



Gieseke Named New CEO

CENTRAL REGION COOPERATIVE

athan Gieseke will become the CEO/General Manager of Central Region Cooperative (CRC) on January 1, 2019. He currently is the Chief Operating Officer at CRC and oversees all division management in agronomy, grain, energy, feed and BCA. He has worked extensively on divisional structure, employee development, and implementation of software platforms for CRC post-merger.

Previously, Nathan was a market development manager for CHS and advised management and boards of directors in business strategy

and direction, financial performance, and mergers and acquisitions. Previous roles include commercial loan officer with CHS Capital, and manager trainee for CHS Country Operations,

GIESEKE CONTINUED PAGE 2)

INSIDE:

Annual Meeting

Tuesday, December 4, 2018 • 1 p.m. Bird Island Ballroom, Bird Island

We look forward to sharing financial results of CRC's first fiscal year ending 07/31/18.

- Harvest Policies
- Board Election Process
 - Revised Credit Policy
- Producer Health Insurance
 - New Plant Construction

DAVID PETERSChief Executive Officer

Grateful for Opportunity

've worked in the cooperative system for the last 40 years. In that time, I have built assets, worked with multiple cooperative boards, hosted annual meetings, been part of mergers and traveled the country. Without a doubt, however, the best part of my 40-year career has been the relationships with patrons,

employees, and boards of directors that have challenged, changed, and enlightened me for the better. It is with both gratefulness and anticipation that I inform you that I will be retiring as CEO/General Manager of Central Region Cooperative (CRC) on December 31, 2018.

Emotionally, there is a downside. Working closely with all parts of legacy South Central Grain and Energy (SCG&E) and now Central Region Cooperative over the past 3 years, and especially with the remarkable staff, has been one of the greatest joys of my professional life. As I leave the position of CEO/General Manager of CRC, my hope for the cooperative system is that it will build upon the elements of proactive change that all of us have worked so hard at achieving together. I take great pride and satisfaction in having played a small part in laying some of the foundations of your cooperative and look forward to watching CRC evolve and grow.

I am comforted in knowing that Central Region Cooperative will be left in the hands of Nathan Gieseke. I have known Nathan almost his entire life and have worked with him professionally for the last five years. There is no one more capable for this job. I am so delighted for having played a small role in his career and even more excited for how he will lead your cooperative into the future.

In retirement, I plan to spend as much time as possible with my dear wife, Deb. We've been married for 37 years and, to this day, it has been the best decision I've ever made. We have spent the last three years apart as I've commuted between New Ulm and Northfield on the weekends and I know she has some trips planned for us to see the world together.

I also plan on spending time with my grandchildren, August and Bennett, and teaching them those things only a grandfather can. In retirement, I will also be closer to my children Joe and Natalie, and their spouses, Kate and Marit, and look forward to many family outings and dinners (and maybe more grandchildren).

Please stop in and say hello over the course of the next few months as I wrap up my tenure at CRC. I will treasure the relationships and support of so many exceptional colleagues, patrons and each one of the directors of the CRC Board. I will always be grateful for the opportunity to have worked for CRC and legacy SCG&E and to have served as CEO/General Manager of these outstanding organizations.

Thank you for allowing me to lead this cooperative—it has been a real pleasure.

D GIESEKE FROM PAGE 1

gaining experience at CHS Eastern Farmers in Brandon, South Dakota. He worked with Country Operations for five years, holding positions in safety and compliance and as an inventory and compliance supervisor across the CHS trade territory.

Nathan grew up on a Century family farm northeast of New Ulm on a row-crop and cattle operation. Having grown up in a farm family, he has always been active in the agriculture industry and a strong advocate for farmers in the cooperative system. He currently resides in New Ulm and enjoys traveling, tailgating, and meeting new people.

Gieseke holds a B.S. in Agricultural Business from South Dakota State University in Brookings. He is a 2014 graduate of CHS Future Forty, a cooperative education development program offered in partnership with the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management.



Are you wondering what activities are appropriate for youth working in agriculture? Or would you like to know how to better protect and supervise youth while working on agriculture operations?

VISIT cultivatesafety.org for videos, checklists, guidelines and more!





Central Region Cooperative Board of Directors Election Process

Over the past months Central Region Cooperative's Board of Directors has spent time creating geographical districts and director election cycles. Below is information concerning the election process:

- 1. The CRC Board will consist of 10 Directors.
- 2. Voting eligibility. Candidates are nominated by geographic regions. Members are NOT restricted to voting within their own region. Each Member of record shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each position being elected.
- 3. Members may vote for Directors by mail ballot in the 2018 election, or in person at the CRC Annual Meeting being held on Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. in Bird Island, MN at the Bird Island Ballroom. Ballots will be mailed in November to producers who have met "membership" qualifications for the fiscal year ending 7/31/2018. Please cast your vote, place it in the sealed ballot envelope, and mail it back to CRC in the pre-addressed, postage paid envelope so it is received by CRC no later than the CRC Annual Meeting on December 4, 2018. Alternatively, you may bring your ballot with you to the Annual Meeting on December 4, 2018 and vote in person. Ballots will be counted by a third party that will be observed by the Nominating Committee. The results of the election will be announced at the Annual Meeting and posted on the CRC website after the conclusion of the meeting.
- 4. The CRC Board of Directors created the following three districts for director candidates:

District 1: the area north of MN State HWY 19

District 2: the area south of MN State HWY 19 and north of MN State HWY 14

District 3: the area south of MN State HWY 14

There will be three (3) director positions on the ballot, one from each of the three districts. The candidate who receives the most votes for each open position will be declared elected.

5. The Nominating Committee will consist of the following CRC Board of Directors: Jason Boll/District 1, Jon Meyer/District 2 and Tim Kohn/District 3; along with three (3) other appointed non-director members from the three districts. Any member of CRC interested in being a director candidate should contact a Director on the Nominating Committee for an Application. The Application must be completed and returned no later than October 15, 2018. There will not be any nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

NEWS CENTRAL

RETAIL TIRE SHOP CLOSES



This summer Central Region Cooperative(CRC) evaluated its business model on providing retail tire services from its Sleepy Eye shop location. These services are primarily used during the time of year when the cooperative's two-person shop is striving to keep its rolling stock maintained to provide its core business services to patron members.

As of August 31, 2018 the retail tire division of CRC ceased tire sales and service. Financially, it is not in the best interest of the cooperative to increase staffing to adequately service seasonal tire needs.

We thank you for your past business and encourage you to consider keeping your tire business local by seeking out tire products and services from one of the local full-service providers.

