

Farmers Cooperative

Cooperative News



Dorchester, Nebraska 402-946-2211 • 800-642-6439
Plymouth, Nebraska 402-656-3615 • 800-456-3538

DECEMBER 2013

Investing In Our Owners' Success!

THANK YOU!

Thanks To You, Another Good Year!



Ron Velder

By Ron Velder
General Manager

Farmers Cooperative posted another good year for fiscal year 2013. With lower grain volumes due to the short crop of 2012, dollar sales were down around \$85 million. With that said total sales for 2013 are \$833,250,000. Other revenues were \$20,860,000 so total business done was \$854,110,000. With local savings of \$17,450,000 and regional income of \$10,140,000, the two together equals \$27,590,000 of net savings before taxes. Take away tax of \$2,790,000 makes net savings \$24,800,000. Once again we will pay patronage equal to 50% of local savings.

I want to take a moment and thank you, our patrons, for your continued support of Farmers Cooperative. As we continue to Invest In Our Owners' Success good years are needed to maintain the level of assets, people and changing knowledge in the coming years. Please take time to thank our Employees for another successful year. Our employees work many long hours to service our patron.

Have a safe Holiday Season with many blessings to you and your families.

Local Saving	\$ 17,450,000
+ Regional Income Tax	\$ 10,140,000
<hr/>	
Pre-Tax Net Savings	\$ 27,590,000
- Tax	\$ 2,790,000
<hr/>	
Net Savings	\$ 24,800,000
Local Patronage Payout = 50% of Local Savings	



2013 Total Sales	\$ 833,250,000
+ Other Revenues	\$ 20,860,000
<hr/>	
Total Business	\$ 854,110,000



by Brian Bohling
Controller

Board Approves to Revolve 2006 Deferred Equity of \$1,450,000

Farmers Cooperative must be competitive like any business. A cooperative business provides benefits to members through marketing transactions, including input buying and output selling, and through a distribution of patronage earnings from these transactions. The cooperative business model is unique but is still a business that is subject to the principles of business finance, business management and economics.

Annually, Farmers Cooperative management and the Board of Directors review net margins and strategically calculate what portion should be returned to customers, what portion will be utilized for investment and the amount needed to meet financial requirements from lenders. This includes the deferred equity distributed to patrons based on annual utilization of Farmers Cooperative over the years.

The primary objective of equity management is to ensure Farmers Cooperative has adequate equity capital invested in it to serve the members in an efficient and effective manner. Your Board of Directors has the ultimate responsibility for managing the equity with guidance from management. Equity equals financial strength for Farmers Cooperative and its patrons. Farmers Cooperative is proud of the financial strength that has allowed equity to be returned to customers again this year. It's one of the benefits of belonging to a financially stable cooperative. Not all of the surrounding cooperatives in the Midwest are able to return equity to patrons.

In December, checks will be mailed to patrons that received deferred equity in January 2007 in the amount of \$1,450,000. Starting with fiscal year 2003 the Board adopted the policy

to revolve equity by fiscal year earned. This policy of redeeming equity credits by fiscal year earned will allow the Board to distribute periodically in the order in which they were provided. It also allows the patron to receive some of their deferred equities regardless of their age and usually while they are still an active member. Under this current policy Members' Equity Credits received from fiscal years 2003 thru 2006 will be paid 100%.

Equity is one side of the ownership coin and member benefits are the other side. Patrons provide tangible support with their equity investment and in return Farmers Cooperative provides benefits. The most important benefit for patrons is the existence of Farmers Cooperative itself. People invest in a co-op because they want to use its services. In addition, members receive the benefit of being a part of the community, supporting the mission of the co-op as well as the community it serves. Alignment of a financial business strategy on cooperative principles and business model, including equity management, are critical issues for the success of Farmers Cooperative. Management and your elected Board of Directors will continue to Invest in Our Owners' Success.

EQUITY PAYBACK

Equity Payback to our Patrons

Farmers Cooperative revolves equity to patrons in three different methods.

