

North Plains Groundwater CONSERVATION DISTRICT

For immediate release

August 16, 2010

**Field Days Update North Plains Groundwater Conservation District Demonstration Projects
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Dumas –“How to get more corn with less water?” That will be the topic of discussion and observation at the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District’s Field Days scheduled for Monday August 30th and Wednesday September 1. The educational and informational events are titled “200 Bushels on 12 Inches: Practical Strategies for Sustainable Profitability”

The field days will feature experts discussing the many possible strategies that can be combined to form an integrated resource management system. Those components include conservation tillage, irrigation management, fertility, pest management, weed management, and drought tolerant hybrids.

The program on Monday, August 30th is co-sponsored by Texas AgriLife Ochiltree County Extension and will begin at 10:00 am at the Ochiltree County Expo. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. Field tours of the demonstration field of Danny Krienke, board member representing Ochiltree County will begin after lunch and the program will conclude at the end of the tours.

The program on Wednesday, September 1 will begin at 8:30 am at the North Plains Research Field 6045 Rd. E North of Dumas. The presentations will directly relate to practices used in the field of Harold Grall, board member representing Moore County. Tours of Grall’s demonstration field are scheduled for 10:00-10:30 am. At 10:30 the program will move to the farm of Phil Haaland, board member representing Hartley County. At this point the Field Day is hosted by Pioneer Hi-Bred International and will focus on water use efficiency, with presentations describing the protocols used on Haaland’s demonstration field. Tours of Pioneer’s drought plots, as well as Haaland’s demonstration plot will run from 11:00-12:00, followed by lunch provided by Pioneer and North Plains Groundwater Conservation District.

The 200-12 Project had been a topic of board consideration for many months prior to the 2010 growing season, and the District has been actively seeking funding to compensate cooperators for any losses in revenue caused by yield reductions. In the meantime, three members of the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors have stepped-up to commit their own acres to the project this year, without any guarantee of compensation for losses.

All three participants adhered to the limited irrigation schedule of only 12 inches of irrigation water, however they also each applied different practices and combinations of practices designed to increase water use efficiency and maintain high yields. These field days will allow for further explanation of the unique approaches applied to each demonstration and the projected results.

August 30, 2010

Registration 9:30 am Ochiltree County Expo Center, 402 Expo Dr., Perryton
Starts 10:00 am
Lunch 12:00 pm
Field Tours 1:00 pm Tour Danny Krienke's Demo Field (maps provided)

September 1, 2010

Registration 8:00 am North Plains Research Field, 6045 Rd. E (North of Dumas)
Starts 8:30 am
Field Tour 10:00 am Tour Harold Grall's Demo Field (maps provided)
Field Tour 11:00 am Pioneer Seed Co. Field Day at Phil Haaland's Farm in Hartley County (maps provided)
Lunch 12:00

These field days are free and open to the public. For more information contact Kirk Welch at 806-935-6401.

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