

In this Newsletter

- Pg 1** Stored grain management
Seed corn costs
- Pg 2** Events calendar
Corn silage dry down day
Calf management seminar
- Pg 3** Ag grants workshop
Dairy MPP
- Pg 4** Corn fungicide needs
- Pg 5** Beef cow-calf meeting
Stored grain/insects
- Pg 6** Seed corn costs (cont.)
- Pg 7** Dairy Expansion support
WI farm resources/DCRC
Soybean yield contest
- Pg 8** Late alfalfa cutting timing
- Pg 9** Winter wheat establishment
Stored grain/molds
- Pg 10** Master Gardener
Coulee Graziers

CONTACT US

Jackson County UW-Extension Staff

Trisha Wagner
Agriculture Agent
trisha.wagner@ces.uwex.edu

Luane Meyer
Family Living Agent
Department Head
lane.meyer@ces.uwex.edu

Monica Lobenstein
4-H /Youth Development Agent
monica.lobenstein@ces.uwex.edu

Susanne Hefty
Support Staff
Susanne.hefty@ces.uwex.edu

April Duvall
WI Nutrition Education Coordinator
April.Duvall@ces.uwex.edu

For more information about programs in
this newsletter, call the UW-Extension
office: 715-284-4257 or visit :

<http://jackson.uwex.edu/>

[www.facebook.com/Jackson-County-UW-
Extension-Agriculture](http://www.facebook.com/Jackson-County-UW-Extension-Agriculture)

Weather-related cancellations will be
announced on WWIS Radio 99.7

UW Extension

Jackson County

Fall 2015 Agriculture Newsletter

Thursday August 27, 2015

Greetings, many of you will soon begin harvesting the 2015 crop ~ corn silage, soybeans, corn grain, and many of you may plan to take an additional alfalfa cutting (see page 8 for a reading on timing late alfalfa cuttings). Across the upper Midwest, crops were planted early and yields are predicted to surpass 2014. Although harvest is not complete, downward pressure on crop prices, is expected to continue, and with a weaker export market for dairy products, farm balance sheets are not expected to outperform recent years. Many farms will take a closer look at input costs and re-evaluate the necessity of various purchases. This newsletter intends to bring a few examples of UW-Extension's non-biased, research based information with regard to various agricultural inputs, to help you make informed decisions going into 2016. *All the best in the fields ~ Trisha*

Stored grain management considerations ...

In recent years, the increase in commodity crop prices have allowed many Wisconsin farmers to invest in grain equipment including storage bins and dryers. For some, this was an opportunity to upgrade while others were making first-time purchases. Today's prices and market outlook have warranted periods of longer storage, hence there remains quite a bit of grain in on-farm storage going into 2016. This newsletter covers important considerations for maintaining high quality grain in storage. Any damage done by stored grain fungi (storage molds) or insects is the end product of storage conditions and responsibility for it lies with those who store the grain.

Normal processes within the grain itself do not cause damage during storage. Debris, mostly dirt and chaff, is a reservoir for storage fungi, stored grain insects, and moisture. Mechanically damaged and broken kernels are most prone to invasion by these fungi, which may lower the market grade, reduce the feeding value, and can also produce toxins that may be a health hazard for man and animals.

Make sure you are following recommended protocols for stored grain management. There are a number of preventative measures to be taken before binning, during, and after binning to ensure grain will be free of insect infestations and storage molds. Many of these recommendations should be done two to three weeks before harvest begins. The following recommendations cover the basics required to prevent insect infestations (*page 5*) and storage molds (*page 9*).

Getting a handle on corn seed costs ...

This time of year, growers are starting to get pressure to buy seed... It is difficult to predict next year's performance of hybrids based upon last year's results. Yet as a manager it is an important decision because the average difference between the top and bottom hybrid in a trial is 70 bu/A. But, if we plant the top and bottom hybrids the following year, the average yield difference will be 22 bu/A, with the top-hybrid at best 13 bu/A better than the average of the trial, and the bottom hybrid 9 bushels below average (Lauer 1997).

