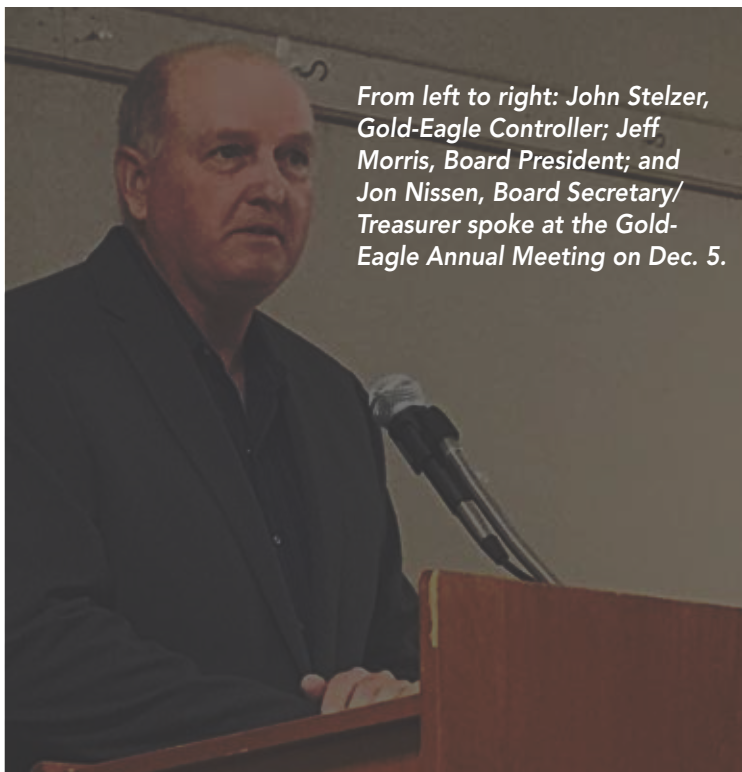


GOLD-EAGLE COOPERATIVE

THE PERSPECTIVE

www.goldeaglecoop.com



From left to right: John Stelzer, Gold-Eagle Controller; Jeff Morris, Board President; and Jon Nissen, Board Secretary/Treasurer spoke at the Gold-Eagle Annual Meeting on Dec. 5.

LOCATIONS

Eagle Grove

448-4775
800-873-1797

-Feed Mill-

515-448-5392
800-722-3966

Thor

378-3314
866-210-9734

Goldfield

825-3161
800-825-3331

Renwick

824-3214
888-824-3214

Hardy

824-3221
866-210-9733

Livermore

379-1843
888-576-1843

Corwith

583-2462
888-581-2462

Wesley

679-4272
866-212-3890

Titonka

928-2272
866-203-9656

It's Déjà Vu

By Brad Davis
General Manager



Remember how the 2015 crop in our area was one for the record books? I didn't know if I'd ever see such large soybean yields again. Well, it was déjà vu in 2016, since we blew those yields out of the water. Strong corn yields and phenomenal test weights also got us over the top and set new records at most of our Gold-Eagle locations and Gold-Eagle in general.

Sometimes harvest success seems to be based on visible signs, like the amount of corn piled on the ground. But consider how the 2016 harvest lasted about five weeks. If we didn't have our ethanol plant and feed mill, we'd have so much corn around that it would equate to almost 1,000 rail cars of grain.

As we handled all that grain, we were so pleased and thankful for your continued support of Gold-Eagle. I sense a lot of optimism in our area. I'm also encouraged about the future as we work together to create a legacy we can pass on to the next generation, both on the farm and through the co-op.

It's déjà vu again with the 50-50-50 goal

Hard work is also paying off now through Gold-Eagle's 50-50-50 goal. It's another case of déjà vu, where we not only met this goal in 2015, but are excited to have achieved it again this year.

While Gold-Eagle is retaining 50% of our earnings to continue growing the company, for the second year in a row we supplied 50% of Gold-Eagle's distribution in cash to you, our

Continued on page 3

What You Need to Know About the XtendiMax™ System

By Chris Petersen
Seed Sales Manager



You'll have a new tool in 2017 to control glyphosate-resistant weeds, now that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved XtendiMax herbicide with VaporGrip™ Technology. This low-volatility dicamba herbicide can be used with Roundup Ready 2 Xtend® soybeans, although the product comes with a highly restricted label.

The XtendiMax crop system is designed to provide more consistent, flexible control of weeds. We had a couple soybean varieties from the XtendiMax system that really stood out in our 2016 test plots, and we didn't see any yield drag. Availability of soybean varieties compatible with the XtendiMax system should be good. We've got some sold already.

