



River Valley District

K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION NEWS

rivervalley.ksu.edu

August 2018
Volume 13 #8

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Extension District

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MELTON JOINS RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT AS NEW LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION AGENT

I'd like to formally introduce myself to the River Valley District. My name is Brett Melton and I am the new Livestock Production Extension Agent. I've been a part of the team since July 2. County fairs have given me the opportunity to meet with people in the district and has been a wonderful experience. I look forward to meeting with other district patrons in the near future.

As I meet new faces in the district I want to share some of my background. I grew up near Beloit, Kansas where I attended high school. My parents are Kent and Yvonne Melton. Our family has a small amount of pasture and crop ground which is rented out to local farmers. After graduating from Beloit Jr.-Sr. High School I attended Highland Community College where I participated in football. I graduated from Highland Community College with my Associates in Science. I transferred to Kansas State University where I majored in Animal Science. While attending Kansas State University I worked for Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in the Parasitology Laboratory. I graduated from Kansas State University in May of 2013 with my Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science. After graduation I moved back to Beloit and worked for the Solomon Valley Veterinary Hospital. While working for the clinic I expanded my knowledge of animal health and disease prevention. I also discovered how important communication and understanding the needs of producers is.



After a two-year stint at the Solomon Valley Veterinary Hospital, I decided to move on to get my Master's Degree. I contacted Galen Erickson at the University of Nebraska and he said an opening would be available but, it would not be for another year. However, there was a position opening at the research feedlot near Meade, Nebraska. I took the opportunity to work at the research feedlot to better understand cattle feeding and the research that goes along with it. After my year working at the research feedlot I started my Master's program. My research included a pooled analysis of finishing trials that were conducted in the individually fed barn at the University of Nebraska feedlot and a commercial feedlot trial to determine the effect of shade on performance and measures of heat stress of animals.

As I was finishing my Master's I knew that I wanted to be close to home and would like to work in Extension. I was fortunate enough that the River Valley District had an opening at this time. As I am starting my tenure as the Livestock Extension Agent for the River Valley District I want to get to know as many people as I can. I will be reaching out to get to know producers, 4-H members and parents, and anyone who has an interest in livestock. I also encourage anyone to call, email, or stop by the office in Concordia if they have any questions for me. I am look forward to working with everyone in the District.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

BLUE GREEN ALGAE ISSUES

Blue green algae blooms are an issue that usually gets discussed this time of year. Calm, sunny, dry, and hot days of summer create ideal conditions for blue green algae to thrive in our livestock ponds. Blue green algae occurrence is sporadic making its threat unpredictable. Despite its name, these blooms are not algae, but a cyanobacteria. Some of these cyanobacteria produce and release dangerous toxins that are of major concern for our livestock.

These “cyanotoxins” typically show up as either neurotoxins or hepatotoxins. Meaning they can damage the nervous system, or affect the liver function of animals. Typically, the first clinical sign noticed in pasture cattle that have consumed neurotoxins are dead cattle. If found early enough, cattle may have muscle tremors, difficulty breathing, seizures, slobbering, and diarrhea. Hepatotoxins can cause an acute death similar to neurotoxins, or lead to delayed issues with liver failure. An example of this would be weight loss and photosensitization and can be recognized by severe sun burns on areas of the body not covered with hair. Since there are several causes of acute death in pasture cattle, contact your local veterinarian for diagnosis. Unfortunately, there are no known antidotes to these cyanotoxins. So understanding what to look for, and avoiding livestock exposure is important.

Blue green algae blooms are green and float at or just below the surface of the water. The appearance almost looks like paint in the water. Once the cyanobacteria die, it turns a blue color. The color can also vary to a grey to almost a red or brown color as well. Toxin concentrations in affected water can vary drastically. The wind can move these blooms and concentrate them in certain areas along the shorelines of ponds. These concentrations increase the lethality of the toxic blooms.

