Row Crops Radio S2 Ep20 Field Days and Late Season Weed Control Advice (7/13/22)

Arkansas row crops radio, providing up to date information and timely recommendations on row crop production in Arkansas.

Hello and welcome to the Weeds AR Wild podcast series as a part of Arkansas Row Crops Radio. This is Tom Barber, extension weed scientist for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. Today, unfortunately for all of our listeners, I don't have a guest, so you'll have to bear with me and fly through this and just listen to me today. I know to me this seems a lot more interesting when a couple people are having a conversation on these. But I did want to take some time and cover some topics that we've been hearing and seeing in the field and then also to just remind you of some field days that are coming up in the future that you might want to show up to and see some of the work that's being done. Some of the to the new technology being used, so forth and so on.

So first, let's touch on field days. So write this down. August 5th is our Rice Field Day in Stuttgart at the Rice Research and Extension Center there. Registration I have in front of me starts at 730 in the morning and so we get a full day. I think it goes through 11, 11:30, ends with lunch like usual and this is going to be back and live in person. So I know last year our field days were kind of canceled at the last minute there due to COVID, but and we had some virtual options there. But, but this year, our field days are back in person. So Rice Field Day, August 5th in Stuttgart at the Rice Research and Extension Center, and then August 10th is a Soybean College that's coming up. And it's at the Jackson County Extension Center at Newport, formerly the Newport Extension Center. So again, August 5th in Stuttgart for Rice, August 10th at Newport at the Jackson County Extension Center for the Soybean College.

Now, the Soybean College is a little different because it's a lot more hands on. For those of you that have attended in the past, there'll be six or seven stops and it lasts pretty much all day. And we break everybody into groups of six or seven. And so I believe this year we've got it set for six groups as of right now. And again, Jeremy Ross is the contact on that. I know he's put some information out on social media, such as Twitter on our Arkansas Row Crops blog. So if you want to go to the Soybean College, you have to register for that. The registration is capped at 130

individuals. And so if you're thinking about going on, if you want to go, there is a cost. The registration is $100 per person, but we limit to that 130 individuals. Again, because those smaller groups is where we really get a lot of that interaction that I feel is beneficial and it's a little more hands on walking through the research plots and actually participating in that learning information. And so anyway, again, August 10th at Newport at the Jackson County Extension Center. Registration at 7:30. There is no onsite registration. That's just kind of where you sign up and take your name tag or whatever and sign in. You have to register online and you can do that, again contact Jeremy Ross. If you follow him on Twitter, I know he tweeted that out, I believe, last week. But you can also go to our Arkansas Row Crops blog. Just simply Google, Arkansas Row Crops blog and then several stories down, you can click on that link and there's a link to registration there.

As a side note, there is construction happening at this Jackson County Center as we're building our new office building. And so this week they started on the metal for the outside of the structure. And so hopefully by the time the college takes place, we'll be in the dry and most of the construction will be indoors. But just be aware that there will be construction workers on site, a lot of construction equipment. We're actually going to meet out on the farm versus meeting at the current office building. And so more details to come as we get closer to the event. But just know and be aware that there will be construction on site, so be careful as you go through the front part of the center, and drive throughout to the farm where we're going to meet. It is exciting that we're having this construction going on. I know we were sitting in a waiting period for so long. It was really frustrating because we were waiting on a moisture check to come back on our pad before we could start. But now I think I prayed a little too hard for the rain to stop early in May because now we're trying really hard for the rain to start back. We haven't had a rain there at Newport in quite some time, maybe going on 60 days now so. It's been really dry and the crops right there in that area really struggling, the irrigation struggling to keep up with the heat. And just the fact that we have not seen any helpful rainfall, so to speak of.

Other than that, that kind of sets the stage for the rest of the discussion today on the podcast. And I guess I want to move in, and you know, this time of the year, the common questions that I get really relate a lot to grass control or pigweed control and just the fact that we're struggling. A lot of it is due to the heat and dry conditions in many instances, but a lot of it's just due to weed size as well and the herbicides that we have available this time of year. So usually in July, for the most

part, we've either been successful at controlling weeds or we're just making revenge applications at this point. And so there's a lot of on these larger grasses, larger pig weed, we're just really not going to be able to take those out with the herbicides, given the time of year and the size of those weeds. It is very, very difficult. And so a lot of these we'll just live with, you know. Especially from a pig weed standpoint, we always recommend removing those escapes if at all possible by hand or whatever means necessary, pulling them if it's feasible, just because of the added amount of pressure they'll add next year with the seed that they produce this year. And so we want to remove those populations out of the field prior to them producing seed and it will really set us miles ahead for next season. Don't want those going to seed. And so that's really in a sense in a soybean scenario, you know that is the justification behind this seed destructor is that we're going to remove that seed from the environment, from the seed bank, so it doesn't cause us trouble next year. And it's the same when we talk about the zero program, zero tolerance programing, cotton. We want to remove those Palmer Amaranth or pig populations prior to them setting seed in the field.

