



**GOLD-EAGLE
COOPERATIVE**

www.goldeaglecoop.com



SPRING 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Officers and Directors.....	2
It Takes a Village.....	2
Meet Tony Scott.....	2
Maximize Your Yield by Understanding Your Field	3
"Un-stability" of 2022.....	3
The Growing Importance of Fungicide Application.....	4
Brad Davis Named to Iowa Cooperative Hall of Fame	5
Meet Board Member Justin Ullmann of Woden.....	6
Pre-Spring and Pre-Planting Tips ..	7
Trends in Seed Selection	7
Gold-Eagle Gives Back.....	8
Newsletter Photos.....	8
Check Out Our New Mobile App! ..	8

LOCATIONS

Galt 515-825-9673	Holmes 515-825-9675
Clarion 515-532-2881	Hutchins 641-843-3828
Corwith 515-583-2462	Kanawha 641-762-3251
Eagle Grove 515-448-4775	Livermore 515-379-1843
Eagle Grove Feedmill 515-448-5392	Renwick 515-824-3214
Galbraith 515-825-9695	Thor 515-378-3314
Goldfield 515-825-3161	Titonka 515-928-2272
Hardy 515-824-3221	Wesley 515-825-9680
	Woden 641-926-5301

Rebuilding to Better Serve Producers and Customers

By the time this publication will print, the management team and Board of Directors will be getting together in Florida for our annual board retreat. Boy, has the world changed since our last retreat; we were in Seattle just days before the pandemic really hit the U.S. in full force, the newly unified Gold-Eagle Coop and North Central Coop boards were just getting to know one another, and I was very new at the General Manager helm. I am really looking forward to spending some time with this group discussing the exciting future of your cooperative! A big part of our retreat will be deep diving into our 2-5 year plans and projects as lead times are still substantial and we want to think long-term now in order to stay ahead.

Gold-Eagle was hit hard in December with two different incidences involving both the Galt Feedmill and the Eagle Grove Feedmill. The windstorm mid-December caused much destruction to acreages, homes, and hog and chicken barn sites in our area. The Galt site sustained damage to several bins, advancing our timeline to invest in that site. We have already had crews there to clear the debris and we are waiting on final bids before we begin to rebuild. A lot of thought has gone into how we can best rebuild this facility to bring the most value to producers in that area and make it a full-service location. Thankfully, we are able to receive corn there once again; albeit via auger until further notice.

The second incident was a boiler explosion at the Eagle Grove Feedmill just before Christmas. It has been determined that the boiler had an internal mechanical failure despite all inspections and records being current and the boiler under normal operating conditions. We are very grateful that no one was injured! We now have a temporary boiler in place and are again able to make pellets; hats off to all the emergency workers, employees, and management staff for the teamwork displayed the day of the explosion and in getting us back up and running. I am thankful that our feed customers have been patient with us as we got back to regular production.

While the above mentioned incidences were less than ideal, no one was hurt and our insurance company has been very supportive as we work to rebuild. I'd like to extend a big thank you to all our producers and customers who have been patient and understanding as we make plans to rebuild these facilities to serve you even better.



**CHRIS BOSHART,
GENERAL MANAGER**



GOLD-EAGLE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Jeff Morris
Wesley, Iowa
Term Expires 2022

VICE PRESIDENT

Tracy Studer
Wesley, Iowa
Term Expires 2022

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Laurie Johnson
Belmond, Iowa
Term Expires 2024

DIRECTORS

Wendell Christensen, Jr.
Wesley, Iowa
Term Expires 2023

John D. Myers
Hardy, Iowa
Term Expires 2024

Jim Moore
Clarion, Iowa
Term Expires 2022

Brian Spellmeyer
Dakota City, Iowa
Term Expires 2023

Kevin Steenblock
Kanawha, Iowa
Term Expires 2024

Aaron Thompson
Kanawha, Iowa
Term Expires 2023

Justin Ullmann
Woden, Iowa
Term Expires 2022

It Takes a Village

It is 2022; a new year, and with it, brings promise and opportunities. December 2021 was a challenging month for Gold-Eagle. We experienced a derecho-like wind storm on December 15th, wreaking havoc on the Galt mill site, as well as the surrounding layer barns. This situation has caused Gold-Eagle to assess our “go-forward” at that mill. We are in the midst of some preliminary strategic planning that will result in big benefits to Gold-Eagle and its patrons – more on that in next quarter’s newsletter.

