

White County Crop Newsletter



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Hello White County Row Crop Producers!

This year has flown by and now the holiday season is upon us! I always heard “old-timers” say that time goes by faster as you get older and I now believe that to be true! Don’t let time go by too quickly though. Take some time to pause, be thankful for what we have, look back on the good times, and then plan to be intentional in the next year to do GOOD! My hopes and prayers for all of the Row Crop Producers in White County is to have a blessed Holiday season and enjoy time with loved ones!



2019 Important Dates

December 10th: Pesticide Applicator Training
January 3rd: Tri-State Soybean Forum
February 11th: Pesticide Applicator Training
March 19th: Pesticide Applicator Training
Last week Jan or First of Feb 2020: Production Meeting
Last Week Feb: Grain Marketing Meeting

Market Facilitation Program

The MFP provides direct payments to help producers who have been directly impacted by illegal retaliatory tariffs, resulting in the loss of traditional exports. Producers requesting an MFP payment must have a crop acreage report on file with FSA for MFP commodities. Non-specialty crops (alfalfa hay, rice, soybeans, cotton, and wheat), specialty crops (fresh grapes, pecans, and walnuts), dairy producers, hog producers, and those who filed prevented planting claims but then planted an MFP-eligible cover crop are all eligible for MFP payments. **Producers may apply for MFP through Dec. 6th, 2019.** Applications are available online at **farmers.gov/MFP** or at your local FSA office.

Voluntary Smoke Guidelines for Crop Residue



The AR Ag. Department's Dispatch Center coordinates prescribed fire activities, reports fire weather, and assists with voluntary smoke management. Farmers should notify the AAD Dispatch Center on the MORNING of the prescribed fire by calling 1-800-830-8015. Complete a Safe Burning Checklist before you burn.

County Wide Texting Program



If you would like to sign up for Row Crop Ag text alerts from the Extension Office go to <https://www.uaex.edu/counties/white/> and click the sign up for the row crop text link OR you can text the message *uaex whtcrop* to **313131**. I will be sending out CEW Trap counts and any other pertinent information to those on the list.

2020 Abandoned Pesticide Collection Schedule

The Abandoned Pesticide Collection program has undergone some changes in order to conserve funding for the foreseeable future. All collections are from 8:00 am-1:00 pm. If you need addresses to the exact location please contact me. More info to come, as it is released.

Spring 2020

Arkansas
Desha
Jefferson
Lonoke
Prairie

Fall 2020

Fulton
Sharp
Randolph
Perry
Independence
Izard
Cleburne
White
Faulkner
Pulaski

Edamame Taste Testing



The community garden edamame demonstration at the Victory Garden, Downtown Church of Christ was hand harvested on September 27th. The produce was harvested at a growth stage of R6. The edamame was then washed, boiled, dried, and froze in baggies. On October 3rd, the edamame was warmed in the microwave and seasoned with 3 types of seasonings. An edamame informational program was

presented to the White County Master Gardeners at their meeting. They then taste tested the edamame. There was line of folks waiting to try out a new snack! We then handed out recipes for them to try out at home using fresh and cooked edamame. Many of the participants liked the edamame and stated in an evaluation that they would either incorporate edamame into their diets or into their home gardens or both!!



