

# FARMING TODAY



Summer 2016  
[remsencoop.com](http://remsencoop.com)

**Jared Ehrp**  
**General Manager**

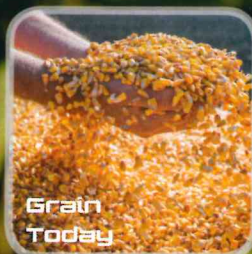
As I write this, growing season is well underway, after what can be classified as an excessively wet spring. We encountered several moisture delays which posed several problems completing the spring fertilizer and spraying season. The rain that has been received up to this point has provided the crops with abundant subsoil moisture, which will help overcome stress from a drought condition later on in the season. The employees did an excellent job of going above and beyond to complete the work and I want to thank them for doing so.

Recently, the markets have seen significant gains, most notably in the beans, which several producers have taken advantage of. I encourage everyone to discuss their options for 2016 new crop and beyond with Lanny. There are excellent opportunities for a better economic outcome than we have experienced in the past 6-9 months.

I'd also like to discuss our recent membership to Cooperative Credit Company. CCC's membership offers several options for financing of crop inputs purchased through Remsen Farmers Coop. They offer competitive rates and a staff that works exclusively with agriculture. Please let us know if you have questions regarding the services they offer.

It has been a difficult time for agriculture lately, but our staff is always willing to assist you in making the best decisions for your operation. I want to thank the patrons for their continued support of the Remsen Coop and we look forward to continuing our service of the agricultural community.

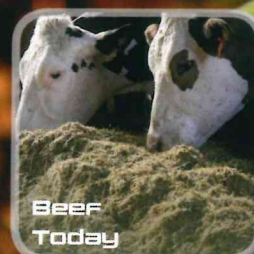
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Grain  
Today



Precision  
Ag Today



Beef  
Today





## Precision Ag Today



**Scott Shirk**  
**Agronomy Manager**

All I can say is “WOW, what a season we’ve had so far!” With the wetter planting conditions and the poor emergence we saw this spring, it’s important to not forget about your fields now. The early season growing conditions we saw this spring can have a big effect on disease development. Early season stresses caused by cool, water-logged soils can lead to increased disease pressure. These diseases will often be more prevalent in low lying areas of the field, or areas that are compacted, leading to poor drainage. Today’s hybrids and varieties have very good tolerance to disease. This coupled with seed treatment products gives plants extra protection. However, remember to scout your fields regularly for overall quality, and if you find something that looks like a concern, please give us a call to determine the cause and help you find a solution.

One of the ways to protect your investment is an application of a fungicide. Fungicides provide preventive and curative disease control, plant stress management, and yield-boosting benefits that bring a positive return on investment, even at current commodity prices. Even if we turn out to have normal summer conditions, I would recommend a fungicide for plant health benefits after the wetter planting conditions and poorer emergence we had this spring.

I would also like to introduce our Agronomy Intern, Carolyn Gradert, who is part of our agronomy team this summer. She will be shadowing the sales agronomist and providing scouting services for our customers.



My name is Carolyn Gradert. I am currently a senior General Agriculture major at Dordt College in Sioux Center. I grew up on a farm near Lebanon, Iowa, with my parents, Randy and Lisa Van Veldhuizen, and eleven siblings. My husband Kameron and I live on an acreage near Ireton. In my spare time you’ll find me working with my animals, spending time with family and friends, or working out at the gym.



# Beef Today



**Doug Baade**  
Feed Division Manager



**Amanda Reinders**  
Beef Production Specialist

As part of the FDA's plan to address antibiotic resistance issues, the Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) program was established to provide a prescription like program for feed grade medications. Starting January 1, all feed grade antibiotics (except ionophores) will move from their current over the counter status, to the VFD category. This change in status will require a vet to issue an order, similar to a prescription, prior to these antibiotics being used in feed. VFDs can be written for an approximate number of animals as well as a defined amount of feed. The record keeping rules state who (vet, feed dealer or farmer) needs to keep which records and for how long. The simple answer is to keep VFD records for two years.

