

**PIONEER PREMIUM SEED & TREATMENTS, CROP INSURANCE, AGRONOMY SERVICES, FIELD DAYS, SEED WHEAT, SEED DELIVERY, & PERSONAL SERVICE**

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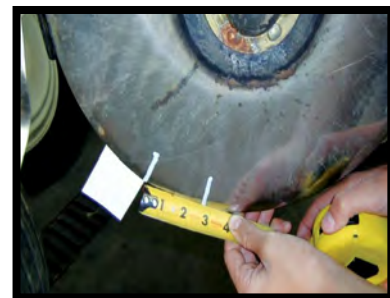
## SPRING PLANTER PREPARATION BY LAURA SHARPE & MARK JESCHKE

### PLANTER LEVELING

For proper disc cutting action, seed delivery, planting depth accuracy, and press wheel action, planters need to run slightly uphill, particularly as they age and the parallel linkages become worn. Check your planter for its levelness. If the planter is running downhill, it may require adjusting hitch position.

### PARALLEL LINKAGES

Parallel linkages wear over time, which can lead to excessive movement of the row unit. Bushing wear will tend to make a row unit plant slightly shallower with more tendency for erratic seed distribution. With your planter raised in the air stand behind each row unit and push up and side to side. If you find that the row unit moves



shape. Check your seed drop tubes to be sure they are free and clear of any obstructions, and make sure that they are not worn by your double disc openers. Rough edges caused by wear can alter your planter's seed drop accuracy. Any hindrance or obstruction that interferes with seed drop can result in erratic seed distribution, even though meters are functioning perfectly. If seed tubes are worn, they should

be replaced. If the planter is equipped with seed firmers, they should also be checked for wear and replaced if necessary.

### METERS

Meters should be taken apart before each planting season for cleaning and to check parts for wear. Finger pick-up metering units should be recalibrated after 100 acres have been planted per row unit. Confirm that all seals on vacuum meters are in working order and

seed discs are flat and not warped. Double check the clearance between the seed disc and the housing to prevent vacuum leaks. Inspect any belt or brush within the meter, and in high-speed delivery systems, for wear and misshapen bristles or paddles. It is also important to check the bowl tension on John Deere ExactEmerge™ planters. If the bowl tension is too loose, seeds may not end up getting to the brush belt for delivery to the seed furrow.

### COULTERS AND ROW CLEANERS

Coulters and other attachments can impact seed to soil contact, especially with heavy residues. Coulters and sharpness are important to allow residues to be cut cleanly rather than crimping and pushing them into the seed furrow. Most coulters should be set to run about 1/4 inch above the depth of the double-disc openers. Be sure that coulters and residue attachments are aligned properly with the double-disc planted too deep and double disc openers not turning properly. Make sure row cleaners gently sweep residue – you don't want to move soil, just residue. Watch the row cleaners



running. Fixed row cleaners shouldn't turn constantly; they should gently turn sporadically, especially through areas of thick residue. Floating row cleaners should maintain constant contact with the ground, following the contours and providing a clean and consistent path for the depth gauge wheels to follow.

### CLOSING WHEELS

For closing wheels to perform properly, it is important to ensure that they are aligned with the opening discs. To check alignment, set the planter on the ground and pull

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## SPRING PLANTER PREPARATION CONTINUED

ahead about 5 feet. Look at the mark left behind the planter by the double disc openers. The mark should run right down the centerline between closing wheels. If a closing wheel is running too close to the seed furrow, adjust the closing wheels to bring it back to the center.

### CHAINS AND SPROCKETS

Check all chains, sprockets, and shear pins for wear and proper tension. If they are worn or chain links are stiff, the chain should be replaced. Make sure chains are lubricated properly.



### TECHNOLOGY CHECK

Check all wiring harnesses, ensure all wiring is connected and in working order. Consider gathering loose cords with zip ties. For all add n equipment, check all electric sensors, own force compressors etc. Review all monitors, remove old prescriptions. Load VRS

planting scripts from Granular Insights™ prior to planting and ensure planter is accepting the prescription. Utilize agronomic tools from Granular Insights like population charts for hybrids based on seed price, yield environment, and commodity price. Scan corn seed batch tags for final planter settings to optimize seed drop. Have your planting plan preloaded into the monitor and onto all employee smart phones for simple stress-free planting.

