



**Farmers Coop**  
ASSOCIATION



Forest City - Leland - Kiester - Buffalo Center - Winnebago

100 Years Saluting Agriculture Every Day!

▶ **HAPPENED**

A 55 year old Arkansas farmer, Mike Wallace, was shot to death by a 26 year old farm manager who managed a neighbor's farm. Dicamba herbicide was sprayed on that neighbor's farm. Wallace had filed suit that 40 percent of his 5000 acres was damaged by dicamba drift from application on the neighbor's acres.

Dicamba is similar to Banvel which controls broadleaves in corn but has the ability to drift to neighboring fields damaging or killing soybeans. It has been developed by Monsanto to use on soybeans and isn't supposed to drift. It is not cleared by the EPA.



▶ **SUCKER PUNCHED**

If it wasn't enough that our area was washed out with 11 inches of rain in September, now our area is once again the receiver of another 2+ inches. The bean harvest was very challenging with wet fields and potholes to start and then dry beans taking on moisture. Normally at 13 percent, dry down accelerates but not this year with the damp conditions.

Some growers harvested corn first followed by beans – most left patches of wet beans hoping to get them out at a later date as many spots stood in water damaging the beans. Some corn had water standing up to the ears. We can be thankful, if anything, the rain came in September and not earlier as we could have lost 5 to 10 percent of our acres to flooding.

Hang in there. Stay safe. A big area is affected – misery loves company, right?

▶ **DONATE GRAIN**

If you would like to donate grain to a charitable organization we would be happy to make that transition for you! Every cent of every bushel goes to the organization. Thanks!



▶ **FOLLOW THE MONEY**

Most hog producers are selling hogs for a large loss unless they were contracted ahead of time. The farmer's price for a market hog today is around \$90 to \$100. By the time all parts of that animal are sold at retail it will generate nearly \$400 in revenue. Prices at the meat case do not fluctuate like they do at producer levels as the consumer does not like wild swings in their food budgets. That is why prices are slow to come down and slow to go up.

▶ **WATERLOGGED SOILS**



Super wet soils affect agriculture in many ways besides harvest. We have many hog buildings with full manure pits to empty. If using a manure tanker hauling large volumes, compaction will be a big factor that could last for years. We are already finding soil testing cores are a mud tube instead of coarse dry soil. A big factor for consideration is fall tillage. Does a farmer till deep possibly further compacting the fields or does the tillage stay more shallow hoping

for a dry spring and soft soils? Should I work soybean stubble? These are tough decisions that directly affect your future crops.



▶ **PORK WINNERS**

Congratulations to our five winners of \$25 pork certificates!! **Winners are Carl Henschen, Michelle Alps, Ben Martinson, Brian Schonborn and Kyle Doyle.**

\*All photos from United Soybean Board

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## ▶DOWN AT THE CARDTROLS



Winners of \$10 free fuel this month are **Herman Henning, Mark and Bonnie Marshall, and Gordon Anderson Jr.** at Forest City and **Justin Kleinschmidt** at Kiester.

This month's Pumping It Back 2U recipients are the **Forest City Fire Department** and the **Kiester Lion's Club**.

## ▶FINAL LAP

As of this writing, we estimate that it will take five to eight good harvest days to wrap up corn harvest. The big yields and moisture content combination makes for long lines and exercising patience. We have been shipping crops via rail, trucks, and ethanol plants to make room for your needs. It has been challenging to say the least and yes we, your Coop, might be the only ones who needed the rain delay to get caught up for the next rush. Good news is that November is predicted to be above normal temperatures!



## ▶THANK YOU VETERANS

Today we enjoy our freedom and liberty because we have citizens who raised their hand and swore to protect and serve our country. Friday, November 11, we say thank you to all those who wore the uniform of our armed services and remember those who gave their lives. The piece of our freedom is buried in the ground. Thank you vets!!



*Happy Thanksgiving!*

## ▶TRAIN PICTURES ARE HERE

If you ordered pictures of our centennial celebration train ride, please pick them up at our FC offices!

## ▶2016 HARVEST

BY KINGSLEY JOHNSON

As we move into November, harvest is progressing. This has been a challenging harvest with the rains we have received. Many have had difficulty harvesting whole fields because of ponding from the rains. Even with the weather challenges, yields have surpassed many pre harvest estimates. Most producers are pleased with their yields.

The crop production report on November 9th will be watched to see if production is increased. It looks like we will have three of the largest crops in a row. Exports for corn have been good with 7.8 million metric tons inspected this year compared with 4.4 million metric tons for the same time period last year. Corn is still under pressure from a large worldwide wheat supply. Beans have been helped with some loss of palm oil production. This could be offset if we get a larger bean production number in the November report.

As you finish harvest I would like to remind you to core your bins to get rid of the fines and help the aeration as you store your crop. Check your bins frequently to make sure there is no crusting from moisture migration.

I would like to remind you to work safely and be careful as we finish this harvest.

## ▶FROM THE FEED DEPARTMENT

BY MITCH THORSON

Harvest is winding down and by the time you receive this newsletter, most fields will have been harvested. The cow/calf producer with cornstalk fields still has a lot of feed left to help reduce overall costs. Their spring calves are, or soon to be, weaned which greatly reduces the cow's energy requirements.

This is an optimum time to put weight back on cows before winter. The cow's maintenance requirements are at the lowest level of the year because **1)** she's not lactating, **2)** her fetal energy needs are lower than in the spring when 70 percent of fetal growth occurs in last trimester, **3)** temps are more in the cow's comfort zone.

Cornstalks baled or grazed and other low quality roughages with proper supplementation offer the cow/calf producer an option to reduce overall costs. Crystalyx has cost effective BGF-20 and BGF-30 barrels that increase fiber digestion and consumption in a labor saving package to help producers stretch their roughage.

Also, Crystalyx has two products that help minimize nutritional and social stress in newly weaned calves. Nutrients critical for immune function are trace minerals, copper, zinc, and selenium. The calf's diet has been milk and grass which are not good sources of trace minerals. The calf stores these trace minerals in his liver.

Weaning occurs when the calves' liver reserves have been depleted. It is very important to offer diets and supplements that are nutrient dense and palatable during the weaning period. Crystalyx Brigade and Battalion are nutrient dense, highly palatable supplements consistently shown to reduce social stress, morbidity, and mortality in newly weaned calves. Improved feed intake is one of the largest benefits with 0.5 to 1.0 pound per day additional gain often observed.

**Talk to Randy at Kiester or me in Leland about how Crystalyx and Hubbard stress starting programs can benefit you.**



## ▶AGRONOMY NEWS

BY RANDY MAIN

There are numerous things running through my head as I write this article. First and foremost is the weather. Second, how are we going to get everything done? I have asked myself this numerous times throughout the years but it seems to always get done. And with the employees we have, I am not worried a bit. I am very proud of what our people can get done in a days' time.

**GREEN TO GOLD**  
Program

As we continue through harvest, there are a number of items that will soon roll out to you, the customer. FCA has introduced our new logo and branding campaign. Additionally, our new website will be unveiled soon as well as a new program for our producers – Green to Gold.

The Green to Gold Program is our complete fertilizer program that will bring everything together from soil samples, VRT prescriptions, nitrogen management, foliar feeding, yield data, soil maps, and aerial drone imagery. This program will allow you to pick and choose what you need, when you need it. The Green to Gold Program will also allow you to invest at different levels in which you feel comfortable while accomplishing your yield and cropping goals. A complete introduction of this program will come during our winter agronomy meeting.

We at FCA appreciate your business and look forward to helping you with your fertilizer and seed needs.