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P.O. Box 40, Osborne, KS 67473-0040

LOCATIONS AT:

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

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Permit No. 3

Newsletter

September 2024

Manager's comments

by Craig Mans

This summer has been a roller coaster of mixed weather and results. Since our last newsletter, patronage checks went out and totaled over \$2.9 million in cash. The total patronage allocation was \$5.8 million with 50% paid out in cash and the other 50% was added to your Midway Coop Equity.

Wheat harvest for the most part was better than we projected. Yields varied dramatically from the south end of our territory to the north end. The additional bushels are always a good thing for us. The last 2 years of drought are tough not only on you, the producer but also on us as your cooperative. The fewer bushels we handle means less opportunity for income. We have managed to handle this loss of bushels as best we could. Please see the Grain Report for more information on harvest.

We have been busy with facility improvements and upgrades. Our dry fertilizer plant in Osborne has been completed and put into operation. This project was completed ahead of schedule and right on budget. We are excited for the increased storage and speed to better serve you. We will have an open house with our dry fertilizer plant during our field day on September 4th.

Other projects ongoing include the replacement of the railroad siding at Bellaire. The replacement also includes an upgrade to our fertilizer receiving system on the rail siding. We have also started a new leg and bin at Luray. This will be a 20,000 bushel per hour leg with a 400,000-bushel concrete tank. The leg and bin will be completed before next wheat harvest. We look forward to hosting a Midway Coop Expo in December, see the agronomy section for more details.

We are 5 months into our fiscal year, and we are having a good year. Seed and fertilizer started the year very

strong. Some of the fertilizer business was pushed into Midways current fiscal year with the dry winter, getting us off to a good start in the new fiscal year.

We look forward to serving you with your farming operation. Together we are so much more. Thank you for your continued business and I wish you a safe and bountiful harvest.

Email Notifications

Receive your Midway Coop invoices, statements and grain payments quicker! Sign up for emailed invoices and statements and ACH payments.

- Emailed Invoice and Statements are quick and easy
 - Sign up for Grain payment ACH
 - no waiting on checks in the mail
 - Sign up for ACH payments to pay your Midway Coop bill
 - protect against check fraud and slow mail time
- Contact the General Office at (785) 346-5451 to get enrollment papers today.

Cash Discounts

Effective September 1, 2024,
we will be discontinuing
our 3% cash discount.

All invoices are due the end of the month following the month that it is billed.

Agronomy

by Ron Sothers

First of August brought us some much needed rain in areas with some cooler weather. There is some NH3 application starting. Midway Coop is prepared for Wheat planting by being ready to help with your wheat cleaning needs, seed treatment, and an offering of seed wheat. As always, we Thank You for your continued patronage and support.

Change is inevitable and Midway Coop is not immune to it. Starting September 1st, 2024, we will be discontinuing our 3% cash discount. This will not change the way we price our products; we will continue to be competitively priced in the market. Some outside forces that have brought us to this decision include Snail Mail, 10 days not being much time, and several procedural issues involving our continued offering of Financing options. Starting September 1st, 2024, all invoices will now be due the end of the month following the month it is billed in. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact myself directly at the General Office.

Also, coming December 2-3rd at Lebanon and December 4-5th at Osborne, Midway coop will be hosting a Winter Expo. There will be booths with industry representation along with discounted pricing and services to include all products offered by Midway Coop. On the Agronomy side, we will be launching our 2024-25 Winter Application Program, 2025 early chemical pricing, and the ability to forward contract fertilizer for spring 2025 needs. If you need 2025 pricing before the first of December, let us know and we will get it for you. Thanks for your Patronage!

Grain Department

By: Cullen Riner

Once again, thank you to all our patrons for making the 2024 wheat harvest a very successful one. We had a good harvest. Midway Co-op had total receipts of over 3.7 million bushels this year. At this time, we have purchased 50% of the crop. Yields were much better than we saw a year ago and much better than anticipated.

With wheat harvest over, and most of the summer gone, it is time to plan for the fall harvest. Although rain this summer has been spotty, at the time I am writing this, this year's crops look like they are in better shape than a year ago. 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.

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.

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: Portis 785-346-2021 and Lebanon 785-389-5311.

Financing and Crop Insurance Updates

by Eric Mans

With the 2024 wheat harvest in the books and row crop harvest quickly approaching its already time to start preparing for the 2025 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.

On the crop insurance side, for the 2024 wheat crop producer's base insurance price was \$7.34 with the harvest price set at \$6.27. The 2025 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 \$5.80. 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 2025 wheat crop, the final plant date is October 31st for wheat in Osborne, Mitchell, Jewell, Lincoln, and Russell Counties. 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 \$4.66, Soybeans \$11.55, and Grain Sorghum \$4.67. 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 -More economic in 2024

by Jeff Hammer

I cannot believe I am sending information out on seed wheat treatment already. Where are the summers going these days? Maybe the prolonged drought is speeding time up but I would take rain anytime to slow things back down. With declining commodity prices seed wheat has undergone a correction on both certified seed cost and treatment cost. We aggressively adjusted all treatment levels for fall 2024 to encourage growers to give their seed wheat the best start possible.

I really need to harp on putting a simple fungicide on your seed wheat this fall. We still clean and do not treat a good percentage and for the minimal cost of a fungicide that should not be the case. Having Smut in your wheat is simply not worth trying to save \$2-3/ac. Head Scab has had some history here 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, having rejected wheat loads at harvest time isn't worth the risk, 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.

Midway got aggressive on pricing insecticide on seed this fall due to generics becoming more and more economical. 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 facilities at Lebanon and Osborne 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. This also underwent a big cost reduction this fall.

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); or Tanner (785-412-0165). For cleaning scheduling contact: @Portis (785-346-2021) @Lebanon (785-389-5311). Thanks for your business.

