

PILOT GROVE COOPERATIVE ELEVATOR, INC.
MARCH 2015 NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENT CALENDAR

MARCH 6, 2015 (Friday evening) **23rd Annual FFA Alumni Potato Supper**, serving from 4-8pm, Pilot Grove School Commons. Home delivery available, call 834-5031 or 834-6462. All you can eat, see you there.

MARCH 14, 2015 (Saturday evening), **DINNER THEATRE, "No Body Like Jimmy"**, a comedy by Burton Bumgarner. All proceeds go to relay for life. Tickets available at door, or at the Pilot Grove Coop.

MARCH 28, 2015 (Saturday evening), **"A Night in Vegas"**, fundraiser for the Pilot Grove Swimming Pool Association, Dinner, Dance, Prize Money, and Unlimited Beer. See any board member for tickets.

MARCH 29, 2015 (Sunday morning), **8th Annual Palm Sunday Breakfast Brunch Buffet**, sponsored by the Pilot Grove Community Building Association, all proceeds go to install new ceiling, and other repairs on the building. Serving from 8:00am-12:00pm.

LOST!

The Pilot Grove Cooperative Elevator, Inc. has misplaced or someone has not returned the wire panel and gate wagon. This wagon is basically a 4 wheel wagon, with just a bare frame used to haul gates and wire panels. It has been missing for several months, if you know where it is, or you have it, please return it or call us at (660) 834-5412, so we can retrieve it. Thank you.

The little one compartment seed tender is missing. If you know where it is, or you have it, please return it or give the Cooperative a call at (660) 834-5412. Thank you.

FISH STOCKING DAY April 17, 2015, (Friday), at 9:00am, the Cooperative is sponsoring a fish stocking day. Fish available are catfish, 3 different sizes, hybrid bluegill (2 different sizes), bluegill, grass carp, and fathead minnows. Call you orders in until April 15, 2015.

FEED NEWS Calving season is here! For all those unexpected problems that could occur, the Cooperative has a full line of colostrum products, milk replacers, and electrolytes.

March is mineral month at the Cooperative as Kent Feeds is offering special discounts on all beef minerals. Take advantage of the savings and let the Cooperative Staff help you figure your mineral needs for the summer months. Zero percent interest is available on Kent minerals. As green grass gets closer, now is also the time to start thinking about switching to a high Magnesium mineral to help prevent grass tetany.

Recently, the feed department went through a basic FDA feed audit involving the different feed mixes We blend that contain products like chlortetracycline, rumenson, AS700 and decoxx. As new regulations and requirements get closer to taking effect, changes will have to be made with many mixes in order for everyone to comply. Delivery tickets will start to look different and contain more information about your specific mix. We ask for your patience and understanding as we move forward and always call us first if you have any questions.

GRAIN PRICES Soybean prices are the highest now that we have seen for this year. With the news of a trucker strike in Brazil, coupled with low farmer selling, soybean prices have rallied. While these headlines can temporarily increase prices, the reality of record world bean supply will ultimately weigh very heavily on the market. Many of you have taken advantage of this recent price increase.

Everyone is wondering how many acres of soybeans will be planted this year. The USDA estimated last week around 83.5 million. Some may see this number as bullish, but when carryout numbers are considered and average weather conditions are factored in, this number is still bearish. Farmers holding onto soybeans is the biggest factor supporting the soybean price.

Currently, cash prices for soybeans are \$10.13, and new crop soybeans are trading at \$9.39. Both of these prices represent good return on investment, considering costs of production, and average yield. If you have a particular new crop or old crop price that you want to sell, give the Cooperative a call so that we can put your "desired price" target offer in, so that when the market hits, your target order fills and your grain is sold. Just merely thinking that you would sell at a specific price, doesn't always work, because the market can get to that price, and fall back in a single trading session. Furthermore, the market could never get back to that level. Take some of the watch dog and price fears away by setting a target, call 834-5412.

Corn prices have been trading in narrow price ranges for some time, and I expect this to continue. New crop corn futures keep trading in the \$4.00-4.20 range, and May futures in the tight range of \$3.75-3.95.

Some expect USDA to estimate corn acres at 89-90 million acres in the March report, but no one really knows the acreage until the June report. Profit margins in most areas indicate corn is the best choice at current price ratios.

The big question is the 2 million unknown planted acres, which is less than 1% of total corn, beans, wheat, and cotton acres. Currently, cash corn is worth \$3.58, and new crop corn is \$3.78. There has been some new crop corn contracted at \$4.00, and cash corn purchased at \$3.65. Again, give the Cooperative a call and put some targets in to sell old grain and new crop grain. Let target orders take the guess work out of constantly watching the grain futures.

Grain prices are higher the first six months of the year versus the last six months. Once the crop gets in the ground, and the rain comes, prices are diminished accordingly. The only factor that can change this is if it gets very dry in some of the major grain states.

WHEAT TOP DRESSING Let the Cooperative help you with your wheat top dressing needs. The Cooperative has urea, ammonia nitrate, Super U, and liquid N available for you to use on your wheat acres. We can spread it for you, or you can rent a fertilizer spreader and do it yourself.

The Cooperative has a good supply of red clover seed. We have some farm seed, Certified red clover, and 3 year red clover. In addition to clover, we have a good supply of timothy, and other pasture seed.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

