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LOCATIONS AT:

Alton	Corinth	Mankato
Bellaire	Downs	Osborne
Bloomington	Lebanon	Portis
Burr Oak	Luray	Waldo

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Newsletter

September 2023

Manager's comments

by Craig Mans

As I am writing this, we are in the middle of a 5 day stretch with temperatures over 100 and no rain in the forecast. Some of our territory is looking at multiple poor harvests in a row.

Our new seed plant in Luray was completed in time for the spring run this year. The added seed storage has already helped alleviate some storage issues at our other seed treatment facilities and we are excited to better serve you. The additional grain bin at Burr Oak should be completed in time for harvest. This is a second 157,000-bushel steel bin. We are also still working to get the additional dry fertilizer storage completed at Burr Oak. In addition to the Burr Oak dry fertilizer storage, a new dry fertilizer plant will be coming to Osborne in the coming months. Our current plant in Osborne has exceeded its life expectancy and is needing replaced. The new fertilizer storage plant will be about 2.5 times bigger than the storage currently in Osborne and will feature increased loading and unloading times.

We are 5 months into our new fiscal year and earnings are strong. In Fiscal Year 2023, we received a record amount of regional patronage of \$5.2 million dollars. The regional patronage that we receive from them goes directly to our earnings which are then passed on to you. Once again, this year our regional cooperatives are performing exceptionally, and we project our regional patronage to be like last year.

Since our last newsletter, patronage checks went out in the middle of June and totaled over \$4.1 million in cash. The total patronage allocation was \$8.2 million with 50% paid out in cash and the other 50% was added to your Midway Coop Equity.

We have been trying to do a better job of promoting our local community support. Getting publicity is not the goal but is another way to show what we mean to the communi-

ties we serve. Our mission statement is "To serve our communities with a financially sound, professionally managed cooperative offering quality products and services at competitive prices." This year we once again supported our local county fair premium auctions with over \$49,000! We will continue to manage Midway Coop as efficiently as possible, offer the services that you need and return money back to you in the form of patronage. Thank you for your continued business and I wish you a safe and bountiful harvest.

MIDWAY DONATIONS

Midway Co-op in conjunction with Land O'Lakes donated a total of **\$4,000.00** to the Smith Center Fire Department.

Midway Co-op in conjunction with Land O'Lakes donated a total of **\$4,000.00** to the Lebanon Fire Department.

Midway Co-op in conjunction with Land O'Lakes donated a total of **\$4,000.00** to the Downs Ministerial Association for the food bank.

Midway also once again supported local county fair premium auctions with over **\$49,000!!**

Agronomy

by Ron Reneberg

This Spring/Summer growing season seems to be a story of two or more years wrapped up in one. Continued drought with cooler than needed early weather, then some moisture followed by extreme heat with a later than anticipated wheat harvest, followed by cool and wetter weather and then a late summer heat blast. Wow.....mother nature sure seems to be testing us, but when you think about it that's what we seem to always get in North Central Kansas....."Extreme Weather".

• See agronomy page 2

• agronomy Continued from Page 1

I want to take this time to introduce to you our New Sales Agronomist to the Midway Coop Team, Skyler Hager a seasoned veteran with more than 12 years working with producers growing crops in North Central KS who is from the Jewell KS area. Currently he is working Osborne north to Burr Oak and Lebanon areas.

If you have been by our Luray Crop Production facility this spring /summer you will have noticed all the new construction work done on a new seed cleaning and treating facility. This new plant is "state of the art" and will keep our Patrons at the cutting edge of technology and agronomic production management well into the future. Plan on stopping in and talking to Joe and Jennifer and discussing how this new facility can better serve you.

Crops are holding on or gone already in some cases and weeds seem to be growing extremely well over our entire territory. Our applicators seem to have been running non-stop all year long applying crop protection products and fertilizers. Fertilizer prices have reset for the summer/early fall time frame but higher interest rates and continued unrest with the Russian/Ukraine war is keeping manufacturers tight on inventories, so we expect continued fluctuation on pricing this winter.

