

GOLD-EAGLE COOPERATIVE

www.goldeaglecoop.com

SUMMER 2025

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LOCATIONS

Clarion 515-532-2881 Corporate Office 515-825-3161 Corwith

515-583-2462

Eagle Grove 515-448-4775

Eagle Grove Feedmill 515-448-5392

Forest City 641-585-2814

Galbraith 515-825-9695

515-825-9695 Galt

515-825-9673 Goldfield 515-825-3144

Hardy 515-824-3221

Holmes 515-825-9675

Hutchins 641-843-3828

Kanawha 641-762-3<u>251</u>

Kiester, MN 507-294-3697

Leland 641-567-3341

Livermore 515-379-1843

Renwick 515-824-3214

515-824-3214 Thompson

515-378-3314

Thor 515-378-3314

Titonka 515-928-2272

Wesley 515-825-9680

Woden 515-825-9<u>693</u>



Summer Momentum & Member Connections

It's been a busy and energizing summer and I want to thank all of you who've joined us at one or more of our recent location lunches. These informal gatherings continue to be a great way for members to connect with local staff, share feedback, and stay informed. We've also launched our summer Market Outlook Lunches, beginning in Renwick. If you weren't able to attend that one, we hope you'll join us in Eagle Grove for a market outlook and open house on July 24 or Woden on August 28. These events are a great opportunity to receive timely market updates and connect with our team on planning and strategy.

In June, a group from Gold-Eagle and CORN, LP had the opportunity to visit with Governor Reynolds to discuss legislation that would have impacted our membership and operations. We're pleased to share that she ultimately vetoed the bill. It was encouraging to have the chance to explain our perspective and see firsthand her sincerity in trying to understand the issue from both sides. We appreciated the conversation, her thoughtful approach, and outstanding leadership in her role.

This summer also brought some exciting moments in the spotlight for Gold-Eagle. I had the chance to speak with Bloomberg Television for an upcoming segment in collaboration with CoBank on Wall Street Week, highlighting the important role cooperatives play in the ag economy. Two of our members were also interviewed and we're proud to have had the opportunity to represent lowa farmers on a national stage.

In May, we hosted a live broadcast of *The Big Show* in Eagle Grove where I

joined the team to talk about our cooperative's history and services. It was a great moment to share the value we continue to deliver for our memberowners and how we're working



alongside others in the ag industry to strengthen rural lowa.

After what could be called a recordsetting spring at Gold-Eagle, thanks to expanded territory, new equipment, and strong teamwork, it's rewarding to see locations collaborating and rising to meet the needs of our members. As always, your cooperative remains focused on delivering value and support to help you make the most of every acre.

Thank you for your continued partnership and I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming summer events.



GOLD-EAGLE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Tracy Studer Wesley, Iowa Term Expires 2025

VICE PRESIDENT

John D. Myers Hardy, Iowa Term Expires 2027

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Scott Anderson Thompson, Iowa Term Expires 2026

DIRECTORS

Wendell Christensen, Jr. Wesley, Iowa Term Expires 2026

Jerod Hatcher Humboldt, Iowa Term Expires 2027

Jim Moore Clarion, Iowa Term Expires 2025

Josh Murra Buffalo Center, Iowa Term Expires 2025

Brian Spellmeyer Dakota City, Iowa Term Expires 2026

Kevin Steenblock Kanawha, Iowa Term Expires 2027

Aaron Thompson Kanawha, Iowa Term Expires 2026

Justin Ullmann Woden, Iowa Term Expires 2025

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Ross Miller Forest City, Iowa

Troy Askelsen Clarion, Iowa

Deja Vu All Over Again

With the June 30th USDA report now in the rear-view mirror and most figures aligning with expectations, the corn market remains under pressure. Many dynamics resemble 2024: slightly tighter stocks-to-use ratios, though more pronounced this year, combined with a heavy managed money short, have left many producers puzzled.

As precipitation reports across the Corn Belt continue to roll in, managed money has been expanding short positions. Most of lowa has experienced favorable growing conditions and while some areas have seen excessive rain, there's been no widespread crop deterioration like we saw in the northwest last year.



