JUNE 2015
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Check us out on the Web at:
www.rivervalley.ksu.edu

River Valley Extension District
2015 Wheat Plot Tours

Wednesday, June 3rd

7:30 a.m. North Central Experiment Field Wheat Variety Trial Plots
Location: 2 miles west of Belleville on Highway 36
Juice and rolls furnished by Belleville Chamber of Commerce

10:00 a.m. Christian Tipton 4-H Plot
Location: From Munden, 2.5 mile south on 220 Road
Refreshments provided by Kansas Wheat Alliance, Ag Risk Solutions, and AgMark

12:00 noon Republic County High School FFA Plot
Location: 1.25 mile west of Cuba on Penn Road
Lunch provided by: Astra Bank at the plot site

Featuring K-State Agronomists/Specialists:
Stu Duncan, Erick DeWolf, Wendy Johnson, and others;
And Company Reps

Wednesday, June 10th

7:30 a.m. RVED Variety Plot, Cooperator: Mike Brown
Location: East of Clay Center on Hwy 24 just East of Bruna Implement
Juice and rolls furnished by Ag Risk Solutions

12:00 noon Wheat Nitrogen Sensor Study Plot, Cooperator: Walter Lenhart with Clifton/Clyde High School FFA
Location: East of Clifton on Hwy 9 then South 2.5 miles on Indian Road and West on 29th Road
Lunch provided by: LeClair Seeds

3:00 p.m. RVED Variety Plot, Cooperator: Gary Hatesohl
Location: Just North of the Washington Co airport, East of Hwy 15 on 12th Road
Refreshments provided by Kansas Wheat Alliance, Ag Risk Solutions, and AgMark LLC

6:00 p.m. Ohlde Seed Wheat Plot
Location: Ohlde Seed Farms: 1577 4th Rd, Palmer
Dinner provided by: Ohlde Seed following the tour

Mark your calendars! And plan to attend!

For additional information or questions contact Kim Larson, Crop Production Extension Agent, at the Concordia Office: 785-243-8185 or kclarson@ksu.edu

Sponsors:

Kansas Wheat Alliance · Chamber & Main Street · Astra Bank · LeClair Seeds · AgMark · Ag Risk Solutions · Ohlde Seed Farms

K-State Research and Extension

SOYBEAN SEEDLING DISEASES

Seed treatments on our soybeans may prove a big benefit with our wet planting conditions we have seen this year. With our high dollar seed expenses anymore, seed treatments become a cheap insurance to protect against damping off diseases that favor spring conditions as we have seen this year. In a 2013 K-State statewide field study, there was an average 5.2 bushel yield increase from using treated soybean seed compared to a 0.2 bushel increase in 2011. Spring planting weather conditions that result in favorable or non-favorable disease development make all the difference in yield response. Seedling diseases favor high moisture conditions. Our common seedling diseases are: Pythium, Phytophthora, Fusarium, and Rhizoctonia. Our recent cool wet conditions will favor Pythium which is our most common seedling disease of soybean. Cooler soil temperatures will typically make this one worse and more common, so earlier planted soybean fields will often see this if they were not properly protected with a seed treatment. Typical symptoms of Pythium include seed decay and pre-emergent seedling rot, and seedling damping off after emergence. If the plant has emerged, often the outer layer of its root system can be easily pulled off while the center of the root stays intact.

Warmer conditions are more conducive for Phytophthora, which will also be present now. Phytophthora is not as common as Pythium, but it can be an issue in the right conditions. As our wet fields have kept farmers out of the field most of May, delayed planting into June may be common this year. With later planting there is warmer weather. If our moisture continues to come through June, this disease would be one to watch for. Typical symptoms of Phytophthora are seed decay and pre-emergence seedling rot, and seedling damping off after emergence. Typical symptoms on seedlings are darkened stems at the base of the plant coming up from the soil line. When young plants are cut at the lower stem, the stem center will exhibit a dark color. Phytophthora can kill plants at any stage of development, but Pythium typically does not kill plants much past the V5 growth stage.

