



2010

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Our Mission:

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

**"In Business
For Your Business"**




**Westmoreland Station
By Jeff Overbey**

OH BOY have you heard the news!

There's a new manager at the Westy Coop that some may say has no clue what he is doing. He keeps cutting prices on tires so you better hurry down soon and get some of these great deals before the boss finds out about it!!

Hello, my name is Jeff Overbey and I am the new manager of the Westy Coop. I was born in Winfield, Ks. and spent most of my life in or around there. I am 38 years old and have a son named Michael which gave me a beautiful grandson named Tayden who is 10 months old. I attended McPherson College majoring in Business. Currently I live in Westmoreland and really enjoy it here. The people here are friendly and have been very nice in welcoming me into their community. I would like to thank everyone for that and invite them down to say hello. I will try to remember your name but boy is it tough and you may have to help me out from time to time. I have been around cars and worked at various shops throughout my life and enjoy it. But... if you ask me a question about agriculture I will do my best to find out the answer. In fact, you will probably be able to

teach me a thing or two about it. I will tell you, I didn't grow up on a farm but I did spend time with my grandparents on their farm where I did learn the difference between a horse and a cow ha ha!! I am looking forward to learning all there is to know about crops and live stock. I enjoy the stories that I hear from all the locals that come into Coop. I look forward to serving all of you and again I thank each and every one of you for welcoming me into your community.

 YOKOHAMA TIRE SALE

I WILL TAKE \$50 OFF A SET OF 4 YOKOHAMA TIRES PURCHASED IN THE MONTH OF APRIL WITH THE MENTION OF THIS ARTICLE.

It means so much at Easter time
To keep in touch with friends
To wish them happiness and cheer
And joy that never ends.
This brings heartfelt greetings
Together with best wishes
For a happy Springtime.



Feed - By Rod Bohn

The spring cattle mineral special is in progress until May 15, 2010. Receive \$.50 per bag discount on most cattle minerals. Free choice minerals are very important to beef cows pre calving and post calving season weigh heavier at weaning than late born calves. This means more income from the early born calves when you sell them off the cow. Free choice minerals will help get more calves born in the first 30 - 45 days of the calving season.

I like to recommend Aureomycin in the free choice cow mineral from calving till weaning. A K-State trial showed cows that were fed a free choice mineral with Aureomycin on summer pasture had calves weighing up to 19 pounds heavier at weaning compared to cows fed a non-medicated mineral.



They attributed the heavier calf weights to less pink eye and foot rot in cows.

Some selected prices per 50 lb. bag include:

Purina Wind & Rain HiMag 8.5%
Reg. \$19.15 **SPECIAL \$18.65**

Purina Wind & Rain IGR/AU2800
Reg. \$23.30 **SPECIAL \$22.80**

Pro Phos 12
Reg. \$19.4 **SPECIAL \$18.9**

Pro Phos 12 AU 3500
Reg. \$20.90 **SPECIAL \$20.40**

Pro Phos 8 AU 5600
Reg. \$19.70 **SPECIAL \$19.20**

Cattle Mineral 12
Reg. \$16.30 **SPECIAL \$15.80**

Cattle Mineral 12 AU 3500
Reg. \$18.60 **SPECIAL \$18.10**

Cattle Mineral 8 AU 5600
Reg. \$17.25 **SPECIAL \$16.75**

THE GARDEN:



FOR THE GARDEN
OF YOUR DAILY
LIVING PLANT
THREE ROWS OF
PEAS:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

NO GARDEN IS WITHOUT TURNIPS:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN WE MUST HAVE
THYME:

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends

WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE AND
CULTIVATE WITH LOVE. THERE IS MUCH
FRUIT IN YOUR GARDEN BECAUSE YOU REAP
WHAT YOU SOW.
- Unknown

