Clover seeding

Even though it’s the dead of winter, it’s a great time to start making plans for spring and even summer. White clover can be broadcast seeded in the winter fairly easily and inexpensively. It only takes about 2 pounds of seed per acre. Over seeding on top of a snow is a popular practice. It makes it a lot easier to see where you’ve been for one thing. And see how wide your swath width is on your seeder. White clover tolerates grazing well. It also still allows a couple spray options. White clover will withstand low rates of 2,4D if you need to spray in the future and will even withstand glyphosate in the winter time.

If you know you have serious weed problems in the field, it might be best to wait a year though. All the other species of clovers will be killed by any herbicide you would use to control weeds so keep that in mind before trying to establish them.

Spraying hay fields

In between splitting wood for the fire, trying to keep water flowing for livestock, and plugging in the tractor so it will start, it’s hard to think of getting ready to spray for weeds. But, it’s not a bad idea. Two years ago, we put out some demo plots on the Asencio farm on February 27th. It was blowing snow that day and the plots remained covered with snow for 2 days. But, the results were surprising. Plots were evaluated on March 31 to see how well they had worked.

Metsulfuron applied at 0.5 ounces per acre: Plots were completely clean of winter weeds and grasses on March 31st. Metsulfuron is sold under a couple different trade names. Look for products such as Pastora or Ally in stores.

Grazon P + D and Grazon Next applied at 2 quarts per acre: Plots were clean of winter weeds but the winter grasses were remaining. Much lower rates should also prove satisfactory on the Grazon products or other 2,4D mix products. If you have a lot of grass competition, you’ll probably want to use either the glyphosate products, metsulfuron, or a combination of both.

Winter seems early for weed control, but consider how many days the weather is fitting to spray in a normal March. Between rain, sleet, or wind, it’s very tough to find good days to spray.
Pesticide Applicator Trainings

Here is the schedule of trainings for folks needing to either renew their current license or get a new Private Applicator license to purchase and use restricted use pesticides on their own farms.

**Saturday, January 21st**, at 12:30 at the Arvest Bank in Gravette.

**Friday, February 17th**, at 2:00 p.m. at our office in the auditorium.

**Thursday, March 30th** at 5:30 p.m. at the Tontitown branch, Farm Credit Services office.

Please call our office at 479-271-1060 to register for any of these classes.

If any of those don’t work for you, there will also be trainings at the Extension office in Fayetteville on Thursday, February 2\textsuperscript{nd} at 5:30 and on Saturday, March 18\textsuperscript{th} at 8:00 a.m.

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**Livestock and Farm Production Meetings**

**Feb 13\textsuperscript{th}**: Benton County Sale Barn, Siloam Springs; starting at 6:30 p.m.

Rusty Rumley with the National Ag Law Center will talk on - Estate Planning: What happens to the farm in the next generation?

Dr. Craig Bacon, Tyson Foods; Where are we in the Cattle Economic Cycle and what does the future look like in the protein business?

**Feb 27\textsuperscript{th}**: Farmer’s Livestock Auction, Springdale, Arkansas; starting at 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Heidi Ward, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service - Living with the new Veterinary Feed Directive

Johnny Gunsaulis, Benton County Cooperative Extension Service - Weed Control in pastures and hay fields.

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**Free Beekeeping Classes**

There will be a session of beekeeping classes on January 23, 30, and February 6\textsuperscript{th} from 6-9 p.m. each evening. These will be held at the Southside Church of Christ at 919 Dixieland Road in Rogers. Each class will cover different material. These will be conducted by Jon Zawislak, Extension Bee specialist and certified Master Beekeeper.

Classes are free, but please register by calling 271-1060 to make sure there are enough materials for everyone.

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**Program for Quail Habitat**

There will be an informational meeting on a new program being offered to help with restoring quail habitat in Benton County. The meeting will be on **Thursday, January 26\textsuperscript{th}** from 6-8 p.m. at the Northwest Arkansas Community College in Room 108. There will be a free meal. Call the local NRCS office at 479-273-2622, ext. 3 to reserve your spot. This meeting will explain funding which is available for the establishment of quail habitat and cover what you may do to encourage quail on your property.

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All meetings are open to all eligible persons without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, 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.
**Good Bye to a Great Helper**

Neal Mays, my trusted helper, friend, and colleague has taken a position with another company outside of the Cooperative Extension Service. His official last day will be January 27th. We wish him and his family the best. He’ll be in the office for a limited number of days this month. Neal will be working with the food processing industry.

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**Congratulations to our county 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl team!**

Kimberly Kay, Joshua Kay, Alisun Watson, and Alex Joyce placed 4th in the Livestock Quiz Bowl at the National Western Roundup competition in Denver. They were also awarded the Sportsmanship Award. It took a lot of study time, but they represented our county well. Very proud of them.

We’re also very proud of Julie Griffin, Laurel Mayo, and Abigail Proctor who competed in fashion review and speaking competitions and also did a great job of making Benton County look great. Julie was 4th in her speech competition.

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**Show Clinic March 18th**

Mark your calendars if you have kids that show in your house or maybe you’d just like to learn more to be able to help some of your customers. This will be at the Benton County fairgrounds. More details as it gets closer.

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**Grass Tetany Reminder**

It’s time to put out the High Magnesium mineral for livestock. Grass Tetany season is just around the corner. It is most likely on fields with high levels of Potassium. Or the best fertilized fields you have.

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**Benton County Cooperative Extension Service**

1204 SW 14th Street, Suite 2
Bentonville, AR 72712
(479) 271-1060

Johnny Gunsaulis
Staff Chair
CEA - Agriculture

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The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution. If you require a reasonable accommodation to participate or need materials in another format, please contact your County Extension office (or other appropriate office) as soon as possible. Dial 711 for Arkansas Relay.
## Upcoming Dates

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<td>Beekeeping Classes Begin in Rogers</td>
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