Since blooms can establish quickly, monitor ponds closely and be prepared to sample pond water if the green paint like consistency is observed or if acute animal deaths are found in the pasture. The water sample itself is a snapshot in time, so proper handling and methods of obtaining the sample helps deliver accurate results. The sample should be at least 500 mL of water (with scum included) held in a sealable plastic bottle or container. Sample blue green algae bloom just below the water surface along the shoreline. Remember, it will have the appearance of blue or green paint floating in the water not floating mats of moss or aquatic vegetation. Use care not to touch the blue green algae with bare skin, as it can cause skin irritation in humans. Once the sample is taken, it should be cooled and refrigerated, then shipped chilled with an ice pack. Samples can be sent to the Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Lab (KSVDL) for analysis.

Preventing exposure of blue green algae toxins is very important during the summer months. There are some options for livestock producers if blue green algae is suspected or has been identified. Of course, fencing off natural water sources and providing alternative water sources is the best

option (well water, hauled water), but is typically financially limiting. Fencing off certain areas of the ponds (downwind portion of ponds) may help limit exposure. Improved watering areas, such as pipe fed waterers, may also limit exposure as long as the water inlet is located in a low risk area of the pond. A submerged inlet in the center of the pond is an area where the cyanobacteria are unlikely to concentrate. Improved water sources like this will also help increase other water quality attributes. Controlled access and tank waterers decrease sediment, nutrients, and fecal coliform bacteria from building in the water source. Treatment of the water source with copper sulfate is another choice. However, extra care should be taken when treating the pond during a bloom. When the cyanobacteria die, they will release toxins into the water. Do not allow cattle to drink from the pond for a week to allow the toxins to degrade. Copper sulfate is also toxic to other plants and fish in the pond. The recommended amount is 8 pounds of copper sulfate per 1 million gallons of water to achieve 1 part per million. Although it may not eliminate blooms from happening, reducing nutrient runoff (specifically phosphorus) into the pond will reduce the likelihood of occurrence.

Monitoring of stock ponds during the summer months and having a plan in place to combat blue green algae will help ensure the health and wellbeing of our herds.

KSVDL can be contacted at 785-532-5650; and water samples can be sent to:

KSVDL

Kansas State University

1800 Dension Ave.

Manhattan, KS 66506

by [A.J. Tarpoff](#), DVM, MS; *extension veterinarian*

USING DROUGHT DAMAGED CORN FOR FEED

The month of July was hot as usual and some parts of the state are experiencing drought. This has certainly had an effect on fall crops. If the grain yield for corn is suspected to be poor, it may be time to think about utilizing it for a feed source. Before harvesting the drought damaged field for anything other than grain, check with your crop insurance agency to make sure that you can utilize the field for forage and still receive insurance.

Corn that is drought stressed can contain higher than normal levels of nitrates. This buildup of nitrates is caused by a decrease in conversion of nitrates to amino acids when day time temperatures are high. During a severe drought, lack of moisture prevents nitrate absorption. However, following a drought ending rain a rapid absorption of nitrates occurs. When nitrates are fed to cattle, microbes in the rumen convert nitrates into nitrite and then the nitrite to ammonium. However, these processes do not happen at the same rate. The process of converting nitrite to ammonium is slow, so a buildup of nitrite occurs. This nitrite is absorbed through the rumen wall into the blood stream which reduces the oxygen

carrying capacity of red blood cells. This is why it is recommended to test for nitrates in drought stressed corn.

When testing for nitrates, a plant sample should be cut off at the height at which it is going to be harvested. This is important because nitrates accumulate in the bottom of the plant. Put the sample in a plastic bag with ice for the most accurate result. If a nitrate test has been done and levels of nitrates are high, there are options to mitigate the negative effects that they have on cattle. Nitrates can be reduced by 30 to 60% by ensiling the forage. If utilizing the forage as a green chop, then it should be fed right away. If allowed to sit then the nitrates will convert to nitrite which is up to 10 times as toxic when fed. Also, raising the cutter bar will reduce the amount of nitrates that are harvested. Another simple way to reduce nitrate consumption is to mix a feed that is high in nitrates with another forage source such as alfalfa, brome, or prairie hay.

If you determine that utilizing a corn field as a forage source rather than harvesting for grain due to drought stress, take the necessary precautions. Nitrate testing can be done a Kansas State for \$6.75 per sample. This is a small cost relative to the price of one animal dying from nitrate toxicity. Jaymelynn Farney, beef systems specialist, wrote an article on "Considerations for use of drought-stressed corn for cattle" that could also be used as a resource. If you have any question, stop by the office in Concordia, call 785-243-8185, or email bmelton@ksu.edu.

