

Danville Co-op Agronomy Newsletter, Dec. 2009

As of this writing, most of the fall crop has been put away in the bin and the challenges of this year's cropping is but a memory. We learned once again that the weather can be fickle and can present issues we may or may not be tuned in to. We think that the results of this year's fall cropping were generally good barring hail, drown-outs and wash-outs. Certainly we have been blessed with the experience and look forward to next year.

Cheat/downy brome/rye control season is all but over. We are seeing multi-tillers on most of the cheat at this time. The moisture that we had early, brought this flush about which makes control after this point difficult. You can expect reduced control in the spring.

Keep in mind that spring planting season is coming soon, with seed stocks being spoken for. Seed varieties that are the most advantageous to plant will be gone before you know it. There is plenty of test plot data available to you. Besides, a prepaid seed order now, will save you up to 10% in seed cost. Get your seed ordered now whether you prepay or not.

Fertilizer prices have recently started back up. We do not have any indication how high they may become, however if you need to spend some money by the end of the year, fertilizer is a better buy now as opposed to latter. Prices will be based on the spot market. Keep in mind that corn and bean harvest is going well up north and producers in those areas will be applying fertilizer soon. That will increase demand which will also increase the price structure.

As we go into the holiday season, remember what the season is all about. "Peace and good will towards man" is not just nice terminology, it really is something to live by. We do appreciate the opportunity to serve you, and wish you all a safe and profitable year. Thank you!