- 1) The first method is to just redeem estates. Under this method when a member passes away, the Board of Directors elects to redeem 100% of the equity balance to the estate. Estate requests are reviewed monthly at local board meetings.
- 2) The second method is age of patron. Under the age of patron method your cooperative redeems equity when a member reaches a trigger age of 65. Our current year payout is for anyone who turned 65 during 2013 or was born in 1948. Notifications are mailed to patrons in early December each year for the birth years we have on record. The application must be signed and mailed back with checks being distributed in January. Equity earned prior to and including fiscal year ending August 31, 2002 falls into this revolvment plan.
- 3) The final method starts with fiscal years 2003 to our current fiscal year. This method is called the revolving fund method where equity is redeemed based on age of stock or year stock was earned. Each patron is paid out regardless of age. This is a Board of Director decision on when these will be paid out.

All equity decisions are based off fiscal year ends and reviewed annually by your elected Board of Directors.



Upgrading Support to Better Service You



By Brent Colgrove
TBA Manager

by Brent Colgrove

Farmers Cooperative tire and service centers are always finding new ways to give you better service. We know if we don't do this we will lose out to the competition. In order to keep up we need to constantly upgrade

equipment and thanks to your support, we have been able to do just that.

Plymouth has added a new Hunter alignment hoist that will be able to lift a crew cab truck fully loaded. We have also received two new service trucks in Plymouth. In Fairbury we have added a new state of the art Hunter alignment machine. We have also upgraded the brake lathe in Seward and Fairbury for doing brake jobs. In Beatrice, Seward, York and Firth we have upgraded tire service equipment with new tire machines and wheel balancers. We also have added tractor tire changing equipment in Plymouth, Firth, York and Milford for safer large tire changing. We have installed new hoists

in York, Seward, Milford, Firth and Fairbury. I want to say thanks to the Farmers Cooperative Board of Directors as well as Ron Velder for all the new upgrades.

We have just received the numbers from last years' business from our auditors and again the Farmers Cooperative tire and service centers had a very good year. We know that without your confidence in us as a tire and service provider, we would not be successful. I want to personally thank you for doing business here at your local coop. By doing business locally you are doing business with the company you own and are putting money back into the local economy.

One more thing before I sign off – if you need a tire or a part for your car or light truck and we don't have it in stock, we can usually order it and have it here overnight. We deal with several different distributors and they give us very good service. If you get us the order by 5:00pm, we can have it here the next day.

Thank you for your support and talk to you next time.



Farmers Cooperative Schedule of Events

Date	Event	Time	Location	Information
Dec. 2	Farmers Cooperative Newspaper Insert goes out			
Dec. 3	Oil/Tire Producer Mtg.	11:30	Dorchester	The Rough Reins
Dec. 4	Oil/Tire Producer Mtg.	11:30	Milford	Pizza Kitchen followed by Emerald Open House
Dec. 10-12	Nebraska Power Show	9:00	Lincoln	Lancaster Event Center, setup at Dec. 9@10:30
Jan. 8	Oil/Tire Producer Mtg.	11:30	Fairbury	Wally's Sports Bar
Jan. 14	SCC Ag Expo & Farm Show	9:00-2:00	SCC, Beatrice	Setup at 7:00
Jan. 14	Annual Patron Meeting		Crete	
Jan. 15	Annual Patron Meeting		DeWitt	
Jan. 15	Oil/Tire Producer Mtg.	11:30	Beatrice N & S	Riskys followed by Beatrice North Open House
Jan. 21	Oil/Tire Producer Mtg.	Noon	York	Chance's R - Phil English
Feb. 26	Southeast Nebraska Farm Show		Saline Center	TBA

Connecting Commodities – Harvest Appreciation Breakfast

To a farmer October is more than just fall colors and Halloween spooks. To a farmer October means late nights and early mornings in the field making sure that harvest is going smooth. This year The Nebraska Pork Producers and the Nebraska Corn Board decided to put focus on a new project to show our farmers how much we appreciate them, and the best way to do that is through food. The Connecting Commodities project hosted a series of Harvest Appreciation Breakfast events for those farmers working hard during harvest. Despite the late rain and nasty weather, the events kicked-off at the Farmers Cooperative in Dorchester with farmers dodging the wind and rain to come in and grab their hot meal and coffee. In addition to receiving a hot pork breakfast sandwich in honor of Pork Month, they received a small but beneficial information piece making the connection between the commodities. Did you know that 1060 bushels of corn will feed a 4400 wean to finish hog operation that contributes to employing at least one full time person? This is just one example of how the pork industry utilizes the

corn being delivered to and sold at the cooperatives. With the help of We Support Agriculture, A-FAN, the Nebraska Corn Board, and NPPA Board of Directors these appreciation events would not be possible, so thank you all for your support and time. A very special thank you to the cooperatives for working with us, and especially to the farmers, and the producers for all that you do!