The cooperative will continue to offer retail LP cylinders, lawn fertilizer and ice melt products for sale at the Sleepy Eye BCA/Shop location.



Grain Merchandising

fter some early season rain in the upper Midwest and locally, the growing season has straightened out for the most part. Crop ratings in general have been extremely high all season long. That does not necessarily mean the crop is the going to

be the biggest from a yield standpoint. The story is being written as we speak, but I believe we should have a decent crop this year (probably not as good as last year). The USDA August crop report showed some modest increases in yield in both corn and soybeans which has kept the market rather pinned down in a lower range of prices.

The present marketing year has been full of surprises as it seems every year has its own drama. In the spring the

prices started to rise, providing some opportunities for forward contracting (which many of you did), then the rumor of some tariffs started and the crop generally got off to a good start and excellent crop rating led to a steep decline in prices after May 24-25. It was the largest sell off seen in many years and left producers largely undersold and wondering what to do? Our corn market lost about 70 cents and the soybeans were down roughly \$2. The corn market has some interesting fundamentals going on. The USDA dropped next years' ending stocks to around 1.6 billion bushels down from the 2.1 billion we are challenged with in today's environment. There is a robust demand based both domestically and globally, so it feels like the corn market should be well supported.

With the demand for feed grain we did see some basis

KOHLS CONTINUED PAGE 7

CRC/Heartland (HCP) Corn Swap Program

Direct Delivery Swap:

- 1) Central Region Cooperative will deliver bushels for the producer for the delivery week requested by HCP and the producer will deliver for CRC under CRC's name at a later date, (up to 90 days) \$0.02/bu. swap fee will be charged. After 90 days, storage rates will be applied.
- 2) Producer may deliver early under CRC's name, and CRC will deliver for the producer when their delivery date is due. \$0.02/bu. swap fee will be charged. (Up to 90 days, after that, storage will also be applied.) Many use this during road postings, during planting/harvesting, bad weather, etc.

Purchase for delivery:

Central Region Cooperative publishes a corn price daily to allow the producer to purchase corn for their requested delivery week. A shareholder may purchase corn anytime during normal trading hours. This is our most popular option.

OPEN STORAGE delivery:

A producer can deliver corn to any CRC location, and put it in OPEN STORAGE, CRC posted storage rates will apply. CRC will then transfer corn to HCP for their requested delivery week. (\$0.05/bu./month storage, \$0.15/bu./load-out charge, plus freight charge to HCP)

Freight: PLUS Fuel surcharge, which is not included in the rate shown below.

LOCATION	FREIGHT	SWAP FEE	LOAD OUT CHARGE	STORAGE
Fairfax	.07/bu.	.02/bu.	.15/bu.	.05/bu./month
Gibbon	.05/bu.	.02/bu.	.15/bu.	.05/bu./month
Buffalo Lake	.10/bu.	.02/bu.	.15/bu.	.05/bu./month
Sleepy Eye	.115/bu.	.02/bu.	.15/bu.	.05/bu./month
Stewart	.06/bu.	.02/bu.	.15/bu.	.05/bu./month
Hector	.10/bu.	.02/bu.	.15/bu.	.05/bu./month
Cosmos	.125/bu.	.02/bu.	.15/bu.	.05/bu./month
Cobden	.125/bu.	.02/bu.	.15/bu.	.05/bu./month

Harvest Policy Effective 9-1-2018

Warehouse Receipt Storage:

Corn: .05 cents per month (.00164 cents per day); 60 days minimum Soybeans: .05 cents per month (.00164 cents per day); 60 days minimum

Price Later Contracts:

Corn: .05 cents per month (.00164 cents per day); 60 days minimum Soybeans: .05 cents per month (.00164 cents per day); 60 days minimum

- No storage charges if sold within 10 calendar days of delivery.
- If not sold, storage will start from the date of delivery.
- Shrink and drying will not be re-calculated.
- After the first 60 days, all storage charge calculations will accrue
 on a daily basis and will be due and <u>payable at sale of grain or</u>
 <u>July 31, 2019.</u> (Warehouse, open storage and price later)

Grain Bank Charges:

Corn used through the CRC Feedmill:

- First 60 days are free.
- After that, storage is \$.05 per month, accrued on a daily basis.
- Dried and shrunk to 15%

Corn hauled out or sold out of GB:

\$.05 per month storage from date of delivery, \$.10 minimum charge \$.15 per bushel handling charge if hauled out or sold.

Negative balances are not allowed and will be billed out at the close of the day you run out.

Moisture Limits:	Corn	Soybeans	
Open Storage and Warehouse:	14%	13%	
Grain Bank: (used in CRC mill)	15%	# -/	
Price Later:	14%	13%	
Sale or applied to contract	15%	13%	

Corn Drying Charges: \$.0475 for first point and \$.04 per point thereafter for each point of moisture removed.

Shrink Factor: 2.0% for the first point and 1.35% thereafter for each point of moisture removed.

All drying and shrink will be to the nearest 1/10 point of moisture after the first point.

Custom Dried Corn: \$.15 per bushel handling charge. Must be hauled out within 5 days of delivery.

Disposition of Grain: The driver will provide the scale operator with the owner's name or names, division of the grain, and disposition (store, sell, contract, grain bank, price later, etc.). The driver should notify the scale operator when the last load has been delivered. If no instructions are given, the grain will be marked as open storage.

No storage charges if sold within 10 days of delivery. If not sold, storage will start from the date of delivery. Shrink and drying will not be re-calculated.

Contracted Grain: Grain delivered against a sales contract will be applied to the oldest contract first. Early delivery of contracted grain is not allowed without prior approval. If delivered early, payment will not be made any earlier than if grain was delivered as contracted.

Deferred Payment: Grain may be placed on deferred payment. Elevator must be notified prior to settlement. Grain placed on deferred payment cannot be changed. No premium will be paid at this time.

Farm to Terminal - Direct Shipment: All grain hauled directly to the terminal or processor will be settled on a load by load basis. Seller must accept the weights and grades of the delivery location. There will be no averaging of grades and discounts are subject to change without notice.

Treated Grain: Any and all grain that contains treated seeds will be rejected. If the load is dumped into our inventory, owner may be subject to one or all of the following: 1) no payment for the load, 2) punitive charges for contamination of our inventory, 3) further financial liability. No exceptions!

There will be no averaging of corn or bean discounts!

Corn Discounts:

Test Weight: \$.01 each pound 53.9 to 52 (per .5#)

\$.02 each pound under 51.9 to 50 \$.03 each pound under 49.9 to 48.0 \$.04 each pound under 47.9 to 45.0 \$.05 each pound under 44.9

Foreign Material: \$.03 each % over 3.1% to 4% (per .1 pt.)

