



**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension

## Extension Agronomy

# eUpdate

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*08/08/2024*

These e-Updates are a regular weekly item from K-State Extension Agronomy and Kathy Gehl, Agronomy eUpdate Editor. All of the Research and Extension faculty in Agronomy will be involved as sources from time to time. If you have any questions or suggestions for topics you'd like to have us address in this weekly update, contact Kathy Gehl, 785-532-3354 kgehl@ksu.edu, or Dalas Peterson, Extension Agronomy State Leader and Weed Management Specialist 785-532-0405 dpeterso@ksu.edu.

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## 1. Planning your wheat fertility program: Start now by soil testing

Wheat planting is just a month or so away in parts of Kansas, so now is the time to get your soil sampling done to have good information on which to base your fertilizer inputs. This is particularly important after drought and lower-than-expected yields for the previous crops in parts of the state.

### **Which nutrients should be tested?**

The most important tests and nutrients to focus on this year depend in part on where you are located, the choices you make when applying N, and your tillage system. The nutrients for which wheat is most likely to show responses statewide are nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P). Wheat is the most P-responsive crop we grow in Kansas, and while P removal with wheat may be less than with corn or soybeans, the relative yield response is often the highest. Therefore, knowledge of P soil test levels and fertilizer needs will be valuable. In addition, low soil pH is becoming a problem, especially in fields with a history of high rates of N application and relatively low cation exchange capacity.

In addition to the “Big 3” (pH, N, and P), potassium (K) deficiency in wheat can also be found in some areas of southeast and south central Kansas. Wheat is generally less prone to K deficiency than many of the rotation crops commonly grown, such as corn, soybeans, or grain sorghum. Generally, the focus of a K fertilization program is on the rotation crops, and meeting the higher K needs of corn and soybeans minimizes the chance of a K deficiency in wheat.

### **The 0-6 inch soil sample: Non-mobile nutrients and pH**

A standard 0-6 inch surface sample is normally used to test for pH, and the non-mobile nutrients such as P and K. Phosphorus and K are buffered processes in our Kansas soils. This simply means that the soil contains significant quantities of these nutrients, and the soil tests we commonly use provide an index value of the amounts available to the plant, not a true quantitative measure of the amounts present. In the case of P, most Kansas soils require about 18 pounds of  $P_2O_5$  to increase 1 ppm in soil test P; for K, it is around 8 pounds of  $K_2O$  to increase 1 ppm K soil test.

The buffering value for both P and K varies based on soil cation exchange capacity (CEC) and the soil test levels. On high CEC soils, especially those soils with high clay content, the buffering capacity goes up, so the soil test levels will change more slowly. However, on low CEC soils, the buffering capacity can be much lower, and soil test levels can change rapidly. The same situation occurs with soil test levels. On soils with low soil test P or K levels, it will require more P or K to raise the soil test than at high soil test levels.

In addition to requesting the standard soil tests of pH, P, and K from the 0-6 inch surface sample, producers might also want to monitor soil organic matter levels and micronutrients such as zinc (Zn). Zinc is not a nutrient commonly found deficient in wheat production. However, it is important for corn and grain sorghum. Thus including it in your sample package would be helpful for planning for these rotation crops.

Soil organic matter (SOM) is an important source of nutrients such as N and sulfur (S). When calculating the fertilizer needs for both these nutrients, SOM is taken into consideration. For wheat production, 10 pounds of available N and 2.5 pounds of S are credited for every 1% SOM in the soil.

### **The 0-24 inch soil sample: Mobile nutrients**

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[www.agronomy.ksu.edu](http://www.agronomy.ksu.edu) | [www.facebook.com/KState.Agron](https://www.facebook.com/KState.Agron) | [www.twitter.com/KStateAgron](https://www.twitter.com/KStateAgron)

In addition to pH, SOM, P, K, and Zn - all of which are non-mobile in soils and accumulate in the surface - the mobile nutrients N, S, and chloride can provide significant yield responses when deficient in soils. Since all three of these nutrients are mobile in soils and tend to accumulate in the subsoil, we strongly recommend the use of a 24-inch profile soil sample prior to growing wheat, corn, or grain sorghum.

