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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"***



FEED by Rod Bohn

We all remember the higher than usual price last winter for corn gluten pellets and distillers grain. The price for this winter is back to a more normal level. With lower prices available now, August and September is a good time to lock in a price for this winter's use. The fall of 2008 proved me wrong on this recommendation but most years the price tends to trend upward thru the winter months as usage goes up for the cattle feed.



For the week of July 27th, the contract price for corn gluten pellets is \$135/ton PLUS DELIVERY from the coop with the shipping period of October 1, 2009 to May 31, 2010. There is no money paid up front as the pellets will be billed when you ship them.

Prices change on a daily basis so it's hard to know when the lowest price has occurred, but you can lock in your price whenever you would like. I will be contacting you soon to discuss your rations for this fall.

**PASSING SCHOOL ZONE
TAKE IT SLOW
LET OUR LITTLE
SHAVERS GROW**

Burma Shave

**The whole purpose of
education is to turn
mirrors into windows.
~Sydney J. Harris**

Views from the Field

By Mike Thompson
 Agronomy Production Specialist /
 Certified Crop Advisor

Where has the summer gone? I can't believe that August is here; so far it has been a good growing season for most. Timely rains and cooler summer temps have been good to the crops around the area. I just want to take a few minutes to share some of the things that I am seeing in the crop fields in our area.

Corn: I will not go out on a limb and say that the corn is done, but it sure is close. Most of the corn is approaching the dough stage; early maturing varieties already have dented kernels. For those with irrigated corn, keep in mind that corn at the ½ starch line still needs two inches of available soil moisture to finish. With corn prices on the decline, an inch of water can still give you a return of around \$24/ac. Don't short yourself!

Keep in mind come harvest time that your corn crop has gone through a great deal of stress again this year. Early season diseases like crown rot and/or late season diseases like Grey Leaf Spot, Anthracnose and Diplodia Stalk Rots, as well as late season nitrogen deficiencies will all have an affect on how well your corn plant stands. Harvest in a timely manner!

Another thing to keep in mind as you begin harvest, give each field a score card. Keep track of how well specific hybrids did in your fields, how your herbicide programs worked, fertility issues, trouble spots in your fields. Did things work, what didn't work? Is that low yielding spot in your field getting worse? Maybe it is time to do some composite soil sampling or take that next step with a grid sample or Profit Z soil sampling program.

Soybeans: Plants are in the reproductive stages now. You should be able to find pods on your bean plants with ease, so can the insects. If you need to make a late season pass to clean up weeds, I would strongly suggest adding in an insecticide along with your herbicide. Now is the time when bean leaf beetles, stink bugs, and grass hoppers do the most damage to your crop's yield potential. By clipping pods off the plant, or sucking juices out of the pods and transmitting diseases, this type of damage can not be repaired. And for the cost of about a half bushel of beans, this may be the best return for your dollar that you have spent.

I have not seen much for disease in the bean fields, but now is the time that most of the yield limiting diseases start to show themselves. As the plant switches from vegetative to reproductive growth, higher air temps, decreasing rain chances, soybean cyst nematodes all cause stress to the plant. Diseases like brown stem rot, frog-eye leaf spot, phytophthora root rot, and sudden death will start to show up in your fields. Soybean rust appears to be isolated to the Gulf Coast region at this time.

Bean plants have a ways to go before they finish, I hope August is nice to the area like the previous months have been so that first crop and double crop soybeans can finish with a good yield potential.

Grain Sorghum: Grain sorghum plants in the area are starting to head out. I have seen fields with good weed control, and many others with less than desirable. You will want to keep an eye on field edges for grasshopper feeding as well as watching for corn leaf aphids on the grain heads. If you have grain sorghum on your farm, and harvesting on time is essential to you, or those pesky weeds are so large that they will interfere with harvest, consider an application of

glyphosate (used as a harvest aide) when the grain is in the late dough stage to help clean up the field, and to speed up crop dry down.

Alfalfa: Leaf hoppers have been a constant nuisance this year. Luckily there has been good moisture to help with the regrowth between cuttings. But one needs to keep an eye on that early regrowth for feeding damage on the leaves. The leaf hoppers can stunt regrowth quickly, robbing you of yield and quality. The economic threshold on leaf hoppers on 3 inch regrowth is less than one leaf hopper per net sweep. This may also be a good time to add a herbicide to take care of that late summer grass pressure or broadleaf weed pressure.

Don't forget about taking care of your weeds in the wheat stubble, and getting soil samples pulled before your start planting wheat. If you have any questions or concerns in your fields, or you just want a second opinion; please feel free to give me a call: 785.313.0518.

