



# Nemaha County Ag Line

January 2021  
Volume 17 Issue 1



By: Gary Lesoing, Nemaha County Extension Educator

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |               |   |             |   |
|---------------|---|-------------|---|
| January 12    | Private Pesticide Applicator Training<br>9:00 a.m.<br>Cass County Extension Office<br>Weeping Water, NE   | February 18 | Private Pesticide Applicator Training<br>9:00 a.m.<br>Cass County Extension Office<br>Weeping Water, NE     |
| January 14    | Crop Production Clinic<br>Otoe County Fair Center<br>Syracuse, NE   | February 18 | Private Pesticide Applicator Training<br>1:00 p.m.<br>Cass County Extension Office<br>Weeping Water, NE     |
| January 19-20 | Northwest Missouri CCA Conference<br>Virtual  | February 23 | Private Pesticide Applicator Training<br>6:00 p.m.<br>Richardson County Ag Building<br>Humboldt, NE         |
| January 21-23 | Practical Farmer of Iowa<br>Virtual Conference  | February 23 | Midwest Cover Crop Annual Meeting<br>Virtual  |
| January 26    | Private Pesticide Applicator Training<br>9:00 a.m.<br>Union Bank & Trust<br>Pawnee City, NE               | February 25 | 2020 On-Farm Research Update<br>4-H Building—Nemaha Co Fairgrounds<br>Auburn, NE                            |
| January 27    | Nebraska Crop Management Conference<br>Kimmel Ag Expo Center<br>Syracuse, NE                              | February 26 | 2020 On-Farm Research Update<br>Kimmel Education & Research Building<br>Kimmel Orchard<br>Nebraska City, NE |
| January 28    | Private Pesticide Applicator Training<br>1:30 p.m.<br>4-H Building—Nemaha Co Fairgrounds<br>Auburn, NE    | March 2     | Chemigation Training<br>4-H Building—Johnson Co Fairgrounds<br>Tecumseh, NE                                 |
| February 2    | Private Pesticide Applicator Training<br>1:00 p.m.<br>Seid's Event Center<br>Falls City, NE               |             |   |
| February 4    | Private Pesticide Applicator Training<br>1:30 p.m.<br>4-H Building—Johnson Co Fairgrounds<br>Tecumseh, NE |             |   |
| February 9    | Private Pesticide Applicator Training<br>9:00 a.m.<br>Kimmel Ag Expo Center<br>Syracuse, NE               |             |   |
| February 9    | Private Pesticide Applicator Training<br>1:00 p.m.<br>Kimmel Ag Expo Center<br>Syracuse, NE               |             |   |
| February 11   | Nebraska Cover Crop & Soil Health<br>Conference<br>Kimmel Ag Expo Center<br>Syracuse, NE                  |             |   |
| February 12   | Great Plains Growers<br>Virtual Conference  |             |   |

## PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAININGS SET FOR SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA IN 2021

Private Pesticide Applicator Training Sessions have been scheduled in Nemaha, Johnson, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson and Cass Counties for 2021 to provide an opportunity for farmers to renew their license or for initial certification. Sessions are listed on this newsletter's calendar and have been scheduled at different locations in each county from January through February 2021. These training sessions will serve as a method for farmers to become informed about recent advances in agronomy. We want producers to be made aware of some of the advances in crop production and some of the things

we have observed in agronomy in southeast Nebraska this past year. The program will focus on current and important agronomic issues and potential challenges for the 2021 growing season and also address safety, laws and regulations for Private Pesticide Applicators. Topics that will be discussed include: Spray Drift, Dicamba application regulations and concerns and herbicide resistance in weeds. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in crops, invasive weeds, updates on soybean studies, insect and disease issues in soybeans, disease concerns and control in corn, insect issues in corn, and other potential issues in cropping systems will be addressed. For initial certification or recertification, farmers must attend the complete three-hour program. To register for a Private Pesticide Applicators Training in the six county region, call the number of the Extension office where the training will be held. Due to social distancing requirement, attendance may be limited so pre-registration is required this year. There are 10 trainings scheduled in this six county area in 2021. These training sessions are all subject to changes in the Directive Health Measures, rules and regulations of the local health department and policy of Nebraska Extension. If you have other questions feel free to contact Gary Lesoing, Extension Educator, at the Nemaha County Extension Office at (402) 274-4755. The Cost: \$50/person (payable at the conclusion of the session).

**CROP PRODUCTION CLINICS  
SCHEDULED IN JANUARY ON-LINE  
WITH IN-PERSON OPTIONS  
AVAILABLE AT DIFFERENT  
LOCATIONS ACROSS NEBRASKA**

Updates on university research on crop production, soil and water management, agribusiness management, forage, ag technology, & cover crops will be featured at the 2021 Crop Production Clinics. **Pesticide applicator recertification training** will also be available on-line or at the in-person options at these clinics. Training will be provided on disease, weed and insect management. Sessions on pesticide and environmental safety and application technology will also be held. CCAs will also be available for those participating.