MARESTAIL AND PIGWEED CONTROL IN SOYBEANS

Marestail and pigweed are some of the most dreaded weeds for crop producers across North Central Kansas, especially when they grow in soybean fields. Controlling these weeds, before they reach four inches in height, is of utmost importance, and if you can get to them before they are two inches tall it is better yet. Pre-emergent herbicides are great, if they are activated by timely rainfalls. They typically last between four to five weeks before the second round of weeds start to grow. However, with glyphosate resistance in both marestail and pigweed, the options for broadleaf weed control in soybeans is greatly reduced.

Marestail are difficult to kill when in they enter the rosette stage (growth near the ground before vertical growth, also known as "bolting"), and they become even tougher to kill as they grow over six inches tall. Glyphosate resistance in marestail does not seem to be as severe as glyphosate resistance in pigweeds. Much of the time, even glyphosate resistant marestails are not completely resistant to glyphosate. That being said, one of the best tank mixes for post-emergent control of marestail in soybeans is a tank-mix of glyphosate with an ALS (acetolactate synthase) herbicide labelled for soybeans (i.e. FirstRate). The two together synergize the effect on marestail better than they do individually. The caveat being many marestails have also formed an ALS resistance which reduces the efficacy of herbicides – such as FirstRate, Classic, or Synchrony.

Pigweeds (i.e. waterhemp, redroot pigweed, and palmer amaranth) have developed a very strong resistance to glyphosate and to ALS herbicide, which often leads to fewer herbicides to control these pesky weeds. Many Group 14 herbicides (i.e. Cobra, Flexstar, Ultra Blazer) or the "burners," are great at controlling many of the pigweeds in soybeans, but again taller weeds are more difficult to control.

Moreover, if Liberty Link Soybeans were planted, a glufosinate herbicide can be used to control pigweeds, especially when they are under four inches in height. A couple things to remember when using glufosinate (i.e. Liberty): high spray volumes and double applications improve the weed control efficacy. Double applications should also be highly considered if one of the applications used a Group 1 herbicide, such as clethodim (i.e. Select), to control grass when a tank was mixed with glufosinate. Clethodim and glufosinate seem to adversely affect each other's effectiveness in controlling their respective weeds.

If Xtend Soybeans were planted, dicamba products such as Engenia, Xtendimax, and FeXapan can be used to control pigweeds effectively, if they are under four inches tall. If you have any questions feel free to stop by or contact me in the Concordia Office (River Valley Extension District, 811 Washington, Suite E, Concordia, KS 66901) by calling 785-243-8185 or emailing thusa@ksu.edu.

WEED CONTROL IN WHEAT STUBBLE

Wheat harvest is finished up across the River Valley District, and now should come the concern of controlling weeds in wheat stubble when left fallow. Before getting into broadleaf weed control, it is important to remember to control volunteer wheat to prevent it from harboring the dreaded wheat curl mite that helps spread Wheat Streak Mosaic. It is essential to control volunteer wheat 2 weeks prior to the sowing of wheat in adjacent fields or even within the same field. Broadleaf weeds, on the other hand, are another story. The "big 3" as I call them, which bring the most headache to producers across the state of Kansas, as well as across the rest of the Midwest include: Palmer Amaranth, Waterhemp, and Redroot Pigweed. Controlling these weeds in wheat stubble is essential to minimize the weed seed bank since each inflorescence "seed head" of a pigweed plant contains in excess of a million of seeds.

The primary old burndown recipe consisted of glyphosate and a 2,4-D LVE (Low Volatility Ester) or dicamba concoction. The recipe worked well for many years, but since many weeds have become glyphosate resistant, we are now realizing that 2,4-D (or even Dicamba for that matter) may have not aided the glyphosate enough in killing the weeds. Uping the rate of 2, 4-D to a max rate of 1 quart/acre (or dicamba to 1 pint/acre) may help slightly, but probably will not be the complete answer for adequate control. Sharpen herbicide may be another option to consider in tank-mix that can add a residual control. Sharpen works best with the addition of a MSO (methylated seed oil) and needs 15 to 20 gallons of

