



Cottonwood Extension District K-State Research & Extension News

Cottonwood Extension District #17

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What's Happening

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August 13—[ServSafe Food Handlers Class-Hays](#)

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September 11—[VEGucate Yourself program-Great Bend](#)

September 12 & 13—Bradford Wiles Early Childhood Education program-

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September 23—Family Pizza Day Event

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A word from our Director:

See You at the Fairs!

The Barton County Fair dates are July 10th – 14th and the Ellis County Fair spans the week of July 14th – 21st, with several pre-fair activities scheduled the week before each Fair. Several of our fair events overlap this year which is unfortunate, but unavoidable. I hope you are making plans to visit one or both of our Fairs this year. You will be impressed with the way volunteers transform the exhibit buildings into a fun place to showcase the work of 4-H'ers during the past year.

In this newsletter we want to welcome two new team members to the Cottonwood Extension District. Michelle Beran, the 4-H and Youth Development Agent in Barton County and Lauren Walz, the Cottonwood District Horticulture Agent, are completing their first month as Cottonwood team members. We have welcome events planned at both of our Fairs for you to come out to meet and greet Michelle and Lauren. The welcome event in Barton County will be during the Business Appreciation Breakfast which is set for Thursday, July 11th, with serving running from 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. The welcome event in Ellis County will be held on Wednesday, July 17th from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the Schenk Building.

Along with our 4-H and Youth Agents, Michelle Beran and Susan Schlicting, we are enjoying the youthful help from Mikey Hughes and Kory Ridnour, our summer interns. Of course you will see all agents and our office professionals working to help make each Fair a success. Both of our Extension Offices will be closed during our Fair week but you can leave phone messages and we'll get back with you. Thanks for your understanding and we will see you at the Fair!

After a lengthy career in professional settings, Michelle Beran is delighted to be working in Cottonwood-Barton in the “job I never knew I needed”.

Beran has lived and worked in the Barton County area for over 30 years and was always involved in youth programs, including serving on the Barton County 4-H Youth PDC (Program Development Committee) many years ago. She was a 8-year 4-H member in Doniphan County, lived at Clovia 4-H Leadership House while at KSU, and was a 4-H parent with the Eureka Homesteaders. In 2016, she began a new career as the 4-H Youth Development Agent in the Midway District (Russell and Ellsworth). On June 2, she had the opportunity to begin work in Barton County and is looking forward to teaching, encouraging, and developing the youth of Cottonwood- Barton and the volunteers who work with the many programs.

Beran and her husband, Craig, live near Odin and are involved in the family ranching operation. They have two adult children. Son, John, is pursuing a master's degree in archeology at Eastern New Mexico University and daughter, Bridget, is a free-lance ag journalist who is also involved in the family ranch.

Developing leadership and communication skills for youth along with a passion for agriculture are the driving forces in Beran's daily work. She strongly believes that developing the next generations of leaders are crucial for rural communities to thrive, not just survive!



Hello! Let me start off by saying “thank you” to the communities of the Cottonwood Extension District for welcoming me so graciously. My name is Lauren Walz, soon to be Lauren Fick, and I am the new Horticulture Agent. I graduated from Kansas State University with a Bachelor's of Agriculture in 2018. I specialize in landscape horticulture and have vast experience with herbaceous ornamentals.

A few things I am very passionate about are pollinators, water conservation, and sustainable landscaping. I have interned and worked for various landscape companies while I was in college, including the K-State Gardens on campus.

My goal as an extension agent is to promote community engagement and environmental sustainability. I am excited to offer various programs that will be focused on youth development, homeowner maintenance, and environmental enrichment.





4-H Youth Development

Susan Schlichting & Michelle Beran



Heart of Kansas Camp

Cottonwood had a great group of 12 counselors and 54 campers attend "Camp – It's an Adventure" at Rock Springs Ranch in June.

Campers attended learning sessions; tried their hand at archery, canoeing, rock climbing, and much more; had a great presentation by the Kansas Highway Patrol K-9 units; and made new friends!

Counselors spend an extra day preparing for campers and are responsible for their crew 24 hours a day to make sure everyone stays on schedule, is included in activities, and has fun! It is a big responsibility and we appreciate their time and energy.





