

March 27, 2017



VISION

From the General Manager

Ron Hunter



The first month of the new fiscal year at Ag Valley had been busy with the open weather that we have enjoyed. Open weather is allowing Ag Valley to get off to a good start getting spring fertilizer needs on the ground so we will be ahead of schedule once spring moisture begins to arrive. The open weather has also allowed the grain team to make good progress picking up piles of grain to move to feedlots and ethanol plants in our area. Many of the bushels continue to move to shipping facilities to be loaded on trains going to multiple locations in the states or to export facilities to provide food for others around the globe. Export business has picked up a bit, but is still far from the demand we need to clear out some of the projected carryover that continues to way down prices. Ag Valley is fortunate that we continue to find bright yellow corn when the plastic is removed.

We are making improvements to the Bartley and North Platte elevators that will make limited improvement in operations for producers but will reduce the time it takes to prepare bushels to be shipped on the next train. The Bartley facility will have a conveying system installed that will tie the two facilities together allowing bushels to move either way without the use of trucks. The addition will reduce the time it takes to empty bin bottoms when Jim and his team need to change to another commodity after loading a train that always slows receiving during harvest. We are installing a new scalper/screener at the North Platte concrete facility that will be much faster processing grain reducing the time it takes to be ready for the next train. Losing our rail service in Maywood and increased production is putting more demand on the North Platte grain facility. Ag Valley will continue to invest to keep up with the demand for bushels moving through that facility.

Ag Valley is a cooperative that was formed to serve its member/customers and be a partner in production agriculture. Ag Valley invests every year in FFA, 4-H, in scholarships for member graduates. Ag Valley invests yearly in facilities and assets for the benefit of its member/customers. Ag Valley pays out estates monthly and revolves deferred equity yearly to get funds back into the hands of its owners. Ag Valley is the cooperative system working the way it was designed to work. Give Ag Valley the opportunity to partner with you and be your supplier of choice in 2017. Thanks!



We took possession of the new fuel truck for Indianola last week that Dale Stewart will be driving. Dale's truck was the oldest in the fleet and ready to be updated.

Safety Report

Ken Moore



The calendar tells me that spring is here and the season for pesticide application has arrived. Whether you are handling and applying pesticides for raising crops in the field, vegetables in the garden or killing pests in your yard, please note the following suggestions to protect yourself from pesticide poisoning:

- Make sure kids, pets, and anyone non-essential to the application is out of the area before mixing and applying pesticides.
- Be sure to wear clothing that will protect you when using pesticides. Consider wearing a long sleeve shirt, long pants, and closed-toe shoes in addition to any other protective clothing or equipment required by the label.
- Mix pesticides outdoors or in well-ventilated areas.
- Mix only what you need to use in the short term to avoid storing or disposing of excess pesticide.
- Be prepared for a pesticide spill. Have paper towels, sawdust or kitty litter, garbage bags, and non-absorbent gloves on hand to contain the spill. Avoid using excessive amounts of water, as this may only spread the pesticide and could be harmful to the environment.
- Read the first aid instructions on the label before using the product. Have the telephone number for the Poison Control Center (1-800-222-1222) available in case you have additional questions.
- Remove personal items, such as toys, clothing, or tools from the spray area to avoid contamination.
- When spraying pesticides indoors, make sure the area is well ventilated.
- When applying pesticides as a spray or dust outside, avoid windy conditions and close the doors and windows to your home.
- After using pesticides, wash your hands before smoking or eating.
- Remove and launder clothing. Wash clothing worn while working around pesticides separately from the family laundry, with hot water and detergent. Rather than using a clothes dryer, line dry clothing to allow any pesticide residues to dissipate and the sunlight to break them down.
- Select formulations less likely to cause excessive exposure. The fine particles in dusts pose a greater inhalation hazard than granules. Emulsifiable concentrates contain solvents that are more readily absorbed through the skin than liquids that already have been diluted, such as ready-to-use products.
- Please remember also that continuous exposure to small amounts of pesticide during mixing activities is just as harmful as becoming fully covered in a large pesticide spill.

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<u>Phone Numbers</u>					
Edison	Oxford Ampride	Arapahoe	Bartley	Big Springs	Cambridge
800-228-1352	308-824-3850	877-250-2049	308-692-3444	308-889-3323	866-339-4057
Curtis C-Store	North Platte	Holbrook	Indianola	Maywood Fert.	Maywood
800-416-5795	800-303-7636	308-493-5690	800-762-1589	888-418-4443	800-233-4551
Logan	Norton Fertilizer	Orleans	Oxford	Eustis	Wilsonville
308-636-2929	785-877-5900	308-473-4075	308-824-3431	308-486-3221	308-349-9001
	Norton Elevator	Norton Station	Clayton, KS		
	785-877-5131	785-877-5188	785-693-4522		