Start Getting Leases Wrapped Up

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. This week we bid adieu to October and welcome in November. The end of the year is just around the corner. Just as soon as is possible once harvest is over I encourage tenants to sit down with their landlords and discuss the year. Not talking with your landlord (or tenant) is not an option. Discuss what happened this year, how the crops did - what their share was, if a crop share lease, and what you are thinking for next year. Ask them if they have any questions or concerns and if they are satisfied with lease the way it currently is. Even if it is year 1 of a 5 year lease, keep in communication with each others. Good leases are predicated on good communications. When either the landlord or tenant stops talking, it isn't a good sign. The notice to terminate due date comes up the end of January. Work out those leases now, though! I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Too Late for Wheat?

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Unlike the last couple of years I'm betting that most of you have got most of your wheat planted by now. We've actually had a pretty good October for harvest and wheat planting. Good rains early in the month should have given us enough soil moisture to get the wheat up and well rooted. Now, if you didn't get some wheat planted yet we still have time BUT, you need to be using starter fertilizer and increasing seeding rates. Given the cooler weather and dropping soil temperatures I'd be planting 110 to 120 pounds per acre - remember never more than 120 pounds. I'd also like to put down about 20 pounds of phosphorus per acre in direct seed contact. If you can only get that phosphorus along with some nitrogen make sure you aren't applying more than 7 or 8 pounds of nitrogen per acre in direct seed contact. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Control Winter Annual Broadleaf Weeds

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. More than likely you already know where you're going to plant corn or sorghum next year. In many cases it's going to be going in on soybean ground or wheat/double crop ground. The great thing about this is that you can go out there just as soon as the crop is off and apply some herbicides to keep weed growth down and more importantly, control fall broadleaf weeds, especially marestail. Marestail is coming up right now and is very easy to control. If you apply a pound of atrazine this fall along with 2,4-D and/or dicamba you will get great control of most any broadleaf weeds out there. By next spring, by the time you're ready to apply herbicides, marestail will have already moved past the good control stage. While you can go up to 2 pounds of atrazine, I'd suggest staying at the one pound range this fall and more in the spring. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Don't forget about the Farm Program

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Harvest and wheat planting are starting to wind down so think back to what I told you in August and September. We were talking about the new farm bill and the fact that signup would start on September 3rd, but I said, don't worry about it until harvest is over later this fall. It's later this fall now, harvest is wrapping up so it's time to start thinking about it. What you need to focus on first is updating your yields. Take your crop insurance APH information in and they will tell you what your new yield would be. If it's higher, update. Then after that you can look at whether you want to sign up for ARC or PLC. We can talk about which might be better later on this fall but right now, start getting those yields updated. IF you don't sign up by the deadline in March you will be auto-signed up, but you'll miss one year's worth of payment. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.

Calving School

This is Ag Outlook, I'm Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent. Cow calf producers - mark down the evening of November 19 on your calendar for a calving school in Council Grove. It's going to be at the fairgrounds on the east side of town and will likely start at 5:30 or 6 (that's still being determined) with a meal. A. J. Tarpoff from K-State will be the lead speaker. We've had AJ at the calving schools in the past and he always does an awesome job. Extension Agent Clint Laflin, livestock production extension agent from Russell with also be present to talk about vaccine handling and storage. Clint comes from a legendary Kansas livestock family and is doing great things out in Russell and Ellsworth counties. There'll be a registration requirement and as that information becomes available I'll get it to you but for right now, get that date, November 19th, reserved on your calendar. I'm Chuck Otte and this has been Ag Outlook.