

Pilot Grove Cooperative February Newsletter

Coop News: The project is well underway as a lot of the concrete is finished for the pit as well as the base for the bins. In February expect to see a few more trucks carrying scale parts into town. As of the end of January we are on a good pace to finish the project sometime late summer and be ready for Harvest 18'.

Upcoming events:

February 7th Applicator license renewal meeting. Starts @ 6 at the PG Coop shop

February 28th Stine Seed Meeting. Starts @ 6 PG Community building.

Also don't forget about the love ones in your life on Valentine's February 14th

In other Coop news we are glad to welcome our new Agronomy Manager Jayson Fowler. Jason grew up and graduated from Tipton, MO and it's where he still reside today. He started college at State Fair Community College in 2005 and received my associates degree in general studies. Following SFCC I went to University of Central Missouri and in 2010 earned a Bachelor's Degree in Agri-Business. During his last semester at UCM he accepted an agronomist position with CropQuest which was located in Goodland, KS. For 2 growing seasons Jason helped scout over 20,000 acres in Western KS, SW Nebraska, and Eastern Colorado. After a year and half in Western KS it was time to come back home. He took a position at Pro-Energy in Sedalia and got the chance to travel all over the U.S. and overseas. he spent a little over a year with Pro then in 2013 he accepted the precision agronomy position at Boonville MFA which is where he spent the last 4+ years.

Agronomy News: We are now doing in house grid soil sampling to help producers get the most out every acre and every pound of fertilizer. Grid Soil sampling utilizes GPS technology to efficiently place fertilizer at a variable rate across the field. Each grid is 2 ½ acres and 12-15 cores are pulled per grid. So, each grid will have it's own fertilizer and lime recommendation and with all the hilly ground in this part of Missouri there could be a huge benefit of correct PH across the field. The cost is \$8.50 and acre and includes year to year nutrient management for 4 years.

Grain News: Thank you all for attending the Grain Marketing Meeting in on January 26th. The speaker Brian Burke kept the audience vary captivated with his thoughts on grain markets going into the future. Some of the big takeaways was about China and its ever-growing Urban population and the transition into a cleaner less polluted country. Which a big part of the clean-up will be from them using more ethanol in their gas which could help ethanol margins and demand for US Corn. But one of the biggest takeaways was about the last 5 years being the 5 biggest Corn and Bean crops the US has ever had. On the month Corn has been very rangebound at .16 ¾ cents with a high of 3.62 ¼, where beans have had a lot more action at .60

¼ cent range on the month with the march futures high of 10.04 ¾ ending the month .10 cents off the highs.

Seed News: The CO-OP still has a good selection of corn and soybean seed, but as spring being right around the corner some numbers are becoming tight or sold out. Give Larry or Ryan a call at 660-621-1663 or 660-621-2537 for prices and availability. If you are considering treating your soybeans, especially when planting early, we carry a full line of treatments from fungicides, insecticides and nematicides, to inoculants and ilevo for sudden death syndrome. If there is anything specific you want that we may not have, let us know and we can get it in. Call us for options and prices!

Feed News: To date this winter's weather hasn't been too rough on the beef cows in the area. Most producers seem to have ample hay and some cases cows can still be seen out picking in pastures and stalk fields. However, as good as things seem to be, now is not the time to take a cow's nutrition for granted. Whether you have spring calving cows that will be calving in the next 60 days or fall calves with a calf at side both sets of cows need extra nutrition for the second half of the winter. By providing an additional protein source to beef cows the forage digestibility can be increased by 20-30% and the body condition can more easily be maintained. Additional protein can be supplied in many different forms from the most economical in range cubes and liquid protein to convenient protein tubs. Kent Feeds and the coop have the right product for your cow herd, talk with Robbie if you have any questions.

February is a good time to start thing about tetany issues and switch cows over to Hi Mag mineral. Traditionally grass tetany is what most of producers worry about as spring grass starts to green up and cows start picking. However, winter tetany is just as common and may be more likely to happen when cows have had lower quality hay or cows get pulled down from cold weather.

Spring calving season will soon be here, the Coop has a good selection of colostrum replacement products, milk replacers and electrolytes for all of the unpredicted situations that arise this time of year. With the start of the new-year Kent Feeds and Coop will again be offering 12-month, 0% interest on all Kent beef products. Contact Robbie for more information on this program.

****If you haven't already – check out our Facebook Page for grain prices, pictures and updates!**