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### ***2019 Agronomy Fall Field Day***

The 2019 Agronomy Fall Field Day will be in Manhattan this year on Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Building Resiliency in Agronomy is this year's theme with a focus on understanding how agronomic practices and technologies can aid producers in building a more resilient production system. Presentations will include: resilient soils through conservation practices, discussions about wheat and sorghum genetics and technology, crop physiology and extreme temperatures, managing variability in the field, and Kansas Mesonet and climate data in Kansas.

The event is free to attend and will conclude with a sponsored lunch for all attendees. Register online at: <http://bit.ly/AgronFieldDay2019>.

### ***Overseeding a Lawn***

Right after we mow, everything is nice and green and uniform. Wait a few days, and it becomes much easier to recognize 'holes' in the stand. Maybe it's time for overseeding.

The first step in the overseeding process is to mow short. Reduce mower height to one to one and a half inches, removing the clippings during mowing to encourage good seed-soil contact, while increasing the amount of light that will reach young seedlings.

Look at thatch layers, too. A quarter inch of thatch or less is desired so that seed can easily reach the soil and germinate. If thatch layers are thicker than a quarter of an inch, use a power rake to reduce it to a quarter inch depth. Thatch layers greater than three quarters of inch mean you probably need to start over with the lawn.

Once thatch concerns are alleviated, prep small areas using a hand rake to roughen up the soil surface. If larger areas are to be overseeded, additional tillage may be necessary.

Apply seed using a verticut machine or slit seeder, or consider core aeration. Slit seeding will likely get you the best seed-soil contact. The advantage to core aeration is that it can also reduce the amount of watering needed to get the seed germinated and growing while increasing the water infiltration rate, decreasing compaction, and increasing the amount of oxygen in the soil. At this time, it's also good to apply fertilizer as per a soil test recommendation.