

# Floyd County Ag Newsletter



CRISTEN BROOKS CEA-AG/NR \* 110 S WALL ST \* FLOYDADA, TX

Issue 4

February 2016

## Pre-Season Cotton Meeting Scheduled for March 2nd

This year's Pre-Season Cotton Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 2nd at noon at the Covey BBQ Restaurant in Floydada.

This will be an informal lunch meeting where producers will be able to visit with Texas A&M AgriLife specialists and ask any questions they have be-

fore the 2016 cotton season is underway.

On hand will be Cotton Agronomist, Seth Byrd with Texas A&M AgriLife, and Weed Specialist, Dr. Peter Dotray with Texas Tech University and Texas A&M AgriLife.

Some of the topics up for discussion will be weed

control, new cotton technologies in 2016, optimal planting conditions and any other "hot topics" producers want to discuss related to cotton.

If you have any questions regarding this meeting contact the Floyd County Extension Office at (806) 983-4912

PRE-SEASON COTTON MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND AT NOON

THE COVEY RESTAURANT IN FLOYDADA

## Cotton Pre-Plant Burndown Options

By: Dr. Peter Dotray and Dr. Wayne Keeling

The following are some excerpts from "Part One" of the Cotton Weed Management on the Texas Southern High Plains. To view the full article please visit [www.floydcountyag.wordpress.com](http://www.floydcountyag.wordpress.com)

One of the initial "keys" to effective, season-long weed management is to

start clean. In conventional tillage, normal land preparation practices and herbicide incorporation, followed by a rodweeder prior to planting should provide a clean start for uniform crop emergence and allow the crop to "get a head start" on the weeds. For growers in some type of reduced or no-tillage system, the use of tillage is replaced

by burn down herbicides prior to or at planting. In this semiarid region, there are plant back restrictions to be aware of to avoid crop damage after planting. Below are a number of herbicide options labeled for pre-plant weed control.

**Roundup (glyphosate)** is a Group 9 herbicide based on the mode of action classification system of the Weed Science Society of America.

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## Cotton Pre-Plant Burndown Options cont'd.

“ONE OF THE INITIAL “KEYS” TO EFFECTIVE, SEASON-LONG WEED MANAGEMENT IS TO START CLEAN. “

**2,4-D** (a group 4 herbicide). Specific time, rate, and irrigation restrictions are essentially impossible to find on 2,4-D labels. In general, applications made prior to March 1 with any moisture accumulation (0.5 inches) should be enough to effectively dissipate the herbicide prior to planting. 2,4-D + glyphosate is an effective pre-plant burndown treatment to control winter weeds such as mustard, shepherds-purse, henbit, and horseweed, and early emerging summer annuals such as kochia and Russian thistle.

**Clarity.** Do not use as a preplant burndown in this area due to soil residual concerns to cotton.

**Gramoxone Inteon.** Gramoxone Inteon (paraquat) is a restricted use pesticide

due to acute toxicity, so appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is critical when handling, mixing, and spraying this herbicide.

**Valor, Rowel (flumioxazin, group 14 herbicide).** According to the labels, apply up to 2 ounces of product plus a tank mix partner (glyphosate) if weeds have emerged. Thirty days and 1 inch of rainfall or overhead irrigation must occur between application and planting in conventional tillage (21 days in no-till or strip-till when 1.5 to 2 ounces of product is used, or 14 days if 1 ounce is used). Include MSO or crop oil concentrate (COC).

**Firstshot (thifensulfuron + tribenuron).** According to the FirstShot label apply 0.5 to 0.8 ounce/A as a burndown treatment to

control emerged weeds prior to planting or 0.5 to 0.6 ounce/A when used in tank mixture with other herbicides like glyphosate or 2,4-D.

**Aim EC.** Aim may be used as a burndown treatment in cotton no later than one (1) day after planting. Use rates are weed species (and weed size) specific and range from 1 to 2 fluid ounces per acre. Make applications to actively growing weeds up to 4-inches in height or 3-inches in rosette diameter.

**ETX.** ETX may be used as a burndown treatment in cotton for control of several broadleaf weeds. For best results, use ETX on weeds less than 4 inches in height, or rosettes less than 3 inches in diameter.

## Regional Sorghum Meeting to Be Held in Plainview March 3rd

A regional Sorghum meeting will be held on Thursday, March 3rd in Plainview at the Ollie Liner Center.

Registration will begin at

8:00 am, and the first speaker will kickoff at 8:30 am.

Topics covered include soil and water relationships, Sugarcane Aphid,

weed management, and risk management and profitability .

For more information please contact the Floyd or Hale County Extension Offices.



### Some latent effects of the blizzard conditions that may be a concern for cow-calf producers

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-ACAN, Extension Beef  
Cattle Specialist*

*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Amarillo*

Cow-calf producers should be aware of some potential latent effects of the sustained low wind chill temperatures during the recent blizzard conditions.

1. Partial loss of ears and tail - the bitter cold may have frozen the ears and tails of cattle (and other animals). So, partial loss may occur over the next few weeks. This may present some concern to the owners but is not a threat to the longterm well-being of the cattle.

2. Udder problems - The wind and temperatures could have resulted in frozen teats and sensitive udders. The udders of cows that are nursing calves may be sensitive and affect milk consumption by the calf for a few days. If the

teats were impaired by frostbite then there may be some mastitis and/or partial loss of udder function. Watch calves and check the udders.

Cows that will be calving later this year could also have been affected however the effects may not be apparent until calving time and lactation. Again observe the calves and the udders after calving.

3. Bulls - It is recommended that bulls undergo a full Breeding Soundness Examination (BSE) well in advance the time they are expected to service cows. Bulls that are with fall-calving cows now should be checked immediately. The extreme temperatures and frozen surfaces could have impaired the prepuce and penis of the bulls as well as the scrotum and testicular function. A BSE will not only check for damage to the organs but also evaluate semen production and quality.

4. Fall calving cows that are with the bulls currently may have delayed pregnancy. The extreme cold may have caused the cows to go into anestrus. Estrus activity will return to normal in a week to two weeks barring any other insults. It is the producer's decision but extending the season a couple of weeks might be a consideration.

5. Continue to monitor cow body condition. The extreme cold during the blizzard and the lack of significant warm-up since was a tax on body energy reserves. It may be necessary to increase supplemental feed for the remainder of the pregnancy period to offset the loss in body condition. And, winter is not over yet.

The following is a link to help with body condition scoring: <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2012/04/beef-bc-scoring.pdf>



“COWS THAT WILL BE CALVING LATER THIS YEAR COULD ALSO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED HOWEVER THE EFFECTS MAY NOT BE APPARENT UNTIL CALVING TIME AND LACTATION. “

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**[floyd-tx.tamu.edu](http://floyd-tx.tamu.edu)**

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## **Meeting Invites/Updates Via Text and Email**

If you would like to receive meeting announcements, updates and reminders please contact the Floyd County Extension Office with your email address as well as a cell phone number. We will be sure to send out all events through multiple platforms, however, we have found that text messages are sometimes the quickest and simplest way to inform local area producers of what meetings are coming up in Extension. Our office phone # is (806) 983-4912, email at [Floyd-tx@tamu.edu](mailto:Floyd-tx@tamu.edu), OR send a text message to Cristen Brooks' cell phone at (806) 317-2877 that you would like to enroll in meeting reminders.

## **New Floyd County Agriculture Blog**

To stay up to date on the latest agriculture information from the Floyd County Extension Office please book mark the new blog web site!

[www.floydcountyag.wordpress.com](http://www.floydcountyag.wordpress.com)