



Farmers Coop
ASSOCIATION



Forest City - Leland - Kiester - Buffalo Center - Winnebago

104 Years Saluting Agriculture Every Day!

► **WHO'LL STOP THE RAIN?**

*"Long as I remember the rain been fallin' down
Clouds of mystery pourin' confusion on the ground
Good men through the ages trying to find the sun
And I wonder, still I wonder, who'll stop the rain?"*
- Credence Clearwater Revival



Pretty well sums it up. Farmers and those in agriculture every day are walking carefully through landmine fields that potentially could blow up at any instant. A few examples of those potential mines are weather, markets, tariffs, swine fever, prevented plant, insurance, and a government playing politics with those who feed this country. Farmers strive for dependability whether its seed, equipment, banker, weather forecasting, or ag services but they cannot depend on our government. The new market aid program, if it was an insurance policy, wouldn't even cover the deductible in the short- and long-term market damage being done.

Some farm groups and politicians are very vocal about the hurt - some are way too silent. "Who'll Stop the Rain" was written during a time of conflict and confusion. Most farmers will agree its sentiments fit their plight in 2019 exactly.

► **CHECK THIS OUT**

In the past 152 years of farm market prices, there have been 13 years when prices have risen dramatically from one year to the next. Economists Dr. Daryl Ray and Dr. Harwood Schaffer have researched markets to see the catalyst to weather priced premiums. Almost all events came after years of below breakeven prices and supply was reduced by weather. Sound familiar? Their concluding summary said in order for 2019 to be number 14 historical breakout, final corn and bean supply needs to drop only 12 to 16%. That means national corn production for 2019 needs to be around 13 billion bushels or less and beans around 4.2 billion. Let the countdown to launch begin?

► **UPCOMING CELEBRATIONS**

Bago Fun Fest - June 14-16
Kiester Days - June 20-23
Fourth of July in Buffalo Center - July 4



► **SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT**

Bill's Family Foods in Forest City closed its doors this weekend after 54 years in business. HyVee purchased the business and is leasing the property. The store had full shelves mid-week and within three sale days they were 90% empty. We asked the owners, on a normal basis how long it take if all incoming supplies were shut off to empty the store. Their answer was from two to three weeks. Studies have shown if America ever had a food disaster from a natural or enemy occurrence, within six weeks a "calamity of serious portions" would be rampant for the securing of food for survival.

► **QUESTIONS! QUESTIONS! LOTS OF QUESTIONS!**

BY RANDY MAIN

We have been hit with lots of questions relating to many different topics from planting progress to nitrogen loss. I will try to answer a number of these to provide assistance and answers.

The first question is how the different locations are coming on planting progress. Below is an estimate of planting at our different locations:

Forest City	Buffalo Center	Kiester	Winnebago
Corn 90%	Corn 100%	Corn 98%	Corn 85%
Soybeans 25%	Soybeans 75%	Soybeans 70%	Soybeans 25%



We have been having some emergence problems on side hills and obviously in pond areas. We are always asked about replanting these areas and it is solely up to the producer. Unfortunately, over 50% of the time the ponds will drown out again until the water table level goes down substantially.

Another question that frequently comes up is about seed treatment. Many believe that as we move later in the planting season, seed treatment is not needed. Actually, this thinking contradicts what is going on in the field. We have been delayed because of wet soggy fields which create prime conditions for the diseases we are trying to protect against. So, you need seed treatment now more than ever.

Another major question is about nitrogen loss. There is no question much nitrogen has been lost. Those who used a nitrogen stabilizer are in the driver's seat. The stabilizer would have gotten you through this rainy spell. With the increase in corn prices, you may want to think of additional nitrogen to get you the most optimum yield. We have two side dressers along with our full service Nutraboss machines. Don't hesitate to give us a call.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call one of our agronomy sales reps. We are here to help. Have a safe and productive June!

FOREST CITY Address: 406 East K Street Phone: 641-585-2814 or 800-483-6832 Fax: 641-585-2052	LELAND FEED MILL Address: 609 B Street Phone: 641-567-3341 or 888-676-7439 Fax: 641-567-3380	LELAND GRAIN Address: 222 West Broadway Phone: 641-567-3010 Fax: 641-567-3012	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
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DOWN AT THE CARDTROLS



It's very like we have seen the highest gas prices for the summer with the crude oil dropping like a rock. E-15 finally passed. Winners of \$20 free pork certificates are [Jason Miller](#), [Dan Carlson](#), and [Eric Kingland](#) from Forest City and [Loren Bidne](#) at Kiester.