Grain Comments by Doug Biswell

How about that for a July to remember? Not very hot, timely rains, cool nights, and for those of you that had wheat - decent yields with the prospect of good yields for our fall crops. We certainly are setting up for a fall where finding a home for not only the crop growing in the field but also the tremendous amount of stored grain in the area may prove to be a challenge. It is difficult to believe how much this year's price action mirrors last year. We did not see the historic highs again in wheat corn and beans but the dramatic drop in price from the highs we saw a month and a half ago remind me of the price collapse we saw a year ago July 4th. The bean bubble burst as rumors of China selling back some domestic supplies as well as rolling some old crop purchases to new crop. The facts that that happen did not surprise me near as much as the timing of the break. I was figuring we had until the first part of August before we would see a big break. The corn market just keeps

grinding lower with the prospects of a large new crop. I don't see much hope for improvement in corn basis (both old and new). I believe we could see one last run on old bean basis but that really won't make much difference if in the mean time futures have gone down a dollar or more. For those of you that watch the market and are holding old beans the futures market is showing you what your risk is by holding old beans. As of 7/27 our cash price was \$9.90 and our new crop bid was \$8.30. The market has been "telling" you to sell your old beans for months as there has been a significant premium in the cash bid as compared to a new crop price. As I mentioned in last months newsletter we need to have a "sell a rally mentality" in corn and wheat. You have bushels out there - sell some. Thank you all for your continued business and as always if you have any questions please give me a call.

WATTS BOX
By John Watts

As we approach fall, the focus has switched to wheat. At the present, we have no pricing established from our suppliers. Please

go ahead and let us know what your seed wheat needs may be so we can secure supply to meet all of your needs.

We also have access to various cover crops; including radishes, king annual ryegrass, turnips, vetch, cowpeas, etc. These give good soil amending properties and some also fix nitrogen for spring crops. Let us know if you have questions on cover crops. If we can't answer them, I am confident we can find someone who will!

Thanks for all your support!



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 ~ AUGUST TIRE SPECIAL ~
 620 A B Yokohama Avid Touring S
 65,000 Mile Tire

(All prices include mounting, balancing, and disposal fees)

<u>SIZE</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
P185/65R14	\$ 78.78	P205/65R15	\$ 92.52	P215/60R15	\$ 92.95
P185/70R14	\$ 77.63	P205/70R15	\$ 89.02	P215/65R15	\$ 95.02
P185/65R15	\$ 83.60	P205/55R16	\$ 110.60	P215/70R15	\$ 90.55
P195/60R15	\$ 82.42	P205/60R16	\$ 97.15	P216/65R16	\$ 103.02
P195/65R15	\$ 87.32			P215/60R16	\$ 100.49
P195/70R14	\$ 79.25			P225/60R16	\$ 105.65

Patron Access - by Tony Hieger - We have Patron Access up and going on our website now. If you have not signed up for access yet you should consider. The patrons that have signed up and are using it really like it. This will allow our customers to login in and look at their account anytime they want concerning accounts receivable balances, grain balances, print off accounts receivable and grain tickets, volume statements, proof of yield, and equity balances. The first step is to go to our web site at www.manhattan.coop and on the left hand side of the screen click on the third title account login. This will bring up a new explorer that says welcome visitor. At this screen you may login if already have a login or click on new account request. On the new account request you will need to fill in all fields that have an * in front of it. Those fields are first and last name, address 1, city, state, zip, phone, e-mail address, re-type e-mail address, username, pass word, re-type password, challenge question, answer to challenge question, and a list of accounts you wish to access, after filling in all the blanks click on apply for an account. After you receive an e-mail confirmation that your account has been set up you can now login. Follow the same steps from before instead of click on new account request click on log in and type in your username and password. Remember log in and password is case sensitive. Once logged in, on the left hand side you will see welcome your name. Below your name are your options of home, logout, account information, maintain my account, proof of yield, grain balances, prepaid/booking contracts, volume statements, equity balances, comments/suggestions, and downloads. The home button will take you to this main page at any time. Logout is when you are done looking at your account information. Account information shows you your last payment date and amount, last statement balance, current balance, and you can print your statement off for any time period you want to. Maintain my account is maintaining the information you filled out on the new account request. Proof of yield printout outs show the tickets for fields that are set up in Agrax with the landlords or renters they are split with. Grain balances will show you grain that are in open storage, unpaid, and paid grain. Prepaid/Bookings contracts will show the prepaid balances. If only want current balances please make sure you only check open contracts. Volume statements can be printed off for a period of time that will show totals only for what you purchased. Examples would be totals for gas, diesel, chemical, fertilizer, corn sold, soybean sold, feed, and oil to name a few. Equity balance will show your equity in the coop by year and the total. Here at comments and suggestions you may contact us through the patron access. Downloads will be information and forms that we will upload to patron access in Pdf formant for patrons to download and use for their information or to fill out and send back to us. If you have any questions on anything please fill free to e-mail me at tony@manhattan.coop or call us at 785-776-9467.

