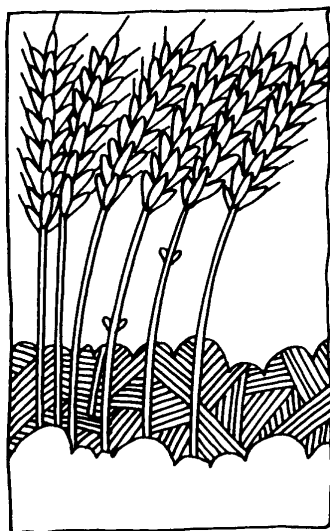


# PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

FIELD CROPS/LIVESTOCK EDITION \$1.50

AUGUST 17, 2000



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## Wheat Variety Selection for Fall 2000

*Jeremy W. Singer, Ph.D., Field and Forage Crops*

**M**y last article focused on alfalfa variety selection for fields that will be rotated into alfalfa. This article will focus on wheat variety selection. I am responsible for conducting the annual New Jersey wheat variety trial. The 2000 yield data are currently available at your County Extension office or on the web (as well as '99 and '98 data) at the [www.rce.rutgers.edu](http://www.rce.rutgers.edu) webpage by following links to agriculture/publications/field crops.

Several varieties performed well at multiple sites in 2000. The best way to use the variety report is to identify wheat varieties that performed well across locations because these varieties tend to produce more stable yields under variable environmental conditions. Furthermore, evaluating more than one year of yield data, when possible, provides information on how varieties perform under even more variable environmental conditions. For example, in the 1999 wheat variety trial, USG 3209 was in the highest yielding group at two of three sites, had the greatest yield at the Adelpia farm and the second highest yield at RAREC. If a variety is in the highest yielding group, there is no statistical difference among all varieties in that group.

In the 2000 trial, USG 3209 was in the highest yielding group at all three sites. Another variety that has performed well across years and sites is Roane out of Virginia. In 1999, Roane was in the top yielding group at all three sites and in 2000 at two of three sites. Another consistent performer has been AgriPro Sawyer, which was in the top yielding group at two of three sites in 1999 and at all three sites in 2000. A new variety in the 2000 trial that shows potential is Pioneer 2643, which yielded second and third at the two locations where it was entered. Seed company contact information is available on the last page of the variety trial report.

The wheat variety trials are conducted in New Jersey to provide unbiased, research based information to help you select superior varieties for production on your farms. If varieties you grow are not entered in the trial, or seed companies that you buy seed from do not participate, contact your agribusiness representative and urge him/her to give me a call to enter those varieties. The more entries in the trial, the more information to choose from to make sound management decisions. My phone number is 732.932.9711 ext. 117 and my email address is [singer@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:singer@aesop.rutgers.edu). □

# Act Now for Successful Pasture and Hay Planting

Daniel Kluchinski, Mercer County Agricultural Agent

Of any time of year, late summer is one of the best times to plant pasture and hay crops. Cooler weather and reliable rainfall generally occurs during this time of year, providing advantageous conditions for germinating seeds and young seedlings. In addition, annual weed pressure is not as great a problem when compared to spring plantings.

For successful establishment of forage and hay plantings, plan and act now to get fields prepared. The most important factors to consider are soil pH and fertility, weed control, variety selection, and planting date. Following these steps will help increase the likelihood of a successful fall planting of forage and hay crops:

1. Test your soil. Take soil samples for pH and fertility analysis. Soil sampling should be done first to allow adequate time for the samples to be analyzed and the results and recommendations returned to you. Applications of limestone and fertilizer, if required, should be applied as recommended prior to planting to help improve soil conditions. Don't forget that most hay and forage species prefer pH range of 6.0 to 6.5, while alfalfa requires a pH range of 6.5 to 7.0 for optimum growth. If large quantities of nutrients are required, they are best incorporated prior to planting to increase fertility and availability in the root zone of the crop.

2. Control weeds. When necessary, weeds and in particular, perennial weeds should be controlled prior to seeding. An investment in weed control at this time will help to reduce future weed problems. Use of non-residual herbicides such as Roundup (glyphosate) will eliminate herbicide/crop rotation restrictions. Herbicide selection will depend on the plant species to be planted. Check in the *2000 Pest Management Recommendations for Field Crops* guide or contact your county agricultural agent for recommendations.

3. Select appropriate crops and varieties. Choose hay and forage species and varieties that best suit your needs and the field conditions where they are to be planted. These factors include soil pH and drainage. For example, alfalfa should be planted on well-drained soils with a high pH. Timothy, reed canarygrass, alsike and Ladino clover are better suited for wet areas. Choose varieties that are recommended for New Jersey by Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Consult your *Field Crop Recommendation Guide*, RCE Fact Sheet #103 "Horse Pasture Manage-

ment-Species Selection" available through county Extension offices or call your local field crop agent for assistance with such selections.