In closing I want to thank each and every one of our customers for their continued support of Midway Coop, Inc. and its Employees. It is because of you that we are able to supply your Agronomic supply needs when you need them, with up to date equipment and expertise. Have a SAFE fall drilling and harvest season.

Grain Department

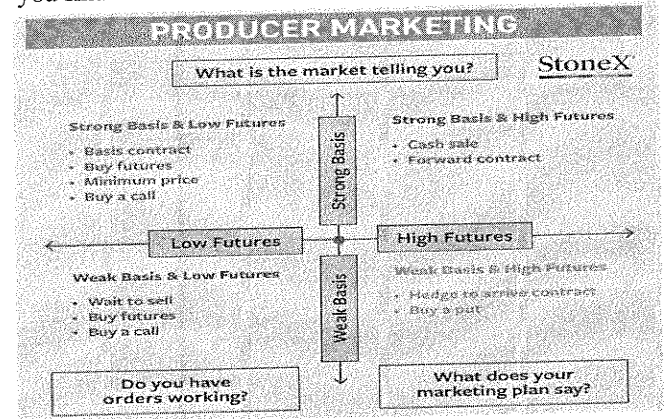
By: Cullen Rinier

The 2023 wheat harvest left a lot to be desired. Due to the drought, Midway Co-op took in 1.2 million bushels of wheat this year. Which was the fewest harvest receipts on record at Midway Coop. Currently, we have purchased 55% of the crop. Although, we have seen the wheat price fall since June, prices remain solid compared to historical values.

Fall harvest isn't looking over promising either. Due to the hot temperatures and lack of rain in many parts of our territory, it looks like yields will be below average again this year. Some areas are certainly more stressed than others. With the room we are making by shipping out grain, we are positioned to handle this fall's crop with minimal amounts of bushels being piled on the ground. Hopefully, much needed rain finds our territory to relieve some of the stress our crops are under. We are looking forward to what this fall will bring and hopefully harvest will be better than we are anticipating.

The markets have certainly back pedaled over the past month or so. Some of the biggest reasons we have seen these dips in the markets are due to the fact the U.S. has planted a

huge amount of corn acres this year and the crop conditions in the corn belt all in all are pretty good. With the lack of wheat exports, we have also seen the wheat price tumble. Over the past 2 years, we have seen the markets as volatile as ever and marketing grain during these times can be challenging. Below, I have included a chart that can be useful in navigating many types of marketing environments. I hope you find this chart beneficial.



If you have grain stored on the farm and are looking to sell, please give us a call for a bid. You can contact any of our locations or the General Office at 785-346-5451. We will be glad to help you market this grain. Thank you for your loyalty to Midway Coop.

In Conclusion, as you are getting your fields ready for wheat planting, please take advantage of our seed cleaning and treating plants at Portis and Lebanon. They will clean your seed and can also apply fungicide, insecticide, and a growth promoter to help you achieve the best results for your farming operation. This in turn will add to your bottom line. Give them a call and they will answer any questions that you may have and be happy to schedule an appointment for you, be sure to ask them about their bundling program. Here are the telephone numbers for each location: Lebanon 785-389-5311 and Portis 785-346-2021

Financing and Crop Insurance Updates

by Eric Mans

With the 2023 wheat harvest in the books and row crop harvest quickly approaching its already time to start preparing for the 2024 crop. With the high interest rate environment that we are currently in it's more important than ever to make sure you're getting the correct financing for your operation. Midway once again offers our CFA crop input financing program along with Winfield's Secure financing program. Both of these programs offer competitive rates with an easy application process. For more information on CFA and Secure or to apply contact your local fieldman or myself.

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• updates

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On the crop insurance side for the 2023 wheat crop producer's base insurance price was \$8.79 with the harvest price being set at \$8.20. The 2023 crop insurance base price for wheat is currently being set. About halfway through the discovery period (August 15th - September 15th) this year the price is averaging \$7.41. The deadline to make changes to your wheat policy is September 30th so I encourage everyone to evaluate their coverage level to best take advantage of your crop insurance options. Some other crop insurance dates to be aware of for 2023 wheat crop, the **final plant date is October 31st** for wheat in Osborne, Mitchell, Jewell, Lincoln, and Russell Counties and the **final plant date for wheat in Smith and Rooks Counties is October 20th**. The acreage reporting deadline for wheat is December 15th.