As seen in these descriptions, there is a lot of overlap in symptoms for these two diseases, especially at the pre-emergence stage of development where many fields are now. Seed treatment and the use of resistant varieties (for Phytophthora) are the management actions which are modified based on the field history. In fields where a seed treatment fungicide was used and seedling disease is still developing, it can be the result of the wrong treatment or excessive moisture leading to product failure under extreme conditions. It is always a good idea to use products containing two or more active ingredients for seed and soilborne pathogens plus Pythium specific products when deciding on your seed treatment to use. The following table gives ratings on active ingredients in common seed treatments and their control for these four seedling diseases found in Kansas.

If you notice any seedling disease in your field and need assistance identifying what the disease is, bring a sample into the extension office. If necessary, we can forward the sample to the K-State diagnostic lab to confirm the disease.

Active ingredient	*Phytophthora sojae*	*Pythium* species	*Rhizoctonia solani*	*Fusarium* species
mefenoxam/ metalaxyl	E	E	N	N
azoxystrobin	-	P	F	F
fludioxonil	N	N	G	G
ipconazole	-	P	F	G
pyraclostrobin	-	P	F	F
trifloxystrobin	-	P	F	F
ethaboxam	E	E	-	-

E = excellent; G = good; F = fair; P = poor N = none

POSSIBLE CAUSES OF YELLOW SOYBEANS

There are always some fields of soybeans about this time of year that are turning yellow. There are several possible explanations.

Nitrogen deficiency– In fields that have been extremely dry or extremely wet, rhizobial nodule development can be delayed resulting in nitrogen deficiency. As the soils receive rain or dry out the nodule forming bacteria will go to work and the deficiency symptoms will quickly disappear. With N deficiency, it is usually the lower leaves that are chlorotic or pale green. Within the plant, any available N from the soil or from nitrogen fixation within nodules on the roots goes to the new growth first. Soybeans doublecropped after wheat can be N deficient for a short period of time until the beans become well nodulated. As the wheat straw decomposes, some of the soil available N will be immobilized, making it unavailable to the young soybean plans. Applying a little N at planting time to soybeans planted into wheat residue is the best way to avoid early-season N deficiency.

Iron chlorosis– Soils that are too wet can also induce temporary symptoms of iron chlorosis. With iron chlorosis, the top most leaves will turn yellow, but the veins remain green. This problem is usually more serious in soils with highly alkaline pH. Additionally, soybean varieties have varying tolerance to iron chlorosis, so certain varieties may show more of the symptom than others. Excess nitrate in the soil can exacerbate problems of iron chlorosis in fields with high soil pH and prone to causing iron chlorosis problems. This can be particularly noticeable during early soybean growth. An interesting phenomenon that occasionally has been observed is that the soybean plants in slightly more compacted soil (for example in the wheel tracks associated with the last tillage pass) will be greener and display less yellowing than the rest of the field. Recent studies have shown that soil nitrate concentrations in these wheel tracks are typically lower. The areas of compacted soil have less oxygen, likely resulting in more denitrification. Areas of higher soybean population in the field can also show greener conditions.

Potassium deficiency– Another cause of yellowing that is being seen in some fields is potassium deficiency. At this time of year, deficiency symptoms include an irregular yellow mottling around leaflet margins. The yellow areas coalesce to form a more or less continuous, irregular yellow border. Again, as with nitrogen, you can see symptoms in both too wet and too dry fields. Most of the time the symptoms will fade with improved soil moisture conditions, unless the field is truly deficient in potassium. Potassium deficiency can also be caused by soil compaction, which limits root growth and development.

Rooting restrictions– Anything that restricts expansion of the root system (e.g. extremely wet or dry soil, compaction layers, sidewall compaction, etc.) can lead to reduced growth and potential leaf yellowing. With a restricted root system, the growing plant can't access the nutrients (iron, potassium, nitrogen before nodulation) it needs to make more leaves. As a result, many of the nutrient deficiencies described above can show up in fields where you might not expect them based on a typical soil test.

Source: KSU Agronomy E-Update

MANAGING PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITIONS FOLLOWING RAINFALL

I always find it interesting to reminisce on the previous year's River Valley District newsletter. It is nice to see how far we have come over the course of the past year or if we are at a stand-still. As I was preparing to write this article, I did my normal scanning of the previous year's newsletter and guess what I found? It was an article written about rangeland drought management. It is amazing how much the weather can change from year to year and how much impact that can have on livestock production. Most livestock producers in the River Valley District can finally look at their ponds and see adequate water supply. This is something that livestock producers have been looking forward to for a very long time.

