

Wyoming Crop Update



June 2012

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SAFETY on the FARM or RANCH **Begin the season as you want to end it!**

Thoughtful, safe working habits don't just save your fingers/eyes/legs; they save your business money. Every time you plan ahead for the day's spray operation, branding, or harvest, you avoid large medical expenditures and keep your insurance premiums down. The following is a short list of things to think about and prepare for each working day.

- Avoid exposure to sunlight – long sleeves/pants, hat, sun-glasses, sunscreen
- Personal protective equipment as stated on pesticide labels
- Wash up after handling/mixing/loading pesticides
- Grain bin safety features – never work alone
- Tractor safety features – in good repair, PTO shield, turn key off when you dismount
- Shop – clean, organized, first-aid kit, eye-wash station, goggles, signs
- ATV – only 1 person, no children, careful on slopes
- Augers – never work alone, turn off when inspecting

- FOOD – wash up before you eat
- Do a walk-around on each piece of equipment before you use it
- Lock-out or Tag-out equipment needing repairs

Warm Temperatures Brings Insects

Both Lygus bug on alfalfa and Cereal leaf beetle on small grains have been reported in the Powell area. Lygus bug numbers are high before alfalfa is in bud or bloom stage this year. Scout your fields. Spraying has already begun. Cereal leaf beetle eggs and larvae are the target of insecticide control.

CLB -- Examine 10 plants per location and select one location for every 10 acres of field. Count number of eggs and larvae per plant (small plants) or per stem/tiller (large plants) and get an average number of eggs and larvae per plant or stem/tiller. Before boot stage the threshold is: 3 eggs and larvae or more per stem/tiller. At boot stage threshold is 1 larva or more per flag leaf.

Recommendations for economic thresholds and pest treatment are at the High Plains Integrated Pest management website:

[http://wiki.bugwood.org/HPIPm:Cereal Leaf Beetle](http://wiki.bugwood.org/HPIPm:Cereal_Leaf_Beetle)

[http://wiki.bugwood.org/HPIPm:Lygus and Alfalfa Plant Bugs](http://wiki.bugwood.org/HPIPm:Lygus_and_Alfalfa_Plant_Bugs)

TAKE HOME MESSAGE from POLLINATOR CONSERVATION SHORT COURSE Bridger, MT June 12, 2012

Producers raising some seed and fruit crops have boosted yields and reduced pollinator rental costs by establishing native pollinator habitat around their crops. In the Big Horn Basin sainfoin seed producers may benefit the most from establishing habitat. If you want more information, contact Sandra Frost, (307) 754-8836.

SAVE THE DATES – July 17 & 21, 2012

The University of Wyoming Research & Extension Center – Powell will host **the Crop Field Day on Tuesday, July 17. The High Tunnel Tour Day will be Saturday, July 21.** Details to be announced.

James C. Hageman SAREC in Lingle will host Field Day on **Thursday, August 23, 2012.** Details to be announced.

HOME CANNING CLASSES

Aug 1&2 – Cody/Powell, Water bath canning

Aug 15 & 16 – Cody/Powell, Pressure canning

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For further information contact UW CES Educator, Sandra Frost, at 307-754-8836 or sfrost1@uwyo.edu. Big Horn CropSite: <http://www.uwyo.edu/ces/bighorncrops/>

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