## STANDING WITH THOSE WHO GROW

## COOPERATIVE NEWS



MyFarmersCoop.com

#### COMPANY OVERVIEW President's Message



Allan Zumpfe President & CEO

It is hard to believe we are down to a little over a quarter of 2022 left. It will certainly go down as one of the most volatile when it comes to price action in the commodities we buy and sell. From record input prices to grain prices, 2022 has been one for the ages. At Farmers Cooperative, we continue to look for ways to add value to your operation. As part of serving you, we strive to provide the supply of inputs you need, as well as competitive grain pricing and programs, to make your operation successful. We continue to add speed and space in our grain division, as well as upgrade our rolling stock in all divisions.

During fiscal 22/23, various projects have been completed and many are in progress. A 2.0-million-bushel Macon building with 20,000 bph fill capacity will be ready for harvest in Exeter. The greenfield site located near Barnes, Kansas, will not be completed by harvest this year, as too many weather events delayed progress. McPherson Concrete and Habco are constructing  $2 - 92' \times 140'$  concrete tanks with each holding 820,000 bushels. They will be loaded with 2 - 20,000 bph legs with overheads along with an office for our staff. We have started construction of a new 450,000-bushel bin in Lushton after the June 14th storm took out a couple of bins there, as well as repairing another one by taking it down to the ground, replacing the damaged sheeting, and jacking it back up. Eight overhead bins were constructed in various locations to help with the unload process as well.

An addition to the agronomy center in Odell was completed with Exeter and Wilber in progress. Our new NH3 site was added near Adams where one of 4 - 60,000-gallon bullets were placed; the other three are located in Exeter, Dorchester, and Odell. Several ag tire machines were put in service this year, as well as a tire service truck and propane truck in the energy division. The feed division added several feed trucks, as well as a Micro System in Firth. Five additional power units and grain trailers were added to our transport fleet. We continue to add and update equipment and facilities to better serve you.

As we move into 2023, we will focus on driving efficiencies throughout your company and look for ways to do more with less, so to speak. Three main areas that will have the biggest year on year impact are labor costs, interest costs, and the overall results to all other costs due to inflation, particularly repairs and fuel costs. Each year we do an annual business forecast, and those three categories look to add nearly \$10 million to our expense line in the coming year.

Fiscal 21/22 was an excellent year financially for your company and we look forward to reporting our audited results at our annual meeting on January 10th in DeWitt.

Thank you for your business and support and we look forward to serving you again this year. Thanks again, and please have a safe harvest.



Construction continues on greenfield site near Barnes, KS.





**Dale Hayek** Grain Division Manager



Fertilizer Manager

Unanswered questions continue to revolve around fertilizer markets and volatility. The slightest change in information sends the market into an emotional overreaction in one direction or the other. The most popular question for 2022 has been: "are prices going higher or are we headed for the great reset?" In today's world, we are less independent and more globally tied than ever before (possibly to a fault). The more dependent we become around the globe, the more fragile and volatile price swings become as we are susceptible to things such as political issues, the Russia/Ukraine war, soaring natural gas prices

in Europe, production shutdowns, new trade flows, etc., all of which impacts your operation.

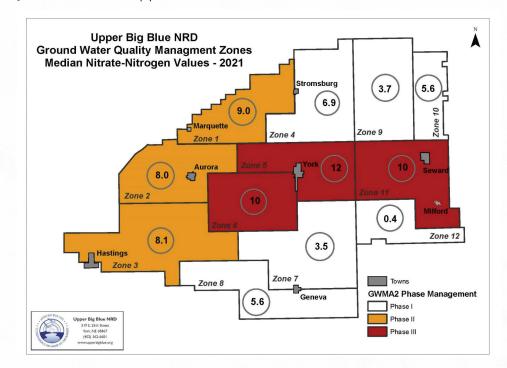
We are navigating new waters and are faced with unforeseen challenges. Fertilizer prices are knocking on the door of what spring 2022 values were and continue to gain strength with crop values pushing higher as well. We are seeing production shutdowns in Poland, Lithuania, and Hungary, to name a few. A rough estimate of one million metric tons of anhydrous ammonia equivalent is being lost every 30 days with all the shutdowns thus far. The extent of the damage will depend on how long the variables last. 2023 crop season looks to be another unprecedented year. We will continue to service the owners of the company and mitigate the risks as we move forward.