Propane Irrigation Engine Rebate is Back!

By Tom Garner
Energy Manager

The Propane Education and Research Council (PERC) has reinstated the propane powered irrigation engine rebate for another year, as has the Nebraska Propane Education and Research Council (NPERC). This has been a very successful program for the previous two years and hopefully this year's program will be similarly successful.

The PERC rebate is for \$400.00 per liter of engine size and the NPERC rebate is for \$750.00 per engine regardless of size. For example; if you purchase a 6.8 liter engine, you will get \$2720.00 back from PERC and \$750.00 back from NPERC for a total rebate of \$3470.00. Although you can purchase the engine at any time, you must take delivery after Jan. 1st 2014 to receive the \$750.00 from NPERC.

To comply with Federal guidelines for this type of research program PERC must collect research data. To help

facilitate the collection of that data, the NPERC rebate is paid after we have collected the data. You will be contacted by phone after the next growing season and asked a series of basic questions. I am told that this takes just a few minutes, and you will receive the NPERC rebate of \$750.00 shortly after.



Tom Garner

The online application is very easy and can be filled out at www.agpropane.com. If you have a Nebraska address you only have to fill out one application to be qualified for both the National and the State rebate. If your address is other than Nebraska, you must fill out both applications separately.

If you have questions regarding this program, please contact Lynne Schuller with the Nebraska Propane Gas Association at 402-475-3996 or at lynnes@nebraskapropane.com.

ROGER KREIFELS, PROPANE SAFETY

By Roger Kreifels
LP Operations
and Compliance

Call Our New 800-473-4579
Number For All Of Your
Propane Needs

All energy sources regardless of whether it is electricity, natural gas, propane, or even wood can be dangerous with possible severe consequences if not used properly. Because of this, we at Farmers Cooperative are extremely committed to the safety of you, our propane customers. We go to extreme lengths to provide you with the information you need to know for safe handling and use of propane. One thing that we are very proud of is our "New Customer Safety Meeting". We meet with all new customers to go step by step through important safety information. Everything from what propane smells like, to what to do and not to do if you suspect a leak. But what if you are a customer that has been with us for many years and might not have gone through one these one-on-one safety meetings? Are you aware of some of these simple, yet very important safety measures? Below is a check list with some of the things that are very important for you and all the members of your family and those living in your home to know and understand.

If you weren't able to check yes to any of the above safety precautions, please give us a call at 1-800-473-4579 and we will be happy to go through it with you.

We at Farmers Cooperative wish you and your family a safe and happy Holiday Season!!

- ☐ We have smelled propane gas and can detect its odor.
- ☐ We are aware that the odorant giving propane its distinctive smell can fade or diminish in intensity. In addition, we're aware that certain physical limitations or conditions might prevent people living in the house from smelling a gas leak.
- ☐ We know how to shut the gas supply off at the tank in the event of an emergency. We also know to do so only if we can do it safely. We're also aware that if it is necessary to shut the gas supply off at the tank for any reason, to not allow the gas supply to be turned back on again until contacting the Cooperative to perform a leak test of the system first.
- ☐ We know that if we do smell a gas odor or otherwise suspect a leak, to not turn on or off any electrical switches or appliances and to immediately evacuate the building, turn the gas supply off at the tank if it can be done so safely, and call us from a safe location.
- ☐ We should consider installing one or more carbon monoxide detectors and one or more propane gas detectors listed by Underwriters Laboratories as additional measures of security.

Local processor markets are facing the same challenges that the rest of the cornbelt is facing

By Dale Hayek
Grain Manager



Dale Hayek

This harvest is definitely a surprise for the better. After last year, everyone welcomes the better than anticipated yields. As harvest progressed, the dry-land yields were mostly better than predicted. One of the grain industries saving graces this year is that we were all empty and had more space available. This definitely is one of the largest harvest volumes we have experienced. Ironically, with the large harvest, basis has continued to improve through harvest as the market had less ownership than normal. Farmers are reluctant to sell, since these are some of the lowest prices in recent history.... I'll emphasize 'recent'. The market seems to be debating on trading the large supply throughout the US (bearish and expected by the trade) vs. reduced acres, the bigger than expected demand (bullish and not expected by the trade). The world Supply and Demand is more comfortable than we have seen for a while.

