

Jarette's Farm Journal

North Carolina Cooperative Extension
Jarette Hurry
January 2019



Contact Us

For more information regarding any of your farming needs, please feel free to contact the Bertie County Cooperative Extension Office at 794-5317. Your questions and comments are important to us.



REMINDER – 2019 UPCOMING MEETING DATES

January 16th – 9AM

Regional Tobacco Gap Meeting
Martin Co. Farmers Market

February 6th – 10AM

Grain Crops Production Meeting
Windsor Community Building

February 11th – 9:30AM

Peanut Production Meeting
Windsor Community Building

February 13th – 9AM

Mandatory Auxin Herbicide Training
Windsor Community Building

February 13th – 10AM

Cotton Production Meeting
Windsor Community Building

February 18th – 8:15AM-7PM

Fit Testing and Medical Clearance
Roanoke Cashie River Center
PLEASE CALL FOR TIME SLOT

February 19th – 8:15AM-5PM

Fit Testing and Medical Clearance
Roanoke Cashie River Center
PLEASE CALL FOR TIME SLOT

March 6th – 1PM

Pesticide Training
'V' (Safety Class)
Windsor Community Building

March 20th – 9AM

Pesticide Training
'V' (Safety Class)
Windsor Community Building

Late January and Early February: Last Chance to Grow More Tillers

When evaluating your wheat crop check tiller density to determine Nitrogen needs.(formulas below)

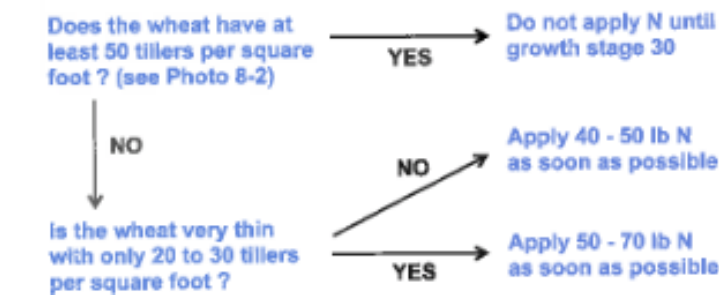
- Well tailored wheat that is showing some sign of N deficiency may respond to 15-30 pounds of nitrogen to help with tiller retention (consider adding nitrogen when making postemergence herbicide applications for winter annual weeds and Italian ryegrass).
- Poorly tillered wheat with about 20-30 tillers per square foot has low yield potential and should have 50-70 pounds of nitrogen fertilizer applied in late January or early February. A second application of nitrogen fertilizer should also be made at growth Stage 30.

A "tiller" is considered to be any stem that has three or more leaves. To determine tiller density, count well developed tillers disregard small tillers that have only one or two leaves. Don't be concerned with differences between the main plant and younger side tillers just count any stem with at least three leaves as a tiller. Do this in a yard of row. The formula is below.

$$\text{Tillers per square foot} = \frac{(\text{tillers per yard of row}) \times 4}{(\text{row width in inches})} \quad \frac{102 \text{ tillers} \times 4}{7.5} = 54.4 \text{ tillers per sq. ft.}$$

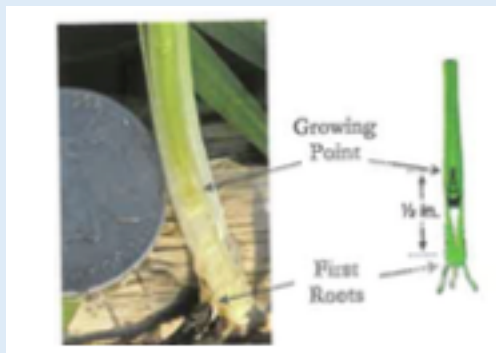
If you want to do less counting of tillers you can count tillers in a foot of row. The formula is below:

$$\text{Tillers per square foot} = \frac{(\text{tillers per foot of row}) \times 12}{(\text{row width in inches})} \quad \frac{34 \text{ tillers} \times 12}{7.5} = 54.4 \text{ tillers per sq. ft.}$$



Growth Stage 30: The Important Time to Apply Nitrogen

Growth stage (GS) 30 is when small grains switch from producing tillers, to reproductive growth. Nitrogen at this stage of development is critical and larger amounts of N are needed to satisfy N requirements. A typical fertilizer application rate at growth stage 30 is 80 to 120 pounds per acre (minus what was applied in January or February). The calendar date when wheat reaches growth stage 30 is influenced by variety, planting date, and environmental conditions. Early varieties can reach GS 30 in late February while late varieties may not reach GS 30 until mid-March. The best way to tell if wheat is at GS 30 is to pull up several plants and split the stems down their centers all the way to the base. At GS 30 the growing point will have moved 1/2 inch up the stem (see figure below).



Control Italian Rye Grass and Winter Annual Broadleaf Weeds

There is ryegrass with multiple resistance to all of the postemergence herbicide options we have, (Axial, Powerflex, Hoelon, and Osprey) this is why it is key to use preemergence herbicides in the fall. However, in our area I have seen postemergence applications of axial at 16.4oz provide the most consistent control of Italian Ryegrass (this is true if the biotype is susceptible to Axial). Harmony Extra SG can be tank mixed with Axial Powerflex or Osprey for winter annual broadleaf weeds. (Consider adding a little nitrogen when making herbicide application to help with tiller retention.)



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A handwritten signature of Jarette Hurry in black ink.



Bertie County Cooperative Extension

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