Understanding what the true value of these hybrids mean to farm profitability is challenging. Both expected yield gains and plant density must be examined before selecting and buying hybrid corn seed. *Continued on page 6...*



Mark Your Calendar

Corn Silage Dry Down Day
Tuesday Sept. 1st

Calf Management Seminar
Thursday Sept. 10th

Coulee Grazier Pasture Walk
Thursday Sept. 17th

Agriculture Grants workshop
Thursday Sept. 17th

Master Gardener registration
Friday Sept. 18th

UWEX Beef cow-calf meeting
Monday Sept. 28th

World Dairy Expo Sept. 29th- Oct. 3rd

Dairy MPP info meeting Sept. 4th
sign-up deadline Sept. 30th

Soybean yield contest Oct. 15th

Coulee Grazier Pasture walk Oct. 15th



Tuesday, September 1st 2015

Corn Silage Dry Down Day

Hixton 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Humbird 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

drop off at BRF country store by 12:00 p.m.



Field sampling procedure:

- Sample 5+ plants avoiding field edges.
- Separate uneven fields into representative groups i.e. knolls and swales.
- Chop on-farm or at Co-op with mini-Claas.

Table 1. Kernel milk stage "Triggers" for timing silage harvest

Silo Structure	Ideal Moisture Content Kernel Milk Stage "Trigger"	
	%	%
Horizontal bunker	70 to 65	80
Bag	70 to 60	80
Upright concrete stave	65 to 60	60
Upright oxygen limiting	50 to 60	40

"Trigger": kernel milk stage to begin checking silage moisture.



Start Them Right... Raise Them Right

Calf Management Seminar

Thursday, September 10, 2015

Registration: 9:30 am Meeting: 10 am to 3 pm

Clarion Hotel and Conference Center

2703 Craig Road, Eau Claire, WI

UW-Extension Dairy Team will be hosting "Start Them Right...Raise Them Right" Calf Management Seminar to help producers enhance their calf management program. The program is open to any individuals with interest regarding calf management and dairy farms, featuring the following speakers and topics:

- UW School of Veterinary Medicine Theresa Ollivett, DVM on "*Thoracic Ultrasound and Bovine Respiratory Disease*". Included in the meeting will be interactive sessions on manual and ultrasound calf respiratory scoring, calf sanitation audits and farm tours.
- UW-Extension Animal Well-being Specialist Amy Stanton on "*Management of Group Housing*"
- UW-Extension Oconto County Agriculture Agent Sarah Mills-Lloyd, DVM, on "*Your Mother Was Right! Cleanliness is Important to Calves*"
- Vitaplus Dairy Youngstock Technical Specialist Noah Litherland on "*Five Steps Towards a Proactive Approach to Achieving Greater Transition Calf Success*"
- Lightning Round Sessions with Dr. Larry Bauman, UWRF discussing "Veterinary Feeding Directive (VFD)" and Dr. Matt Akins, PhD, Marshfield Ag Research Station discussing "*Updated ICPA Heifer Raising Costs*"

The fee for the program is \$35 per person which includes materials and lunch - deadline is September 1 (\$40 after 9/1). For more information or to register please contact UW-Extension Eau Claire at 715.839.471 2 or UW-Extension Eau Claire County Agriculture Agent [Mark Hagedorn](mailto:mark.hagedorn.ces.uwex.edu), mark.hagedorn.ces.uwex.edu

Successfully Applying to Agricultural Grant Programs for Farmers & Food Entrepreneurs

Thursday, September 17th - CLUB 95, HIXTON

Join us for a workshop designed to help you identify which grants or other financial options might be right for you. This workshop will discuss ways to plan your project and strengthen your application.

Specific grant programs to be covered include:

- **USDA's Value Added Producer Grant (VAPG)** program provides planning and working capital funds to farmers and farmer-based enterprises to develop and implement value-added ventures.
- **USDA's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)** grant program funds research, marketing and demonstration projects.
- **USDA's Specialty Crop Block Grant (SCBG)** program funds endeavors that enhance the competitiveness of Wisconsin Specialty Crops
- **Wisconsin DATCP's Buy Local, Buy Wisconsin (BLBW)** grant program funds projects that increase the demand for and supply of locally produced foods in Wisconsin.