**Nitrogen** is a nutrient likely to provide yield response statewide. One common misconception is that the accumulation of N in the soil profile only occurs in the drier, western half of the state. However, with our dry winters, N can accumulate in the soil statewide. Rainfall tends to peak in Kansas in June and July, with a rapid decrease in monthly precipitation in the fall. Rainfall totals are generally lowest in December and January. Wheat takes up the majority of its N prior to flowering. In southeast Kansas, that is in April, and in north central Kansas, it is in early May most years.

In some years, especially following this year following recent dry conditions, significant amounts of N can be present in soils at wheat planting. On the other hand, after good yields, the residual N levels may be lower than the commonly used "default" value, and N fertilizer rates would need to be adjusted accordingly. Don't miss the companion article in this issue on the correlation between the amount of nitrate in the soil profile and wheat yield.

**Sulfur** deficiency is also increasing across the state in wheat production. There are two primary causes: the reduction in sulfur deposition from the atmosphere seen over the past 2-3 decades and the reduction in S content in many P fertilizers. While not as soluble as nitrate, S is also a relatively mobile nutrient that accumulates in the subsoil. The S profile soil test is a good way to determine S needs.

**Chloride** (Cl) is the third essential mobile element to be considered for wheat production with profile soil testing. Chloride deficiency is normally found in the eastern half of the state on soils that do not have a history of potash (KCl) application. In general, this includes many areas in eastern Kansas, north of the Kansas River, and the central corridor of wheat production. Chloride deficiency is associated with grass crops, wheat, corn, and grain sorghum and is correlated with the plant's ability to resist plant disease. Again, the profile soil test for chloride is well-calibrated in Kansas and should be considered.

## Summary

In summary, wheat producers in Kansas should consider soil testing to help in making accurate fertilizer decisions. Accurate decisions are especially important during years with low grain prices and tight budgets. Furthermore, after variable conditions and yield levels across the state, fertilizer needs may require adjustments based on soil tests. Wheat producers, specifically, should use surface 0-6 inch samples to determine the need for lime on low pH soils, P, K, Zn, and soil organic matter. They also should be using 24-inch profile soil tests for N, S, and Cl. Now is the time to get those samples taken to ensure there will be enough time to consider those test results when planning your fall fertilizer programs.

For more information on soil sampling and submitting samples to the **K-State Soil Testing Laboratory**, visit their website at <http://www.agronomy.k-state.edu/services/soiltesting/>.

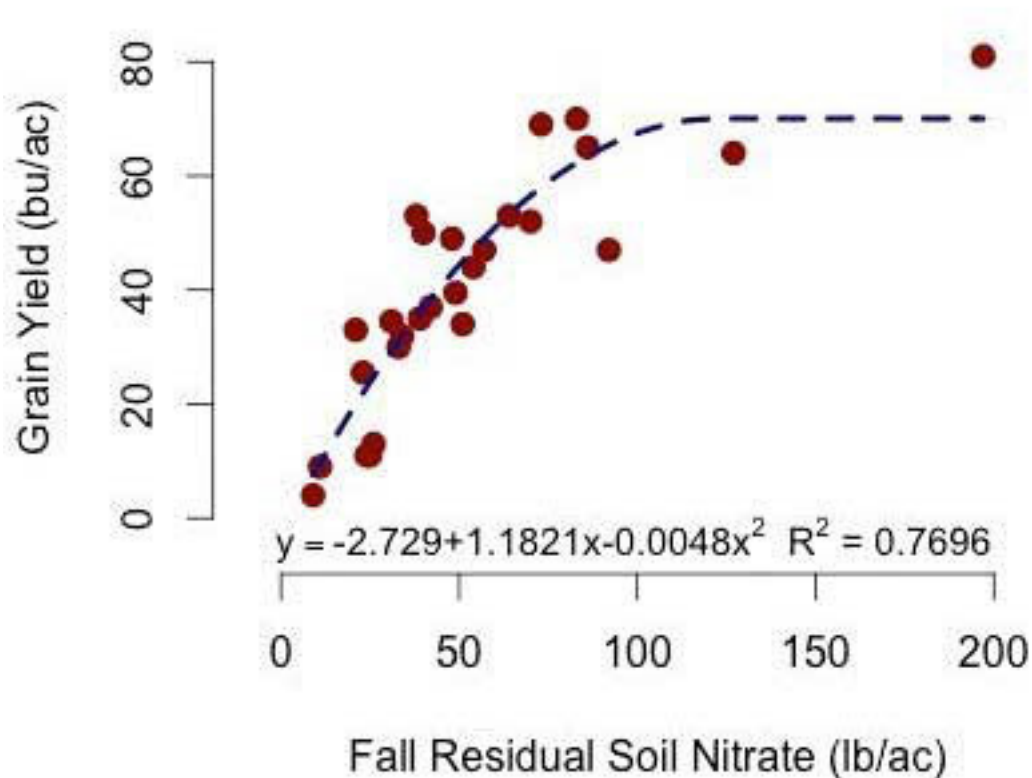
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## 2. Soil fertility and wheat production: Profile nitrate levels and wheat yield