If you choose to use XtendiMax in 2017, we encourage you to use this system on all your acres. The last thing we want is for someone to have 40 acres of the XtendiMax crop system in a 160-acre field.

Why? The potential for mechanical drift issues. Can you remember when we used to spray Banvel® and Clarity®

herbicide? Tank contamination was a big issue, plus those products had drift challenges, too. Monsanto's VaporGrip Technology with XtendiMax herbicide is supposed to address this issue. However, mechanical drift issues will likely require the use of buffer zones, specific sprayer nozzles and certain surfactants.

Pay close attention to the label

The XtendiMax crop system marks a major step change in crop production and will require a lot of education so the system is used properly. It's going to be complex, so pay careful attention to the label.

The XtendiMax herbicide label is expected to be more intensive than any crop protection label we've had. It will likely be a fluid label, too, meaning the parameters may change. The parameters will likely need to be fine-tuned to preserve the chemistry in regards to herbicide resistance.

While we expect this technology to become the norm in a few years, there's going to be a big learning curve in the meantime. The most important thing is to be aware of the challenges and opportunities with the XtendiMax crop system and communicate with your Gold-Eagle salesperson.

We appreciate your business and look forward to serving you in 2017. ◀



What's the Key Lesson of 2016 Plot Data?

How did various corn hybrids and soybean varieties grown in our area stack up this year? Check out local results from Gold-Eagle's 2016 test plot data, which is available at www.goldeaglecoop.com/seed.

The later-maturity corn did very well in 2016, compared to the early-maturity corn. This is just the opposite of 2015. The lesson? Plant a diverse package. We encourage you to work with your Gold-Eagle salesperson to select the right hybrids and varieties for your acres in 2017. ◀

WHAT'S THE ONE THING WE DIDN'T HEAR IN 2016?

"That's the best yield I've ever had on that farm" was a comment we heard from lots of farmers this fall. When we asked them what they did differently to get those yields, no one said, "I cut corners and just got lucky."

Instead, these growers fertilized their crop properly. They used fungicides and insecticides, as needed. They invested in seed treatments.

There was never an instance where a grower didn't spend anything extra but grew top yields. The farmers who invested in their crop were the ones who reaped the greatest rewards. It's worth thinking about as you plan for success in 2017. ◀

Get a Report Card for Your Fields

By Bruce Burns
Eagle Vision Precision
Farming Services



you plan ahead and also prepare a season-by-season report card on all your fields.

Contact your local Gold-Eagle salesperson for more details, or call me at 515-605-5113 if you want to get started with mapping.

Let us process your data

We're busy processing and cleaning yield data for our customers. Want to take advantage of this convenient service? All you have to do is provide your yield data card or thumb drive to your local Gold-Eagle salesperson, and we'll process your data for you.

We're also keeping our eyes open for the next big thing coming down the precision ag pipeline so we can serve you better. All of us at Gold-Eagle Cooperative thank you for your continued business and wish you a prosperous, productive new year. ◀

Ever heard of the 5 P's—prior planning prevents poor performance? Now's the time to reflect on what worked well and didn't work in the past year.

Just like you, we're evaluating what we need to tweak or improve in 2017, especially since spring will be here before you know it. If you're thinking about variable-rate planting, contact me or your local Gold-Eagle salesperson to start the process. It's never too early to start the planning for this.

Now's the time to develop a strategy for success in 2017 and build on the momentum from 2016. Whether you need grid sampling to make variable-rate recommendations for both seed and fertilizer or you need yield mapping, we can help



EVALUATE STRATEGY
TO IMPROVE 2017
5P's
PRIOR PLANNING
PREVENTS POOR
PERFORMANCE

Slingshot® Maximizes Efficiency

By Bruce Burns, Eagle Vision Precision Farming Services

Adding Raven Slingshot units to our main dry fertilizer machines in 2016 was a smart move that saved a lot of hassles this fall. This technology has made it much easier to transfer electronic files to our dry fertilizer machines and operate as efficiently as possible.

We can send variable-rate technology (VRT) files directly to these machines without having to put the data on a flash drive that must

be delivered to the machine. When I was away dealing with personal business, I had the ability to send variable-rate files via the Slingshot website to any machine I specified.



www.ravenslingshot.com

Slingshot also lets our plant managers view the machines' locations and send files directly to the machines. I'm glad we could bring such powerful technology on board to maximize efficiency and help the

Gold-Eagle team get the job done for you. ◀

It's Déjà Vu

Continued from page 1

members. We distributed more than \$3.5 million in patronage and equity revolvment at our annual meeting on Dec. 5. We're using the other portion of the earnings with your name on it to invest in your cooperative. You'll receive this dividend when you retire.