Dane G. Hansen Foundation Provides Interns for Summer Learning Opportunities

This summer the Cottonwood Extension District is hosting several Dane G. Hansen college interns along with our two local Extension interns. These interns are bringing new opportunities for youth in the district and neighboring districts to try new things.

Erik Espinosa and Jack Polifka are serving as Drone Interns, with Erik serving the eastern half of NW Kansas. They are offering day camps, presentations and demonstrations about

the safe and responsible use of drones, career possibilities and giving camp participants hands on experience coding and operating drones. Look for them at one of the upcoming County Fairs in the area.

Nikole Cain is serving as a Leadership Intern and is providing leadership day camps for middle and high school youth across the region. Youth are learning about their personal leadership style, how to build teams and are working to develop and carry out service projects through this experience.

We've hosted several camps in Hays. **The Great Bend leadership camp is set for July 24 at the Barton Co. 4-H Building, 10 – 3 p.m. Register with the Cottonwood – Great Bend office by July 17 to participate.**

Kory Ridnour and Mikey Hughes are serving as local Cottonwood Extension District interns for the summer, learning about the work that goes on in all areas of the Extension program.

Welcome these intern leaders to the Cottonwood District when you see them working in your communities.



It's County Fair Time!

It won't be long and we'll be full speed into the County Fairs.

Barton County Fair
July 10 – 14
Great Bend

Ellis County Fair
July 13 - 20
Hays

We'll be hosting welcome events at both fairs for our new staff members. Be sure to stop by and welcome them as they join our Cottonwood Extension District team.

Barton County Fair – Thursday, July 11 – during Business Appreciation Breakfast

Ellis County Fair – Wednesday, July 17 – 1 – 3 p.m.

Consider entering exhibits your local fair. That's what makes the fair interesting! Be sure to check out your local fairbook for the rules and entry deadlines so you don't miss out. **Barton County Open Class pre-entry deadline is July 10. Ellis County Open Class pre-entry deadline is July 8.**

We hope to see YOU at the upcoming Fairs!

4-H FABLE



There once was a boy who won ribbons, mostly blue
Came home from the fair with a big trophy too.
With a voice glad and proud he said to his dad,
"Tis the very best year that I've had."
Said his very wise dad, "Son, I'd like to hear,
Why you think that this was such a very fine year."
"Why, dad, you well know all the prizes I've won;
How I've come out on top in most things I've done.
Just look at the ribbons that hang on my wall.
And think of the money I've made since last fall.

From premium checks and a big auction price,
You can't help but think cash and ribbons are nice."
But the man said, "My son, you're not thinking right,
Blue ribbons, 'tis true, are better than white;
But ribbons will fade and trophies grow old,
Money's soon spent and fame soon grows cold.
The important things, son,
Are not ribbons or pins,
And sometimes it's really the loser who wins;
Now here are the things most important, it's true,
Your 4-H experience has accomplished for you.
You've seen how a business meeting is run.
This knowledge will help you in years to come.
You've conquered the fear of addressing a crowd,
You've learned how to stand up and talk nice and loud.
Patience you've learned in your projects too,
As well as your skills that will always help you.
You've learned the fine feeling it gives you to lend
A glad helping hand to a stranger or friend.



You've learned to cooperate with majority rule.
To give in with grace and not be a fool
Who must always have his very own way,
Be it in club work, in school or at play.
You've learned how to lose without making a 'beef',
You know the judge judges to his best belief.
You've learned how to win without boasting too loud,
A kid can lose friends if he's overly proud.

These are the things most important to you.
You'll remember and use them all your life through.
They'll help you become a mighty fine man,
They'll do more for you than a prize ever can."
-Anonymous-



Family & Consumer Science

Donna Krug & Berny Unruh

ServSafe Food Handlers Class Set for August 13th

An Employee ServSafe Class will be offered in Hays on Tuesday, August 13th. This class for food handlers will be held from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.



at the Cottonwood Extension District – Hays office, located at 601 Main Street. As an Extension educator, I am happy to offer this training that is appropriate for anyone who handles food. Whether you help with church dinners or work a shift in a concession stand, the reminders that are covered in this class are invaluable. The course is based on the 6th Edition of the ServSafe Food Handler Guide. Participants who complete the class will receive a certificate. The cost to register for the August 13th class is \$15 and registration may be completed online by going to the KRHA website, www.krha.org. Participants may also call either of our District offices to register by August 2nd.

