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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"***

**FUEL DEPARTMENT
by Chad Christiansen**

Well we have seen quite a swing in crude oil this month so far, and as of right now we are hovering at the \$70 mark. Seems the energy markets are steadily trending with the value of the dollar, and other economic headlines. June, July, and August contracts should be shaping up to be attractive.

It looks like several refineries have increased the prices on their base oils, which may cause our lubes provider



Cenex to announce an increase; as base oils make up to 90% of lube oil. This would be as good time as any to check into bulk oil, we are setting totes from Onaga to Alta Vista and all around and in between. Contact Chad at 785.313.0532.

RFD is still growing and there have been discussions about placing a truck in the Topeka area to service our NE trade territory more efficiently. Call today and free up some capitol by only paying for the fuel you use. This feature came in very handy when we got as much rain as we had and were unable to get into the field. Don't worry about calling for fuel, we will be there for you before your empty.



**IN OBSERVANCE OF
INDEPENDENCE DAY
and TO ALLOW OUR
EMPLOYEES TO SPEND TIME
WITH THEIR FAMILIES
WE WILL BE CLOSED
FRI, JULY 3rd & Sat. July 4th**



CPA - by Tony Hieger

Wheat harvest is upon us once again. During the day is a busy time for all of us. If at night when you are going through your tickets and you think you missed placed one or you want to see what your total bushels are. The easiest way is to go online and look up all your transactions. There is a link on our web site at www.manhattan.coop to request a user name and password to access only your Coop account. This should be beneficial to our customers needing to look up, print sales, or grain tickets. If you have any questions about Patron Access or need help getting started please feel free to contact us. Thank you for your patronage and continued business.



Next scheduled stop

Farmers Coop
3384 Excel Rd., Manhattan

Friday, July 24th

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

We at Farmers Coop want to say THANKS for supporting the fish sells – a portion of these sells go to the Coop.

FOR SALE: Fish Food inquire at the Coop.

Grain Comments by Doug Biswell

Well the weather certainly changed in a hurry during the month of June. With plenty of moisture and warm conditions the prospects for another good corn and bean crop in the United States has weighed on the grain markets. I have been doing this type of work for a long enough period of time that nothing should surprise me, but grain trading is not just about fundamental supply demand factors. It seems that less and less of what happens in the grain pit has to do with those factors. Energy prices, values of world currencies, geopolitical issues, have become the factors on which the grain trade focuses. It is a world economy and there is no changing that fact. With volatility comes opportunity as long as one is willing to act on the opportunities provided. For those of you that carry revenue coverage type crop insurances the opportunities may be more readily acted upon. If you have any questions on how to make your crop insurance work in to a marketing plan, stop by my office or give me a call and I will come out and visit with you. If you buy crop insurance you should put that insurance to work. I feel that we will still have a couple of opportunities through the summer to get corn and beans priced at

levels higher than where we currently sit. With the growing conditions we have had and the fact that it is July, we ought to be in a sell rallies mode. The wheat market has taken a hit in the last couple of weeks. Initial yield reports in Kansas have been better than expected with high test weights and low proteins. There has been very little cash wheat movement in the country so far. This fact bodes well for basis improvement. Thanks for your continued business, I appreciate the opportunity to merchandize your grain.

Farm Store

Are Bugs biting? **BITE** back!



Merit Granular (by Bayer) is the longest lasting broad - spectrum **grub** control product on the market. Both curative & preventative, Merit Granules holds a ten-year record of 90% effectiveness on virtually every species of turf and ornamental pests. Merit even improves the quality of your turf. Apply Merit .05 on most grasses, trees, shrubs, flowers, groundcovers. Also, ask about our Lawn Insect Granular killer available, also for use on most grasses, shrubs, flowers, and groundcover. While here, check out our full line of fly control. QuickBayt has been our best seller. Wasp and Hornet spray also available. Now is a good time to apply copper sulfate in your ponds to control most species of algae. Only treat ¼ of the pond area at a time. Please read instructions before application. Also, Killzall Aquatic Herbicide applied in lakes, rivers, streams, and ponds kills grasses, various woody brush and tree species.

