



CARSON COUNTY AG NEWS



JUNE 2014

Events

**Cotton Weed
Management
Turn Row
Meeting
July 8th**

**Farm Bill Training
July 10, 2014
War Memorial
10:00am**



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FARM BILL MEETING AND TRAINING

JULY 10, 2014 10:00am - 12:00pm

WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING

No Cost Recovery Fee

The Carson County AgriLife Extension Service will be providing an extensive farm bill educational meeting.

Dr. Steve Amosson, AgriLife Economist, will be present to explain general farm program provisions and provide a decision-aid demonstration.

Additional area meetings:

Donley County - July 10th

Randall County - July 23rd

Potter County - Aug. 12th

Gray County - Aug. 19th

Armstrong County - Aug. 19th

Hutchinson County - Aug. 19th

For complete list of scheduled county meetings please go to

<http://amarillo.tamu.edu/> and click on the County Offices Tab

Cotton Weed Management Turn Row Meeting

July 8, 2014 9:00am - 12:00pm

White Deer Community Center

No Cost Recovery Fee / No lunch provided

Speakers and Topics will include:

Jody Bradford, County Agent - Cotton Weed Management

Dr. Jourdan Bell, Extension Agronomist -

Fertility and Irrigation

Dr. Mark Kelley, Extension Cotton Specialist- Crop Progress

(group will travel to fields for Dr. Kelley's presentation)

Now Is The Time To Prepare...

While everyone is glad to see it rain, showers have brought mosquitos and potentially the West Nile virus. Now is the time to begin preparing to implement the 4-Ds when the rains cease (may that not be for a while yet).

While some cities may be able to spray and implement other mosquito control activities, like so much in life, action at the local level can be a great help. Anything each individual can do will help reduce the burden on the municipalities, and it is even more critical in the many areas without a mosquito control program in place.

The 4Ds have become: Drain, Dress appropriately; Avoid being out at Dusk and Dawn and Defend yourself. Standing water in pots, buckets, old tires, etc. needs to be drained or emptied. Long sleeves and long pants should be worn during the dusk and dawn periods if one can't (or doesn't want to) avoid being out then; Effective repellents need to be used liberally when the mosquitoes become active and if windows are opened, screens should be in good repair.

We can expect potential cases to occur this year, especially if these self-defense steps are not employed.

Please do your part to protect yourself, your family and your neighbors from a potentially devastating disease.

Forage Insurance Sign Up:

In spite of recent rains, livestock producers may be considering adding a layer of protection against drought loss on annual forage crops, and the deadline to sign up for that insurance is approaching, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service specialist.

The Rainfall Index - Annual Forage Insurance plan, referred to as RI-AF, is a risk policy designed to provide livestock producers the ability to buy protection against losses due to a lack of moisture, said DeDe Jones, AgriLife Extension risk management specialist in Amarillo.

The sign-up deadline for RI-AF is July 15 for the fall growing season - Sept. 1, 2014-March 31, 2015, and Dec. 15 for the spring season - March 1-Sept. 30, 2015. All premium payments are due by Aug. 30, 2015.

Jones said RI-AF is similar to Pasture Range and Forage Insurance, or PRF insurance, but the difference lies in the type of commodity covered. PRF covers perennial grasses such as pasture and hay, while RI-AF is strictly for annual forage crops, including but not limited to: winter small grains, such as wheat, oats, rye and triticale, and spring plantings such as sudan, haygrazer and millet.

Under both insurance plans, payment is not determined by individual damages, but rather area losses based on a grid system, she said. A major difference between the two policies is that PRF allows producers to insure only a portion of their acreage, but RI-AF requires coverage on all certified acres not intended for grain production.

Producers must also choose a maximum of threetwo-month intervals per growing season per year, Jones said. Insured acres are then spread between time periods, with no more than 40 percent of the acres placed in any interval.

Coverage levels between 70 and 90 percent are available, she said. Once coverage is selected, the producer chooses a productivity factor between 60 and 150 percent. The productivity factor is a percentage of the established county base value for annual forage. Base value is a standard rate published by the Risk Management Agency for each county.

The Rainfall Index determines RI-AF coverage, Jones said. This model uses National Oceanic and Atmospheric Climate Prediction Center data and a 12-by-12-mile grid system. Indemnities are calculated based on the deviation from normal precipitation within a grid for a specific period selected.

Weed Management is always an issue. Information on Weed Management in Cotton can be found on the County Website at

<http://carson.agrilife.org/files/2014/03/Weed-Management-in-Texas-Cotton-2014.pdf>

Information on Post emerged over the top weed management options can be found on page 10, Table 4.

Post-directed or hooded weed management options can be found on page 14, Table 5

Please go to the Carson County AgriLife Extension Website to read more about:

- After the Conservation Reserve Program: Economic Decisions with Farming and Grazing in Mind
- Texas Panhandle Producers Face Tax Implications from Drought Related Losses
 - Texas Beef Referendum Fact Sheet
- Texas A&M AgriLife program to release two new wheat varieties
 - Wheat streak identification can be issue during drought

<http://carson.agrilife.org/ag/publications/>

Remember to call or email the Extension office to start receiving your FULL color copy of the Ag Newsletter!

806-537-3882

Or

Carson@ag.tamu.edu

ATTENTION:

**COTTON AND 2, 4-D DRIFT
NOT A GOOD MIX**

For more information on ways to minimize drift and alternative chemicals, visit the Carson County website at:

<http://carson-tx.tamu.edu/>
Link to: Publications/Ag/2,4-D

Or contact the Carson County Extension Office at 537-3882


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