



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION

University of Arkansas System



Row Crops

WHITE
 COUNTY
 NEWSLETTER

ISSUE

03

March
 2020



Topics

- Palmer Amaranth
- N-ST*R
- Planting Time
- Grain Marketing Plan
- Office Closed
- Burndowns & Plant Back
- Enlist Training
- Sprayer Calibration
- Farm Bureau Scholarship
- Seed Treatments
- Verification
- Farm Help Management
- Gramaxone Training
- Text Alerts
- Insect ID Challenge
- White Co Demo Update
- Important Dates



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
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University of Arkansas System

U of A Cooperative

Extension Service

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Searcy, AR. 72143

(501) 268-5394

www.uaex.edu/counties/white

Palmer Amaranth

Palmer amaranth (Pigweed) has been found resistant to 6 herbicide modes of action in certain populations, especially in Northeast Arkansas. (Group 10,14,15,27,2,3 herbicides) Crop rotation and inclusion of cultural management programs are the best ways to break the herbicide resistance cycle. Deep tillage using moldboard or breaking plows in the fall can bury pigweed seed to depths that reduce emergence the next year. Use of a cereal rye cover crop can also reduce emergence of pigweed populations in the spring. The best course of action is to select a variety that will offer you the most options for control and take advantage of *PRE* application residuals, applied early. If you start clean and control the pigweeds when they are still in the ground, you will have a much higher success rate.

Soybeans: Start clean, Plant narrow rows (15 in or less), Plant metribuzin tolerant variety, Residual herbicides with multiple MOA, Make timely *Post* applications, Overlap residuals (Outlook or Zidua with *Post* apps), Repeat residual & *Post* application 2 weeks following the 1st application, Remove escapes, Utilize narrow-windrow burning.

Corn: Start clean & use residual at planting, Make timely *Post* application (Atrazine 1.5-2 qts/A), Control escapes & new flushes (tillage or non-selective herbicide).

Rice: Sharpen 2-3 oz/A *Pre*, Loyant *Post*, Flood the field to prevent new flushes, Make extra applications to levees & row rice for late season control.

Remember that cleaning equipment that seeds could harbor on is crucial to reducing the spread of resistant populations from one field to the next. -MP44 pg. 20

N-ST*R Soil Testing for Rice

*N-ST*R* is a soil-based N test that quantifies the amount of N that will become available to the rice crop during the growing season. A unique attribute of *N-ST*R* is that it measures a combination of simple organic- N compounds and NH₄-N contained in the soil. The purpose of *N-ST*R* is to provide field-specific N rates that will ensure proper N rates are being applied on a field-by-field basis to achieve optimum rice yields.

-*N-ST*R* provides field-specific N rates for silt loam and clay soils

-Depth of sampling is extremely important on different types of soils

-Cost is \$10 per sample for analysis and samples should represent no more than 10 acres

-Call the Extension office for details, equipment, and help taking the samples

Planting Successfully

Is it time?

Corn: Plant when ground temp is 55° @ 2 inches deep by 9:00 am for 3 days with a favorable forecast

Rice: Plant when soil is 60° @ 4 inches deep with a favorable forecast

Soybeans: Plant when ground temp is 55° @ 2 inches deep by 9:00 am for 3 days with a favorable forecast

Cotton: Plant when mid-morning soil temps of 68° @ depth of planting for 3 days and a favorable 5 day forecast following planting

Why does the U of A recommend these timings? These timings enhance uniform emergence and reduction in potential for seedling diseases and seedling stress. When a seed is planted too early and sits in the ground not growing it is vulnerable to many pathogens and insects. Seed treatments will only provide protection for so long before they begin to break down.

Another *very important* thing to consider along with soil temperatures is a favorable forecast after planting. Give those seeds the best chance at success that you can!



Developing a Grain Marketing Plan

5 Easy Steps



Need a plan?

1. Break the total amount you have to sell down into smaller units. Most producers think in 1,000-5,000 bushel segments. *Post-Harvest Marketing:* you can only sell the grain that is upriced in the grain bin. *Pre-Harvest Marketing:* Do not sell more than you have insured. You don't have to sell any bushels before harvest. To calculate how many you have insured, multiply the *Actual Production History* by the number of acres of the commodity you plan to plant or have planted in a field. Then multiply the expected production by the insurance rate. 200 acre corn field with an APH of 180 bu/ac and a 70% insurance rate. The expected production is 36,000 bu (200 x 180) However, the insured amount is 25,200 bu (36,000 x 0.70). The insured amount can be broken down into five units, 5,000 bu.

