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107 So. Chestnut Street
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July 2015



Newsletter of the Farmers Elevator & Exchange Co. - 107 So. Chestnut St., Monroe City, MO ph. 573/735-4543 or 888/842-2090



Manager's Corner

by *Marlin McCormick, Gen. Mgr.*

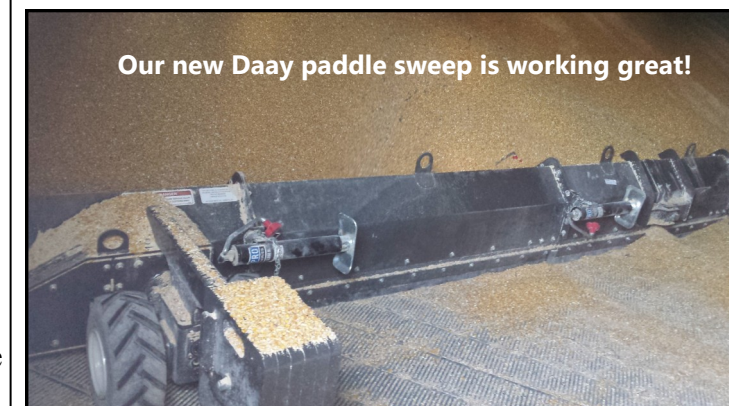
Making Better Of A Tough Situation

Okay...we had a May-June monsoon. We can now worry or we can work to look for positive things to help you/us deal with the effects of the unusual growing season. The U.S. is not all wet as I heard from a friend in Georgia who recently visited family in Missouri and Illinois. He said he left a 'bake oven' to come here. A few days later I sent a message to ask if he arrived home safely from the 'Mudwest'. Hah!

Our granddaughter came to visit in late June. She is 3, loves technology and took the photo of me above. One morning after a heavy rain, the ditch in front of our house in Monroe City was running 'bank-full' which of course is not a good thing. In my garage I found the new kid's fishing rod and reel that I purchased for her a few years ago. I thought to myself, 'It is time!' After a

and I was able to 'kill 2 birds with one stone.' Wow, I feel great....glad I'm not a bird! I hope we can all find ways to turn lemons into lemonade during this difficult time. Please remember, whatever you do, be safe!

Speaking of working safely, the photo below was taken recently as we operated the new paddle sweep in one of our new 'zero entry' grain bins that we con-



structed last fall. This proves why they are called 'zero entry'.....notice how clean the floor is behind the sweep? No one had pushed a broom on that floor—and no one was in the bin! At Farmers Elevator, we are working to provide a safe and efficient operation for our workers and for you, the patrons we serve. And by the way, in the face of all this rain, we are very glad we are not digging any holes to begin any construction immediately!

A few weeks ago a friend stopped by and handed us these old Farmers Elevator screwdriver 'give-aways' from days gone by.

Last year we acquired the old ceramic sharpening stone (below) from another patron. So, if one of the things on your 'to do list' while waiting for the ground to dry is to clean out an old toolbox or a drawer in the basement or in the shop, and if you come across any *Farmers Elevator artifacts*, we would love to see them!

Trivia question: In what year did the local phone



quick lesson, we were out by the street ditch casting and having a blast! I cannot count how many times she asked, "Can we do it one more time, please Grandpa?"

On a late June afternoon, our very green lawn needed mowing badly. It is a sizeable lawn and it was very wet but I knew the big 60" zero-turn rider was going to leave big ruts. Then I remembered that medical experts tell us walking is great exercise, so I spent the next 3 and 1/2 hours walking behind a small push lawn mower



Crop Care

by Gary Carr
& Brenna Ruth
Agronomy Sales & Service

GoldenHarvest
Corn



While writing this newsletter, we are watching it rain outside yet again. It's pretty common these days to look outside the window and see it raining. Nonetheless, the Show Must Go On, right? We have a wide range of crop conditions out there, ranging from wet to very wet to soil soup! Some of you are lucky enough to have all of your crops planted. Whether you got all of your crops in or none of your crops in, we are still trying to come up with plans for the rest of the season! Let's try to be positive and be grateful for the good fortune we had earlier in the season. For the most part we were able to get our corn crop planted, which is more than they can say in other parts of Missouri. So, on that note, what IS the plan? Each grower will have to decide what is best for his or her operation and situation. Some of you will likely be faced with deciding what is going to benefit you the most financially. The best that we can do is to walk you through the programs we would use, tell you what they cost, and go from there. We will be here to help and support you in your decision, and follow through with whatever plan you put in place.

Spraying Soybeans

We are looking into alternative methods of spraying. Here are a few things we are looking into (haha):



We still have a options to spray your soybeans, some better than others. What we have to watch out for are **planting**

restrictions for the next crop. The chemistries we can still use are things like Prefix, Flexstar, Dual II Magnum, Warrant, as well as your PPO chemistries (Resource, Cobra, Cadet, Avalanche, etc.)