An article in this eUpdate issue gives a great summary for planning the best wheat fertility program through timely soil testing. This article addresses the correlation between the amount of nitrate in the soil profile and wheat yield.

For many years, taking 24-inch soil profile-N samples in the fall has been a recommended practice for making an N recommendation for winter wheat. However, due to the mobility of nitrate-N in the soil, soil test values observed in the fall may differ from those observed in the spring, particularly on soils prone to leaching. Because many producers wait until spring green-up to make their N application, **does soil sampling in the fall for nitrate-N really provide useful information for N management in wheat?** That is a legitimate question.

Analysis of yields from K-State research plots that received no N fertilizer shows a strong positive relationship with fall soil profile nitrate-N (Figure 1).



**Figure 1. Relationship between fall soil profile nitrate-N level and wheat yield with no N fertilizer applied. Graph by Dorivar Ruiz Diaz, K-State Research and Extension.**

We found that at low soil nitrate levels, wheat yields responded well to applied fertilizer. We also found that when fall soil profile nitrate-N levels are greater than 80 to 100 lb/acre, it is unlikely the site will respond to additional fertilizer N applied in the spring.

In short, a strong relationship was found between wheat yield and fall nitrate-N levels from 24-inch profile soil test analyses when no N fertilizer was applied. Although new practices have been

developed to improve N management in winter wheat, soil sampling in the fall for nitrate-N remains an important practice to manage N efficiently. It can result in considerable savings for producers.

When soil sampling for N is not done, the K-State fertilizer recommendation formula defaults to a standard value of 30 lb/acre available N. In this particular dataset, the average profile N level was 39 lb N/acre. However, the N level at individual sites ranged from 11 to 197 lbs N/acre. Most recommendation systems default to a standardized set of N recommendations based on yield goal and/or the cost of N. Without sampling for N or using some alternative method of measuring the soil's ability to supply N to a crop, such as crop sensing, the recommendations made for N will be inaccurate, resulting in a reduction in yield or profit per acre and increased environmental impact.

Failure to account for the N present in the soil wastes a valuable resource. It can result in excess foliage, increased plant disease, inefficient use of soil water, and reduced yield. Soil sampling in the fall for nitrate-N can have a significant impact on N recommendations for winter wheat in Kansas soils.

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### 3. Late-season insect pest management considerations in cotton

Cotton bollworm (a.k.a. corn earworm, sorghum headworm, or soybean podworm) has been responsible for significant losses in the early years of Kansas cotton production and still has the potential to be a serious pest. Recently, damage has been limited in Kansas with the common usage of Bt cotton (Bollgard II® and WideStrike™) varieties. However, bollworm resistance to currently used Bt traits has been documented in other states. Producers should monitor fields even if Bt products appear to be working well in the area.

#### Scouting for bollworms

Adults are medium-sized, cream-colored moths that are seen frequently throughout the day during periods of heavy infestations (Figure 1). Moths deposit eggs individually, usually on young terminal leaves but sometimes on leaves and squares within the canopy. Eggs are the size of a pinhead, white to cream in color, and hatch in two or three days during warm weather. Young larvae are difficult to find until they are three or four days old. At this stage, they are about ¼ inch long and brownish with some scattered hairs (Figure 1).