4. Plant at the right time. Research conducted at Penn State evaluated the performance of forages planted after the recommended fall planting dates. Dry matter yield of alfalfa, red clover, birdsfoot trefoil, and reed canarygrass were reduced the following season over the same species planted at the recommended planting dates. In New Jersey, planting should be done between mid-August and mid/late September. Seeding should be completed by September 20<sup>th</sup> in New Jersey. This means that now is the time to start planning for fall seeding of hay and forage crops.

Following these production recommendations can help to increase the success of establishing forage and hay crops on your farm. For additional information or assistance, contact your county agricultural agent. □

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## New RCE Factsheets on Biosolids and Others of Interest

A new series of factsheets on Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) is now available from Rutgers Cooperative Extension (see information below). For further information on the subject of Biosolids, contact your county agricultural agent.

The following is a list of the new factsheets:

- FS951 - Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) #1: Questions to Ask Before Considering Application on Farmland
- FS952 - Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) #2: Regulations and Guidelines
- FS953 - Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) #3: Different Types of Sewage Sludge
- FS954 - Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) #4: Guidelines for Land Application in Agriculture
- FS955 - Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) #5: Heavy Metals
- FS956 - Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) #6: Soil Amendments and Heavy Metals
- FS957 - Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) #7: Organic Contaminants
- FS958 - Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) #8: Pathogens

In addition, Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Publications Distribution has many other factsheets

SEE FACTSHEETS ON PAGE 3

available (see sample titles on page 3). Many of the publications (including the Biosolids series) appear in their entirety on our web site:

[www.rce.rutgers.edu](http://www.rce.rutgers.edu) with downloading capabilities. For a hard copy contact your County Extension office listed on the back of this newsletter (or in your local phone directory) or call the Publications Distribution office at (732) 932-9762; fax order to: (732) 932-5023; or mail your order to: RCE Publications Distribution, 57 Dudley Road, Cook College, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8520.

Here are some additional titles of interest:

- E197D – New Jersey Wheat Variety Trial Test Results 2000
- E049J – New Jersey Corn Hybrid Trial Test Results 1999
- E041M – New Jersey Soybean Variety Trial Test Results 1999
- FS155 – Laboratories for Soil Testing and Plant Analysis
- FS174 – Plant Nutrient Recommendations for Field Corn
- FS718 – On-Farm Use of Leaves: Regulations
- FS767 – Soil pH Measurement with a Portable Meter
- FS802 - Threshold for Common Field Crop Insect and Weed Pests in New Jersey
- FS873 – Boron – Needs of Soils and Crops in New Jersey

## Weekly Weather Summary

*Keith Arnesen, Ph.D., Agricultural Meteorologist*

Temperatures averaged above normal. Extremes were 95 at Pomona on the 8th and 48 degrees at Charlotteburg on the 12th. Weekly rainfall averaged 1.63 inches north, 1.62 inches central, and 1.32 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total was 3.58 inches at Atlantic City Marina on the 12th to the 13th. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 81 percent north, 79 percent central and 56 percent south. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 72 degrees north, 76 degrees central and 77 degrees south.

**Weather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday 8/14/00**

WEATHER STATIONS	RAINFALL			TEMPERATURE				GDD BASE50		MON %FC
	WEEK	TOTAL	DEP	MX	MN	AVG	DEP	TOT	DEP	
BELVIDERE BRIDGE	.66	29.17	7.42	89	60	74.	3	1845	-21	78
CANOE BROOK	2.51	22.75	-.12	92	60	75.	3	2031	161	98
CHARLOTTEBURG	.72	23.37	.30	87	48	69.	0	1501	33	73
FLEMINGTON	2.83	23.50	1.41	89	60	73.	1	2062	144	98
LONG VALLEY	1.45	24.11	.33	85	60	72.	3	1674	15	97
FREEHOLD	.38	19.35	-2.13	91	61	76.	3	2222	175	75
LONG BRANCH	1.66	26.76	5.19	92	64	78.	5	1998	30	93
NEW BRUNSWICK	3.37	24.32	2.75	91	60	75.	2	2147	16	98
PEMBERTON	2.57	22.37	.57	94	59	75.	2	2628	538	100
TOMS RIVER	.94	24.18	2.03	93	64	76.	4	2143	185	82
TRENTON	.78	19.06	-1.50	91	62	75.	0	2214	-15	59
CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE	1.67	21.89	2.79	93	63	77.	2	2226	123	87
DOWNSTOWN	.33	22.23	2.03	92	63	77.	3	2325	86	38
GLASSBORO	.08	22.44	1.27	92	64	77.	2	2453	240	42
HAMMONTON	.78	20.11	-1.09	93	62	76.	1	2249	34	53
POMONA	1.62	26.96	7.59	95	62	76.	3	2186	120	100
SEABROOK	1.16	21.99	2.57	94	63	77.	2	2428	180	62
ATLANTIC CITY MARINA	3.60	25.57	7.01	90	67	76.	2	2230	245	94
SOUTH HARRISON	.46	25.73	4.59	91	63	76	NA	2404	NA	NA
WES KLINE – GDD BASE 40 PINEY HOLLOW										
Last Week 260 (Ending 8/07/00) This Week 259 (Ending 8/14/00)										

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## PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

### FIELD CROPS/LIVESTOCK EDITION

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