If that was not enough excitement, on December 23rd we experienced a boiler explosion at the Eagle Grove mill. We use the boiler to create steam for pelleting feed. The majority of the feed manufactured at the Eagle Grove mill is in pelleted form. The explosion devastated the boiler room, boiler equipment, and the surrounding walls. The guardian angels that were assigned that day prevented anyone from getting hurt, which is a miracle.

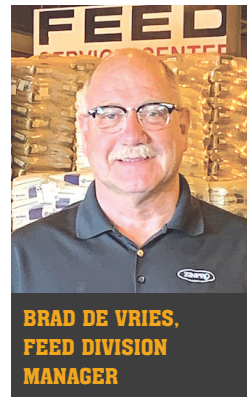
Since that day, we have been scrambling to get a temporary boiler in place so we can resume making pelleted feed for our customers. Jeff Leshner, our Feed Operations Manager, and Tony Scott, our new maintenance lead, along with their teams, have gone above and beyond to help with cleanup and doing all they can to expedite this

process. We were able to start pelleting again on Jan 31st and are full “steam ahead” as of February 2nd.

One of the great things about Gold-Eagle Coop is that we can work as a village. When help is needed in an area, other parts of the village pitch in. I’d like to give a shout out to the grain team; they worked with the feed team to supply corn to the Galt mill after the storm. Also, I’d like to give a shout out to Shane Davis, Operations Manager, and his ability to get helpers for a wall building project to protect the temporary boiler. The Gold-Eagle village is a well-oiled machine.

We are continuing to build our “bench”. We have recently hired two feed transport personnel: Justin Alphs and Preston Carr. We have also hired Tony Scott as our maintenance lead, as well as Chris Choquette and Casey Premo as feed operation personnel.

We continue to fine tune the Beta Raven-Pennant Mill Manager software in Galt and hope to bring it to the Eagle Grove mill in the near future.



BRAD DE VRIES,
FEED DIVISION
MANAGER

Meet Tony Scott

Tony joined the Gold-Eagle Coop team late last year as the maintenance supervisor at the Eagle Grove Feedmill. He joins us from northwest Iowa where he used to work at the same company as Brad De Vries. After speaking with Brad one day, he decided to check out Gold-Eagle and enjoyed the work environment enough to move to the area with his wife of 16 years and his three children aged 18, 14, and 8. He worked in maintenance at his previous workplace, but also has experience

driving truck, doing dirt work, feed manufacturing and more that he brings to this new role. He is motivated by the desire to see a project through and enjoys camping with his family in his free time. **Welcome to the team, Tony!**



Maximize Your Yield by Understanding Your Field

Variable Rate Seeding (VRS)

Gold-Eagle Coop is ready to help you with your Variable Rate Seeding Prescriptions. We utilize several layers of information which include: Yield data, Grid Sample data, and Soil Type layers. Contact your local salesperson today to get more information on how to start this process.

Another way to utilize VRS is through Climate FieldView (CFW) Scripting Tool. Gold-Eagle Coop is a Certified Climate FieldView Agent! In order to use Scripting, we will need three years' worth of Yield Data, two years of which need to be corn. These are the most important pieces that you will need for planting with CFW Scripting. Regardless of how you want to get your scripts made, equipment is another requirement for this to work for your operation. You must have a Monitor/Controller that can handle Scripts, plus you have to have an electric or hydraulic drive on your planter. Call Bruce today to get a quote on either of these options @ 515-825-9655.

