



March 2024

Carter County Ag Advisory

**CARTER COUNTY
EXTENSION**

OSU is an Affirmative Action, Equal Employment Opportunity, E-Verify Employer.

Upcoming Events

March 9th:

Carter County OSU Extension has a new Ag Educator! Come out to the Healdton Family & Feed Center's Grand Re-Opening on March 9th from 11am-2pm in Healdton, OK for shopping, free food, vendor fair, and to meet your new county educator.

March 12th:

Interested in becoming a Master Gardener? Want to know what it's all about? Join us at our meeting on March 12th at the OSU Biosciences Building on Sam Noble Parkway in Ardmore. Meeting starts at 6pm.

March 21st:

Join the Carter County Cattleman's Association meeting on March 21st. Watch our Facebook page for an update on time and location.

March 28th:

OSU Beef Cattle Summit will be held at the McClain Co Expo Center in Purcell, OK on April 11th this year. Join us for a trade show, lunch, and guest speaker presentations. **Pre-registration ends March 28th!**

Your Local Office

Address:

25 A ST. NW Suite 200
Ardmore, OK 73401

Phone:

580-223-6570

Website:

<http://extension.okstate.edu/county/carter/>

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Ag News

Attention Cattle Producers:

Research Study Participants Needed

Researchers at OSU are collecting data to determine parasite resistance for different dewormers in cow/calf operations in Oklahoma. Fecal samples are collected from 20-30 cows per farm/ranch on the day of deworming and then again 14 days later. Producers will be provided with a summary of the results.

If you are willing to participate and aid in this research, please contact Stephanie at the extension office.

Now is a great time to get your **soil tested**. Be prepared for spring fertilization with results from a soil test and personalized recommendations— all you have to do is bring a sample down to the extension office!

See this fact sheet on proper soil sampling methods:

<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/how-to-get-a-good-soil-sample.html>

We also test water and forages!

Contact Stephanie at
(580) 223-6570 or

stephanie.q.smith@okstate.edu for more information or with questions!



Managing
FARM STRESS
After Wildfire

For emergency cattle nutrition strategies after wildfires visit this fact sheet:

<https://extension.okstate.edu/articles/2024/emergency-cattle-nutrition.html>

Volunteer Project Leader Needed for Carter County 4-H Shooting Sports

Interested? Contact Danielle Wells at the extension office.





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Hort Notes

Tips for Establishing a New Vegetable Garden

Adapted from David Hillock's Article

Garden Location:

Choose a location that

- Receives 6+ hours of sun exposure
- Has well drained soil with pH 6.6-6.8
- Is located AWAY from walnut trees (these exude juglone which kills solanaceous plants like tomatoes)

Garden Preparation:

Prepare to plant seeds by

- Removing pre-existing vegetation and weeds via herbicides, tilling, smothering, or solarization
- Submitting a soil test to receive recommendations on how much to fertilize and if the pH is optimal
- Tilling the soil to prepare a good seedbed (be careful not to till if the soil is too wet!)

The Plants:

- Start warm-season seedlings indoors, then transplant once the weather warms up

Lawn & Turf Tips

- Begin applying post-emergent broadleaf herbicides ([HLA-6421](#)) to control weeds in cool-season lawns at this time.
- March is the second-best time of the year to seed cool-season turfgrass; however, fall is the best time to plant. ([HLA-6419](#))
- Cool-season lawns such as bluegrass, fescue, and ryegrass may be fertilized now with the first application of the season. ([HLA-6420](#))
- Begin mowing cool-season grasses at 1½ to 3½ inches high. ([HLA-6420](#))

Flowers you can plant now for some early spring color in your garden or yard:



Pansies



Violas



Primroses



Tulips



Daffodils



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Featured Article

Spring Planted Oat for Grazing or Hay Production

Mike Trammell

Oats are fast-growing small grains that have long been used for grazing, hay, and silage. Oats can be used to fill forage gaps in either spring or fall. Spring-planted oat has been a “go to” forage crop for southern Great Plains beef producers for years. It is a good option when winter wheat was not planted in the fall due to wet conditions, or as may be the case in certain areas of Oklahoma this year, when wheat failed to emerge due to drought. So, let’s discuss some of the key points about spring planted oats.

Planting Date – The window for spring planted oat in Oklahoma is between mid-February to mid-March.

Seed - Plant 80-100 lb./ac of good quality seed that has a germination of no less than 85%. If planting as a monoculture, do not cut back on seeding rate, regardless of variety. If planting as a nurse crop or in mixture with other forages, seeding rate can be reduced 25%.

Seedbed - Sow oat seed at approximately 1/2 to 3/4 inches deep. Most producers will be better off with a conventionally tilled seedbed. is one exception to the conventional till recommendation. If you are sowing into a stale seedbed or a failed wheat crop that is very thin, no-till should be okay. Just avoid situations where excessive residue will keep the soil cold.

Yield – Spring planted oat varieties will normally yield less than fall seeded wheat. Producers should expect 1,500 – 2,000 lbs. of forage per acre. Based on the forage production of spring planted oat, nitrogen (N) fertilizer should be applied after establishment at a rate of 40 – 60 lbs./acre. However, less N may be applied if the field was previously fertilized for wheat production.

Grazing - Oat plants should have a minimum of six inches of growth prior to grazing. A good stand of spring oat can provide approximately 35-60 days per acre of grazing for mature cattle. Growing animals (750 lbs.) can be stocked at approximately 1.5 animals per acre for 60 days.

Hay - Oats should be cut for hay at boot stage to maximize yield and quality.

Finally, do not consider spring planted oat to be a fool-proof solution to remedy a short forage supply. As is always the case in Oklahoma, there are potential risks due to weather, insects, and diseases. However, with planning and a little luck, a spring planted oat crop may provide some additional forage to an already short or depleted forage supply.