Grain Comments by Doug Biswell

Not much shaking again last month. March was a month for both some private forecasters and the USDA to estimate planted acres for the upcoming crop year. Some of the numbers puzzle me. The United States planted some 6 million acres less wheat acres than was planted in 2009 and there have been CRP acres that have come out of that program and yet some forecasters do not see a large increase in corn and soybean acres for 2010. I understand that there will be some of those acres go to crops like cotton but it would seem to me that we may be using to small of a planted acres number. I guess time will tell. Beans have seen continued support due to some workers strife in South America, talk of dry weather in parts of China, and the continued Chinese demand. Corn is having a hard time finding any friends. Poor exports, poor ethanol margins, and up to the last couple of week's poor margins for anyone feeding animals for protein has weighed on that market. Historically the best time to

price corn has been April, May, and June. I don't see anything in this year's numbers that would make me think that this is going to be any different for the 2010 crop. If you have price targets in mind give me a call and get your orders in, I realize that you all are going to have a lot to do in a short period of time this year, and taking time to watch the markets probably is not going to be a big priority for any of you. Let your Coop watch them for you.

Credit Manager – Jerry Humbert

Credit Account Report - I am proud to report that 90% of our patrons have been mailing their statement stub back with their payment and its working very well. Last month we only had two instances where a patron had multiple accounts that paid with one check and failed to supply me with the statement stub and unfortunately we paid one account matching the check leaving it with a credit but not the other account which resulted in overdue charges and a phone call. On the other side of things, some of you split up your charges and send two or even three checks for the same account, this has also been working very well as long as you provide me with the statement stub. Keep up the good work and send those stubs with your payments.

With the economy at one of its lowest levels in decades we are seeing more and more accounts getting into our past due column. As per our credit policy, any past due account is subject to a finance charge and could loose charging privileges at any time unless circumstances exist that warrant further charging. In these cases it is very important that you contact me to let me know why your account is in the past due status.

As a final note, all accounts are due by the 15th of each month following the month of purchase. If you purchase something on January 1st and something else on January 31st the total bill is due by February 15th and should be mailed to us no later than February 15th, if we do not receive your payment before the last day of February you will receive a finance charge.

Those who are a little behind please try to get your accounts paid up to date.

MANAGEMENT NOTES

By Darin Marti

ANNUAL MEETING: I want to thank those of you that attended the annual meeting on March 23rd. I think everyone enjoyed the meal and meeting. Dr. Dan Thomson, our key note speaker was very educational and entertaining with his speech regarding animal rights. He told us that it is very important for producers to do the right thing with their livestock but also talked about the importance of getting involved to help combat the Humane Society and PETA groups who want to impose unrealistic laws upon agriculture.

2010 PROJECTS: We have planned our capital expenditure list for 2010. The list is usually endless so deciding what is most important can be a challenge. The board has approved the replacement of the feed mixer in Manhattan. This mixer has made a significant amount of feed over the last 23 years and has become somewhat unreliable. The new mixer should also improve efficiencies due to a shorter mix time requirement.

Also approved and recently purchased was a different tire repair truck which should also improve reliability and possibly shorten response time.

Approved last fall were truck probes for Onaga and Manhattan. Lead time was too long to get them before fall harvest so the purchase was put off until this year. Employee safety was the main incentive for this improvement.

Recently approved was a grain bin for Alta Vista. Time is slipping away but we are in hopes to still get it built before fall. We approached the condo storage idea with our producers but did not receive adequate interest to further pursue it. Our lender has indicated that they would finance the project so we are proceeding as quickly as possible.

Spring has finally come and certainly later than we all would have liked. There is a significant amount of work to accomplish in a short time. We will do our best to timely take care of your crop input needs. Please be safety conscious as you go about your spring work.

(April 21, 2010: Administrative Professionals Day recognizes and celebrates the work of secretaries, administrative assistants, and other office professionals for their contributions to the workplace.)



"EVERY YEAR IT SEEMS TO ME I HEAR COMPLAINTS ABOUT SPRING. IT IS EITHER "LATE" OR "UNUSUALLY COLD", "ABNORMALLY DRY" OR "FANTASTICALLY WET," FOR NO ONE IS EVER WILLING TO ADMIT THAT THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A NORMAL SPRING."
-THALASSA CRUSO

Views from the Field

By Mike Thompson
Agronomy Production Specialist /
Certified Crop Advisor

The calendar now says April, and soon many producers in the area will be out in the fields planting their corn seed in hopes of reaching that desired yield goal in search of making a profit along the way. I just wanted to pass along a brief "refresher" that might help eliminate potential stand losses and help with crop emergence and uniformity.

