

**A LITTLE BIT COUNTRY
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WILLIAMS COUNTY**

Required Fuel Spill Plans Part of Wheat Show

While planning educational programs for the National Hard Spring Wheat Show the committee has strived for a program content which addresses at least one of the following criteria: 1) provide information offering significant profit opportunity, 2) challenge the thought process of those involved in all levels of food production, 3) encourage positive thinking, and 4) provide relevant information relating to public policy issues.

In recent months information relating to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced a requirement that farms write and implement a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan. Who needs to comply and what should these plans look like have been frequent questions of farm producers and others involved. To answer these and many other concerns, the committee has secured services of Dennis Duvall, Project Manager of Dakota Environmental, Inc.

Because this regulation will touch just about every farm producer, the committee has scheduled Mr. Duvall to speak twice on Tuesday, February 8. His evening presentation at 6:45 hopefully will accommodate those who have off-farm employment.

The goal of the SPCC program is the prevention of oil spills into navigable waters of the United States and adjoining shorelines. By November 10, 2011, certain farms and other facilities must have an SPCC plan in place. The definition of a farm in this instance is "a facility on a tract of land devoted to the production of crops or raising animals, including fish, which produced and sold \$1,000 or more of agricultural products during a year."

A farm is included if oil or oil products such as gasoline, lube oil, diesel fuel hydraulic oil, crop oil, vegetable oil or animal fats are transferred, used or consumed and

more than 1320 U.S. gallons is stored in above ground containers or more than 42,000 U.S. gallons is stored in completely buried containers and oil reasonably could be expected to discharge to waters of the U.S. or adjoining shorelines, such as interstate waters, intrastate lakes, rivers and streams.

The bottom line - if you store more than 1320 U.S. gallons of oil or fuel and do not understand what your SPCC plan should look like, be sure to attend the Wheat Show, specifically on February 8 at either 3:45 or 6:45 p.m.

Glyphosate Affects Lentil Germ

For years the State Seed Department and others have been telling us that glyphosate can have a detrimental effect on seed germination. The departments testing laboratory is finding more of a problem on the germination of lentil seed.

Mark Hafdahl, Seed Lab. Manager, tells us that seed sprayed with glyphosate doesn't always exhibit a germination reduction until some time has passed. The lab has found that germination in the fall might be in the 90's and if the seed is tested again in the spring the germination might drop 10 to 20 percent. Vigor of the seed can also be affected without a noticeable reduction in germination.