Kansas Forage and Grassland Council has published helpful data that is important to share with our local producers. Nationwide spring/summer pasture and range conditions have started off very well, with the exception of California. USDA -NASS began reporting weekly conditions on May 4, 2015. Overall, U.S. pasture and rangeland conditions are improving when compared to the start of 2014. Only a mere 12% of U.S. rangeland was rated in the two worst categories (poor and very poor) at the start of 2015. Last year, 23% was rated in the poor and very poor conditions with the prior 5-year averages (2009 through 2013) being 20%.

To put the amount of rainfall into perspective for the month of April of 2014, Washington County received 1.57 inches, Republic County received 1.77 inches, Clay County received 2.22 inches, and Cloud County received 1.50 inches. With the amount of rainfall in May, we can exceed those monthly averages in roughly one day. This is definitely a blessing for livestock producers and the impact it will have on our forages within the River Valley District.

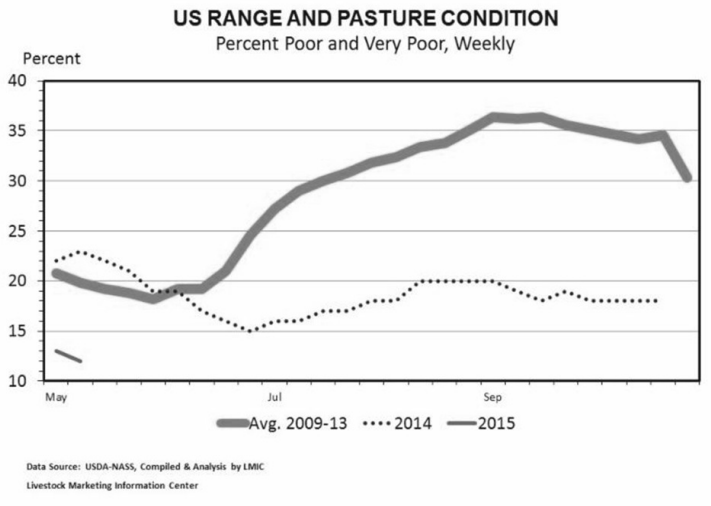
Even though this rainfall has been a great thing for our livestock producers, we must remember that we will not see immediate changes in forage growth. With increased amounts of rain comes increased amounts of not only valuable forages, but also weed growth. With the past few year's drought conditions, forages have been under a great amount of stress. A great deal of growth and regrowth of forages depends on management decisions that were made during the duration of the drought. Did you remove cattle at the appropriate times? Did overgrazing occur? How severe was the drought? These are many questions that can be answered differently among producers.

If your pastures are showing signs of stress, then you might be finding out that the cattle should have been pulled sooner. Growth and regrowth of forages can take approximately 2-3 years to recover from a previous year's drought. This timeline can be variable depending on severity and management decisions.

With this said, watch your pastures this year and be sure to remove at the appropriate time for regrowth to occur. If a surplus of hay occurred on your operation, try to use this to your advantage and be proactive in preparing for drought conditions in the future by utilizing those stockpiled forages. This will allow your pastures to have additional rest. This management style is not for all operations, but it can be utilized when stockpiled forages are available.

The question still remains, are we in the clear and will pastures be able to recover quickly from previous drought conditions, even with more than adequate rainfall? The answer is it depends. It depends on pasture management during those drought conditions and if rainfall continues to occur. Working in agriculture, we all wish that we could predict the weather. Unfortunately, this is not an easy task, but good management can create better opportunities for coping with future drought conditions.

Feel free to stop by the Washington office, drop me an email (kbrockus@ksu.edu), or give me a call (785) 325-2121 with any future livestock questions.



KEEPING A CLOSE EYE

It is hard to believe the summer months are quickly approaching. After spending time in the south, I have learned to appreciate Kansas summers. While I only lived in the south for a short time, it was long enough to realize how many fewer insects abide in Kansas. Unfortunately, it doesn't take many insects to create a disruption in herd health and cause a rather large hassle. Herd health will remain a very important aspect throughout the summer. Making sure that livestock are up to date on vaccinations is critical.