Grid Sampling after Planting

Did you know you can save around \$1.00/Acre* by sampling right after planting instead of after harvest? The reason for these savings are to entice after-planting Soil Sampling as it reduces the heavy workload in the fall for both the Sampling companies and the Soil Labs. Another big advantage is getting your results back in plenty of time to make a fall fertilization plan with your Gold-Eagle Salesperson. That way, when you are finished with harvest on that particular field,

you can simply make a call and line up the plan you made to be applied! This saves about two to three weeks of your precious time in the fall crunch, as you probably want to start tillage as soon as possible! Gold-Eagle has a recommendation calculator to maintain and build your nutrients the way you, the producer, want to build them. In this calculator, your personal budget is a key factor in calculating your custom recommendation. Taking a Grid Sample in 2.5 Acre increments is highly recommended as it gives a more detailed report of your soil. A Grid Sample at 4.4 Acre increments, is a decent way of knowing what levels your fields are sufficient or deficient in. We recommend you grid your fields every 4th year to get an updated set of recommendations as your nutrient strengths/needs have surely moved around in your fields. Spread your grids out by doing a ¼ of your fields yearly; this will spread out your expenses for the grids. (Figure your grid expense into your fertility plan, that way you plan an expense and don't view grids as an "Add-on". With the high yields that we have attained the last handful of years, many nutrients are not replaced even to a maintenance level!

(*based on 2.5A Grids)



**BRUCE BURNS, EAGLE
VISION PRECISION
FARMING SERVICES**

"Un-stability" of 2022

We're barely half way through the first quarter of 2022 and it's already proving to be a doozy. South American weather has driven sharp increases in the bean market. What was thought as perfect planting conditions in Brazil previously touted an estimated 146 MMT crop, but reports, as of late, have shown between 119 and 136 MMT as 100 degree F temps and drought forecasts have crept in. With a smaller Canadian canola crop, U.S. bean crushers continue to process beans at plant capacities and elevated margins. The clear weather in both December and January has meant that farmers have moved beans to the end-user faster than they can crush, resulting in

bean basis values falling fast. Tensions between Russia and the Ukraine have also been fueling both corn and wheat. With this much uncertainty, we could easily continue to see wild swings in both futures and basis values.

As markets continue to remain volatile, make sure you take the time to make a plan; evaluate your inputs and determine realistic price targets to sell incrementally. With numbers in mind, place orders to execute those targets so, not only are you able to ensure you capture your price if the market moves when you aren't watching, but also hold yourself accountable to your plan. You should be sure to re-evaluate your plan

as needed, but don't let values slip through your fingers. Historically, it is common for new crop prices to spike when you get in the field to plant; call your trusted Gold-Eagle grain person to come up with your marketing plan so we can help you execute your plan while you are busy this spring.