Old Crop Demand Holding Firm

Old crop demand remains strong, supported by improving livestock and ethanol margins. This is helping draw down what turned out to be a smaller-than-expected stockpile. Still, with a potentially large new crop just months away, rallies may be limited in both scope and duration.

Highlights from the June 30 USDA Report

- Corn acres came in at **91.5 million, up 1.5 million** from March intentions. This unexpected increase pressured the market.
- Soybean acres were reported at **86.1 million**, **slightly below** expectations but not enough to counteract the bearish tone from corn.
- Quarterly stocks for both corn and soybeans were higher than anticipated, indicating more old crop remains in storage than expected.

Regional Challenges & Forward View

Parts of southern Illinois and the eastern Corn Belt struggled with planting conditions, which could lend support to cash prices in those areas. On the balance sheet, demand appears robust, but the USDA already has much of that priced in. That sets the stage for potential bearish disappointments rather than bullish surprises. While there's still time for yield swings in the new crop, the influence of managed money and government policy has arguably diluted the impact of traditional fundamentals, for now.



Earn More with 45Z: A New Tax Credit Opportunity for Conservation Practices

If you used no-till or cover crops in the 2024 growing season, you may qualify for additional income through the 45Z tax credit — now available through a partnership with Indigo Ag.

This program rewards farmers for implementing low-carbon practices and is designed to be easy to join, with support available every step of the way.

You may qualify if:

- You used no-till or strip-till practices in 2024
- You added cover crops or adjusted your nitrogen application
- Your grain was (or will be) delivered after January 1, 2025

Enrollment is simple: just provide your basic info and Indigo will guide you through the rest. Payment is expected in late 2025 or early 2026 via ACH or check.

Bonus for Boone River Watershed Farmers:

or 515-371-6189.

Earn **\$25/acre** for new or existing cover crop acres through a separate state cost-share program. Sign up at your local NRCS office by August.

Questions or want to sign up?

Whether you want to sign up, get technical assistance, or just talk ideas for next season, **Matt Swanson**,

Conservation Agronomist is here to help. Matt can be reached at mswanson@goldeaglecoop.com



Fueling Communities with Reliability and Savings

Gold-Eagle Cooperative proudly operates a fleet of fuel trucks and a team of skilled drivers dedicated to delivering diesel and gasoline across the region for both farm and home use. This team is in place to help ensure that customers throughout Gold-Eagle territory receive the energy products you need, when you need them.

In addition to delivery services, Gold-Eagle Coop owns and operates gas stations in **Clarion**, **Kanawha**, **Forest City**, and **Kiester**, **MN** offering members added value through everyday savings. Coop members who fuel up at these stations receive **an immediate 5-cent-per-gallon discount** and are eligible for patronage dividends on fuel purchases, a great way to keep more money in your operation.

While membership is not required to use GEC stations, joining the coop offers tangible benefits that go beyond the pump. GEC membership cards can be issued at the Clarion and Forest City locations.

From the team behind the wheel, to the pumps in your community, Gold-Eagle Cooperative is committed to keeping you fueled with dependable service and member-focused value.

Note: the Kiester location does not accept credit cards. All other GEC cardtrol stations accept all major credit cards.



Buy Feed Now, Pay Later: Feed Financing Program with Deferred Payments

Rising interest rates, high input costs, and inflation are all fiscal challenges facing cattle, sheep, and goat operations around the country. Fortunately, livestock markets are on the upswing, providing momentum to capitalize on the situation with the right tools and timing.

The 6-4-0 Feed Financing Program can help offset one of the most significant expenses on your livestock operation by delaying payments until it works for you. The 6-4-0 Feed Financing Program allows you to defer paying for select Purina® cattle, sheep or goat nutrition products for up to six months. It gives you the flexibility to pay for feed after your livestock have been marketed.

How it works

Purina has collaborated with John Deere Financial to offer this unique feed financing tool. The 6-4-0 Feed Financing Program has been available regionally and is now offered nationally through participating Purina® dealers.

