	29%
On ground, covered	29%
On tires, covered	8%
Net wrap on ground	19%
In barn	6%

(Continued on page 2)

*(Continued from page 1)*

Obviously, it would be ideal to store the hay inside, but that will not often be practical. The next best option is when the hay is stored on something that gets the hay off of the ground under a rain shedding cover.

*Source: Dr. Clyde Lane, University of Tennessee  
Department of Animal Science.  
Hay Storage AS-BV14*

## Fertility after a Lost Wheat Crop

In some regions of Oklahoma producers may opt to give up on the wheat and plant a summer crop, mostly due to frost damage encountered in late March and early April. One of the things to keep in mind is the fertility needs of this new crop. This is because the wheat that is still in the field has a fertilizer value if it is incorporated..

By the time the wheat has reached flowering there is more N above the ground per acre than at any other time in the season. At the Lahoma research station we have seen that plots receiving 100 lbs N/ac can have 130 to 150 lbs of N per acre in the forage at flowering. These plots usually yield 45 bu/ac. The 60 lbs of N/ ac plot usually have 80-100 lbs of N/ac in the forage at flowering, and the 0 N plots average 40 lbs of N in the forage at this same stage of growth. When considering P and K uptake in the forage, the concentration of N to K is close to a 1 to 1 ratio and P is usually 1/10 to 1/6 the value of N. For every 100 lbs of N there will be 100 lbs of K and 10-16 lbs of P in the forage. If the wheat was late planted, drought stressed, or just did not produce a great deal of biomass the amount of N, P, and K removed would be much lower. In a poor year at Stillwater, only 50 lbs of N had been removed from the high N plots by flowering for what would end up being a 20 bu crop.

What will happen to all of these nutrients? If the wheat is incorporated into the soil, as much as 70% may be made available during the summer crops growing season. This is essentially a "green manure." If wheat is burnt down and left on the surface, about 70% of the nutrients will be made available slowly over the next year.

## What to do: Nitrogen

Give yourself credit for the N you applied in the wheat crop but discount for what has been taken up and a small percentage being lost. Also, if you

incorporate the wheat forage give yourself a credit for the N coming back; about 50% of what was taken up is a safe number. This will be a perfect opportunity to implement the N-Rich strip into your fertilization program. That way you will be able to account for the residual N left behind or the lack thereof for your summer crop.

## Phosphorus

If your soil was testing at the medium to high range (Soil Test P of 40 +)\* and you applied P to the wheat crop having a little P as a starter fertilizer should be sufficient. However if your soil test P levels were low (Soil Test P of 30 or less)\* you should consider applying more P even if you put down some for the wheat. In a field with low P values, the fertilizer P is often quickly tied up by the soil.

## Potassium

The recommendation for K is similar to P. Medium to high levels for K are 200+\* and low could be considered below 150\*.

\*These soil test values come from procedures used by the Soil Water Forage Analytical Lab at Oklahoma State University and may not be comparable to other labs.

*Brian Arnall, Precision Nutrient Management  
Extension Specialist, b.arnall@okstate.edu*

## How Can I Become a Certified Seed Grower?

Seed Certification is the process required to produce high quality pedigreed seed and is open to all who wish to participate. Certified seed is a limited generation seed production system. Foundation seed produces Registered seed, Registered seed produces Certified seed and Certified seed produces grain.

There are several basic requirements to become a certified seed producer.

1. **Start clean.** All planting & harvesting equipment and storage facilities must be clean to prevent contamination from other crops, varieties or weed seeds.
2. **Plant eligible seed** and retain proof of eligibility. Foundation or Registered seed must be planted for the crop to be eligible for certification. If you are going to produce Registered seed you will need to purchase Foundation seed. If you are going to produce Certified seed you will need to purchase Registered seed.

*(Continued on page 3)*

(Continued from page 2)

**3. Eligible Ground.** The seed you plant needs to be planted on eligible (clean) ground, i.e. ground that has not produced a like crop in the past year unless it was planted to a class of certified seed in the past year. For example if you are going to produce Certified Duster you will need to purchase Registered Duster and plant it on ground that was not in wheat the previous year. This insures that there will be no contamination by other varieties of wheat.

**4. Field Inspection.** Contact OCIA office for an application for field inspection and submit it by the appropriate deadline. This will start the paper work process to complete seed certification. You will need to send in a seed tag or other documentation with the application. This creates a paper work trail so that the seed source can be identified.

**5. Prepare your field for inspection by OCIA.** This involves roguing any contaminants such as rye or off-type plants and controlling any noxious weeds such as field bindweed. Isolation also needs to be determined at this time. In wheat there needs to be 10 feet between a certified seed field and other wheat.

**6. Field inspections.** The inspector will contact you prior to harvest to make you aware that he will be in the area and confirm that your field is ready for inspection. After inspection is completed you will receive a copy of the field inspection report.

**7. Seed conditioning.** The primary purpose for seed conditioning is to remove all impurities (broken seed, chaff, weed seed, etc.) from your seed. Conditioning *must* be done by an *OCIA approved conditioner* listed in the directory or with your own seed cleaning equipment.

**8. Laboratory analysis.** After cleaning has been completed a sample of seed must be submitted for testing. This will provide you with all the necessary information for the label requirements and ensure that the seed meets OCIA standards. Sample bags are provided by the OCIA office.

**9. Official tags/labels.** Once the seed has passed both field and laboratory inspections, tags or labels can be ordered from the OCIA office. Both bagged and bulk seed sales require official OCIA tags to be legally sold. It is also a requirement of the State Seed Law that all seed sold be labeled properly.

Specific crop standards and other information are available from the OCIA office or at <http://www.okcrop.com>.

Before the seed is sold you will need to **purchase a seed dealers' license** from Oklahoma Department of Agriculture. Contact the ODA office for further instructions and information. Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry Plant Industry & Consumer Services  
2800 N. Lincoln Blvd.

Oklahoma City, OK 73105 (405) 522-5885  
If you are interested in becoming a certified seed grower please contact the OCIA office:

**Oklahoma Crop Improvement Association**  
**2902 West 6th Ave**  
**Stillwater, OK 74074-1555 (405) 744-7108**

**Grant County OSU Cooperative Extension Office**  
**112 E. Guthrie Room 301 Courthouse**  
**Medford, Oklahoma 73759-1246**  
**580-395-2134 FAX: 580-395-2615**  
**[scott.price@okstate.edu](mailto:scott.price@okstate.edu)**  
**<http://oces.okstate.edu/grant>**

Oklahoma State University, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other federal laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Robert E. Whitson, Director of Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma. This publication is printed and issued by Oklahoma State University as authorized by the Vice President, Dean, and Director of the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and has been prepared and distributed at a cost of \$.14 per copy, 390 copies.

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is implied.



Scott Price, Extension Educator Agriculture/4-H Youth Development and C.E.D. Grant County

## **Wheat Variety Comparison Chart**

available from the Grant County OSU Cooperative Extension Office,  
112 E. Guthrie Room 301 Courthouse Medford, Oklahoma 73759

Call—580-395-2134,

E-mail—[scott.price@okstate.edu](mailto:scott.price@okstate.edu)

Or on the web at:

<http://pods.dasnr.okstate.edu/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6107/PSS-2142web.pdf>

Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Fact Sheets  
are also available on our website at:  
<http://osufacts.okstate.edu>

Additional information on yield potential of varieties can be found at [www.wheat.okstate.edu](http://www.wheat.okstate.edu)