**DAVID DOLAN,
MERCHANDISING
MANAGER**

The Growing Importance of Fungicide Application

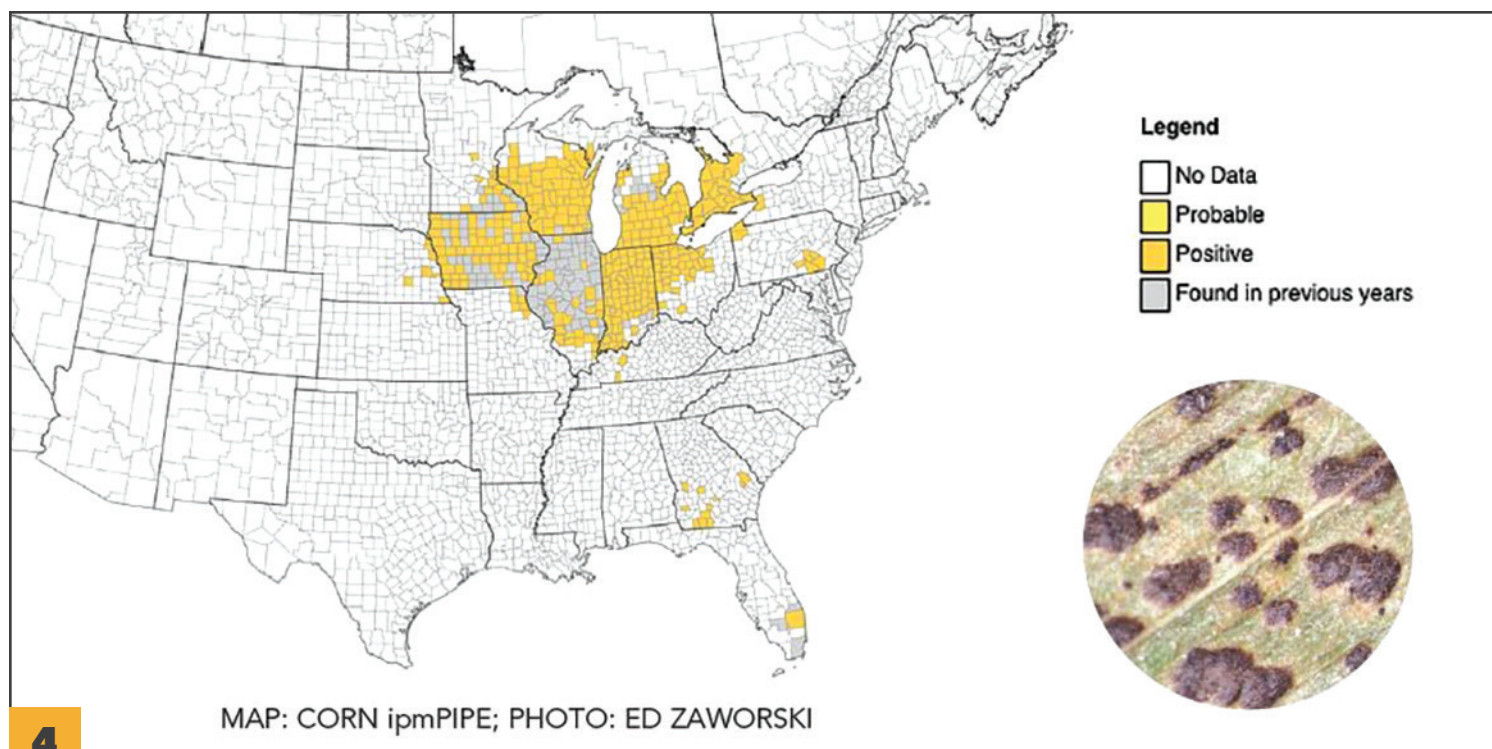
Tar spot, virtually unheard of in our area until recently, could become a major problem this crop year and beyond. The substantial wind events late last year and the derecho in 2020 have moved significant amounts of dirt, debris, and residue from other parts of the country, increasing the prominence of plant diseases not commonly found in Gold-Eagle territory previously.

Tar spot is caused by the fungus *Phyllachora maydis* and appears as small, raised, black spots scattered across the upper and lower leaf surfaces. Spread through residue, unable to break down in dry years, this disease is lying in wait to infect and cause severe yield loss on susceptible hybrids. It is considered polycyclic, meaning it has repeated cycles of infection and usually takes 14-21 days for lesions to appear. It favors extended periods of leaf wetness (7+ hours), high relative humidity (75%+), and average daily temperatures of 60-70 degrees F. Once a leaf is infected, the photosynthesis necessary for ear development and kernel fill cannot occur as usual; therefore, the plant will try to fill the kernels with carbohydrate from the stalk, resulting in lodging and reduced kernel fill, which lead to less yield.

Spreading in dry weather and growing in wet, timing of fungicide application will be critical to manage the severity of tar spot. The tricky thing is that the timing depends on the infection and, once you see it, it has already taken some of your yield. For what we know right now, the tassel application is still the most optimum timing; however, new trials are starting to show the importance of the early fungicide application plus the tassel application. Due to the uncertainty of the timing of the infection, this proactive approach covers that risk and is showing big results in problematic areas.

It is important to note that having a fixed mindset on fungicide could be detrimental; maybe you've tried it once or twice and haven't noticed a benefit or you are trying to save some money as input costs are already high. I'd like to remind you of a time, not so long ago, when Goss' Wilt prominently took over fields and there was nothing that could be done to remedy the yield loss - thankfully there are answers to tar spot. Fungicides have improved in recent years to include multiple modes of action; so make sure to chat with your trusted Gold-Eagle agronomist

to work out a plan to minimize the potential impact of tar spot (and other diseases) and maximize your yield on what's slated to be one of the most valuable crops as of late.



Brad Davis Named to Iowa Cooperative Hall of Fame

Brad Davis, longtime AGP Chairman of the Board and General Manager of Gold-Eagle Cooperative, was inducted into the Iowa Cooperative Hall of Fame at the 2021 Annual Business Meeting of the Iowa Institute of Cooperatives.