2. Set price targets. Let's say the average price you want to obtain is \$3.50/bu. If you have 5 equal quantities to sell, you could set price targets at \$3.30, \$3.40, \$3.50, \$3.60, & \$3.70. It is important to set realistic price targets. At minimum, your-

price targets should exceed your established cash flow price. *Post-Harvest:* You will want to set targets above the price you could have obtained at harvest, plus any additional expenses accrued by storage-bin rental, insurance, etc. *Pre-Harvest:* You want to price grain above your cost of production. Some marketers suggest that you do no pre-price grain if you cannot break even.

3. Set sale deadlines. If prices do not rise enough to meet your price target, you need to set sales deadlines to ensure you are proactive about pricing. Commodity prices typically have a defined seasonal price pattern. Setting sales deadlines that correspond with periods when prices are traditionally highest will help make marketing easier. Corn prices are typically highest in March-June and soybeans June-July. Your cash flow needs are another consideration when selecting sales deadlines. Plan ahead and have this cash ready by setting sales deadlines ahead of payment dates.

4. Know your marketing tools. You should work with your local elevator or broker to determine what tools are available to you and what tools you should be using to achieve your price targets and sales deadlines. The common marketing tools offered by most elevators are cash sales, forward cash contracts, basis contracts, and hedge-to-arrive contracts. You can also work with a broker to establish hedges, puts, or calls.

5. Share your plan with someone else. Once you have your written plan, share it with someone. Sharing your goals with your spouse, merchandiser, or banker will help keep you accountable to your marketing goals. Marketing plans can become more complex. This basic outline will help get you started. Remember: the goal of a marketing plan is to keep you on track with the goals you determined at the beginning of the crop cycle.

-U of Nebraska, Jessica Groskopf, Ag Economics



Office Closing to Public Visits

The White County Cooperative Extension Service will be closed to in-person, visitors until March 31st or until further notice.

Our staff will still be on the premise and will be available for assistance by phone, email, or text. We will still be accepting plant, litter, and soil samples at this time. You may drop any samples off to our front door. Please leave your name and phone number with your sample so we can contact you to get all the required information. Remember, plant samples need to arrive here Monday-Wednesday for shipping.

Office: 501-268-5394

Cell: 501-230-9974

Email: jyingling@uaex.edu

We are sorry for the inconvenience but are taking precautions for public safety.

Burndowns & Plant-Backs

For those of you who have not applied your burndown out yet, it's best to be prepared and ready to roll when the weather clears. Regardless if early burndown programs were successful, there will likely be some weeds emerged by the time the fields dry out enough to plant. Many options exist for burndown applications just prior to or immediately following planting and recent updates on pre-plant intervals can be found in the **MP-519** and sections of the **MP-44** or **Arkansas Rice Production Guide**.

Most questions have been around 2,4-D and clethodim (Select) prior to planting rice or corn. Herbicide combinations containing 2,4-D and glyphosate (Roundup) are very common at burndown because they are cheap and control a wide range of winter annuals. Many 2,4-D labels indicate that plant-back intervals are 90 days or until dissipated for most crops. Some specific 2,4-D products may indicate 7-14 days prior to planting corn and 30 days prior to planting rice, depending upon rate applied. University data agrees that these are accurate for corn and rice to allow for the best crop safety. However, University data does suggest that cutting the interval back to 21 days following an inch of rainfall is sufficient for planting rice following 2,4-D applications. Some growers have said that they spray 2,4-D at planting and haven't seen any issues. I agree, sometimes you can get by with no waiting period, however many times planting prior to 21 days will result in poor, weak rice stands, especially if environmental conditions are already marginal for rice emergence. Alternative herbicides should be considered if you absolutely will not wait to plant rice a minimum of 14 days (after 1 in. of rain) following a 2,4-D application, keeping in mind you may see some injury then.

FirstShot, Sharpen or Gambit mixed with Roundup at planting provide good broadleaf knockdown and are good alternatives to 2,4-D for rice acres. Make selection based off of weeds present and historical weed issues on a field by field basis. For example, Sharpen may get most of these acres because of residual activity on pigweed. FirstShot can provide additional control of broadleaves but will not provide any residual. Gambit will aid in controlling a wide range of broadleaves with residual control, but will not help with most of our pigweed populations. It should go without saying that Command should be mixed with any, at-planting burndown application on all rice acres, for residual grass control.