Mindful Meditation With Do-In

Do-In exercises (pronounced Doe-eeen) are exercises for health. These exercises are suitable for older adults and anyone who is dealing with a chronic condition. The focus is on imagery, breathing and relaxation when performing the Do-In exercises. Meditation with Do-In is set up as six 1 hour classes. They will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 10-11 a.m. beginning September 3rd. The class will be held at the Great Bend Activity Center, 2715 18th Street. Pre-registration is required and there is a \$10 charge for this workshop payable to the Cottonwood Extension District. Contact Donna for more information and also let us hear from you if there is interest in holding a similar class in Ellis County.

Medicare Basics workshop coming in September

718 Main-Hays

2 sessions with the same information presented at both. 11:30am-12:30pm and 12:30pm-1:30pm

Watch our website cottonwood.ksu.edu for more details!

Strengthening Early Childhood in Kansas

Decades of scientific research tells us that early childhood is a critical period for a child's development. During the month of May and June, The Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund hosted Community Engagement sessions across the state of Kansas. Governor Laura Kelly visited Hays on June 4th and shared her hopes for Early Childhood Development.

Anyone who has a passion about the future of Kansas children and families have been encouraged to participate in the conversation. Some of the questions asked were: "What is happening in your community to support parents, infants, toddlers, young people and families that helps celebrate early childhood?" And "What areas are challenging and need more support or attention?"

If you have stories you would like to share or if you have questions or concerns, more information can be found at www.kschildrenscabinet.org/early-childhood. The Kansas Children's Cabinet is directed by state statute to evaluate key children's programs across the state and they would love to hear from you! Check out their website.

Looking Ahead – Some important dates to put on your calendar!

September 12 & 13 – Bradford Wiles – Early Childhood Education program

September 19 – Go Truck Go – 5-7 pm – 2501 East 13th, Hays, KS

September 23 – Family Pizza Day event

VEGucate Yourself - The Who, What, When, Where, & Why of Vegetarian & Vegan Diets

Join Donna from the Great Bend office at a Stop and Learn session related to choosing a more plant based diet. The educational program, "VEGucate Yourself" answers who and when one may choose to eat a vegetarian/vegan diet, what these diets are, where to get essential nutrients from, and why one may consider following these diets. This free educational program is set for Wednesday, September 11th, from noon – 1:00 at the Great Bend Activity Center, 2715 18th Street. A date later in the Fall will be set to share the same information in Hays.

Sharing from the final “Walk Kansas” Newsletter

Keep your cool but get your steps

If the thought of being outside makes you melt, think of ways to get your daily steps indoors. You can walk the perimeter of a large store or walk in a shopping mall. Take care of errands while staying in an area that has air conditioning. Add steps while you grocery shop and clean your house. Avoid walking and exercising during the hottest part of the day. Adjust your routine so you can walk closer to sunrise and sunset. When a heat wave hits, it can be difficult and even dangerous to do extended physical activities outdoors. These tips can help you meet the recommendation of at least 150 minutes/week of moderate intensity exercise, even when it is hot outside.

Hydrate well. Drinking water is a good way to keep your body nourished and help prevent heat exhaustion. Be sure to hydrate well before and during any activity. Depending on the situation, you may need a sports drink or food to replace lost electrolytes (sodium, potassium and magnesium). Foods that help you stay hydrated include watermelon, cucumbers, cantaloupe, grapefruit, berries, and iceberg lettuce to name a few. You can also gauge if you are hydrated by monitoring urine volume output and color. A large amount of light colored, diluted urine is a sign you are hydrated, while dark colored, concentrated urine means you are dehydrated.

Know the signs.

Heat exhaustion can occur when you are dehydrated and have lost an excessive amount of water and salt through sweat. During heat exhaustion, your body can become overwhelmed by heat and your sweat response can stop working properly. Signs and symptoms commonly include: dizziness, weakness, muscle cramps, heavy sweating, nausea, headache, tiredness, fainting, and skin that is pale, cool and moist.

When you recognize any symptoms of heat exhaustion, stop the activity and rest. Find shade, shelter or a cool room. Drink cool, non-alcoholic beverages, splash yourself with cool water, and place a wet, cold towel around your neck. If heat exhaustion is left untreated, it can lead to heat stroke. This is a medical emergency and requires immediate treatment.