### SAFETY CHECK

Perform a safety check on all planting equipment to make sure lights and signals work properly so you don't risk accidents when moving from one farm or field to another. Ensure

that all farm equipment has the appropriate slow moving vehicle signage. Clean windows to ensure operators can see clearly. Ensure the hitch pin is secure and safety chain is attached, especially for road travel

## K-STATE 2023 CHEMICAL WEED CONTROL GUIDE

This publication provides suggestions for chemical weed control in several major crops. Herbicides, when properly used, are one component of an effective weed management program. Tillage, crop competition, cropping rotation, mowing, and fire are additional weed control methods that may be used alone or in combinations. Available time, labor, equipment, and other costs as well as types of weeds and areas infested need to be considered when planning a weed control program. Crop and soil management practices such as planting high-quality seed, planting at the optimum rate and date, and maintaining optimum soil fertility should also be considered. Contact your local Extension agent to answer questions not addressed in the guide.

The 2023 Chemical Weed Control Guide is available online at: <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/SRP1176.pdf>

When viewing online file in a web browser or in Adobe, there is access to bookmarks that will guide you to the first page of every section (options vary per program settings and device type).

Hard copies of the books will be available in January. Orders can be placed at <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/Item.aspx?catId=236&pubId=25002>

## FREE SOYBEAN CYST NEMATODE TESTING THROUGH K-STATE

Soybean cyst nematode (SCN) is a major problem in soybean fields throughout eastern and central Kansas. As of January 1, 2020, SCN was identified in 59 Kansas counties that produce >85% of Kansas soybeans. It is important to monitor SCN levels regularly to determine if management strategies, such as variety resistance and crop rotation, have been successful.

Immediately following harvest is the best time to check fields for SCN and start planning for next season. Confirming the presence of SCN and determining population levels is the basis for a successful integrated management program.

To make that process easier, the K-State Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab is now offering **free SCN testing for Kansas producers**. Detailed instructions for collecting and shipping samples to the K-State Plant

Disease Diagnostic Lab can be found in this recent eUpdate article: [https://eupdate.agronomy.ksu.edu/article\\_new/free-soybean-cyst-nematode-testing-is-available-through-ksu-plant-disease-diagnostic-lab-518-3](https://eupdate.agronomy.ksu.edu/article_new/free-soybean-cyst-nematode-testing-is-available-through-ksu-plant-disease-diagnostic-lab-518-3)

**Remember, your results will only be as good as the sample that you send to the lab!**

You can also check out this short, informative video from the lab: Soybean Cyst Nematode-SCN Sampling 2022, <https://youtube.com/watch?v=b6Eo0is110>

**Find the K-State SCN Checklist on our website under the resources tab, then choose soybeans.**

For more information, feel free to contact us at the K-State Plant Pathology Department at [clinic@ksu.edu](mailto:clinic@ksu.edu) or call -1-785-532-1383.



**HAVE SOMETHING TO SELL?**

**IF YOU WANT TO ADVERTISE FARM EQUIPMENT OR FARM RELATED ITEMS YOU MAY DO SO FREE OF CHARGE. DEADLINE IS THE LAST DAY OF EACH MONTH. SEND YOUR AD TO**

[SUSANNAH.MCGINN@PLANTPIONEER.COM](mailto:SUSANNAH.MCGINN@PLANTPIONEER.COM)

**AGRI-PRODUCTS 500 GALLON SADDLE TANKS FOR 8000 SERIES TRACTOR \$1500 OBO. 316-284-1935.**

**STROBEL 3-BOX SEED TENDER** with inoculator & Kohler 9.5hp engine. Good condition, always parked inside. \$10,000 obo. 620-345-6616

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**IRRIGATION GEAR HEAD 6-5 RATIO.** 620-386-0569

**PRECISION PLANTING PARTS**—Call Mike for pricing on parts. 316-772-7171

## PIONEER 2023 INFINITY PROGRAM



**You may still qualify for the Silver Infinity level. Benefits and qualifications are listed below. It's not too late to finish planning for 2023.**

### Silver Level

#### QUALIFIERS

Invoice & Payment by Feb 24th 2023

#### BENEFITS

50% Replant  
Granular Insights  
Financing: Prime -1 @ 12% discount





TruChoice® offer, a better way to buy  
Corteva Agriscience crop protection products.