AMPRIDE / ENERGY - by Chad Christiansen



OUR ENERGY COMES THROUGH

Stop by Ampride and meet our new store manager Amy Duncan. Our past manager Julie Schlegel left to continue her schooling at Washburn. Joe Patton has also left to continue his college career – Good Luck Julie and Joe – We'll Miss You Both!

As we all know, harvest will be upon us before we know it. The last thing anyone needs is downtime due to equipment problems. Let us help you care for your equipment by using high quality Cenex lubricants, starting with Super TMS + 15W-40 and Quiklift HTB. These products are so reliable; their usage makes you eligible for participation in the Total Maintenance System (TMS) warranty program, an insurance policy on your tractors and combines for up to 10 years/ 10,000 hours. This program is unmatched in the industry, and covers your equipment beyond the time frame of any manufacturer's warranty. **You don't void any existing warranties by switching products to the Cenex line.** Don't miss out on the peace of mind of having your valuable equipment covered with the best warranty in the country. RFD will also give peace of mind during harvest with automated delivery, long days that run into night means forgetting to call for fuel, let us put a monitor in your fuel tank and you never have to worry about calling to bring fuel. Call me for more information @785.313.0532.

SAFETY – by Jeff Eubanks

Safe Phone Use - Your cell phone policy should cover the following safe phone use issues:



- Use a head set while driving or pull over to use a hand-held cell phone.
- Make sure that the phone is kept where it is easy to see and easy to reach.
- Plan any calls you will need to make before you begin to drive. Enter numbers into your speed-dialing feature.
- When dialing manually without the speed-dialing feature, dial only when the vehicle is stopped.
- Avoid placing calls while moving. If possible, make your calls when stopped at a stop sign, red light, or when you are otherwise stationary.
- If possible, ask a passenger to make the call for you or at least dial the number for you.
- Never take notes or look up phone numbers while driving.
- Suspend a conversation during hazardous circumstances—for example, in heavy traffic, when maneuvering around a hazard, or in severe weather conditions.
- While talking, keep your head up and your eyes on the road and frequently check the side and rearview mirrors.
- Let voice mail pick up your calls when it is inconvenient or unsafe to answer the cell phone.

Fair Participates – CONGRATULATIONS – Good Luck @ STATE!

Quick, Easy, and Healthy After-School Snacks: Are your children starving and asking for snacks after school? It may be quick and easy to pull out a bag of chips or cookies for them to munch on, but it isn't good for your children's health. Listed are healthy after-school snacks, requiring little time and effort, that your children will actually enjoy.

Brown Rice cakes (unsalted or lightly salted): • Spread with natural peanut butter. • Top with reduced-fat natural cheese and/or lean meat.

Fruit and Vegetables: • Make them easy to grab: Cut, chop, or slice fresh fruit and vegetables in advance and store in the refrigerator in easily accessible containers; store grapes in a large, open bowl in the fridge.

Baked Tortilla Chips and Salsa: • Consider serving low-fat refried or whole beans in addition to salsa.
• If you have time, make nachos by adding extras like melted reduced-fat cheese, diced tomatoes, green peppers, onion, low-fat sour cream, and guacamole.

Whole Grain, Low-fat Crackers: • Serve with reduced-fat natural cheese and/or lean meat. If using packaged meat, choose "natural" or "nitrite-free" varieties with minimal processing and preservatives. • Spread with natural peanut butter or reduced-fat cream cheese.

Whole Wheat Miniature Bagels: • Top with reduced-fat natural cheese and/or lean meat.
• Spread with jam, natural peanut butter, or plain or flavored reduced-fat cream cheese.
• To add texture, toast the bagel. • If you have time, make miniature pizzas: Toast bagels first to prevent sogginess, then add spaghetti or pizza sauce, reduced-fat cheese, and toppings and bake briefly.

Air-popped Popcorn or Low-fat Microwave Popcorn: • Air-popped popcorn is the best and most tasty choice. Serve it plain or sprinkled with garlic powder, parmesan cheese, or other salt-free seasoning.

Unsweetened Whole Grain Cereal and Low-fat Milk: • Top with fresh fruit, blueberries, bananas, or strawberries.

Reduced-fat or light String Cheese: • This is a good source of protein and calcium. Try serving with fruit, vegetables, popcorn, or whole grain crackers.

Fruit and Yogurt Smoothie: • You have many options, so be creative and get your kids involved! Use low-fat vanilla or fruit-flavored yogurt as the base. Blend in fresh or unsweetened frozen fruit. Throw in ice cubes, if needed, to reach the desired consistency. • You can add a splash of low-fat milk or 100% fruit juice, depending upon the desired flavor and consistency.