This workshop is designed to give farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs information, tools, and hands-on training to strengthen grant and loan applications. This workshop will help you create a competitive application and get the financial resources you need to fuel your business.

Program schedule: Registration 9 a.m. - Introductions 9:30 - Conclusion 4 p.m.

REGISTRATION FEE OF \$15 WILL COVER THE COST OF LUNCH AND MATERIALS

FOR QUESTIONS, FULL AGENDA, OR TO REGISTER CONTACT: JACKSON COUNTY UW-EXTENSION.



2016 Dairy Margin Protection Program ~ informational webinar Sept. 4th enrollment deadline – September 30th

Dairy farmers can now enroll in the Margin Protection Program (MPP) for 2016 coverage. The voluntary program, provides financial assistance to participating dairy operations when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below the coverage level selected by the farmer. Enrollment ends on September 30, for coverage in 2016.

Farmers can use an online tool to help decide which level of coverage will provide them with the strongest safety net under a variety of conditions. The web tool at: www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool, allows dairy farmers to quickly and easily calculate their coverage needs based on price projections.

Dairy Margin Protection Program Informational meeting (webinar),

Friday September 4th 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. @ Jackson County UW-Extension office

The webinar meeting will discuss: 2016 milk and feed market outlook, determining farm financial situation, and demo new farm-stress test features on MPP decision tool

For more information, visit FSA online at www.fsa.usda.gov/dairy or stop by a local FSA office to learn more about the Dairy MPP. Dates and locations of additional upcoming Dairy MPP meetings throughout the state can be found at: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/dairy/calendar/>

Evaluation of corn fungicide needs... WCM newsletter summary -Damon Smith UW-Extension plant pathologist

This year many farmers were asking if a fungicide should be sprayed on corn and if so what product and timing....

In Wisconsin it is important to scout closely for northern corn leaf blight (NCLB), which did show up in relatively high levels in the Midwest and in the lower canopy in corn fields in southern Wisconsin. NCLB can be easily confused with Goss's wilt, which was found on a farm in southern Wisconsin in July. In addition to NCLB, scouting has also revealed a second foliar disease, eyespot. NCLB is favored by cool, wet, rainy weather and can be expected in fields with a history of NCLB, or fields that have been in continuous and no-till corn production as the pathogen overwinters in corn residue. Management should focus on using resistant hybrids and residue management. In-season management is available in the form of fungicides that are labeled for NCLB. However, these fungicides should be applied at the early onset of the disease and only if the epidemic is expected to get worse.

While scouting, look in the lower portion of the canopy. If symptoms are present, make a visual estimation of the percentage of plants with lesions, and how much leaf area is covered by NCLB. While lower leaves aren't responsible for much yield accumulation in corn, spores produced by NCLB in these lesions can be splashed up to the ear leaves where disease can be very impactful. So by scouting the lower canopy and getting an idea of how much disease is present, you can "predict" what might happen later on the ear leaves to make an informed spray decision.

Consider the resistance rating that the hybrid has for NCLB. If it is rated as resistant, then NCLB severity might not be predicted to get very severe. Note that even a hybrid that is rated as resistant, can still get some damage. Resistance isn't immunity! If NCLB is present on at least half of the plants and severity is at least 5-10% and weather is forecast to be rainy and cool, a fungicide application may help management the disease.

Eyespot is also favored by cool, wet, and frequently rainy conditions. Similar field management systems can also increase the risk of eyespot. Severity has to reach high levels (>50%) before this disease begins to impact yield, and fungicides may not be cost effective for this disease alone. Fungicides should be used to control a disease and preserve yield. The UW-Extension [2015 Corn Fungicide Efficacy](http://fyi.uwex.edu/fieldcroppathology/files/2015/04/2015-CDWG-Corn-Fungicide-Table.pdf) table lists products that have been rigorously evaluated in university research trails across the country:

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/fieldcroppathology/files/2015/04/2015-CDWG-Corn-Fungicide-Table.pdf>

What fungicide to spray and should I spray at all?

