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## Fall Weed Control Thoughts

It seems to be a constant theme, controlling weeds is a big issue for most crops. With that said our OSU Extension Weed Specialist Mark Loux recently contributed this information to the CORN Newsletter which addresses the use of fall herbicides with a few reminders

1. When to spray? Anytime between now and Thanksgiving will work, and possibly later. We have applied into late December and still eventually controlled the weeds present at time of application. Once hard freezes start to occur, there is usually a substantial change in the condition of certain weeds, such as dandelion and thistle, that renders them less sensitive to herbicides. We discourage applications during periods of very cold weather which can occur starting about Thanksgiving, and also (obviously) when the ground is snow-covered.
2. What about all of that trash, er I mean crop residue, on the ground after harvest - won't that cause problems? We have not worried about this, and the herbicides seem to work regardless. Most dealers I have asked seem to have the same impression. On the other hand, it probably wouldn't hurt to wait a while after harvest to let the residue settle down, and the weeds to poke through. Dense crop residue usually prevents marestalk from emerging anyway.
3. Don't make it too complicated or pricey. Keep in mind that the primary goal is control of weeds that have already emerged. This is hard to accomplish with a single herbicide, but there are a number of relatively low cost two-way mixtures that easily achieve this goal. Our philosophy has generally been to start with 2,4-D, and then add another herbicide that results in more comprehensive control. Herbicides that make the most sense to add to 2,4-D based on our research: glyphosate, dicamba, metribuzin, simazine, Basis (and generic equivalents), Express (and generic equivalents), Canopy/Cloak DF or EX, or Autumn Super. These allow either corn or soybeans to be planted the following year with these exceptions: simazine - corn next year; Canopy/Cloak - soybeans next year; Basis - possibly restricted to corn based on rate and geography. We do not see the need for three-way mixtures, although a case can be made to add a low rate of glyphosate to a two-way mix to control grass or improve activity on perennials. A two-way mixture of glyphosate and Sharpen could also be used, but we believe Sharpen has more utility in marestalk control programs when used in the spring.
4. Is there an advantage to including residual herbicides? No, because almost all of them peter out over the winter and fail to provide any control of spring-emerging weeds. Want a more scientific description of the process than "peter out"? Ok - a combination of herbicide degradation and dilution and off-site movement occurs that results in inadequate concentrations of herbicide remaining in spring to control emerging weeds. The primary exception to this is chlorimuron (Canopy/Cloak), which for whatever reason does persist at high enough concentrations to provide some control in spring. Our research has repeatedly shown that applying other residual herbicides in the fall to get control in spring is a waste of money. The good news here is that any effective fall herbicide treatment with or without residual will result in a weed-free seedbed in spring, usually into April, so that the spring-applied burndown/residual treatment just has to control small weeds that emerge in the few weeks prior to planting. That is the goal.
5. It doesn't take a lot of herbicide to control weeds in fall, just the right ones. There is a tendency for some manufacturers to promote an expensive mixture of too many herbicides that just isn't necessary. Avoid most residual herbicides, and also those that mainly "speed up the kill". Consider that fall treatments should comprise not more than about 25% of your total herbicide budget for a crop, and it can be accomplished for even less than that.

## Ladies Night Out in Georgetown

On Thursday October 23 the Ladies Night Out program will be held at the Cahall John Deere located just off of US 68 in Georgetown. The program is from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The program includes several sessions in the evening and the St. Elizabeth Mammogram Van will be on-site from 10:00am –5:30pm. You can schedule your appointment through the Brown County Health Department at (937) 378-6892. The clinic schedule is as follows:

6:30-7:00— Intuitive Eating with Cluxton Consulting Twice as Nice Nutrition Advice; Kacy Cluxton -Massie MS, RD, LD. and Stacy Cluxton Michaels MS. RD. LD.

7:10-7:40— Women's Fitness: Stay healthy - a little fitness makes a big difference with Fatima Cahall P.T. at Ohio Valley Manor.

7:50-8:20— Color Up Your Season; Choosing your best color pallet with Margery Paeltz.

In addition to the clinics there will be several other organizations with items and information on display. Stop by and check it out. If you would like a copy of the flyer, send me a request at [Dugan.46@osu.edu](mailto:Dugan.46@osu.edu)

## Master Gardener and SSCC Winter Programs

The Master Gardeners in Brown Co. and Highland Co. are offering programming at Southern State Community College again this year. In the past these programs have been offered at the Fincastle campus, but that campus is no longer in operation.

This year the programs will be held in room 107 at the new Mt. Orab campus of Southern State. The programs will begin at 6:00 p.m. and usually last about an hour and a half. The programs are typically on the third Thursday of the month, but occasionally a conflict may change that. This year all are on the third Thursday except the November program.

The following are the dates and topics that are scheduled for the coming months.

October 16 – Steve Boehme – Low Maintenance Landscaping

November 13 (Not the third Thursday) – Dr. McHenry – Bees

January 15 – Eugene Bragg (OSU) – Ponds – 614-292-3823/braig.1@osu.edu

February 19 – Susan – Starting Seeds

March 19 – Faye – Invasives in the Landscape

April 16 – Julie – Going Organic – 937-392-1543

May 21 – Danielle Thompson – Pests in the Garden

These are all free and open to the public. Simply show up. Gayle Chadwell is the contact person for the Brown Co. Master Gardeners or you can call the OSU Extension Office in Georgetown at 378-6716. At SSCC Amy Werring is the contact at [awerring@sscc.edu](mailto:awerring@sscc.edu)

## Dates to Remember

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| October 16 | Dairy Producer Farm Bill Meeting in West Union at Frisch's at 9:30 a.m.<br>(Breakfast is on your own. Try to come early enough to be finished eating by 9:30.)<br>NOTE: Please call the Adams or Highland County OSU Ext. Office to pre-register. |
| October 22 | Dairy Producer Farm Bill Meeting in Hillsboro at FSA Office begins at 1:00 p.m.   |
| October 23 | Ladies Night Out at Cahall's John Deere in Georgetown starting at 6:00 p.m.   |