



Volume 2, Issue 54

March 2009

*Agricultural Newsletter of the LSU AgCenter's Iberia Cooperative Extension Service*

This issue contains information regarding:

- \*Farm Finance Meeting – 3/13/09
- \*Soybean Production/Marketing Meeting – 3/19/09
- \*Acadiana Cattle Producer's Spring Field Day – 3/21/09
- \*H2A/Guest Worker Meeting – 3/23/09
- \*Soybean Update
- \*Weed Control/Cost of

- Herbicides
- \* 2009 Sugarcane Fertilizer Recommendations
- \*Presidential Stimulus Bill
- \*Wheat Disease Management
- \*Plant Disease Management
- \*Other
- \*Closing



### **Introduction**

Spring is here and the many activities associated with this time of year. It is good to see all of you busy in the field as we are hopeful for a good crop this year after what we experienced in 2008.

### **Iberia/St. Mary Farm Finance Meeting**

- March 13, 2009
- Iberia Parish Library (St. Peter Street Branch) Note: Library opens at 9:00 a.m.
- 9:05 – 9:15 – Registration
- 9:15 – Economic Overview/Status & Financial Terminology (Dr. Kurt Guidry, LSU AgCenter Specialist) followed by Dr. Mike Salassi, LSU AgCenter Specialist, who will explain how to utilize the Sugarcane Projected Costs and Returns model for **YOUR** operation Farm Management. Also, local lenders/bankers as well as FSA personnel will be in attendance to discuss and answer farm financing questions.
- Meeting should conclude by 11:30 a.m. (no meal will be served)

### **Iberia/St. Mary Soybean Production & Marketing Meeting**

- March 19, 2009
- Lyn Lanie's (White Star Farms) Farm Shop (Hwy 90 at the Patoutville Exit)
- 9:00 – registration
- 9:15 – presentations by LSU AgCenter specialists (Dr. Kurt Guidry and Dr. Ronald Levy) and local producers
- Meeting should conclude by 11:30 a.m. (no meal will be served)

### **H2A/Guest Worker Meeting**

- March 23, 2009
- Old Holiday Inn (soon to be Ramada Inn) across from Lowe's on Hwy 14
- 6:00 p.m. – Registration
- 6:15 – presentations from:
  - Brian Breaux, Louisiana Farm Bureau, Louisiana State
  - Trooper E.J. Chesney & Louisiana Department of Labor
  - Following these presentations: Michelle Rzepka with the LSU AgCenter will review the LSU AgCenter's Hispanic Outreach Task Force and the "translation/dictionary" that's being developed. Your input and suggestions will be used to make this a reality.

### **Soybean Update**

The latest edition of the Soybean Feed and Grain Review can be reviewed at the following:

[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our\\_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/Soybean+and+Feed+Grain+Review.htm](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/Soybean+and+Feed+Grain+Review.htm)

### **Weed Control – Cost of Herbicides**

The latest "Weed Patch" article from LSU AgCenter Specialist Dr. Jim Griffin is entitled "What is Your Herbicide Treatment Really Costing" and is available at the following:

[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our\\_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/)

If you would like further details on weed control, the 2009 LSU AgCenter Suggested Chemical Weed Control Guide is available online at:

[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops\\_livestock/crops/nursery\\_crops/Louisianas+Suggested+Chemical+Weed+Control+Guide.htm](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops_livestock/crops/nursery_crops/Louisianas+Suggested+Chemical+Weed+Control+Guide.htm) or you may contact the Iberia County Agent's office at 369-4440 for ordering instructions. The price is \$10 per guide.

### **Fertilizer Recommendations for 2009**

Dr. Ben Legendre, LSU AgCenter Specialist has prepared the 2009 Fertilizer Recommendations which can be found at the following: [http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our\\_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/)

### **Presidential Stimulus Bill**

Dr. Kurt Guidry, LSU AgCenter Specialists, has prepared an article (pdf file) related to the American Recovery Act of 2009 and the Stimulus Bill Implications for Ag signed by President Obama in February which is available at the following website:

[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our\\_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/)

### **Weed Disease Mangement**

Dr. Boyd Padgett, LSU AgCenter Specialists, has prepared a document entitled "Managing Wheat Disease in 2009" and it is available at the following:

[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our\\_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/)

### **Plant Disease Management**

The 2009 guide contains suggestions for management of the most important or more prevalent diseases of Louisiana plants. It includes information on fungicides, bactericides and nematicides, as well as safety precautions for using them. If you are interested in this guide contact the Iberia County Agent's office at 369-4440 for ordering instructions. The price is \$10 per guide. It is also available online at:

[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our\\_offices/departments/Plant\\_Pathology\\_Crop\\_Physiology/Plant\\_Disease\\_Clinic/Plant\\_Disease\\_Control\\_Guide/](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/departments/Plant_Pathology_Crop_Physiology/Plant_Disease_Clinic/Plant_Disease_Control_Guide/)

### **Other**

- The 2009 Acadiana Cattle Producer's Spring Field Day is scheduled for Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the LSU AgCenter Iberia Research Station in Jeanerette
- Iberia 4-H Achievement Day 2009 is scheduled for Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at Westgate High School from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 – for further details please visit the following website [http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our\\_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/Contest/4-H/](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/Contest/4-H/)

Each Headland Highlight is available on the internet which allows you to link to many valuable online resources. The web address is:

[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our\\_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/Headlandhighlights](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/Iberia/Features/ANR/Headlandhighlights)

### **Closing**

The economy of our country and the farming community will remain a major concern for all of this year. The budget for our state and the LSU AgCenter will, without a doubt, be affected by our struggling economic situation. The LSU AgCenter remains committed to serving you and your support and advocacy is appreciated. For those of you with email, you can get the latest on the budget by checking the LSU AgCenter's "Budget Blog". Post hurricane issues especially those related to plant cane and older stubble seem to be on everyone's mind. Please remember that we here at the LSU AgCenter are available to assist with these type of management decisions.

This newsletter once again contains several email references. If you have email and you are not receiving emails from me, please email your email address to me so that you can get this information via the internet. My email address is [bhebert@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:bhebert@agcenter.lsu.edu). If you do not have access to email and would like any of the referenced material in this newsletter mailed to you, please contact me at the Iberia Extension Office of the LSU AgCenter (337-369-4440) so that this information can be sent to you.

Optimism is not the most often word we hear these days, but the hope of a good crop year, along with alternative uses for sugarcane (fuel, energy, etc.) and the new refinery offer some hope. As many of you have reminded me, this is not the first time we have faced these challenges and together I am confident we will weather this storm.

I look forward to seeing you at these upcoming events, and if you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me at the Iberia Extension office of the LSU AgCenter.

Sincerely,

*Blair J. Hebert*

Blair J Hebert  
County Agent  
Iberia Parish

BJH/kmv