In preparation for anhydrous ammonia season this fall, please take a moment to review the new requirements decided by the NRD in the Upper Big Blue (UBB) district regarding nitrogen stabilizers. The stabilizers that have been approved by the NRD must contain one of the three base ingredients to act as the nitrogen inhibitor (nitropyrin, pronitridine, and dicyandiamide). I would encourage you to review the two websites provided to see if you are impacted and inform yourself on the guidelines that are to be followed. The two websites show the mapping of the impacted area as well as the requirements for the proof of purchase. Farmers Cooperative carries an NRD approved stabilizer that can be pumped into the nurse tanks prior to application. For further information, contact the Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District.

https://www.upperbigblue.org/programs/groundwater-quality

https://www.upperbigblue.org/%E2%80%8Bnitrogen-levelsgroundwater-lead-increased-management

Fall harvest is underway which means fertilizer season is fast approaching. Farmers Cooperative continues to invest in more assets to keep up with the increased speed at which product is going out and being applied. We have several projects to wrap up prior to fall but look to be fully operational for fall season. I think we can all agree we need to see some moisture to get things started! Have a safe harvest and we appreciate your continued support.



#### AGRONOMY Investing Back Into Our Business



As we finish another strong year in agronomy, I first want to thank our patrons for your continued support of this division and our employees. Rewind 12 months – do you recall the volatility in fertilizer and chemistry? Our strategy was to find product for you, and I believe we were able to achieve this with lots of hard work from our procurement team in chemistry and fertilizer. We all wish prices were at lower levels but for now, we are working to mitigate our risk as the market evolves in front of us.

Scott Heinrich Agronomy Division Manager

We are fortunate to be able to invest back into our business with new assets and projects. Some

of the highlights include the addition of four new 60,000-gallon NH3 storage vessels in Exeter, Adams, Odell, and Dorchester, 73,000 gallons of chemical storage in DeWitt, two new chemical tankers, two row crop sprayers, numerous nurse tanks for liquid and NH3, one 500,000-gallon liquid tank in Plymouth, and an addition to the chemistry building in Exeter for offices. What a list of assets! Thanks to the Board of Directors for their approval and support of the agronomy team.

Starting into a new fiscal year will have many challenges that will be dictated on the world stage. This includes energy prices at all-time highs, the United States working through the highest inflation seen since the '80s, shutdowns across the globe on fertilizer production, and interest rates on the rise. Big challenges for sure, but we are focused on these three components: customers, products, and service! In addition, we need to manage the risk associated with buying products in these volatile times. Production, supply, and prices are still uncertain from day to day and because of this, you have seen and will continue to see our prices reflect the world market. As we manage through this with you, understand our team is committed to servicing you at the high standard you deserve.



Four new 60,000-gallon NH3 storage vessels were added throughout our territory.



73,000 gallons of chemical storage were added in DeWitt, NE.

Thank you for your business!

#### **SAFETY** Guidelines for a Safe Anhydrous Ammonia Season



Safety is a core value at Farmers Cooperative and our employees take considerable pride in being educated on the safety of the equipment they operate. The Federal Motor Carrier requires Farmers Cooperative employees to receive annual training, carry a current medical card, and have a valid commercial driver's license, along with proper endorsements.

**Tom Hermance** Safety Division Manager

With harvest underway, this means fall fertilizer application will be upon us shortly. Follow these simple guidelines to have a safe anhydrous ammonia season.

One type of running gear used by Farmers Cooperative for anhydrous ammonia has twin 1,500-gallon tanks, or twin 1,000-gallon tanks with super single tires (referencing the tire and rims that are on the chassis). The tire pressure rating may read up to 125 psi; however, the critical piece is the rim specs. Not all rims are rated for a 125-tire psi. 50 pounds (50 psi) in each tire is adequate pressure to safely operate running gears with super singles. All Farmers Cooperative employees have been instructed to only inflate the super single tires to a maximum of 50 psi.

