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## Wheat Plot Tour – Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>!

The annual Meadowlark Extension District Wheat Variety Demonstration Plot Tour will be held on Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Doug Edelman farm at 2490 T Rd., Sabetha. From Sabetha, go four miles west on 192<sup>nd</sup> Rd. and turn south on T Rd. Doug and Leonard Edelman are the plot cooperators.

This year's plot consists of ten entries. Dr. Stu Duncan, K-State Research & Extension, NE Area Crops & Soils Specialist will discuss spring growing conditions, disease pressure, and share information on the plot entries. We'll see how stripe rust affected different varieties as well as how much scab pressure we might expect this year. You'll also have the opportunity to sign up for a chance to win a Polaris Ace 570 from the Kansas Wheat Alliance!

The plot is located behind the Edelman farm. Please park in the driveway and we'll walk back to the plots starting at 9:00 a.m. Refreshments are courtesy of the Kansas Wheat Alliance and Meadowlark Extension District.

If you just can't get enough wheat and want to see another local plot, the annual Marshall County Wheat Plot Tour will also be held on Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 P.M. at the plot located two miles north of Centralia, at the NW corner of Hwy 187 and 96th Rd. This plot consists of 12 wheat varieties and blends. Supper will be served following the tour by the Happy Go Lucky 4-H Club and sponsored by Kansas Wheat Alliance.

For additional details, contact the Meadowlark Extension District Office in Seneca at (785) 336-2184 or David Hallauer @ [dhallaue@ksu.edu](mailto:dhallaue@ksu.edu). Hope to see you there!

## Fireblight on Apple and Pear

One of the more concerning diseases of apple and pear is fireblight. Found on ornamental and fruiting pears as well as apples, you'll know you have fireblight by the blackened, blighted shoots scattered throughout the tree crown. They may also exhibit their classic Shepherd's crook where the blighted tips bend downward or even small amber droplets of bacteria on the stem.

Treatments this late in the season are ineffective. It is important, however, to control insects that may become contaminated with the bacterium and/or create wounds for infection.

Plan to prune out the blighted tips this summer during dry weather to prevent further disease issues. Make pruning cuts 10 to 12 inches below the discolored area of the branch, making sure that you disinfect pruning equipment between cuts with rubbing alcohol or some other disinfecting agent. Another method that some use is what's called the ugly stub method. In that method, you snap the branch off below the blighted area. This helps you see at a glance where fireblight occurred in the tree and will facilitate follow-up pruning during the winter.