water per acre to get good, even coverage. If the next year's crop on the particular field will be corn or sorghum, a tank mix with atrazine would be a great option and adds some residual control. Metribuzin and paraquat are a great tank mix consideration if the field will be soybeans the following year. Another option to consider, since the price has decreased in recent years, is flumioxazin (i.e. Valor and others). Flumioxazin has been used as a preemergence herbicide for soybeans for numerous years, and now we can use flumioxazin's residual effect to help control weeds more economically in burn-down applications. Moreover, wheat can be sowed 30 days after 2 ounces/acre application, or 60 days after 3 ounces/acre application of flumioxazin herbicide when at least one inch of rainfall has occurred between herbicide application time and wheat sowing. Corn, soybeans, sorghum, or sunflowers can be planted as usual the next spring. If you have any questions feel free to stop by or contact Tyler in the Concordia Office.

ESTIMATING YIELD ON DROUGHT STRESSED CORN

When considering corn for silage (or as another source of forage) one of the main topics that comes up pertains to the process of estimating the yield of corn while still in the field. Much of the time, a crop insurance adjuster will come out and estimate yield and/or have a producer leave test strips for yield estimation. There are several ways, however, for the producer to estimate the yield on their own.

A key aspect to consider when estimating corn yield is determining the developmental stage of the corn kernels on the cob. It is best to wait until the kernels are at least in the milk stage (or the stage when a person typically eats sweet corn). The following formula and considerations provide a close yield estimation:

Ears per acre:

This is determined by counting the number of ears in a known area. With 30-inch rows, 17.4 feet of row = 1,000th of an acre. This is generally the minimum area that should be used. The number of ears in 17.4 feet of row X 1,000 = the number of ears per acre. Counting a longer length of row is fine, just be sure to convert it to the correct portion of an acre when determining the number of ears per acre. Make ear counts in 10 to 15 representative parts of the field or management zone to get a good average estimate. The more counts you make (assuming they accurately represent the zone of interest), the more confidence you have in the estimate.

Kernels per ear:

This is determined by counting the number of ear rows and number of kernels in each row. Multiply those two items to arrive at kernels per ear (number of rows X kernels per row). Do not count the aborted kernels or the kernels on the butt of the ear; only count kernels that are in complete rings around the ear. Do this for every 5th or 6th plant in each of your ear count areas. Avoid odd, non-representative ears.

Kernels per acre = Ears per acre X kernels per ear

Kernels per bushel:

This will have to be estimated until the plants reach physiological maturity. Common values range from 75,000 to 80,000 for excellent, 85,000 to 90,000 for average, and 95,000 to 105,000 for poor grain filling conditions. The best you can do at this point is estimate a range of potential yields depending on expectations for the rest of the season.

Examples:

Ears per acre: (30-inch rows)

10 different 17.4-foot lengths of row provided counts of 25, 24, 22, 21, 24, 26, 20, 21, 22, 20, and the average of these counts is $(25 + 24 + 22 + 21 + 24 + 26 + 20 + 21 + 22 + 20)/10 = 225/10 = 22.5$ scaling up to an acre gives $22.5 \times 1,000 = \underline{22,500 \text{ ears per acre}}$

Kernels per ear:

The 4 or 5 ears from each 17.4-foot area had an average of 14 rows and 27 kernels per row
 $14 \times 27 = \underline{378 \text{ kernels per ear}}$

Kernels per acre:

$22,500 \text{ ears per acre} \times 378 \text{ kernels per ear} = \underline{8,505,000 \text{ kernels per acre}}$

Kernels per bushel:

Given that this field has been exposed to 100° F and above with no significant precipitation for the past couple of weeks and the prediction for the next 7-10 days is for triple digits every day and no rain, it may not hurt to assume below-average fill conditions and use a fairly large number of kernels per bushel (because kernels will be small). Based on the ranges mentioned above, a reasonable value might be 105,000 kernels per bushel.

Bushels per acre:

$8,505,000 \text{ kernels per acre} / 105,000 \text{ kernels per bushel} = \underline{\text{about } 81 \text{ bushels per acre}}$

If you have any questions feel free to stop by or contact Tyler Husa in the Concordia Office 785-243-8185.

