

Row Crop News

Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service
P.O. Box 6896 - Pine Bluff, AR 71611 – Phone: 870-534-1033

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In This Issue:

**TRI-COUNTY WHEAT PEST
MGMT DAY**

**GRAIN BIN
CONSTRUCTION/UTILIZATION
& RICE PRODUCTION MTG**

**PESTICIDE APPLICATOR
TRAINING**

2008 RACE FOR 100 (BU)

ACRES FOR WILDLIFE

****REMINDER
MAILING LIST UPDATE**

**ROTARY FARMER
APPRECIATION DAY**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact:
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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Plunkett".

**TRI-COUNTY WHEAT PEST MANAGEMENT FIELD DAY
FEBRUARY 11**

The Jefferson, Lonoke and Pulaski County Cooperative Extension Services will conduct a Tri-County Wheat Pest Management Field Day on **Monday, February 11, 2008**. The meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. at the Country Store at Wright, Arkansas, and after a brief introductory period, will move to a nearby wheat field where various speakers will teach about scouting wheat. The field to be used for teaching was diagnosed January 10 as having greenbug aphids as well as stripe rust disease.

Participants will hear about scouting needed for determining fertility issues of the 2008 wheat crop, as well as be taught about scouting for weeds, insects and diseases of wheat. Don Plunkett, County Extension Agent-Staff Chair of Jefferson County, will provide an overview of getting started in scouting and what to look for when walking fields.

- Susan Scott, county Extension agent-agriculture from Lonoke County, will teach about weed scouting in wheat.
- Allan Beurman, county Extension agent-agriculture from Pulaski County, will teach about scouting for nutritional symptoms and wheat fertilization.
- Gus Lorenz, Extension IPM specialist and state entomologist, will review scouting of insect pests in wheat.
- Scott Monfort, Extension plant pathologist, will teach about disease scouting and determination of treatment application periods.

Producers and agri-business representatives are encouraged to attend this important meeting. More information about the Tri-County Wheat Pest Management Field Day may be obtained by calling the Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service at 870-534-1033.

**GRAIN BIN CONSTRUCTION & UTILIZATION
& RICE PRODUCTION MEETING**

The Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service is conducting a

Grain Bin Construction and Utilization and Rice Production educational meeting **Tuesday, February 12, 2008**, at the county Extension office in Pine Bluff. The program starts at 12:29 p.m.

- Dennis Gardisser, Extension agricultural engineer, will discuss grain bin construction and utilization as related to all grain crops, but especially corn and rice. Gardisser has planned numerous grain bin storage compounds across the state and has a good knowledge of how to effectively utilize grain bins to maximize efficient use of the structures.
- Karen Moldenhauer, U of A rice breeder stationed at the Rice Research and Extension Center in Stuttgart, will discuss the U of A rice breeding research and tell growers about a new malady affecting the Wells rice variety. Moldenhauer will also discuss the U of A rice variety trials research and recommendation on rice varieties for 2008.
- Chuck Wilson, Extension rice specialist, will discuss rice production strategies as well as rice disease control.

A grower and industry panel will also be presenters who will discuss their experiences with zero-grade rice production, row-watered rice production and other strategies used concerning new technologies in rice. Producers and agri-business representatives are encouraged to attend this important meeting. More information about the Grain Bin Construction and Utilization and Rice Production educational meeting may be obtained by calling the Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service at 870-534-1033.

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING **FEBRUARY 26**

Producers needing to certify or to re-certify for pesticide handling are invited to a Pesticide Applicator Training (PAT) on **Tuesday, February 26**, starting at 1:00 p.m. at the Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service office at 500 Idaho

Street in Pine Bluff. Please call the Extension office for details or instructions regarding office location by calling 870-534-1033.

Arkansas producers who use restricted-use pesticides (RUP) on the farm **must have** a valid Private Applicator License from the Arkansas State Plant Board to enable them to purchase RUPs. Farm stores require the license number before selling RUPs to growers of livestock, orchards, vegetables/produce and row crops such as wheat, corn, grain sorghum, rice, cotton or soybeans. RUPs may include herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, etc.

Jefferson County growers who missed the fall PAT should make sure to attend the February 26, 1:00 p.m. meeting to become certified or re-certified as this is the final planned PAT in Jefferson County until next November.

These meetings are open to all eligible persons without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (large print, audiotapes, etc.) should notify the county Extension office as soon as possible prior to the activity.

ARKANSAS SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION “2008 **RACE FOR 100 (BUSHELs)”**

No one in Arkansas met the challenge last year, and the rules are about the same. Raise a 100-bushel or higher crop of soybeans from a measured 5 to 7 acre block and possibly win \$50,000. All who raise 100 plus bushels will receive a share.

For more details, contact the ARSA at 800-347-8691 or go online to www.swsoy@aristotle.net

ACRES FOR WILDLIFE

Hunters may want to enroll in the “Acres for Wildlife” program through the Cooperative Extension Service. Information on the program may be obtained at the county Extension office or online at

http://www.arnatural.org/wildlife/acres_for_wildlife
/ and also may be obtained from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

There are a couple of changes in the seed packets to be delivered via the “*Acres for Wildlife*” program this year due to availability and cost. Brown-top millet will replace lespedeza as our early seed for this year. Food plot mix: Seed mix will consist of brown-top millet, wild-game sorghum, and black peredovik sunflower to be blended in a ratio of three lbs. each of wild-game sorghum (untreated) and black peredovik sunflower to one lb. of brown-top millet.

Arkansas Game and Fish will provide seed packages to “*Arkansas Acres for Wildlife*” cooperators who agree to plant them. Each package contains enough seed to plant a quarter-acre food plot. Cooperators enrolled by early February will, if they want it, receive one or more five-pound packages of seed as described above.

****REMINDER - MAILING LIST REVISION**

Federal regulations require the Cooperative Extension Service to update our mailing lists annually. If you would like to continue receiving Jefferson County Extension newsletters, please fill out the “*Request to be on Mailing List*” card that you received in the January 8 Row Crop newsletter and send it back to us. You may also give us a call at **870-534-1033** and let one of our agents or clerical staff take the information by phone. Please include your email address, in case we need to make a quick announcement concerning pest management alerts like Asian Soybean Rust.

Persons who do not respond by **February 10** will be dropped from our Row Crop mailing list(s).

Those wishing to enroll or re-enroll for a mailing list may also call the county Extension office to provide information over the phone or email Don Plunkett at dplunkett@uaex.edu to sign up for mailing lists.

ROTARY FARMER APPRECIATION DAY
FEBRUARY 26

The combined Rotary clubs of Pine Bluff/West Pine Bluff will host the annual “Farmer Appreciation Day” on Tuesday, February 26, at 11:45 a.m., at the Pine Bluff Convention Center. Contact Craig Hunt at Simmons First National Bank at 870-541-1125 to RSVP.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

February 11 - Tri-County Wheat Pest Management Field Day – Wright Country Store – 12:31 p.m.

February 12 - Grain Bin Construction/Utilization and Rice Production Education – Cooperative Extension Service office - Pine Bluff – 12:29 p.m.

February 26 –Rotary Farmer Appreciation Day – 11:45 a.m. (RSVP)

February 26 - Pesticide Applicator Training – Cooperative Extension Service office - Pine Bluff – 1:00 p.m.

February 29 - March 1 - Farm and Gin Show – Cook Convention Center - Memphis