



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences

Seminole County Extension
207 E. Crawford St.
Donalsonville, Ga 39845

Phone: (229) 524-2326
Fax: (229) 524-2856
E-mail: ethredge@uga.edu

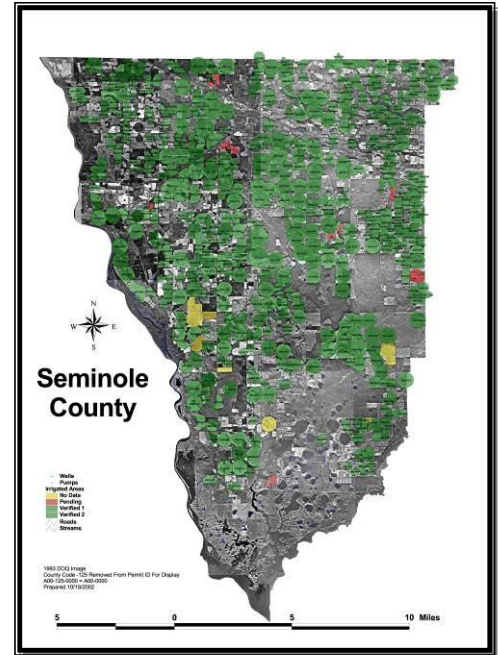
<http://www.ugaextension.com/seminole>

Seminole Crop E News

January 6, 2011

Farmers and Agribusiness,

Last year we had record cold in early January, and at the end of the year it was a very cold December and small grain growth was very slow. But with the new year we're having some warming and small grains are looking better. The rains have helped as well. Yesterday's rain wet this wheat field I looked at today and there was some tillering going on, so that's encouraging.



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Top Management Tips for Wheat, Dr. Dewey Lee, UGA Extension Scientist

Here are 2 of these timely tips

Scout fields for early insect infestations and control potentially damaging insects.

Hessian fly and aphids are the two insects generally causing yield loss in the fall. Control insects by either planting resistant varieties and or using an approved insecticide. Protect wheat from Hessian fly by planting resistant varieties or treating seed either with Cruiser[®] (thiamethoxam) or imidacloprid. See the Georgia Pest Control hand book for proper rates. These seed treatments are also effective against aphids. Aphids vector the Barley yellow dwarf virus and it is important to protect wheat from this virus. For both insects, scout wheat fields 25 to 35 days after emergence for the presence of either aphids or Hessian fly. Apply an approved pyrethroid insecticide if either is present and no seed treatment has been used. Again, scout just prior to topdressing. If aphids are present, then combine insecticides with the nitrogen fertilizer to prevent spring infestations. Thresholds and rates are listed in the Pest Control handbook and Wheat Production Guide.

Control weeds early to prevent yield loss.

Control ryegrass, wild radish, wild turnips, onions, garlic, henbit, chickweed, and vetch early for maximum weed control efficiency and high yield. Waiting to control these weeds till the spring causes considerable yield loss due to lost tillers and reduced herbicide effectiveness. Scout wheat 25 to 35 days after emergence. Note any weed infestations. Control broadleaf weeds when the weed is small (i.e. 2 to 4 inch wild radish). Products such as Express[®] or Harmony Extra[®] are preferred due to their effectiveness and a large window of safe application. Do not apply 2, 4-D on wheat that is not fully tillered or injury will occur. Also, do not apply 2,4-D to wheat beyond the first hollow stem phase or injury will occur. Control ryegrass when the plant is between the 2 leaf to 2 tiller stage. Products such as Hoelon[®], Axial[®], and Osprey[®] are very effective. Osprey also has some activity against small broadleaves. For residual control of ryegrass, tank mix 1.5 pts of Prowl H₂O[®] with your post-emergence herbicide. Prowl must be applied to wheat that is established and growing. See the Georgia Pest Control Handbook or Wheat Production Guide for rates and timing information.



Here's some wheat we scouted this morning. We saw no insect problems but some wheat was missing due to blackbirds. This plant had 3 tillers so we're headed in the right direction. We'll likely split the sidedressing to enhance tillering since our stand was hurt by the birds.

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Small grain overseeded into bermudagrass is struggling due to cool conditions and having to compete with the decaying Bermuda leafy matter for Nitrogen. As the organic matter decays it uses some of the nitrogen intended for the small grain. It will eventually release it but a little more N soon will help. Below you can see a bare Bermuda spot and the small grain looks better in that area.



Hay Production School – 2010 Publications

Good Publications at this link, including some Nutrient articles.
Here's a good one to click on at this link:



Forage Quality I
Nutritional Quality

<http://www.caes.uga.edu/commodities/fieldcrops/forages/events/HPS10/HPS10.html>

Here's Al Daniels taking a sample of hay to send off to the UGA Lab to be tested for quality. A tissue sample like this can tell you a lot about the hay you're feeding.

Non road Diesel Equipment

There are new federal regulations related to diesel engines and air emissions. Here are attached a few links to EPA's website regarding these rules. Essentially, these new rules apply to engine manufacturers and fuel refiners to increase efficiency, reduce the release of NOx and SOx, and reduce sulfur contents in off-road diesel fuel. These rules **do not apply to existing equipment** that farmers or other "non-road" equipment users may have.

<http://www.epa.gov/nonroad-diesel/basicinfo.htm>
<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/cleaner-nonroad/f03009.pdf>
<http://www.epa.gov/nonroad-diesel/420f97020.pdf>

Adam Speir, UGA Ag Pollution Prevention Specialist

Question Of The Week

What is this crop growing now in southern Seminole County?



Later,
Rome

Rome Ethredge
Seminole County Extension Agent