When repairing the super single, if the wheel is not attached to the vehicle, it is required to be placed in a tire safety cage. When inflating the tire to 50 psi, a six-foot whip hose with clip attachment should be used. While filling the tire, stand at 45 degrees from the front of the tire. This will allow the person to remain out of the trajectory zone.

Lastly, look at your connection points. A solid receiver hitch with a 12-ton to 15-ton rating is recommended. A five-eighths inch diameter hitch pin has a shear strength of 90,000 pounds, which is sufficient. The receiver pin is also a critical component. A grade eight bolt or rated receiver hitch pin with a security clip is recommended. Anhydrous ammonia nurse tanks are equipped with safety chains – attach the chains to the towing vehicle. Do not allow the chains to drag when being towed.





The 2022 crop year was a tough season to work through for many producers. It started with price increases and limited availability of some fertilizers and chemicals, and it ended in extreme heat and limited rainfall. The majority of the corn did get planted in late April this year along with some soybeans; however, the majority of the soybeans were seeded in mid-May after the wetter part of the month across the territory. The May 22nd frost and the week of cool weather around that time frame caused some replant corn and more replant soybeans. The cool weather also contributed to shorter corn, lower ear placement, and for some

**Ryan Busboom** Technical Agronomist

hybrids, smaller ear development.

Following that stretch was above normal temperatures and widespread hail events. Post-herbicide applications were all around this time frame and control was all over the board. The most successful applications were applied before the extreme heat moved through. Fields sprayed during the heat or even between heat waves had inconsistent control. Once weeds go through a major heat or drought wave, they get a much harder cuticle to slow growth and conserve moisture. This thicker cuticle makes it very hard for herbicides to move throughout the weed. The cuticle does not shrink back down once the heat wave has passed, thus leaving weeds very hard to control for the remainder of the season.

Systemic herbicides such as Dicamba, 2,4-D, Clethodim, and Roundup had a difficult time getting into the weeds and moving through to get a good kill. Over the past several years, pigweeds continue to get tougher to control. Moving the post-application earlier on the calendar has continued to show better efficacy. Pigweeds begin emerging in the middle of May with a major flush emerging around the 25th of May in most seasons. Producers applying the bulk of the chemical program around this time, usually at V2-4 stage corn, have continued to see good results. We also have time to evaluate control and make a rescue

treatment before the corn is getting too tall. For soybeans, a long-lasting pre-emerge product is needed. It usually takes longer than a month from when the soybeans are planted to when they reach a few inches tall. Using pre-emerge group 14 and 15 herbicides has shown good effectiveness followed by multiple modes of action post-emerge mixes.

Fall spraying is right around the corner and brings many benefits to growers. Winter annuals can be a host for many insects, mainly cutworms, come springtime. By removing these weeds in the fall, we eliminate a habitat for these yield-robbing insects. Soils warm up faster for a more desired seed bed, especially for early planting. Lastly, our spring-applied residual herbicides reach more soil and don't get tied up in the weed patches. Fall spraying in general just sets us up for a successful spring. Our main programs will be Brash at 1.5-2pt. or Sencor+ (2,4-D or Brash) for either corn or soybeans planting in the spring. Follow in the spring with the group 14 or 15 residual herbicides.





