

October 28, 2009 KRVN Resource Report

I'm Heather Francis of the Upper Republican Natural Resources District in Imperial, Nebraska and this is the Natural Resources Report.

The fall is typically when landowners start trying to decide when to plant warm season native grass. Most CRP and CREP contracts will have a date of after November first to start drilling grass seed on those acres. Grass seed dealers are now starting to receive their grass seed supplies and will be able to start having pricing available to landowners in the near future.

In late September and most of October is not a good time to be planting any cool season or warm season grass seed. Grass seed planted after November 1st is considered a dormant planting. This means that the grass seed will be in the ground and when the conditions are right in the spring the grass seed should start to germinate. If grass seed is planted too late in the late summer into early fall, the seed could germinate and start to grow. If this happens and it would freeze, the plants have not grown enough to survive the cold weather and would not be able to recover to grow in the spring.

Cool season grasses such as smooth brome or fescues could be planted in the early spring in late March or April. Buffalograss planted alone, especially planted for turf grass should be planted June 1st to August 15th.

If you have any questions about grass seed in your area, contact your local NRD. Thank you for listening. This is Heather Francis keeping you informed about your natural resources. Nebraska's NRDs, Protecting Lives, Protecting Property and Protecting the Future.