The prime time for pinkeye cases is quickly approaching. Be sure to keep a close watch over cattle eyes during the summer months. Factors that are instrumental in causing eye irritation are excessive sunlight, the face fly, the house fly, the stable fly, plant material, and dust. Ultraviolet light is especially a problem in cattle lacking pigmentation around the eye. This is a more common problem in the Hereford breed. Pinkeye was second to scours and diarrhea as the most prevalent condition affecting unweaned calves over three weeks old. Pinkeye is one of the most prevalent conditions affecting all breeding beef females.

There are four stages of pinkeye. Pictures are shown to replicate the various stages and severity of the disease.

Stage 1: Cattle have excessive tearing and increased sensitivity to light. They will blink frequently and there is redness along the eyelids. Cattle will often seek shade, which will decrease their grazing time. Pain associated with Pinkeye also decreases their feed intake. Stage I will progress to a small ulcer in the center of the cornea which appears as a small white spot. The cornea develops a slightly cloudy grey appearance due to inflammation. One or both eyes may be affected.

Stage 2: The clinical signs described in Stage I continue, but the ulcer spreads across the cornea. As more inflammation occurs, the cornea becomes increasingly cloudy. At this point, some of the dark color of the iris can still be seen. Blood vessels from the outside portion of the cornea begin to grow across the cornea to help with healing. These blood vessels make the cornea appear pink, which is how the disease received its name.

Stage 3: The ulcer covers most of the cornea and the inflammation continues to spread into the inner parts of the eye. When this occurs, the inside of the eye fills with fibrin, which is a pus-like substance that gives the eye a yellow appearance versus the typical brown appearance.

Stage 4: The ulcer extends completely through the cornea, and the iris may protrude through the ulcer. The iris will become stuck in the cornea even after healing. This may lead to glaucoma or persistent swelling of the eye. This eye will be partially or completely blind. The eye may go on to completely rupture, and will develop a shrunken appearance or enlarge if glaucoma(increased eye pressure) is present. This eye will be permanently blind.

If an incident of Pinkeye occurs, make sure to treat the eye quickly. Prolonging Pinkeye can cause blindness and, in some cases, lose the eye completely. A large economic loss can occur from decreased weight gain, milk production, and treatment costs. These losses cumulatively were estimated to be a $150 million dollar loss in the United States alone. With cattle prices at a record high, avoiding such drastic measures are in producer's best interest.

The key to having a successful herd health program is to be proactive rather than reactive. Be sure to consult your local veterinarian for proper means of treatment if necessary. Pinkeye is a common disease that can be treated effectively if diagnosed early. Be sure to have an extra keen eye on this disease in the upcoming months. If you have any additional questions please feel free to stop by, e mail (kbrockus@ksu.edu), or call 785-325-2121.

Pinkeye photos courtesy of Virginia Cooperative Extension.

AVOID BEING A "LAME" RANCHER- WATCH FOR FOOT ROT

With the recent rainfall in the area, foot rot will need to be monitored extensively. Foot rot accounts for approximately 75% of all lameness diagnosed in beef cattle. Warmer weather and wet conditions can create the perfect environment for lameness-inducing bacterial infections in cattle. Foot rot is an infection caused by bacteria present in the rumen of healthy cattle and found naturally in the soil. These types of bacteria are constantly on the foot of cattle. This bacteria begins to cause problems when the skin is broken and can enter the open wound. This becomes a more common problem in the summer months as cattle are trying to stay cool in the wet muddy areas of the pasture.

The photos provided are various examples of foot rot and courtesy of Virginia Cooperative Extension.

Photo 1: A case of foot rot in a steer showing the swelling, crack, and dead tissue between the toes.

Photo 2: Foot rot in a calf as seen from the bottom of the foot. The swelling is so severe that it pushes the toes apart.

Photo 3: Foot rot in a calf. There is swelling of the entire foot from above the hoof to above the dewclaws.

A negative side effect of foot rot is decreased weight gain. In a 3 year study performed by Brazzle (1993), affected steers gained 0.45 pounds less per day than noninfected steers. Foot rot will have a large economic impact as cattle will have a decrease in weight gain and an increase in treatment costs. With cattle prices at a record high, producers can't afford to lose cattle due to a disease that can easily be treated if diagnosed early. If cattle are diagnosed early and treatment is provided, it will aid in minimizing the negative economic impact.