### CROP PROTECTION SAVINGS

Prepay Savings	<b>Earn</b>	<b>Qualification</b>
	<b>10% Cash or 5% Credit</b> Savings applied upfront to retail invoice	Fund a TruChoice prepay account, with a minimum of \$5,000, by Feb. 24, 2023
<b>PLUS</b>		
Pioneer Customer Bonus	<b>Earn</b>	<b>Qualification</b>
	<b>5% Additional Savings</b> Savings applied upfront to retail invoice	Reach Infinity Platinum or Gold level
<b>Total Savings 15% Cash or 10% Credit</b>		

See the 100+ eligible crop protection products at [TruChoice.Corteva.us](http://TruChoice.Corteva.us)



**1. INVOICE**, pay, and achieve Infinity Platinum or Gold level status on your Pioneer brand products with your Pioneer Sales Representative by **Jan. 13, 2023**

**2. FUND** your TruChoice prepay account with a minimum of \$5,000 by Feb. 24, 2023 with your Pioneer sales representative or on Pioneer.com by **Feb. 24, 2023** to qualify



**3. EARN** savings on Corteva Agriscience® crop protection products  
- PREPAY SAVINGS  
- PIONEER CUSTOMER BONUS



**4. SPEND** your TruChoice prepay funds on participating Corteva crop protection products for upfront savings!

## AG RISK MANAGEMENT

Crop Insurance today offers...Lots of choices, if you want a crop insurance agent that can help you make choices from a farmers perspective contact

Steve McGinn  
316-284-1935



We want to wish everyone a year of good health, happiness, great weather, and successful crops.

From all of us at  
Wildcat Agri-Services

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## CROP WATER ALLOCATOR DESIGNED TO HELP FARMS WITH LIMITED WATER — K-STATE RESEARCH & EXTENSION AGRONOMY eUPDATES

Kansas agriculture has been impacted significantly by the drought conditions across the state, but Kansas State University water resources engineer Jonathan Aguilar said a web-based application can help farmers plan for the future. The K-State Mobile Irrigation Lab includes a crop water allocator to help farmers with limited water resources maximize their return. With this new tool, farmers can decide the best crop combinations for their fields, and the estimate net returns.

This crop water allocator pushes the model toward the net return, so most of the inputs here could be modified toward their own local operation," Aguilar said. He recommends "playing" with the application to understand its function and decide which scenarios work best for an individual operation.

For example: Inputs could be modified to change the price of the commodity, (projecting) that the price will be better next year, or that the price is going to go down. Changing the seeding rate, the nutrient, or the fertilizer that's going to be applied, you could change the labor cost, your yield goal, how many acres are going to be planted with a type of crop, and the water allocation. Completely customizable, this tool help producers plan their goals and make decisions based on current conditions and future predictions. Any number of scenarios could be tested online to fit an individual producer's goals.

"If you only have a water allocation of five inches in western Kansas, that typically will not get through a corn crop," Aguilar said. "So you would be better off going through either grain sorghum or wheat in that scenario. But if you have more water than that, then you have more flexibility in terms of looking at what kind of crops that you would be able to put in your field or sub-divide your fields into four sections."

Learn more at [www.milab.ksu.edu](http://www.milab.ksu.edu)



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**PIONEER HI BRED SILAGE SAMPLING LAB**

Type this into the search bar to find it. Take a tour of the lab to see how the product is tested and advanced.

### Contact Information

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## PLANTER TEST STAND

Get your meters calibrated and repaired. We have a planter test stand for checking the accuracy of vacuum, finger pickup, and Kinze brush meter units.



This is something that we suggest should be done on a planter at least every other year. Contact Mike, Tye, or Korey for details and to schedule your test. We would really like to do these this winter instead during the spring rush. **Pricing is \$25/row before March 1st and / \$30/row after March 1st.**

## UPCOMING AG MEETINGS & SCHOOLS

**January 23rd** - No-Till on the Plains—Wichita—[www.notill.org](http://www.notill.org)

**February 15th-17th** — Women Managing the Farm Conference— Call 785-532-4016 to learn more

**January 13th, Feb 14th, & March 14th**—Enlist—A Step Ahead Webinars—register online at [www.enlist.com/en/enlist-360-training.html](http://www.enlist.com/en/enlist-360-training.html)

**FOR THE FOLLOWING CALL 785-410-5009 OR REGISTER ONLINE AT [KSCORN.COM/](http://KSCORN.COM/) CORNSCHOOL/**

**January 13th** — Kansas Corn School— Great Plains Manufacturing Conference Center—1569 E. North Street—Registration starts at 8:30. 9 AM—1 PM

**January 26th** — Kansas Corn Symposium—Salina, Hilton Garden Inn 12 PM

**January 27th** — Kansas Commodity Classic- Salina, Hilton Garden Inn—[www.KansasCommodityClassic.com](http://www.KansasCommodityClassic.com)

**February 2nd** — Kansas Corn School—Virtual event at 6 -8 PM. Register online to receive the Zoom link for this meeting.