



Farmers Coop
ASSOCIATION



Forest City - Leland - Kiester - Buffalo Center - Winnebago

101 Years Saluting Agriculture Every Day!

▶ **CHEATING BEANS**

Most farmers will soil test every two to three years. The last two years have produced some remarkable soybean yields which can drain the soil of potassium or potash. Researchers have found soils low in potash will reproduce aphids more rapidly than those in the high category. Also, low potash will show up as stunted plants, yellowing around leaf margins, purple seed stains and wrinkled seeds. In other words, cheating on potash will cost.

▶ **LAND RUSH COMING?**

It is no secret the average age of farmland owners is rising at a fast pace. Iowa has about 31.5 million acres of farmland worth about \$226 billion. Two thirds of Iowa land is estimated to be owned by someone 65 years of age or older. That means in 20 years two thirds of farmland will transfer to a new owner. What does that mean locally? Winnebago County has 243,000 crop acres. Just say only half of those acres are sold or transferred in the next two decades, that is the equivalent of 750 quarter sections in our county. Over 20 years that is about 40 quarter sections per year average.

▶ **DICAMBA - THE REST OF THE STORY**

The headlines continue to read of the fiasco of the herbicide Dicamba damaging neighboring crops. Three million acres have been affected but estimates are only one out of four acres were reported to officials, so total impacted acres are much larger.

To see how the new technology of Dicamba was released, Reuters News did extensive research. What they found is when a new product is developed it goes through testing by researchers, universities, and other independent firms who give recommendations to EPA and state regulators. In the case of Dicamba that testing was restricted by Monsanto's need to get the product out quickly and testing took too long. Monsanto however supplied its owned testing results to officials and the EPA took their word. Ironically some state regulators whose job is to screen new products never questioned the product.

What happened is American farmers were involuntarily made experimental farms for Dicamba. It damaged gardens, soybeans and relationships between neighbors.

Monsanto officer Robert Fraley is quoted by Reuters as saying, "We firmly believe that our product, if applied according to the instructions on the label, will not move off target and damage anyone."

In other Dicamba news, most insurance companies will now segregate out the Dicamba damage yields not to affect your APH but YOU have to let your insurance agent know now – not at harvest. Crop advisors now in fields say there will be yield damage and the amount varies based on if fields were sprayed early or later.

The full report can be read on your computer by typing "Reuters Dicamba" in your search engine.

▶ **50 YEAR MILESTONE**

In 1967, a new improved concept arrived in the area called a drying bin. Most were Brock bins, 24 feet in diameter equipped with a raised drying floor and a modern single screw David's Stirator. The bin held 6000 bushels and a 7.5 horsepower Vapor LP burner, or if you wanted to get spendy a 10 horse liquid was the choice. Big cost too - \$ 4475.00!!!!



▶ **101ST ANNUAL MEETING**

September 18, 2017

7:00 pm

TSB Bank Meeting Room
101 Hwy 69
Forest City

Agenda: reports, elections, door prizes and some great pie with ice cream!!

Farmers Coop Association will be distributing checks totaling \$162,000.

▶ **CORN LINE UP**

What you are seeing are eight ears picked on the same row, same variety, same fertilization spanning one half mile on typical area variable land. It's evident the heat and dryness during pollination took its toll with stunted and tip back ears.



▶ **NEW GRAIN STORAGE**

Be watching your mail as we are working through the purchase of the Leland Elevator. The legal work includes grain license, computer setup, and some needed repairs. We will be taking both corn and beans there and welcome your business!!

Storage will be at a premium with farmers storing old crop into the new harvest. We are usually empty of beans but still have 40,000 bushels on hand as well as 400,000 to 500,000 bushels of 2016 corn. Corn sales are nonexistent!

FOREST CITY

Address: 406 East K Street
Phone: 641-585-2814 or
800-483-6832
Fax: 641-585-2052

LELAND

Address: 609 B Street
Phone: 641-567-3341 or
888-676-7439
Fax: 641-567-3380

KIESTER

Address: 100 West Front Street
Phone: 507-294-3697 or
877-294-3697
Fax: 507-294-3540
Agronomy: 507-294-3427

WINNEBAGO

Address: 601 6th Avenue SE
Phone: 507-893-4800
Fax: 507-893-4305

BUFFALO CENTER

Address: 6401 Highway 9
Phone: 641-561-2800
Fax: 641-561-2216

▶ DOWN AT THE CARDTROLS



E-85 volume is up 10 percent as the price is ridiculously low - just like corn prices! The spread between E-85 and ethanol is the widest ever! You can bet gas prices will be going up more likely on gas than diesel. They likely will rise for two to three weeks after Labor Day and then back down unless another hurricane is inbound!

