

OCTOBER 2008 INSIDE THIS EDITION
Crop Production Kevin, Brian, Doug
New Employee Melinda Gantenbein
Manager's Viewpoint Darel Anderson
Feed Facts Derek Schrader
Dillon Connection Dennis Friedli
Navarre News Gene Kickhaefer
Weather Forecast Mike Pauley

Crop Production by Kevin Whitehair

With much of the wheat either emerging or up and growing quite well, comes the season of scouting for any cool season grasses, such as cheat. I usually get questions on the timing of these treatments, the timing is post emerge to the actively growing cheat and Downey brome, but not yet tillered. Obviously with the moisture, this should give us a window this fall. As of now there are two products that we use, Olympus and Maverick. Your Coop has sold much more Olympus than Maverick because of the rotation restrictions. There is also a new product out called Powerflex, but the supply is very limited.

One other topic I want to just touch on is the resistance problems we have with one of our mustard species. It is treacle mustard or bushy wallflower. The ALS chemistry is not going to affect this winter annual **at all**, which includes Glean, Finesse, Maverick, and Olympus. We will have to time our treatments to match the growing season better, such as in the fall and spring. To my knowledge the treacle mustard is our only problem, but it is a **very** prevalent mustard in our area. Bayer has a product called Huskie that is very effective on the treacle mustard, but is a little more expensive. Another

approach is going to try to use more 2,4D's in the fall and spring. Please call us with any questions you have, and we appreciate the opportunity to work with you.



New Employee by Melinda Gantenbein

I would like to introduce our newest addition to the NCKC staff, his name is Brian Nickel.

Brian joined our staff on October 14th, and has been getting acquainted with the employee staff, meeting patrons, and learning the routines of our Coop. He will be assisting Kevin and Doug in the crop production department by taking soil samples, scouting fields, and seed sales.

Brian currently resides in the Canton area. He received his education at Fort Hays State University in Crop Science and formerly worked at Crop Quest in Marion and McPherson counties.

Some of his hobbies are hunting, fishing, and he also watches all the sports he can. He commented that he is looking forward to meeting more patrons and helping them with their crop production questions. Good luck to Brian and his career with us.



Fall Burn Downs and Spring Fertility by Brian Nickel

With harvest beginning to wrap up in the next month, it will be time to start thinking about fall burn downs and next years cropping

options. With the nice rains and cool weather received in mid October, we will begin to see a lot of cheat and winter annuals emerging this fall. These weeds will use water and nutrients all winter long if left alone. They will also slow the ground from warming up in the spring and can delay the corn-planting season. There are many options to use in spraying the winter annuals from Basis, Valor, Atrazine, and even just Roundup and 2,4D. Feel free to give us a call and talk about the benefits of these and the rotation restrictions.

Fall is also a good time to begin thinking about what our fertility needs will be next spring when planting various crops. The first step to making a sound agronomic decision is with soil sampling. Give us a call and we would be glad to work with you on making a fertility plan for next year.



Spring Seed Discounts

by Doug Dillon

With fall harvest progressing, it is time to think about next spring seed needs. NCK Coop handles several brands of seed including Asgrow/Dekalb, Croplan, Midland, Forage First, and Sorghum Partners to choose from. As with every year, popular varieties seem to go fast, so the earlier you order the better the chances are of getting the variety and seed size you want. With the higher 2009 seed prices, prepaying is the best way to help you save on seed costs. Here are the early pay cash discounts.

8%	by November 15 th 2008
7%	by December 31 st 2008
6%	by January 15 th 2009
4%	by February 15 th 2009
2.5%	by March 15 th 2009

Please give Doug or Brian a call, if we can assist you on any of your seed needs. Have a safe fall harvest.

Manager's Viewpoint by Darel Anderson

Well we are all involved in another hectic fall in central Kansas. I'm sure all of you have the same feeling I do, there are not enough hours in the day, and you seem to work hard all day and then are not sure what you accomplished.

Wheat

Export business has actually hung in pretty well for the U.S. lately, and if Australia and Argentina's crop continues to be reduced, maybe wheat will recover some.

The 2008 wheat harvest receipts at NCKC were well above average. In fact, bushel volume of 2,170,000 is our third largest ever, behind 2003 and 1997 respectfully.

Overall we have purchased approximately 60% of the 2009 wheat crop, but 30% was contracted prior to harvest. So yes, many of you have wheat to sell when the rally occurs.

Corn/Milo

Continued talk of U.S. yields being over U.S.D.A. estimate and ethanol demand shrinking is keeping a lid on any recovery. Exports have been good though.

As many of you know, Eric Hanson has accepted a job with Winfield Solutions as a Seed Agronomy Advisor. Eric and his family have relocated to Lindsborg. The good news for us is he is our area representative for Winfield and will continue to work periodically with our staff and customers. Good Luck, Eric!

Welcome Brian Nickel to our staff as a crop production specialist. Brian is working on getting acquainted with our area and looks forward to serving your needs.

Congratulations to John Wylie on his new role as Woodbine location manager. John has been with us a NCKC for two years and began his Woodbine duties in early September.

With all the emotion and volatility in the Agricultural environment today, NCKC's goal remains the same, to offer good quality products and services at a fair price!



Petroleum Comments by Department Staff

Energy markets have fallen like a rock the past 60 days, due to the financial crisis our world is in. This certainly makes for an interesting environment for all of us to manage inventory, pricing, and contracts, while the market fluctuates 10-15 cents on a daily basis.

