

Faulkner County Agriculture Update

May 15, 2020

General Conditions

Weather: We started out the week with rain on Tuesday and cool temperatures. We did warm up into the 80's by the end of the week, but today has brought more rain. We have a big system forecasted for tomorrow. This rain is going to delay planting and fertilization of forages. Hopefully after this weekend we will have a dry week with higher temperatures to get things dried up and get us back on track.

Arkansas River: All of the rain from Tuesday has found its way to the river and we jumped 4 feet since yesterday. With the forecasted rain this week the river is expected to rise to 261 on Sunday and then start falling on Monday. That isn't too bad a rise and should allow the Cadron and other tributaries to drain and not flood.

Row Crop

Corn: The early planted fields are at V3 this week. The fields planted last week are trying to emerge through the ground. Fields that didn't get sprayed before the rain have a good amount of weed pressure, but the good thing about corn is we can take out a weedy situation. My preference is 1.5 quarts of atrazine plus 3.6 pints of Halex GT. That is a great way to use several different modes of action. Sidedress nitrogen isn't too far away on the early planted fields. We will probably be looking to fertilize with the next rain chances. The best medicine for corn right now is sun and warm weather. Cloudy cool weather is the last thing we need right now.

What an interesting week for heat unit accumulation. On Monday and Tuesday we accumulated 8.5 and 2 heat units respectively. Then by Friday we were back up to 26. We accumulated about 20 less units this week because of that cold start. You just have to love Arkansas weather.

Total Heat Units Accumulated Since April 18	Heat Units Accumulated April 25 – May 1
402	98.5

Rice: Some more rice got planted last weekend. We are getting close to wrapping up rice planting. I know of a few more acres left to go. Just like corn the rice needs some warm weather and sunshine right now. We applied some propanil and Facet on a field earlier this week and I think the cool weather hurt us on control. Our water seeded fields need herbicide applied but every time we about get them dry it rains again. We are having trouble keeping water off of them.

Dr. Jarrod Hardke's 8th Arkansas Rice Update: <https://www.uaex.edu/farm-ranch/crops-commercial-horticulture/rice/Arkansas%20Rice%20Update%205-8-20.pdf>

DD50 program: <https://dd50.uaex.edu/>

2020 Managing Water-Seeded Rice for Arkansas: <https://www.uaex.edu/farm-ranch/crops-commercial-horticulture/rice/2020%20Managing%20Water-Seeded%20Rice%20in%20Arkansas.pdf>

Furrow Irrigated Rice Handbook: <https://www.uaex.edu/farm-ranch/crops-commercial-horticulture/rice/ArkansasFurrowIrrigatedRiceHandbook.pdf>

Wheat: Wheat has started turning color and is headed towards maturity. We need some good dry warm weather to allow it to go ahead and mature and get ready for harvest. Hopefully in about 3 or 4 weeks.

Enlist Training: <https://courses.uaex.edu/course/index.php?categoryid=79>

Paraquat Training: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/paraquat-dichloride-training-certified-applicators>

Beef & Forage

Herd Health: Sound herd health is vital for beef production. In order to create an effective herd health plan, a producer needs to collaborate with a veterinarian to develop strategic vaccination and parasite control protocols. The veterinarian oversees the health of the herd via vaccinations, diagnostic tests, therapeutic treatments and necropsies. A good veterinarian producer relationship is very important to beef cattle production.

Cattle producers should be equipped with the proper facilities to handle and restrain cattle for treatment. Proper working chutes and headgates can save a producer much time and labor as well as prevent injury to the cattle. Listed below are our recommendations on vaccinations for cow herds in Faulkner County.

TABLE 10-2. Vaccination Schedule: Cows and Bulls

Vaccine		
IBR	Recommended	Annual (Killed or Intranasal)
BVD	Recommended	Annual
PI ₃	Recommended	Annual
BRSV	Recommended	Annual
Leptospirosis (5-Way)	Recommended	Annual (every 3 to 6 months in some areas)
Vibriosis	Optional	Annual (30-60 days before breeding)
Trichomoniasis	Optional	Annual (30-60 days before breeding)
Pinkeye	Optional	As Needed
Anthrax	Optional	Annual
Blackleg 7-Way	Optional	Annual

TABLE 10-1. Vaccination Schedule: Heifers

Vaccine	
Brucellosis	Calftood (4-12 months)
IBR	Before Breeding
BVD-PI ₃	Before Breeding
BRSV	Before Breeding
Vibriosis	Before Breeding
Leptospirosis	Before Breeding
Blackleg 7-Way	Before Breeding
Anthrax	Optional as Directed

For more information on herd health:

<https://www.uaex.edu/publications/pdf/mp184/Chapter10.pdf>

Brucellosis: Just a reminder that we will not have a spring schedule this year and if you need your heifers vaccinated please call Ebert and he will come to your farm and vaccinated them for you.

If you have heifers that need brucellosis vaccinations call **Ebert McClure at 501-351-1000.**

Soils Lab and Soil Samples

The soils lab in Marianna will be closed until May 29. We will not be able to get soil samples processed during this time. We ask that anyone that has a soil sample please hold on to them until June 1. If you brought in a recent soil sample, please realize that it will be into June before we will get them back. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

2020 Census

The Faulkner County 4-H'ers have started a campaign to get as many people as possible in Faulkner County counted. The 2020 Census is very important to our county. The census will have a lasting economic impact on Faulkner County and we need everyone counted. If you

haven't done your census yet go to <https://2020census.gov/> and fill it out. It only takes about 10 minutes to get counted.

Follow our 4-H'ers of Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Faulknercounty4H> for more information.

Pesticide Applicator Training

The May 19th PAT in Morrilton has been cancelled. If we do another in person class now it will probably be in the fall.

So anyone that needs a private applicators license can use the online course as their required training to obtain a license. The online training is located at www.uaex.edu/pat. The Arkansas State Plant Board has made an exception and will allow producers that are certifying for the first time to be able to use the online training.

Upcoming Events

Pesticide Applicator Training:

THIS TRAINING HAS BEEN CANCELLED

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

6:00 p.m. at Workforce Training Center (Timberwolf Drive UACCM Campus, Morrilton, AR)

Extension Service Voluntary Tax

Residents of Faulkner County have a chance this year to help the Faulkner County Extension Service. There will be a chance for residents to give to an Extension Service Voluntary tax on their tax statements. The money will be used to support the Faulkner County Extension Service which includes not only agriculture, but also family and consumer science and 4-H. We really appreciate the support of Faulkner County residents.



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