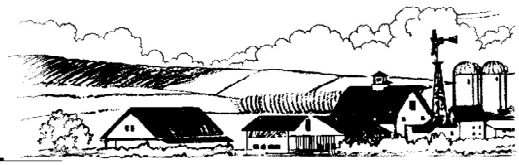
Nuttin' but News

Caddo County OSU Extension Center



AGRICULTURAL NEWSLETTER

Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service • Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources • Oklahoma State University

201 W. Okla., Anadarko, OK 73005 405/247-3376 http://countyext.okstate.edu/caddo **September 2007**

Upcoming Agricultural Events

Sept. 13 - Sept. 23	Oklahoma State Fair / Oklahoma County Fairgrounds / **Oklahoma City, OK** / For information: www.okstatefair.com
Sept. 17	Caddo County Cattlemen's Association Educational Meeting / Caddo-Kiowa Technology Center / **Fort Cobb, OK** / 6:30 PM / Speaker: Dr. Terry Bidwell
Sept. 18	Annual Caddo County Peanut Research Station Tour / Caddo Co. Peanut Research Station / **Fort Cobb,** OK / 5:00 PM
Sept. 20 - Sept. 21	Statewide Conference for Women in Agriculture / Moore Norman Tech Center, SW 134th St. and Pennsylvania Ave. / **Oklahoma City, OK** / RSVP: 580-832-3661
Sept. 23	5th Annual Southwest Stocker Conference / Great Plains Technology Center / **Lawton, OK** / 9:00 Registration / 580-255-0546

Annual Peanut Research Station Tour

This year's tour will be held on Tuesday, September 18th at the Caddo Co Peanut Research Station, south of the Fort Cobb Lake Reservoir at 5:00 PM. Attendees will have the opportunity to view variety test plots, the long-term tillage study, peanut disease studies, sclerotina blight research, and the peanut rotation study. Dr. Chad Godsey, OSU Special Crops State Specialist will be on hand to discuss some of the current peanut research projects.

"Hull blasting" will be available for growers who want to bring some samples of their peanut crop to estimate maturity and digging dates.

Peanut industry representatives will once again sponsor the meal. There is no cost to attend and anyone interested in peanut production is welcome to attend.

Destroy Volunteer Wheat and Reduce Threat of Other Wheat Pests

Tom A. Royer, Ext. Entomologist, Bob Hunger, Ext. Wheat Pathologist, and Jeff Edwards, Extension Small Grains Specialist.

The un-harvested wheat from this past growing season left a huge seed bank of potential "volunteer" wheat in many fields that could germinate every time we receive significant rain. This volunteer wheat acts like a nursery for wheat pests such as the Hessian fly, wheat curl mite and cereal aphids. Damage from these pests can be reduced by eliminating their "home" at least two weeks before the wheat crop is seeded.

Hessian fly over-summers on wheat stubble, and will increase in number on volunteer wheat when it becomes available for food. Adult flies "hatch" from their pupal cases when we get a triggering rainfall event of at least a half inch. Hessian fly development depends on temperature, but can be completed in about 21 days in warm weather. Adults will lay eggs which will hatch and develop on volunteer wheat. Those flies can complete development and infest other wheat plants that are available later in the growing season. Wheat seed that is treated with Gaucho or Cruiser will help control Hessian fly infestations in the wheat crop, but seed treatments are not 100% effective in every climatic condition, so any practice, such as destruction of volunteer wheat will reduce fly numbers and help achieve better control with an insecticide seed treatment.

Wheat curl mite is a vector of wheat streak mosaic virus. They can build on wheat plants in large numbers, and move with prevailing winds into a newly emerged wheat field. Wheat streak mosaic virus can cause heavy yield loss, especially when young plants are infected in the fall. There is no chemical control for wheat curl mite, so the primary practice of controlling volunteer wheat is the most effective

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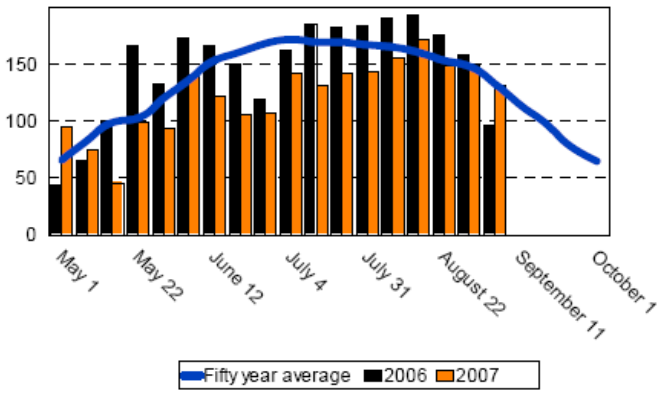
Cotton Information courtesy of the OSU Southwest Cotton Research Station in Altus, OK

A Growing Degree Day (GDD) is defined as 24 hours of time in which the temperature is one degree above the lower temperature threshold (60°F - 100°F). By using this range and the high and low temperatures for each day of the growing season, the amount of heat available to the cotton, measured in day degrees, can be calculated. The heat unit data is collected from the Mesonet Weather Network.



Destroy Volunteer Wheat –continued

way to reduce wheat curl mite, and thus, wheat streak mosaic virus.

Cereal aphids that attack wheat live on other plants during the summer until wheat is again present. Besides being a direct pest of wheat, the bird cherry oat aphid and the greenbug are vectors of barley yellow dwarf virus. Volunteer wheat can serve as a source of aphids and disease, which can be moved over into a wheat field later in the growing season.

Volunteer wheat can be controlled with tillage, or a nonselective burndown herbicide such as glyphosate. In either case, volunteer wheat must be killed at least two weeks before the crop is planted. Tillage will kill volunteer wheat almost immediately. An herbicide application will likely take a week to ten days to completely kill volunteer wheat, so the actual timing of the herbicide application needs to be at least three weeks prior to planting. Whatever the control mechanism, it is very important to kill volunteer wheat now to ensure a healthy wheat crop later in the season.

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