As we develop the budget for the coming year, I'd like

to thank all the Gold-Eagle employees and directors who provide the hard work and leadership to make your co-op's success possible. Also, thank you for your business. Your continued support can make it possible for Gold-Eagle to experience déjà vu all over again in 2017 as we build on your co-op's success. ◀

Take Advantage of 2017 Deals

By Stu Pannuk
Agronomy Sales Manager



Cooperative has set a new record for fall dry fertilizer sales. All of our customers understand that the right nutrients are essential to maintain excellent yields. The Gold-Eagle agronomy team thanks you for your business.

Time passes so quickly, doesn't it? Once the 2016 harvest wrapped up, it was time to put the groundwork in place for a successful crop in 2017. That involves careful planning on your part and nutrient applications this fall on our part.

By mid-November, we were going full bore applying dry fertilizer and NH3. It appears that Gold-Eagle

As you plan for 2017, there are new crop protection products worth considering, plus there are some promotions that can save you money.

Monsanto is continuing its Roundup® Ready Plus cash-back incentives again this year. See the chart on this page for more details. Also, Monsanto is offering an additional incentive for the coming crop year. The 2017 DEKALB®

Acre Plus incentive allows you to earn up to \$7.50/unit (\$3/acre) if you purchase the same or more corn seed units as last year, apply a Harness® herbicide, and follow-up with Roundup PowerMAX®. See the 2017 DEKALB Acre Plus chart on page 5 for the details.

Contact your Gold-Eagle agronomist for more information about any of these promotions. Thank you for your business. Our agronomy team looks forward to visiting with you about your 2017 crop and providing you with competitive prices. ◀

RECOMMENDED products that qualify for CASH-BACK INCENTIVES					
CORN: Midwest Region					
 CROP MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS			HERBICIDE QUALIFIERS		
			Roundup PowerMAX® 32 fl. oz.	Roundup WeatherMAX® 32 fl. oz.	
PRE / AT PLANTING / POST	MONSANTO	Degree Xtra® 3 qt Harness® 2.25 pt Harness® Xtra 1.8 qt Harness® Xtra 5.6L 2.25 qt TripleFLEX® III Herbicide 2 pt	\$1.00	\$1.50	
POST	AMVAC	IMPACT® 75 oz	\$3.00	\$3.50	
SOYBEANS: Midwest Region					
 CROP MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS			TRAIT QUALIFIERS Roundup Ready 2 Yield® Roundup Ready 2 Xtend®		
			HERBICIDE QUALIFIERS*		
			Roundup PowerMAX® 32 fl. oz. OR Roundup WeatherMAX® 32 fl. oz.	Roundup PowerMAX®/ Roundup WeatherMAX® 32 fl. oz. + XtendMax® 22 fl. oz./a OR Roundup Xtend® 64 fl. oz./a	
PRE / AT PLANTING	MONSANTO	Rowel® Herbicide 2 oz	\$3.00	\$4.00	
		Rowel® FX Herbicide 3 oz	\$3.00	\$4.00	
	VALENT	Valor® EZ-1 2 fl. oz	\$4.00	\$6.00	
		Valor® XLT 3 oz	\$3.00	\$4.00	
		Fierce® 3 oz	\$3.00	\$4.00	
		Fierce® XLT 4 oz	\$3.00	\$4.00	
	FMC	Authority® Assist Herbicide 8 fl. oz	\$3.00	\$3.50	
		Authority® First Herbicide 5 oz	\$3.00	\$3.50	
		Authority® MAXX Herbicide 6.4 oz	\$3.00	\$3.50	
		Authority® MTZ DF Herbicide 14 oz	\$3.00	\$3.50	
PRE OR POST	MONSANTO	Warrant® Herbicide 3 pt	\$2.00	\$4.00	
		Warrant Ultra® Herbicide 50 fl. oz	\$3.00	\$5.00	
POST	VALENT	Cobra® 10 fl. oz	\$3.00	\$4.00	
VOLUNTEER CORN		Select Max® 6 fl. oz	\$1.00	\$1.50	

Get Cash Back From FMC

If you've checked out the Monsanto Roundup® Ready Plus program, to the left, which offers cash-back incentives for a majority of the Authority® herbicides and Hero® insecticide when applied with PowerMAX®. Also note that FMC will continue to offer cash back when you use Authority Elite herbicide.

