From the County Agent’s desk…

First and foremost, thank you for subscribing to receive this newsletter. It serves as a great way for me to get information out to a lot of people at one time. I hope that it is useful to you on your operation. But just giving you the information is one thing. Knowing whether or not you’re applying it and if it’s actually making a difference is another. As such, please take the time to fill out the survey that is included in this newsletter. It’ll take 5-10 minutes at the most. You can mail it back to: Fulton County Extension Office, P.O. Box 308, Salem, AR 72576 or you can simply drop it off here at the office Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Another option is for you to take the survey online at: https://goo.gl/bM8YZk or by scanning this QR code:
The survey should be compatible for smart phones, as well. I absolutely appreciate you taking the time to do this. Not only does it give me an idea of the actual impact our office makes, but it gives me good feedback on what's working and what isn't.

**Private Applicator Training (PAT) for Restricted Use Pesticides**

Local farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural producers who wish to renew an expiring pesticide license or receive a first time private pesticide applicator license will have the opportunity to receive the required training. Some of the folks that are up for recertification will have gotten a letter from the State Plant Board notifying them that their certification is up. If you are receiving this letter, then according to our records and the Arkansas State Plant Board, your license is about to expire.

The training will be held in Salem on **Tuesday, November 15th, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Fulton County Fairgrounds in the Hickinbotham-Miller building. This training is **NOT** for certification of commercial (for-hire) pesticide applicators!

There is a $10 per person fee which **must** be paid at the door at the time of training. This fee is not related to the licensing fees charged by the State Plant Board. It is only for the training. The fee for the license is $10 for one (1) year or $45 for five (5) years. That amount you will pay in later to the State Plant Board, not the Fulton Co. Extension Office. Checks or exact cash preferred.

**Fall Brucellosis (Bangs) Vaccinations**

The fall brucellosis vaccinations are coming up soon. Livestock and Poultry technician, Franky Sharp, and I will tentatively be out on Monday, October 24th. If you have heifers to be vaccinated, please let us know by **Tuesday, October 18th**. Return the enclosed cut-out card to our office at P.O. Box 308, Salem, AR 72576 or call us at 870-895-3301. Include detailed directions to where the heifers will be.

Vaccinations are free of charge. Heifers must be at least 4 months old but not older than 12 months old to be...
eligible for vaccination. We will use the same procedure as in the past and notify you by letter before you are scheduled for vaccinations. You will need handling facilities to confine and work the calves. Also, you or a representative for you must be present at the time of vaccination or the technician will not vaccinate the heifers. If no one is there, we'll have to move along to the next stop. Remember, the time that we schedule for your stop could be give or take an hour or so. It depends on how fast or held up we are at prior stops.

**Selecting Winter Annuals for Fall and Winter Pasture**
John Jennings, Extension Forages, Kenny Simon, Program Associate – Forages, and Jason Kelley, Extension Wheat and Feed Grains

Producers needing to provide quick grazing will soon be planting winter annual forages such as annual ryegrass, wheat, and cereal rye. Variety selection is important. Lowest price makes some varieties appealing, but often the cheapest varieties are not the best forage producers. In fact, some of the cheaper varieties don't have sufficient cold tolerance for most of Arkansas conditions. A cheap variety becomes very expensive if it winterkills or produces very little forage growth. In a year like this, it can pay to plant known varieties to ensure forage production.

**Ryegrass**

For north Arkansas, cold tolerance is important. Refer to the Arkansas Plant Hardiness Zone map in Figure 1. The area north of Zone 6A, 6B, 7A and even the northern fringe of Zone 7B can be cold enough for winterkill of sensitive varieties.
Annual ryegrass varieties fall into two broad genetic categories - **Diploid** varieties and **Tetraploid** varieties. Diploid varieties tend to be more cold tolerant. Marshall ryegrass is an example of diploid ryegrass and is well known for its cold tolerance. Tetraploid varieties have broad leaves and good disease resistance, but usually are much less cold tolerant than Diploid varieties. In Arkansas, we seldom have the disease pressure from rust and gray leaf spot found along the Gulf Coast so the superior disease resistance of many Tetraploid varieties is not needed. In general terms, diploid varieties should be selected for northern Arkansas. Both Tetraploid and Diploid varieties can be used in southern Arkansas. Some variation in cold tolerance exists among types so not all Diploid varieties are cold tolerant and not all Tetraploid varieties have the same cold sensitivity. For example, **Gulf annual ryegrass is a diploid type and is not cold tolerant.** Gulf ryegrass and VNS (variety not stated) ryegrass are not recommended for these northern areas since winterkill has been reported in previous winters. Below is a non-inclusive list of annual ryegrass varieties of both Diploid and Tetraploid varieties that are being marketed.