Refresh with a beverage

One of the most refreshing beverages is a glass of flavored water. For subtle flavor, toss frozen berries into your water bottle and let them melt as you drink. Add frozen berries or citrus zest to water when you make ice cubes. For a clean refreshing taste, add freshly cut cucumbers to water. For a natural tummy tamer, add fresh sliced ginger. Flavors that pair well together include lime and raspberry, watermelon and rosemary, pineapple and mint, blackberry and sage, cranberry and

orange, lemon and ginger, strawberry and vanilla. Flavored water is also healthful, inexpensive and gorgeous! Use carbonated water if you want a bubbly treat.

For a special treat that everyone can enjoy, try non-alcoholic sangria! You can use any combination of juice that you like and change with the seasons by using fruit that is in season. Raise a glass to toast your success in Walk Kansas this year. We hope to have even more Walk Kansas Participants in Cottonwood District next year!



Summer Sangria

Makes 6 (12 oz) servings

Ingredients:

- Fresh lemon slices
- Fresh lime slices
- Fresh orange slices
- Fresh blueberries
- Fresh strawberries, sliced
- 3 cups white cranberry peach juice cocktail
- 1 cup cranberry juice
- 1 cup orange juice
- ½ cup lemon juice
- ¼ cup lime juice
- 4 cups seltzer water

Directions:

- Wash hands with soap and water.
- Wash whole fruit by gently rubbing it under cold running water. Wash blueberries and strawberries in a basin of cool water; then remove the hull and stem from strawberries and slice them.
- In a large pitcher, add the sliced fruit and whole blueberries. Add juices and stir well.
- Refrigerate until ready to use.
- Just before serving, add the seltzer water; mix well.
- Enjoy!

Nutrition Information per serving: Calories - 90; Carbohydrates – 24g; Sodium - 30mg.



Agriculture

Alicia Boor & Stacy Campbell

2018 Farm Bill Meetings Scheduled

The 2018 Farm Bill was passed in December, 2018. Though it has much in common with the previous farm bill, there are some significant differences. To address the differences and give producers the most up to date information, Kansas State University Agricultural Economics department and K-State Research and Extension are holding regional programs around the state. These in-depth Farm Bill meetings will cover the new provisions of the programs, economic decisions to consider when making a decision, and present a new decision tool for producers to use. Specifically, the discussion will look at commodity programs, particularly the economics of the ARC/PLC decision and the OSU-KSU Farm Program Decision Aid. There will also be discussion of SCO and changes in crop insurance.

One of these meetings will be held in Great Bend on August 29th at the Great Bend Convention Center, 3111 10th Street. Speakers are Dr. Mykel Taylor, Dr. Monte Vandever, Robin Reid, and Dr. Dan O'Brien, as well as local extension agents and FSA personnel.

There will be no fee to attend this program, but pre-registration will be required. As the date gets closer for the meetings, registration will be open at <https://bit.ly/2MTDsTi> or by calling 620-793-1910. You can also email Alicia Boor at aboor@ksu.edu for any questions or to register.

Rain damaged Alfalfa

The vast majority of alfalfa growers suffered rain damage to hay during the past several weeks. How can we reduce this risk?

Rain damages windrowed alfalfa. One inch of rain typically leaches 10 percent of the nutrients out of hay. High quality hay has higher losses than low quality because it contains more soluble nutrients. Rain also causes leaf shatter. This may be as low as 5 percent of the yield, but hay turned after being rained on may lose up to 15 percent from leaf shatter.

There are many strategies to minimize rain damage; all involve reducing field exposure time. Encouraging rapid drydown is one method. Practices like spreading out windrows as wide as possible, chemical or mechanical conditioning, and timely raking help reduce field exposure anywhere from one-half to two days.

Another effective strategy is harvest at high moisture levels. Chopping alfalfa for silage is a tried and true way to reduce weather risks. A newer, yet similar, technique is to wrap high-moisture alfalfa as bale silage. All silage making methods can get alfalfa off the field in two days or less.

A final strategy is to use protectants to bale alfalfa at a slightly higher than normal moisture content. Materials used include preservatives like propionic acid and acetic acid as well as hay inoculants. These materials try to reduce mold formation and heat damage of alfalfa baled just slightly wetter than normal when applied correctly under certain harvest conditions. This sometimes saves as much as a full day of drying time.

Rain damage is expensive and frustrating. Identify and use strategies like these to minimize your risks.