\$.04 each % over 4.1% to 5% \$.05 each % over 5.1%

Damage: \$.02 each % 5.1% to 15% (per .1pt)

\$.03 each % 15.1% and over

Other Factors: Sour \$.12/bu. Musty \$.10/bu.

Infested \$.12/bu. COFO \$.12/bu.

Soybean Discounts:

Moisture: Discounts will apply on any loads delivered with moisture content above 13%.

Discounts will be deducted from the gross weight of the bushels delivered and rounded up to the nearest 1/2% of moisture.

<u>Moisture</u>	<u>Discount</u>	
13.1 – 13.5%	1%	
13.6 - 14.0%	2%	7
14.1 – 14.5%	4%	
14.6 - 15.0%	6%	
15.1 – 15.5%	8%	
15.6 - 16.0%	10%	
16.1 – 16.5%	13%	/
16.6 - 17.0%	16%	
17.1 – 17.5%	19%	
17.6 – 18.0%	22%	
18.1 – over	4% added for each ½	% over 18%

Test Weight:

\$.005 each pound or fraction thereof under 53.9# to 52# \$.01 each pound or fraction thereof under 51.9# to 49# Loads testing below 49# will be subject to rejection.

Foreign Material:

1% of the gross weight will be deducted for each % - 1.1% to 5.0% 1.5% of the gross weight will be deducted for each % - 5.1% to 10.0% 2.0% of the gross weight will be deducted for each % over 10.0%

Damage: \$.02 for each ½% - 2.1% to 2.5% \$.01 for each ½% - 2.6% to 4.0% \$.02 for each ½% - 4.1% to 6.0% \$.03 for each ½% - 6.1% to 8.0% \$.04 for each ½% - over 8.1%

Heat Damage:

.5% of the price for each ½% over .2%

Other Factors:

Sour	\$.12 / bu.
Musty	\$.10 / bu.
COFO	\$.20 / bu.
DLQ	\$.25 /bu.

All policies are subject to change without prior notice.

Drying Charges .0475 for first pt & .04 per point removed thereafter (per .1 point)

■ Shrink Factor

2% for first pt & 1.35% per point removed thereafter (per .1 point)

Percent	Cash/Contract/GB		PLC/Whse/Opn Stg		
Moisture	% Shrink	Drying Chg	% Shrink	Drying Chg	
14.1	0.000	\$ -	2.000	\$ 0.047	
14.2	0.000	\$ -	2.000	\$ 0.047	
14,3	0.000	5 -	2,000	\$ 0.047	
14.4	0.000	5	2.000	\$ 0.047	
14.5	0.000	\$	2.000	\$ 0.047	
14.6	0.000	5	2.000	\$ 0.047	
14.7	0.000		2.000		
14.8	0.000		2,000		
14.9	0.000		2,000	\$ 0.047	
15.0	2.000				
				-	
15.1	2.000			- T T T T T T T T	
15.2	2.000			111111111111111111111111111111111111111	
15.3	2.000	The second second	The second second		
15.4	2.000			100	
15.5	2.000		-	\$ 0.067	
15.6	2.000	-	2,810	\$ 0.071	
15.7	2.000	and the second s		\$ 0.075	
15.8	2.000	\$ 0.0475	3.080	\$ 0.079	
15.9	2.000	\$ 0.0475	3.215	\$ 0.083	
16.0	2.000	\$ 0.0475	3.350	\$ 0.087	
16.1	2 135	\$ 0.0515	3.485	\$ 0.091	
16.2	2.270	\$ 0.0555	3.620	\$ 0.095	
16.3	2.405	\$ 0.0595	-	\$ 0.099	
16.4	2.540	The state of the s	-	\$ 0.103	
16.5	2.675	237727		\$ 0.107	
16.6			No.		
	2.810				
16.7	2.945	-		\$ 0,115	
16.8	3.080	Marine Control of the		\$ 0,119	
16.9	3.215	The second second second	-		
17.0	3,350	5 0.0875	4,700	\$ 0.127	
17.1	3.485	\$ 0.0915	4.835	\$ 0.131	
17.2	3.620	\$ 0.0955	4.970	\$ 0.135	
17.3	3.755	\$ 0.0995	5.105	\$ 0.139	
17.4	3.890	\$ 0.1035	5.240	\$ 0.143	
17.5	4.025	\$ 0.1075	5.375	\$ 0.147	
17.6	4.160	\$ 0.1115	5.510	\$ 0.151	
17.7	4.295	\$ 0.1155	5.645	\$ 0.155	
17.8	4.430			\$ 0.159	
17.9	4,565	-	-	\$ 0.163	
18.0	4.700		-	\$ 0.187	
18.1	4.835	-	The second secon	\$ 0.171	
1000	7.71				
18.2	4.970				
18.3	5.105				
18.4	5.240		The state of the s	The state of the s	
18.5	5.375	The second second		2	
18.6	5.510				
18.7	5.645	-		-	
18.8	5.780				
18.9	5.915			\$ 0.203	
19.0	6.050			\$ 0.207	
19.1	6.185	-		\$ 0.211	
19.2	6.320		-		
19.3	6.455				
19.4	6.590		The second second		
19.5	6.725	200	THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE		
19.6		The second second	-	1000	
-	6.860	Other Control of	-	2000	
19.7	6.995		10000000	100	
19.8	7.130		-		
19.9	7.265				
20.0	7.400	\$ 0.2075	8.750	\$ 0.247	