As in the recent past years, we are shipping several soybeans into the export markets in the PNW, Gulf, and Mexico. The railroads are being challenged to execute these programs; experiencing power and crew shortages in the same corridors that the railroads are trying to facilitate oil trains out of the North Dakota. These export soybean programs will continue to March when South America will fulfill that demand.

Also, we are seeing export wheat and corn programs as our pricing works its way into the world markets. Export facilities will be challenging elevation capacities to execute these programs. This is a welcome sight, since our export pricing oppor-

tunities has been limited. We will hear a lot about larger US export programs in the months to come; however, considering our high price grain in recent years compared to world markets, any exports will make the numbers sound impressive.

As of this writing, it feels like the EPA will reduce the government mandate on ethanol production. Ethanol margins are still good on the nearby but in deferred months it doesn't pencil out. This has been the story for the ethanol industry for quite a while.

Local processor markets are facing the same challenges that the rest of the cornbelt is facing..... we have come out of the one of the largest crops, yet ownership is minimal. This will keep some basis inverted until the farmer decides to sell into current price levels. We are seeing some selling, but less than historical volumes. We have seen recent renewed demand for milo, but the one commodity that looks like it is overpriced is white corn. White corn pricing is like a pendulum....extreme back and forth price action. Usually when it is this large of a premium, we have seen production issues in the corridors where it is produced. However, I haven't heard of any large scale production issues this year. The one positive note is that the US is able to export white corn and be competitive.

In a nutshell, the market place is digesting that reality that our production issues seem to have healed themselves in one year. I don't think anyone would have expected our supply to recharge itself, given the growing season.



NEWS FROM THE CREDIT DEPARTMENT

By Rob Blahauvietz
Credit Department Manager

We have completed the 2013 season and hopefully your financing needs for the 2014 year have been arranged. I would like to remind you of your cooperative's credit terms and policies. All monthly statements are due and payable in full by the last day of the month following the purchase. Any balance not paid at the end of the month will be considered past due and be assessed a finance charge at an annual rate of 16%. Any account 30 days past the due date could be subject to being placed on a COD basis.

If you will need extended terms from the Coop, please contact me to apply for additional financing. We do have long term financing available through the Cooperative Finance Association for your crop inputs at a very favorable interest rate. If you have CFA financing, you will also receive any cash discounts available. This must be done as soon as possible and before the season begins. You must also have your 2013 crop inputs paid before any new inputs will be delivered.

The key to working with you is communication. You can contact me at the Dorchester office at 800-642-6439.

Please help our Propane Drivers

You can help our propane drivers by making sure there is a clear path to your propane tank this winter. Keep a clear path both for the truck and also for the driver to walk to the tank with the hose. Be sure all tree branches and bushes are trimmed in the path. Also, please do not pile snow around the tank. Be sure to watch your propane level this winter. If you do run the tank empty, we are required by law to do a leak test which will cost you \$50.00.

The house propane budget program is working great. This is our fourteenth year for this program. The customers like the even monthly payments while keeping their tank on a keep full basis. If you are not on this program but are interested, please be sure to contact me in April 2014 to get on the budget next season.



Rob Blahauvietz

Improve Efficiencies and Add to your Bottom Line

By Kevin Wittler
Feed Department Manager

As of this writing we are nearly complete with a generally better than expected fall harvest. What a fantastic harvest weather pattern for late fall. By the time you are reading this hopefully area corn fields have been turned into stock fields and cattle are harvesting them once again. Body condition scores appear to be good and with a little continued help from Mother Nature and some supplemental nutrition we should be able to winter these cows effectively. Your Cooperative offers many different protein and energy sources to meet the nutritional needs of your livestock. Delivery systems range from blocks and cubes to tubs and liquids, whichever fits your operational needs. Several competitive lines are offered including CountrySide, Crystalyx, MLS, ADM, Moormans, and Rangeland tubs, ADM and QLF liquids, ADM and LOL range cubes, fall creep feeds, as well as the Purina Intake Modifier Tech products Accuration Range Supplement 33 and Finisher 44. We continually research products and their availability which can improve your efficiencies and add to your bottom line. What a difference a year makes. Last year at this time the drought and reduced tonnage availability had us scrambling for forage. This year we are looking at a more comfortable outlook but still need to improve the palatability and nutritional content of some of our lesser quality forages. We see continued interest in liquid supplements and their use