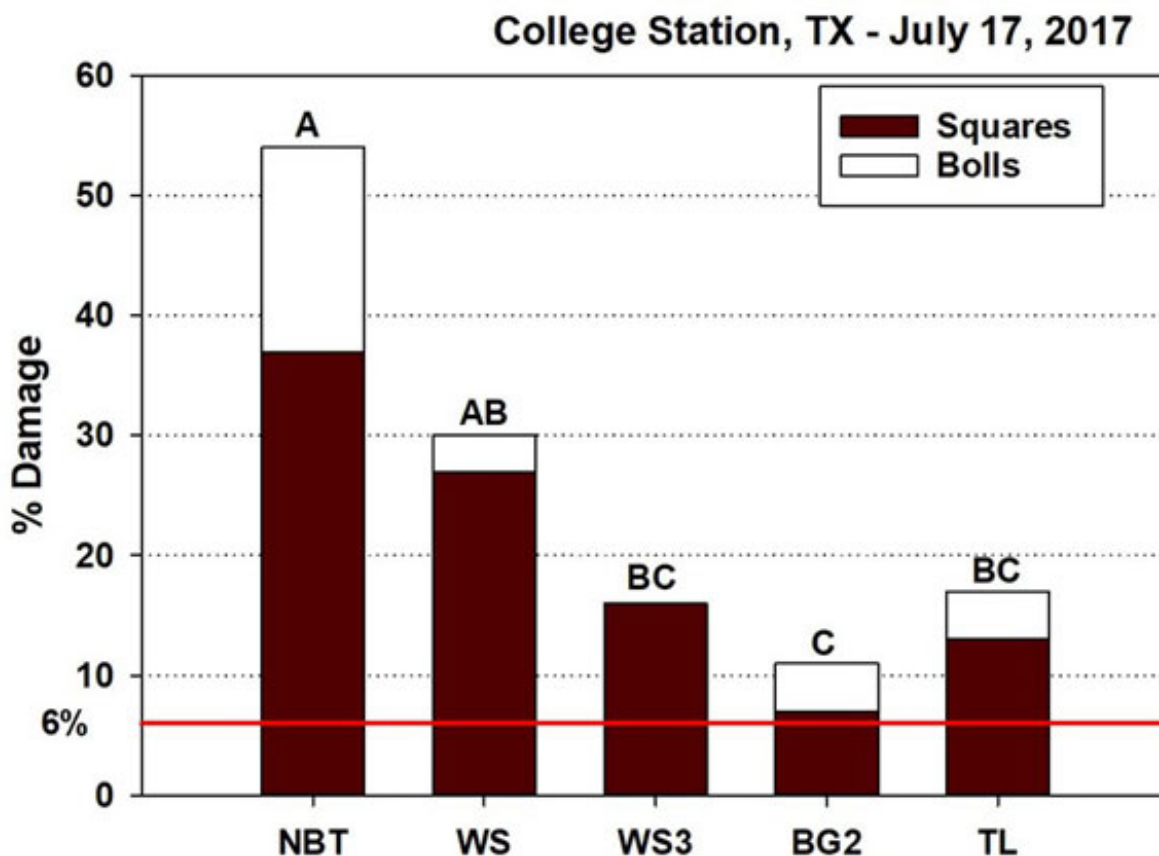
**Figure 1. Adult moth (left) and bollworm larvae (right). Photo courtesy of J.P. Michaud, K-State Research and Extension.**

The full-grown larva is about 1½ inches long with a light-colored head capsule. The predominant body color may range from pink or green to various shades of tan or dark brown. A series of dark stripes run lengthwise on the body. Larvae begin feeding on leaf tissue and small squares, then move down the plant and damage the larger squares and bolls. Bollworm management is based on scouting for eggs or small larvae. Thresholds differ for bollworm-resistant and boll-worm susceptible cotton. Treatment for non-Bt cotton is recommended when 10 eggs or five small worms per 100 plants are present during early bloom in late July and early August. Treatment for Bt cotton is recommended if fruit and boll damage is excessive, as indicated by 10 small worms (¼- to ½-inch long) per 100 plants or six small worms in 100 flowers.

#### Control options for bollworms



The use of Bt cotton (Bollgard II® and Widestrike™) is common in Kansas. However, it is important to note that bollworms must ingest the Bt toxin to be killed, and it may take up to five days from the time of ingestion to death. After ingesting the toxin, susceptible larvae lose their appetite and stop feeding within a few hours. However, bollworm resistance to currently used Bt traits has been documented in other states (Figure 2). Rates of bollworm survival increase as larvae mature and exceed ½-inch long or five days old.