Registration in the program is done through participating Purina® dealers, and the enrollment periods last six months. During the six-month enrollment period, Purina pays the interest charge.

The six-month enrollment timing aims to match when you provide supplemental nutrition to cattle, sheep or goats and then target to market them at the end of the enrollment period before interest begins to accrue. Here are some examples of how this could work:

• Cattle: You have a spring-calving cow herd, and feed financing enrollment starts on July 1. You plan to creep feed during the summer and then wean calves in the fall feeding Purina® starters and mineral. The enrollment period would end on December 31. Ideally, calves would be marketed before this date, and the feed bill would be paid with their sale proceeds.

• Sheep or goats: You have a flock of sheep or a herd of goats, and feed financing enrollment starts on June 1. You've weaned the lambs or kids. You plan to graze throughout the summer, supplying Purina® mineral and feed tubs in the pasture with the aim to breed ewes or does towards the end of the summer. The enrollment period would end on November 30. Ideally, lambs or kids would be marketed before this date, and the



feed bill would be paid with their sale proceeds.

Select Purina® cattle, sheep and goat supplements and minerals are eligible for the 6-4-0 Feed Financing Program. Feed mixed with Purina® cattle, sheep and goat supplements are also qualified to participate. Contact Gold Eagle Livestock Feed Specialist Kyle Greiman at (641) 494-4571 for complete details on eligible products.

Advantages to financing

Financing your feed, especially with an offer like this, gives you many advantages to help reach your operation goals, including:

- Financial certainty knowing your rate is locked in and won't fluctuate.
- Purina covers your interest charge for up to six months during the enrollment period, which wouldn't be the case with an operating line of credit and only comes when you pay cash.
- Maximizing your cash flow by keeping your operating line and cash available for unforeseen expenses.
- Offering an additional resource to help establish and maintain a successful operation.

Expanded Payment Options Now Available

We're excited to offer customers more flexibility when it comes to managing their accounts. You can now make payments directly through the **FarmerData website**, providing a quick and convenient way to stay current on your account from wherever you are.

To activate this option, we'll need to have **your banking information entered into our Oakland system.** That requires completing a short bank authorization form and submitting it to Alexa Lodin. If you haven't done so yet, please reach out to her at alodin@goldeaglecoop.com to get

started.

In addition to ACH payments, we're now also accepting credit card payments. This option is available for your convenience and includes a 3.5% processing fee.

Whether you prefer to pay online, by bank transfer, or via credit card, we're working to make the process as seamless as possible. If you have any questions or need help setting up your payment method, don't hesitate to contact Alexa or Heather Evje (credit cards) at hevje@goldeaglecoop.com.

Unlocking Yield Potential: Why Sulfur Is the Unsung Hero for Your Corn and Soybeans

As we push the boundaries of yield expectations, one nutrient quietly asserts its importance in both corn and soybean systems: sulfur. Often overshadowed by the more familiar macronutrients, sulfur is fast becoming a critical factor in achieving peak crop performance.

According to removal rates, corn requires approximately **0.1 pound of sulfur per bushel,** while soybeans demand about **0.2 pounds per bushel.** That means a 250-bushel corn crop needs 25 pounds of sulfur, and 70-bushel soybeans need 14 pounds, equating to almost 40 pounds of sulfur between the two. Yet, many growers still overlook its role.

Sulfur has turned into one of the most important nutrients in the field, outside of N, P, and K. It's no longer optional, it's essential.

The Two-Pronged Approach

The recommended strategy isn't just about applying sulfur, it's about applying the right forms at the right time. A two-part approach using **elemental sulfur in the fall** and **ammonium thiosulfate (ATS) with 32% nitrogen in the spring** offers a powerful combination.

- Elemental sulfur: Applied in the fall, it breaks down slowly, becoming plant-available later in the season, typically just when the crop needs it most.
- ATS (Ammonium Thiosulfate): Mixed with spring-applied 32% nitrogen, ATS provides an immediately available source of sulfur for early-season growth.