to enhance lower quality bales. If you are needing information on options to effectively increase the palatability and nutritional content of these forages, please contact your cooperative beef specialist.

Reduced feed costs as well as adequate consumer demand for our livestock producer's products lets us remain optimistic looking ahead at an opportunity for those of you in the livestock industry to garner some adequate and much deserved profits.

As you have worked your way through a busy harvest and hopefully a substantial amount of fall field work, we would like to ask that you remember your feed delivery employees by keeping access open to your bins during the upcoming winter storms. We would also like to express our appreciation for the advanced planning and ordering you were able to afford your feed mills last year during the holidays. The holiday season is just around the corner and advanced ordering is greatly appreciated in order to allow your employees a much deserved holiday break with their families.

Thank-You for the opportunity you allow us to work with each of your operations and we sincerely hope you have had a safe and productive fall season and can look forward to relaxing and enjoying the upcoming holidays with your respective families.



Kevin Wittler



Stan Mitchell

FISCAL NEWS

"Investing in our Owners' Success"

By Stan Mitchell
Chief Financial Officer

Financial results for Farmers Cooperative were very favorable for fiscal year end August 31, 2013.

Although a challenging year, due to the drought last summer, earnings were strong and Farmers Cooperative finished the year with a local profit. The Board has approved a patronage distribution of \$8,725,000 of which \$4,362,500 or 50% will be paid in cash in January 2014, and 50% will be added to member's equity credits. Of the \$8,725,000, grain will receive \$4,007,000 or about 7.51 cents per bushel;

fertilizer, \$2,935,000 or 3.05%; petroleum, \$1,044,000 or 2.25%; feed, \$553,000 or 2.24%; and the balance of \$186,000 will go to oil and tires. Actual patronage rates may change slightly once the final calculations are made.

The financial strength of your Cooperative is key to the ability to "Invest In Our Owners' Success". Farmers Cooperative ended 2013 with total assets of \$235 million and an equity position of \$154 million which represents a 65% ownership ratio. This gives your Cooperative the ability to continue to build additional assets in the future and have the needed cash available to meet our financial obligations. We look forward to working with you in 2014.



Barry Jung

14,000 Ton Dry Facility Completed

By Barry Jung
Fertilizer Manager

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patronage this past year and look forward to working with you this next year with all your agronomy needs this coming year. This past November 2012 we started the dirt work for the construction of a 14,000 ton dry facility at Jansen and completed September 2013. This will allow us to receive 65 car unit trains of dry fertilizer. We unloaded the first unit train of 11-52-0 the 20th and 21st of October. The average time spent per car was 20 minutes which included the time for unloading and moving cars which would allow us to unload a train in less than 24 hours if needed. This facility will help meet the needs of the Coop as far as having an adequate supply of dry fertilizer on hand when we need it. We will bring a majority of our dry into Jansen and distribute it out to other locations as needed.



JANSEN DRY FERTILIZER FACILITY

Dedication and Open House was held on September 24, 2013 at the new Jansen Dry Fertilizer Facility. This an example of Farmers Cooperative "Investing in our Owners' Success".

Some fun facts about this new facility are:

1. How many sheets of plywood are there in this facility?
2. How many cubic yards of concrete are in the construction of this project?
3. How many squares of shingles are on this roof?
4. How many tons of metal rebar were placed in the concrete?
5. How many Dry Fertilizer Sheds at Fairbury fit into one Jansen Storage Bin?

ANSWERS

1. There are 5,300 sheets of Plywood or 169,600 square feet in this facility.
2. This facility contains 1,870 cubic yards of concrete in this building.
3. The roof has 355 squares or 35,500 square feet of shingles.
4. The concrete contains 140 tons or 280,000 pounds of metal rebar.
5. Four Fairbury Dry fertilizer Sheds will fit inside of one Jansen Bin.