The key to successfully treating foot rot is by catching it early. There are several antibiotics on the market that work well for foot rot. Any product that is not labeled for foot rot must be prescribed by a veterinarian. Prevention of foot rot is by providing 2 to 4 ounces of trace mineral a day. The two minerals that are targeted for skin integrity are zinc and copper. When purchasing mineral, be sure to check these two trace minerals if you are battling this disease on your operation. Producers will be surprised how many fewer cases will occur when adequate amounts of zinc and copper are provided.

The solution to having a successful herd health program is to be proactive, rather than reactive. Be sure to consult your local veterinarian for proper means of treatment if necessary. Both pink eye and foot rot are common diseases that can be treated effectively if diagnosed early. Save all those kids the heartache of having a "lame" ranching mom or dad, but rather be the "cool" parent that monitors their cattle closely for foot rot. If you have any additional questions please feel free to stop by, e mail (kbrockus@ksu.edu), or call 785-325-2121.

POULTRY TESTING FOR COUNTY FAIRS - CHANGES DUE TO AVIAN FLU OUTBREAK

River Valley Extension District will be changing county fair requirements for poultry testing. Previously, River Valley has invited Kansas Division of Animal Health (KDAH) and USDA personnel to conduct Avian Influenza and Pullorum testing for county fairs. However, recent outbreaks of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in numerous states have raised concerns about avian influenza in exhibition poultry. Therefore, testing policies have been changed.

In the past, testing has been conducted the day of the fair. With elevated concerns that birds may have been exposed to HPAI, we can no longer continue this practice. If a bird would test positive at the county fair, all birds on site would be considered exposed, would be placed under quarantine at the fairgrounds, and likely would have to be euthanized.

To avoid this occurrence, KDAH and USDA personnel are requiring that county fair poultry testing be conducted at least 10 days prior to the start of the fair. This will give KDAH and USDA time to confirm test results and take the appropriate actions in advance.

River Valley understands that this may be an inconvenience, and for that we apologize. However, we want to be responsible and proactive. River Valley hopes that you understand the importance of making these changes to testing schedules. With that said, the following dates have been set in conjunction with KDAH and USDA for River Valley District county fair poultry testing. It is important to note that exhibitors can attend any of the following dates and times, even if the date and time is not in your respective county.

Please contact Katelyn Brockus at the RVED - Washington office with any questions or concerns.
785-325-2121 or
kbrockus@ksu.edu.

RVED County Fairs

Poultry Testing Dates:

June 22- Concordia Fairgrounds- 10:00am-12:00pm

June 22- Belleville Fairgrounds- 4:30pm-6:30pm

June 23- Clay Center Fairgrounds- 10:00am-12:00pm

June 23- Washington Fairgrounds- 4:30pm-6:30pm

TREE CARE AFTER THE STORM

The recent storms throughout the area have left many trees with obvious damage. After a major storm passes there is an immediate need to clear away trash and debris that are creating hazards. However, when it comes to our landscape and community trees, carefully assessing damage and providing needed care are key factors in the long-term health and recovery. Rash decisions made in the wake of emotions that follow a damaging storm can result in trees being removed or more severely damaged that could have been saved. Take your time and properly assess what needs to be done.

The National Arbor Day Foundation offers some great advice for tree care following a storm.

- **If a tree is not a hazard, make sure it receives continued care.** It is typically fine to wait a few weeks or months before making a final decision about the fate of the tree.

- **Assess the tree's likelihood of survival.** A tree with less than half of its branches remaining may not be able to produce enough foliage to remain nourished in the coming seasons.

If a tree requires immediate attention, hire a qualified arborist. Arborists are especially important when a tree is leaning against wires, structures or other trees, if utility lines or structures are endangered or if a chainsaw is required.

The Arbor Day Foundation also advises doing a little homework before hiring someone to care for your trees. After a storm, it is common for people claiming to be tree specialists to show up at your door offering services. Unfortunately, many of these individuals have little to no training and are simply out to make a quick profit. Legitimate arborists rarely go door-to-door.

Here are five questions to guide you in finding qualified tree-care specialists:

- **Is the person part of an established community business?** Check for a reputable website or phone number. Online reviews may also be helpful.

- **Has the person provided evidence that they are regularly employed with the company?** Some specialists work as independent contractors and have a limited relationship with the company they claim as their employers.