This split-shot method ensures your crops get what they need, when they need it. The first one you apply is the last one used. Elemental sulfur takes time, but it extends availability deep into the growing season.

Avoid Leaching Losses

Unlike phosphorus and potassium, sulfur behaves more like nitrogen in the soil, it's mobile and prone to leaching. That's why application timing and form matter. Fall-applied ammonium sulfate (AMS), while helpful in residue breakdown in corn-on-corn systems, may not always offer lasting availability unless carefully managed.



Soybeans Deserve Sulfur, Too

Corn often gets the spotlight when it comes to sulfur, but new field trials are exploring the impact of **applying ATS directly to soybeans**, showing promising signs of yield response. As soybean yields climb, sulfur needs must rise with them.

Most growers have already seen the impact, good or bad, of sulfur use or deficiency. As yields go up, sulfur must go with them.

Bottom Line

For both corn and soybeans, **repetitive**, **higher-rate applications of multiple forms of sulfur** may be the key to unlocking yield potential. Whether you're chasing 250-bushel corn or pushing soybeans to 70+ bushels, sulfur isn't just a bonus nutrient anymore, it's a requirement.



Team members in Kanawha helped put flags out in the Amsterdam township cemetery in Kanawha ahead of Memorial Day.

L to R: Brad Connor, Chris Staudt, Nolan Vaske, and Will Weidemann.



The crew in Woden saluted all who served by placing flags on the sprayer boom this Memorial Day.

Meet Matt Swanson, Conservation Agronomist

Q: What is your agricultural background in?

A: I grew up on a farm in Minnesota and graduated from the University of Minnesota in 2006. Since then, I have worked in the agriculture industry, primarily focusing on agronomy.



Q: What attracted you to Gold-Eagle?

A: During my interview with Boone and Chris, I immediately sensed that the company had a strong, positive culture. That environment really appealed to me and played a major role in my decision to join the team.

Q: What are you most looking forward to in your new role?

A: I'm excited to build strong, long-term relationships with both the sales team and the farmers we serve. I look forward to contributing to their successes and being a trusted resource.

Q: If you could visit any agricultural region in the world, where would you go and why?

A: I would love to visit Ireland to learn more about how they are implementing conservation practices and, if I wander in a pub, so be it.

Q: What are some challenges lowa is currently facing in terms of your role?

A: One of the major challenges in lowa is the limited market diversity, with a strong reliance on corn and soybeans. Despite having some of the most fertile soil in the world, the lack of alternative crop markets hinders both economic and environmental progress. Expanding into other crop markets could improve soil health and provide additional revenue opportunities for farmers.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In his free time, Matt enjoys spending time with his three children, camping, riding ATVs, and working on their small farm near Ellsworth, IA.

The Big Show's Farming for the Future

Gold-Eagle Cooperative was proud to host a live segment of The Big Show's *Farming for the Future* radio show in May. The program, coordinated by the Coalition to Support Iowa's Farmers (CSIF) and Iowa Corn, spotlighted the vital role cooperatives play in supporting Iowa's agricultural economy.

Chris Boshart joined the show in person to share the cooperative's history, services, and the process of handling corn delivered by member-owners. His segment highlighted how Gold-Eagle continues to add value to local agriculture through grain handling, feed services, and ethanol partnerships. He also got the opportunity to discuss the ethanol industry, DDGS markets, and the importance of a pathway for low carbon at plants.

Other segments featured lowa Corn leaders and partners discussing feed demand, livestock support, and field conditions across North Central lowa. The event brought together voices from across the ag industry, showcasing how collaboration strengthens rural communities and expands market opportunities for lowa corn growers.

Gold-Eagle is proud to be an active part of this conversation and remains committed to growing value for our members and their farms.



Discover the Power of the Eagle Vision Bundle

What's Included in the Bundle?