Cash/Co	_		PLC/Whse/Opn Stg		
The second secon	Dryin	ing Chg		Drying Chg	
7:535	\$	0.2115	8.885	\$	0.251
7.670	\$	0,2155	9.020	5	0.255
7.805	\$	0,2195	9.155	\$	0.259
7.940	\$	0,2235	9.290	5	0.263
8.075	S	0.2275	9.425	\$	0.267
8.210	S				0.271
The second secon			-	_	0,275
The second secon				_	0,279
		- Chicago and Chic		-	0.283
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-	_				
					0.291
				-	0.295
1		-		_	0.299
	_				0.303
	-			_	0.307
9.560	S	0.2715	10.910	\$	0.311
9.695	\$	0.2755	11,045	\$	0.315
9.830	S	0.2795	11.180	\$	0.319
9.965	S	0.2835	11.315	S	0.323
		0.2875			0.327
	_	0.2915		-	0.331
					0.335
	_	-	0.000		0.339
0.100	-	The state of the s			0.343
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				_	-
					0.351
	_	The state of the s	The second secon	-	0.355
The second secon	-	The second second second	-	-	0,359
11.315	5	0,3235	12,665	\$	0.363
11,450	5	0.3275	12,800	\$	0,367
11.585	5	0,3315	12.935	\$	0.371
11.720	\$	0.3355	13.070	5	0.375
11.855	S	0.3395	13.205	\$	0.379
11.990	S	0.3435	13.340	5	0.383
12.125	S	0.3475	13.475	\$	0.387
12.260	S	0.3515	13,610	\$	0.391
				_	0.395
	_				0.399
-	-	-	-	-	0.403
Name and Address of the Owner, where		-	-	_	-
			The second secon	-	0.407
	_	-			0.411
					0.415
		49.00		_	0.419
		0.3835			0.423
1000000	100	0.3875	2000		0.427
		0.3915		_	0.431
13.745	\$	0.3955	15.095	\$	0.435
13.880	\$	0,3995	15,230	\$	0.439
14.015	S	0.4035	15,365	\$	0.443
The second secon		0.4075	15.500	5	0.447
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45 220	1 50	0.4395	16.580	3	0.479
15.230 15.365		0.4435	16.715		0.483
	% Shrink 7.535 7.670 7.805 7.940 8.075 8.210 8.345 8.480 8.615 8.750 8.885 9.020 9.155 9.290 9.425 9.560 9.695 9.830 9.965 10.100 10.235 10.370 10.505 11.180 11.315 11.450 11.585 11.790 12.250 12.260 12.395 12.260 12.395 12.665 12.800 12.935 13.340 13.475 13.880 14.015 14.555 14.690 14.825 14.690 14.825 14.690 14.825 14.960	% Shrink Dryin 7.535 \$ 7.670 \$ 7.805 \$ 7.940 \$ 8.076 \$ 8.210 \$ 8.345 \$ 8.615 \$ 8.750 \$ 8.885 \$ 9.020 \$ 9.155 \$ 9.290 \$ 9.560 \$ 9.830 \$	% Shrink Drying Chg 7.535 \$ 0.215 7.670 \$ 0.2155 7.805 \$ 0.2195 7.940 \$ 0.2235 8.075 \$ 0.2355 8.210 \$ 0.2355 8.345 \$ 0.2355 8.480 \$ 0.2355 8.615 \$ 0.2475 8.885 \$ 0.2515 9.020 \$ 0.2555 9.155 \$ 0.2635 9.425 \$ 0.2635 9.426 \$ 0.2676 9.560 \$ 0.2715 9.695 \$ 0.2755 9.830 \$ 0.2755 9.830 \$ 0.2755 9.830 \$ 0.2755 9.830 \$ 0.2755 9.830 \$ 0.2755 9.830 \$ 0.2755 9.830 \$ 0.2755 9.830 \$ 0.2955 9.965 \$ 0.2875 9.830 \$ 0.2955 9.955 \$ 0.2955 9.830 \$ 0.2955 9.831 \$ 0.2955	% Shrink Drying Chg % Shrink 7.535 \$ 0.2115 8.885 7.670 \$ 0.2155 9.020 7.805 \$ 0.2195 9.155 7.940 \$ 0.2235 9.290 8.075 \$ 0.2315 9.560 8.240 \$ 0.2355 9.695 8.480 \$ 0.2395 9.830 8.615 \$ 0.2435 9.965 8.750 \$ 0.2475 10.100 8.885 \$ 0.2515 10.235 9.020 \$ 0.2655 10.370 9.155 \$ 0.2635 10.640 9.425 \$ 0.2635 10.640 9.425 \$ 0.2675 10.775 9.560 \$ 0.2715 10.910 9.685 \$ 0.2755 11.045 9.685 \$ 0.2755 11.045 9.685 \$ 0.2755 11.045 9.685 \$ 0.2755 11.045 9.685 \$ 0.2755 11.145 10.235 \$ 0.2955 11.585 <td< td=""><td>% Shrink Drying Chg % Shrink Drying 7.535 \$ 0.2115 8.885 \$ 7.670 \$ 0.2195 9.020 \$ 7.805 \$ 0.2195 9.020 \$ 7.940 \$ 0.2235 9.290 \$ 8.076 \$ 0.2275 9.425 \$ 8.210 \$ 0.2315 9.560 \$ 8.345 \$ 0.2355 9.695 \$ 8.480 \$ 0.2355 9.695 \$ 8.750 \$ 0.2435 9.965 \$ 8.855 \$ 0.2435 9.965 \$ 8.855 \$ 0.2475 10.100 \$ 8.855 \$ 0.2475 10.100 \$ 9.425 \$ 0.2655 10.370 \$ 9.425 \$ 0.2655 10.505 \$ 9.425 \$ 0.2675 10.775 \$ 9.560 \$ 0.2715 10.910 \$ 9.830 \$ 0.2755 11.045 \$ 9.830</td></td<>	% Shrink Drying Chg % Shrink Drying 7.535 \$ 0.2115 8.885 \$ 7.670 \$ 0.2195 9.020 \$ 7.805 \$ 0.2195 9.020 \$ 7.940 \$ 0.2235 9.290 \$ 8.076 \$ 0.2275 9.425 \$ 8.210 \$ 0.2315 9.560 \$ 8.345 \$ 0.2355 9.695 \$ 8.480 \$ 0.2355 9.695 \$ 8.750 \$ 0.2435 9.965 \$ 8.855 \$ 0.2435 9.965 \$ 8.855 \$ 0.2475 10.100 \$ 8.855 \$ 0.2475 10.100 \$ 9.425 \$ 0.2655 10.370 \$ 9.425 \$ 0.2655 10.505 \$ 9.425 \$ 0.2675 10.775 \$ 9.560 \$ 0.2715 10.910 \$ 9.830 \$ 0.2755 11.045 \$ 9.830

ALL MOISTURE LEVELS OVER 26.0% WILL CONTINUE AT \$.04 PER POINT FOR DRYING COSTS AND 1.35% SHRINK PER POINT OF MOISTURE

NOTICE KOHLS FROM PAGE 4

opportunities this year which allowed us to sell our corn to the PNW (Pacific North West) and get our bunker picked up this summer. The PNW demand is from South Korea largely and I think this could be a long term trend. The United States is the world supplier of corn, and looks like we will need to be with some other areas in the world with some dryness and crop production issues.

Soybeans, on the other hand, present many more challenges with the tariffs and blossoming supplies. The one constant positive is the crushing demand, which has been extremely profitable for soybean plants as of late. They be the only ticket in town for a while. With the export market uncompetitive, the crusher is getting its supply mostly by default. This fall could get very ugly. With huge basis levels and large stocks as our crop seem to be getting larger, you may see and hear some different stories with soybean Price Later programs, it is because there are not many places to go with soybeans.

