CFAES COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Auglaize County ANR

News from OSU Extension

September 9, 2022

Late-season Waterhemp and Palmer amaranth scouting resources

Author Alyssa Essman, Edited by Jamie Hampton

Waterhemp and Palmer amaranth plants that have escaped POST applications or emerged after are now starting to develop mature seed. These plants can produce upwards of one million seeds per plant in certain situations. When it comes to the management of these weeds, the best offense is a good defense. Anything we can do from now through harvest to prevent seed from being deposited into the soil seed bank will pay dividends down the road. At this point in the season there are limited options for control beyond scouting and hand pulling. Just a few plants left in the field can lead to a total infestation within a few years. OSU weed science has a plethora of resources that can be helpful for scouting, including a pigweed ID guide, pigweed management fact sheet, and YouTube video that covers assessment for seed maturity. More helpful information on the management of pigweeds can be found on the OSU weed science website. Below are some guidelines from Dr. Mark Loux for late-season scouting from the 2018 newsletter on this topic:

- Take some time now into late summer to scout fields, even if it's from the road or field edge with a pair of binoculars.
- Where the presence of Palmer amaranth or waterhemp is confirmed, check to see whether plants have mature seed
- Plants without mature seed should be cut off just below the soil surface, and ideally removed from the field and burned or composted. Plants with mature seed should be cut off and bagged (at least the seedheads) and removed from the field or removed via any other method that prevents seed dispersal through the field.
- If the Palmer amaranth or waterhemp population is too dense to remove from the field, some decisions need to be made about whether or how to mow or harvest.

For the full article click HERE

CONT. ON PAGE 2 >>

Autumn Forage Harvest Management

Author Marc Sulc, Edited by Jamie Hampton

Every year we remind forage producers that the best time to take a last harvest of alfalfa and other legumes is in early September in Ohio, for the least risk to the long-term health of the stand. These forages need a fall period of rest to replenish carbohydrate and protein reserves in the taproots that are used for winter survival and regrowth next spring. And every spring we hear of weak stands coming out of the winter, and after asking questions we learn that in many of those cases of weak stand in the spring, they had been harvested the previous autumn during the fall rest period, which weakened the stand going into the winter. Like most farming decisions, there are trade-offs and risk factors to consider when making a fall harvest of forage legumes after the first 10 days or so of September. This article reviews best management practices and risk factors affecting fall cutting management of alfalfa and other tall forage legumes.

Photo by Jamie Hampton

"Forages need a fall period of rest to replenish carbohydrate and protein reserves."

The decision of when to take the last harvest with the least risk to the stand can be boiled down to two choices:

1.Cut early enough in the fall (generally early September) to permit alfalfa to regrow and replenish carbohydrate root reserves, or

2.Cut late enough so that alfalfa does not regrow and use up root reserves prior to winter dormancy.

Cutting in between these times (mid-September to mid-October) means more risk to the stand. Factors such as previous cutting management, age of stand, soil fertility, variety, and soil moisture affect the level of that risk. For the full article click HERE

Shelter for Horses

Taken from an article written by Nancy S. Loving, DVM, Edited by Jamie Hampton

In many situations, horses don't necessarily need a shelter, but a run-in shed may be well used during hail, sleet, or rainstorms, and as a refuge from intense sun and biting insects. If multiple horses share the pasture, then the shed should be large enough to allow all to enter without being trapped, or more than one shed can be erected to provide options for all herd members. Place a shed on high ground to facilitate drainage. Building a shed into the fence line eliminates the presence of an area between shed and fence that could entrap a horse. I have used tarp sheds as well as portable sheds for my horses, currently I use a run-in area on my barn. For the full article on Pasture Safety Click HERE

Seed testing for cover crops to meet germination and purity requirements.