Source: K-State Agronomy: eUpdate Issue 703 July 20, 2018

K-State Ranching Summit

Wednesday, August 15

K-State Alumni Center

Manhattan, KS

Preregistration Deadline: August 8

Cost: \$40/person or \$70 for two from same operation

\$70/person at the door

Lunch Provided

Topics:

- Pursuing, adopting and leveraging technology
- Managerial accounting: key numbers for ranch managers
- What can we learn from consumer trends?
- Disruptive technologies and the Beef Industry
- A look at specific disruptive technologies
- A vision of the Beef Industry in 2030

More information available at: KSUbeef.org

2018 KSU Beef Stocker Field Day

Thursday, September 20
K-State Beef Stocker Unit
4330 Marlatt Ave.
Manhattan, KS

Pre-registration fee is \$25 if paid by Sept. 13.
After Sept. 13, attendees must pay \$35 at the event.

Barbeque Brisket Lunch Provided

Topics:

- The Role of Stocker Producer Expectations in Cattle Buying Decisions
 - Producer Panel: Why Silage Fits in my Growing Diets
 - An Update on Pain Management in Cattle
 - Quality Stocker Production Considerations
- The Technology Revolution, Wall Street, Baseball and today's Cattle Industry
 - Rethinking BRD Diagnosis
 - Livestock Theft in Kansas
- Treatment Failures that are not BRD Related

More information available at: KSUbeef.org

BLOSSOM END ROT

Do you have tomatoes with a sunken, brown leathery patch on the bottom of the fruit? If so, then you probably have blossom end rot. Blossom end rot is not a disease; it is a condition that is caused by a lack of calcium in the soil. In Kansas this is not necessarily the case, because Kansas



soils are derived from limestone, which is partially made up of calcium. So, what causes blossom end rot in Kansas? Actually, there are a number of possible causes, especially on tomatoes. Let's look at some of the other possible causes of blossom end rot.

The first possible cause could be that the tomato tops have outgrown the root system. During cooler spring weather the root system can keep up, but when it turns hot and dry, the plant tries to keep itself alive by sending water; with the calcium it carries; to the leaves and the fruit is bypassed. The plant responds to the heat and lack of calcium with new root growth which should allow the condition to correct itself after a couple of weeks.

The second possible cause could be heavy fertilization, especially with ammonium forms of nitrogen, which can encourage this condition. Heavy fertilization encourages more top foliage growth than root growth causing the ammonium form of nitrogen to compete with calcium for uptake through the roots to the fruit.

The third possible cause could be anything that disturbs the plant roots such as hoeing too deep. Mulching your plants will help because it keeps the soil surface cooler and reduces weed growth and promotes a better environment for root growth.

The fourth possible cause could be inconsistent watering. Keep soil moist but not waterlogged. Mulching can help by keeping the soil moisture level consistent over time. Even so, there are some years you do everything right and the condition shows up due to the weather. In such cases, remember that blossom-end rot is a temporary condition, and plants should come out of it in a couple of weeks. You want to pick off affected fruit to encourage new fruit formation.

Even though blossom end rot is most common on tomatoes, it can also affect squash, peppers and watermelons. If you are noticing that you have a lot of blossom end rot occurring, go through the possible causes and see if you can find what might be causing the problem. If you have any questions please contact Kelsey Hatesohl at the Washington Office at 785-325-2121 or at khatesohl@ksu.edu.

TOMATO CRACKING

Tomatoes often have problems with cracking caused by pressure inside the fruit that is more than the skin can handle. Cracks are usually on the upper part of the fruit and can be concentric (in concentric circles around the stem) or radial (radiating from the stem).

Tomatoes have a root system that is very dense and fibrous and is quite efficient in picking up water. Unfortunately, the root system can become unbalanced with the top of the plant. Early in the season, it may be small in relation to the top growth resulting in blossom-end rot during hot, dry weather. Later it may be so efficient that it provides too much water when we get rain or irrigate heavily after a dry spell. This quick influx of water can cause the tomato fruit to crack.

Therefore, even, consistent watering can help with cracking. Mulching will also help because it moderates moisture levels in the soil.