We have a number of grain projects taking place this summer and expect them all to be improvements for grain receiving. Carly Johnson has more information in his article about these projects.

The average seasonal price contact (ASP) had another successful year, the corn futures was priced at \$4.00 and the soybeans futures priced at \$9.73. These are great tools to price a portion your bushels, please contact myself or any of the grain team for more information.

Have a great harvest season!

LANDO'LAKES, ME BUYPOINT Producer Health Insurance by Land O'Lakes

Affordable health insurance is available to our producer members again in 2019!

In case you missed it, there was a change in Minnesota legislation last year that allowed Land O'Lakes and its subsidiary, BuyPoint™Insurance Solutions, to develop a health insurance program exclusively for farmers. Understanding the burden of rising health insurance costs to farmers nationwide, Central Region Cooperative made an initial investment last year to offer this program to our producer members.

Though the late harvest made it difficult to properly communicate the details of the program to members, the inaugural year was a success! In 2018, over 750 members enrolled in the program. We expect many more to follow in 2019.



Land O'Lakes partnered with Minneapolis-based health insurance company, Gravie, to administer the program. Members who participate benefit from the following:

- Competitive pricing (lower than most individual policies)
- Access to a broad, national (PPO) network with over 100,000 providers, hospitals, clinics and pharmacies including Mayo Clinic, Sanford Health, Essentia Health, Allina Health, Fairview Health Services and more
- Eight health plan options with coverage ranging from catastrophic (high deductible, extremely low cost) to comprehensive (no deductible, virtually 100% coverage)
- Access to Gravie Care (free, year-round guidance from expert, licensed advisors in selecting and managing benefits)
- Easy access to additional benefits (dental, vision, life, HSAs, and more)
- Guaranteed coverage (no member can be denied coverage or rated-up based on individual health history)
- No membership fees
- Doesn't require a W2-employee

The Open Enrollment period will be from October 29, 2018 through December 21, 2018 for coverage starting January 1, 2019. Prior to the start of Open Enrollment, there will be inperson meetings in our community where you will have the opportunity to learn about this new benefit option in more detail. You can expect to receive more information through direct mail.

We encourage our eligible producer members to at least compare your current health insurance rates to the Land O' Lakes program - you might be surprised that you could save your family thousands of dollars a year while receiving access to better quality care! We also encourage all of our producer members who took advantage of the health insurance program to tell other friends and relatives about your experience.

Please visit gravie.com/mncoop to sign up for important announcements including 2019 rates, event dates and locations, and more! If you have questions or are interested in learning more, you can also call 844-538-4690.

Please note: To participate in this program, Central Region Cooperative members must do at least \$10,000 in business (purchases or sales) with the co-op, reside in Minnesota, and actively work in production agriculture. If you prefer not to receive communication from Gravie about this health insurance program, please notify Robyn Schnobrich at 507-794-5831, ext 203 and we will remove you from the list.



DAN FILZENRisk Manager

Credit Policy Revisions

s you may be aware, Central Region
Cooperative's Board of Directors adopted
a newly revised credit policy which took
effect on May 1. The primary change was made
to the account due date which was due by the
15th of the month following purchase. Under the

new credit policy, accounts are due in full by the last day of the month following purchase. We ask that if you send payments by U.S. Postal Service to CRC, please place it in the mail in time for us to receive it by the end of the month. This will allow

PAYMENT DROPBOX

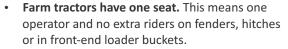
New payment dropboxes are now available in Buffalo Lake and Fairfax.

time for the payment to be properly applied to your account before the next monthly statements are generated and mailed.

Some products such as certain LP or fuel purchases may be eligible for a prompt pay discount. If you wish to take advantage of the prompt pay discount, please remember that your payment must be received by the 15th of the month following purchase. There was no change to the prompt pay discount payment date.

Balancing profitability with customer service and product availability and services is an important role for all department managers and account managers in your cooperative. Credit and risk management is equally important, as the sale is not complete until the product and services are paid in full. That is how your cooperative protects, grows and responsibly revolves your owner equity in Central Region Cooperative.

BE AWARE!



- All farm tractors and any attached or trailing farm equipment must display the triangular, orange Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) emblem.
- All operators of newer tractors equipped with a 2-point or 4-point ROPS (Rollover Protective Structure), must also wear the seat belt provided in order to be protected in a backward or sideways flip.
- Be cautious around all livestock that have given birth.
- Be aware of potentially **deadly silo gas** when chopping and placing corn silage in an upright silo.
- Be aware of a **potentially deadly outcome** when working around or in a grain bin or storage.

Central Region
Coop Credit Policy
Effective Date
May 1, 2018

- 1. An approved credit application should be completed and signed by all new accounts.
- 2. An inquiry may be made through the credit bureau to determine credit history.
- 3. The closing date of the billing cycle shall be the end of the month. All periodic statements will be mailed as soon as possible following the closing date of the billing cycle.
- 4. Payment is due in full by the last day of the month the statement is mailed.
- 5. Prompt Pay (Cash) discounts are available on bulk fuels and bulk LP. All discounts are subject to change without notice. Prompt Pay (Cash) discounts are only available if payment is received by the 15th of the month following date of purchase. No discounts will be offered after the 15th. Account must be current to receive prompt pay discount.
- 6. A finance charge of 1.5 % per month or 18 % per year accrues against the outstanding past due balance on the last day of the month. A minimum finance charge of one dollar (\$1.00) will be assessed on past due accounts.
- 7. An account over 60 days old shall be considered delinquent and may be required to pay cash on delivery (COD), and a collection procedure may begin, with all costs of collection being added to the patrons account to be considered indebtedness of the patron to the cooperative. In addition, the coop reserves the right to place any account on COD if the coop has reason to believe the account may not pay within accordance with the credit policy.
- 8. Central Region Cooperative has a first lien on any equity held by the applicant in the Central Region Coop or in either of the legacy coops.
- 9. Management reserves the right to deny or limit extension of credit.

Financing programs are available for most purchases.

Please inquire to the divisional manager.

Credit Policy also found at centralregioncoop.com.