Chris Foree

“Investing in our Owners’ Success”

By Chris Foree, Oil Guy

Here we go into the coldest months of the year. For the lubricants business, this is also the busiest time of the year. Farm shows, producer meetings, and product deliveries are at a peak between the first of December and the end of February. Cold oil may

be reluctant to flow, but the delivery trucks will still be hauling through the snow and pumping the cleanest oil in the field into our customers’ tanks. It seems every year my joints get creakier than the previous winter. However cold it may be, I’ll still be out there doing what I can to arm our customers with the information they need to make wise buying decisions. Not only are we Investing in Our Owner’s Success, I will be Investing in a Wool Union Suit.

This year is very special for Farmers Cooperative Lubricants Service, as we are ramping up efforts to serve our customers even better. We have new products and services to talk about, and there are many changes in diesel and automotive technology that are already in the marketplace...with many important changes yet to come in the next five years. We are staging many events in hopes we’ll give every one of our customers the chance to come see our presentations and get the solid facts about engine and lubricants technology. In fact, by the time this newsletter comes out, we’ll already have staged a luncheon at Dorchester and another at Milford, the Saunders County Livestock Trade Show will be over, and the Emerald Open House will be a done deal. Boy I sure hope somebody showed up!

One piece of news is that we’ve introduced a new value-priced lubricant line called Extreme Lubricants. This product line is very simple (only two oils offered; a 15W-40 diesel engine oil and a universal tractor hydraulic fluid), and it is priced to compete with the farm store brands and the other private labels out there that offer a lower price along with slightly lesser quality. But, as is our policy, we won’t sell a product that isn’t American-made and doesn’t exceed expecta-

tions at least a little. Extreme is competitive price-wise with the farm stores, and in no way does it match up in quality to Cenex Superlube TMS or FS Power Fluid...but you may trust that Extreme is a more than a small step up from the farm supply brands. And of course the Extreme 15W-40 diesel engine oil is officially API-licensed CJ-4, which puts it ahead of at least one of the major tractor OEM brands when it comes to mixed-fleet service with recommended drain intervals.

On the premium lubricants side of our business, we are introducing to the agriculture market a conventional diesel engine oil that we’ve been selling for over five years to some of our commercial customers, both in construction and fleet markets. We’ve done extensive used oil analysis for years on this product for our customers, and we knew it was good; but we recently received

some surprising and wonderful reports. FS Suprex Gold ESP 15W-40 won the lab test shootout over all competitors in the conventional 15W-40 diesel engine oil category, and the results are so dramatic that we just have to let our patrons know about this incredible product.

Perhaps the biggest news is Farmers Cooperative’s entrance into the bulk diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) business. We have installed a 5000-gallon tank system for DEF here at the Emerald bulk plant, and we have purchased two delivery units that offer high-speed, ultra-clean filtered, API-approved DEF to the farm. We bring in the product in transport loads, and we did our homework folks...our product is top-notch and our prices are competitive.

As always, we understand we only exist to serve you. So please attend one of the farm shows, Tire & Oil luncheons, Oil & Donut breakfasts, or open houses near you. Brent Colgrove from the Tire Department and I will be on hand to answer your questions, clearing up many myths

about DEF storage and handling, clarifying the latest engine technologies, and arming you with the information you need about tires, lubricants, fluid storage and handling equipment, coolants, and DEF. I can’t wait to see you, to shake your hand and say **THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!**

From all of us—Anita, Dawn, Yummy, Dan, Marty, Dave, Adam, and me; the Oil Guys at Farmers Cooperative Lubricants Service—we wish you a blessed Merry Christmas, and may your New Year be one full of joy, peace...and may you find your very own Wool Union Suit under the tree this year!



Calendar of Tire & Oil Events		
December		
10-12	Nebraska Power Farming Show – Lincoln Room	Booth 101
17	Oil & Donuts at Kramers	830 AM
January		
8	Tire & Oil Update at Wally's in Fairbury	11:30 AM
14	SCC Ag Expo & Farm Show	9:00 AM
15	Tire & Oil Update at Risky's	11:30 AM
15	Tire & Oil Open House at Beatrice North	2 – 4:30 PM
February		
	Saline Center Farm Show	TBA

**Tire & Oil Updates...
Dress Warm and Join Us!**



*We hope to do more Oil & Donuts events, so you just never know where I might show up with coffee and Longjohns!

