

March 29, 2019

SPECIAL ON OUR BEST PUBLICATION

Two years ago I did a special price on our UNL Guide for Weed, Disease and Insect Management in Nebraska, or EC130, after our private applicator trainings. Beginning this week at the Saline County Extension Office, 306 West 3rd Street in Wilber, I will do the same special on our best guide Nebraska Extension has to offer. I have a small, oversupply of our best publication. It's on sale now at a very low price of \$5.00 (tax included). Normal price at our office is \$15.00 (tax included) or ordering from UNL Marketplace the guide is \$15.00 plus tax and shipping or \$26.56 total. They don't do any good collecting dust at my office. With no question, this 342 page spiral bound guide is our best publication we have to offer area farmers and acreage owners.

This guide offers valuable information on pest management for all of Nebraska's major crops, pasture, range, turf and aquatic environments. It's written by UNL specialists who encourage the use of Integrated Pest Management (use multiple strategies to control pests) based on chemical, cultural, mechanical and biological methods of pest control.

If you do not do any of your own spraying the guide is very valuable. When you get a recommendation from your agronomist/dealer or commercial applicator, write the herbicide brand names down and then go to the herbicide guide and document modes of action. This helps you maintain greater diversity in herbicide use and reminds you to rotate among herbicides with different sites of action to delay the development of herbicide resistance on your farm.

Next go to the pages that show how effective that herbicide combination is on specific weeds. Maybe the combination being chosen is not the right fit for a specific field. Palmer amaranth ratings have been added now to the guide. Look at the control ratings by weed species on a 1 to 10 scale for the crops you raise. There are new spray nozzles charts that show the user recommendations for sprayer tips and pressures and speeds to achieve various droplet sizes. Weed control in non-crop areas is also a key section in the guide with recommendations for aquatic, CRP, ditches and roadsides, pasture and range, total vegetation control, trees and shrubs and turfgrasses. There is a section devoted to Noxious Weeds in Nebraska and how to control troublesome weeds and woody plants.

Pollinators are important for food production and healthy ecosystems. A decline in their population affects us all. New on page 318 is a verified bee toxicity table when there are nearby insecticide applications. Some are highly toxic and some can be practically non-toxic. Always contact bee hive owners that are near your field before any insecticide application. Go to <http://driftwatch.org/map> to see where there are sensitive areas and who the owners are such as bees, grapes, and certified organic fields.



Last year Phomopsis disease was an issue on soybean seed quality at harvest time throughout the Midwest and the fungus can carry over in the seed lots that we plant. Most fungicide seed treatments, except metalaxyl/mefenoxam and Fluopyram, are ^{not} effective (page 255). What seed treatment are you using this year? Does the fungicide seed treatment you use have some effectiveness on Phytophthora root rot if our weather remains cool and wet and your field has had a disease history? Check out the new fungicide efficacy chart with third party University research ratings. Treating Phomopsis infected seed lots may increase germination and improve plant establishment. Check your seed germination lot percentages this year and plan accordingly. I will accept phone calls to hold a copy for you if you wish. Call 402-821-2151 or email lou.hajek@unl.edu.

Randy Pryor, Extension Educator

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Saline County · 306 West 3rd Street, Wilber, NE 68465

Phone (402) 821-2151 · Fax (402) 821-3398 · e-mail: randy.pryor@unl.edu