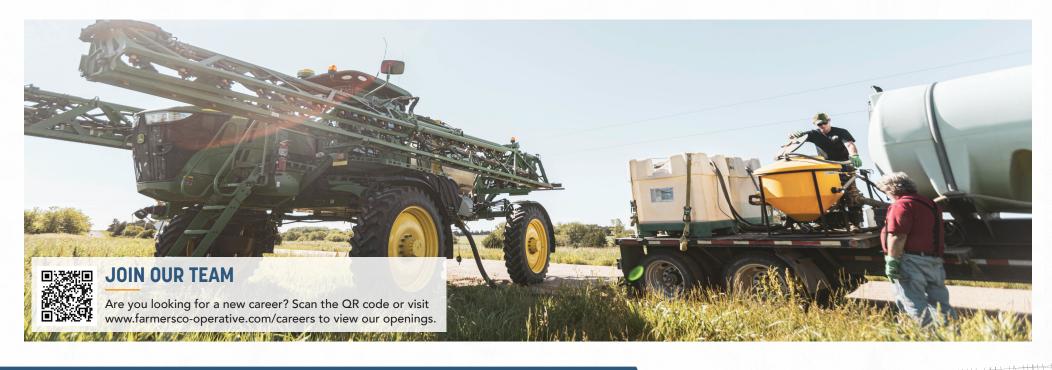
Taylor Collins Human Resources Director

Current labor market trends continue to place Nebraska and Kansas in the bottom few states in terms of unemployment. Recent statistics show Nebraska at 1.9% and Kansas at 2.4% unemployment rates. According to the Department of Labor (DOL), the U.S. economy added over one million jobs in the second quarter of 2022. This figure was lower than quarter one, but the DOL will point out that a decelerating job growth may stabilize the labor market recovering from a deep recession. Retail trade, construction, and manufacturing jobs are still struggling to replace the turnover experienced during the pandemic.

Due to the tight nature of the job market, employers are competing with higher wage premiums and benefit offerings which has possibly led to some wage compression in certain industries. There are a few signs of layoffs occurring within the labor market specific to businesses in interest rate sensitive industries. According to some reports, retail, housing, technology, and finance industries are most affected and have had to lay off some employees already. Agriculture job growth is expected to grow only 2% from 2020-2030; however, the openings are projected to be around 139,000 each year as workers transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force altogether in retirement.

At Farmers Cooperative, we experienced an increase in openings over the past couple of years and on average have around 30-45 positions to fill. This past year, we brought over 26 individuals on the H-2A work visa program and will utilize other staffing solutions to fill needed roles in our peak busy seasons. We strive to remain competitive in this tight labor market while offering the products and solutions our patrons need.

We thank our employees for their continued dedication in making Farmers Cooperative an excellent place to work!



#### AGRONOMY Increase Savings for a Successful Operation



Jared Williams Agronomy Technology Manager

With harvest here, it's a good time to talk about what to do with the data you are collecting. Harvest data provides a tremendous amount of information about a field, much more than simply what the field yielded. It tells the story of the crop and all the decisions that were made throughout the season. From the field prep the prior fall clear through the last drop of moisture that it encountered; it is all reflected in the yield. But what do you do with that information? Farmers Cooperative can help you make informed decisions based on yield from this year and prior years.

Layering multiple years of yield data from the same crop helps to identify areas of inconsistency. We can then work to find the reason for the inconsistencies and devise a plan to correct them. Layered yield data gives us a good historical average for a field. From this average, we can generate a variable rate nitrogen prescription, helping to get the most out of your field. From yield layers, we can also generate fertilizer removal prescriptions. These prescriptions replenish the nutrients that were removed by the previous year's crop. Using removal prescriptions allows for a yearly application of fertilizer, allowing for a more efficient use of the fertilizer and savings for you.

Coupling yield data with grid sampling is another way to increase savings. Grid sampling helps to lower the total amount of fertilizer applied by only applying the fertilizer to the areas that need it, and not applying it in areas that have adequate amounts of nutrients. Generally, the amount of money saved on fertilizer will cover the cost of the grid samples. This is especially true when it comes to ag lime applications.

We currently have a promotion for **\$1.00/acre off grid sampling that will run through October 31, 2022.** I encourage you to come in before harvest gets too hectic and sign up your fields. This way, when you finish harvesting a field, we can get the sampling crews out there and get your results back. This will give the us time to crunch the numbers and have a plan and prescriptions generated for you when you're ready for dry fertilizer application. Check out the Farmers Cooperative website (www. farmersco-operative.com/precision-ag) for more information on how grid sampling can improve your bottom line.

For more information about grid sampling and how to use the data you collect give me a call at 402-729-2330 or stop into your local agronomy center. Have a safe and prosperous harvest!

# Soil P Levels Yield Potential Application Map

### **GRID SAMPLING**

Enroll your fields by 10/31/22 for an early sign-up discount.

#### 🗱 \$1/ACRE OFF





I think it's safe to say that most farmers are ready to put 2022 in the rearview mirror. It has been a year filled with many challenges. The planting season began with a fast and furious pace throughout mid to late April. Then, a number of a rain events and cooler temperatures slowed the pace significantly in the month of May. June seemed to bring an extended period of widespread severe storms throughout parts of our trade territory. Multiple wind and hail events seemed to follow the same paths every time it stormed.