Producer Input **Financing Program**

entral Region Cooperative, cooperation with area banks, is rolling out a new Producer Input Financing program for the 2019 crop year. CRC will be working with select banks in the area. As in past years we are working closely with Citizens Bank Minnesota, Alliance Bank and First

Security Bank. With the Producer Input Financing program Central Region Cooperative will buy down 1% of qualifying interest rates with the selected banks. This loan program is designed to finance your current year's crop inputs. Producer input loans may be used for any product sold by CRC such as fertilizer, chemicals, seed, fuel, propane as well as CRC supplied services are also eligible for the interest buy-down. Other qualifying uses for

Producer Input Financing loans include cash rent, repairs to equipment, crop insurance premiums, real estate taxes, etc. However only products and services purchased at CRC will be eligible for the interest buy-down portion of the

There are some general requirements to the program such as: input loans under \$100,000 will require a completed application and a current financial statement for the previous 12 months. Loans greater than \$100,000 will require previous 2 years balance sheets, Form 1040 along with a Schedule F. Multi-peril insurance will be required for all loans granted under this input financing program. Loan maturity date will be no later than February 15th following the crop year. Producers must sign up by January 15, 2019 to qualify for the 1% buy-down.

Contact Dan Filzen at the Fairfax office or Sue Hinderman at the Sleepy Eye office if you are interested in Producer Input Financing with a 1% interest buy-down. You may also contact any one of the banks mentioned, as well as your CRC account manager, or any department manager for more information.

RON TREBESCH Feed Dept. Manager

Hello, it's me again! Where did the last year go for our new company, CRC? The feed department has had a good year, holding its own. I think that is great because it means we have done our job putting the two mills together. We thank

you for your patience.

June brought more changes for our Gibbon feed mill. We implemented the Easy Automation batching system. Stop by and see the change, Joe Eaton and Jesse Haefs would love to show you how it has changed. They both have spent a lot of time learning and have done a great job adapting to the new system. This has allowed both mills to work together and manufacture feed for each other if need be. It's all about efficiency! Thank you to both Gibbon and Sleepy Eye mill operators, drivers and office personnel for all your hard work in making this happen. Future changes coming are a new roof on the load out bin area in Gibbon which is 30 years old and the Sleepy Eye will be replacing the mixer drag and surge hopper. With the recent updates our mills are in good position to service our customers future needs.

Fair time has come and gone. CRC would like to thank all of the youth who came in and asked us to bid on their

All About Efficiency!

projects. It shows they are truly dedicated to their animals. It is a pleasure to help our youth.

We want to again stress the importance of early ordering, thank you to those who do this consistently. We also need your help spacing out tons, we are getting half our weekly tonnage on Thursdays and Fridays which puts pressure on our production and delivery staff, decreases our efficiencies and adds cost to the cooperative. Please help us out!

All of us at both feed mills thank you for our first successful year in operation. Fall is just around the corner. We here at CRC hope you have a safe and plentiful harvest. I hope a quote by Jimmy Johnson sums up what we do at the mills. "The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra." If you have any questions or concerns, please let myself, David Peters or Nate Gieseke know.

I will leave you with a quote by William Barclay: "There are two great days in a person's life – the day we are born and they day we discover why."

extraordinary is that little extra"

"The difference

—Jimmy Johnson

between

ordinary

WELCOME

NEW EMPLOYEES



Megan
Hoffmann
started with
CRC on May 4
as a Human
Resource
Coordinator,
working out of
our Sleepy Eye
location. In May,
Megan completed
an Agribusiness
Service & Management

program through South Central College in North Mankato. Prior to coming to CRC, Megan was employed through an insurance firm and has experience in hotel management. Megan's free time is spent competing at horseshows, working on the farm, and being with friends and family.



(Zeke)
Nott
started
with CRC
on April
25 as an
Agronomy
Applicator
in Buffalo
Lake. Prior to
working with CRC,

D Ezekiel

Zeke worked at Transystems for five years, holding various titles. In his free time, Zeke enjoys archery hunting, trapping, and attending car shows. Zeke is a graduate of the Agriculture Production program at Minnesota West – Worthington.



b Traci Schroepfer started with CRC on June 11 as the new Safety Manager, working out of the Fairfax location. Prior to working with CRC, Traci was the Safety Specialist at Elkay Wood Products in New Ulm. Traci grew up on her grandparent's farm outside of

Leavenworth, and graduated from St. Mary's in Sleepy Eye. She currently resides in New Ulm with her two children and two dogs. During Traci's free time you can usually find her cheering on her kids at one of their many sporting events or enjoying live music with her friends.



Dean Welch started with CRC on June 11 as a Grain Attendant, working out of our Sleepy Eye location. Prior to coming to CRC Dean was employed at BIC Graphic and Meadowland Farmers Coop. Dean and his wife, Hilary, have two children, Logan & Madison. When asked how he spends his time outside of work Dean said that he spends his time camping and attending his children's sporting events.



▶ Nick Weis is a 2018 graduate of Ridgewater College with a major in Agribusiness with an emphasis on crops. Nick is a previous CRC intern and has since joined our Agronomy team in Cosmos. So far, Nick's favorite part of his job is interacting with customers and expanding his knowledge in Agronomy.



pylan L. Wersal is a 2018 graduate of South Central College-North Mankato with a degree in Mechanics. Dylan joined our Agronomy Operations team on August 13 and will be working out of our Sleepy Eye location. Prior to coming to CRC, Dylan was employed through Kohls-Weelborg. In his free time, Dylan enjoys fishing, snowmobiling, four wheeling, and spending time with friends.



Dylan M. Wersal recently completed his second internship with CRC this summer and has since accepted a position with our Agronomy team in Sleepy Eye. In May, Dylan graduated from South Dakota State University with a bachelor's degree in Agriculture Science and a minor in Agribusiness. Dylan's hobbies include spending time with family and friends and watching



SEE PAGE 16 FOR JOB OPPORTUNITIES WITH CRC!

SUMMER INTERNS

Daden Mickelson, a graduate of Springfield High School and a current student at South Central College in Mankato. Jaden spent the summer completing an Agronomy internship at the Sleepy Eye East facility. A majority of Jaden's time was spent assisting our operations department as well as riding along with our agronomy sales team. Jaden will continue studying Agriculture Production this fall. When asked what he

enjoyed most about his internship; "I enjoyed working with my coworkers and being able to see raw product come into the coop, mixed, and delivered as the final product for the farmer." Jaden is originally from Leavenworth, and during his off time he enjoys playing baseball, fishing, and farming.



• Brendan Kienlen, a Fairfax native and graduate of GFW joined CRC for a summer Agronomy internship. Brendan is a current student at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall majoring in Agronomy. In his free time, Brendan plays baseball for Gibbon Reds and enjoys fishing.

Dacob Watkins, a Hector native, joined CRC April 24 for an Agronomy internship in Buffalo Lake. Jacob is currently studying Farm Operations and Management at Ridgewater College in Willmar. Jacob spent his time this summer working in the chemical shed, scouting fields, and spraying. Jacob commented that his favorite part of his internship

was the variety of work to be done and the amount of acres that he was able to spray.

