

# CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

January 29, 2016

Volume 3, Issue1

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**THANK YOU**

## GENERAL SITUATION

2015 has finally come to an end. Not soon enough for most everyone, however from our two gins standpoint this year will not look too awfully bad. Glasscock County finished up with just over 88,000 bales and Midkiff was around 35,000. Not as bad of a year from a Co-op standpoint as a producer standpoint. Harvesting an above average number of dryland acres with an overall average of around 100 lbs/ac makes it difficult from the producers' standpoint. To add insult to injury, we officially ended the season with 26.76 inches of rainfall for the year. Things should have been so much different.

But enough of last year, it is a new year, we once again have a decent moisture profile, and we just received .1 inches Tuesday. The price prospects may not be great but at least we have the beginnings of some moisture and fuel is a whole lot cheaper.

## RESULT DEMONSTRATION

The 2015 Result Demonstrations have been completed and the Annual Result Demonstration Handbook has been completed. I ran out of copies of the first printing but should have some more finished next week and delivered to the co-ops. I have also emailed copies to everyone who receives the newsletter electronically. You can also view on the [Glasscock County Website](#).

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## WHEAT

Earlier sown wheat has slowly gotten its legs under it and started to grow and make some progress. The later fields, especially December wheat is still trying to get going. Leaf rust is rearing its ugly head again in several locations around the area. Keep in mind that even though the price of wheat is low, the moisture required to get rust diseases going is also enough to increase yield. This is especially true now that there are generic fungicides available for control of rusts in wheat. Products with the active ingredients such as azoxystrobin, propiconazole, and tebuconazole do a good job of controlling rust and can be used up until heading with azoxystrobin labeled through flowering. Here is a complete list of [labeled fungicides in wheat](#) or it can be found on the Glasscock Extension website.

If wheat is being grazed, cattle can help to control the rust by removing fungi through grazing. However, fields still need to be scouted, especially if conditions are humid and conducive for rust growth. In many cases cattle may graze-out the field before the rust limits production. However, the rust could increase to the point to limit forage production and shorten the life of the pasture. Products like tebuconazole require pulling cattle off for 6 days after application before grazing. Give me a call if you want me to take a look at any wheat with you.

Keep an eye on weeds; do not let them get away from you, especially if you are planning on taking the crop to grain. Even though the crop is not using much moisture right now the weeds can use a lot of moisture that could otherwise be used by the wheat later on. Also start making plans now for a top-dress application over the next month. If you think you might want to put fertilizer out it is best to get it on right before a rain. With rains being few and far between right now we might have to get fertilizer on sooner rather than later in order to get the most out of it.

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## PESTICIDE LICENSING

Just a reminder for everyone that has had an applicators license since before 2005, your license will renew this year on February 29<sup>th</sup>. After 2005 your license renews 5 years from the anniversary of when you received it. If you are short on CEU's let me know and I will see what I can do about finding you a chance to pick up a couple more. You can also come by my office and watch the last chance videos if you have to.

There are a few changes ahead for the pesticide licensing program in the future. The first is an increase in license fees. A private license will now cost \$100, a commercial will be \$200, and non-commercial is \$75. There is also a good chance there will be a change in CEU requirements.