**Figure 2. Bollworm injury to cotton near College Station, TX in 2017. NBT = Non-Bt, WS = WideStrike™, WS3 = WideStrike II™, BG2 = Bollgard II®, TL = TwinLink®. \*The red line represents the economic threshold.**

Source: <https://agrilife.org/texasrowcrops/2019/03/18/developing-resistance-to-bt-genes-in-cotton-bollworm/>.

Preventative treatments applied during the pre-bloom period are discouraged because they can destroy beneficial insects (i.e., natural predators), which help keep bollworms and other pests under control. Chemical control (Table 1) is rarely effective after larvae exceed ½ inches in length (five days old, third instar). Once cotton has blooms within four to five nodes of the top of the plant (i.e., cutout), the need for bollworm control has usually passed.

The value of late-season treatments depends on the weather. Because of the relatively short growing season for cotton in Kansas compared to most of the US Cotton Belt, late blooms can add little to final yields in most cases. Because of this, late-season treatments are usually not justified unless populations are heavy and the weather remains favorable.

**Table 1. Insecticides labeled for bollworm control in cotton<sup>3</sup>. Source: Cotton Insect Pest Management 2024, K-State Research and Extension.**

<b>Chemical Name</b>	<b>Product(s)</b>
<b>Acephate</b>	Acephate, Bracket, and Orthene
<b>Acetamiprid</b>	Intruder and Assail (used as an ovicide)
<b>Alpha-cypermethrin</b>	Fastac CS (2.6 to 3.6 fl. oz./acre)
<b>Bacillus thuringiensis</b>	Biobit, Deliver, Dipel, Lepinox, and Xentari <sup>1</sup>
<b>Beta-cyfluthrin</b>	Baythroid XL
<b>Bifenthrin</b>	Numerous products, including Annex, Bifenthrin, Brigade, Discipline, Empower 2, Fanfare, Sniper, and Tundra
<b>Bifenthrin + abamectin</b>	Athena
<b>Bifenthrin + chlorantraniliprole</b>	Elevest
<b>Bifenthrin + imidacloprid</b>	Brigadier and Tempest
<b>Bifenthrin + zeta-cypermethrin</b>	Hero
<b>Chlorantraniliprole</b>	Vantacor
<b>Chlorpyrifos</b>	Multiple products
<b>Chlorpyrifos + lambda-cyhalothrin</b>	Cobalt Advanced
<b>Chlorpyrifos + zeta-cypermethrin</b>	Stallion
<b>Cyfluthrin</b>	Tombstone
<b>Cyfluthrin + imidacloprid</b>	Leverage
<b>Cypermethrin</b>	Ammo
<b>Deltamethrin</b>	Delta Gold
<b>Endosulfan</b>	Endosulfan, Phaser and Thionex
<b>Esenfenvalerate</b>	Asana XL
<b>Fenpropathrin</b>	Danitol
<b>Gamma-cyhalothrin</b>	Proaxis
<b>Imidacloprid</b>	Alias 4F, Couraze Max 4F, Trimax, and Wrangler
<b>Indoxacarb</b>	Steward
<b>Lambda-cyhalothrin</b>	Numerous products, including Warrior II with Zeon Technology, Silencer, Taiga Z, and Lambda T
<b>Lambda-cyhalothrin + chlorantraniliprole</b>	Besiege
<b>Lambda-cyhalothrin + thiamethoxam</b>	Endigo ZC
<b>Methomyl</b>	Lannate LV and Lannate SP
<b>Methoxyfenozide</b>	Intrepid
<b>Naled</b>	Dibrom
<b>Novaluron</b>	Diamond
<b>Profenofos</b>	Curacron <sup>2</sup>
<b>Spinosad</b>	Entrust, Blackhawk
<b>Thiodicarb</b>	Larvin
<b>Zeta-cypermethrin</b>	Mustang MAXX. etc.

<sup>1</sup>Products containing Bt should not be used on Bt cotton or its refuge.

<sup>2</sup>Curacron and Lannate may be phytotoxic to cotton under stress and may redden cotton.

