

# Pilot Grove Cooperative

## June 2019 Newsletter

**Coop News:** May was an interesting wet month with lots of down time for rain and furious corn and bean planting. Sprayers are running full time to keep up with customer demands and our top dress machine has seen quite a few acres already. Hopefully we can give this wheat time to dry out in June and not have to worry about quality issues.

### Upcoming events:

July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Katy Manor fireworks

July 4<sup>th</sup> – Enjoy the fireworks – Coop will be closed

**Feed News:** The recent rains have helped pastures green up and grow, overall the beef cows are in as good of condition as they have been for quite some time. Even with the abundant supply of forage there are things to consider; as spring born calves grow and develop their nutritional needs increase at a higher level than the cow can supply...this is called the hungry calf gap. By putting creep feeders out you will be supplying the calf with the additional nutrition it needs to continue growing and help it reach its full genetic potential while allowing the cow to stay in better condition for the upcoming winter months. Using current contracted creep prices and figuring conservatively on calf performance it should cost \$.55-\$.65 to put on a pound of gain. In addition to the added weight gain, research shows that calves fed creep feed wean easier and have a higher level of health than calves not fed creep feed. The Kent Creep the Coop is stocking has Bovatec in it and does not require a VFD. All Kent Creep Feed is eligible for 0% interest to help with the cash flow needs until the calves are sold. The Coop also has a supply of creep feeders for rent or sale.

It's time to be turning the bulls out with those spring calving cows. If you haven't started feeding Kent's Breeder Aide it's not too late. Every year we hear positive comments on how the cows fed Breeder Aide mineral are calving earlier in the calving season, have fewer late calves and open cows. Remember, every year at fall weaning the biggest calves in the group are typically the calves that were born first. Recommendations are to feed Breeder Aide for 1-2 weeks prior to bull turn out and then an additional 6 weeks.

Fly season is here. Be sure to stop in the coop and see our full line of sprays, fly tags and fly mineral products to help reduce the levels of these annoying pests.

**Grain News:** If you have not heard we are a little bit behind on Corn planting and what's planted across the US has had too much rain on. As of 5/26 we were 55% planted vs 90% last year on corn and 29% vs 74% on Beans. I'm sure we will get more corn planted in the first week or two of June but how much of the yield are we taking off the top? Will any of the flooded ground in Missouri be able to replant? Or what about the ground that was underwater all winter in Nebraska? Are they ever going to recover?

On the month of May we saw corn rally .64 ½ cents, beans run up .25 cents wheat ran up \$.80 cents. Showing once again corn is king of market prices. No real reason even with the delayed planting of

beans in the US for that market to rally with such high stocks and ASF continues to hurt exports into China. Corn could continue to rally as more data is collected on replants and poor emergence. Also new Mexico import tariffs could hold back to many rally's with fear of retaliation and replacement with cheaper South American crops.

**Agronomy:** With higher corn prices don't be afraid to increase your corn yields by adding additional nitrogen into the soil. With a wet spring we know there has been some nitrogen loss. We recommend adding Urea coated with **Factor**. **Factor** is an agretain based product that has been proven to stabilize urea and protects against volatility for up to 14 days (prior to tillage or rainfall), at far cheaper cost than SuperU.

**Seed news:** With corn planting in the books and first crop bean planting winding down we still have a good supply of Liberty Link soybeans for your later planted fields and beans after wheat. As we finally got the much needed rain in the area and now above average temperatures, make sure you are scouting your fields for weeds, insects etc. and take the proper steps needed to maximize your yields. The excessively dry winter and spring has caused a lag in the pasture and hay production so many people are looking at options to increase their forage production. Sorghum Sudan grass is a popular option for growers who need quick pasture or to rebuild hay stock. The elevator is keeping a good supply on hand but with the large area of grass shortage around inventory could get tight everywhere, so let us know if you plan to implement this on your acres so we can have what you need.

**\*Special note:** it seems a few of our buggies are slow to make it back in. If you or know of anyone that has a buggy sitting idle please bring it back in or have us pick it up.

*Thank you for being a customer!*

PILOT GROVE



PILOT GROVE, MO