The **Eagle Vision Bundle** is a comprehensive program that gives you access to a wide range of precision ag tools and support. It's designed to fit operations of any size and pricing is based on your total farm acres and the package you select. Here's what's included:

- **Grid Soil Sampling:** 25% of your total farm acres sampled yearly at either 2.5-acre or 4.4-acre grids. We manage which fields are due for sampling and review the plan with you annually. Actual costs adjust based on sampled acres, because we all know it's hard to land exactly on 25%.
- Variable Rate Prescriptions: We create custom
 prescriptions for planting and fertilizer applications.
 (Advanced scripting in the Climate FieldView platform is
 available for an additional per-acre charge.)
- **Yield Map Deluxe:** Get side-by-side trial comparisons, including different treatments like fungicides.
- Monitor & Controller Support: Our team assists with setting up your monitors and controllers, including Grower/ Farm/Field structure and Hybrid/Variety inputs. Most brands are supported.

 Climate FieldView Plus Access: Included in two of our three bundle options—although you're never required to use the platform and you won't be charged for it if you don't.

Easie Vision

We're Here to Help

Whether you're new to precision agriculture or looking to upgrade your current tools, the Eagle Vision Bundle is built to support your farm's goals with the latest in ag tech and data-driven decision-making.

Contact your local Gold-Eagle salesperson or reach out to Bruce Burns at (515) 825-9655 or bburns@ goldeaglecoop.com for more details.

Let's put your data to work, together.



Laying the Groundwork

As I get settled into my role leading the feed division, I want to share an update on where we are today and what we are working toward. My initial focus has been on listening, learning, and gaining a better understanding of how our systems function, where our pain points are, and how we can better support our employees and serve our producers and members.

One of our key priorities right now is improving how our feed mills communicate with each other and the software systems that support our operations. We are partnering with automation providers to strengthen those connections and bring more consistency to our data and reporting. This will help us respond faster, make more informed decisions, and ultimately deliver better service.

Our food safety team has been revamped and is actively reviewing and updating our documentation to make sure we are meeting all expectations and staying ahead of compliance requirements. Their attention to detail

and commitment to this process is helping ensure that our facilities are operating at the level our producers expect. These updates are an important part of reinforcing our standards and

JEFF CLARK, FEED

DIVISION MANAGER

keeping our operations strong across all locations.

Much of what I am doing right now is focused on behind-the-scenes improvements. It involves a lot of listening, reviewing reports, and working alongside the team to identify where we can make the most impact. These early efforts are helping us build momentum and lay a strong foundation for what comes next.

I am excited to hit the ground running, to build relationships across the industry, and to bring lasting value to our members.

Congratulations to Our 2025 Scholarship Recipients

Gold-Eagle Cooperative is proud to recognize four outstanding graduating seniors as recipients of our 2025 scholarships. Each student was selected based on academic achievement, community involvement, and thoughtful insight shared in their application essays. We applaud their dedication and commitment as they take the next steps in their education, and we're honored to support their future in higher education or trade school. Congratulations to this year's recipients, we're excited to see what lies ahead for each of you!

Jacob Beenken, Forest City Brady Bixel, West Hancock Bryce Lindaman, CGD Ace Studer, Algona

Gold-Eagle Cooperative to be Featured on Bloomberg

Gold-Eagle Cooperative was honored to be featured in a special segment of Bloomberg's Wall Street Week, filmed in June and focused on the economic realities and future outlook of American agriculture. The segment was spearheaded by **CoBank**, a key financial partner for rural America, and highlights the strong ties between financial institutions, cooperatives, and producers.

Filming took place in and around Eagle Grove, hometown of CoBank CEO Tom Halverson, who played an instrumental role in bringing this national spotlight to North Central Iowa. The program, hosted by Bloomberg Television's David Westin, brings national attention to the critical role of farmers, cooperatives, and agribusinesses in the broader economic landscape.

The segment began at Gold-Eagle's Eagle Grove headquarters, where CEO Chris Boshart was interviewed about the cooperative's role in grain handling, feed production, and its long-standing commitment to serving lowa's agricultural community. The segment emphasized Gold-Eagle's logistical and financial infrastructure that supports regional crop production.