LP HEADS UP

All propane delivered to your tank will cost only 99 cents per gallon - that is not a typo - 99 cents. Also, a new 20 pound LP tank filled and ready to go is only \$49.00!



HERITAGE PARK FESTIVAL

Usually held annually in September, this big festival will be held this coming weekend, June 7-9. Sheppard diesels are featured this year with a salute to the Moon automobiles. Museums, log cabins, trolley rides, big noon parades, and field demonstrations with some very expensive steam tractors. Saturday is the Show and Shine Car Show with a tractor pull on Sunday. Come hungry as the food is fit to make a threshing crew smile!

1990 VS. 2019

From a local farmer's ledger noting what happened east of Forest City in 1993, we get to see what the future might hold. In 1993, on May 18, the first corn was planted and most farmers finished on May 25. Bean planting started on May 26 and finished mid-June. Summer was cold and lacked growing degree units.

First beans were combined on October 2 and yielded 50 bushels per acre. However, the beans planted after June 10 were considerably lower yielding, measuring only 33 to 35 bushels per acre. Corn harvest started on October 28 with 29% moisture corn and finished on November 12. Driest corn all fall was 27 to 28% moisture. Will history repeat?



CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

BY MITCH THORSON



June is Dairy Month and we salute the few remaining dairy producers in our area who produce milk and cheese for our tables. Their 24/7 commitment to hard work needs to be acknowledged.

June also brings the start of the summer fair season as the Worth County Fair will be held in the middle of the month. Congratulations and good luck to the youth participating and competing with their projects that teach good animal care and lifelong lessons.

The rosy picture at the beginning of May has wilted some with the extremely wet planting conditions. Beef and especially pork producers have had prices dropping considerably because of trade threats and tariffs. Adding insult to injury because of slow planting progress, feed prices have risen dramatically.

For the producer who purchases all their grain inputs, the \$.60 per bushel increase for corn and \$30 per ton for soybean meal has added about \$7.00 to the cost to feed a feeder pig out and \$50 to \$100 to finish out a beef or dairy steer. The American farmer has continually been held hostage to resolve trade and immigration issues with our two largest export markets for corn, beans, and pork. Some tariffs to Mexico had been recently rescinded only to have new verbal threats because of immigration come out to cause a retaliatory threat come from the Mexican government. The best news for livestock producers would be an end to the constant bickering with trade partners. One good news item is Japan has lifted the ban on US beef so that might give a boost to beef producers. Let's hope our government officials can become more negotiating and less threatening to solve trade and social issues and not at the expense of the best food producers of the world.

WEATHER FACTS

	April-May Rain	April-May 2018	Rain Days Since April 1
Forest City	10.32 inches	10.32 inches	33
Leland	10.33 inches	10.03 inches	33
Kiester	10.09 inches	9.58 inches	36
Buffalo Center	12.03 inches	8.93 inches	38
Winnebago	10.91 inches	9.30 inches	37

The average of all our locations shows we are 28% wetter than normal and 9.8% colder. The numerous days of recorded rain at all locations show farmers and coop personal put in some long hours with a lot of determination! We are supposed to be the "garden spot." It's our turn after 2018.

PLANTING DELAYS

BY KINGSLEY JOHNSON



The weather hasn't been cooperating for farmers in many parts of the country. Record rainfalls have caused flooded fields and excess moisture, which has prevented many acres of crops from being planted. The latest Crop Progress Report showed historic delays in planting progress for both corn and beans. Many of these acres will soon be eligible for prevented planting payments.

Corn planting was at 58% versus the five year average of 90% and soybean planting was at 29% vs the five year average of 66% in the Report. The planting rate this year is similar to 1993 and 1995. Some of the states have been hit harder than others with flooding and excess rain. This suggests that some of these acres will not be planted or will switch to another crop.

Planting delays suggest lower yields for late planted crops and reduced acres planted. This is causing people to rethink the implications to the grain stocks balance sheet. One scenario I have seen reduces corn acreage by 5 million acres and yield by five bushels per acre. This would reduce ending stocks from 2,485 to 1,664. Scenario B would reduce acres by 10 million acres with similar yield reduction. This would reduce stocks to 1,375. These weather concerns have caused a rally in the July Futures market of nearly \$0.80 in both corn and soybean futures. Weather related rallies often last three to four weeks. The June 28 Acreage Report will provide us with the first survey report of planted acreage.