It would be wise to start the preparation for this new regulatory process. For those of you that use feed grade antibiotics (CTC, Tylan, Sulfas, etc.) on a regular basis, talk with your vet about when and how to use these medications so that there are no major complications during the transition to this new process in January.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to call me. We will also be holding an information meeting in the fall, but in the meantime, here are some things you can do to prepare for the transition:

## CHECKLIST FOR SUCCESS

- ☐ Understand the new feed (VFD) and water (Rx) rules
- ☐ Strengthen your Vet-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR)
- ☐ Communicate with your feed mill
- ☐ Access your herd health and welfare strategies
- ☐ Renew your commitment to responsible antibiotic use
- ☐ Ensure your record-keeping compliance

Summer has arrived and it brought the heat and humidity with it. The heat can have a huge impact on both feeding and cow/calf operations. There are a few simple steps to take to make sure your cattle handle the heat as well as possible:

- 1. Water:** First and foremost, you should ensure that your cattle have access to cool, clean water. Water troughs should be cleaned regularly, year round, not only to keep intakes up but also to act as a frequent check for problems. If feed intakes drop suddenly, the waterers should be the first place you check for issues.
- 2. Shade:** If possible, shade should be available. If it is not possible to allow access to shade for every pen, a mister system would be an acceptable back up if used properly. On really hot days, especially if it is humid or there is no wind, cattle can easily overheat, even with proper water available.
- 3. Feeding Times:** It is always advisable to keep feeding times consistent, but when it is hot out, it is also beneficial to feed during the cooler times of the day. If cattle are fed, or have access to pasture when it is cool, they are more likely to eat than before it gets too warm. In the heat of the day, they are going to spend all of their energy trying to stay cool rather than eating. That goes double for feed bunks that are in the sun and on concrete pads that radiate heat.
- 4. Fly Control:** Consider fly control options. A mild winter, wet spring, and hot summer are all perfect conditions for flies to become out of control. You will help yourself out a lot if you take action to control them as much as possible. Less flies means there will be less chance of illness spreading and less energy spent fighting them. Good sanitation and manure management are a great start, but there are also some easy feeding options to keep you ahead of the game. Purina and Land O' Lakes both offer great products that offer horn fly control for all life stages. You will see the best results if you put out loose minerals or tubs with Altosid fly control starting 30 days before temps get into the mid 60's and 30 days after the first frost. That being said, it's not too late to start feeding Altosid now, which works by disrupting the life cycle of horn flies, keeping them from ever hatching into adult flies.

Feel free to contact me at 712-230-4546, or the Coop at 712-786-1134 to talk about mineral options for everything from breeding and calving to finishing. I can also help you with dairy calves and dairy beef.



# Grain Today



**Lanny Hustedt**  
**Grain Merchandiser**

As I always say, every year is different. This year the funds are pushing a weather market scenario. They have three reasons for this:

1. South America lost some crop production this Spring, Argentina lost some soybean crop due to flooding, and Brazil lost some corn production due to dry weather in their northern corn belt.
2. The Pacific Ocean has been in an El Niño, but is flipping to a La Niña pattern. The La Niña is associated with hotter and dryer weather in the midwest.
3. The potential for a smaller crop next year in South America because of La Niña. Fund traders are looking at commodities that have the best opportunity to make money. Traders are selecting assets that have the best potential.

Another concern I have is the temptation to oversell grains for this Fall. I would recommend not selling all guaranteed bushels from insurance. The insurance only guarantees prices established in February or October, not the price you sell for in the Summer. There is a risk in prices being lower in the Fall, and if you can't deliver the bushels sold, a problem presents itself.

Also, we are busy moving out grain to make room for the coming harvest. Please do not wait too long to empty your bins. We raised a large crop last year and need to move it through the system. Just a reminder, we have Free Price Later available until September 16.

Finally, we have a record number of new bean contracts and some new corn contracts as of now. It is very important to get contracts signed and returned. Although most of you have taken care of this, there are a few who need a reminder. Please come in and sign your contracts.

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