Numerous options are available in corn, one of my favorites to mix with Roundup for burndown and residual is Verdict. Roundup + 10oz/A Verdict will kill most winter vegetation and provide 3 weeks residual, which sets the crop up nicely for the V3-V4 POST application. Alternatives would be atrazine, Acuron, Corvus, Leadoff and many others. If planting corn; atrazine should be mixed in for improved control of grasses and tough to kill broadleaves. If ryegrass is present, Gramoxone is really the best option other than clethodim (Select). Plant-back to clethodim is 30 days to rice and corn following 16oz Select Max (1lb ai/gallon) or 8oz clethodim generic (2lb ai/gallon). Know which formulation you are spraying to apply the appropriate rate. Leadoff (1.5oz/A) may control some populations of ryegrass in the state and is an option at planting for corn acres. Make sure the corn hybrid planted is not sensitive to ALS herbicides prior to using Leadoff at planting. *Always check specific herbicide labels for plant-back restrictions prior to planting.*

-Tom Barber, Extension Weed Specialist

Enlist One & Enlist Duo

ASPB Required Training

Anyone wanting to apply 2,4-D Choline formulations to labeled crops will need to certify or re-certify their Enlist training for 2020. Even if you have held this certificate in prior seasons, *annual renewal* is required. <https://courses.uaex.edu/course/index.php?categoryid+79>

Sprayer Calibration



Have you calibrated your sprayer yet?? Calibrating spray equipment not only helps ensure efficacy in controlling targeted pests, but helps save money by applying the proper amounts of pesticides. If you need help or would like to use the Extension "SpotOn" Sprayer calibrator just let me know!

Farm Bureau Scholarship

Deadline: April 10th

White County Farm Bureau will award three, \$1,500 scholarships to High School seniors that are children of a White Co. Farm Bureau member. The applications are judged on financial need and quality of the applicant.

Applications can be picked up from the White Co. Farm Bureau office in Searcy. (501) 268-5358 Please spread the word and encourage seniors to apply!

Seed Treatments

Seed costs in row crops is high and continues to rise. There are several reasons including increasing technology and the amount of work that goes into producing a variety. It would only make sense to protect that expensive seed for as long as you can, once you plant it.

There are options available to producers that have fields with a history of seedling diseases or early season insects that attack the seed or the seedling, directly. Much of this susceptibility is determined by how long that seed sits in the ground and the time it takes to break through the soil line and be healthy enough to fight off insect feeding or seedling diseases. No-till and minimum-till fields can have more issues with insects and diseases overwintering and finding harbor in crop stubble.

There has been a large amount of research done on the benefit of seed treatments on specific crops in certain situations with positive returns up to 80% on rice. You as a producer know your fields and will know where seed treatments will be most beneficial on your farm.

Please refer to the **MP144**, available *on-line* and *mobile-friendly*, for the recommended products and rates needed to suppress insect and disease injury, efficiently.



Arkansas ROW CROP VERIFICATION



Ua DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE RESEARCH & EXTENSION University of Arkansas System

What is the Verification Program?

In the 1980s, crop yields were declining, prices were low, and production costs were high. Producers requested that the University of Arkansas System, Division of Agriculture field-test existing technologies to determine the profitability of production. The Arkansas Row Crop Research Verification Program was born. The program began in 1980 with cotton. The Arkansas Row Crop Verification Program is an interdisciplinary effort among growers, county Extension agents, Extension specialists, and Division of Agriculture researchers.

It is an on-farm demonstration of all the research-based practices and technologies recommended to maximize the production and profitability of row crops in Arkansas.

The overall goal is to verify that management according to Division of Agriculture recommendations can result in increased profitability compared to standard producer practices. Some other goals of the program are to establish an economic database, demonstrate that high yields can be constantly achieved economically, promote timeliness in management decisions and provide training and assistance to new county agents. Rice and soybean verification programs began in 1983, followed by wheat verification in 1986 and corn and grain sorghum in 2000.

We appreciate the cooperators that have allowed us on their farms over the years.



Farm Help Management: 4 Steps to Clear Communication

1. Clarity: Clear, direct communication will create a better working environment. Strive for all of your team on the farm to have an understanding of how critical clear communication is in creating positive outcomes. Poor communication can lead to tension between employees or management. This tension will no doubt put a halt to effective communication due to one individual or both not wanting to hear what the other has to say.