Winners of \$10 gas are [Lorri Anderson, David and Robin Peterson, Kristi Feldman and Craig Leland](#) in Kiester. Pumpin it Back 2U recipients this month are [Forest City Sports Boosters and Boy Scout Troop 30](#) in Kiester.

▶ START THOSE DRYERS

With the black layer on corn still weeks away, corn dryers will be humming once again this fall. LP prices have been working higher this summer but contract prices have been nearly flat. If everyone planted 107 to 110 day corn we can tell you prices are probably going up!!

▶ FEED QUALITY AND HARVEST

BY MITCH THORSON

Coming into September the weather is changing with shorter and cooler days. This past August provided needed moisture but we could use some more heat to help finish out the crops. Let's hope Mother Nature spares us a frost this month which would not only reduce yield but reduce the quality of grains to be used in feed. We have had good test weight corn the past few years to utilize. Livestock perform so much better and it's easier to formulate diets with high test weights and our mixing and hauling equipment work better.

Our mixers and truck compartments are three ton capacities as long as the corn is 54 pounds and higher. Lower than that, feed is bulkier so smaller batches need to be made reducing efficiencies and capacity in bulk bins. Let's hope we can get another month of summer before we see that 30 degree morning.

We also will be closely monitoring mycotoxin levels again this year. In the past, we have been fortunate in our area with low or nonexistent levels. If mycotoxins are found we will take necessary steps to help keep livestock healthy and performing well.

Once again this year we are having our September Crystalx and dry mineral booking. Randy or I can help producers plan fall and winter supplement needs while saving producers dollars and time with October delivery during busy harvest time.



▶ SUDDEN DEATH SYNDROME

BY JAMIE JONES

Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS) has reared its ugly head with a vengeance. Infection typically occurs early in the season but symptomology doesn't show until mid-season.



SDS symptoms include:

- Yellowing of leaves in a mosaic pattern
- As leaves yellow and brown, leaf veins remain green
- Flowers and pods abort, seed size is smaller
- Later-developing pods may not fill and seed may not mature

What type of yield impact can we expect? In affected areas of the field, there's the potential of 20 to 50 percent yield reduction. Seed treatment, such as Illevo, may help minimize risk of infection. Talk to your FCA Agronomy Account Manager about other ways to manage SDS on your farm.

The FCA Agronomy Department is well underway in preparation for fall. Fertilizer and seed prices will be rolling out soon. One positive is that nitrogen pricing has gone down while P and K remain fairly flat. We look forward to providing you with the best quality service and products in the area.

Photo Credit: University of Nebraska - Lincoln

▶ GRAIN POLICIES

Soybean Price Later Contract Fees	
Price per bushel	October and November - 8¢ per month December and January - 6¢ per month February and March - 4¢ per month April and May - 3¢ per month June and July - 2¢ per month August and September - free Contracts must be priced by September 30, 2018, or Farmers Coop Association will price those bushels on that day. No advances will be made; storage is billed monthly.
Corn Price Later Contract Fees	
Price per bushel	<i>Minimum of 5¢ will be charged per bushel October, November and December</i> October through December - 6¢ per month January and February - 4¢ per month March and April - 3¢ per month May and June - 2¢ per month July through September - 1¢ per month Contracts must be priced by September 30, 2018, or Farmers Coop Association will price those bushels on that day. No advances will be made; storage is billed monthly

▶ HARVEST PREPARATIONS

BY KINGSLEY JOHNSON

As we approach harvest, many of you watch the different reports on crop conditions and progress. Recently the Pro Farmer crop tour results were released. They estimated corn at 167.1 bushels per acre (bpa), with production at 13.953 billion bushels. The crop tour estimated the soybean crop at 49.4 bpa, with production at 4.381 billion bushels. Both of these estimates were below the August USDA estimate. At these production levels, there is little relief for prices until we can lower stocks. Crop progress reports by both the USDA and Pro Farmer indicate a delayed maturity of crops, which is evident in our local crops.

Many of you are preparing your bins for harvest. A few things to remember as you prepare your bins for harvest.

- Look for leaks in the roof - caulk or seal them to prevent leaks
- Clean roof vents - helps with aeration and prevents possible roof damage
- Check for missing bolts
- Seal the foundation
- Clean the inside of old grain and debris - use a bin treatment
- Clean aeration ducts of old fines
- Check fans for operation and grease twice a year

Please remember free price later ends September 30.