

## Alfalfa Weevil

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. It should be no surprise that I was out on March 5<sup>th</sup> looking at alfalfa fields and found the first alfalfa weevils of the year. First of all just slow down - you don't have to get out there tomorrow and spray. We still have a lot of weevil eggs to hatch. It should also be noted that I was finding weevils in fields that had been sprayed last fall. Right now what alfalfa growers need to know is simply that they are hatching already. While the warm weather has gotten everything started early, the continued warm weather may actually help us to get the hatch completed in a shorter time frame. But it also means that we need to really stay on top of our alfalfa fields. For starters I'd consider getting out into them every three or four days. The level for treatment is basically one larvae per stem. There is just one generation of weevil per year, thank goodness, but the damage can continue on in to second and third cutting simply in reduced production in those later cuttings. All of the insecticides that we have traditionally used are still working very well. Intensive studies the past three years by K-State entomologists have shown no evidence of insecticide resistance in alfalfa weevils. In field studies continue to show excellent control with all insecticides. When problems have occurred they have almost always come from applying in cold cloudy conditions when weevil larvae are low on the plant OR when low rates of carrier are being used. You have to spray on sunny warm days and use at least 12 gallons of water. This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte.

## Marestail control in soybeans

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## Soil applied residual herbicide options for soybeans

This is Ag Outlook on 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County, K-State Research and Extension Ag & Natural Resources Agent. Yes, it's only the middle of March, but you need to be making your residual herbicide plans for your soybeans. It seems that the most consistent problems come from pigweed and marestail so we'll talk about pigweed control today and marestail tomorrow. For early-season pigweed control, the Valor-based herbicides (Valor SX, Valor XLT, Rowel, Encompass, Outflank, Panther, Fierce, Fierce XLT, Gangster, Surveil, Trivence, Afforia, Envive, and Enlite) and Authority-based herbicides (Authority First, Sonic, Authority Assist, Authority MTZ, Authority Maxx, Authority Elite, Broadaxe XC, Spartan, and Spartan Elite) can all provide very good to excellent pigweed control to supplement a postemergence program. If glyphosate-resistant pigweed is suspected, higher use rates may be required to give adequate residual control. Prefix is another excellent "foundation" herbicide for residual pigweed control in soybeans. Metribuzin, Zidua, Anthem, Warrant, Dual, Boundary, Outlook, and Prowl products can also provide some early-season pigweed control, but may not provide as much residual control as those previously mentioned products. Split applications of overlapping residual herbicides early preplant and at planting or early postemergence may be the best approach to manage glyphosate resistant pigweed in no-till systems. As always, read and follow all label directions paying particular attention to spray adjuvants that are required as well as proper carrier rates. While it may be handy to cover more acres per tank, it may come at a cost of less control. This has been Ag Outlook on the Talk of JC, 1420 KJCK, I'm Chuck Otte.