We are nearing price levels that possibly are where we might consider some of our 2009 contract needs. NCKC is working on our 2009 contract format and also monitoring world financial developments, which will dictate spring prices. Until our contract program is announced we will give daily quotes on spring and summer prices. A cautious reminder to plan ahead carefully before contracting, because both you as our customer and NCKC are bound to price and contract time frame on those gallons.

Winter is fast approaching and we need to be thinking about your diesel fuel needs. RFD has started putting in WA III to treat the fuel down to -3°. If you want more protection than the -3°, we could do a 50-50 blend that will take the Cold Filter Plugging Point to -18°. If you would rather not spend the money on the #1 diesel and treat your tanks yourself, we do have a diesel fuel supplement that lowers the CFPP down to as low as -40°. Call Mike @ 785-366-7213 or Gene or Guy @ 785-479-2221 and let us know, as soon as possible, on how you would like your RFD tank winterized. Thanks for letting us serve your needs.



Feed Facts



by Derek Schrader

To say the least the last several weeks has been very interesting, no one knows if and

when or at what rate the markets will recover, there is uncertainty around each corner. Two things that are certain to increase efficiency and increase profitability are forage testing and ration formulation.

Forage testing provides us with far more than the moisture and crude protein of the feedstuffs. The amounts of fiber, and energy available for animal maintenance and gain, are also important "figures" that we realize from testing. Macro nutrients like calcium and phosphorus are also measured to aide in the balancing of the diets and to help ensure proper nutrient supplementation. Last, but certainly not least, the TDN or total digestible nutrients are measured. The measurement, like it sounds, rates the amount of nutrients that are digestible by and available to the animal.

Feeding formulated "balanced" rations also improves performance and increases feed efficiency. The weight, sex, genetics, and desired performance of the animal are entered into the program along with the feed ingredients available. The nutrient requirements needed to achieve the desired performance of the animal are identified and any restrictions of the feedstuffs available (i.e., pounds of alfalfa hay) are considered. The diet is then formulated based on best cost.

Utilizing these tools throughout the feeding season well help insure that your performance objectives are being met and that a balanced diet is being fed. We also have the ability to "book" several feed by-products, for the feeding season to help manage the risk of the cost of your rations.

The Dillon Connection by Dennis Friedli

The time is here when most livestock are gathered off pasture and the feeding time begins. This past spring and early summer a lot of sorghum sudan was planted to be harvested for feed for this fall and winter. NCKC did some feed analysis on the three

different sudan's that were sold through our locations.

The three varieties were Dynagrow brand-Dynagraze, Forage First brands—Standard and Greentreat Plus. At time of baling the moisture content was from a low of 16.8 to the high of 17.8. Crude protein was 9.5 on the Dynagrow, 10.0 on the standard sudan. On this comparison we didn't see a significant amount of difference with the protein content of each.

What we did look for is the nitrate nitrogen level in these sudans. All three varieties in this field came back with a usually safe feed for all classes of livestock. The ratings all were less than 1000 mg/kg NO₃-N with any test over 2800mg/kg NO₃-N being extremely dangerous to feed. NCKC has seen some results from samples sent in over the 5000-mg/kg NO₃-N.

If you are planning on feeding sudan feeds more than ¼ of your total ration and don't know what your nitrate level is in your feed it would be best to have it sampled and sent in for a test.

Navarre News by Gene Kickhaefer

Well October is finally here, another day closer to the deer season. For those of you, who weren't paying attention to the Royals, well---they didn't lose 100 games. That a boy Royals, maybe next year we can have a little more luck like the Tampa Bay Rays.

The Navarre location will have a major transformation by removing the east leg and replacing it with a 15 thousand bushel an hour leg, which will really speed up the dumping ability. The leg project should be completed by June 1st. The next time you see a few of the board members, give them a big thanks for continuing to improve our facility.

Come by and see the Navarre office, my staff gave it a facelift this summer with some bright white paint and some Coop blue trim. It really looks pretty darn good.

Finally, most of the wheat is in the ground and coming up. Fall harvest is slowly progressing. Keep in mind, if your feeding livestock, to check your bulk bins. NCK Coop would appreciate a day notice on all feed deliveries for maximum efficiency through our mills. It also makes planning the day's schedule so much easier. At last, I wish everyone a safe and plentiful harvest. Thanks for past and future patronage. P.S. Hey, Cowboy fans. How about those Redskins!!!!!!

Weather Forecast by Mike Pauley

Well I haven't written anything since last winter on the weather, so I will update you on a winter to forget. Starting on November 24th with 2" of snow and ending on the 24th of February with 3" of snow, we had a total of 29 1/2" of snow and ice. The ice storm in December produced almost 31 1/2" of water with all that ice and the biggest snow amount was 7" on February 6th. Hopefully the winter of 2008-09 won't be anything like the last one!!

Moisture for the 2008 year has stayed above average at +3.41". May and June were wet months with amounts of +.43" and +2.21" above average respectively. It got dry in July, but August and September turned out wet with amounts of +1.91" and +1.83" above average. The rains in September were in 2 days over the 12th and 13th with 4.25".

Here are some quotes from Joe Bastardi with Accuweather for the upcoming winter. "The core of the cold was centered over the Great Plains last year, but is expected to be farther east this year." He says "the overall colder and snowier winter will be off to a cold start in December, with perhaps the roughest winter month for much of the nation. The Great Plains was blasted with snow last year, but will receive a break in the form of less snow than last year."