Research has also been conducted on the return on investment (ROI) of using fungicide at low and elevated levels of disease. In 172 trials with products containing the active ingredient pyraclostrobin, on average there was a 4.08 bu/acre increase in corn grain yield. However, in our current market, will this average gain cover the cost of the fungicide application? For example, the suggested application rate for Headline is 6 to 12 fl oz/acre. At the 6 fl oz/acre rate, the cost of the product alone would be about \$20/acre. This does not include the custom applicator cost. Today we can estimate that we might sell corn grain somewhere around \$4 per bushel. We can then use the cost of the fungicide product and price of grain to figure out how many bushels of corn we need to make in the crop that would be treated with pyraclostrobin vs. non-treating.

Break-even scenarios for corn fungicides

Corn Price	Application Costs						
	\$12	\$16	\$20	\$24	\$28	\$32	\$36
\$3	4.0	5.3	6.7	8.0	9.3	10.7	12.0
\$4	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	9.0
\$5	2.4	3.2	4.0	4.8	5.6	6.4	7.2
\$6	2.0	2.7	3.3	4.0	4.7	5.3	6.0
\$7	1.8	2.3	2.9	3.4	4.0	4.6	5.1
\$8	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.3

The table indicates the additional bushels of corn per acre that are needed to break even when using a fungicide at the corresponding cost and corn grain sale price. Using the above scenario we see that with corn priced between \$4 and \$5 and a fungicide application of \$20/acre, we would need to gain an additional 4-5 bushels per acre.

So what are the odds of getting that 4-5 bushels per acre yield gain when using a fungicide application?

The research went further and calculated the probability of return at various corn prices and fungicide costs, with separate analysis for foliar disease severity less than 5% and greater than 5%. At low foliar disease levels (<5% severity) the odds of a positive rate of return on investment would be about 50%. The odds of a return on investment do increase if severity is greater than 5%. The moral of the story is that if you are going to use fungicides on corn, they should be targeted toward fields that will have or are at risk for disease.

Wisconsin Crop Management: <http://ipcm.wisc.edu/blog/2015/07/wisconsin-crop-manager-july-16-2015/>

UW-Extension 2015 Beef Cow-calf meeting...

Monday, September 28th 6 : 00 p.m.

Steve Tschanz farm ~ N29921 Hwy 53, Blair

For more information contact UW-Extension offices ~
Jackson (715) 284-4257 or Trempealeau (715) 538-1963



A meeting for

- Registered stocker producers
- Commercial cow/calf producers
- Small hobby farm beef producers
- Ag professionals

Discussion topics to include...

The Meaning of Weaning

Weaning calves doesn't only have a social impact on your herd, it has health and financial benefits too. *Aerica Bjurstrom, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Kewaunee County*

The Value of Body Condition Scoring

Routine Body Condition Scoring can assist in culling, feeding, and breeding management decisions. *Lyssa Seefeldt, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Marquette County*

Deworming Relationships, Refugia & Resistance

Managing parasites doesn't always mean eliminating them.

Sarah Mills-Lloyd, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Oconto County



Stored grain management considerations ... insects (cont. from page 1)

The following information is summarized from Purdue University Extension Dept. of Entomology publication Stored Product Pests available at: <http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publications/E-66.pdf>

Preventative Measures **Before** Binning ~ Newly harvested grain becomes infested when it comes in contact with previously infested grain in combines, truck beds, wagons, other handling equipment, augers, bucket lifts, etc. Handling equipment and empty bins should be cleaned a few weeks before harvest and remove all debris from site, this material usually contains insect eggs, larvae, pupae all ready to invest the new grain. Insects may also fly in from nearby accumulations of livestock feeds, etc. Remove all vegetation within ten feet of the bins, or entire storage area. The interior and exterior bin surface should be treated with an approved residual insecticide, (Tempo, malathion, Storcid II, chlorpyrifos-methyl). Fumigation beneath the slotted (drying) floors may also be necessary for longer storage periods >1 year. If newly harvested grain is to be added to grain already in storage, the latter must be fumigated with either aluminum phosphide or methyl bromide.