"Nominated by his peers, Brad Davis is well-deserving of induction into the Iowa Cooperative Hall of Fame," says Dave Holm, Executive Director of the Iowa Institute for Cooperatives. "Throughout his career, Brad's sound business judgment and strategic leadership has sustained successful cooperative businesses including an outstanding professional record at Gold-Eagle and long-term success as AGP Chairman proved he was an effective leader and team player at both cooperative organizations."

Brad has served more than 46 years in management roles throughout the cooperative system. After earning his Agricultural Business degree from Northern Iowa Area Community College, he worked as an assistant manager for the Farmers Cooperative Company in Manly, Iowa, followed by five years as general manager at Vinton Cooperative.

He was then appointed general manager of Gold-Eagle Cooperative, a position in which he served for more than 35 years. Davis also served on the Ag Processing, Inc., (AGP) Board of Directors for 27 years, 19 of those years as Chairman.

"Brad demonstrated success by bringing together more than 15 cooperative locations," says Dave Holm, Executive Director of the Iowa Institute of Cooperatives. "Within the last 10 years, he oversaw an investment in excess of \$100 million into the core operations of grain, feed and agronomy business units within the cooperative. Even with the significant investments into co-op assets under Brad's leadership, Gold-Eagle recorded 33 consecutive years of profitability."

As ethanol production became established in the early 2000s, Davis saw this as an opportunity to add value to the co-op members' corn bushels by keeping ethanol plants in the network. In 2005, Davis helped establish Corn, LP, a 50-million-gallon ethanol plant which sources all of its corn through Gold-Eagle and its members.

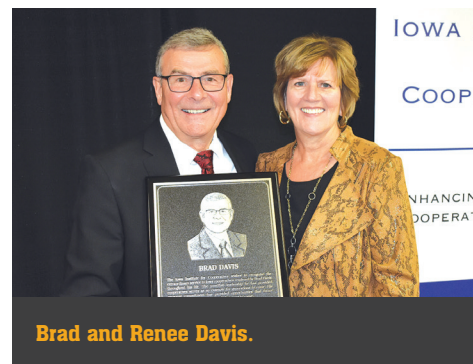
AGP also experienced notable success during his tenure, with total patronage of more than \$1.1 billion declared to AGP member cooperatives and an increase of \$650 million in member equity. In 2020, Davis was recognized for his engagement and cooperative leadership by being named National Council for Farm Cooperatives Director of the Year.

"These inductees and their fellow members are part of the positive impact cooperatives make every day to Iowa's communities," Holm says.

About the Iowa Institute for Cooperatives

The Iowa Institute for Cooperatives (IIC) has been lighting the way for cooperatives across the state since 1951, providing news and education while promoting legislative engagement, business development and value-added production for Iowa cooperatives. A proven business model dedicated to the success of its membership; cooperatives have fostered economic progress in Iowa for decades. Iowa Institute for Cooperatives members come from agriculture, credit unions, rural electric, rural telephone, farm credit, petroleum and more. To learn more, visit www.iowainstitute.coop

The Iowa Cooperative Hall of Fame was established in 1999. This distinction recognizes the extraordinary service to Iowa cooperatives by these 51 individuals throughout the course of their public and private lives. For a full list of Iowa Cooperative Hall of Fame Inductees, visit <https://www.iowainstitute.coop/about/iowa-coop-hall-of-fame-award/>



Brad and Renee Davis.



L to R: David Dolan, Jim Glawe, Tracy Studer, Boone Morgan, Chris Boshart, Jon Nissen, Brad Davis, Jeff Morris, Laurie Johnson, Chris Petersen, Brian Spellmeyer, Merv Krauss, John Stelzer.

Meet Board Member Justin Ullmann of Woden

Justin grew up near Titonka and now lives just outside of Woden. His wife, April, is an X-ray and lab technician at MercyOne Clinics. They share two children: Austin (22) who works at North Central Mechanical Services in Mason City and Brekkin (11), a sixth grader at North Iowa. In his free time, Justin serves on the Woden Fire Department and is also board member at his local golf course Gruis Recreation - The Barn.

Q: What's your farming and educational background?

A: I grew up with a father who farmed, but I was not really involved in the farming operation. I had no idea what I wanted to do after high school, but distinctly remember my dad telling me to "go do something completely different, the farm will always be here". I attended NIACC and then UNI where I got my master's degree in exercise science. While finishing grad school, my dad was killed in a motorcycle accident and, suddenly, I was filling my dad's shoes and farming alongside my uncle. I was fortunate to soak up as much as my uncle could teach me that first year, because he passed away immediately following our first harvest.