<sup>3</sup>For use rate and any other information relative to any insecticide listed in these tables, ALWAYS

consult the actual label on the product.

### **Other late-season insect pests: Stinkbugs**

Several types of stinkbugs can feed on cotton. Stinkbugs have piercing-sucking mouthparts that they use to feed on cotton bolls by piercing them and feeding on developing seeds, which can lead to decreases in yield and fiber quality. Stink bug feeding can result in warts inside the boll and stain fibers. Feeding by stinkbugs can also transmit pathogens that cause boll rot. Action thresholds are based on injury and not on insect counts. Action thresholds are 10-15 percent boll injury during weeks 3-5 of bloom, 20 percent during weeks 2 and 6, and 30 percent or more 7 or more weeks after bloom.

For more information on insect pest management in cotton, see the 2024 Cotton Insect Pest Management bulletin available from the KSRE Bookstore: [https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/item/cotton-insect-pest-management-2024\\_MF2674](https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/item/cotton-insect-pest-management-2024_MF2674)

*The use of trade names is for clarity to readers and does not imply endorsement of a particular product, nor does exclusion imply non-approval. Always consult the insecticide label for the most current use requirements. Users should read and follow all label directions.*

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#### 4. Insect activity in Kansas: Green June beetles

Green June beetle adults have been active for the past couple of weeks. They have a wide host range and, thus, can be attracted to many different kinds of plants when they are flowering or fruiting if these beetles are active. They can be attracted in considerable numbers, and these large numbers of highly visible beetles, often in a small area, are usually what causes concern. Every year, they seem to be more prevalent.

Relative to agricultural crops, they cause concern mostly in corn if it is silking when these beetles are active. They are often mistaken for Japanese beetles but are much larger and do not have the characteristic white tufts on either side of the abdomen as Japanese beetles have. They can feed on corn silks (Figure 1).

Green June beetles may cause concern because of their size and numbers in small field areas. Still, it usually only occurs on a few plants and not the whole field, and timing is everything because if this silk feeding occurs after the corn has pollinated, it does not affect yield or anything else. These beetles should be finished feeding on silks soon and fly off to other areas to deposit their eggs, and thus, this silk clipping will be forgotten with no ill effect on the corn.



**Figure 1. Green June beetles feeding on corn silks. Photo by Cody Wyckoff, K-State Research and Entomology.**

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## 5. 2024 Kansas cool-season forage performance tests

The results of the 2024 Kansas Performance Tests for cool-season annual forage varieties are now available online. You can access the detailed findings at K-State Agronomy's crop performance tests page

(<https://www.agronomy.k-state.edu/outreach-and-services/crop-performance-tests/forages/hay-and-silage/>). The results are organized by location, covering Garden City, Hays, and Scandia. Currently, yield results are only available for these cool-season forages, but quality results will be released soon.

These annual forage performance tests are conducted by the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station (Figure 1). The primary objectives of these variety trials are to evaluate the performance of both released and experimental varieties, determine their adaptability to different locations, and enhance the visibility and understanding of cool-season annual forages in Kansas. The data collected from these trials is invaluable for breeders, marketers, and producers, aiding them in making informed decisions about variety selection.

This important research is funded in part by the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station and contributions from seed suppliers. We extend our sincere appreciation to all participating researchers and seed suppliers who contribute to advancing and promoting annual forage production across the United States.



**Figure 1. Harvesting a forage variety trial at the Southwest Research and Extension Center in Garden City, KS. Photo from John Holman, K-State Research and Extension.**

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## 6. Kansas Corn Yield Contest: Final entry deadline is August 14



Celebrating a remarkable milestone, Kansas Corn joins the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) in announcing the launch of the 60<sup>th</sup> annual National Corn Yield Contest. This iconic event has been a testament to the ingenuity and dedication of corn growers nationwide. The Kansas Corn Yield Contest partners with the national contest to recognize and award Kansas growers. The Kansas Corn Yield Contest is sponsored by Kansas Corn and K-State Research and Extension. The Kansas Corn Yield Contest allows Kansas farmers to compete for cash prizes and recognition and see how their yields stack up against other growers in their area.