Spray Kochia and Russian Thistle Before August in Wheat Stubble

With the abundance of precipitation the weeds are growing, well like weeds. Keep in mind that Kochia and Russian Thistle are day length sensitive and usually begin flowering in late July and early August, and set seed shortly after that. Controlling Kochia and Russian Thistle in June or July is very important to prevent seed production.

Cottonwood District Wheat Plot Results

To view the results of the Barton & Ellis Co. Extension Wheat Plot, check out our web site after harvest.

Selecting a new wheat variety

When making a decision for a new wheat to plant on the farm, please use all resources and information available including replicated performance plots conducted by the K-State Experiment Stations. They are small plots but replicated 4 times to smooth out the variability that can occur in any field, for more accurate yield data. To view the Experiment stations results go to our web site at www.cottonwood.ksu.edu and go to the Crops and Livestock page.

A new weed control publication from the Department of Agronomy and K-State Research and Extension is now available. This publication, **MF3448 “Integrated Pigweed Management”** aims to assist producers in developing an integrated strategy to manage pigweed in summer crops and fallow periods. Used in conjunction with local expertise, this guide can help tailor a targeted strategy for each field.

Pigweed is a summer annual broadleaf that emerges from April through October in Kansas with the majority emerging in May and June. Although there are numerous pigweed species, this publication focuses on Palmer amaranth and waterhemp. Pigweed can cause drastic yield losses and harvesting difficulties in summer crops. Controlling emerged pigweed can be challenging due to its rapid growth rate, which can easily exceed 1 inch in height per day. Pigweed is a prolific seed producer with large plants capable of producing nearly one million seeds.

What is “Integrated Pigweed Management”?

An integrated approach combines many different control tactics such as crop rotation, herbicides, tillage, and row spacing to manage pigweeds in a cropping system and has three main purposes.

1. Decrease the risk of selecting for resistant biotypes to an herbicide or other management practice.
2. Reduce pigweed seed population.

Increase long-term profitability and sustainability.

With enough selection pressure, it is possible to select for pigweed resistant to cultural or mechanical practices. For example, shifting crop planting date earlier may select for a biotype that emerges later in the season after POST herbicides are applied, or by implementing sequential tillage operations in fallow, a shift toward alternative seed dormancy mechanisms could occur. With an integrated approach, it is less likely for these types of shifts to occur because the selection pressure is shared among various tactics.

When developing an integrated pigweed management plan, consideration should first be given to cultural control tactics. It is not always possible or applicable to implement all strategies in certain systems; therefore, consideration must be given to how each tactic fits in combination with the other goals of the cropping system (Figure 1).

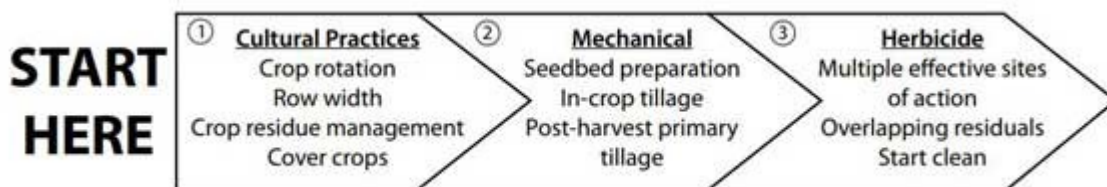


Figure 1. When developing an integrated pigweed management strategy, cultural practices should be considered first. Too often, it is easy to place all consideration on herbicide and neglect the potential benefits of cultural and mechanical tactics. Graphic from MF 3448, [Integrated Pigweed Management](#), K-State Research and Extension.

Cultural practices are discussed in more detail in the full publication. They include: crop rotation, crop cultivar selection and planting date, cover crops, row spacing, field border maintenance, and seed transfer.

Building an Integrated Strategy

Combining control tactics yields the best results. When developing these recommendations, have realistic expectations and make considerations from a cropping systems point of view. It can be difficult to see direct economic profit from some cultural practices such as narrow row spacing, cover crops, or crop rotation; however, long-term gain will be realized through delaying the onset of herbicide resistance and reduced weed seed production

Developing Herbicide Recommendation for Pigweed Management

A common pitfall when trying to justify the cost of integrated strategies is through a reduction in herbicide use. This concept is not supported with research, and all integrated strategies still must be combined with a comprehensive herbicide program. Research shows herbicide programs targeting pigweed must have three key components (Figure 2).