This cash-back offer for Authority Elite is \$2/acre based on the 26-ounce rate. This rebate will be sent directly to you. The cash-back incentives will continue to offer \$.50/acre (based on the 6-ounce rate) for applying Hero insecticide.

FMC also has an incentive program with Bayer CropScience for LibertyLink® soybeans and Liberty® herbicide. Just purchase a minimum of 50 units of LibertyLink soybeans and 11.3 gallons of Liberty and a qualifying match rate of residual herbicide. The FMC Authority and Anthem® brands qualify for the residual herbicides.

You can earn:

- \$3/acre for Authority Assist and Authority First
- \$2/acre for Authority Elite
- \$2/acre for Anthem Brands
- Up to \$5/acre when using Authority Assist/First followed by Anthem ▶

Resicore® Redefines Corn Weed Control

By Stu Pannkuk, Agronomy Sales Manager



The new herbicide Resicore from Dow AgroSciences may set new standards in corn weed control. It offers three proven active ingredients never seen before in a single offering. This unique formulation contains three separate modes of action and does not include atrazine or glyphosate.

Resicore was introduced last year, and we sold some on a limited basis. Resicore controls a broad spectrum of grasses and broadleaf weeds, including many herbicide-resistant weeds. Its residual activity extends deep into the growing season.

Resicore is tank-mix compatible with Roundup®, atrazine and other herbicides. Resicore may be applied as a single pass for weed control. The recommended rate for the single pass is 2.75 quarts, which has the herbicide equivalent of 2.2 pints of Surpass® (acetochlor), 6.6 ounces of Callisto® (mesotrione) and 5.6 ounces of Stinger® (clopralid).

Gold-Eagle is also positioning Resicore at a reduced rate for post-emerge in corn.

The reduced rate of 1.25 quarts/acre has the equivalent of 1 pint of Surpass, 3 ounces of Callisto and 2.55 ounces of Stinger. The Stinger will assist in the control of giant ragweed.

This reduced rate of Resicore worked extremely well last year. We have stocked Resicore in bulk at several of our locations. Contact your Gold-Eagle agronomist for more details. ◀



**WITH
INCREASED
DEMAND FOR
SEED TREATING,
GOLD-EAGLE
WILL BE
OFFERING
SEED
TREATING
AT THE
CORWITH
LOCATION.**



2017 DEKALB® ACRE PLUS™

EARN CASH BACK INCENTIVES ON YOUR DEKALB CORN SEED WHEN YOU USE MONSANTO CROP PROTECTION PRODUCTS TO PROTECT YOUR YIELD POTENTIAL!

Earning Criteria	
Step 1	Hold/Grow  vs. Prior Year *
Step 2 	     Degree Xtra®, Harness®, Harness® Xtra, Harness® Xtra 5.6L, or TripleFLEX® II Herbicide
Step 3 	   Roundup PowerMAX®**, Roundup PowerMAX® II**, or Roundup WeatherMAX®***
Earn \$\$\$	\$7.50/unit** to \$8.75/unit*** of DEKALB Corn Seed Customer must complete all three steps to receive full incentive amount

* Must hold or grow DEKALB units of corn seed vs. prior year net sales

** \$2.50/unit incentive is based on the use of Roundup PowerMAX or Roundup PowerMAX II according to Roundup Ready PLUS Crop Management Solutions.

*** \$3.75/unit incentive is based on the use of Roundup WeatherMAX according to Roundup Ready PLUS Crop Management Solutions.

Go Pro With Zidua Herbicide for Soybeans

By Stu Pannkuk, Agronomy Sales Manager

Want burndown and long-lasting residual weed control from one jug? Check out Zidua® PRO (Premium Residual Option) herbicide from BASF. New for 2017, Zidua PRO offers a convenient premix formulation of three powerful herbicides that delivers fast burndown and consistent control of tough weeds like waterhemp, marestail, lambsquarters and Palmer amaranth.

Zidua PRO has a recommended application rate of 4.5 to 6 ounces per acre. It's flexible for any soybean system, including Roundup® Ready, LibertyLink® and Roundup Ready 2 Xtend®.



Zidua® PRO For Soybeans
Herbicide

3 Powerful Herbicides in 1 Jug

Zidua® herbicide (Group 15)

- Long lasting (up to 14 days longer than other Group 15 herbicides) residual control of small seeded broadleaves (including waterhemp) and extended grass control.

Sharpen® herbicide (Group 14)

- Rapid burndown activity on broadleaf weeds with up to 14 days of residual control on broadleaf weeds.