For our row crops the base price was set from February 1st through February 28th and was as follows: Corn \$5.91, Soybeans \$13.76 and Grain Sorghum \$5.84. The Harvest Price for these crops are all set from October 1st through October 31st. If you have any questions or want to discuss any of your financing or crop insurance needs stop by the General Office in Osborne, or give me a call at 785-346-5451, or on my cell at 785-346-4654.

Seed Wheat Treatments Insuring a Costly Input

by Jeff Hammer

Wheat treating and cleaning time is upon us and Seed Wheat, like 2022, is a rather costly input in 2023. Certified seed costs around \$24/bu. and will be in tight supplies so treating certified or saved seed will be of the highest priority. Consider that if you are talking about new certified treated seed drilled at 100 lbs./ac. you are near \$50/ac. for seed costs, so ensuring a quality stand will be more important than ever.

Smut still has potential every year to show up in untreated seed fields. Head Scab has had some history here in the past as well, and with some stressed corn that may be chopped for silage or picked early, those acres seeded back to wheat will be of primary concern. Scab can occur even with a seed applied treatment because infection occurs at pollination. However, if you have some scab in your seed wheat the disease level will always be worse in untreated seed. When you couple these pathogens with the defense against Pythium-borne diseases, including Septoria; saving \$2-3/ac simply isn't worth the risk of having rejected wheat loads at harvest time plus treated wheat simply yields better. Midway Co-op's cleaning locations at Portis and Lebanon will be applying **Warden Cereals II** at 2.8 oz./cwt. which has a 3rd added mode of action Sedaxane to an already outstanding wheat treatment.

The #1 reason to apply insecticide is the increasing pressure from Barely Yellow Dwarf Virus which can be suppressed by keeping aphid numbers down. With only around 4% of the aphid population that vectors the disease, if you can keep the numbers down it will help suppress the disease. Insecticides also control wireworms and have systemic activity on grasshoppers, not to mention there is an added vigor effect from Imidacloprid. Bayer Crop Science did a 5-yr trial at different sites with Gaucho Insecticide and had a 4.4 bu./ac. average response. Also, growers should consider an insecticide to slow down grasshopper feeding this fall on emerging wheat, especially on no-till continuous acres. We get systemic activity for 21-28 days and with grasshopper pressure likely until middle October, early planted wheat may be subject to damage as the grasshoppers move out of other senescing crops.

Midway Co-op's Portis & Lebanon Cleaning facilities can custom apply **Resonate (generic gaucho) Insecticide** at a rate of 1.0 oz./bushel. This is 2X the minimum rate for aphid suppression. Be sure to compare rates when comparing prices. We can also apply insecticide & fungicide through our bulk facility at Lebanon on newly purchased seed wheat & with our portable treater at other locations.

I want to also remind growers of Ascend Growth Regulator. Ascend is a 3-way blend of Kinetins, Gibberellic Acid, & Indole butyric Acid. These growth regulators promote cell division and differentiation resulting in earlier stand establishment. The biggest benefits come below the ground where root growth will be enhanced giving us more ability to buffer moisture stress in the fall and early spring. Growth regulators can help get the seedlings out of the ground quicker and more uniformly. We have a bundling discount of up to \$0.50/bu. if you bundle all 3 treatments on saved and certified seed.

Wheat potential yield is established early in the growing season by virtue of stand and tillers. Protect your potential by protecting and feeding your seed! For more information on Warden Cereals, Resonate, and Ascend: Call Jeff (785-346-6487); Joe (785-345-3330); Wyatt (785-282-4165); Tanner (785-412-0165); or Skyler (785-534-9278). For cleaning scheduling contact: @Portis (785-346-2021) @Lebanon (785-389-5311). Thanks for your business.

Wheat Fertility

by Tanner Gasper

It has been a tough summer for most growers and many of the fall crops will be below average for the second year around our southern region. As discouraging as that is, wheat planting is just around the corner, and we still need to plan for success coming into our next crop. A good fertility plan can lay the base for a successful harvest next summer.

