

January 13, 2017

To: Randolph County Field Crop Growers

Randolph County Center
North Carolina Cooperative
Extension
112 West Walker Ave.,
Asheboro, NC 27203
336 218 6000

Winter Newsletter

You are invited to The Annual Winter Field Crops meeting. It will be held on February 9th at AVS Catering from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Lunch will be provided. Speakers from NC State along with sponsors from Crop Production Services, Monsanto, Dow Agro, Southern States, NCDA, and Syngenta will be attending to talk to growers about products, varieties, best management practices, and more.

The Annual Farmer Recognition and Appreciation Dinner for both Randolph and Davidson counties will take place Tuesday, February 21, 2016 at the Village Restaurant in Denton. Sponsor exhibits and registration will begin at 5:45 p.m. We will be in the meeting room "Park Place." The meal will be served at 6:00 p.m. This event will provide us with an opportunity to recognize local yield contest winners and "on-farm" test cooperators. We will also share what we learned from these activities. In addition, each of our sponsors will have an opportunity to inform producers of products and services they have that may benefit farming operations.

The Southern Farm Show is being held at the NC State Fairgrounds in Raleigh NC on February 1st through 3rd, 9am to 4pm each day. This is the largest agricultural exposition in the Carolinas and Virginias, the show features over 400 exhibitors and parking and admission are free. **Two classes providing NCDA Pesticide Certifications are available on Wednesday morning, February 1. They are as follows,

1) Spray Nozzle Technology and Droplet Size Management for Effective Coverage and Drift Control

9:30 am Wednesday, February 1 in the **Holshouser building**

This class qualifies for A, B, D, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, O, T and X credits.

2) Managing Difficult Lawn Care Turfgrass Pests in the Southern & Transition Climatic Region

10:45 am Wednesday, February 1 in the **Holshouser Building**

This class qualifies for D, L, N and X credits.

Soybeans

I am sure you know XtendiMax and Engenia recently received federal registration for use on Xtend soybean. We anticipate registration for Enlist Duo in the near future. I am sure you heard about all the off-target issues in the mid-south this past summer. Because of those issues, EPA is strongly in favor of applicator training related to responsible use of auxin herbicides. Several states, North Carolina included, will require applicator training. North Carolina's label will state the following: The producer, certified applicator, or person responsible for the application of this product on soybeans, in-crop, must attend Auxin Herbicides - Best Management Practices training that is approved by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. In other words, training is mandatory if one wants to use the new products. There are a few certification trainings in our area.

1) Wednesday March 1st at 2pm in Davidson County Center, 301 E. Center St, Lexington NC.

2) Thursday March 9th, 9am at Guilford County Center, 3309 Burlington Road,

Attendees for either class will receive credit in the X category on private applicator licenses. The class will last 1.5 hours. Please call ahead of time to confirm you are planning to attend. **Please see the attached schedule if you are interested in attending another meeting.** These are the two closest to our area, but the times may not work for everyone. Randolph County Cooperative Extension is in the process of planning a certification class in the eastern part of the county. The meeting will be scheduled for mid/late March.

Wheat

During the winter, the wheat crop utilizes very little N during winter dormancy. Nitrogen applied early in the dormancy period is subject to leaching and/or run-off losses. Applying large amounts of N during January and expecting this N to be available for producing grain in April and May, is not reasonable because of our climatic conditions and the growth pattern of wheat. Thus, winter N application should not exceed 30 lbs. N/acre. The figure below (Figure 1) represents the growth stages of winter wheat.

Growth stage 30

February/ Early March

Growth Stage 30 (Figure 1) occurs in February to early March. Figure 2 below shows what you will look for if you dissect the wheat plant from the base. This signals the most rapid phase of wheat growth. Rapid Nitrogen uptake begins. Inadequate available Nitrogen causes tiller abortion with resulting lowered harvest population. You may consider tissue sampling or biomass sampling to determine an adequate Nitrogen application at this time.

Once Growth Stage 30 is reached (See figure 1 and 2 below), growers should immediately collect tissue samples and matching above-ground biomass samples. This is especially true if wheat is lush due to warmer weather or early planting dates. If the crop's need for nitrogen is not met at this time, then tillers will abort and yield will be reduced.

To tissue sample, cut wheat plants about one-half inch above the ground in 20 to 30 representative areas throughout a field. Generally, two large fistfuls of leaves make a good sample. Remove dead leaves and weeds before placing the sample in a paper bag.

A biomass sample, on the other hand, should contain all the above-ground wheat-plant tissue from one representative, 36-inch section of row. In broadcast fields, collect all the plants from one square yard. Place the sample in a paper bag, and write the sample ID from the corresponding tissue sample and the word "biomass" on the bag.

Upon receiving your NCDA&CS plant analysis report, growers should first look for the biomass and nitrogen percentage values. These values and certain crop planting details help determine the appropriate nitrogen rate, based on Weisz's interactive tool. This method explained fully online at www.smallgrains.ncsu.edu/_Pubs/PG/Nitrogen.pdf.

How do you identify GS30?

Figure 2 is a dissection of the wheat plant, showing the growth stage at Zadoks stage 30. This is also known as the "ear at 1cm" stage.

- Take at least six plants from the field to get a representative sample and dissect them carefully (see Figure 2). Make sure you are dissecting the main shoot, not a tiller. You should be able to identify the immature ear – no longer than a few millimeters.

Figure 1

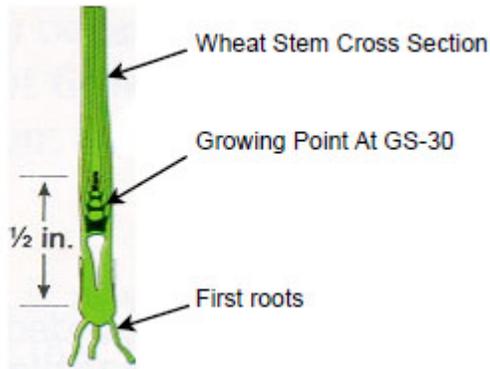
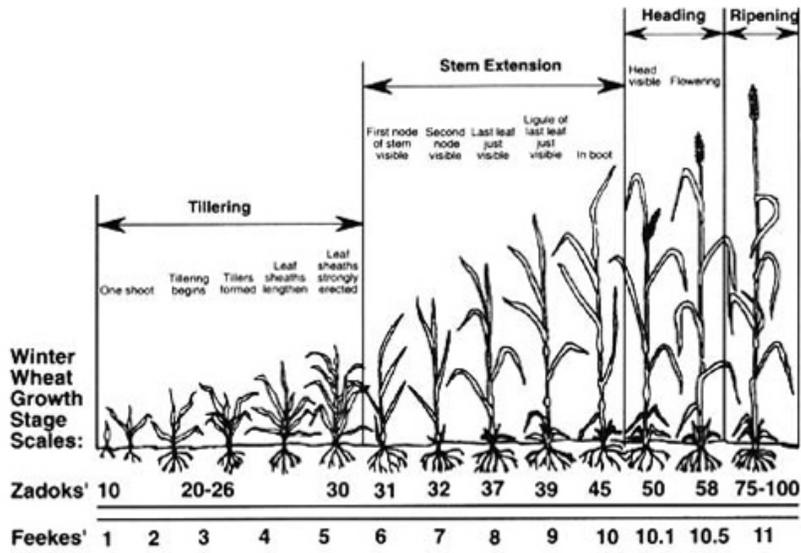


Figure 2

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Jonathan H. Wall
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