Preventative Measures **During** Binning ~ There are a number of grain protectants listed in the publication that are recommended for grain being stored for one or more years. They are usually applied when grain is being augured, loaded or turned. They are most effective when applied to grain at 13% moisture and less so to grain at 15% or greater moisture. Grain protectants, when applied correctly, can be sold or fed immediately after application.

Preventative Measures **After** Binning ~ There are some grain protectants available that can be applied as a surface treatment or top-dress to the grain already in storage in order to control surface feeders. No-pest strips are commonly hung in the open space of the grain bin during spring, summer and fall to control moths.

Control Measures **During** Binning ~ Anytime grain is stored at or above 55 degrees, it should be inspected bi-weekly for insect activity. Insects should be identified before chemical treatment is considered—knowing what insect is infesting (internal or external feeders) can provide important information on the grain condition and what should be done about it.

Seed corn costs (cont.) *Joe Lauer, UW-Extension corn agronomist*

Understanding what the true value of hybrids mean to farm profitability is challenging. Both expected yield gains and plant density must be examined before selecting and buying hybrid corn seed. Changes in recommendations for hybrid selection also reflect dramatic increases in corn seed costs. Today its not unheard of for seed of high-performing premium hybrids with transgenic traits to cost over \$250 per bag, whereas 10 years ago, premium seed would cost about \$80-\$100. It is important to compare the "difference" between any two hybrids. A price that is different by more than \$50-\$100 per bag must be carefully considered because it is difficult to make up the bag price difference with increased yield. The UW-Extension seed cost calculator available at <http://corn.agronomy.wisc.edu/Season/DSS.aspx> calculates the per acre seed costs for any crop and accounts for differences in herbicide, insecticide, fungicide and insurance costs; allowing for differences in harvest moisture, handling, hauling, and storage between hybrids you would like to compare. Keep in mind the basic principles of hybrid selection:

Choose hybrids wisely by using comparative yield performance data Do not be "sold" hybrids through commercial advertising (radio, TV, magazines, and newspapers), sales literature, testimonials, or simply because it is "cheap" or "new" or "transgenic" or "available" or "different."

Use multi-location averages to compare hybrids Use multi-location information to evaluate grain yield, grain moisture, and standability. Today, most universities compile hybrid yield data over multiple locations. They do this by testing the same set of hybrids at numerous locations. Begin with trials that are nearest to you. Compare hybrids with similar maturities (harvest grain moisture) usually within about a 2% range in grain moisture. To ensure genetic diversity on your farm, divide the trials into two or three groups based upon grain moisture. Consider single location results with extreme caution (even if the trial was conducted on your farm).

Evaluate consistency of performance

Look for hybrids that yield consistently across a diverse set of conditions. Seed companies benefit

greatly from all those on-farm trials that farmers participate in (numerous weather patterns and pest situations per year). So if you concentrate on your on farm results alone (or the local area results), you miss out on the benefits of all the testing that goes on regionally and nationally.

Buy the traits you need

Remember that transgenic "traits do not increase yield, they protect yield." There are pros (safety, efficacy, and insurance discounts) and cons (expense and resistance potential) to using transgenic traits. Wisconsin is fortunate in that our landscape often includes alfalfa and pasture as part of our crop rotations. We can use these crops to help control pest outbreaks and slow development of resistance to transgenic events. Unfortunately up to this time, it was often difficult to buy the specific traits that you need. However, this is changing and in the near future there will be more opportunity to purchase specific traits. In addition to yield, criteria for selecting hybrids include, moisture, plant lodging, insect and disease resistance, test weight, and kernel breakage (grain) and starch content, NDFD and NDF (silage).

Every hybrid must stand on its own

Every hybrid must "stand on its own" for performance. You don't know what weather conditions (rainfall, temperature) will be like next year. Just because it is transgenic and you pay extra for traits does not mean it will be high performing. We see transgenic hybrids ranked at the top and bottom of a hybrid trial. Therefore, the most reliable way to predict hybrid performance next year on your farm is to consider past performance of individual hybrids over a wide range of locations and climatic conditions. The UW-Extension corn hybrid evaluation program, (in cooperation with the Wisconsin Crop Improvement Association) results are available at: <http://corn.agronomy.wisc.edu/HT/Default.aspx>. These trials evaluate corn hybrids for both grain and silage production performance.