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• wheat

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Nitrogen is the most important nutrient in growing wheat. Nitrogen prices are still high from a historical aspect but are cheaper than recent record highs. Wheat removes 2.2 lbs. N per bushel produced. Many producers raised very little to no wheat last season so I would recommend soil sampling continuous wheat fields to see how much carryover Nitrogen is available. Most growers in our area are topdressing N needs in the winter. With recent weed pressures I have seen many growers going back to conventional tillage and applying anhydrous ammonia right now. In that case I would still like to see a split application with N applied before spring green up and not putting all your nitrogen needs on in the fall.

Phosphorous is also a major nutrient in wheat production. Wheat is very responsive to Phosphorous applications. It is important for root and shoot growth and promotes fall tillering. Phosphorous movement in soils is very limited, especially in cold soils so banded fertilizers on the drill puts phosphorous as close to new root growth as possible. This helps to create a healthy seedling going into the winter, lowering susceptibility to winterkill and stand issues in the spring.

Sulfur is the fourth most important nutrient for wheat production. Sulfur deficiencies tend to show themselves early in the spring during green up, before the wheat has rooted down and soil organic matter mineralization has started. Sulfur plays an important role in the formation of protein, amino acids, and chlorophyll formation. Sulfur deposition from clean air policies is lower and the use of sulfur containing fertilizers is becoming more important.

Zinc is a very important micronutrient that is added into many of our starter programs for wheat. Along with plant functions, it helps to provide seedling vigor and improved plant health against disease and stress factors including drought. Growers should plan to spend about a bushel's worth of expense on zinc when putting together a fertility plan.

There are many factors that go into growing a successful wheat crop. Laying down a good fertility plan is a good first step and creates a good base to start for a bountiful harvest. 40 Rock fertilizer is a dry blend fertilizer 12-40-0-6.5S-1Zn that is a clean green acid product that works well broadcast, incorporated, or in furrow with the drill that we carry at all fertilizer locations. For Liquid starters, KQ650 is a 10-25-0-5S-.25Zn liquid blend that we carry that contains sulfur and zinc compared to a traditional 10-34-0. Both are very good products for our wheat growing area. We also have other options for micros or specific blends that may better fit your farming needs. Ask your local sales Agronomist or location managers on how we can help you with your fertility needs this fall.

Preventing Wheat Diseases

by Joe Princ

It's hard to believe that summer is ending. Before we know it, we will be putting wheat in the ground. That being said I want to talk a little bit about preventing some diseases caused by insects in volunteer wheat. As we know, volunteer harbors insects that can cause yield destroying diseases like wheat streak mosaic and barley yellow dwarf. Getting rid of volunteer wheat is the best way to prevent these yield destroying diseases.

Wheat streak mosaic is a virus carried by the wheat curl mite. These mites can also have other grasses as a host, as I saw some move out of pasture ground into wheat fields but in most cases, they can be linked to volunteer. Early fall infestations in a wheat crop can cause yellowing mosaic striped leaves and stunting. This can add up to 50% reduction in yield.

Barley yellow dwarf is another disease that is often times confused with wheat streak as it has similar symptoms. BYD is spread by several different aphids but the most common being oat bird-cherry aphid and corn leaf aphid. The aphids spread the disease by eating on infected plants and carrying it to other wheat. Barley yellow dwarf is characterized by yellow to purple colored, stunted plants grouped in small patches. The best way to manage for BYD is planting varieties with known tolerances and delaying planting until after aphid populations decline.

The first step in preventing these diseases is controlling volunteer wheat. If using glyphosate to control volunteer wheat is your method, you need to consider that fact that the plants need to be completely dead for 2 weeks prior to planting those fields or fields in close proximity. This means that fields need to be sprayed at least 3 weeks in advance to give time for the chemical to work and the insects to move on. If we receive some moisture in the next couple of weeks, we will want to be sure to watch for volunteer germinating so we can get those fields cleaned up to help minimize the spread of these diseases.

