BROOKINGS, S.D. - The most important factors in producing a profitable spring wheat field are selecting the best cultivar, providing proper fertility, planting on time and having a good seedbed to plant into, says Paul O. Johnson SDSU Extension Agronomy Field Specialist.

When selecting a variety, Johnson encourages growers to reference the Variety Recommendations for 2013 contained in the 2012 annual report on Spring Wheat.

"South Dakota has seven varieties which are recommended statewide and two which are recommended for only some of the crop adaptation regions," he said. "The 2012 annual report also provides variety traits. This information can be very helpful

when picking one of the mature evenly. This is recommended varieties to best fit a given operation." Things to consider when planning for 2013

Spring wheat needs to be planted early in the spring.

"Normally it should be planted by the third week of April or within the first two weeks of planting possible in the spring. Producers should check crop insurance planting dates for the location to be planted to ensure coverage," Johnson said.

Spring Wheat is normally planted one to two inches deep in the soil but will emerge from as deep as three inches.

"Planting into moisture will ensure an even stand at emergence. Uniform emergence will in turn; produce a crop that will

desirable at harvest but also helps for timing pesticide applications throughout the growing season." he said.

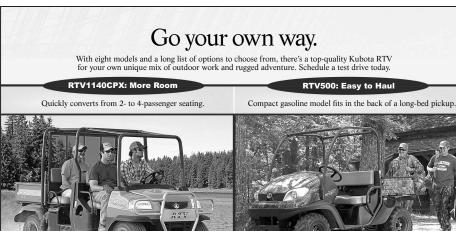
Spring wheat should be planted at a minimum of 1.2 million pure live seeds per acre or 28 seeds per square foot. This translates into about 1.5 bushels per acre with average size spring wheat seed.

Late planting or planting into poor seedbeds requires a higher seeding rate. Spring wheat requires a good fertilizer package to produce high yields. Fields should be soil tested to determine fertilizer needs. Caution should be taken if fertilizer is being placed with the seed. Too high a rate with the seed can hurt germination.

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Have you seen this pest? **Japanese Beetles in Field Crops**

grass.

or

Japanese beetles have

one generation per year

and overwinter as grubs

in the soil. Adults emerge

from the soil in late May

or early June and can be

found through early

September. Feeding dam-

age is most noticeable in

July and August. Japanese

beetle feeding damage in

soybean may be confused

with bean leaf beetle feed-

ing because both make



The Japanese beetle on a wide range of plants (Popillia japonica) is including various ornabecoming an increasingly mentals, fruits, and vegprevalent pest in the etables. North Central region, and Though they are more it can occasionally be an common in horticultural economic problem in soysettings, they will also beans or corn. The feed in field crops, includ-Japanese beetle should ing corn and soybeans. In not be confused with the soybeans they cause defo-Asian lady beetle (which liation of leaves, which is often called a Japanese reduces photosynthesis, beetle by mistake). Asian and in corn they feed on lady beetles are familiar to silks, reducing kernel set. many as the yellow or Though still a minor field orange lady beetles that crop pest, Japanese beecome into houses in the tle outbreaks are becomfall, and they are benefiing more common in

cial predators of crop Illinois and Iowa soybeans pests. Japanese beetles and corn. So far in South are large (up to 1/2 inch Dakota most reported long) and metallic green problems with Japanese and copper colored. beetles have been in gar-Adults feed on the leaves dens near urban centers, and flowers of over 300 but as it becomes more plant species. They are an common in South Dakota, introduced pest first producers should also be found in the U.S. in 1916 in on the lookout for this New Jersey. Only in recent insect in crops.

common in the Midwest. The South Dakota Department of Agriculture monitors for this pest with traps, and it has been detected in several counties, particularly in the Southeastern part of the state.

years have they become

Japanese beetle immatures are soil-dwelling, white grubs that feed on roots and organic material, and they are often



pests of turf- bean leaf beetle feeding produces more smoothedged "shot-holes" in the The adults leaves, whereas Japanese typically feed beetles create a lacy between the patchwork of holes veins of leaves between the veins. Also, causing a characteristic lacv unlike bean leaf beetles, Japanese beetles are not "skeleshy or skittish and are tonized" damage. They feed usually found easily at the scene of their crimes. Damage often appears

first at field edges.

Soybeans can bear a fair amount of defoliation before yield is lost, so modest numbers of Japanese beetles and other defoliators can be tolerated. Consider management when total defoliation from all leaf-feeding pests reaches 40% in prebloom, 20% during bloom and pod-fill and 35% from pod-fill to harvest.

Consider the whole plant when making this decision, not just upper leaves. If beetles are aggregated in border rows, consider an edge treatment first. A number of pesticides are labeled for Japanese beetle control in soybean.

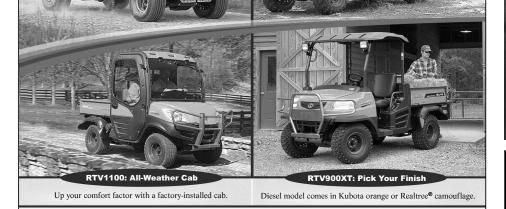
Record wheat production

ROME (AP) — A U.N. food agency says the world is headed to the second largest wheat crop on record because of increased plantings in Europe and a recovery from drought in the U.S.

Production is expected to increase to 690 million tons, up 4.3 percent from 2012, the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organization reported Thursday.

The production hike is expected mostly in Europe because of increased plantings in response to high prices and a recovery in yields in Russia and elsewhere. The outlook in the U.S. has improved in recent weeks, recovering from earlier drought conditions.

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The agency also says the recently lower price of wheat kept the FAO's index of global food prices unchanged for the second consecutive month in February.

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