I have been getting a lot of questions in cotton on lay by options, and I know a lot of our producers or farmers have moved away from using lay by bars or hooded sprayers to post direct herbicide. This year I am getting more and more questions about that just because of the pig weed pressure and some of the troubles we're having control it. And just because we have a lot later crop, and the later crop we have, the more we're going to fight that pigweed late in the season. And so a lot of questions though have come around for pyroxasulfone, which is a herbicide component of Zidua or Anthem Flex and questions about, you know, how low in the canopy can we make those applications or do they need to be made in to reduce the injury? And so idua or anthem flex neither one are registered over the top. Of course, Anthem Flex has aim in it or carfentrazone. So any leaves that you touch with a post direct rig or a drop nozzle while using anthem flex will burn because of the aim in the herbicide formulation. So just be aware that. The lower the better on the anthem flex. On residua, it's been my experience as long as we keep it out of the terminal, we reduce that injury and residua does work on the majority of the pigweed populations that we have in the state. And if we're watering down the middles, we can get activity and activate that herbicide by running that water. Just to understand that as you move up on the beds, you know, our activation is going to be less the higher we get on top of that bed just because we don't get a good soak usually this time of year in the upper portion of those beds. And so the activation is

only as good as where the water is moving. And also after that first watering, you know, we tend to, the water moves a lot quicker down the middle. And so for activation of these herbicides, we really need that water to soak in to give us good activation. So, you know, talk to your irrigation specialists about that. I'm by no means an irrigation specialist, but we have seen some differences there once the ground gets slipped off and our water moves through the field at a rapid pace. And so we want to get good activation of these residual herbicides if we're putting them out in a lay by scenario. Fierce is a combination of valor and residua. Valor and pyroxasulfone and is a great combination to use as a post direct or hooded application. But anytime we use Valor in that scenario, we need to make sure that our cotton is what we call barked up. So we want three or four inches of bark at the bottom of that stalk to harden off that stalk so the valor doesn't actually burn that green tissue. I have seen instances where we put that out a little early, get a little high on the plant, and Valor can actually pinch that stem sometimes because it'll burge so much and fall over. But again, as long as that cotton is barked up good at the bottom, Valor or Fierce, Valor containing herbicides are an option. Diuron is another cheap option for lay by. Diuron plus MSMA, plus Roundup or glufosanate is probably one of my favorite options just because even when we have instances of PPO resistant polymer or pink weed that Diuron still has good activity on those on those populations. And so it gives us another mode of action for polymer control in a in a hooded or lay by application. So again, that's just options.

The other thing that we've started looking at recently and Dr. Larry Steckel and I talked about this a little on the last podcast I did, but is evaluating herbicides that are coated or impregnated on fertilizer. And so talked to him again, his plots look promising. I know I looked at mine yesterday. And what we did is, to give you an idea is we just we coated 3.25 ounce equivalent zidua on ammonium sulfate is the is the one that we used just for ease in putting out in the plot. You can use other blends if you want, but ammonium sulfate, we put it out I think three weeks ago now. And so we also we're evaluating that compared to a drop nozzle application pyroxasulfone, or Zidua, as well as diuron. We're evaluating diuron on the on the fertilizer as well, coating it on the fertilizer. And I'll just tell you, after application, we did see some injury in the Diuron coated fertilizer. Wherever those fertilizer pellets would hit the leaf and melt on the leaf, you can see the effect of diuron on that leaf, much like if you get that lay by bar a little high, for those of you that remember when we used to do that and so and remember what that used to look like and so but zidua, we didn't see any injury like that. And so, you know, my

opinion the couple of years looking at this the zidua, you know, coating fertilizer with residual or impregnating zidua is what looks to be a good option to give us some residual control as a lay by application. Now obviously, if they're pigweed or polymer plants up when we make that application, we're not going to control those. And so we're going to have to get those out another way. But as far as providing the residual barrier, it can work now. It works much better if we can get a rain or if we're growing cotton under a pivot irrigation system, again we can get activation with our furrow irrigation, but it's not going to be quite as good up on the beds. You know, where we get those, where the zidua is coated on the fertilizer that lands on the beds. It's not going to be activated as easily. And so really need a rain to get the best use out of that, out of that method. So anyway, just an update on that.