I was always interested in the farming operation but didn't anticipate being a part of it so soon. I'm so thankful for the neighbors and friends, local seed dealers, and the elevator personnel who stepped up and helped guide me in the right direction; I'll forever be grateful. While I did not receive a degree in agriculture, my passion for learning the physical and mental aspects of farming drives me in my own farming operation as well as making decisions as a GE board member.

Q: What has been one of the most eye-opening parts of serving as a board member?

A: The numbers - when you start seeing the number of bushels, tons of feed, tons of inputs, and other volumes on a company-wide scale, it takes some getting used to. I tried to absorb all I could initially and continue to learn and ask questions in order to normalize the numbers and understand the relativeness. Along with the numbers, the overall size of the company and different departments was another aspect that surprised me. So often, as a farmer, you have a "home location" where you take your grain and do most of your business. It was eye-opening when I started to see how all of those locations and departments work together as one entity.

*Photo by
Jim Moore,
Clarion*

Q: How did you get involved with the co-op board?

A: I was encouraged to run for the North Central Cooperative Board by a board member who was leaving and was elected shortly before talks of unification with Gold-Eagle Coop began. I was then selected as one of the board members to serve on the Gold-Eagle board following the unification.



Q: How has your service as a board member changed you?

A: Board members have to wear two hats and often be willing to remove the "farmer hat" in favor of the "Gold-Eagle hat". Board members can't just think of how decisions might affect their own operation, but how they affect the company as a whole; what's good for me might not be what's good for everyone. If you have the opportunity to serve on the Board in the future, I highly recommend you take it; it truly changes your perspective!

Q: What excites you about the future of Gold-Eagle?

A: Gold-Eagle has unique opportunities and infrastructure with the Corn, LP ethanol plant and Gold-Eagle's feed department that sets us apart. It is easy to look at the grain side as it is the most visible, but the other departments play just as important of a role to make us a robust, successful organization. We've got construction going on at multiple facilities, making improvements in order to ensure Gold-Eagle can keep up with the higher demand, now and in the future. There's so much potential out there for growth while still maintaining the "coop culture" where the members are never just a number.

Q: What do you enjoy most about the annual board retreat?

A: I enjoy meeting people outside of the board room and getting to know my fellow board members on a more personal level. We are able to dive into the different departments and hear about what drives Gold-Eagle's leadership team and what their visions are for the future; something there just isn't time for in a regular meeting. We are able to discuss and make educated decisions about the direction of the coop, both short and long-term.

Pre-Spring and Pre-Planting Tips

While spring will be here before we know it, you may be thinking, "when is the weather going to give us a BREAK!" So when this does happen, there are some things you can do to prepare for the spring planting season.

1. Planter Maintenance- Make sure your planter is FIELD ready before you get there by checking over all your cables (connections, sagging wires that may get pinched or dragged, and any bare wires that may need attention) and getting your row units checked over. Take your planter units to someone that checks them over and replaces any damaged or worn parts. They will also put the unit on a machine that simulates planting and will make sure it has good spacing and drops singles instead of doubles. This is vital to giving your stand a chance before you get planting! **REMEMBER, YOU HAVE ONLY ONE CHANCE TO PLANT EACH FIELD!** Planting is one of the most important practices you do all year AND you have to look at that field all year long.

2. Be Patient! Yes, that is very hard to do as Mother Nature hasn't been too kind the last few springs. But if you hit the fields too early, you will cause major compaction problems that will not only hurt you this year, but potentially for several years.

3. Make Field Plans- If you have fertilizer that Gold-Eagle is custom applying for you, such as 32% Nitrogen along with a herbicide, for example, contact your local Salesperson at Gold-Eagle. Together, make maps of your fields and get the products listed that you want applied on each field. This is essential to make sure we are on the same page when the time comes to apply products to your fields. Again, we only have one chance to get it right! Thanks in advance for doing this with us!

Have a safe spring and thank you for your business!



**BRUCE BURNS, EAGLE
VISION PRECISION
FARMING SERVICES**



Trends in Seed Selection

I'd like to begin by thanking everyone for the seed orders; several locations have already sold volumes over last year.

