



Ampride - Alta Vista - Emporia - Manhattan - Onaga - Westmoreland
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AUGUST 2013

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Our Mission:

To be your business of choice,
anticipating customer needs,
and growing a progressive
company.

**"In Business For
Your Business"**

Grain Comments

By Doug Biswell

What a difference a year makes. Last year at this time we had suffered through multiple 100+ degree days with little to no moisture. This year, although we have had times of dryness, it has been cool and just wet enough to keep things going and growing. Of course the market action is a 180 from last year. Higher, higher, higher last year, and this year we are just grinding lower. We had a lesson in late last month of a breaking inverted market.

In a period of less than a week we saw cash beans go from \$15.30 to under \$12.50 and cash corn go from near \$7.00 to under \$5.50. This happened about 30 to 45 days before I figured it would which I think gives us a chance to see some substantial premiums built back into the cash market before new crop bushels start hitting the elevator. After all if you are feeding livestock or operating an ethanol plant you cannot feed those businesses "new crop corn." It takes the physical commodity to put any meat on the bones of a steer. So I think we will have at least one more shot at higher prices. But when that happens those of you holding on to cash need to be rid of it as it does appear we are going to be raising a decent crop baring an early freeze - and don't doubt for a minute before this summer and early fall are over that we won't hear about an early freeze many times.

Thanks to those of you that brought us your wheat and we are looking forward to handling your fall crops.

Feed News By Rod Bohn

August and September are a good time to lock in a price for corn gluten pellets and dry distillers grain. Prices have come down from the highs in April and appear like they may go down some more.

Corn gluten pellets with 18% protein can be contracted for \$230 per ton plus delivery from the Coop. There is no money up front with billing at the time of

delivery. Ship period is October 1 thru May 31, 2014.

Distillers grain with 26% protein can be contracted for \$240 per ton plus delivery from the Coop. The billing and ship period is the same as above. Prices are subject to change at any time.

Whenever the price looks good, call and let me know how many tons you need. It's nice to get some relief in feed cost.

Crop Production By Ken Diehl

Summer is winding down and so is the spray season. We covered many acres of soybeans early this year so be sure to keep an eye on those acres. I have noticed that some of those fields, especially the conventional till with no pre emerge chemical, have started to break. Please give us a call to see what we can do. What I have really noticed this season is those acres of soybeans that had a pre emerge chemical of some sort or a burndown residual applied have stayed fairly clean and required smaller amounts of chemical to clean up. This just proves that a residual product, especially with the ever changing weed spectrum, is still the best way to proceed.

The producer seemed to have a pretty decent wheat harvest this year. If you are thinking of no tilling your wheat stubble please have a burndown applied early so we can control those tough species, especially waterhemp, easier than letting the field go until all the weeds and volunteer wheat have emerged. I am recommending Roundup and Rugged, Rugged is a low volatility 2-4D which moves very little after application protecting our sensitive crops such as soybeans and even alfalfa. We need to also look at soil sampling, because of the yields and the tendency to low ball our fertility in wheat, there may be some issues to contend with that we can begin to correct now, your local Coop can either use composite sampling or grid sampling to pin point our problem areas.

This is also the time of year to begin thinking about fall crops such as wheat, alfalfa and brome. If you are planning to seed alfalfa in late August make sure you have already begun getting those fields in condition so that you can have the proper seed bed to improve your chances of good seed to soil contact as well as our fertility level where it needs to be and good seed spoken for. Sound as if seed wheat supply will be good but we are expecting larger wheat acreage this year especially in those areas dealing with their third year of drought, so do not wait to order seed wheat. This year we will be handling a couple of different seed wheat treatments, Warden HR (fungicide plus insecticide), Warden Cereal (fungicide), Nitroshield (insecticide) and Ascend (plant growth regulator). There have been some really good studies using Ascend as a seed treatment to increase root mass, stimulate cell division and break dormancy of the wheat seed. I personally have seen what it can do for corn roots, increasing lateral roots as well as deep roots. I encourage you to try this on some of your wheat acres, please give us a call for more information or pricing.

