



Ag Items of Interest

Workshop – Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle

Registration is open for the workshop, to be held August 29-30 at the Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center in Manhattan KS. The Beef Reproduction Task Force is sponsoring the event, targeted to commercial and seedstock producers, artificial insemination and related industries, and veterinarians. Participants will learn how nutrition, animal health, genetics, and management interact in the reproductive efficiency and efficacy of the cowherd.

The program runs from 8am-5pm on August 29, and 8am-12pm on the 20th. There will be an optional lab Wednesday afternoon.

Registration, hotels, and other information may be found at www.appliedreprostrategies.com.

KS Dept of Ag Seeks Volunteers for Kansas Agriculture Emergency Response Corps (KAERC)

While our county was mercifully spared the destruction, I'm sure we all know someone deeply affected by the wildfires, blizzards, and tornadoes that have struck our state in the past few months. The KS Department of Ag is launching a volunteer emergency response corps, first of its kind in the nation, to help with future disasters. Volunteers will combine their skills with some preparedness and emergency training, in order to respond rapidly and efficiently to an agricultural emergency.

The volunteers will first go through some training courses to introduce the KAERC framework and emergency basics, followed by some role-specific instruction.

More information can be found at <http://agriculture.ks.gov/KAERC>.

Possible Causes of Yellow Soybeans Dorivar Ruiz Diaz and Ignacio Ciampitti

When soybeans turn yellow at an early stage of growth, there are several possible explanations.

Nitrogen (N) deficiency. In fields that have been extremely wet or extremely dry, or under severe early heat stress, rhizobial nodule development can be delayed, resulting in N deficiency. As soil moisture levels return to more normal conditions (if a short-term stress), the nodule-forming bacteria will go to work and the deficiency symptoms will quickly disappear. With N deficiency, it is usually the lower leaves that are chlorotic or pale green. Within the plant, any available N from the soil or from N fixation goes to the new growth first.

Soybeans doublecropped after wheat can be N deficient for a short period of time shortly after emergence until the beans become well nodulated. As the wheat straw decomposes, some of the soil available N will be immobilized, making it unavailable to the young soybean plants. Applying a small amount of N (no more than 30 lbs acre) at planting time to soybeans planted into wheat residue is the best way to avoid early-season N deficiency. Hail damage can also cause N deficiency in soybeans at times. If the foliage is damaged enough so that the plant can't provide enough food for the rhizobia on the roots, the rhizobia will slough off the roots or become temporarily inactive. If this happens, the plants may temporarily become N deficient. Plants normally recover from this as regrowth progresses and photosynthates are translocated to the nodules.

Nitrogen deficiency due to a failure of soybeans to nodulate properly has also been a problem at times where soybeans are planted into new acres with no history of soybean production. In recent years, there have been reports of inoculated soybeans planted on "virgin" fields that have failed to produce nodules, resulting in N deficiency. An examination of the root systems showed very few or no nodules. Previous studies show that a rescue application of 90 to 120 pounds of N per acre gave good returns in these