Thomas Weikle, Fairfax native, returned for a third internship with CRC. Thomas is a GFW graduate and currently attending South Dakota State University, majoring in Agriculture Science. When asked what he enjoyed most about this years' internship, Thomas said that he enjoys interacting with farmers and

patrons and the variety of work that he has been exposed to.

Let our BCA division be your one stop shop for fall fertilizers and ice melter needs.

Your One-Stop Shop!

✓ We offer a full four-step retail line for residential use as well as custom blended options for contractors with large orders. For residential use this time of year, we recommend our **Green Pro Winterizer 26-0-13** for fall fertilizer applications to help prepare your lawn for the stress of winter. Its root-building formula helps to withstand winter dormancy, encourage drought resistance and increase plant hardiness. Available in 18 lb and 36 lb bags.

When winter hits, we have **Rid Ice** and more for your ice melt and traction grit needs. We have a variety of products for both residential and commercial use with varying melting rates and in a variety of sizes.



CARLY JOHNSON Grain Operations Manager

Grain Updates 2018



f you have been around the CRC facilities in Fairfax or Buffalo Lake lately, you may have noticed some construction and upgrades going on this summer.

The dryer that was in Fairfax was taken down and put back up in Buffalo Lake. We added some new upgrades to it and it is now ready for this harvest season. This will help immensely as it will double the drying capacity to 10,000 bushels per hour there. We also added a couple of load out bins on the north side of the corn shed so that we can try to stay out of the flow of incoming trucks. This will also allow us to transport corn away from the dryer so we can keep it running at capacity.

In order to speed up dumping at the bunker site in Buffalo Lake we removed the east two bunkers and put in a circle piling system with a 20,000 bushel per hour unloading pit. The new corn bunker pile is 350 feet in diameter, 75 feet tall and will hold approximately 2.5 million bushels of corn.

The scale in Buffalo Lake, which was in poor condition from the years of wear and tear, has been repaired with a new scale deck and approach. We will be adding a probe for sampling the grain as it comes in which will let us know which dump we need to send you to when hauling grain in this fall. This will change the way that you scale in because we will need you to wait on the scale until the probing of the load is finished and the scale operator lets you know when you are ready to go.

In Fairfax, we have added a brand new 10,000 bushel per hour corn dryer and a new dump pit for wet corn receiving. The new receiving pit will dump 20,000 bushels per hour. You will be able to dump a semi-trailer both

hoppers without having "I would also remind you to move. This that the Stewart facility dump will be is going to be soybeans located on the only this harvest." east end of the facility, by the concrete silos. When you are finished unloading, you will need to drive straight ahead, go around the east end of the big bins and circle around the north side of the bunker to return to the scale. When unloading at the "millions" dump, you will need to turn left and go around the east end of the bins to return to the scale to weigh out.

This will change again when the groundwork is completed for the new Agronomy Facility and a new entrance off State Highway 19 is constructed. The entrances that we currently use will be removed and no longer available. We will have new signage in place to show where you will need to go. We will update the signs as we move forward with this project.

All of these projects are on schedule and should be ready for the upcoming harvest season.

I would also remind you that the Stewart facility is going to be soybeans only this harvest.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at carly.johnson@centralregioncoop.com or 507-276-7764.

Have a safe and successful harvest.



Playground Equipment Donation

NEWS CENTRAL

On January 3, 2018, the Central Region Cooperative Board Members presented the City of Hector with a \$10,000 donation. These funds were used to purchase new park equipment which was installed by the pool in July.

Thank you to the volunteers of the Hector Lions Club who helped make this available for the community's enjoyment.

BRIAN MEYER Agronomy Operations Manager

s summer is ending, I wanted to give a little update on the operations side of agronomy.

Spring fertilizer was a bit of a challenge with the unpredictable rains that seemed to come whenever and wherever they desired. In the past we would have to shut down until ground conditions improved, but this year we were able to move equipment to the territories that got missed by the spotty rains. All through spring the ability for our agronomy team to run somewhere knocking out an area while another dried was the key to getting through such an unpredictable planting season.

As we finished up with corn planting we had every available machine jump into pre-bean spraying, this year putting down a pre-herbicide was an absolute crop saver. We all knew that the Dicamba season was going to be tough with the new regulations, but I don't believe anyone thought it was going to rain up until the cut off day of June 20.

This is where the backup plan comes in, I'm a firm believer in planning field applications early and having a plan B and C. In some of our areas we simply could not get in to spray corn herbicides. To remedy this we utilized our high clearance sprayers for a late season cleanup along with being able to apply a fungicide. We were also able to apply

Have a Backup Plan

28% with our high clearance coulter bar and apply urea with a narrow-tired airflow spreader and a spinner spreader.

In order to meet needs of the fall anhydrous ammonia season this fall we have updated three toolbars to John Deere 60-footer with new Raven Coolers and Nitrogen Stabilizing Sidekicks. The intent for this fall is to run 10 tractors and have one more on standby as needed.

I'm a firm
believer in
planning field
applications
early and
having a plan
B and C.

We also have an extensive line up of dry fertilizer machines at all locations for your fertilizer before tillage or to add impregnated chemical on the fertilizer after the anhydrous is applied. We have a great group of individuals running these machines, along with some new faces that, as I am writing this, are in a week-long training course to ensure they will be on top of their game. All these employees work extremely hard and long in season to ensure you can keep your operation moving forward.

Take a second when you can to thank them for the work they do. Currently those same employees are making sure all equipment is ready for a successful fall application season.

Thank you for your past, present, and future business.

BILL PELZEL Energy Dept. Manager

ello everyone! Here we are with one year under our belts as Central Region
Cooperative. It's been a crazy ride for sure! I would like to thank all patrons and employees for their dedication and perseverance through this transition. Has it been easy? No! Has it been and worth every bit of the hard work and

transition. Has it been easy? No! Has it been productive and worth every bit of the hard work and dedication? ABSOLUTELY! The energy department had a profitable year, which obviously is important as our primary mission is to protect, grow, and responsibly revolve your member equity in Central Region Cooperative.

As we progress most of you are aware of some changes

Delivery Advancements

that have taken place in the energy department as well as more change coming in the future. In our southern region we are transitioning from our own delivery of bulk lubricants to a third party, Cooperative Energy of Sibley, Iowa will be handling all farm deliveries. Rest assured, you will still be placing orders and receiving invoices from CRC for these deliveries. As lube specs change and oil integrity becomes more important we feel this is a critical transition to provide efficient, profitable, professional deliveries with Cooperative Energy's top of the line equipment.