For the full article on evaluating seed corn costs <http://corn.agronomy.wisc.edu/AA/pdfs/A073.pdf>.

NEW! Dairy Expansion Decision Support tool

A new online tool for dairy farm management is now available from the UW-Dairy Science Dept. and UW-Extension. The Dairy Expansion Decision Support tool is designed to explore projections of dairy farm production and expansion scenarios and simulate specific metrics of dairy farm performances. Thus, it provides critical information dairy producers need to actively manage risk on their dairies.



The Dairy Expansion decision support tool forecasts a monthly projection of the cash flow (\$ value) aggregated from all animals in the herd in response to factors such as lactation, month after calving, and month in pregnancy according to an expected milk production, feed intake, and labor requirements. The tool offers the possibility to manage scenarios of expansion either by “growing from within” with your own raised heifers or by buying extra heifers in the market. Users have also the possibility to schedule sales of heifers reared on farm and make additional investments with the use of bank loans.

The tool predicts heifer growth over time and the cow movement and dynamics showing forecast changes in herd structures for calves, heifers, and cows. The initial condition for the herd can be taken from a fixed

number of adult animals or be entered directly by the user, who can download a template spreadsheet to later upload the information related to every single cow in the herd including: cow identification, lactation, and days in milk. Similarly, in the same template, the user can enter the information about every single heifer including: heifer identification, and age.

The accuracy of the forecast is highly dependent upon the quality of the data entered by the user. The tool incorporates over 32 input variables from various aspects of the dairy that can be easily edited in the “Forecast Inputs” and “Herd Structure Simulation” tabs. Results are displayed as figures and can be downloaded as a spreadsheet.

The online tool for dairy farm management was created by Victor Cabrera, Associate Professor of Dairy Science at UW-Madison and Extension Specialist in Dairy Farm Management. It can be downloaded for use on your person computer http://dairymgt.info/tools/dss_c/index.php

Resources for Wisconsin Farmers

DAIRY CATTLE REPRODUCTIVE COUNCIL



<http://www.dcrcouncil.org/>

The Dairy Cattle Reproduction Council (DCRC) is a proactive organization with long-term interest in raising awareness of issues critical to reproductive performance. Through information and communication, it strives to deliver the latest in technology and resources.

Synchronization protocols evolve rapidly as newer procedures are tested and improvements are made. To help deal with rapid change and make informed decisions related to synchronization protocols, the Dairy Cattle Reproduction Council (DCRC) has created synchronization protocol sheets for dairy cows and dairy heifers. The documents outline established synchronization protocols that may help dairy producers improve on-farm reproductive performance.

<http://www.dcrcouncil.org/protocols.aspx>

The Council consists of a wide array of dairy industry professionals—researchers and consultants, practitioners and producers—engaged in a collaborative effort to take cattle reproduction technology to the next level.



2015 Wisconsin Soybean Yield Contest

Honoring the State's Top Soybean Producers

Top Prize: \$1,000 cash
Runner-up: \$500 cash

Two winners will be awarded from each of the four geographical divisions

Entry Forms Due:
October 15, 2015

Sponsored By:



www.coolbean.info

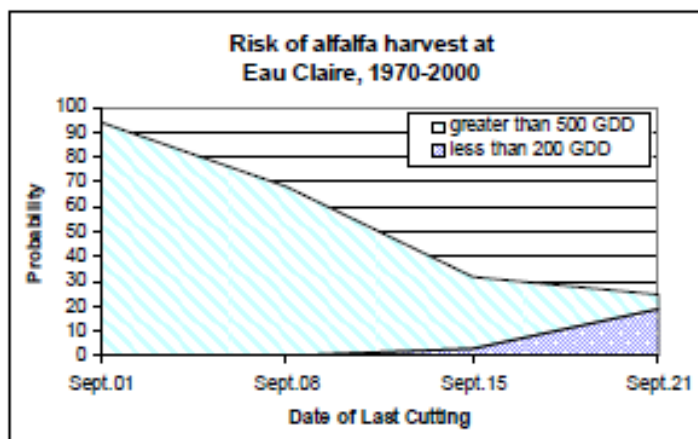
Late Summer Cutting Management of Alfalfa ... *Dan Undersander UWEX forage agronomist*

