CROP PRODUCTION CLINICS TO COVER RESEARCH AND PEST RESISTANCE

Continued development of herbicide resistance in weeds with our crops, including samples in our area taken this summer, will be one of many cutting edge topics at the 2013 UNL Crop Production Clinics. How can you delay pest resistance and keep as many pest management options in your toolbox as possible? Speakers also will address adjustments relative to the extended drought. In Southeast Nebraska, attend a UNL Crop Clinic on Tuesday, January 8th, Adam's County Fairgrounds, Hastings; Wednesday, January 16th, City Auditorium, York; Thursday, January 17th, Armed Forces Reserve Center, Beatrice; or Thursday, January 24th, Midland University Event Center, Fremont. All sessions are from 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. More information and pre-registration information is available at cpc.unl.edu. Applicators can renew commercial and private applicator licenses at these meetings.

NATIONAL NO-TILL CONFERENCE TRAVEL GROUP

Attending a regional or national conference can be a good experience for area farmers to meet new people, networking and getting new ideas or tips in agriculture. This year I am leading a group to a National No-Tillage Conference in Indianapolis, January 9 to 12, 2013. Discounts apply if 10 or more of us travel together. I received a couple more registrants this past week. The 2013 program features 18 general-session speakers and 25 classrooms and some outstanding headline speakers. To learn more go to www.no-tillfarmer.com. To register and to travel with our Southeast Nebraska group, call our office at 402-821-2151.

PRIVATE APPLICATOR TRAINING UPDATE

Need to obtain a private pesticide applicator license this winter? Letters in Saline County will go out after Christmas for those with licenses expiring in 2013. This is not a large year for renewals but there are 139 in Lancaster, 64 in Saline, 104 in Gage and 76 applicators in Jefferson County who will consider renewal. The pesticide meetings are for initial or recertification to be able to purchase and/or apply any restricted use pesticide.

Paul Hay in Gage County and I team up to deliver the programs next year in a four-county area. Attending the entire three-hour meeting is required and there is no test.

There are four other options to obtain a private pesticide license in 2013 that a few people will use. They include the following:

1) Attend a Nebraska Crop Production Clinic and sit in on the required sessions.
2) Self-study guide - pick up at the Extension office and return quiz answers with a passing grade ($60.00).
3) Purchase on-line private pesticide certification DVD and passing grade with online quizzes ($60.00 plus shipping).
4) Call the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at 877-800-4080 and pass a written exam cold turkey. I would say 99.9% of the applicators in our area will not choose this option!
The planned agronomy and private applicator training meetings in the four-county areas are as follows:

Saline County:
• Tuesday, January 22, 2013, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, St. Joseph Parish Hall, Friend.
• Thursday, January 24, 2013, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM, Saline County Extension Office, Wilber.

Gage County:
• Wednesday, January 23, 2013, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, Community Center, Cortland.
• Friday, January 25, 2013, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, Gage County Extension Office, Beatrice.
• Tuesday, January 29, 2013, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM, Gage County Extension Office, Beatrice.

Jefferson County:
• Thursday, January 24, 2013, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, 4-H Building, Fairbury.
• Monday, January 28, 2013, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM, 4-H Building, Fairbury.

Lancaster County:
• Wednesday, January 16, 2013, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM, Lancaster County Extension Office, Lincoln.
• Saturday, January 26, 2013, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM, Lancaster County Extension Office, Lincoln.
• Thursday, February 21, 2013, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM, Lancaster County Extension Office, Lincoln.

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