K-State has evaluated varieties for cracking during their tomato trials. It takes several years' worth of data to get a good feel for crack-resistant varieties but they have found some real differences. Some varieties crack under about any condition and others are much more resistant. The difference seems to be pliability of skin rather than thickness-the more pliable the skin the more resistance to cracking.

The old variety Jet Star has been the most crack resistant of any we have tested including the newer types. Unfortunately, Jet Star is an indeterminate variety that puts out rampant growth. Newer varieties with more controlled growth are often more attractive to gardeners. Mountain Spring, Mountain Pride, Mountain Fresh, Floralina and Sun Leaper are smaller-vined types that have shown good resistance to cracking. If you have any questions please contact Kelsey Hatesohl at the Washington Office at 785-325-2121 or at khatesohl@ksu.edu.

IS MY LAWN STILL ALIVE?

Is your lawn turning brown like it does through the winter? During the hot periods of the summer, lawns will enter in to a dormancy. Normally, a healthy lawn can stay dormant for a good 5 weeks and still recover. After the five weeks are up, it is important to keep the crown hydrated because if the crown dies, the plant dies.

The recommendations differ for a lawn that was overwatered or received so much rain this spring that it produced a limited root system. Such a lawn may die unless allowed to slowly enter dormancy. This is done by shutting off the water gradually. For example, instead of watering several times a week, wait a week before irrigating. Then don't water again for two weeks. Thereafter, water every two weeks as described below.

Apply about 1/4 inch of water every two weeks to hydrate the crown. This will be enough to hydrate the crown but not enough to encourage weed germination and growth.

If you are wondering if the turf is still alive, pull up an individual plant and separate the leaves from the crown. The crown is the area between the leaves and the roots. If it is still hard and not papery and dry, the plant is still alive.

When rains and cooler weather arrive, the turf should come out of dormancy. However, you will probably have to deal with weeds that germinate before the turfgrass grows enough to canopy over and provide enough shade to keep weed seeds from sprouting. If you have any questions please contact Kelsey Hatesohl at the Washington Office at 785-325-2121 or at khatesohl@ksu.edu.

CRABGRASS CONTROL

This is the time of year when people really notice crabgrass infestations. By far the best way to control crabgrass is to prevent it by maintaining a good, thick lawn. Crabgrass is an annual that comes up from seed each year and the seed must have light in order to germinate. If a lawn is thick enough that sunlight does not reach the soil, the crabgrass will not germinate. Under Kansas conditions, it is not easy to maintain such a lawn; so many gardeners do the next best thing and apply a crabgrass preventer in the spring.

Crabgrass preventers kill the seed as it germinates. Most do not have any effect on crabgrass that has already come up. If we are too late to apply a preventer, we do have other herbicides that will kill crabgrass after it is up including Ortho Weed-B-Gon Max + Crabgrass Control, Bayer All-in-One Lawn Weed and Crabgrass Killer and Fertilome Weed Out with Crabgrass Killer. Each contains quinclorac, which is a crabgrass herbicide, as well as other active ingredients that control broadleaf weeds. Quinclorac is an excellent crabgrass killer that controls not only crabgrass but also has good activity on foxtail and certain broadleaves such as field bindweed, black medic, and clover. However, it does little to

nothing to goosegrass. Quinclorac can harm garden plants if clippings are used as mulch. Clippings should be returned to the lawn or discarded. Even composting will not break down the quinclorac.

Fortunately, crabgrass starts declining about the middle of August. This is about the same time that cool-season grasses such as tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass start to come out of their summer dormancies. By the first of September, the crabgrass will be less noticeable. Therefore, a small infestation is best ignored. Remember that crabgrass is a warm-season annual and will be killed by the first frost. If you have any questions please contact Kelsey Hatesohl at the Washington Office at 785-325-2121 or at khatesohl@ksu.edu.

KNOW WHAT'S BELOW, CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG!

Our everyday farming and ranching activities often involve moving soil for a variety of reasons. Our "normal" activities that generally operate at a depth of less than 12" such as discing, field cultivation, and planting are considered farming activities and are typically exempt from the "Call Before You Dig" requirement.

Many of our farming and ranching operations, however, are considered excavating and thus requires us to use the Kansas 811 system to locate buried utilities. Such activities that fall into this category might include: fencing, drain tile installation, terracing, deep ripping, tree removal, ditch repair, installation of cattle guards, installation of pond dams, installation of storm shelters, trenching water lines, burying of debris or dead livestock, and road building or repair.