Cooperative Energy has provided both legacy SCG&E and RRC with our bulk and packaged lube products for many years as a lube terminal for CHS, because of this we expect this transition to be seamless. The planned start date of

PELZEL CONTINUED PAGE 15

BUTCH ALTMANN Agronomy Dept. Manager

Construction Begins

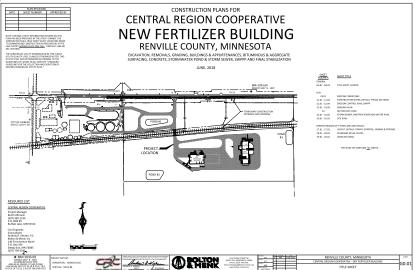
entral Region
Cooperative was
formed on August 1,
2017. In the months leading
up to the formation of our new
cooperative, much discussion
was had on the need for a shared
agronomy asset. Since then, we have

had conversations with neighboring cooperatives and employed multiple feasibility and building vendors to understand how to best approach this need in a fiduciarily responsible way. We are moving forward with the construction of a greenfield agronomy center in Fairfax with groundbreaking that began August 21, 2018.

There are a few givens in this scenario. We know we need another fertilizer asset, and this new plant will replace several worn out facilities which will be closed. We also know that this asset will need to be a strong backup for the entire agronomy division in the case of an unforeseen circumstance at our Sleepy Eye or Buffalo Lake plant locations. Our goal, in everything we do, is to improve our speed and serviceability to meet the needs of our producers.

The specs on the plant in Fairfax include:

- 250 ton Sackett/Waconia tower and a 4 ton HIM mixer
- Future rail receiving ability
- Storage capacity of 17,015 tons, including several large micro bins
- Additional capabilities for future buildout or changes to plant capabilities
- Full-service chemical warehouse which includes two drive through load-out bays, ability to mix hot loads on site, and bulk and packaged chemicals



- Capacity for 180,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer
- Seed warehouse with bulk seed, treater and load-out area

Another given in any project is that a timeline is never guaranteed. The following is a projection of timeline from the contractors of our new facility:

- Groundbreaking: August 21, 2018
- Construction: September 2018 March 2019
- Receiving product: March 2019
- Retail capability: April 2019
- Chemical and seed warehouse completion date of mid-April/May

Thank you for your patience as we have conducted necessary diligence on this project. We look forward to serving your agronomy needs this fall and putting our new plant into action to service you this spring.



PELZEL FROM PAGE 13

this change in operations is January 1, 2019 to ensure full integration of this program prior to spring oil deliveries.

Another important change has been our transition to "mobile energy" in our northern territory, legacy RRC has had mobile energy in place for a few years. With this transition, we now have all equipment operating with state of the art support.

Simply stated, we now have laptop computers in all energy delivery trucks allowing us the capability to make deliveries, track deliveries, and communicate them to the back office in a more transparent, concise manner. Along with this we are now able to track delivery history better for all propane home heat and barn deliveries, which allows us to make timely and efficient deliveries using a degree day system. The intent is to limit run out or after hour's deliveries, making it safer for patrons and energy delivery personnel.

As the harvest season approaches please keep in mind we are a full service energy department. Along with all bobtail deliveries of energy products, we also offer full service



"Sometimes I look back and wonder what my mother, a simple dairy cow, would have made of all this."

wholesale or transport deliveries of refined fuels as well as propane. As always, our harvest hours will be extended from the usual 7:30 am-4:30 pm schedule as the workload requires, basically we will provide timely service to ensure you the patron receive your gasoline, diesel fuel, lube oil, and propane deliveries when you need them! Our dedicated staff is very

competent, capable, and willing to go the extra mile to make harvest safe and smooth for all involved.

Keep in mind we have two energy offices, Buffalo Lake (320-833-3009) and Sleepy Eye (507-794-5831) staffed by experienced energy personnel to receive orders and dispatch them to the respective delivery or service person.

In closing, I'd like to remind you to take advantage of preharvest pricing, if you have not filled and or contracted your fall energy needs please give us a call or stop in to get this completed. Thank you for your loyal patronage and have a safe and prosperous harvest!

GEORGE SCHWINT Procurement

he gulf market price on urea continued to move higher for most of the month of
August. With the United States not having the high market price on urea, there were not as many barges on the river this summer to create a big dip in price as usually happens in June. So the

market price needed to stay up to get any product to come our way. It is a global market with urea in short supply; and with the U.S. market being at a discount to the world market, not many import tons will come to the U.S. I think the urea market will turn downward before 2019—but that is just a guess.

The same holds true for NH3 for the fall it is a strong market, and with only two U.S. producing companies left, they control the market and the supply of it. Remember we have to get nitrogen on in the fall as no company including CRC has the capacity to be able to cover all the acres of nitrogen that need to be applied in the spring. We do not want you to miss the optimal planting time in the spring waiting for it to be applied. So talk to your account manager today and get your fields in the schedule to be completed this fall, as the price in spring, on average, is higher than it is in the fall.

The phosphate, potash and AMS markets never did reset from the spring market, all three products are higher than

Product & Supply Update

they were last fall and are still in very tight supply. The Twin Cities warehouses are on a hand-to-mouth basis, with shipments coming in and going out at the same time, without an increase of inventory it will be very interesting this fall if we do not run out of supply. Most of the phosphates being produced are being exported for more money than they can get keeping it in the U.S., and a lot of the Florida mines that are still able to produce product are shut down with no plans to start back up until the prices trend higher, and yes the tariff situation we are in is not helping the supply of fertilizer that would be imported to our country.

Crop protection products are in the same boat as the crop nutrients, which means they also will be higher priced for 2019. More companies continue to either merge or purchase each other. China is also trying to clean up their air quality meaning they are shutting down chemical manufacturing plants and not exporting as much herbicide as they did in the past. Tariffs are coming into play with them also, hopefully the tariff wars will be over by the time you read this article.

On a high note, as I am writing this article we are moving dirt at the new agronomy center by Fairfax. This was in the a planning mode for a long time and now that it is started it will be a state of the art facility for all your fertilizer, chemical and seed needs for many years to come.



PO Box 429 Sleepye Eye, MN 56085



FULL-TIME

- Agronomy Operations
- Agronomy Custom Applicators
- Grain Attendant
- Energy Delivery Driver and Service Technician

SEASONAL

 Now taking applications for seasonal employment opportunities in our grain and agronomy departments. These are general labor positions, some requiring a Class A CDL with HAZMAT and tanker endorsements or a seasonal Class B drivers license.

Applications and more information are available at centralregioncoop.com, at any CRC location or by calling Human Resources at (320) 833-3003.

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