I'm seeing a trend in more fully traited seed corn sales. The sales of double pros are down and more than offset with the increase in fully traited corn. I am sure this isn't a response to more corn on corn acres, but more of an awareness of how bad the rootworm pressure has become, even in rotated acres.

In soybeans, we are seeing a trend to plant more E3 soybeans (2-4D soybeans). Growers are not nearly as concerned about rumors of yield lack with the E3 trait as they were a few years ago. E3 soybeans, as well as Xtend soybeans, are changing every year; almost through their full line-ups. I am sure the yield potential of the newer varieties are there, but I worry about some of the agronomic ratings with the fast turnaround to the new varieties.

I believe the increase of E3 and the downward trend in Xtend soybeans are driven by two things - neither of which is yield performance. Producers that have used the Xtend system are happy with the herbicide performance, but tired of the worry of spray drift. There are times when growers that have sprayed their own fields follow all the rules and still have neighbors complain and accuse them of spray drift; farmers are getting tired of it and want to change. The spraying of Enlist soybeans should be taken just as seriously, but producers that have that experience with Enlist seem to have a lot less worries and seem more confident going into the post spraying season. The second issue is cost; most of the E3 varieties are cheaper than the Xtend varieties we sell as well. Most growers believe Enlist and Xtend soybeans have the same yield potential. The Enlist beans are cheaper and the potential for bad spraying

event post applied in their eyes seems less. One positive thing I see from this is that farmers have an option. We have product to fit those options.

It's a sound agronomic practice to treat soybean seed with at least a fungicide. For additional protection, we have options for insects, protection from SDS, products that will help with White Mold, and products that will help increase or improve emergence and consistent stands. We have several options to choose from and I encourage you to speak to your local agronomy sales person to learn even more about them.



**CHRIS PETERSON,
SEED MANAGER,
AGRONOMY DIVISION**



GOLD-EAGLE COOPERATIVE

PO Box 280
515 N. Locust St.
Goldfield, IA 50542-0280

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BELMOND, IA
PERMIT NO. 54



Check out current
bulk fuel prices
on our website:

www.goldeaglecoop.com

Gold-Eagle Gives Back

In 2020, Gold-Eagle Cooperative and CORN, LP employees, along with additional contributions from local organizations, raised over \$7,000 to “adopt” local families for Christmas. With such a great response in 2020, the second annual fundraiser had some big shoes to fill.

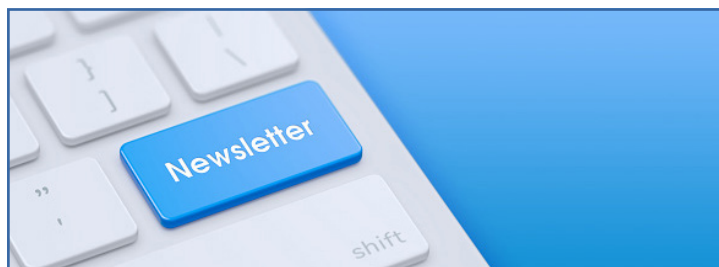
With help from Land O’Lakes and CHS, the 2021 employee fundraiser totaled over \$16,000! Much of these funds were allocated to purchasing grocery gift cards that were given to charitable organizations in Hancock, Humboldt, Kossuth, and Wright counties for them to distribute to local families in need.

The remaining funds were spent “adopting” families for Christmas, providing many adults and children with gifts, clothes, winter wear, and food this holiday season.

*A huge thank you to
Gold-Eagle Coop and
CORN, LP employees
for their generosity
again this year –
what a fantastic
annual tradition
to try and
top in
2022!*



8



Newsletter Photos

If you have a photo or photos that you think would make a great addition to the Gold-Eagle newsletter, please share them! We are always looking for action shots of fieldwork, a cool perspective, or a shot of you and your family working together to make your operation a success. If you would like to submit a picture, please email it to emcollough@goldeaglecoop.com with a brief caption of who is in the photo and where it was taken. We love to feature local photos of Gold-Eagle’s membership hard at work!

Check
Out
Our
New
Mobile
App!



Mobile App

Available for iOS,
Android, or your
desktop

Powered by Landly