The next step in prevention is planting later. I know that fall is a busy time and there are lots of crops to be harvested, but waiting till the hessian fly free date for your area is a good rule of thumb to go by. I receive questions about using an insecticide seed treatment to control these virus spreading insects. Seed applied insecticides help prevent Barley Yellow Dwarf from becoming widespread but keep in mind the aphids must feed on the wheat to ingest the insecticide so minimal damage can occur. As far as controlling wheat curl mites, insecticides are ineffective. If you have any questions give your agronomist a call.

Petroleum Department

By Trevor Oliver

Hello, I'm Trevor Oliver. I'm currently working with Terry Zvolanek, learning the ins and outs of the petroleum industry. I will be taking over for Terry come the end of this year. I was raised most of my life here in Osborne, Kansas. My wife, Rikki is a teacher at USD #392. We have three children, Kruze (7) Lexie (6) and Asher (4). I have been a part of Midway's grain and fertilizer application department for eleven years. I strive to continue to learn something new every day. My goal is to provide every customer with top quality products and services alike.

With Fall harvest creeping upon us, it is important to remember to keep your heavy machinery running at its peak performance with the use of Cenex's Premium heavy duty diesel engine oils.

Cenex heavy duty diesel engine oils are designed and engineered to exceed the highest industry and diesel engine manufacturers' requirements for new, current, and older diesel engines.

The Cenex portfolio of heavy-duty diesel engine oils exceed the stringent performance requirements of API CK-4 to deliver superior wear protection and enhance performance in the toughest conditions. Cenex Maxtron Enviro-EDGE®, Maxtron DEO® and Superlube TMS® meet a range of specifications and approvals from leading original equipment manufacturers. These premium heavy duty diesel engine oils are suitable for use in high-speed, four-stroke diesel engines designed to meet the most current model year on highway and Tier 4 off-road exhaust emission standards. Cenex diesel engine oils are excellent for on-highway fleets, construction, agriculture, forestry applications and diesel pickup trucks.

The lineup of Cenex heavy duty diesel engine oils offer outstanding protection for your engine that other oils do not. Conventional oils tend to oxidize at high temperatures, resulting in sludge and varnish build up. Cenex oils have been put through grueling oxidation tests, which has resulted in creating a product which delivers virtually no viscosity change. Cenex diesel engine oils are engineered to provide excellent superior viscosity retention and shear resistance compared to conventional oils. These oils feature industry leading polymer technologies to extend durability for longer oil life and engine protection. Cenex's advanced formulas are also engineered with Wear Saver Technology to provide exceptional engine cleanliness. Both conventional and EGR soot are dispersed into finer particles, resulting in less abrasion on your engine parts. Cenex's heavy duty diesel engine oils offer high, long lasting Total Base Number (TBN), to save your equipment investment.

Included in the Cenex diesel engine oil portfolio are Maxtron Enviro-EDGE®, Maxtron® DEO, and Superlube

TMS®. Below is a short description of the advantages of each of these oils.

Maxtron Enviro-EDGE®, a full synthetic diesel engine oil enhances engine performance and fuel economy with no compromise on engine durability. The most advanced diesel engine oil offered by Cenex, this full synthetic formula safeguards hardworking engines and advanced emissions systems.

Maxtron Enviro-EDGE® exceeds the critical industry tests by 30%, improves fuel economy up to 3% in extreme conditions and up to 2% in normal conditions.

Maxtron Enviro-EDGE® features 11 (TBN) with reserve acid fighting capability. It prevents corrosive wear long after the oil has been in use. Actual fleet tests demonstrated that after 50,000 miles, this premium lubricant still had 50% acid fighting reserve ensuring added engine protection.

Maxtron® DEO, a synthetic blend diesel engine oil provides superior protection for both modern diesel engines with exhaust emission control systems and older heavy duty diesel engines operating on ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel. Maxtron® DEO is engineered to handle intense heat as well as provide excellent protection in colder operating conditions. The perfect choice for both on- and off-road applications where an extra level of protection is required due to extreme temperature changes.