### Eligibility

All corn farmers are eligible to enter the contest but must be members of KCGA/NCGA. Your KCGA membership also includes membership in the NCGA. Join or renew your KCGA membership here: <https://kscorn.com/join/>. Kansas growers who enter the NCYC are automatically entered in the Kansas Corn Yield Contest. The Kansas Corn Yield Contest is linked to the national contest, allowing growers to submit one registration and one harvest form for both the national and state contests.

Among the highlights of the national competition is Class J, the [Nitrogen Management Class](#), which enters its second year, showcasing opportunities to think differently about fertilizer management while still achieving high yields. Last year, Kansas farmer, Francis Kelsey from Shawnee County placed 15<sup>th</sup> in the national pilot program for this special class. This year, the Corn Yield Contest Nitrogen Management pilot class will be open to the first 100 entries from several states, including Kansas. The three highest-yielding entries in the class will be declared preliminary winners and confirmed as class winners after an NCGA verification of actual nitrogen applied.

### Registration Entry and Deadline Information

- Registration is now open at <https://ncga.com/get-involved/national-corn-yield-contest>
- **Final entry: July 1 – August 14.** \$110 per online entry plus a one-time affiliated state/NCGA membership fee (if applicable)
- Harvest entry: August 15 – November 30
- NCGA National Corn Yield Contest Winners will be announced on December 11, 2024
- Kansas Corn Yield Contest Winners will be announced on December 27, 2024

Many seed companies pay for entry and membership fees for growers through the NCYC voucher program.

In the Kansas Corn Yield Contest, growers compete for cash prizes and recognition for irrigated and non-irrigated yields in ten districts as well as awards for the state's top irrigated and non-irrigated entries. Kansas CYC prizes will be awarded at the Kansas Corn Symposium in January 2025. In the



National Corn Yield Contest, winners will receive national recognition in publications and other awards from participating sponsoring seed, chemical, and crop protection companies. NCYC winners will be honored at the 2025 Commodity Classic in Denver.

For more information, contact Kylie Massengale at 785-249-8723 or [kmassengale@ksgrains.com](mailto:kmassengale@ksgrains.com).

Ignacio Ciampitti, Farming Systems Specialist

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## 7. North Central Kansas Experiment Field Fall Field Day - August 22

All interested individuals are encouraged to save the date for the North Central Kansas Experiment Field Fall Field Day. The event is scheduled for August 22 at 5:30 p.m. and is free to attend. A free meal will be provided after the program.

Program topics and speakers:

- **How planting date affects soybean yields** – Dr. Tina Sullivan
- **Role of bioinoculants for crop and soil management** – Dr. Chuck Rice
- **Wheat-soybean relay cropping** – Dr. Rachel Cott
- **Managing SDS through cropping systems, fertility, and seed treatment** – Dr. Rodrigo Onofre

# Kansas State University North Central Kansas Experiment Field Fall Field Day

**Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 5:30 PM**

**Location:**

1300 60 RD, Courtland, KS 66939

-OR-

2 miles N of HWY 36 on 60 RD

**Topics:**

How Planting Date Affects Soybean Yields

*Tina Sullivan*

Role of Bioinoculants for Crop and Soil Management

*Charles Rice*

Wheat-Soybean Relay Cropping

*Rachel Cott*

Managing SDS Through Cropping Systems, Fertility, and  
Seed Treatment

*Rodrigo Onofre*

**Free dinner after presentations**



Please contact Scott Dooley at 785-706-8450 or [sjdooley@ksu.edu](mailto:sjdooley@ksu.edu) prior to this event if accommodations are needed for persons with disabilities or special requirements.  
*K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

## 8. TAPS Agronomy Field Day and Farming & Football Tailgate - Sept. 5

Experience the cutting edge of sustainable and profitable irrigation technology at the 2024 TAPS Agronomy Field Day and Farming & Football Tailgate! Hosted by the K-State Testing Ag Performance Solutions (TAPS) program, this exciting event will take place on September 5, 2024, and is open to all with an interest in innovative agricultural practices.

The event will start at 4:30 p.m. at the Northwest Research-Extension Center, 105 Experiment Farm Drive, Colby, KS 67701, and feature an in-depth discussion on the agronomic decisions made in the 2024 TAPS Sprinkler Irrigated Corn Competition. Topics include hybrid evaluations, planting dates, plant population, nitrogen, and water management. This is an excellent opportunity to learn from experts and see the latest advancements in action.