Soybean & Corn Nematode Soil Samples

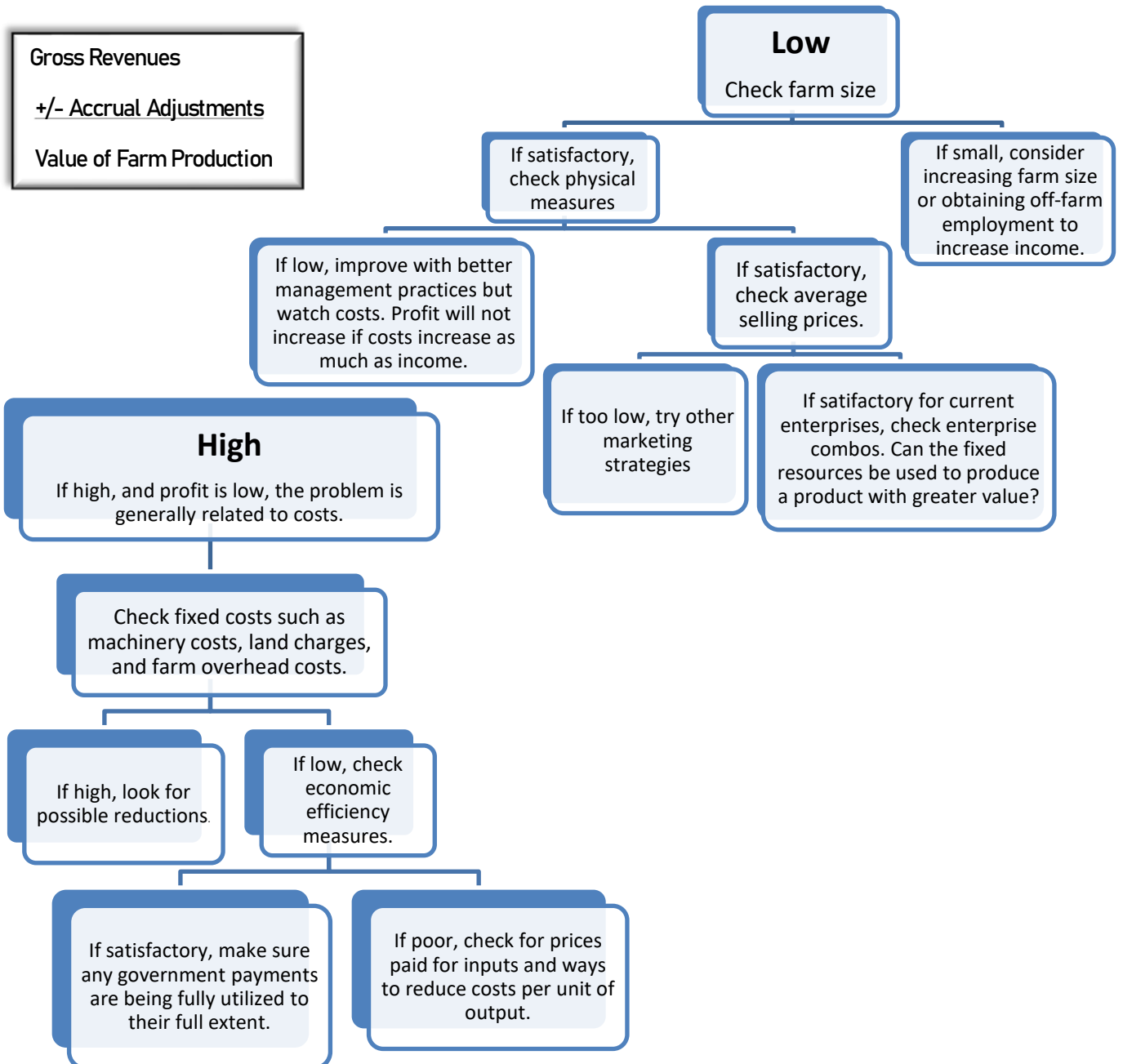
Thanks to the *Arkansas Corn & Grain Sorghum Board*, the *Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board*, and the *Arkansas Nematode Diagnostic Lab* corn, cotton, and soybean nematode samples may be sent in for **FREE**. Corn nematode sampling done in the spring is a better indicator of corn nematodes that affect the current crop but samples collected now will give insight into potential problems. If the *current crop is cotton and the next crop is soybeans or corn* then the field would also be eligible for free samples because it is a rotational crop. *Cover crop* nematode soil samples may also apply for the soybean promotion board grant. Samples collected now and at the time of cover crop termination can tell you the impact of cover crops on nematode population density and the potential impact on the 2020 crop. Samples should be collected to project a nematode problem. The sample should represent the field rather than a “hot spot” in the field. If you use a small $\frac{3}{4}$ in soil probe and sample into the root zone at 8-10 inches then 15 cores is about 1 pint. Place moist soil samples in labeled plastic bag and bring to the Extension office. There is no limit on the number of samples you may submit. *Do not allow the samples to be place in extreme temperatures or sit in direct sunlight as it will kill the live nematodes*. If you need help with the proper sampling method and techniques let us know at the Extension Office and we can help!



Diagnosing a Farm Profitability Problem

FSA 9512 Diagnosing a Farm Profitability Problem

The value of farm production is one way to measure farm size. It could also be called *gross profit* or *gross revue*. It measures the volume of farm production in dollars and is calculated by the equation below. This gives the dollar value of all agricultural production which has taken place on the farm during the year after adjusting for inventory changes. The diagnostic procedure in the chart below will help diagnose profitability problems or identify areas that need improvement that could increase farm profitability by looking at the value of farm production. If the value of farm production is **LOW**, follow the **Low** diagram. If **HIGH**, follow the **High** diagram.



Industrial Hemp: Site Selection & Inputs

Industrial Hemp is a growing industry not only in Arkansas but in White County. There has been no U.S. based, agronomic research studies done on industrial hemp until 2015. The recent research that has been done has been completed in states other than Arkansas. This creates an issue for those producers that are needing research-based growing recommendations in our area now. Some research efforts are being made but what are producers to do in the mean time? Extension will try to keep you up-to-date with resources and information as quickly as it becomes available.

