



Ampride - Alta Vista - Manhattan - Onaga - Westmoreland
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MAY
2012

www.manhattan.coop

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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"**

**FREE BASIC CAR
 MAINTENANCE CLASS**

**SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2012
 AT 1:00 P.M.**

**FARMERS COOPERATIVE
 CENEX STATION
 203 S HWY 99, WESTMORELAND**

**RSVP BY 5:30 P.M. ON FRIDAY,
 MAY 4TH, BY CALLING
 785-457-3671 OR 316-304-4924 AND
 ASK FOR JEFF**

INFORMATION TO BE COVERED:

- 1. HOW TO CHANGE A TIRE**
- 2. HOW TO CHECK YOUR FLUIDS**
- 3. HOW TO FILL UP YOUR FUEL TANK (PREPAY & PAY AT THE PUMP)**
- 4. HOW TO JUMP START A CAR**
- 5. HOW TO CHECK YOUR CARS TIRE PRESSURE**
- 6. REVIEW MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE**

ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!!!

CUTWORMS!!

By Craig Miller

With all the talk about cutworms heading our direction, I was not surprised to find some in corn fields between Wheaton and Onaga. I was a little surprised to find them on top of the ground in the afternoon with the temperatures in the high 90's. I found some cutworms, some cut plants and many plants showing signs of cutworms.

The best time to check for cutworms is first thing in the morning. Then the cutworms are on top of or closer to the surface, as the temperature increases the cutworms go deeper in the soil and are a lot harder to find. If a cutworm eats a corn plant below the growing point, that plant is dead, period. If he cuts it above the growing point the plant will look like it has had a haircut from Dave Stover's barber, or if the cutworm is small enough and the corn plant is big enough, he will bore through the plant and when the

leaves emerge and unroll it will leave a line of holes in the leaves. Depending on the cutworm variety you have in your field, there can be many generations before your crop is too big to be effected.

Some seed corn varieties have traits that help control cutworms and these help a lot, but the problem arises from the fact the cutworm must eat the corn plant to receive a lethal dose and if the plants are small and the cutworm is big it may take several plants before he receives a lethal dose. If you have thousands of them in your field you can see the problem with your stand.

Even though having cutworms is not good, it could be worse. Cutworms are fairly easy to control and most people have not posted their corn yet and can add a chemical to control them to their post chemical program.

So I would suggest keeping a close eye on your field or giving us a call to look at it. Chemical control options will cost around \$4 to \$6 per acre and provide 2 weeks or more of control.

**Onaga News
 By Brent Beck**

Construction began in early April for the new 300,000 bushel grain bin at the Onaga location. The beginning dirt work is complete, footings dug, and rebar is being tied for the concrete footings to be poured. It will be exciting to watch as another bin is erected. Everything to this point is on track to be able to utilize this new grain storage space by this fall harvest.

At Onaga, we are current on our fertilizer and chemical applications and are progressively out pursuing new business. **Give us a call to schedule your application needs.**

Repairs have been recently made to the pumps at the self-serve fuel station in downtown Onaga. Hopefully, we can improve the service that you as a customer expect and deserve at our self serve fuel pumps.

Onaga News (cont.)

Grain prices have remained strong to this point, especially soybeans. We might be experiencing an excellent opportunity to lock in a good profit margin by forward contracting a portion of your 2012 soybean production.

Remember....Action may not always bring success...but there is little success without action!! Stop in and visit with us about your agriculture needs, we look forward to seeing you!!

Stover's Story By Dave Stover

As I am writing this, we are planting our last corn test plot in the area. It has been a very friendly planting time this spring. I would guess our trade area is probably two-thirds done with corn planting and some have started with soybeans.

I would like to thank all of the seed customers for their business and also the sales folks and branch employees that help make it all work.

I have written about the R7 placement strategy in previous months and this time I would like to talk about the Right Traits portion of the placement strategy. There are several categories of traits.

- First off, there are herbicide resistance traits, like Roundup Ready and Liberty Link. They are fairly straight forward.
- The next category I would call the insect resistant category. This would include the Bt, Herculex, Viptera, and

combinations of those traits. Some are for specific insects or classes of insects. Others have combinations of different traits that enhance the effectiveness on insects.

- The last category is end use traits. Those are crops planted for a specific purpose, like ethanol production, high oil or white corn, etc.

If you have read Craig Miller's article in this issue, you saw that he has seen some cut worms in the area. Certain traits will help with control of cutworms, but if there is a large amount of cutworms, they can cause damage before they get a lethal dose of the product. With the winter we have had, and the moth flights that have been observed, it would be worth it to address this before you spray the corn.

Grain Comments By Doug Biswell

Anyone in our business who wonders whether or not 800 million bushel of corn available to the market on September 1, 2012 is tight – they just need to look to the USDA and private analysts forecast (HOPE) that there is going to be in the neighborhood of 1 billion bushel of new corn available through the month of September. Counting on an early 2012 harvest in the U.S. when it is April certainly is an attention getter. I am not suggesting that it will not happen, but if it does not, there will be fireworks in August and September as end users try to source corn that does not exist in a yet

usable form. That being said, the prospect of early corn and a significant increase in feeding wheat has put a lid on corn price. A year ago the average future price for corn through the month of April was fully \$1 higher than this year's futures price, this in spite of a much tighter current supply situation.

The soybean market is facing the same old crop short supply situation. South American production has been disappointing due to a continuing drought, and just recently a freeze which effected some later beans and corn. Even with the higher futures prices, demand from Asia has not slowed.

Now for a bit on new crop; the U.S. has made very good progress planting the 2012 crop. It does not take long to plant a crop and the weather has been cooperative. Although there is no correlation between an early planted crop and yields, traders tend to view crop potential more favorable the earlier the crop gets planted and growing. That said there will be opportunities this year to get some new crop sales on the books. Beans certainly are providing that opportunity today. We have been near \$13 for new crop beans a couple of times recently. For those of you that carry crop insurance take a look at what your insurance guarantees. The February average of November futures was \$12.55, the only way to guarantee that price is to sell cash bushels. As always if you have any questions or comments – feel free to give me a call.

Cattle Mineral Sale

SALE ENDS MAY 15, 2012

Receive \$.50 per bag discount (\$20/ton) on qualified cattle minerals. **Purchase 1 ton or more and receive an additional \$20/ton volume discount.** Qualifying minerals include Purina Wind & Rain, LOL Pro Phos, and local mixed Cattle Minerals. Custom minerals do not qualify. Delivery Cost is added to the following prices. Some example prices of our best sellers are:

	Regular price/bag	Promotion price/bag	1 ton + price/bag
Wind & Rain Hi Mag 4% Phos	\$18.25	\$17.75	\$17.25
Wind & Rain 7% Phos With CTC 2800G/IGR Fly Control	\$24.50	\$24.00	\$23.50
All other Purina Wind & Rain mineral qualify for discounts.			
Pro Phos 8% Phos AU 5600	\$21.10	\$20.60	\$20.10
Pro Phos 12% Phos AU 3500	\$23.75	\$23.25	\$22.75
All other LOL Pro Phos minerals qualify for discounts.			
Cattle Mineral 8% Phos AU 5600	\$18.75	\$18.25	\$17.75
Cattle Mineral 8% Phos AU 3500	\$17.35	\$16.85	\$16.35
Cattle Mineral 12% Phos AU 3500	\$20.50	\$20.00	\$19.50

Some other local mix Cattle Minerals qualify for discounts.