The other thing I want to talk a little bit about and I'll include soybeans in this as well. This year, for whatever reason, I have been called to a lot of fields and walk in a lot of fields of cotton and soybean both, with spray contamination. And it's really, you know, name a herbicide and I think I've walked in that, either cotton or beans this year. It's for whatever reason whether it's, you know, we're just in a hurry, we have few spray days. I don't know what all the reasons kind of add up to. But herbicide contamination, in my opinion, has been a pretty big issue this year. And so, you know, we've had a lot of spray schools talking about cleaning out the sprayers, and I think cleaning out the sprayer has not been as big of an issue for us this year, just in my opinion of what I walk as cleaning out the mix tank or the truck that provides the water and the mixing vat and maybe the totes of herbicide. And so keeping in mind that that long hose that connects from that mix vat and water tank to the sprayer, you know a lot of those might contain 30 gallons of product and if we don't adequately flush those out in between swapping to different crops or different, you know, tolerances of crop, we can get some injury and some of these herbicides that we're using. Just some examples, so peanut for those that are trying Cadre in their peanut production systems, really got to get that cleaned out before we move to cotton. That is very common, that is very sensitive to Cadre. And seen some instances where that, you know, that can really shut down a cotton crop. So be very careful with that. Another one, you know, Python. If we're making Python applications in the soybeans and then we move to cotton, you know, Python is very good teaweed. We have teaweed problems in beans since we're moving to an oxen based system or since we have moved to that system. And so for use in Python in the beans and then we quick switch to cotton, we'll see that in

the cotton. So you got to be very careful about that. The obvious ones are 24D. If we're spraying Enlist one. In an Enlist system and then we move to non Enlist cotton, you know, it's very easy to see symptoms in that scenario. Same scenario for you know dicamba and non extend or extend flex beans and so you know, those are the ones that come to the top of my mind right off the bat. The other issue that we're seeing is with our Enlist beans. And so this year, more than any other, we have either, you know, got confused on what beans we were planting in the field or we got another load of beans and maybe they weren't what we thought they were. But we've got a lot of yellow nutsedge as a problem. And because of that I know a lot of growers have been spraying permit plus on their sts beans which is a recommendation. But it seems to me like this year more than any other again, or you know we're losing track of where we're planting these sts beans or, you know, maybe halfway through the field, we plant them and then we think we're continuing on to the field with sts but they're actually not, so you know, just double checking in the future is really too late to do anything about that now but double checking in the future, making sure we can keep good records and of where we've planted what is going to be beneficial. And mistakes happen, especially in a year like this. There's a lot, it's a stressful year, you know, getting everything in and getting everything done. But you know, these sts, or als herbicides can be very injurious to our non sts beans. To the point of where we have to replant the field. And so keeping track of where that technology is planted is crucial going forward, in my opinion. And that's just, you know, against things that we've been walking in the field. I know just by driving around, you know, wherever we planted Enlist or conventional beans or straight liberty beans that are not tolerant to dicamba, we are seeing a lot of symptoms of dicamba on those beans, much like we did last year. I'm getting a lot of questions now about what can we do with those beans as far as is there anything I can spray to, you know, turn them around or get them to grow out of it quicker? And I believe Jeremy Ross, our soybean specialist, had done some work on that. And basically the answer is no. There's really nothing we can do other than eliminating the stresses that we can control. And so it's hot and dry. We can't do anything about the heat, but we can water the beans. And so we need to make sure that we're getting adequate water to these beans so they can metabolize whether it's dicamba, non dicamba beans or whether it's injury from these other herbicides I've talked about. There's nothing really we can apply or spray that pulls our crop out of that situation, you know, in a rapid fashion. And so just keeping those beans irrigated, keeping the cotton irrigated when necessary to eliminate that drought stress as much as possible to me is the most important factor

moving forward to try to grow out of some herbicide injury. But other than that, I mean, it's just the typical questions of. You know what happens when I spray glue fascinator liberty over the top of buildings that are blooming. And of course, we've done that a lot in the past. And yes, you can knock some blooms off of those bangs. Oh, when you do that, the question is, can you not do it because of the way that are growing in the field? And so, you know, that type of answer is more situational for me. I need to control that way, number one, to help my brains compete and have an efficient harvest. But number two, to have a productive season next year. And so again. But yes, if you do spray glue last night when those beans are blooming, you can likely expect to knock some of those blooms off in a lot of cases.

So anyway, that's basically all I had for this week. I know that maybe not next week, but I think we've moved to a two week period in between these podcasts. And so the next podcast, to my knowledge, Dr. Tommy Butts, is going to include some of our graduate students. He is graduate student and possibly mine to talk about their projects and get a little update from them. So which I think will be good to hear from them. And so one of thing I'll mention, I'm going to try to send out if you're not if you don't get our texts, if you're not signed up to receive our text, when we text updates out and everything, go ahead and text weeds to 501 300 8883 that's 501 300 8883 And if you text weeds to that number, you'll get our text updates. And so what I'm going to do when I conclude this podcast is I'm going to send out a text for the registration for the soybean college. And so for those of you that they want to sign up, can sign up that way if you receive those text messages.

So again, I want to say thank you to all our listeners. Thank you for the support. If you need anything, we're just a phone call away. And we just want to thank everybody for listening to this episode of The Weeds, our wild podcast series on Arkansas Road Crops Radio. Arkansas Row Crops Radio is a production of the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. For more information, please contact your local county extension agent or visit uaex.uad.edu.