



December 27, 2013

EXTENSION UPDATE FOR THE NEW YEAR

New Year resolutions are a plenty, but if you are in the business to grow food, fuel and fiber, top producers make a plan to attend at least 3-5 local, regional or national educational programs. There are always benefits that can be gained by doing this.

UNL Extension has the Crop Clinics series starting the first part of January. The one in York will be on January 15th and Beatrice will be held on January 16th. The cost for the Crop Clinics is \$60.00 if you enroll ahead on line at: <http://cpc.unl.edu/> or \$75.00 the day of the program.

These Crop Production Clinics will also be a way to renew your license in any of the following Commercial Pesticide categories: Ag Plant (01), Regulatory (REG) or Demonstration/Research (D/R). If you are a Private Pesticide Applicator, you can renew your license too.

On Tuesday, January 28th, as part of the Farmers and Ranchers College series in Fillmore County, attend the “Partners In Progress – Beef Seminar” at the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center near Clay Center from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., registration at 9:30 a.m. Thanks to sponsorship by Agribusiness, the programs are provided at no cost to the public but pre-registration is appreciated for a meal count by calling the Fillmore County Extension Office, phone (402) 759-3712.

I have arranged for group travel to the Regional No-till on the Plains Conference in January in Salina, KS. The No-till on the Plains Winter Conference has evolved into a highly respected no-till farming conference and trade show of its type held at the Bicentennial Center in Salina. This year the dates are January 28-29, 2014. To register online go to www.notill.org and make sure and click on the link for the \$50.00 off for the first 100 Nebraska enrollees due to a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust. Give the Saline County Extension office a call for travel and hotel arrangements at (402) 821-2151. The deadline for the pre-registration conference price is January 10th.

On the UNL website, pested.unl.edu, there is information on all the private applicator trainings in our area in 2014 but also a new smart phone or tablet application available for free download. It is called PeRK or the Pesticide Record Keeping App. This free app will be a useful tool for anyone that applies any type of pesticides and uses mobile devices. Examples are smartphones or tablets (Android or Apple). Producers that apply pesticides (RUPs) are required by law to keep their pesticide application records for three years. It is just another way technology is making things easier and replacing the paper and pen. A lot of effort went into the new app so check it out to see if it has merit for your operation.

The Wilber Crop Clinic is set for Friday, February 14, 2014 at Sokol Hall in Wilber. I will be teaching chemigation certification training on Friday, March 7th at 9:00 a.m. at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, Wilber. Other chemigation certification programs will be taught by Gary Zoubek from York and he will be conducting trainings on February 19th and March 20th in Grand Island at College Park and on March 21st in York at the 4-H Building.



These sessions will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Nebraska's irrigated acreage continues to grow and is a lifeblood of many rural communities across this state. It is now estimated we have 9.1 million acres covered by irrigation. Go to cropwatch.unl.edu to see the county by county map and other agricultural information in our one stop portal.

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