Following the agronomy field day, attendees will move to the Colby Community Center for an evening of farming, football, and food. This tailgate event, blending fantasy football with farming competition, promises fun and networking opportunities for all participants. Note that attendance at the agronomy field day is required to join the evening festivities.

### **Schedule for the 2024 TAPS Agronomy Field Day and Farming & Football Tailgate:**

4:30 p.m. (CT) - Agronomic Decisions Discussion at the Northwest Research-Extension Center

6:30 p.m. (CT)- Farming, Football, and Food Tailgate at the Colby Event Center

"TAPS brings together farmers, industry professionals, researchers, and educators to foster a collaborative environment aimed at sustainable and profitable agricultural practices," said Daran Rudnick, K-State Director of Sustainable Irrigation and TAPS. "This field day is an excellent opportunity to engage with the TAPS community and witness firsthand the innovative approaches in agronomy."

Attendees are encouraged to RSVP for the event to ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience. To RSVP, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/24KSUTAPSFieldDay> or contact Renee Tuttle, TAPS and Irrigation Extension Associate, at [rstuttle@ksu.edu](mailto:rstuttle@ksu.edu).

Join us for a day of learning, networking, and fun as we celebrate the advancements in sustainable agriculture and the community that drives it forward.

For more information, contact TAPS and KSRE Irrigation Extension Associate Renee Tuttle at [rstuttle@ksu.edu](mailto:rstuttle@ksu.edu). For updates and additional information, visit [www.k-state.edu/TAPS](http://www.k-state.edu/TAPS) or follow @KSUTAPS on X (Twitter), Facebook, and Instagram.

# 2024 TAPS AGRONOMY FIELD DAY RSVP



05  
SEPTEMBER

TAPS AGRONOMY UPDATES, PLOT HYBRID  
PERFORMANCE, FOOD & NETWORKING!

[WWW.K-STATE.EDU/TAPS](http://www.k-state.edu/taps)

105 Experiment Farm Drive Colby, KS 67701

Scan to  
RSVP  
>>>



**KSUTAPS**  
TESTING AG PERFORMANCE SOLUTIONS

## 9. Sorghum Connection launches field day series to boost sorghum yields

A collaborative effort between the Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission (KGSC), Kansas State University Department of Plant Pathology, and K-State Research and Extension is bringing forth the Sorghum Connection field day series. This program will provide producers with information on stalk rot management, hybrid selection, fertility, and other cropping systems practices to improve producer productivity and profitability; all showcased through on-farm research trials.

The series kicks off with three field days across the state:

**Bavaria Field Day:** Sept. 4, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. (1.25 miles west of Bavaria and north  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile on South Powers Rd.)

**Dighton Field Day:** Sept. 11, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. (*Hineman Farms*; 1 mile north of Dighton at the intersection of Rd. 160 and Highway 23)

**Russell Field Day:** Sept. 18, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. (Corner of N. Copeland St. and E. State St.)

“Our hope is to bring multi-disciplinary, data-driven information to Kansas sorghum producers to help improve on-farm productivity and profitability. At each location, we have established over 20 hybrids, stalk rot management trials, and fungicide and cropping system studies,” says Dr. Rodrigo Onofre, who leads the program.

Industry leaders and representatives will share their expertise during the events. Speakers include Lucas Haag, Ph.D., Associate Professor at Kansas State University in the Department of Agronomy; Craig Dinkel and Jay Wisbey, Extension Agents for K-State Research and Extension; Dr. Rodrigo Onofre and Leticia Viera, M.S., from the Sorghum Connection team at Kansas State University in the Department of Plant Pathology; and additional industry representatives.

“To say that the Sorghum Connection team is excited for this new series is an understatement,” says Kansas Grain Sorghum Director of Communications and Outreach Maddy Meier. “We are proud to have put together a new generation of field days that have been built upon producer input, meaning this series is truly put on for farmers, by farmers.”

Attendance is free, but registration is required at [https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2gdnuCkMk0upad0](https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2gdnuCkMk0upad0). Visit [www.ksgrainsorghum.org](http://www.ksgrainsorghum.org) for updates and more information.