Three key components that should be found in every pigweed herbicide program.

- Use multiple effective sites of action.
- Start clean (no weeds).
- Overlapping residuals.

More information about each of these three components can be found in the publication.

The full publication, “Integrated Pigweed Management”, is available on our web site at: www.cottonwood.ksu.edu



Horticulture

Lauren Walz

Sudden Oak Death Awareness

Phytophthora ramorum (*P. ramorum*), the cause of Sudden Oak Death, was recently confirmed by the Kansas Department of Agriculture in Rhododendron container plants in Kansas. The plants are part of a shipment to Walmart stores across Kansas and one Home Depot store in Pittsburg KS from a nursery in Oklahoma. The Kansas Department of Agriculture provides additional information at the following website: <https://www.agriculture.ks.gov/SOD>



What is *Phytophthora ramorum* and what does it infect?

Phytophthora ramorum is a fungus-like organism that causes a disease commonly known as Sudden Oak Death (SOD). On the west coast of the United States it is a serious problem in California coastal oaks and bay laurel. It can also infect a broad range of nursery plants at which point it is referred to as *Ramorum* blight. Other susceptible plants include rhododendron, azalea, camellia, viburnum, lilac, and periwinkle. A link to a longer host plant list is provided below. It can also infect oaks in the red oak group, including several species of oak native to Kansas.

What does the disease look like?

On oak trees, *P. ramorum* causes bleeding cankers on the trunk and a decline of the tree. Underneath the bark, the cankers have defined margins with a reddish-brown color as shown in photo 1 (Source: Bruce Moltzan, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org). With the recent findings in container rhododendrons, our immediate concern is nursery plants. On nursery plant hosts the symptoms are often leaf scorch or foliar blight and sometimes a stem canker. Photos 2 and 3 show leaf symptoms (Source: Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org). Websites at the bottom of this article provide additional photos. The symptoms can be confused with common problems such as sunscald. *Phytophthora ramorum* rarely causes death of nursery plants, but they serve as a source of infection for other nursery plants and to native oak plants.

What weather conditions favor *Phytophthora ramorum*?

The *Phytophthora* diseases are called water molds and they are triggered by wet conditions. Kansas has had significant rain this spring, so conditions have been favorable for the disease. How is *Phytophthora ramorum* spread? Long distance spread of this disease is through the movement of infected nursery plants between states. The disease can survive in infected plant tissue, soil and water, so local movement into landscapes would be through infected plant material. Spread from Rhododendrons in the landscape to nearby oak trees would be through aerial splash dispersal (ie rainfall) or water runoff.

What should I do if I purchased a Rhododendron this spring?

The Kansas Department of Agriculture is working with the affected Walmart and Home Depot stores to eradicate the diseased plants. To help reduce potential spread of the disease, homeowners who have purchased Rhododendrons from these stores should dig up the plant, including the root ball, double bag it in plastic, and send it to the landfill. Garden tools and shoes/boots that contacted the suspect plant should be sanitized with a commercial disinfectant before using them in other areas of the landscape. Contact the store where the plants were purchased to discuss a refund, as K-State and KDA cannot provide information about refunds. KSRE county extension agents can help homeowners with questions. A website to help find your local agent is at this website: <https://www.ksre.kstate.edu/about/stateandareamaps.html>

What is the risk for Kansas oaks?

This is the first introduction of *Phytophthora ramorum* into Kansas and the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Kansas State University, and the Kansas Forest Service will continue to monitor its progress. The disease is a threat to Kansas forests and landscapes. K-State Research and Extension will be sharing information on the disease as developments occur. *Phytophthora ramorum* was first detected in the US in California in 1995. Its impact is still being assessed by the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Forest Service. Kansas oak forests occur primarily in the eastern third of Kansas, the western edge of the central hardwood forests. The red oak group is known to be susceptible to sudden oak death. Potentially susceptible Kansas species may include red oak (*Quercus rubra*), black oak (*Quercus velutina*), pin oak (*Quercus palustris*), blackjack oak (*Quercus marilandica*), shumard oak (*Quercus shumardii*), scarlet oak (*Quercus coccinea*), and shingle oak (*Quercus imbricaria*). Factors that would affect the potential movement of *Phytophthora ramorum* into Kansas oak forests would be the presence of infected plants (such as Rhododendron) planted into home landscapes in oak water sheds, along with wet weather. Spring 2019 has been very wet and conducive to disease. The risk for *Phytophthora ramorum* establishment into oak plantings in western Kansas is lower than eastern Kansas because it is typically drier and there are fewer susceptible trees, but there still is risk.