Hopefully everyone has taken the time to go through their planters and make adjustments, and repair/replace broken and worn out parts. Here is a brief list of things that should be checked before reaching the field:

1. With plate-type planters, match the seed grade with the correct planter plate.
2. Planters with finger pick-ups should be checked for wear on the back plate and brush (use a feeler gauge to check tension on the fingers, and then tighten them correctly).
3. Check for wear on double-disc openers and seed tubes.
4. Make sure the sprocket settings on the planter transmission are correct.
5. Check for worn chains, stiff chain links, and improper tire pressure.
6. Make sure seed drop tubes are clean and clear of any obstructions.
7. Clean seed tube sensors if you have a planter monitor.
8. Make sure coulters and disc openers are aligned properly.

9. With air planters, match the air pressure to the weight of the seed being planted

Now after you have checked over the planter and things are ready to go there, here are a few more things to remember:

Check soil temperatures.

They should be at least 55 to 60 degrees F at the 2 inch soil depth for 4 days in a row prior to planting. Soils in a conservation tillage system will be slightly cooler than conventional planting systems. Do not plant in wet soils as the planter coulters and press wheels can easily cause sidewall compaction and reduce early season root growth.

Plant seed at least 1.5 to 2 inches deep.

Planting shallower can easily reduce nodal root production and subject them to excess wetting/drying events, herbicide and insect injury and sidewall compaction problems. This condition can lead to "rootless corn" syndrome.

Plant slowly (3 to 5 mph).

Planting slowly improves depth control and seed placement. The best corn producers across the country insist that proper seed placement within the row is a key to successful high yield production. Slower planting improves singulation and individual seed placement and spacing in the row thus reducing intra-row competition. Based on studies from Purdue University, it appears that corn growers could improve grain yield anywhere from 4 to 12 bushels per acre if within-row spacing were improved to the best possible uniformity (depending on how bad the spacing variability was to begin with).

Starter fertilizer. Avoid placing starter fertilizer in direct contact with the seed if possible. If you are placing starter fertilizer with the

seed, be sure to use less than 10 lbs per acre of N and K combined. On the other hand, starter fertilizer applied in a band to the side of the seed or dribbled on the soil surface at planting time likely will help early corn growth. Here is a link to South Dakota State University for a spreadsheet to help make sure that you are not applying too much of a salt load to the seed.

www.plantsci.sdstate.edu

Weed control. Start clean, stay clean. Preplant or planting-time herbicides should provide adequate control during the critical stand-establishment phase. However, scouting is important here as well to maintain the stand and to protect potential yield. Keep an eye on your fields to make sure that rainfall was adequate to incorporate and activate the herbicide, and that it is performing as expected. Don't wait too long with follow-up treatments if necessary.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING ANY OF YOUR CROPPING NEEDS, OR YOU JUST WANT A SECOND OPINION; PLEASE FEEL FREE TO GIVE ME A CALL: 313-0518. I WOULD BE HAPPY TO MEET WITH YOU TO DISCUSS YOUR CROP PRODUCTION ISSUES AND DEVELOP A PLAN TO SOLVE THEM.





ALTA VISTA
BY DEB GLESSNER

COMING MID APRIL
FLOWERS, BEDDING PLANTS,
FLOWER HANGING BASKETS,
TOMATO & PEPPER PLANTS.

ALSO ~ CHECK OUT OUR LARGE SELECTION OF "OLDS" (LAND O' LAKES) FLOWER AND GARDEN SEED LOCATED AT AMPRIDE, ONAGA COOP, AND WESTMORELAND COOP.