The program also highlighted Gold-Eagle members **Stu Swanson** and **JD Myers**, both active producers in North Central Iowa. Swanson, who also serves as President of the Iowa Corn Growers Association, hosted the crew at his family farm near Galt. His interview included discussion on machinery investments, crop health, and the importance of community and regional identity in agriculture. Myers, a farmer and Gold-Eagle board

member from near Hardy, was joined by his son **Jack**, an agronomy intern at Gold-Eagle Cooperative, as they shared valuable insights during a walk-and talk segment on planting conditions and the challenges of modern farm management.

The episode, which aired July 11th, highlights the strength, resilience, and forward-thinking spirit of lowa's farmers and cooperatives. You can now watch the full segment on **YouTube;** just search for "Why the World is Turning Away from American Agriculture" or go directly to the video using this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y7DXBRn42PQ Gold-Eagle is proud to represent our region in this national spotlight, alongside **CoBank** and others committed to securing a vibrant future for rural America.





















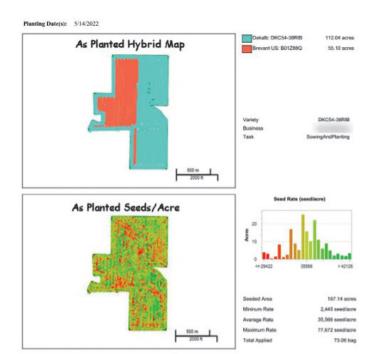


Bring Us Your 2025 Planting Data

At Gold-Eagle Cooperative, we're here to help you make the most of your planting and harvest data. Our Eagle Vision services team is ready to import and process your 2025 planting data, along with any existing harvest data you may have. Whether your files are stored on a thumb drive, in the cloud, or on your computer, we can help transfer and process them into our mapping program.

This is a free service and includes a PDF version of your maps sent right to your email. Printed copies are available for a small fee. For enhanced mapping options, ask about the Eagle Vision Acre program, which includes all of our Precision Ag Services.

Also, if you noticed an incorrect hybrid or variety listed on a field, we can edit that planting data to reflect the correct information.







Season-Long Imagery Access

Your FieldView Plus subscription gives you access to field health imagery throughout the entire growing season. These satellite images can help you spot problems in your field, such as disease, insect pressure, or nutrient deficiencies, that might not be visible until harvest.

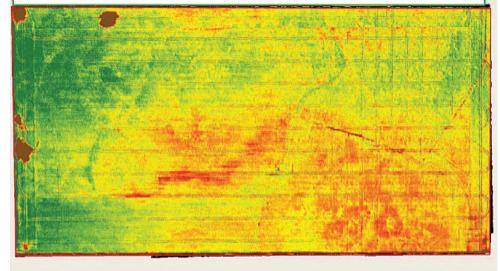
If you need help accessing your imagery or understanding what it means, don't hesitate to reach out. We're happy to walk you through where to find your field images and how to use them effectively.

Looking for More Detailed Imagery?

If you don't currently have FieldView Plus or want more advanced options, we offer additional imagery services starting at just \$1/acre. Satellite imagery is the most budget-friendly, while airplane and drone images provide higher resolution and detail, perfect for diagnosing tough field conditions. The more acres you scan, the better the rate per acre.

NDVI (normalized difference vegetation index) 0.25 M resolution

Red to Green on every Map. Red not necessarily bad, just that Green is showing more vegetation at that given time, but need to investigate areas.



These images can reveal insights like nitrogen loss or pest "hot spots," giving you a chance to take action before damage is done. To learn more or to see a sample image package, contact Bruce Burns at (515) 825-9655 or bburns@goldeaglecoop.com.

Thanks for partnering with Gold-Eagle Cooperative; we appreciate your business and are here to help you succeed.

CORN, LP Annual Meeting



CORN, LP ethanol plant marked its 19th year with an annual meeting in April, where the leadership team shared reflections on the past year with those in attendance.