More information on *Phytophthora ramorum* can be found at the following websites:

Kansas Dept of Agriculture website:

<https://www.agriculture.ks.gov/SOD>

Sudden oak death: <http://www.suddenoakdeath.org/about-sudden-oak-death/Indiana> *Phytophthora ramorum* Landscape Alert

<https://www.purduelandscapereport.org/article/special-alert-sudden-oak-death/USDA> *Phytophthora ramorum* host list

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pram/downloads/pdf_files/usdaprlist.pdf

Information compiled by Megan Kennelly (kennelly@ksu.edu) and Judy O'Mara (jomara@ksu.edu)

Grub Control In Lawns

If you plan on using a grub preventative on your lawn, the first half of July is a good target date for most products. Preventatives are normally used on areas that have had a history of grub problems.

Traditional grub insecticides such as Dylox or carbaryl (Sevin) are normally applied in late July after grubs are present or as a rescue treatment once damage is seen. Products that contain Merit (imidacloprid) are considered grub preventers. Actually, these products do not prevent grubs, but rather kill grubs when they are quite small, and long before they cause damage. Merit is safer to use around pets and humans than traditional grub killers. Merit can be found in BioAdvanced Season-Long Grub Control, Bonide Grub Beater, Gordon's Grub No-More and Hi-Yield Grub Free Zone II and III.

Another grub preventer with the trade name GrubEx contains chlorantraniliprole. Though this product is very effective, it is less water soluble than imidacloprid. It should be applied earlier, preferably April or May, but applications through June should still be effective. Remember, all grub products should be watered in soon after application.

Fall Lawn Seeding Tips

The keys to successful lawn seeding are proper rates, even dispersal, good seed to soil contact, and proper watering. Evenness is best achieved by carefully calibrating the seeder or by adjusting the seeder to a low setting and making several passes to ensure even distribution. Seeding a little on the heavy side with close overlapping is better than missing areas altogether, especially for the bunch-type tall fescue, which does not spread. Multiple seeder passes in opposite directions should help avoid this problem.

A more serious error in seeding is using the improper rate. For tall fescue, aim for 6 to 8 pounds of seed per 1,000 square feet for new areas and about half as much for overseeding or seeding areas in the shade. Using too much seed results in a lawn more prone to disease and damage from stress. The best way to avoid such a mistake is to determine the square footage of the yard first, and then calculate the amount of seed. Using too little seed can also be detrimental and result in clumpy turf that is not as visually pleasing.

Establishing good seed to soil contact is essential for good germination rates. Slit seeders achieve good contact at the time of seeding by dropping seed directly behind the blade that slices a furrow into the soil. Packing wheels then follow to close the furrow. The same result can be accomplished by using a verticut before broadcasting the seed, and then verticutting a second time.

Core aerators can also be used to seed grass. Go over an area at least three times in different directions, and then broadcast the seed. Germination will occur in the aeration holes. Because those holes stay moister than a traditional seedbed, this method requires less watering. If seeding worked soil, use light hand raking to mix the seed into the soil. A leaf rake often works better than a garden rake because it mixes seed more shallowly.

Water newly planted areas lightly, but often. Keep soil constantly moist but not waterlogged. During hot days, a new lawn may need to be watered three times a day. If watered less, germination will be slowed. Cool, calm days may require watering only every couple of days. As the grass plants come up, gradually decrease watering to once a week if there is no rain. Let the plants tell you when to water. If you can push the blades down and they don't spring back up quickly, the lawn needs water. Once seed sprouts, try to minimize how much traffic (foot, mower, dog, etc.) seeded areas receive until the seedlings are a little more robust and ready to be mowed. Begin mowing once seedlings reach 3 to 4 inches tall.

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Agriculture

This material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2015-49200-24226.

Questions?