Pursuit® herbicide (Group 2)

- Long lasting grass control with large and small seeded broadleaf control. Excellent on cocklebur, morningglory, and velvetleaf.

6 fl oz/A of Zidua PRO herbicide contains:

2 oz/A of Zidua herbicide

1 fl oz/A of Sharpen herbicide

4 fl oz/A of Pursuit herbicide

Application Timing of Zidua PRO:
Early preplant through pre-emergence for burndown residual weed control prior to crop emergence (30 day pre-plant interval on coarse soil with less than 2% organic matter).

Earn rewards on BASF fungicides

BASF again is offering rewards for purchasing their fungicide products. Enroll by Jan. 31 and receive \$100/gallon for every enrolled gallon of Priaxor® fungicide and Headline AMP® fungicide.

If you make an in-season purchase between Feb. 1 and Sept. 30, you can earn \$50/gallon for Priaxor and Headline AMP. Contact your Gold-Eagle agronomist for more details. ◀

Count on Gold-Eagle to help you maximize your crop's yield potential in 2017.



Weeds Controlled or Suppressed*

Broadleaf Weeds

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| ■ Common ragweed | ■ Palmer amaranth |
| ■ Giant ragweed | ■ Pigweed spp. |
| ■ Kochia | ■ Prickly sida |
| ■ Lambsquarters | ■ Velvetleaf |
| ■ Marestail (horseweed) | ■ Waterhemp |
| ■ Morningglory spp. | ■ Wild buckwheat |
| ■ Nightshade spp. | ■ Wild mustard |

Grasses and Sedges

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| ■ Barnyardgrass | ■ Panicum spp. |
| ■ Broadleaf signalgrass | ■ Ryegrass spp. |
| ■ Bromus spp. | ■ Shattercane |
| ■ Crabgrass spp. | ■ Wild proso millet |
| ■ Goosegrass | ■ Woolly cupgrass |
| ■ Foxtail spp. | ■ Yellow nutsedge |
| ■ Johnsongrass (seedling) | |

*see label for full list

What's Your On-Farm Storage Worth?

By Brady Hess
Merchandising
Manager



Overall, the quality of the grain harvested in our area this fall was good, and we took in a record harvest. All the grain elevators are full, and so is the on-farm storage.

Don't overlook your bins this winter. Check them once a week to make sure your grain stays in condition and spot any potential problems early.

Speaking of grain storage, ever wonder what it means when you hear about carry in the market? Carry is when the supply exceeds demand and the market is trying to incentivize the producer and commercial suppliers to hold grain off the market until the grain is needed. This is accomplished through futures and the cash basis levels in your area.

Here's an example: The corn price for the producer is \$3 for delivery in November. The elevator will pay you to deliver the grain in April at \$3.31. Assuming the cost of money is 5% on \$3.31 corn, you'll spend 1.4 cents per bushel per month, multiplied by five months (November through March), so the added expense is almost 7 cents per bushel.

That means your on-farm storage is worth 24 cents per bushel. Bankers love seeing that kind of return on your investment.

If yields continue to increase due to crop genetics and better farming practices, but demand stays flat, the market should give you this opportunity each year going forward. ◀

NOT SURE HOW TO MARKET THIS BIG CROP?

Gold-Eagle offers a variety of grain marketing programs to help you maximize your profit potential. Contact Brady Hess, Darren Fritz or David Dolan at Gold-Eagle's Goldfield office (800-825-3331), and we'll help tailor the right program for your needs.

GOLD-EAGLE COOPERATIVE

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

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Watch Out for DON



It was great to have a phenomenal crop year, but there are some issues to watch with this grain. We've seen a little bit of deoxynivalenol (DON), a mycotoxin that can show up in corn.

DON is produced by a mold. I should note that you can have molds without having mycotoxins. Diplodia is a mold, for example, but it doesn't produce mycotoxins. Different livestock species have different sensitivities to mycotoxins. Some may go off feed if there are even small amounts of mycotoxins in the ration.

Take care of the corn you have in your bins to make sure you don't let harmful molds get established in your grain. Check your bins weekly this winter to make sure the grain stays in condition.

*By Rachel Howdyshell
Customer Sales and Support*



Gold-Eagle's feed department piggybacks off the CORN, LP ethanol plant in Goldfield, which conducts many routine tests to check the quality of the corn. These tests, along with our own routine monitoring, give our feed department another line of defense to protect against mycotoxins.

While we haven't seen anything too alarming, it's wise to keep an eye on things. If you have any feed questions, please contact us at 800-722-3966. We appreciate your business and look forward to serving you in 2017. ◀

