

AG HAPPENINGS

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Farley's Thoughts

September has finally arrived. The bermudagrass is unbelievably green, cows are slick and fat, and the moisture to prepare small grain fields has been adequate. It appears that our 100 degree temperatures are over. We now await the first significant cold front of the season. Fall is just around the corner.

A significant amount of acres of small grain, especially oats, have already been planted. Those folks should be scouting for armyworms and weeds. Time will tell how the risk versus reward of early seeding plays out. Fertilizer prices are less than any time in the past 6 or 7 years. The pecan crop and prices look promising.

Now, you should be waiting for the "not so good" news. Calf prices are less than half of what they were two years ago and dropping.
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Pecan Late Summer Nut Drop

Everyone is complaining about all the pecans falling to ground this year. Pecan drop can be insect related but also just a function of the tree. Here is an article by Dr. Lenny Wells with Georgia Extension that might explain it.

Pecans are susceptible to four distinct periods of physiological nut drop throughout the growing season, in which the tree will abort or shed nuts.



The first drop occurs immediately after pollination and often goes un-noticed. The second drop, occurring in June, is the most commonly recognized drop. Certain varieties such as Desirable undergo a very obvious June drop each year.

The third drop occurs in July and results from problems with

Farley's Thoughts cont.

Commodity and hay prices are low (that could be good news or bad news depending on your point of

view.) Jim

Rapid

Decline of Post Oaks

(This article was posted by the Plant Diagnostic Lab at TAMU. We

certainly are seeing this problem here.) This year, beginning in the early spring to late summer, there has been many inquiries as to why the post oaks have "suddenly" died. The most frequent symptoms have been described as a rapid appearance of chlorotic (yellow) and/or necrotic (brown and dead) leaves throughout the entire crown. The leaves often remain attached on the twigs, but the trees are dead. Another, alternative scenario has the leaves dropping off to produce a tree with sparse foliage and thin canopies. These latter trees are lingering with various stages of twig and branch die back, but are still alive.

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endosperm development.

A fourth drop, resulting from problems with embryo development may occur in August. The endosperm provides nourishment for the developing embryo. If the endosperm fails to develop properly, the embryo may be weak and the tree may abort the nut. Also, self-pollination or poor pollination can contribute to the failure of embryo development.

For many varieties, this is the nut drop we are seeing now. This is something that occurs annually and is a natural aspect of the pecan tree. They will lose a certain percentage of nuts each year. It may be worse on some varieties than others and worse in some years than in others, depending on pollination, etc.

Small Grain Forage or Grain

What is a small grain? We use this term loosely when we generally mean a cereal grain such as oats, wheat, triticale, barley or rye or even rice although here we don't mean rice!



Small grains are typically planted in the fall as temperatures begin to cool and we start to get fall moisture. In this area we do plant small grains to actually harvest the seed but overall livestock raisers plant thousands of acres of small grains simply for cattle to graze in the winter and spring.

Planting Small Grains for Grazing

If you are strictly interested in grazing high quality small grains for your cattle herd or stockers or bred heifers, then here are a few guidelines:

Post Oaks cont.

We believe this phenomenon of rapid decline of the post oaks is a result of varying extremes of soil moisture (drought and/or drowning) leading to attack by root rots, cankers, and wood boring insects. Root rot can develop as a result of saturated soils (poor internal soil drainage) resulting in inadequate oxygen diffusion to the tree's root system. All of these problems were made worse by the historic drought of 2011 when the health of these trees was crippled to such an extent that they are still suffering today. Extreme drought causes trees to cope with the drought stress and expend the storage carbohydrates they normally depend on to grow, reproduce and defend themselves against pests and diseases. The heavy rainfall during the spring of 2016 combined with the poorly drained soils where we are seeing the death of post oaks is contributing to their demise. Post oaks are intolerant of "wet feet"!! Simply put, trees get stressed too, and then they are unable to defend themselves.

Farley's Retail Store

Maybe you haven't had a chance to visit the **Farley Retail Store**.
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- We plant early as in NOW, in order to get these plants growing so we can begin grazing early fall and through the winter if possible.