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Figure 1. Arkansas Plant Hardiness Zone Map
### Annual Ryegrass Varieties*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diploid Varieties</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Tetraploid Varieties</th>
<th>Company</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bruiser**</td>
<td>Ampac Seed</td>
<td>Angus I</td>
<td>DLF International</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marshall**</td>
<td>The Wax Co.</td>
<td>Attain</td>
<td>Smith Seed Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paserrel Plus**</td>
<td>Pennington Seed</td>
<td>Big Boss</td>
<td>Smith Seed Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surrey II</td>
<td>DLF International</td>
<td>Big Daddy</td>
<td>FFR/Sou. St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tam 90</td>
<td>Tex. Ag Exp Sta.</td>
<td>Chuckwagon</td>
<td>DLF International</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter Hawk**</td>
<td>Oregro Seeds</td>
<td>Jumbo</td>
<td>Barenbrug USA</td>
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<td>East Texas Seed Co.</td>
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</table>

*Non-inclusive list of annual ryegrass varieties

**Very good cold tolerance

Ryegrass can be planted as early as late August. Typical planting times for planting on a tilled seedbed begin in early September through early November. The typical planting period for sod-seeding either by no-till or broadcast methods, begins in late September through early November. Early-planted ryegrass (September) can provide grazing in late fall. Late-planted ryegrass (November) will not provide significant grazing until late winter (March) except during warm winters such as 2011-12.

Seeding rate is 20-25 lbs/acre. The grass sod should be grazed or clipped to about 2” to improve seed/soil contact. If no-till planting, set the drill to plant seed about ½” deep. For broadcast seeding in sod, seed/soil contact will be improved by pulling a harrow, tire drag, or other device to slightly scarify the sod when broadcasting the seed. Many producers pull a drag behind the broadcast seeder in the same pass to speed up the planting process.

**Wheat**

Most wheat varieties are selected for grain production, but an increasing number of livestock producers plant wheat for grazing purposes. Few variety trials measure forage yield, but some general observations have noted that earlier maturing wheat varieties produce more vegetative growth in fall and late winter. The U of A wheat variety testing report provides information on relative maturity dates and mature heights of tested varieties. The link to the 2011 report is [http://www.aragriculture.org/News/wheat_update/wheat_update_2011.pdf](http://www.aragriculture.org/News/wheat_update/wheat_update_2011.pdf)
Some wheat varieties that have been noted for better fall vegetative growth and good grazing potential include

- AGS 2000
- AGS 2060
- HBK 3266
- Syngenta/Coker 9553
- Syngenta Magnolia
- Syngenta Arcadia

The following wheat varieties are commonly grown for grain, but should be avoided for grazing because they produce very little fall growth:

- Ranger
- Roane
- Pat
- Pioneer 26R10
- Pioneer 26R20
- Pioneer 26R22
- Terral 8861
- Terral 8848
- Syngenta Beretta
- Syngenta Oakes
- Armor Ricochet
- Progeny 870
- Dixie McAlister

General seed price ranges are $16-$18 per 50 lb bag. Field-run and feed wheat are currently $9-12 per 50 lb bag, but the variety or forage potential are usually unknown. An extra $5 per bag would certainly be worth the cost to get a variety that would provide more grazing.

**Triticale**

Triticale is a cross of wheat and rye. It has a growth pattern and yield closer to rye than wheat and makes very good forage. Paul Beck has shown good results at SWREC in grazing trials with it. Monarch is a variety that is available this year. Based on work done by Johnny Gunsaulis and Wayne Coblentz in 2005-06, this forage has the potential to make a hay or baleage crop by late November to early December if planted in early September. Adequate rainfall will be required for establishment and growth. Any small grain that reaches the “jointing” stage of growth in fall will likely winter kill, therefore forage management should be planned to make use of early-planted varieties as hay, baleage, or as strip-grazed pasture to avoid loss of dry matter.

**Rye**

Rye provides more fall grazing and earlier spring grazing than wheat. It grows very rapidly in March so producers must be prepared to handle the fast growth either by grazing, as hay, or as baleage. Dr. Beck’s work has shown that to manage spring rye growth, half the field can be managed for graze-out and the
other half can be harvested as baleage to improve forage utilization and to reduce waste. Some typical rye varieties are:

- Wintergrazer 70
- Elbon
- Maton

Seeding rates for small grains (rye, wheat, and triticale) is 90-120 lbs/acre. For a longer spring grazing season, ryegrass can be added. Seeding rates for this mixture of 100 lbs of small grain and 20 lbs ryegrass have been successful.

For more information on using winter annual forages for grazing, hay, and silage, refer to the following fact sheets:

FSA3051 Baled Silage for Livestock
FSA3064 Using Cereal Grain Forages and Mixtures With Annual Ryegrass for Grazing
FSA3063 Using Cereal Grain Forages and Mixtures With Annual Ryegrass for Hay and Silage
FSA3066 Winter Annual Grasses for Livestock in Arkansas

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