If you are a farmer or rancher, or just live on a few rural acres and are considering digging to a depth greater than 12 inches for any operation then it is important to call the Kansas811 system. Simply dial 811 or 1-800-344-7233. The line is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Allow 2 full working days (not counting the day of the call) for the utilities to locate their buried pipes, lines, or cables. The marks are valid for 15 days. If the work extends beyond the 15-day period then be sure to call 811 again. One may also access the 811 system website at: www.kansas811.com. Scroll to the bottom of the page and see the "Start Here" tab for Homeowner, Contractors, or Farmers & Ranchers.

For those farming across the Nebraska boarder, be aware that the rules are different and so be aware of that. In Nebraska call 1-800-331-5666. The Nebraska website is www.nelcall.com. Allow 2 to 10 business days and the flags are valid for 5-10 business days.

When excavating around utilities, do not use power equipment within 24 inches of a flag. Do not move flags while working and do not remove flags until after the project is complete.

Thanks to Kansas811 and the Pipeline Ag Safety Alliance and their member organizations for providing farm and ranch Dig Safe information. For more information on pipeline safety visit www.PipelineAgSafetyAlliance.com.

Medicare Basics Workshop



This free educational program is designed for anyone interested in learning more about the Medicare maze, particularly those who are nearing age 65, who are soon to qualify because of a disability or who are helping family members with insurance and financial matters. We will cover Medicare eligibility, how and when to apply, what is covered by the various parts, and how to fill the gaps. We will also explain programs available to assist low income individuals and how to watch out for Medicare fraud.

Hosted By River Valley Extension District

River Valley Extension Office
Monday, August 13
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
322 Grant Avenue
Clay Center

Concordia Senior Center
Tuesday, August 14
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
109 W. 7th Street
Concordia

To register for Clay Center Workshop call the Clay Center District Extension Office at 785-632-5335 ; Concordia Workshop call the Concordia Extension Office at 785-243-1885. Or call the Area Agency on Aging at 800-432-2703 or e-mail Deanna Turner at dturner@ksu.edu

Medicare Basics is one of a series of Answers for Older Kansans (AOK) workshops sponsored by the North Central-Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging, an Aging and Disability Resource Center. Other AOK workshops focus on community living and aging in place. Call Area Agency on Aging at 800-432-2703 or 785-776-9294 for more information.



North Central-Flint Hills
AREA AGENCY ON AGING, Inc.
401 Houston St.
Manhattan, KS 66502
Tel: 800-432-2703 Fax: 785-776-9479
E-mail: ncfhaaa@ncfhaaa.com
Website: www.ncfhaaa.com



Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact John Forshee, Director, River Valley Extension District #4, 322 Grant Avenue, Clay Center, KS 67432. Phone 785-632-5335.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service
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PERMIT NO. 3****Address Service Requested****RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT****“2018 UP-COMING MEETINGS & EVENTS”**

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION
Aug. 3	1:30-3pm	Drop of a Hat	Clay Center-Apollo Towers Comm. Room, 330 West Court
Aug. 6-Sept. 26	10-11am	Stay Strong, Stay Healthy	Washington-Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Parish Hall
Aug. 13	6-8pm	Medicare Basics	Clay Center-RVD Office Meeting Room
Aug. 14	6-8pm	Medicare Basics	Concordia-Concordia Senior Center, 109 W. 7th
Aug. 15		K-State Ranching Summit	Manhattan-K-State Alumni Center
Aug. 18-19		Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes	
Sept. 11	1:30-3pm	Alzheimer's Question and Answer Program	Belleville-Library Meeting Room, 1327 19th Street
Sept. 11	5:30-7pm	Alzheimer's Question and Answer Program	Washington-FNB Basement Mtg. Room, 101 C Street
Sept. 18	8am-4pm	Sunflower Senior Fair	Salina-Tony's Pizza Event Center
Sept. 20		KSU Beef Stocker Field Day	Manhattan- Beef Stocker Unit, 4330 Marlatt Ave.
Sept. 24	9-3pm	Defensive Driving Class	Clay Center-RVD Office Meeting Room