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64" X 7,000 AND 67" X 7,000

- ~ Edge to Edge: Improves the performance of the net, allowing it to spread the entire width of the bale - every time. The orange and white stripes indicate the left/right sides of the roll for quick identification when loading the roll of material and unrolling the hay bale.
- ~ Red Color Alert: Warns operator before roll runs out.
- ~ Reduced leaf loss.
- ~ More bales wrapped per roll - faster.
- ~ Reduced wear and tear on equipment.
- ~ Tight, secure, full width wrapping resulting in a neater, more easily transportable bale.

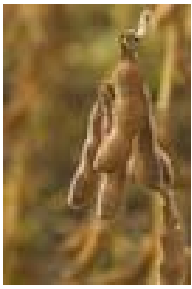
CROP PRODUCTION BY KEN DIEHL

Once again it is summer time and the weather is proving it. Yet with this heat we have an ample amount of moisture which is making for great growing conditions for all the row crops not to mention the weeds. Weather has been a great challenge again this year trying to accomplish all of our work in a short period of time, (spraying, haying and wheat cutting).



At this time 98% of the corn has been posted which is good because of its growth rate over the last three weeks. This rapid growth rate is great in terms of canopy and ground cover but leaves something to be desired in stalk strength. I have taken some phone calls on green snap in corn in the last seven days, this is due to the fact the corn is growing so rapidly the stalk becomes brittle and a big wind event like we had Saturday June 20th snaps off the weakest plants. This is not due to the genetics of the plant just the environment it has to grow in.

The bean crop has really taken off as of late as well as the weed



species. This first spraying, depending on whether they had worked the ground or had some sort of burn down with a residual on, we are looking at using some larger rates to kill big

weeds since growing conditions are good and the weeds are really sucking in the chemical. One thing a producer who is spraying his own acres might look at is adding 2 – 4 ounces of Superb HC crop oil to the mix. This will aid in cutting through the hair on the leaf surface of the larger velvetleaf as well as the waxy layer on the waterhemp plus give a little better sticking power to the leaf surface. Two weeks ago we had several calls on the Bean Leaf beetle, early in a bean plants life this insect can clip off the cotyledons and end the bean plants life. The economic threshold is 1 cotyledon clipped per foot of row or 40 – 50% defoliation. The fields I looked at never really reached these levels so there where very few recommendations on spraying. Now this inset can really be a problem during pod set, it will clip off pods or feed on them, we will be recommending that those beans that will need a second application of Roundup adding an insecticide (Baythroid, Grizzly, Yuma) to the mix to help control these pests and lower our risk.

I would like thank everyone for their patience this year as we try to cover as many acres as possible in the short amount of time that mother nature allows us. Once again always plan for success it will serve you better in the end.

SAFETY DIRECTOR
By Jeff Eubanks

Lightning & lightning safety...

In the United States, an estimated 25 million cloud to ground lightning flashes each year. While lightning can be fascinating to watch it is also extremely dangerous. Each one of those 25 million flashes is a potential killer. Based on date for the last 30 years (1979 to 2008) lightning has killed more than 1700 people in the United States an average of 58 people per year based on documented cases. This is more than the average number of deaths per year caused by tornadoes or hurricanes. However, because lightning usually



claims only one or two victims at a time and because lightning does not cause the mass destruction left in the wake of tornadoes or hurricanes, lightning generally receives much less attention than the more destructive storm related killers. Documented lightning injuries in the United States average about 300 per year. However undocumented injuries caused by lightning are likely much higher.

So far in 2009 at least 15 people have been killed by lightning nationwide. Already in June at least 11 fatalities have occurred. In 2008, 28 people died as a result of lightning strikes all were outdoors and about 80% were males. In addition about a third was involved in water related activities and about a third was under or near trees that were struck. While many people think they are aware of the dangers of lightning the vast majority are not. This lack of understanding continues to be a significant problem in the United States. Many people don't act to protect their lives, their property, and the lives of others in a timely manner simply because they don't understand all the dangers associated with thunderstorms and lightning. This lack of knowledge can lead to very tragic consequences.

Education and awareness are keys to reducing the number of people struck by lightning. People need to be aware of the activities and behavior that put them at a greater risk of being struck by lightning and find out what they can do to reduce that risk. Adults in charge of outdoor activities and events particularly those that involve children should have and follow a specific lightning safety plan so that they minimize the dangers of lightning for the participants and the spectators.

The greatest number of lightning deaths and injuries in the United States occurs during the summer months when the combination of lightning and outdoor summertime activities reaches a peak. During the summer people take advantage of the warm weather to enjoy a multitude of outdoor recreational activities. Unfortunately those outdoor recreational activities put them at greater risk of being struck by lightning.