Brian Scherling Seed Department Manager

The outcome of these severe storms proved to be extremely challenging to all those involved.

Growers were faced with many difficult replant and insurance decisions. The Farmers Cooperative seed department was tasked with locating and bringing in thousands of units of soybeans and some units of short-season corn hybrids in a short amount of time. This two to three-week period in mid-June was almost like a mini planting season. It is something that nobody wants to go through again. The positive is that we will all learn something from this process, such as: What maturities worked out the best at the time of replant? How did significantly damaged, non-replanted, crops perform? What long-term effects exist (weed pressure)?

The months following didn't seem to improve. Rain events were scarce throughout July and August, causing one of the driest periods on record. The stretch of heat and drought reminds many of the 2012 season. The once-promising outlook on our dryland acres turned concerning in a hurry.

As we turn the page and look towards the 2023 growing season, we are hoping for a plentiful and less stressful year. We know there are always bumps along the way, but hopefully they are few and far between. As growers prepare to make their seed purchase decisions this fall, it is important to plan on a seed price increase across the board. In 2022, we saw a slight increase in corn and soybean seed prices. It appears this next year's prices will take a larger price increase for all seed brands, so plan accordingly.

With the storms previously mentioned, there were initial fears of them severely damaging seed corn production fields. There was indeed significant damage to those fields. However, the good news is that many of them were quickly replanted. As of now, seed corn production is on track to have a good year with hopefully little disruption to corn supplies available to sell. There may be a few hybrids that were affected causing short supply, but overall, supply of seed for 2023 looks to be in a good position.

In closing, our seed team is hard at work preparing to visit with growers this fall and winter. We look forward to the opportunity to help place seed products that will work best on your acres to help your operation succeed. Our multi-brand strategy offers you the "choice" that you deserve. If you have questions or would like more information concerning our seed lineup, please contact your local Farmers Cooperative agronomy location. Once again, thank you for your business and have a safe and productive harvest season!



#### **ENERGY** Working Together to Keep Your Operation Rolling



On behalf of the tire department, I want to say thank you for doing your tire and service business with your Farmers Cooperative tire centers. August 31st was our fiscal year end, and the tire department had a good year thanks to patrons like yourselves. Like any business, we wouldn't be successful without loyal customers, so thank you for your business!

Brent Colgrove Tire Department Manager

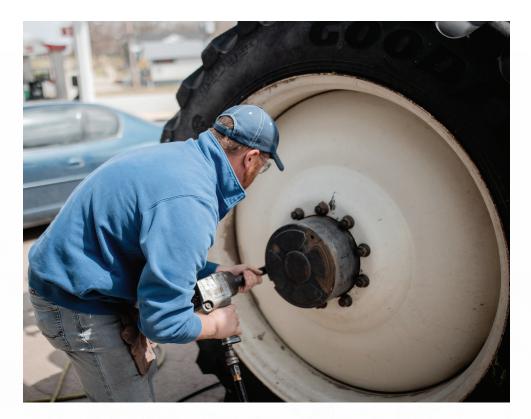
The 21/22 fiscal year was very challenging for our store managers. Not only did we struggle finding good employees, but we also struggled all year with product shortages including implement tires, tractor tires, and tubes, just to name a few. Not

only are there shortages of tires, but on top of it all, we are experiencing price increases from almost every manufacturer. These prices are due to rising transportation and raw material costs.

You may ask, "Why are there shortages?" We are being told by our suppliers the main reason is the COVID outbreak caused the factories to shut down both here and abroad, causing a huge backlog when they opened back up. Some of the factory workers never returned to work, causing many of the factories to not operate at full capacity, resulting in backorders and shortages.

With harvest here and with the shortages we are experiencing, please try to plan ahead for your tire needs for your operation. Give us a call and we will do all we can to get you going again. We just recently received several shipments of trailer tires and medium truck tires for your grain trucks or semi-tractor trailers before the last round of price hikes. Call your local Farmers Cooperative tire center and we will get you tired up and back on the road.