- Generally people don't worry about spending extra money on a named or numbered variety, they simply choose a bulk variety. What small grain type to plant? Well some people have their favorites but overall they all do well if planted properly. In general either a triticale which is a wheat-rye cross or just rye is planted on very sandy soils because they just do better than oats or wheat on sand. Oats are highly digestible and cattle do well on them, but they can winter freeze. So you have lots of choices!

- How much seed do you plant? Again people do have their preferences but to encourage fall grazing we plant more than if you just want to harvest grain. So plant at least a bushel and more likely 2-3 bushels per acre. For oats that means 3 bushels or 96 lbs per acre and wheat at 2 bushels or 120 lbs per acre or anything in-between.

- Small grains do like nitrogen and phosphorus. Nitrogen can be applied before and after planting but phosphorus does need to be applied to the soil before planting. We get no response to phosphorus after planting. How much? A soil test sure helps to know but without it then a lot of growers use 100#'s of 18-46-0 per acre along with 100#'s of 34-0-0 in the fall followed by another 200#'s of 34-0-0 in January or early February.

- Lastly if you plant early then watch out for armyworms and greenbugs. You might have to spray or at least have the cattle ready to graze to keep them under control

Herbicide MOA - Growth Regulators

These herbicides are widely used to control broadleaf weeds in grass crops such as wheat, corn, sorghum, forages and turf grasses. One member of this group, 2,4-D, was one of the first selective herbicides developed. Growth regulator herbicides upset the normal hormonal balance that regulates processes such as cell division, cell enlargement, protein synthesis, and respiration. That is why this group of herbicides is sometimes called the "hormone herbicides." These herbicides are very

Farley's Retail Store Cont.

The store is located at 201 N. Houston St. in DeLeon. In case you don't know where this is just turn at DeLeon Auto to the East and go one block and the Store is on the North Corner. The Store is surrounded by the old Golden Peanut shelling plant and cold storage.

Farley's Retail Store has just about anything you need in livestock supplements including all your protein feeds, livestock minerals, vet supplies, and even hay. Don't forget wildlife feeds too.

Hunters we do have your ammo. Also for the gardeners there is all the winter and summer vegetable seeds, fertilizers and even garden planters. For those who like a beautiful lawns and landscapes there are lawn seeds, fertilizers for St. Augustine and Bermuda, weed and insect control chemicals, and plenty of natural products for the lawn and garden. We can even put out lawn pre-emerges for winter weeds or in early spring for summer weeds like grassburrs. Also, if you come early in the morning you might be able to get in on a "42" game.

Lastly, if you take this newsletter with you then you can get **\$5 off** your purchase of any lawn and garden item!

versatile for weed control. They usually are applied to the foliage, but are also effective in the soil. Any herbicide that falls on the soil instead of the foliage can be percolated into the soil with rain or irrigation and will be taken up by weed roots.

Herbicides in this category

Phenoxy growth regulator herbicides have the least plant activity and soil residual activity, while the carboxylic acids generally have the most. Broadleaf crops and turf grasses should not be planted into soils recently treated with these herbicides because they severely inhibit seedling emergence.

Phenoxy	2,4-D	Several
	2,4-DB	Butyrac, [®]
		Butoxone [®]
	MCPA	Several
Benzoic acid	MCPP	Several
	MCPB	Several
	dicamba	Banvel, [®]
		Clarity [®]
Carboxylic acid	picloram	Tordon 22K [®]
	clopyralid	Stinger, [®]
		Reclaim [®]
	triclopyr	Remedy, [®]
		Grandstand [®]
	quinclorac	Facet [®]

Herbicide Resistance

This picture was taken on a street corner near downtown DeLeon.

In fact this weed is across from my house and I didn't like it being there. Three weeks ago I sprayed it with the highest rate of Roundup.

Everything died

around it but not this pigweed (careless weed)!! Basically we can say that almost all pigweeds are resistant to Roundup not just those in crop fields as this picture near downtown DeLeon shows.

