

Personal Column

Week of June 1-5, 2020

By Sandra L. Wick

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Post Rock Extension District “Virtual” Wheat Plot Tour

Well, it won't be long and the combines and farm trucks will be rolling in the wheat fields around north central KS. The 2020 wheat crop has certainly been through a variety of conditions during the growing season. Stay tuned and I will provide an update on our Post Rock Extension District Wheat Demonstration Plot Tour.

Annually the Post Rock Extension District conducts face-to-face tours of our wheat demonstration plots around the district. However, with the pandemic conditions, we converted our tours to “virtual”. The variety signs are up on each of the wheat plots in Jewell, Osborne and Smith counties and the field locations are posted on our website at www.postrock.ksu.edu under the “Crops” tab and then go to “Test Plots”. The replicated wheat plot in Mitchell Co. will also soon have the signs posted. So we encourage you to go by and take a look at the varieties in any of the wheat plots closest to you.

K-State Research and Extension agronomists along with myself have provided information on each of the varieties along with conditions throughout the growing season including diseases, insects or low temperature effects and a “virtual” tour of the plots was recorded and will be posted on our district website. We will let you know through email, Twitter or Facebook, when the program will be posted online. The anticipated post date will be around the first week of June.

K-State Research and Extension Agronomy also hosted its first-ever live Virtual Wheat Field Day on the evenings of Wednesday., May 27 and Thursday., May 28. In a twist on the typical wheat field day that Kansas farmers often attend, K-State Research and Extension hosted this two-part wheat field day live on the K-State Agronomy YouTube channel and updated producers and others on the most recent crop advances and challenges while keeping producers safe from COVID-19. We will post these recorded fields days on our PRD website on the “Crops” page of our Post Rock Extension District website soon. This program included information on the 2020 wheat growing season, variety selection, disease and insect management, a wheat breeding update along with a presentation from the Kansas Wheat commission.

Hopefully you will take advantage of these educational opportunities from the Post Rock Extension District and K-State Research and Extension.

For more information on our **Wheat Demonstration plot program**, contact me at any of our Post Rock Extension District Offices in Beloit, Lincoln, Mankato, Osborne or Smith Center.

Post Rock Extension District of K-State Research and Extension serves Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne, and Smith counties. Sandra may be contacted at swick@ksu.edu or by calling Smith Center, 282-6823, Beloit 738-3597, Lincoln 524-4432, Mankato 378-3174, or Osborne 346-2521. Join us on Facebook at “Post Rock Extension” along with our blog site at “postrockextension.blogspot.com. Also remember our website is www.postrock.ksu.edu and my twitter account is @PRDcrops.