- **Is the person up-to-date on certification?** Ask for current certificates of insurance for property damage, personal liability and worker's compensation. In addition, many communities require these types of businesses to have the appropriate local permits. Legitimate business owners will be willing to quickly oblige your request to see their city or county permits.

- **Is the person a member of a professional association?** While not essential, it is ideal that the individual be a part of a professional association of arborists, such as the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), the National Arborist Association (NAA) or the American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA). This membership helps insure that the individual is up-to-date on trainings and information.

- **Is the person offering a competitive price?** If possible, obtain more than one estimate to ensure that the price offered is comparable with competitors. Clarify whether the price includes removal and clean-up.

Following best practices helps determine whether your trees can survive. Here are six rules to follow:

- **Don't try to do it all yourself.** If large limbs are broken or hanging, or if high climbing or overhead chainsaw work is needed, hire a professional arborist.

- **Take safety precautions.** Look up and down. Be on the alert for downed power lines, hanging branches and broken limbs. Stay away from any downed utility lines, low-voltage telephone and cable lines. Fence wires can also become electrically charged. If a power line is involved in any way, call and inform the local power company and secure the area to prevent anyone from inadvertently contacting anything that could be electrically charged.

- **Remove any broken branches still attached to the tree.** Removing the jagged remains of smaller-sized broken limbs is a common repair that, if done properly, reduces the risk of tree decay. Smaller branches should be pruned at the point where they join larger ones. Using three cuts will prevent bark tears down the main trunk that can further damage the tree *(see figure 1)*.

- **Repair torn bark.** Carefully use a chisel or sharp knife to smooth the edges of wounds where bark has been torn away. Limit cambium (greenish inner bark) exposure, as these fragile layers contain food and water lifelines between roots and leaves *(see figure 2)*.

- **Resist the urge to over prune.** Don't worry if your tree appears unbalanced or naked. Trees heal quickly, grow new foliage and return to their natural beauty. Typically we remove 10 percent or less of the canopy in any one pruning and we advise against removing any more than one-third at any one time.

Don't top your trees. Foresters have advised for years that "topping," or cutting main branches back to stubs, makes your tree more dangerous during future storms and reduces the foliage available for nourishment and re-growth *(see figure 3)*. This procedure triggers a response mechanism in the tree that it is dying. It will quickly use any reserves it has to grow a proliferation of sprouts from any point it can. This uses up the trees reserves which makes it vulnerable to disease and insects. In addition, these new sprouts are weakly attached and will readily break in future wind, ice, or snow storms. In addition to just being ugly, topping a tree is a lose, lose situation for both the homeowner and the tree.

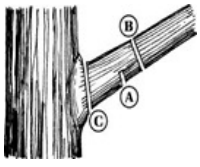


Figure 1


Figure 2


Figure 3

For more information on care of storm damaged trees contact John Forshee in the Clay Center Office.

ANTHRACNOSE SHOWING UP ON TREES

With the cool and damp weather we had in mid-May we are seeing the fungal disease Anthracnose in many susceptible landscape trees in the area. The term "Anthracnose" is a general term used to describe several different diseases caused by many species of fungi. Anthracnose diseases are favored by cool and wet conditions that are ideal for fungi development in general. Infected young leaves may wither and turn black. On older leaves, look for brown areas that follow the major veins of the leaves. In some cases, the petiole (leaf stem) is infected, which causes leaf drop. The leaf may look perfectly fine, so look for browned areas on the petiole.

In mild cases the spotting of the leaves merely detracts from the appearance of the tree. In more severe infections, the tree drops heavily infected leaves and may be completely defoliated. Healthy trees will leaf out again in a few weeks. Defoliation this early in the year generally has little effect on the overall, long-term health of the tree. This early in the season, trees have plenty of time to produce new leaves and make the energy reserves needed to survive the following winter.

Anthracnose seldom causes significant damage to trees in Kansas, so chemical controls are usually unnecessary. Fungicides must be applied before an infection occurs and helps protect a healthy leaf from becoming infected. Fungicides will not cure infected leaves, so applying fungicides now is not recommended and will do no good.

Types of trees that are affected by anthracnose include maple, sycamore, birch, elm, walnut, oak, and ash.

SHOULD I THIN EXCESS FRUIT?

