

**From: Dwayne Dabbs, Field Crops Agent**

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## FIELD CROPS Newsletter January, 2017

Well we have made into another year, and for some I know that you are glad to get last year behind you, and some last year was one of the better years you have had in a while. If you have questions about this coming year or you find problems as we go through the year, I ask that you don't hesitate to give me a call; I know that I won't have all the answers, but if I don't I'll find someone who does. I am still waiting to get all the data from the field trials that we had in the county from last year, I hope that I will get this information in the near future, and I will send that out when I get it.

### Coming up

- **Private Applicator– V Training January 5 & 26, 2017 @ 9 am– 11 am or 6 pm– 8 pm**

For the farmers that will be needing V pesticide Credits for 2017, I will be holding classes at the Alamance County Extension Office on January 5 and 26, 2017. There will be 2 classes each day at 9:00 am– 11:00 am, and 6:00 pm– 8:00 pm, to try and accommodate your schedule, I do ask that if you plan on attending one of these classes, please call our office at 336-570-6740 to register, so I know how many people to expect, and if we have bad weather and have to cancel a class, I know who to call.

- **Resistant Weed Symposium in Forsyth County January 19, 2017**

On January 19, 10:00 am, Forsyth Co. will host a regional Resistant Weed Symposium at the Forsyth Co. Ag Bldg. 1450 Fairchild Rd, Winston Salem, 27105.

Speakers will be:

1. Jeremy Kichler, Ext. Agent in Georgia, one of the first guys in the US to battle Palmer pigweed
2. Dr. Larry Steckel, Weed Science, University of Tennessee
3. Dr. Michael Flessner, Weed Science, Virginia Tech
4. Dr. Wes Everman, Weed Science, NC State

These guys will tell us what's going on in states surrounding us, what we might expect to happen, what has worked and no longer works, what they have been forced to move to, and what might be available to fight these resistant weeds in the future - not just chemical control, but cultural as well.

**If you are interested in attending this please let me know as soon as possible, so that I can get our names in the hat.**

- **Field Crops Meeting– Monday, February 6, 2017 @ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

In the past the field crops meeting has been a regional effort through about 5 counties, and over the short time that I have been here, attendance from Alamance County farmers has dropped off. So I'm going to try something different this year. The meeting will be held here at the Alamance County Extension Office in the Auditorium. I will have Dr. Heiniger (Corn & Small Grain), Dr. Dunphy (Soybeans), and Dr. Everman (Weed Management) from NCSU coming to talk about their respective crop concentrations and research that they have done this past year.

Lunch will be provided courtesy of sponsors but I will have to have a head count by **Wednesday, February 1, 2017** so that I have enough food for everyone. If you have any questions about this meeting, please feel free to give me a call.

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## Coming Up (cont.)

- **Understanding the Recommendations on Soil Sample Reports– March 15, 2017 @ 7:00 pm**

I will be having Dr. John Havlin (Soil Fertility Professor, NCSU) coming to talk about Nutrient and Lime Recommendations that you get from NCDA, and how you need to adjust them to work on your farm. This meeting will be March 15, 2017 starting at 7 pm. Supper will be provided, so I ask that you call and let me know if you coming by **Wednesday, March 8, 2017** so that I can have enough food for everyone.

## Wheat

This has been a difficult year for some in getting wheat established, and while it was a good year to be able to harvest corn and soybeans, we didn't have the rainfall to get wheat up and growing early like we have in years past. I wish that I could give you a recommendation to cover everyone's crop but it is scattered to far across the board. By now the pre-plant fertilizer should have already been applied, so now we need to decide whether you should split apply your spring nitrogen application or not. There is a great YouTube video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nn2Za3UEkmQ>) that talks about counting tillers in the field and based on the number of tillers, knowing how much more fertilizer needs to be added to optimize yield. Each situation is going to be different this year so, if there is anyway that I can help please let me know. More information is available at <http://www.smallgrains.ncsu.edu/> and will likely be updated throughout the year with various topics that concern small grains as they become available.

## 2,4-D and Dicamba Tolerant Soybeans

I'm sure as most of you know, you will have access to plant soybeans that are tolerant to 2,4-D and Dicamba, as the EPA allows it to be pushed through. If you are planting soybeans with this technology near susceptible crops such as tobacco or crops that are not tolerant to these herbicides, there is a risk of drift, and these crops will be very sensitive to these herbicides, so to be safe I would say that the best way to solve the problem is get it before it starts. This means have a conversation with your neighbors, if you know that your rotation will put soybeans close to tobacco or non-tolerant crops. I received an email from Dr. York that said that EPA was mandating that all farmers that will be planting this new technology receive training about it before they could purchase and use this technology, so please keep this in mind. I am working with the agents around us to try and put together a meeting in the coming months to supply this training, and as soon as we get everything together, I will be sending out this information.

## Certified Safe Farms

I would like to remind everyone that we still have this program going on through the end of August of 2017. You can find information about the program at: <https://alamance.ces.ncsu.edu/2016/09/certified-safe-farms-updated/>

If you want to participate in the program, give me a call so that we can set up a day and time to come out and do the review.

## Field Trial Data

I have included all of the field trial data that I have received from this past year, with the exception of the Soybean trial at Robert Saunders that we did with NC State. I hope to that that data to send out with the next newsletter or mailing that I send out. If you have any questions about any of the data, or have suggestions for trials that you would like to see done this year or in the future please let me know.

**Please keep an eye on our website: [alamance.ces.ncsu.edu](http://alamance.ces.ncsu.edu) for upcoming meetings and important information. I can post this information on the county website and send emails quicker than sending out hardcopies, so if you have an email address, please send it to me so that I can get your this information quickly. If you would like to be taken off this mailing list let me know, either by email, or calling our office, at the number listed above.**

**I Wish You All a  
Happy and Prosperous New Year!**

