

Pilot Grove Cooperative March Newsletter

Coop News: The Coop has had plenty of winter to get ready for the spring weather to get here. This March will hopefully be an eventful month and end with some dust flying. We plan on moving ahead with a few projects upcoming this year after our 2020 fiscal year budget is ironed out. One of the most exciting things in Coop news is the addition of our new Chemical Salesmen Rick Wesley. See chemical news for more information.

Upcoming events:

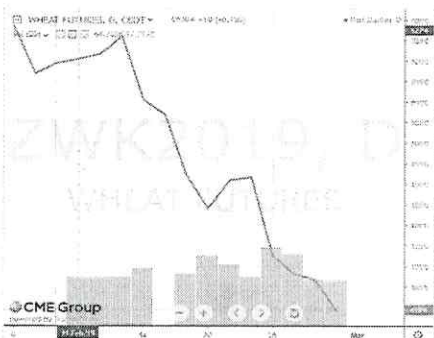
Fish Day: April 26th 9:00 am (last day to order is 23rd)

St. Patrick's Day: Sunday, March 17th

Easter: April 21st

Grain News: China, China, China... I'm tired of having to talk about China in all of our updates about grain, but here we go. U.S. Trade Rep Lighthizer said, "US and China issues are too serious to be resolved with purchases of more US goods, and any deal between the two countries need to include a long-term enforcement mechanism." So even with China pledging to buy 10 million tons of soybeans all is not settled. Obviously, the market is not all that impressed with the "promised" sales to China either. Seems like this will take a long time and a lot of long term commitment by China.

May Corn futures down 14 cents on the month and May Bean Futures down 24 cents. It may take some summer weather to make this market move back into profitable range for a lot of producers. **Put in orders!** We don't have near enough target orders for this monster crop we're about to grow. I don't think anyone wants to sell low 3's on corn or low 8's on soybeans at harvest. St. Louis river has been up and down with the tide literally making it tough to get barges up river and off loaded in the gulf and that hurt a lot of the bean basis numbers in the early part of the year. Corn Basis is stronger than last year with keeping corn at the Coop close to the 3.50 range most of the late winter.



Wheat on the month has been taking a bath. Down over 50 cents on the month and not looking back. A huge selloff has happened over the last few weeks with lack of expected China imports and heavy Russian selling. Also, larger planting acres forecasted from lower soybean prices reducing their acres.

Chemical news: Pilot Grove Coop is proud to introduce our newest employee, Rick Wesley. Rick will be our Outside Salesman for ag chemicals and if the name is familiar to you, it's because Rick has been our DuPont Crop Protection Sales Agronomist since 1989. Rick took early retirement from DuPont in December 2017, laid low for the 2018 season and now is excited to help Pilot Grove Coop. He has a broad understanding of weed, disease and insect control for corn, soybeans and wheat and looks forward to meeting personally with you to help design the proper chemical programs for spring 2019. Stop in and get introduced. For soybean weed control, we are well stocked with three top preemerge residuals (Trivence, Envive or Enlite) and Liberty and Outlook for postemerge spraying in Liberty Link

beans. Additionally, we have 2 brands of Dicamba on hand (Engenia and Fexapan) if you have chosen to plant Xtend soybeans. A preplant discussion is terribly important so that we are familiar with which soybean system you have decided to plant. For corn weed control, we are promoting a solid preemerge residual program with a strong respray program from Corteva Agri Science. Give Rick a call at the Coop or at 573-489-4503 (cell) to discuss the spring weed control programs.

Seed News: We now have approval to sell the Enlist3 Beans. As with any new products, these beans will be in a short supply this year. We do have a couple of numbers we can get to try this year.

Seed treatment is always a topic of conversation. This year is the year to consider treating beans, especially for SDS following a cold, wet spring. We can treat beans and corn (in boxes only), or small bags in your tender, with bio-stimulants or root enhancers. Call Larry or Ryan to discuss treatment cost and options.

Pastures

With all the mud and moisture this winter, pastures will need some repairs. We offer several seed mixes to help improve pasture conditions – such as clover mixes, grass clover mixes, or just grass seed. Talk to us about different options and mixes.

Silage Wrap

The Coop offers a full line of SunFilm silage/bale wrap. We have original SunFilm along with SunFilm Gold and GoldMaxx. We can fit the wrap for the crop you have. Call for special prices. Discount available for cash and carry.

Feed News: March is the Mineral Month at the Coop! The Coop and Kent Feeds are teaming up to offer a **10% discount** on all beef minerals that are purchased and delivered during the month of March. A solid mineral program is one of the best investments a producer can make in their cow herd. Research proves that cows on a quality mineral program not only stay healthier and live longer, but breed back faster giving you a heavier calf at weaning when the additional pounds pay. The Coop stocks several Kent minerals to help you stay on top of seasonal challenges. Currently, we are recommending Kent MG mineral with 12% magnesium to help prevent tetany in beef cows. Not only can cows get grass tetany in the spring on lush green grass, but winter tetany can happen to cows that aren't in the best condition and have been fed corn stalks or cereal grain forages like rye and wheat that are common in cover crops. Later in spring after grass growth slows a free choice mineral containing breeder aide is recommended during breeding season followed by a summer mineral that contains 5600 grams of CTC for anaplasmosis control and AFC for horn fly control. Before purchasing mineral medicated with CTC you will need to talk with your veterinarian and get a VFD. The Coop also has several summer minerals without CTC that do not require a VFD. Stop by the Coop or give Robbie a call to discuss a specific mineral program for your herd before the end of March. To help with your cash flow needs and to utilize the 10% mineral discount Kent Feeds is continuing to offer 0% interest on all Kent beef feeds and minerals.

Early Orders will be greatly appreciated with the expected busy spring ahead.