



**BIGHORN AIRWAYS** INC.

P.O. Box 4037 · 912 W. Brundage Lane · Sheridan, WY 82801 · Phone 307-672-3421 · Fax 307-672-8580 · WWW.BIGHORNAIRWAYS.COM

Bighorn Airways Customers,

I know we are a ways out from worrying about alfalfa weevil problems, but this is an unusual year so we need to start planning early. With current circumstances and market environments, 2022 is shaping up to be a challenging year for our industry as a whole and weevil control in particular.

As you know, we have been experiencing both high levels of alfalfa weevil infestations and insecticide resistance problems over the past few years. In addition to these problems, this year we have lost the use of Lorsban (Chlorpyrifos) and most other alternative products are either not available or in short supply due to supply chain issues. On top of that I know I don't need to tell you that prices on everything are quite a bit higher than this time last year.

When it comes to managing insecticide resistance the best strategy is to either not spray at all or spray a different chemistry than what we have been using. Last year that different chemistry was Lorsban. With the loss of Lorsban the only really effective product we are left with is Steward EC. There is some thought that we could also get some control from Malathion, but it provides almost zero residual control. It will kill what is in the field that day and nothing past that. We do not recommend and will not be offering the use of Mustang Maxx or any other pyrethroid in Sheridan county. In Johnson county the Mustang Maxx was still working 2 years ago and we switched to Lorsban last year so we should be ok to use Mustang again this season. However, the Johnson county growers need to be thinking about future seasons because we cannot continue to use the same product over and over again. The recent "Alfalfa Weevil Workshop" at Sheridan College provided a lot of good information on all of these issues. I understand many of you were unable to attend due to the winter storm. The meeting was recorded and I highly suggest taking some time to watch the recording. You can find the link to the recorded meeting on the Sheridan County Weed & Pest website. The best thing any of us can do to help solve these problems is to educate ourselves on these issues.

Note that Sheridan County Weed & Pest will only be cost sharing on applications of Steward EC this year. Their budget is limited so the plan is to wait until everyone has turned in invoices and then divide the total budget among the participants accordingly.

The application rate of Steward EC ranges from 6.7 oz/acre to 11.3 oz/acre. The higher rate does not provide better control, but it does lengthen the effective residual control. The company says that you can expect around 10 days of control from the low rate and up to 21 days of control with the high rate. This is all extremely dependent on conditions at and after the time of application. The harvest interval restriction is 7 days regardless of the rate.

Also note that Steward EC requires at least 3 gallons per acre on aerial applications as opposed to the 2 gallons per acre we normally use with other products. That means that our application rates will be higher on the Steward treatments.

Considering all of this, for this season we are recommending the use of Steward EC at 6.7 oz/acre. Mustang Maxx will be an option for the growers outside of the Sheridan area.

The other problem with all of this will be supply availability. At this time I can get no guarantees regarding availability of either Steward or Mustang Maxx. There does seem to be some Malathion available, but it would be recommended as a backup option only. My intention is to reserve as much Steward as possible. This will be on a first come first serve basis and we would switch to Malathion when the Steward is gone.

I fully understand that there are no great options here. However, I do need to hear from you as soon as possible if you plan on spraying this year as I need to determine how much product to order.

I have included a price sheet to give you an idea of current cost estimates. Please understand that prices are not firm and are subject to change. I mainly wanted to give you enough information to make some comparisons and to get an idea of what application costs will look like this season.

Please give me a call if you have any questions.

My office number is: 307-461-4869 or you can email me at [j.foy@bighornairways.com](mailto:j.foy@bighornairways.com)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Foy', written in a cursive style.

Jamie Foy  
BHA



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**2022 Alfalfa Weevil Application Rates**  
**Sheridan and Johnson Counties**

**\*\*ESTIMATES ONLY, PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\***

Mustang Maxx: (4 oz per acre)	\$4.95/acre
Malathion 57EC (32 oz per acre)	\$11.00/acre
Steward EC (11.3 oz per acre)	\$26.95/acre
Steward EC (6.7 oz per acre)	\$16.00/acre

\*\*\* Cannot guarantee availability of any products \*\*\*

**Fixed Wing Aircraft Application**

**2 GPA:**

Less than 500 acres:	\$8.75/acre
500 or more acres:	\$8.50/acre

**3 GPA:**

Less than 500 acres	\$10.00/acre
500 or more acres:	\$9.75/acre

**For Helicopter application add \$2.00 per acre to the fixed wing price.**

**\*\*\* ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE \*\*\***  
**\*\* WYOMING SALES TAX APPLIES TO CHEMICAL ONLY \*\***