Superlube TMS® features an enhanced formulation which provides field-tested engine durability, offers premium protection against soot, prevents sludge deposits and significantly slows oil thickening. Superlube TMS® is a robust conventional diesel engine oil that protects the advanced emissions systems of Caterpillar, Cummins, Detroit Diesel and Mack diesel engines calling for API CK-4 or earlier categories. Superlube TMS® heavy duty diesel engine oil offers proven protection featuring over 100+ million miles of real-world experience. A perfect choice for services involving long hours, heavy loads and dusty, dirty conditions.

As we gear up for a busy fall, be sure to contact any of our locations to help you protect your heavy machinery and keep things running as smoothly as possible. Here's to a safe, productive and bountiful season!

Feed Mill

By Dean Heise



Thank you for your patience as we put in the new bagging system. We were unable to bag anything for the first 3 weeks of August, but it is running nicely now. We are also adding a new sewing machine so both ends of the bag will have tape on them starting soon.

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• mill

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Nitrates are a concern with the dry conditions that have been occurring in much of the area. Corn, feed cane, milo, weeds and more can all have high nitrate levels that we need to watch out for. The more stubble you can leave will make a huge difference in nitrate levels. We did a test cut on some feed and the 4" cut height had 2x more nitrates as the 8" cut height. The extra 4" of stalk is not going to give you that much extra feed to compensate for having to dilute the high nitrate levels with other feedstuffs so it is useable. Putting it up for silage will help reduce the levels by usually 50%. If we get a rain, wait 4-6 days to allow photosynthesis to convert the nitrogen into sugars and carbohydrates.

Weaning a little early will help alleviate some pressure on the thin dry pastures and let the cow herd get in better shape before winter sets in as well as allow time to get calves started on feed before harvest hits. We have seen less stress and sickness in earlier weaned calves the last several years than calves weaned later in the fall when temperatures fluctuate more. If you are going to feed them, get them off to a good start with our **Inbounding** complete receiving feed or **Jumpstart Stress Mineral**. These are both non-medicated, so you don't need to get a VFD from the Vet to use them. Using either of these for the first week before switching to your own grain mix, getting the essential vitamins and chelated minerals into the calves to help boost their immune system pays huge dividends. Receiver tubs are getting more attention as they will stimulate saliva production to help buffer the rumen and provide added sugars for energy and better microbe function in the rumen.

Protein and energy requirements of the cows and calves will not be met as the pasture grasses are getting shorter and more dried out. With varying forage qualities and quantities in pastures, supplementation on grass will allow you to leave livestock in pastures longer to use more of the available forage. Creep feeding will help alleviate some of the pressure from the cows. We have bulk creep pellets in stock, or we can customize a creep feed to match your needs. Creep feeding will also help in the transition of weaning and getting them started on feed. Another way of supplementing the cows can be supplied with cubes, low-consumption protein lick tubs, or any number of commodity by-products. We stock consistent consumption **CTI** cooked protein tubs as well as the **VITALIX** line at Bellaire and can special order **VITA-FERM's** line of products also. Give us a call and let us help you find the right supplementation program to fit your operation.

Many are getting a VFD for anaplasmosis to make sure that the cow herds are cleaned up before going into the fall/winter. If your cows are not slicking up and looking like they should or if they are not handling the summertime

heat, anaplas may be part of the problem.

Flies are still causing issues for a lot of producers. We are having very good results with the addition of garlic to minerals and supplements for face fly suppression. Garlic will not kill them; it only stinks bad enough to repel them from the eyes of treated livestock.

Don't forget that **October is the next mineral promo month**. During that month, for every 12 bags of range mineral you buy – YOU GET 1 BAG FREE



DIRECTORY

General Office	346-5451
Elevators	
Alton.....	984-2214
Bellaire.....	389-6311
Burr Oak.....	647-6661
Downs-Corinth.....	454-3411
Lebanon.....	389-5311
Luray-Waldo.....	698-2311
Mankato.....	378-3116
Osborne-Bloomington.....	346-5821
Portis.....	346-2021
Service Stations/Propane	
Lebanon.....	389-8561
Luray.....	698-2411
Mankato.....	378-3233
Osborne.....	346-5812
Feed Mill.....	346-5441
Seed Cleaning Plant.....	Portis.....346-2021
	Lebanon.....389-5311

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