



Forest City - Leland - Kiester - Buffalo Center - Winnebago

104 Years Saluting Agriculture Every Day!

► FROM THE BACK OFFICE

BY RANDY BROESDER

“What a report!” is a comment heard from producers regarding the Friday, June 28, crop reports and it isn’t complimentary. Corn acres according to the USDA were down only 1.1 million from March estimates and beans were down 4.6 million. Not many people believe the numbers, however, the market trades those numbers. They will resurvey 14 major states and the data will be released in August. Farmers have locked the bin doors the past two weeks waiting to see how crops develop here on out.

- We say goodbye to Deanne Trussell, office assistant for 14 years at Kiester, as she moves to Sioux Falls. The best to you Deanne. Replacing Deanne will be Jill Ross! Welcome Jill!
- Thank you for your patronage this past year. We do appreciate you!

► GET IT TOGETHER

Right now, China is in the process of reducing their hog herd by up to an estimated 40% because of African swine fever. America markets about 110 million hogs annually compared to over 600 million in China. Cash hogs in China right now are almost double the price of American hogs. There is a 61% Trump Tariff on inbound US pork to China. Farmers have built these export markets through check-off investments and hard work. Prestage Farms spent \$360 million for a new processing plant for these markets. Our farmers have world farm class products to sell. It’s been 16 months of politics with no results – what’s good for the farmers is good for our coop and communities – it’s time to “MAKE THE DEAL.”

► 1993 OVER AGAIN?

Many analysts continue to compare our present crop conditions to 1993. Once the 1993 crop was planted, rainfall and cold temps slowed its development. The government reported the crop was in “good” condition, keeping prices low through the summer, although farmers knew different. Those low prices were a gift to end users and export customers at the expense of farmers. When harvest started, the USDA had a “Oops! My bad” mistake moment and prices rose dramatically.

With today’s computers, satellite images, insurance reporting, and FSA acre certification, there should be no surprises if the USDA truly is doing their job!

► PARADES 2019

Be sure to give us a wave or a shout as we pass by you at your local parade. We enjoy going out and being a part of one of the greatest times of the year with our friends and neighbors!



► KEEP US GUESSING

**CORN** – It’s July and most years corn should be well over hip high getting ready to launch a tassel and getting ready to silk in 10 to 14 days. Instead today, in our service area, corn ranges from hip high at the tallest to ankle high at the smallest with most of it just above knee high. The “sins” of planting in wet and cold conditions are showing up in root development and nitrogen uptake. The lower than normal June rainfall is greatly helping the corn roots extend down into the moisture and nutrient zones which is good. What we don’t need is high winds causing green snap to these fast-growing plants. Conditions are ripe for fungal development in these crops because of the trash and wetness.

**BEANS** - Two words describe bean fields and they are, “seriously behind.” Beans are a light sensitive plant and with the late, wet, and cool planting this spring, they have a very long road ahead of them. We honestly feel our agronomy department will be busy spraying all summer long because of the huge difference in the size of crops planted over a six week span!

► GET WELL KINGSLEY

As we write this letter Kingsley Johnson is having open heart surgery in Des Moines. Wishing a speedy and complete recovery to you!!



► FILL THEM UP!!

It’s cheaper than last year and it’s available now! Anytime LP is 99 cents a gallon, it’s a great buy and with possible wet corn this fall, the time is now. You can pay cash or book your needs. If your home LP tank is empty from last winter, this could be the cheapest fill of the new heating season!

<p><b>FOREST CITY</b> Address: 406 East K Street Phone: 641-585-2814 or 800-483-6832 Fax: 641-585-2052</p>	<p><b>LELAND FEED MILL</b> Address: 609 B Street Phone: 641-567-3341 or 888-676-7439 Fax: 641-567-3380</p>	<p><b>LELAND GRAIN</b> Address: 222 West Broadway Phone: 641-567-3010 Fax: 641-567-3012</p>	<p><b>KIESTER</b> Address: 100 West Front Street Phone: 507-294-3697 or 877-294-3697 Fax: 507-294-3540 Agronomy: 507-294-3427</p>	<p><b>WINNEBAGO</b> Address: 601 6th Avenue SE Phone: 507-893-4800 Fax: 507-893-4305</p>	<p><b>BUFFALO CENTER</b> Address: 6401 Highway 9 Phone: 641-561-2800 Fax: 641-561-2216</p>
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## ▶ DOWN AT THE CARDTROLS



We have been asked about the availability of the new release of E-15 blended gasoline. All of our fuel is from Cenex and we are allowed only two types of gasoline to sell. Those are E-10 and E-85 currently. We wait for their decision. Cenex is rural retail based, so we expect the E-15 decision from them to be coming.

Winners of \$20 worth of pork certificates are **Jerred Ruble, FC Schools, and Winnebago County** from our Forest City location and **Brian Swearingen** from our Kiester location.

## ▶ FEELING GOOD

In the old days when it got super-hot, pigs would head to the nearest mud hole. Today they head for the sprinklers for relief and cooling. Through the use of computer sprinkler systems, like in this local barn, pigs are cooled for 15 minutes every hour it's above 80 degrees. Instead of a mud-coated animal of the old days, we now have fresh, clean, cooled meat machines!



## ▶ AGRONOMY UPDATE

BY RANDY MAIN



July is officially here and with that we have a number of things to talk about.

### Corn and Soybean Spraying

Most corn is getting to the V8 stage in life which is usually the official stage we have to stop spraying corn. From this point forward we will have to use drops to keep the chemical out of the whorl.

For soybeans, the major chemical we need to be done with spraying is any product with Flexstar type chemistry in it. I always say July 4th is the end date for this. However, with the amount of moisture we have had this year, I would say we could stretch it another few days.

### Fungicide/Insecticide Spraying

With the amount of moisture we have had this year, it will be an opportune year to spray fungicides on both corn and soybeans. Also, don't forget the insecticide! The insect pressure this year will be higher with the amount of moisture we have had.

### Side Dressing

Side dressing is in full swing. We have started side dressing corn with our drops. If you think you are lacking in nitrogen, this would be the ideal time to get a little extra on. Don't forget to stabilize your nitrogen! It has paid huge dividends to do so this year.

If there is anything we can help you with don't hesitate to call. We appreciate your business and wish you a safe summer.

## ▶ FREE PRICE LATER

Free price later now in effect until **September 30, 2019**

## ▶ CLOSED

Farmers Coop Association will be **closed on Saturdays until mid-September**

## HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!



## ▶ WEATHER

Looking at these figures, they show a dramatic decrease in June rainfall compared to 2018 and a serious lack of growing degree units (GDUs). If you took the 711 GDUs presently accumulated in Forest City and used the 2018 daily temperatures from July 1 forward to 2018 fall, corn maturity would come October 12-14 with 2550 GDUs. Mid-May planted corn would be later yet with identical weather.

	June Rain	10 Year Average	2018 Rain	May 1-July 1 GDU	10 Year Average
Forest City	2.68 in.	5.72 in.	12.38 in.	711	855
Leland	2.64 in.	5.64 in.	8.66 in.	705	875
Buffalo Center	3.69 in.	5.16 in.	6.82 in.	728	872
Kiester	5.56 in.	5.65 in.	8.67 in.	704	846
Winnebago	4.70 in.	5.33 in.	9.60 in.	723	876