Recent surveys show many farmers plan to take an additional alfalfa cutting late this summer/fall. Alfalfa must either be cut early enough in the fall to regrow and replenish root carbohydrates and proteins or so late that the alfalfa does not regrow or use any root carbohydrates if we want good winter survival and rapid greenup for good yield next year. This has resulted in the recommendation of a 'no-cut' window from Sept 1 to killing frost for Wisconsin. However, we know that alfalfa needs 500 growing degree days (GDD, base 41F, accumulated until a killing frost of 25F) after the last cutting to regrow sufficiently for good winter survival and yield the next year. This means we can cut in the fall as late as 500 GDD will still accumulate without hurting the winter survival.

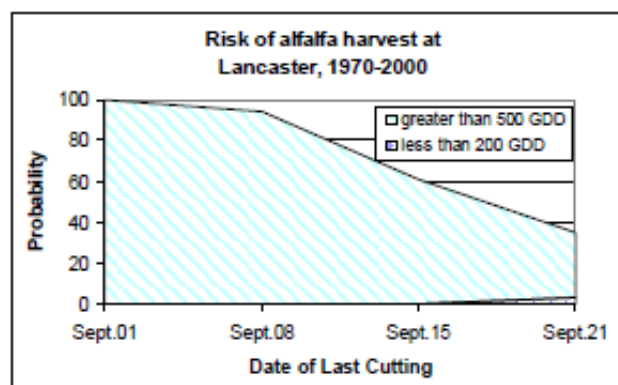
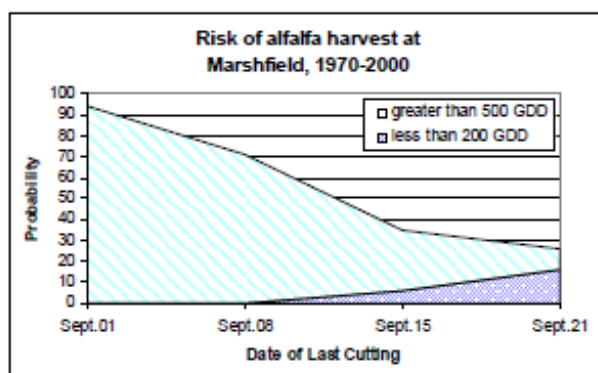
On the other extreme, we can also cut so late that no regrowth occurs. Calculating the 200 or less GDD level indicates when insufficient regrowth occurred to use up root carbohydrates. These plants would also have good winter survival. It is important to remember that we do not need to wait for a killing frost to take the last cutting. We must only wait until it is so cool that little or no regrowth will occur.

So we either want to take the last cutting early enough so that regrowth and root replenishment occurs or so late that little to no growth occurs. Calculating the sum of these two probabilities tells us the risk of winter injury or kill due to harvesting at different dates during September. This data was calculated for eight sites in Wisconsin where we had 30 years of weather history. In each graph, the area with diagonal lines is the probability of accumulating 500 GDD after each week. The darker area with '+'s in it is the probability of accumulating less than 200 GDD. So the top line is the probability of accumulating either 500 GDD or less than 200 GDD after the indicated date and shows the probability no injury or kill to alfalfa stands harvested on that date. We should assume that the graphs are for very winterhardy varieties (winter survival score of 2 or less) and that less winterhardy varieties would be at more risk.

At Eau Claire, and Marshfield, 94, and 91 % of the time 500 GDD was accumulated after Sept 1, respectively. Probability of 500 GDD accumulation fell to about 70% one week later. Thus, not harvesting after Sept 1 is the safe alternative but oftentimes being a week late was not detrimental. We also see that harvesting at the end of Sept, 6 to 16% of the time we had less than 200 GDD accumulation. Waiting till mid Oct will often be safe whether or not a frost has occurred.



These charts give a probability of winter survival at various cutting dates in the fall so that farmers can determine the risk associated with harvesting at various dates.