It was a challenging year for the industry as a whole. Weak margins, difficult corn procurement, belowaverage yields, and a higher corn basis created significant headwinds. Despite those challenges, CORN, LP continued to operate at full capacity and even achieved a record-breaking production month. Ongoing improvements in plant efficiency have positioned the facility for long-term success.

Over the past few years, CORN, LP has made strategic moves to diversify its revenue streams. These efforts now include production of high-protein DDGS, lower carbon ethanol, increased corn oil extraction, and an overall focus on enhanced plant performance.

With Governor Reynolds' recent veto of House File 639, there is renewed optimism in the industry. The decision supports efforts to further reduce carbon scores at the plant, opening the door to new markets for low-carbon ethanol and sustainable aviation fuel in the future.



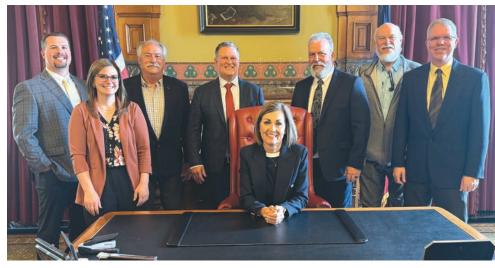


Thank You, Governor Reynolds

We'd like to extend our sincere thanks to Governor Kim Reynolds for taking the time to meet with a group of our team members to discuss House File 639 and for ultimately deciding to veto the bill.

During our meeting, we had the opportunity to share how this legislation would have impacted our cooperative, our farmers, and the communities we serve. From protecting access to vital markets to preserving the economic benefits for local schools and counties, we appreciated the chance to speak directly to those implications.

We're grateful for the Governor's thoughtful review of the bill and her continued support of lowa agriculture.



Pictured L to R: Boone Morgan, Elizabeth McOllough, Joe Horan, Chris Boshart, Governor Reynolds, Mark Wigans, Jon Nissen, and Jim Glawe



Gold-Eagle was proud to participate in the Kossuth County Farm Bureau's Annual Shopping Cart Race, sponsored by Hy-Vee. We joined other teams in donating \$250 to the Kossuth County Food Pantry and had a great time racing for a good cause.

L to R: Carol Laubenthal, Kimber Mullenbach, and Elizabeth McOllough.



Connecting Over Lunch

This summer's location lunches and market outlook lunches have brought together members, staff, and guests for good food, great conversations, and timely market updates. From Clarion to Kiester, MN and many places in between, we've appreciated the chance to visit with so many of you face-to-face. Thanks to everyone who has joined us so far; we hope to see even more familiar faces at our upcoming events.













Parade Season

Gold-Eagle team members have been busy supporting our community festivals in parades this summer. The photos are from Renwick's Donkey Daze and Clarion's Festival in the Park.





Field Trials, Conservation Practices, and What They Mean for You

Thank you for your business this spring. We appreciate the opportunity to work with you and hope this season leads to strong yields. Challenges will come, but we are ready to meet them together.

As always, we are running corn and soybean variety trials. This year includes a full Preceon Smart Corn plot near Renwick, our first with a complete lineup of short-statured hybrids. Past trials involved a few early adopters, but the technology continues to improve. Full release is approaching and this could be a major shift for the industry. The plot is located just north of the Renwick Agronomy Center and will be marked after fungicide is applied. You are welcome to stop by the Renwick location where Kurt Packard, Agronomy Sales, would be happy to show it to you.

We also welcome Matt Swanson as our new Conservation Agronomist, based in Clarion. He brings strong experience in both ag retail and conservation work. Matt has been focused on our pilot program with Indigo and Truterra, which ties into the 45Z tax credit for low carbon intensity (CI) corn.

While we hoped for clear 45Z rules by now, details continue to develop. We are learning more each week about how practices qualify, how credits are verified and issued, and how payments can be made to growers. This pilot program is helping guide the way.