Individual clinics will be customized to address topics specific to the West, Central, or Eastern part of the state, allowing growers to get re-

search-based information on the issues they face locally. For example, the eastern Nebraska programs will include information on Impacts of annual precipitation on optimizing corn yield with tillage and nitrogen management practices: suggestions for adaptations presented by Javed Iqbal, Assistant Professor in Agronomy & Horticulture; BMPS of Winter Wheat Production in Eastern NE presented by Nathan Mueller, Extension Educator; Tuning Up the Pivot for Dry Years by Steve Melvin, Extension Educator; Cropland Cash Rental Rates and Custom Operations in Nebraska for 2021 presented by Jim Jansen, Extension Educator; and Cover Crop Nutrient Uptake and Decomposition presented by Katja Koehler-Cole, Research Assistant Professor. "We strive to provide practical, profitable, environmentally sound, high-impact training for agricultural professionals and producers," said Chris Proctor, weed management extension educator and clinic coordinator. Complete agendas and online registration virtually or for the in-person sites will be available at : <https://agronomy.unl.edu/cpc>.

**NORTHWEST MISSOURI  
CCA CONFERENCE  
WILL BE VIRTUAL IN 2021**

In 2021 the Northwest Missouri CCA Conference will be held virtually on January 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. This is an annual conference usually held in St. Joseph, MO. The Certified Crop Advisors Workshop will be offering 16 hours of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) which will help you meet the CEU requirements for continued certification. CEUs will be offered in the following areas: Nutrient Management, Soil and Water, Crop Management, Pest Management. Instructors for the workshop will be discussing research and applications of that research to real world situations. The program will be beneficial to you as you work with clientele. Cost: \$100 (a late fee of \$25 will be applied after Jan. 13th). Contact the Nodaway County Extension Center at 660-582-8101 with any questions. This is an excellent conference with a number of speakers from Nebraska presenting. Justin Mc Mecham, Assistant Professor at UNL will discuss the Soybean Gall Midge and Crop Staging. Tamra Jackson Ziemis, Extension Specialist in Plant Pathology at UNL will discuss corn and soybean disease issues in 2020. Katja Koehler-Cole, Research Assistant Professor at UNL, and Andrea Basche, Assistant Professor in the Department of Agronomy & Horticulture, will dis-

cuss soil health.

There will be a number of presentations focusing on topics, such as: cover crop seeding methods, cover crop termination & impact on soil health and grain yield, corn and soybean prices for 2021, industrial hemp production plus a number of other topics. To register on-line go to: <https://web.cvent.com/event/84a6ff8d-359b-416d-8c09-f050f1bf06e9/regProcessStep1>.

## **NEBRASKA CROP MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>**

The Nebraska Crop Management Conference will offer unique sessions with up-to-date information for successful crop management. Experts from Nebraska and the U.S. will provide research-based information in crop production, soil and water management, pest management, agricultural economics and marketing, climate analysis, and agricultural technology. The conference provides opportunity to interact with farmers and ag professionals from across Nebraska as well as commercial and private pesticide license recertification, and CCA credits. The conference will be held virtually with some options to view the conference at various sites across the state. The cost of the conference will be \$80.00 and information about the conference including the agenda and registration is available at: <https://agronomy.unl.edu/NCMC>. There will be presentations on precision agriculture, nutrient management and water quality, precision conservation and crop management, soil health, cover crops and water quality.

## **NEBRASKA COVER CROP & SOIL HEALTH CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>**

The 2021 Nebraska Cover Crop & Soil Health Conference will be held virtually on February 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be sites across the state where participants can watch the program as well, if Directed Health Measures and University policies permit. The program will start with registration at 12:30. There is

no cost for the conference, but people must pre-register. Watch for future information on Crop-Watch, <https://cropwatch.unl.edu/> and Extension in Nemaha County, <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/nemaha/> for the link for registration to the conference.

The first presentation is by Rebecca Clay, Strategic Initiatives Agronomy Coordinator at Practical Farmers of Iowa. She will summarize the economics of cover crops from several projects with farmers this organization has been working with the past few years. The second presentation is by one of these farmers, Chad Bell, a livestock and corn/soybean farmer from Illinois. He will explain “experiences and economics using cereal rye as a cover crop.” Following a short break, Andrea Basche, Assistant Professor of Agronomy & Horticulture will speak on the research she has conducted. Her presentation is “Using Aerial Imagery to Determine Cover Crop Impacts on Cash Crop Growth and Development.” Then we have USDA Soil Scientist, Kristen Veum, from the University of Missouri discussing, “Soil Sensing and Soil Health”.