Energy Department News
By Jerry Fenske



Many of you already know that the Manhattan Ampride store has been going through some changes in the last month. These changes are due to new laws and credit card security issues that are fast approaching all businesses that accept credit cards. A new register system was installed along with some of the updates that were needed to be compliant for the new regulations. Thank you to everyone for being patient and continuing to work with us to fix any bugs that we may be experiencing because of the new system. There are still several issues that we are working to solve in order to make your experience at Ampride the best that it can be. If anyone is still having problems getting a card to scan inside or outside, please contact me or let the clerk inside the store know what is going on. Thank you again for your loyalty and cooperation during this time.



Planting season is around the corner and now would be a great time to stock up on all your oil and lubricant needs. We continue to offer a wide selection of Cenex branded lubes and fuels. Please stop by the Manhattan elevator or give me a call and I would be glad to help you with all your energy department needs.



Stop by any of our locations to pick up your Sweet Corn Seed. We are now offering Peaches & Cream and Incredible in two sizes; 1 lb. and 4 oz. bags. Incredible Sweet Corn is an 85 day improved gourmet, yellow sweet corn with superb eating quality. Peaches & Cream is an 85 day popular sweet white and yellow sweet corn with excellent quality. Stop by and give them a try.

CROP PRODUCTION
BY KEN DIEHL

As I write this newsletter the sun is shining and the temperatures are on the rise. We are finally in the fields getting some work done, though we are having to work around the wet areas. I am seeing that some of you are able to begin applying ammonia, which is great. As I try to keep on top of the fertilizer situation I have heard that the Clay Center ammonia terminal is already facing supply problems, so please keep that in mind as we try to work through this trying spring planting season. As for the rest of the fertilizer market we will see a trend up in dry and liquid nitrogen prices as the producers in the Corn Belt try to decide what they will be using for a nitrogen, if any because they still have corn standing in the field.

Spring has sprung and as many of you have noticed the fields are greening up rather quickly with henbit, cheat and mustards. I know many of you are no tilling and wondering when we can get the burndown applied, my plan is to finish up the wheat as it is the most pressing issue then apply nitrogen on the corn ground, because the crop can go longer with a few weeds rather than no nitrogen, then climb all over the burndowns. We may need to change our formulations a little to compensate for shorter windows before we plant but I do not see a real problem with that.

It is also that time of the year to also think about our alfalfa and those little critters the alfalfa weevil. Please do not wait until the crop begins to turn white before thinking about a chemical application. I will be using a combination of Baythroid XL and Yuma, this is because most pyrethroids, which is what Baythroid

is, are weak on aphids and that is where the Yuma comes into play.

As always I truly appreciate your support and patience as we try to get through yet another interesting year.

WATTS BOX - BY JOHN WATTS

R7™ PLACEMENT STRATEGY

THE RIGHT GENETICS FOR
THE RIGHT SOIL TYPE AT
THE RIGHT PLANT POPULATION IN
THE RIGHT CROPPING SYSTEM WITH
THE RIGHT TRAITS FED
THE RIGHT PLANT NUTRITION DEFENDED WITH
THE RIGHT CROP PROTECTION

The R⁷ Placement strategy is a vital component of our agronomy and seed department. We might have the newest and greatest genetics in our seed portfolio, but if we do not place it correctly the results will be less than desired. We strive to make the BEST decisions for your operation. R⁷ is the foundation for which our seed recommendations start. If your crops performance is not measuring up—we challenge you to let us put R⁷ to work for you!

John Watts 785-313-1644

FOR SALE:

Model 5100, 6 row, 30" row, White Air Planter.

Check website for picture & info at www.manhattan.coop or call John at 313.1644 or Ken at 313.4880

Easy Brown Sugar Glazed Carrots

Carrots are cooked with brown sugar and butter, resulting in a sweet, flavorful brown sugar glaze.

Ingredients:

- 16 ounces baby carrots
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup water
- dash salt
- pepper, to taste

Preparation:

In a medium saucepan, combine the baby carrots with remaining ingredients. Stir to blend ingredients. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium and continue boiling (uncovered) for about 20 to 25 minutes, or until carrots are tender and the liquid has evaporated.