No two farms are alike, but there are key practices that can help position your operation for 45Z premiums through Gold-Eagle and CORN, LP. These include:

- Trying cover crops and seeking cost share programs through your watershed or local NRCS office
- Using nitrogen stabilizers with fallapplied nitrogen
- Reducing tillage or switching to striptill or no-till
- Implementing 4R nutrient management practices

You do not need to adopt every practice to qualify. The more you do, the better your CI score and potential return. Growers implementing several practices could earn up to 50 cents per bushel for corn delivered to Gold-Eagle. Payment timelines are still being clarified.

We share this now to help you plan ahead. Fall is a key time to begin using these practices. Matt is enrolling growers for the 2024 harvest and preparing for future program years. He is also training our sales team to support you. There is still room in the current pilot, so reach out with any questions.

We are grateful for your continued partnership and look forward to harvest.



Meet Jeff Clark, Feed Division Manager

Q: What is your agricultural background in?

A: I joined Kemin straight out of my enlistment in the U.S. Air Force where I worked in logistics. My first role in ingredient manufacturing for animal health & nutrition was in warehouse management & distribution. After seven years in the warehousing role, I relocated to southeast Texas to build a manufacturing plant for Kemin near Texas City. Once the property had been developed, I served the location as operations manager for 12 years. I returned to Iowa with Kemin to support their operations as plant manager and produced ingredients for three business units successfully for five years. My most recent experience has been with ADM Animal Nutrition, beginning as a plant manager for a premix facility, then as regional operations manager for 11 commercial feed mills located in North America.

Q: What attracted you to Gold-Eagle?

A: Our family has moved around the U.S. a great deal and I've appreciated my family's many sacrifices during my career. When leaving ADM earlier this year, I hoped to disrupt as few lives in my household as possible, so targeting opportunities near central lowa was important. When I became aware of the role, the career experiences were very well aligned. Additional growth and learning opportunities were quite apparent, so the role was something that triggered the internal passion to continue to expand myself.

Q: What do you appreciate about the lowa Livestock industry?

A: Feeding the world is a noble ambition, never more apparent than during the covid-era where we got familiar with the term "essential worker". It's rewarding to be involved in this type of field; making strides to increase reliability and communicate confidence throughout an organization and our stakeholders is what gets me out of bed every day. lowa's livestock industries provide "essential" jobs, products and so forth. Quite a noble profession to be involved with and help

attract those new leaders to the field and make lowa the great field of dreams it's known all over the world for.



Q: What

challenges and opportunities do you see approaching in the livestock industry?

A: Livestock production faces significant challenges with disease outbreaks, market access, environmental sustainability, and rising costs. Aging assets and subject matter experts are leaving the field in large numbers. These challenges bring tremendous opportunity to make huge impacts for our future leaders. It is important to understand risks to our products and employ sustainable processing methods as well as properly maintain the assets to limit breakdowns and lost time. We can draw talent to the field to automate processes and ensure we leverage data to execute flawlessly using continuous improvement methodologies to the delight of our stakeholders and customers alike.

Q: What experiences are you looking forward to?

A: Meeting the new team, understanding where they are in their career and helping them to advance. This role will afford more face-to-face customer interaction which I look forward to, as well as helping to continue the work already underway to field a team of problem-solvers to protect our brand and ensure a solid future for all of us.

EDITOR's NOTE: Jeff enjoys raising his three boys alongside his wife, Cynthia. He loves watching and coaching them in their sports, calling himself their "#1 Fan". Jeff enjoys playing golf with his friends and has developed a passion for the game.

SAVE DATE.

GEC Member Appreciation Golf Outings

Gold-Eagle will be hosting two customer appreciation golf outings later this summer. Due to previous years' popularity, these events are limited to members and active farm hands only. The outings are four-person best shot formats with lunch provided. Registration starts at 8:00 AM and tee off is at 9:00 AM. If you would like to join us, please pick one of the dates and send your team information in to Elizabeth McOllough at emcollough@goldeaglecoop.com.

Bear Creek, Forest City – August 20, 2025

Spring Valley, Livermore – August 27, 2025





GOLD-EAGLE COOPERATIVE

PO Box 168 1505 W Broadway St Eagle Grove, IA 50533





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!