Our Keynote address is by Dr. Jerry Hatfield, Retired Director, National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment. The title of his presentation is “Pathway toward a Healthy and Resilient Soil to Achieve Optimum Productivity and Environmental Quality: Cover Crops are Key!” To finish up the day we have Ken Herz, a farmer from south central Nebraska who will discuss how he uses cover crops as a major forage source in his farming operation and discuss results of a long-term study on his farm. Finally we will end the day with a panel of all the speakers and a question and answer session with them followed by an evaluation of the conference.

## **EMERGING AND POTENTIAL CORN AND SOYBEAN PESTS FOR 2021**

In 2020 there were a number of diseases and insects causing issues across Nebraska in corn and soybeans. There are also other pests in states or counties near us that may cause problems in 2021. One pest to be aware of is the soybean gall midge. This pest is increasing in Nebraska, primarily in eastern Nebraska. Since 2018 it has caused some significant yield losses in some fields. This pest starts along the edges of fields and migrates inward. Farmers primarily in Saunders, Lancaster,



tified in Nebraska yet. Also bacterial leaf streak has been identified in most counties in southeast Nebraska. It is important to distinguish it between gray leaf spot, because as a bacteria, a fungicide will not control it. One thing with bacterial leaf streak, it will show up much earlier in the growing season than gray leaf spot. Last year Southern corn leaf rust was an issue in several counties in southeastern Nebraska. For all these diseases it is important to correctly identify them and know if and when to treat for an economic return on your investment. For more information on diseases go to: <https://cropwatch.unl.edu/2020/managing-diseases-starts-now-seed-selection#:~:text=Table%201%3A%20Seed%20companies%20in%20Nebraska%20provide%20ratings,Southern%20stem%20canker%20%2010%20more%20rows%20>

Throughout the growing season, keep up with <https://cropwatch.unl.edu/> for latest cropping information. If you have a field you want me to look at or take a sample to the Crop Diagnostic Lab to identify a disease or pest, feel free to contact me.

**NEBRASKA ON-FARM  
RESEARCH UPDATE MEETING  
SCHEDULED FOR  
FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> & 26<sup>TH</sup>**

Farm operators and agronomists from across the state will obtain valuable crop production-related information from on-farm research projects conducted on Nebraska farms by Nebraska farmers in partnership with University of Nebraska faculty. These research projects cover products, practices, and new technologies that impact farm productivity and profitability.

The Nebraska On-Farm Research Network is a statewide, on-farm research program that addresses critical farmer production, profitability and natural resources questions. Growers take an active role in the on-farm research project sponsored by Nebraska Extension in partnership with the Nebraska Corn Growers Association, the Nebraska Corn Board, the Nebraska Soybean Checkoff, and the Nebraska Dry Bean Commission.

The February programs will provide an opportunity to hear growers who conducted on-farm research share their results from the 2020 growing season. Field length replicated treatment comparisons were completed in growers' fields, using their

equipment. On February 25<sup>th</sup> in-person meetings will be held at Auburn, Beatrice, and Wahoo in southeast Nebraska. On February 26<sup>th</sup> in-person meetings in southeast Nebraska will be held in Nebraska City, Seward and Wilbur. Programs start with 8:30 a.m. CST/7:30 a.m. MST check in and conclude at 12:30 p.m. CST/11:30 MST. Visit <https://go.unl.edu/2021onfarmresearch> for registration, details and program updates.

Pre-registration is required. Walk-in registration will not be permitted. Early registration is encouraged due to capacity limitations at each location. Once a location is full, it will no longer be listed as a registration option. Please pre-register for in-person training at least 2 days in advance for planning purposes.

In-person meetings will only be held if local and UNL directed health measures allow and if weather conditions are suitable for travel. If a meeting is cancelled, registered participants will be notified via email, phone, or text message.

Facial coverings/masks guidelines may vary based on local directed health measures. For information about the COVID-related health measures that will be in place at each meeting, please contact the local site host. Contact information available on the website.

For more information and general inquires about Nebraska On-Farm Research Network, contact Laura Thompson, Nebraska On-Farm Research Network & Ag Technology Extension Educator at [onfarm@unl.edu](mailto:onfarm@unl.edu) or 402-245-2224.

<https://cropwatch.unl.edu/on-farm-research>

**GREAT PLAINS  
GROWERS CONFERENCE  
SCHEDULED VIRTUALLY  
FOR FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> -13<sup>TH</sup>**

Great Plains Growers Conference (GPGC) is a great local conference for commercial fruit and vegetable producers from Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and other midwest states providing research-based information, from both vegetable research specialists and local growers, to help your farms grow and thrive.

Due to anticipated ongoing COVID issues, the 2021 conference will be virtual! Participate on your computer from the comfort of home.

Track topics include: Marketing in the New

Normalcy, Tree Fruits, Small Fruits, Vegetable Production, Vegetable Integrated Pest Management, Controlled Environment Production, and North-Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Farmer Forum. You can register for this conference on-line for \$30 for one day or \$50 for both days at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-great-plains-growers-conference-registration-128164416219>.



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