

Tuesday – June 23, 2020

BILL: And good morning and welcome into our Tuesday edition of Ag Talk. This is Bill Rice along with Ed Lentz. And today Ed, soybeans, specifically doublecrop soybeans.

ED: You know Bill, we've been talking about dates for soybeans and of course last year the doublecrop and the first planting may have went together. What we mean by doublecrop soybeans is that we have a wheat or barley crop that we are growing out there. We harvest that here the latter part of June first of July we follow that with a soybean planting. If things work out well we basically get two crops. You are going to get a soybean crop and a wheat crop. But Mother Nature has got to cooperate with us and so a farmer always got to think about the opportunity that I will have a successful soybean crop. If they are going to doublecrop a soybean after wheat they are going to have to think about several things. They got to think about the soil conditions at planting, they may have to think differently about the maturity of bean variety they are going to use, the row width and the seeding rate. And of course while we are talking about moisture, if you are really dry, beans take quite a bit of moisture to germinate and emerge and so I could plant them the end of June but I'm going to need rain if they don't come up till the end of July it's basically a July planting date. And so a farmers got to think about that before they put all the input cost in the seed and everything is the soil conditions going to be right for me to get that soybean crop up in a doublecrop situation. And of course we want to do things to conserve moisture because if it has been real dry you definitely want to no-till the beans in and not to work the ground and get it dryer even more than what it is. But there are some we can do out there, Bill, that we want to try to make up for a later planting date since it is the end of June first of July. We want to make sure we get as much leaf development before flowering. So that's why we go with a later maturing soybean cause it's going to grow vegetatively longer before its genetics is going to say hey it's time to flower. Also we are going to try to compensate cause we are going to have less time for rows to fill in cause we're going to have a shorter vegetative period for these later planted beans. So if we start in a narrower row we get that canopy closure much quicker and take more advantage of the sunlight. And then since we also know all these things are taking longer to fill in we are going to increase that seeding rate so we are going to have more plants per acre out there so hopefully I can get more plants and more leaves in that shorter growing period then we have for that vegetative time. But all this will be said even if you follow all these things it's still going to depend on timely rains at planting and timely rains in August. If we get rains in August we can get 40 to 50 bushels off of this second crop of soybeans. However, if we get a little rain it may be less than 10 bushels and that's the risk the farmer has got to consider. That's just some points if they want to doublecrop this year.

BILL: Thank you Ed. For Ag Talk this is Bill Rice along with Ed Lentz. Good morning to you.

Ed: Good morning.