Authors Alexander Lindsey and Laura Lindsey

Photo by Alex Lindsey

Seed quality is key to establishing a good crop (or cover crop). Earlier this year, the Ohio Seed Improvement Association seed test laboratory closed. However, if you need your cover crop or wheat seed tested this fall, some alternatives include the Illinois Crop Improvement Association, Indiana Crop Improvement Association, and Michigan Crop Improvement Association. Seed lot samples can also be sent to the Ohio Department of Agriculture for seed testing, and a farmer may be eligible to receive up to three free tests if sent in between June and December. Some of the critical components of seed quality are percent germination, mechanical analysis for purity (% other crops, % inert, and % weeds), and a listing of noxious weeds identified by scientific/common name and quantity found. Commercial or certified seed used for cover crops should have a seed tag that shows variety and the seed quality measurements above. However, if the seed is sourced from out of state, the noxious weeds listed (or NOT listed) on the tag by name may differ from the Ohio noxious weed seed list. Only the noxious weeds for the state where the seed was originally going to be sold are required to be listed on the tag by name and quantity (Federal Seed Act, part 201.16). Each state determines which species are included on this list, and can differ from state to state. Additionally, selecting only the "Noxious Weed Exam" if an out-of-state laboratory is used may only screen the lot for the noxious weed list of the state where the lab is located. For example, a seed lot tested in Illinois for a "Noxious Weed Exam" may only screen the seed lot for the noxious weed list for Illinois. Ordering the "all-state noxious weed exam" ensures that the lot is screened for the weeds on Ohio's list as well as the other states. This test would screen the seed sample supplied for the weeds contained in this list, and would help to meet requirements of participating in some governmental programs (i.e. H2Ohio) where the lot undergoes an evaluation for Ohio's noxious weed seed. Only 1.1-1.2 lbs of seed is needed for testing, but it is critical the sample is representative of the lot to ensure quality test results. Use of a sampling probe/bag trier (image) can help with collection of uniform samples, and different sizes are available. Saved seed for wheat or cover crop planting (if allowed for that species/variety) should be tested for germination (at minimum) to help farmers dial in seeding rates to ensure good cover crop establishment this fall. Also, farmers may need to have a noxious weed exam conducted to ensure seeding a cover crop won't bring unwanted weeds with it.

Know Before you Tow

Trailers come in all shapes and sizes. I wouldlike to take some time to point out some articles that can help you to be a safe and successful trailer driver. Steve Boyles has a great article in this weeks Beef Cattle letter. He starts with a brief description of a gooseneck trailer. Some trailers are attached to a tow vehicle's receiver hitch or via a bumper hitch. A gooseneck is different from traditional enclosed trailers both in its namesake shape and because of the gooseneck hitch attachment within the vehicle's bed. This allows a gooseneck trailer to be attached to the tow vehicle over the rear axle which is different from a hitch receiver, located at the rear of the vehicle. Also, because of the closer proximity of the trailer to the tow vehicle, a gooseneck trailer will typically have a tighter turn radius over other enclosed trailers.to read more about towing read the full article HERE

September Events

Auglaize County Events:

19th, Ag Breakfast with Wayne Dellinger on Roadway Safety and Expectations for the producer. RJ's Coffee Cup 901 Defiance Street, Wapakoneta

21st, Nature Walk at the Lock Keepers House, Lock One Park, 22 S. Water Street, New Bremen Oh 45869 at 7pm featuring Neal Brady with Agriculture History on the Canal

29th, Touring Auglaize A Management Series, Niche Markets and Marketing Specialist Christi Welch. 5 Vines Winery, 12179 Buckland Holden Road, Wapakoneta. Please RSVP to Jamie Hampton at 419-910-6062 or email at Hampton.297@osu.edu

Nearby Happenings:

13th, Agronomy College at Farm Science Review location

20-22nd, Farm Science Review, get your tickets online or at our office

---

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

OSU Extension Auglaize County
Jamie Hampton ANR Extension Educator
208 Blackhoof Street
Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895
Hampton.297@osu.edu
419-910-6062