Rich Llewellyn: rvl@ksu.edu

SCHEDULE

Registration

Overview of Commodity Programs —
ARC and PLC
Mykel Taylor

How Did Your County Perform in the
2014 Farm Bill?
County/District Agent

Economics of the ARC/PLC Decision
and MYA Price Outlook
Robin Reid/Dan O'Brien

Break

SCO and Farm Bill Changes to Crop
Insurance
Monte Vandever

Introduction to the OSU-KSU Farm
Program Decision Aid
Robin Reid/Mykel Taylor

Farm Service Agency

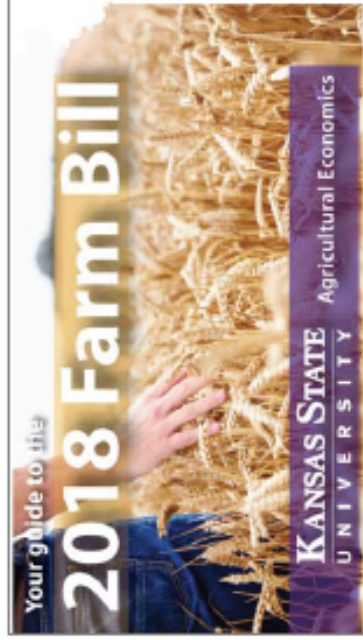
Meeting Adjourns

Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact Rich Llewellyn, (785) 632-1504.

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The 2018 Farm Bill

New Decisions for Kansas Farmers



August 26
Hill City, KS

August 27
Goodland, KS

August 27
Leoti, KS

August 28
Plains, KS

August 29
Great Bend, KS

August 30
Wichita, KS

September 3
Parsons, KS

September 4
Ottawa, KS

September 5
Seneca, KS

September 10
Concordia, KS

KANSAS STATE
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Department of Agricultural Economics

K-STATE
Research and Extension

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LOCATIONS

Hill City, KS
August 26, 1:00-4:30 pm
Graham County 4-H Building
Graham County Fairgrounds
Alyssa Rippe-May
alyssar@ksu.edu or 785-475.8121

Goodland, KS
August 27, 8:30 am—12:00 noon
Elks Lodge
1523 Arcade St.
Jeanne Falk Jones
jfaikjones@ksu.edu or 785.890.4880

Leoti, KS
August 27, 2:30-6:00 pm
Wichita County Community Building
Wichita County Fairgrounds
Allen Baker
abaker@ksu.edu or 620.375.2724

Plains, KS
August 28, 10:00 am—3:00 pm
Plains Community Building
812 Grand Ave.
Eily Sneath
sneath@ksu.edu or 620.873.8790

Great Bend, KS
August 29, 8:30 am—12:00 noon
Great Bend Events Center
3111 10th St.
Alicia Boor
aboor@ksu.edu or 620.793.1910

Wichita, KS
August 30, 8:30 am—12:00 noon
Sedgwick County Extension Office
7001 W 21st St N.
Jeff Seiler
jseiler4@ksu.edu or 316.660.0153

LOCATIONS

Parsons, KS
September 3, 1:00-4:30 pm
SE Area Research and Extension Center
25092 Ness Road
Dale Helwig
dhelwig@ksu.edu or 620.429.3849

Ottawa, KS
September 4, 8:30 am—12:00 noon
Celebration Hall
Franklin County Fairgrounds
220 W. 17th St.
Darren Hibdon
dhibdon@ksu.edu or 785.229.3520

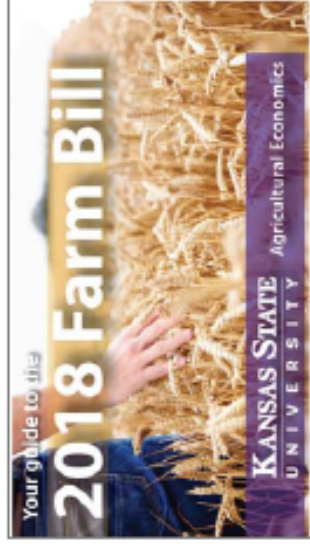
Seneca, KS
September 5, 1:00-4:30 pm
Nemaha County Community Center
1500 Community Dr.
Margaret Chamas
mchamas@ksu.edu or 785.985.3623

Concordia, KS
September 10, 1:00-4:30 pm
Commercial Building
Cloud County Fairgrounds
Industrial Road
Brett Melton
bmelton@ksu.edu or 785.243.8185

No fee, but registration required.

<https://bit.ly/2MTDsTi>

Or contact the local agent listed above.



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