CoolBean.info



Top 8 Recommendations for Winter Wheat Establishment in 2015

Shawn Conley, State Soybean and Small Grains Specialist

John Gaska, Outreach Specialist

David Marburger, Graduate Student

Damon Smith, State Field Crops Pathology Specialist

Top 8 winter wheat establishment recommendations:

1. Variety selection: please see the [2015 WI Winter Wheat Performance Test](#)
2. Plant new seed (**DO NOT** plant saved seed).
3. A fungicide seed treatment is recommended for winter wheat in WI, especially for seed damaged by Fusarium head blight (FHB)
4. Wheat should be planted 1 inch deep.
5. The target seeding rate for wheat planted from September 15th to October 1st is 1,300,000 to 1,750,000 seeds per acre.
6. The optimal seeding rate for wheat planted after October 1st should be incrementally increased as planting date is delayed to compensate for reduced fall tillering.
7. Crop rotation matters.
8. Plant between September 20 and October 5

Stored grain management considerations ... storage mold (cont. from page 1)

The following information is summarized from Illinois University Extension Dept. of Crop Sciences publication [Rots and Germ Damage of Small Grains in Storage](#): available at: <https://ipm.illinois.edu/diseases/rpds/119.pdf>

Many warehousemen or farmers take an “average” sample from each lot of grain as it goes into storage and determine its moisture content with an electric or electronic moisture meter. The overall or weighted average of these samples is then considered to be the average moisture content of the grain throughout its storage life. This assumption has several sources of error. An average sample from a given lot of grain does not indicate the range in the moisture content of the entire bulk. A range of \pm 1 to 2 percent may be expected in the moisture content of any carload, truckload, or small bin. In large bins, the range may be greater. For safe storage, it is essential to know the highest moisture content of any portion of a given lot. Grain is only as dry as the wettest grain in terms of the risk of damage from storage molds.

Moisture content will change and fluctuate with time and from place to place within a bin. Whenever possible, store grain (free of dirt, debris, chaff, and broken kernels) in a clean, tight bin at a moisture content below 13 percent and a temperature below 50°F. If the grain is sound and dry when stored, it can be kept for years under these conditions without damage.

After the grain has been stored, take probe samples at weekly to monthly intervals from different portions. Use calibrated moisture meters, “official” drying ovens, or the distillation methods of determining moisture. Avoid taking several samples from a bin and averaging them. The highest moisture content, not the average, determines storability. Examine each sample for moisture content, damage, and the number and kinds of fungi. No germ or heat damage will develop in grain when the moisture content is below 13 percent. Measure and keep a record of temperatures in different parts of the grain. Even a slight rise in temperature means that some spoilage is occurring and action must be taken to remove the affected areas in the bin.



Coulee Grazier Network Pasture Walk events...

September 17th – Joshua Wolfe - Waumandee (Dairy)

September 28th - Steve Tschanz - Blair (Beef cow/calf)

October 15th – Steve and Pat Kling - Taylor (Dairy)

Coulee Graziers consists of a wide range of farmers from west central Wisconsin, all with an interest in maximizing forage resources, from small-scale holding paddocks to full-scale managed intensive grazing.

Contact any of the following for more information about the Coulee Grazier Network...

Steve Kling, Taylor area dairy producer (715) 662-5053

UW-Extension Master Gardener Program

Tuesdays, beginning Sept. 29th

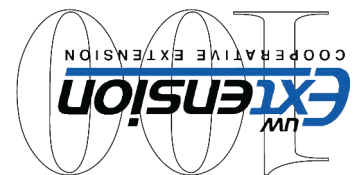
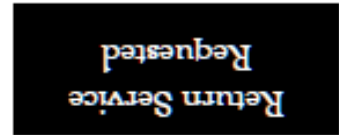
registration deadline - Sept. 18th

For more information:

UW-Extension office

(715) 284-4257

<http://jackson.uwex.edu/>



Jackson County University Extension Office
USDA-Cooperative Extension Service
227 S 11th Street
Black River Falls, WI 54615
"Address Service Requested"
Phone: (715) 284-4257
Fax: (715) 284-2394

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 187
Black River Falls WI 54615