Wheat Fertility

by Tanner Gasper

Rain showers have been hit and miss this summer, but cooler temps here late in August have given us a little relief. Fall Crop yields will be all over the map, but I think still disappointing in many areas of 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.

Nitrogen is the most important nutrient in growing wheat. Nitrogen prices have dropped considerably with falling commodity prices with Anhydrous leading the pack and dry fertilizer following. Wheat removes 2.2 lbs. N per bushel produced. Most producers have had very variable yields the last few seasons, so I recommend soil sampling fields this fall/winter to get a baseline of where your fertility is at. 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 and dry soils so banded fertilizers on the drill puts phosphorous as close to new root growth as possible. Avail is a polymer product through Verdesian that we offer that helps to shield phosphorous from being fixated in the soil. It can be applied to dry starter or liquid and helps make phosphorous applications more available to the plant at the time of application. It is a very good product to use in a broadcast situation but has also shown good results in banded situations. A good quality starter program helps to create a healthy seedling going into the winter, lowering susceptibility to winterkill and stand issues in the spring.

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• wheat

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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. A good rule of thumb is to apply Sulfur in a 10 to 1 ratio with Nitrogen applications.

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. We also have the option to make special blends through Kugler on direct to farm loads if you have a specific fertility blend you are looking for. 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 Joseph Princ

It's hard to believe that summer is winding down. Over the last several weeks, Midway's territory has received some moisture which was much needed. That being said, a lot of wheat stubble fields are going to need some attention if wheat is going to be planted back in there or nearby. Most of the volunteer wheat has just come up recently. As we know, volunteer harbors insects that can cause yield destroying diseases like wheat streak mosaic and barley yellow dwarf. This year it seems like mosaic was exceptionally bad in areas and wrecked many acres of wheat. We want to make sure we don't have that happen again this year.

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 the 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. With the moisture we have received over the last several weeks we have a good crop of volunteer wheat up now. Over the next several weeks we will want to get these 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.

Wheat Varieties

by Wyatt Oliver

It seems that we are in the slower part of summer now with harvest and chemical season wrapped up and school starting. Wheat drilling season is right around the corner and Midway will be offering certified seed wheat in two locations this year: Lebanon and Osborne. The bulk offerings will be a straight run of AP Bigfoot and Prolific (in Osborne only) and a 3-way blend of AP Bigfoot, KS Providence, and SY Wolverine. These varieties are all non CSO meaning you can save seed and are rated intermediate to very good on Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus. Pricing has come down this year and is at \$14.25/unit under 500 units and \$13.75/unit over 500 units. Other varieties are available in bagged or mini-bulk options. Talk to your seed location or agronomist for more information on these. Everyone have a safe fall season!

Petroleum Department

by Trevor Oliver

Fall is in the air, and our children are heading back to school. This summer was gone in a blink. As your teens head back to school, take some time to teach these young drivers about vehicle safety along with a few necessary driver tips to insure your teens are safe on the road.

To get started, walk your teen through some of the important vehicle systems that will need attention. These could include the vehicle headlights and taillights, windshield wipers and fluids, tire pressure, engine oil, air filter, and the coolant system. I would encourage them to inspect it regularly. Tire pressure can change easily in colder months, and looking at the fluid levels can let your teen know when more attention is needed. It's also a good idea to review the vehicle's manual with your teen. This will help them understand the dashboard symbols and learn how frequently certain systems must be maintained. Issues can come up unexpectedly, so teach them to take dashboard warnings seriously. Some, like properly inflating the tires, can be resolved easily, while others will require the attention of a trusted mechanic.

Also, don't forget if you or your teen ever have any questions pertaining to automotive care, our staff at any one of our service stations would be glad to help you with your questions or service needs.

This fall we will be kicking off our bulk oil deliveries on September 23-24. Your local station will be calling to contact our current customers who are signed up for bulk oil to see if your facility may need any of our three bulk items. Those items include TMS 15W-40 diesel engine oil, Maxtron 15W-40 diesel engine oil, and HTB hydraulic oil. If you are not a route customer but would like to get signed up for bulk oil delivery or would like stackable oil totes, reach out to your local station and we can get you the details and get you signed up.

EIA short term energy outlook: (August-2024) Crude oil prices. Although crude oil prices have fallen recently, we continue to expect crude oil prices will rise in the second half of 2024 (2H24). The Brent crude oil spot price ended July at \$81 per barrel (b), compared with an average for the month of \$85/b. We expect the Brent price will return to between \$85/b and \$90/b by the end of the year. Rising crude oil prices in our forecast are the result of falling global oil inventories. We estimate global oil inventories decreased by 0.4 million barrels per day (b/d) in 1H24 and will fall by 0.8 million b/d in 2H24. Inventory withdrawals stem in part from ongoing OPEC+ production cuts. Although we expect crude oil prices to rise in the coming months, our forecast for the

annual average Brent crude oil price in 2025 is down from a forecast of \$88/b in our July STEO, owing mostly to reduced oil consumption.

World oil consumption. We forecast that global consumption of liquid fuels will increase by 1.1 million b/d in 2024 and 1.6 million b/d in 2025, down from a forecast of 1.8 million b/d in our previous STEO. Most of the reduction in our oil consumption forecast is in China, where we expect slowing economic growth will continue to reduce diesel consumption.

The Feed Mill

By Dean Heise



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 pas-

tures, 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 keep distiller cubes in an overhead bin at Osborne and Burr Oak if you want to pick them up or we can deliver to your farm/ranch. 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.

Nitrates are a concern with the dry conditions that have been occurring in much of the area. If we get a rain, wait 4-6 days to allow photosynthesis to convert the nitrogen into sugars and carbohydrates. 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%.

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