While virtually all people take some protective actions during the most dangerous part of thunderstorms many leave themselves vulnerable to being struck by lightning as thunderstorms approach, depart, or are nearby. Lightning can strike as much as 10 miles or more away from the rain area of a

thunderstorm that is about the distance that you can hear the thunder from the storm. In some instances when a storm is ten miles away it may even be difficult to tell that a storm is nearby. However, if you hear the thunder, chances are that you are within striking distance of that storm.

Remember when thunder roars, go indoors, inside homes people must avoid activities which put their lives at risk from a possible lightning strike. In particular people should avoid contact with anything that conducts electricity and stay away from windows and doors. People may also want to take certain actions well before the storm threatens in order to protect property within their homes such as sensitive electronic equipment.

Finally, in the unfortunate event that a person is struck by lightning, medical care may be needed immediately to save that persons life. Cardiac arrest and irregularities and nerve damage are common in cases where people are struck by lightning. However, with proper treatment including CPR, if necessary, most victims survive a lightning strike although the long term effects on their lives and the lives of family members can be devastating.

Lightning fact for the day most lightning deaths occur during the summer months and during the late afternoon and evening. These are the times when lightning is most likely to occur and when people are more likely to be caught out of doors.

Lightning question of the day
- what are some of the physical characteristics of lightning.
Answer - lightning is a giant spark of electricity.



A typical lightning flash contains about 20000 amps and several hundred million volts. This compares to a standard household current of 15 amps and about 115 volts. Typically a lightning flash is only 1 to 2 inches wide. The step Leader that initiates the lightning flash propagates downward from the cloud at a rate of about 320000 feet per second or about 200000 miles per hour. The return stroke, the discharge, that cause the visible flash moves upward at a speed of about 320000000 feet per second or about 200000000 miles per hour about 1/3 the speed of light) in comparison the sound of thunder travels at about 1100 feet per second or about 750 miles per hour.

Watts Box – by John Watts

Double Crop Options:

As wheat harvest is in full swing, now is a great time to consider some options for double-cropping those wheat acres. Here are a few options.

Soybeans—we have a great supply of soybeans, both RR and RR/STS, which will have some additional discounts for double crop. With the strong soybean market, there is a good potential for generating some additional revenue from those acres.

Forages—this is a great way to have additional feed supply for those hungry critters. We have both BMR (brown-mid rib) and standard varieties. From multi cut sorghum sudans for grazing or haying, to one cut forage sorghums, we can supply you with the best options for your operation.

Cover crops—we can access a wide range of products to use for cover crops to provide nitrogen fixation, soil amending properties, to even some combinations of these with additional grazing opportunities. These products include King Annual Ryegrass, Adios forage radishes, hairy vetch, cowpeas, etc. if anyone is interested in any of these options, please contact Mike, Chad, Ken, or myself.

Be on the lookout for upcoming events at the Wamego/Manhattan Answer plot east of Kan-Equip. we will be having tours through out the summer to showcase genetic, technologies, and vital agronomic practices for your farm. Not only are corn and soybeans represented, we also have a wide range of forages, grass pasture mixes, alfalfa, turf grasses, wildlife food plots, cover crop demos, and sunflowers to name a few. Again, if you are interested in seeing what we offer at the Answer Plot, please don't hesitate to contact us to set up an individual tour.

For more info go to www.answerplot.com

Click on the TOUR ANSWERPLOT.COM link at the upper right hand part of the page and when the page refreshes—just click on the SIGN UP NOW button to register and allow you to see all the Answer Plots have to offer!

Thanks for all your support!

John Watts 785-313-1644

john@manhattan.coop



On July 4, 1776, we claimed our independence from Britain and Democracy was born. Every day thousands leave their homeland to come to the "land of the free and the home of the brave" so they can begin their American Dream.

The United States is truly a diverse nation made up of dynamic people. Each year on July 4, Americans celebrate that freedom and independence with barbecues, picnics, and family gatherings. To all, have a Safe and Joyous Fourth of July. Happy Birthday, America.



"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands. One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

FARMERS COOPERATION ASSOCIATION WESTMORELAND, KS

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LT 235 / 85 R 16		10	\$ 132.83
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LT 265 / 75 R 16		10	\$ 150.35
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Tires are not in stock, Allow 2-3 days for delivery