Fruit trees bloomed beautifully this spring and if they managed to avoid an untimely freeze then many area trees have a heavy fruit crop this year. At first glance, this might seem to be a good thing, but too many fruit can cause problems that should be alleviated with thinning.

For example, a heavy fruit crop can interfere with fruit bud development this summer. This can result in a small to no crop next year. This problem most often appears with apples. Thus, thinning helps ensure that good crops are produced each year.

The second benefit of thinning is to promote larger fruit on this year's crop. Fruit trees have limited resources to mature fruit, so if too many fruit remain on the tree the result is that fruit size goes down.

A third problem caused by too many fruit is limb damage. The weight of a maturing crop can literally break branches. Thinning will help limit weight and preserve branches.

So, how much thinning should we do? Thinning recommendations vary with the type of tree and general guidelines for fruit spacing are as follows:

Apples and pears: 4 to 6 inches apart;
Peaches: 6 to 8 inches apart;
Plums and prunes: 4 to 5 inches apart;
Apricots: 2 to 4 inches between fruit.

These are averages and you may have several fruit clustered closer than this distance. As long as the average on the branch is close to the recommended spacing, the fruit should size well. Cherries are not thinned and can produce a full fruit load.

Thinning is done by physically removing the fruit, so always be careful, wearing appropriate eye protection and observing all ladder safety recommendations.

HAVE A LAWN, GARDEN, OR TREE ISSUE? SCHEDULE A HOME VISIT WITH THE RVED SUMMER HORTICULTURE INTERN

Summer lawn, garden, and landscape care is in full swing and homeowners often turn to the River Valley Extension Office with questions on a wide range of issues. Over the course of the spring, summer and fall, we typically address a wide range of issues all the way from fertilizer recommendations, to insect identification, to weed control, to trying to figure out just what is wrong with the lawn, garden, or tree. Many of these questions require a home visit on our part to see what is going on. Unfortunately these requests often come at times when John Forshee our director/horticulture agent or Kim Larson our crop production agent are busy with their other duties that range from developing budget, board and other meetings, wheat and crop tours and issues, county fairs, or 4-H events such as Discovery Days or camp.

To better serve the clientele of the River Valley Extension District we have hired a Horticulture Summer Intern to provide timely assistance for these requests.

Aimee Wegescheide will be in the district from May 26 through the end of September. Aimee is a graduate of the College of the Ozarks in Point Lookout, Missouri where she graduated with a degree in Conservation and Wildlife Management with minors in agriculture and field biology. She has practical experience in greenhouse management; grounds keeping; small-scale commercial vegetable production and sales; and nursery and landscape plant production, care, and sales.

Aimee will be housed in our Concordia office, but will have a regular schedule throughout the district. She will work four 10 hour days and will be in each office of the district one day each week.

Monday	Concordia Office
Tuesday	Washington Office
Wednesday	Clay Center Office
Thursday	Belleville office

If you have a lawn, garden, or tree issue you need looked at please call the respective office to schedule Aimee to visit or just call ahead to bring items into the office for Aimee.

The office contacts are:

Concordia Office	785-243-8185
Washington Office	785-325-2121
Clay Center Office	785-632-5335
Belleville Office	785-527-5084

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RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT
"2015 UP-COMING MEETINGS & EVENTS"

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION
June 3		Wheat Plot Tours	Republic County
June-Tuesday's	11:45am-1pm	"Together We Can"	Belleville– 4-H Building
June 10		Wheat Plot Tours	Clay & Washington Counties
June 22	10am-12pm	Poultry Testing 4-H/Open Class Fair Entries	Cloud County Fairgrounds
June 22	4:30-6:30pm	Poultry Testing 4-H/Open Class Fair Entries	Republic County Fairgrounds
June 23	10am-12pm	Poultry Testing 4-H/Open Class Fair Entries	Clay County Fairgrounds
June 23	4:30-6:30pm	Poultry Testing 4-H/Open Class Fair Entries	Washington County Fairgrounds
August 10		Field Day/Horticulture Research Update	Olathe
August 20-21		Dealing With Drought	K-State Alumni Center
Sept. 29		Agricultural Lenders Conference	Garden City
Sept. 30		Agricultural Lenders Conference	Manhattan

Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact John Forshee, Director, River Valley Extension District # 4, 322 Grant Avenue, Clay Center, KS 67432. Phone 785-632-5335.