Syngenta North America Region

Syngenta Media Release

410 Swing Road
Greensboro, NC 27409
www.syngenta-us.com



Raymond's Chad Beringer nominated for prestigious Resistance Fighter of the Year award for weed management efforts

- Syngenta recognizes nominees for being on the front lines in the fight against herbicide-resistant weeds in the Heartland
- Those nominated play a key role in growers' weed management legacies
- Eligible nominees include accredited farm managers, crop consultants, retailers and county extension agents

GREENSBORO, N.C., USA, Oct. 10, 2013 – Chad Beringer, Farmers Cooperative in Raymond, Nebraska has been recognized for his work in fighting herbicide-resistant weeds in the Heartland by being nominated for the Resistance Fighter of the Year award, presented by Syngenta.

The Resistance Fighter® of the Year program recognizes advisors who help growers **proactively fight herbicide-resistance**, encourage **sustainable weed management practices** and support growers' efforts to leave a **strong weed management legacy**.

The national winner of the Resistance Fighter of the Year award will be announced in early 2014 after judging takes place.

With 14 different resistant weed species now spanning 30 states, the role of these Resistance Fighters is invaluable for sustaining the long-term productivity of America's farmlands. "These advisors continue to go above and beyond in helping growers develop sustainable weed management plans," said Mariah Swafford, Syngenta customer marketing specialist for the Heartland South region. "These folks realize the importance of the fight against resistance, and Syngenta is honored to work alongside them."

For more information about weed management, visit www.ResistanceFighter.com, and follow on Twitter (@SyngentaUS) and Facebook ([Facebook.com/FarmAssist](https://www.facebook.com/FarmAssist)).





Public Service to Agriculture Award

Farmers Cooperative Board Chairman Gerald Schmidt received the Public Service to Agriculture Award given by The Nebraska Agribusiness Club of Lincoln at their 47th Annual Banquet Thursday, November 7th at the Hillcrest Country Club. Gerald was honored for his years of service as a Cooperative Board member for several Cooperatives. Gerald has served as Board Chairman for Farmers Cooperative since September 1, 2002.

CHRISTMAS FUND-RAISER

"World's Largest Christmas Stocking"

Farmers Cooperative would like to introduce Jenna Musil, the new Manager at the Beatrice C-Store. She previously worked at our Dorchester location and we are pleased to have her back with Farmers Cooperative. If you are in the Beatrice area, stop by our Beatrice North location and say hello to our new team leader.

Once again this year we were proud to partner with the Nebraska Games and Parks Commission at our Beatrice Cenex C-Store as a deer check-in site. We hope all our hunter patrons had a safe and successful rifle season!

Be sure to stop in and enter our drawing to win "The World's Largest Christmas Stocking." (At least it's the largest stocking I have ever seen!) The eight foot Christmas stocking is displayed in Beatrice and is filled with toys, games and Christmas cheer. At just \$1.00 to enter your name in the drawing, this is an excellent way to help those less fortunate as all proceeds go to the Blue Valley Community Action Program. The winner will be drawn on December 20th, so be sure to enter at any of our following C-Stores and sign up as many times as it takes to win! Participating C-Stores are: Beatrice, Auburn, Firth, Plymouth, Burchard, and Daykin. Good luck and Happy Holidays!





Farmers Cooperative
208 West Depot
Dorchester, NE 68343

Address Service Requested

**PRESORTED
 STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 P A I D
 DES MOINES, IOWA
 PERMIT NO. 5110**

Check us out on Facebook!!!!
 Go to our Facebook page and click on  Like to
 be updated on new photos and company news.
<http://www.facebook.com/FarmersCooperative>

SAVE THE DATE !!!!
 Farmers Cooperative
 Invites All Our "Lady Patrons"
 To Our Second
LADIES NIGHT OUT

April 10, 2014 at the Seward County Fairgrounds

Watch for details in the spring newsletter and at
 Farmers Cooperative's annual meetings



If you would like to receive information via email,
 Contact Sherri Harré

sharre@farmersco-operative.com OR 800/642_6439