Industrial hemp varieties will respond differently to the climate in our area and basic agronomic inputs. Industrial hemp is grown for different purposes (fiber, seed, or oil) so the variety selection and crop management will vary as well.

Industrial hemp has been marketed to producers as a low-input crop that can be grown easily on marginal lands. The scientific research from other countries and the University of Kentucky has shown that maximum yields are realized when the crop is managed similarly to our current grain production systems, such as corn. Maximum yields can be achieved when selecting good “corn ground”, planting in deep, well-drained soils, and using inputs relative to corn inputs.

The University of Arkansas now has a soil sample crop code (23) for industrial hemp and can give recommendations for soil amendments to help producers. As always, soil samples are processed free of charge through your local Extension Office.

New Predator-Control Permit Available



The AG&FC recently relaxed hunting regulations on certain predator species *coyote*, *raccoon*, *opossum* and *striped skunk* may now be hunted year-round on private land in Arkansas. There are no daily or possession limits to any of these species on private land, and wanton waste regulations will no longer apply to these four species.

A new Predator-Control Permit also is available to private landowners, which will let permit holders shoot or trap *bobcat*, *coyote*, *gray fox*, *red fox*, *opossum*, *raccoon* and *striped skunk* day or night. This permit is now available at AFGC.com. The regulation change allows private landowners more opportunities to reduce these predators on their property to try to boost their quail and turkey numbers.

Farm Stress & Depression

Chronic stress can be a trigger for physical illness and mental illnesses like depression. Knowing and recognizing the signs of depression can be helpful in knowing when to seek help for yourself, a friend or a loved one. Not every person who is depressed experiences every symptom.

- Anger, irritability, or aggressiveness
- Feeling anxious, restless, or “on the edge”
- Loss of interest in work, family, or once-pleasurable activities
- Problems with sexual desire and performance
- Feeling sad, "empty," flat, or hopeless
- Not being able to concentrate or remember details
- Feeling very tired, not being able to sleep, or sleeping too much
- Overeating or not wanting to eat at all
- Thoughts of suicide or suicide attempts
- Physical aches or pains, headaches, cramps, or digestive problems
- Inability to meet the responsibilities of work, caring for family, or other important activities
- Engaging in high-risk activities
- A need for alcohol or drugs
- Withdrawing from family and friends or becoming isolated



Men often avoid addressing their feelings and, in many cases, friends and family members are the first to recognize that their loved one is depressed. It is important that friends and family support their loved one and encourage them to visit a doctor or mental health professional for an evaluation. A health professional can do an exam or lab tests to rule out other conditions that may have symptoms that are like those of depression. He or she also can tell if certain medications are affecting the depression. –National Institute of Mental Health

2020 Crop Enterprise Budgets

The Cooperative Extension Service (CES) field crop enterprise budgets are designed to assist Arkansas producers and other agricultural stakeholders in evaluating expected costs and returns for the upcoming crop production year and other related production economics information, data, and analysis. The 2020 Crop Enterprise Budgets are now available on our website at <https://www.uaex.edu/farm-ranch/economics-marketing/farm-planning/budgets/crop-budgets.aspx>

Tri-State Soybean Forum



SAVE THE DATE

Join us for the
64th Annual Tri-State Soybean Forum

January 3, 2020
Registration: 8 am | Forum: 8:30 am
Dumas Community Center
8 Belmont St, Dumas, Arkansas 71639

Contact Kevin Norton at knorton@uaex.edu for registration information



Insect ID Challenge

Can you identify this pesky pest?? **Hint:** Eats small holes in cotyledons of soybeans. Loves to feed at night and then hide in no-till, high residue fields during the day. Can cause enough damage to have to replant. Not a lot of effective, economical, chemical control options available. Control with tillage, sunshine, and dry weather. (Slugs)



2019 White County Demonstrations Appreciation

Thank you so much to each one of you that allowed us to learn on your farms this past season! We could not do our job efficiently without the cooperation and support of our local producers. I am so grateful for you!

Thanks to Keith & Jacob Feather, Ethan Pruitt, Brandon & Samantha Cain, R.J. & Brad Peacock, and Jacky & Trey Reaper for all their hard work this past year maintaining the demonstrations on your farms.

Current Demos:

- Cover Crops – Cooperator – Jacob Feather (Planted 10/3)

Please, feel free to contact me for further information about the items in this newsletter or anything else I may be able to assist you with.



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Sincerely,

*Jan Yingling
County Extension Agent - Agriculture*

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