



Farmers Coop
ASSOCIATION

APRIL 2022



Forest City - Leland - Kiester - Buffalo Center

105 Years Saluting Agriculture Every Day!

► **GIVE US A BREAK USDA**

Since November, our customers who raise purchased small pigs have had a difficult job buying 14 pound pigs. Recent USDA Survey results show numbers down 2% but most producers call that bogus. High feed costs, diseases, and attrition are taking their toll and we fear pork will soon start an upward price journey. Every major pork exporting country is reducing numbers and most of it is not by choice but circumstances beyond producers' control. Recently a local food store had boneless pork loins for \$1.88 per pound. That was a "No Brainer Buy!"



► **GET A GRIP WASHINGTON**

If you had a stack of 1000 new \$1 bills, they would measure 4.5 inches tall. If there were a million of these, they would measure 358 feet tall or over a football field in length. Imagine 1 billion bills and they would measure 68 miles, or the distance from the Minnesota state line on I-35 to the Boondocks with all bills standing side by side, not end to end!! A trillion bills measure 67,866 miles. Your government wants to spend \$5.8 trillion on next year's budget and we think inflation is high now?

► **DROUGHT STRESS**

The local drought maps tell the story big time - we are dry in our trade area. Dryness puts stress on germinating crops. We have been Verdesdan dealers for five years now. SEED+ GRAPHITE helps relieve stress by providing lubricant of the seed through the planter. By putting it on seed through the box it provides nutrients and bio stimulants to help "pop" the seed up through the soil. Studies repeatedly show a fast emergence without stress provide great results at harvest. Sales continue to grow each year. Contact any of your field reps for more information!!

► **BOMBED BY BACON**

During World War II, the American Fat Salvage Commission was formed to help the war effort by collecting animal fat. Hogs carried a lot more lard in those days than now, including bacon. Someone discovered the leftover bacon fat contained glycerin which could convert into nitroglycerin used in explosives. There were an estimated 250,000 American meat market that would pay \$0.04 per pound for the fat to be resold to the government for explosives. Now you know the rest of the story!

► **EASTER EGG HUNT**

We invite you to bring the kids and grandkids to the Easter Egg Hunt at Heritage Park in Forest City. It starts Saturday, April 16, at 11 am with three age groups of kids for fun!! The Coop is proud to provide a fun event for ALL ages of our communities!!

Heritage Park also invites you to celebrate our Risen Savior at their 9 am Easter Service in 110-year-old Beaver Creek Church. Greg Flugum has a special service prepared to honor the occasion! Happy Easter!!



► **HOW DRY IS IT?**

The latest drought maps show 70% of the land west of the Mississippi is in a drought stage. There are seven major weather forecasting services around the globe like NOAA and all except NOAA say La Nina will decline this spring, allowing a dry spring to turn into a normal summer rainfall pattern. NOAA predicts La Nina will last until late summer continuing the below normal rainfall during the growing season.



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

BUFFALO CENTER

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



►DOWN AT THE CARDTROLS

It's evident by our volume of sales, driving is showing up in family budgets. E-15 is priced \$0.20 per gallon under super unleaded and can be used in 95% of non-diesel vehicles back to 2003. That \$0.20 here, \$0.20 there can add up real fast if you do a lot of driving. Give E-15 a try. Winners of \$20 pork coupons from Forest City are **Jerry Michaelson and North Iowa Plumbing and Heating**. At Kiester, **Mike Wigern** gets the pork coupon. Stop in and pick them up!

►CRYSTAL BALL

Check out this information shared during a Farm Credit webinar.

- Oil prices high for several years.
- Brazil will be hit hard by fertilizer shortages stopping expanding acres
- Russia is in Ukraine for long term
- Wheat will gain acres worldwide
- Acres to soybeans up – corn acres down
- Total meat production will decline worldwide
- Nitrogen prices stay high because of energy prices
- Dropping of corn acres will acutely affect ethanol industry
- Odds of Ukraine exporting corn crop this year unlikely
- This will be a long-term event world wide

Be safe this spring, please! We would rather talk TO you than ABOUT you.

Wanted: You and your field maps for processing. Go time is here!

**Grilling Season Special
Just \$14 to fill your 20-pound tanks in April at FCA in Forest City**



►FROM THE GREEN TEAM

BY BILL MEYER

As most of you are probably aware, both Minnesota and Iowa have had additional restrictions imposed regarding over-the-top dicamba applications in soybeans. In Iowa, the cutoff date has been changed from June 30 to June 20. In Minnesota, the cutoff date has been changed from June 20 to June 12 south of Interstate 94. In addition, the temperature restriction has also been reimposed. If the forecasted temperature for the nearest available location is above 85 degrees for that day, then application is not allowed. The forecasted high temp for the day must also be recorded at the start of application.

The chemical supply issue is still as cloudy as it was last month. FCA has received a shipment of generic Liberty which as we sit right now is about 30% of what we used last year. We are hopeful that we can find more product as spring approaches. There are various other chemicals that are very tight on supply also. We may have to look at alternative products to fill some gaps as we go along. Some of the basic manufacturers are loosening up their program requirements so that we can use whatever is available to us to do the job and at the same time not disrupt their specific grower programs.

As spring quickly approaches, please make an effort to contact your account manager and get your farm/field plans finalized. It looks like we are not going to get as early of a start this year as we have the past couple of years, so planning ahead and being ready to go is that much more important.

Have a safe and productive planting season and if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, contact your account manager or call me at 507-766-0510. We will do what we can to help you out.



►FROM THE BACK OFFICE

BY RANDY BROESDER

For those interested, beginning in May you can receive your monthly statement by email or smartphone instead of paper. We will need your cell phone number, email address, and account number. Farmers Coop Association blankets will be given to five members signing up for this service this month, drawn at random. Fill out the form here and bring it to our offices or mail it in with your payment if you want to begin this electronic delivery of your statement and enter the drawing for a blanket. This is strictly optional and if you do participate, our newsletter will be posted on the website to read.

Also, we will be offering direct deposit of your grain checks for your convenience. We have forms for you to fill at all grain locations. Direct deposits will be made at 9:00 am each day.

This week we should be getting our new IH Field Sprayer and advanced liquid system to handle increased needs. We also added a liquid trailer devoted only to certain post season products to avoid contamination.

The December windstorm that hit our area did damage to our Forest City Grain Center which is now being repaired!

The reports at the end of March signaled what's ahead for us in roller coaster farming. Buckle up! FCA is here to go on the ride with you and do our part to navigate the course.

Farmers Coop Association Email Statement Sign Up/Blanket Drawing Entry

Date: _____ Name: _____

Account number(s): _____ Cell phone number: _____

Email address: _____ Signature: _____

Please bring this completed for to your Farmers Coop Association location or mail with your payment.