2. Maintain Composure: With communication gaps, misunderstandings happen, tempers may get short and things are said which may be later regretted. During communication, all parties need to strive to maintain-

their composure. A problem can't be solved without focus and open-mindedness. Conflict that builds out of miscommunication or misconceptions reduces valuable time in order to reach a solution. Both the sender and receiver of the information must realize how impactful their role is in the communication process. Communicating verbally is as critical as the role of listening.

3. Develop Trust: Communication flows more easily and trust is built when positive interpersonal relationships are developed between employees and management. Employees begin to feel more comfortable approaching management, and the end result is enhanced-

employee satisfaction, improved work ethic and an increased likelihood that employees will be satisfied and remain with their employer. Let your employees know what is expected of them and that you will provide opportunities for them to communicate with you.

4. Speak the Same Language: We can tend to have our own language within our place of employment. Slang may be used that on another farm operation may be described by using a different word. Because an employee has worked in the agricultural industry does not necessarily mean the same terminology is used at each operation.

-SDSU B. Lynn Gordon

Gramaxone Users: EPA Required Training

Anyone wanting to mix, load, apply or handle *PARAQUAT* (Gramoxone etc.) in 2020 must take the EPA- approved and mandated training. This training must be completed every 3 years, as of now. The training is online and takes less than 30 minutes to complete. The new label on *Gramoxone* or *Paraquat* products includes the link or you can find the training here: <https://campus.extension.org/enrol/index.php?id=1660>.



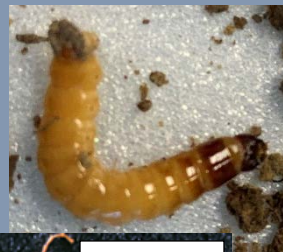
County Wide Texting Program

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.

IPM: Insect ID Challenge

A pest of corn and other grass crops. Associated with fields following soybeans or no-till fields that stay cold and wet for longer periods. Larvae are elongated, slender and yellowish-brown to brown in color. They have a slightly sclerotized (hard & shiny) exterior with prominent body segments. They can take 2-5 years to mature so some fields will see repeat injury. Injury can include gaps in rows or young plants wilting or being stunted. Seed treatments, depending on rate, and in-furrow insecticides can be effective in preventing injury. The adult is called a "click beetle" because of the clicking sound it makes when it tries to right itself after being placed on its back.

(Wireworm)



J. Obermeyer

2020 White County Demonstrations

We appreciate local producers working with us to provide opportunities to further research and create learning environments.

Current:

Cover Crop- Jacob Feather (Planted 10/3)

Soybean Verification- R.J. & Brad Peacock (2nd year)

Corn Verification- Brandon Cain (2nd year)

Corn Planting Population: Brandon Cain (Conv.) & Keith Feather (Hybrid)

Corn Starter Fertilize: Brandon Cain

Hybrid Corn Variety Trial: Keith Feather

Rice Multiple Inlet Demo: Danny Barnett

CEW/Bollworm Traps & SWCB Traps

Cotton Multiplier: Jackson, Woodruff, & White Co.

Possible: Give me a call if you are interested

Rice Research Verification Trial Corn Multiplier Field

Soybean Multiplier Field

Soil Moisture Sensor Demo Rice Multiplier Field

Conventional Soybean Demo Surge Valve Demo

Rice GRADE (seeding rate, variety, nitrogen, seed treatments)

Corn Seeding Rate, Starter Fertilize, Fungicide Trials

Row Rice

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.



Jan Yingling UAEX White Co. Agent@UAEX.WhiteCountyRowCrops



UAEX WhiteCountyAgAgent@janyingling

Sincerely,

Jan Yingling
County Extension Agent - Agriculture

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Upcoming Events

March 19th: CANCELED

**Pesticide Applicator
Training-Extension Office
@6:00 pm**

Now Until Further Notice:

**CLOSED to Public, Face to
Face Interactions- White
County Cooperative
Extension Service**

**COVID
19**
CORONAVIRUS
DISEASE

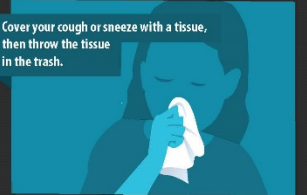
STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue,
then throw the tissue
in the trash.

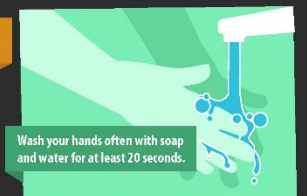


Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Clean and disinfect frequently
touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick,
except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap
and water for at least 20 seconds.



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19