The planting restrictions are as follows:

Prefix (Dual + Reflex): Corn-10 months; Wheat- 4.5 months

Flexstar: Corn- 10 months; Wheat- 4 months

Warrant: Wheat- 4 months

Dual II Magnum: Wheat- 4.5 months

PPO's: none- contact herbicides only

BE AWARE: If you would like us to use a product containing fomesafen (prefix, flexstar), or many other pre-emerge and post soybean chemistry this late in the season, there is risk associated with that. You will either need to plant beans in that field again next season, or be willing to risk injury to next year corn crop. If you would like to plant wheat there, it will be mid-late November before it is safe to do so. The products we will use will depend on the date that we can start spraying, and we will try to tailor the program to whatever fits the growers needs best. The equipment that we will use to spray these chemicals is yet to be determined. The plan is just to get the weeds sprayed as soon as it is physically and economically possible.

Cover Crops

There are several acres in our area that will be Preventive Planting acres. We would encourage you to consider putting some sort of cover crop on those acres. Whether you do cereal rye, tillage radishes, oats, or any other fall seeded cover crop, they can be very beneficial. At the very least, the weeds and winter annuals will be minimal and the soil will remain intact. If managed correctly, they can be utilized as feed for livestock as well and can be cost effective. If you think that planting a cover crop might benefit you, come see us and we will go through all of the options.

Fungicide:

With the heat and humidity that we are experiencing, disease is likely to be a big problem this year. Some of the corn in the area has already begun to tassel, and you know what that means? Fungicide time! Now, we realize that grain prices are an issue and it doesn't sound appealing to spend more money on the crop this year. However, if you still believe you have a decent looking crop, the weather conditions are favorable for disease, and fungicide could be very effective. We have fungicide in stock and will happy to get it applied for you. If you want to look at the options, come see us at Farmers Elevator and Exchange Co.

Thankfully this is not our rig, and for your sake.....

this is what we want to avoid.....



From The Feed Bag

by Eulynn Davis, Livestock Production Asst.



As producers and members of the agricultural community, we face many challenges. While these challenges can be frustrating and at times, a touch heart-breaking, farmers' continued drive to push through tough times never ceases to amaze me. Few industries rely as heavily on faith in external factors; a farmer can give everything he has, but still have a "bad year". Factors like weather, disease, markets, global trends, and of course, the government all play a huge role in a farmer's ability to call it a "good year". While we can vote and voice our opinion to elected officials, in the end we have to have faith that our government will make decisions that better our great industry—yes, many times it is hard to see the positive side.

A current issue that we have been watching closely at Farmers Elevator & Exchange Company is the Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD). According to the FDA, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has amended the new animal drug regulations to implement the Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) drugs section of the Animal Drug Availability Act of 1996 (ADAA). In 1996, Congress passed the Animal Drug Availability Act (ADAA). The ADAA established a new regulatory category for distributing certain new animal drugs for use in or on animal feed, the Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD). The law allows VFD drugs to

be administered in animal feed under a veterinarian's order and professional supervision. Now producers can obtain and use critically needed drugs while the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ensures the protection of public health. An example of a new animal drug approved so far as a VFD drug is Pulmotil® 90 (tilmicosin), for use in pigs.

On June 3, the FDA published in the Federal Register the final rule revising the VFD regulations in 21 CFR Part 558. The final rule becomes effective in 120 days. At the same time, FDA revised Guidance for Industry #120, Veterinary Feed Directive Regulation. While I encourage you to do as much personal research as you can regarding the new regulations, here are a few pieces of information regarding your role as a producer:

What are VFD Drugs? VFD drugs are drugs that FDA approved for use in animal feeds, and they are used under veterinarian supervision and issued under written veterinary feed directive orders. Extra-label use (use of VFD feed for unapproved indications or at unapproved doses), is prohibited.

How Can I Get a VFD Order for a VFD Drug? Contact your veterinarian. Your veterinarian will determine if your animals need treatment with a VFD drug. If a VFD drug is needed, your veterinarian will provide the VFD order to you or directly to the feed mill or feed distributor. Telephone orders by veterinarians will not be allowed, a physical VFD will have to be provided.

Basic Producer Responsibilities As a producer your basic responsibilities include: contacting your vet, following their recommendations, administering the VFD medicated feed to your animals as directed, keeping copies of your VFD orders for at least two years, and providing your VFD order copies for FDA inspectors to copy and review, when requested.

For additional information, contact the FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine's (CVM) Communications Staff by phone at 240-276-9300 or through the CVM Home Page at <http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary>.

We are working to be as proactive about this process as possible. We will be here every step of the way to help guide and continue to provide top-quality service to our clients. All of us at Farmers Elevator & Exchange Company **thank you** in advance for your patience and compliance in the months ahead as we all adjust to these new regulations.

Don't Forget!

At Farmers Elevator,
we carry a variety of
Purina dog food,
and for every
8 bags purchased,
get one FREE!



GOOD LUCK TO
ALL FAIR
EXHIBITORS!

-From all of us at Farmers Elevator



MARION CO. FAIR: June 29th-July 4th
SHELBY CO. FAIR: July 6th-July 11th
RALLS CO. FAIR: July 11th-July 16th
MONROE CO. FAIR: July 13th-July 15th
MISSOURI STATE FAIR: August 13th-August 23rd