As always I thank you for your continued support and remember to always plan ahead as it will serve you better in the long run.

Onaga Location By Brent Beck

Ok....I'm not buying into this drought talk anymore 😊 I just emptied 5+ inches out of my rain gauge in a 24 hour period !!! There's a lot in life to be thankful for, and rain in July, is a perfect reminder of that.

The construction here at the Onaga location is beginning to wind down. We should be in the new office in early August, as planned. The new scale is in place and will be ready at that time as well. We are truly excited about the ability to better serve our customer base with the new improvements to our location. Thank you to the board of directors for envisioning and planning for our future at Onaga and as a cooperative Ag business. We greatly appreciate our customers' patience in working thru all of this with us. Thank You!!

In June, Tiffany Boen, accepted a position at Onaga. She began training in Manhattan in early July, then on to Onaga in mid-July. She is proving to be a great addition to our staff. Tiffany comes from south central Kansas, via Manhattan, and has past experience working at the Anthony Farmers Coop in Harper, Ks. Tiffany is a enthusiastic, people oriented individual, with great computer skills and will be very instrumental in helping us to move forward in a rapidly expanding technological business atmosphere. Tiffany is running the front counter, so make sure to take time to stop and introduce yourself as you come in on daily business.

Fertilizer: Last year we changed our dry nitrogen source to ammonium nitrate and have experienced very positive results with it. It's amazing what rain, a cool spring and good fertilizer can do for a brome crop. I have never heard so many people comment on how many bales they hauled off the brome hay fields.

Currently, we are eliminating our 18-46-0 fertilizer and will stock only 11-52-0 as our phosphorus source at Onaga. This will give us extra purchasing and storage capacity, and I am confident you will grow to appreciate the 11-52-0 product, as our current producers that are already using it, do.

Keep in mind our custom anhydrous application as the bookings and contracts are beginning to fill. Remember we can do variable rate application of anhydrous and dry fertilizer with this machine. We have changed to an applicator with disc openers and moved away from the knife application process. This has been a positive change. The acres, and the accuracy, that we are able to cover with this new machine is amazing. So in saying that, make sure to schedule your acres early and lets get some fertilizer pricing locked in as the opportunity presents itself. Plan ahead 😊 , next year will be here before you know it !! Remember to soil test !!!!

In a couple of months cattle will be coming off pasture and it won't be long before winter feeding and supplementing begins. Be thinking about your protein and supplement sources and resources and look for pricing opportunities. As in the past, we will have such items as corn gluten pellets, range cubes, dried distillers

grain, protein tubs, soybean meal, liquid protein supplement, etc.. Most of these items will have some pricing opportunities to take advantage of at some point.

Thank you for your new and continued business. We look forward to the opportunity be able to improve our service to you and continually move forward as technology allows.

Enjoy the fair, the weather, and be proud to live in Kansas where we raise great kids, crops, and livestock !! 😊 😊

Stover's Story By Dave Stover

As of this writing, things look a lot better all over the territory. All areas got some sorely needed rainfall. The corn and soybean fields are looking very good. There are some hybrids that were under some severe stress before the rains came that have some of their top end yield robbed but they are still going to have some decent yields barring any disasters.

Many growers have tried using cover crops in their system and we are here to help you if you would like to venture into this management practice. There are many different ways to use cover crops. Some use them as supplemental grazing with their cattle operation, others just use them to help with moisture management and nutrient sequestration. We have many different cover cropping options at our disposal. From cereal rye, annual rye grass, turnips, tillage radishes and cover crop blends.

One watchout that I have ran across this past couple of years is that some cover crops are fairly susceptible to residual herbicides that may be lingering around after the last crop. Let us know what herbicides are on the field this year so we don't make a mistake and plant something that may come up and die due to carry over.

The crop rotation and what the next crop is going to be is very important in formulating a good sound cover crop plan. Let us know if you are interested. We will be glad to help you with all your cover crop and other agronomy needs.

Thanks for the business.