As a reminder, we still offer on-the-farm tire service and strive to react as quickly as possible. Not only do we stock all types of tires, but we



also carry many different combinations of wheels for your combines, trucks, implements, and grain carts. When calling our tire centers, please provide our store personnel with as much information as possible so we can get you back to harvest quickly.

- Phone number
- Tire size
- What piece of machinery we will be working on
- Good directions to the location of the machinery
- If we need to bring a replacement tire with us
- If the piece of equipment we need to service has fluid in the tire

Again, I want to thank you for your continued support. Be safe out there, and we'll see you next time.



Kevin Wittler Feed Division Manager

Water is arguably the most important nutrient for your livestock and the one most taken for granted. We all realize water is essential for life, but also extremely important for optimum performance. Most animals are comprised of at least 65% water and that water has many crucial functions in the body from temperature regulation to eyesight, and everything in between. Cattle can receive a portion of their requirement from lush pastures, but as pastures mature and the dry matter of your forage increases, so does their water requirement. When it comes to water, we can't skimp. Access and

an ample supply of water are extremely important year-round. When the animal is not getting enough to drink, their intake of feedstuffs diminishes. When intake drops, performance declines, so please remember that supplying adequate access to an ample water supply is the most crucial step to ensuring good nutrition. If you have questions regarding adequate access, please contact your Farmers Cooperative livestock specialist. Early fall is a time when many performance-robbing stresses face your cattle. Stocker calves seem to come head on with challenges this time of the year. Forage quality has dropped steadily, as has mother's milk. Weaning, shipping, and sale barn stress can induce disease, specifically coccidiosis, shipping fever, scours, liver abscess, and bloat.

Your cooperative's starter, conditioning and/or stress care feeding programs are specifically designed, formulated, and fortified to:

- Generate optimum feed intake in stressed animals
- Stimulate rumen microbial growth and health in young, stressed calves

- Enhance feed efficiency
- Accelerate weight gain to stimulate overall performance
- Build more metabolizable energy per pound of feed consumed
- Control/combat diseases including those mentioned above



Your Purina starter feed lineup includes RX3™ Immune Support Technology, which is a precise combination of prebiotics, probiotics, and plant extracts to help aid calves in the fight against respiratory challenges. RX3<sup>™</sup> is available without a VFD in the nonmedication options, as well as the standard medication options which would still require the normal VFD. RX3™ primes the immune system to support overall calf health, reduce costs, and set calves up for a healthy future. Research-proven results show the RX3™ calves were more uniform, had less variation in average daily gain, and on average gained six pounds more than the control group within a 30-day period.

As we approach the fall weaning season, please remember to secure a VFD for your anticipated medication program. Your Farmers Cooperative feed team is available to assist you in compliance and answer questions you may have. However, the VFD must be issued by your veterinarian, and we must have a current VFD to manufacture and deliver your order. For details on the program that best fits your operation, please contact your beef specialist or your nearest Farmers Cooperative branch.

With fall harvest here, area cornfields are quickly transforming into stalk fields. With a little help from Mother Nature and some supplemental nutrition, we should be able to winter those cows effectively. Your cooperative offers many different protein and energy sources to meet the nutritional needs of your livestock. Delivery systems range from blocks and cubes to tubs or liquids, whichever fits your operational needs. Farmers Cooperative is once again offering a fall and winter cattle feed booking program. Please take advantage of this opportunity and realize additional savings on your fall and winter nutritional needs. Book through November 30, 2022, or while supplies last. Pull period ends March 31, 2023.

We want to thank each of you for the products and services you have allowed us to provide your operations. We continually strive to costeffectively meet the needs of your operations and the expectations of you, our producer owners.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS, EXHIBITORS!**

Farmers Cooperative would like to congratulate all of our area exhibitors on the many accomplishments and honors earned at the county fairs this summer. Attendance was up and the hard work and dedication put forth was very evident in the quality projects displayed. The lessons learned by the youth exhibitors, parents, volunteers, sponsors, and spectators alike make that experience a part of the rural Midwestern life we all enjoy.



County Fair.

Kian Morris, son of Matt and Megan Korbel, Khloe Cuttlers, daughter of Shane and Pamela shown with his market steer, Jake, at the Gage Cuttlers, shown with her Overall Grand Champion Breeding Doe at the Lancaster County Fair.

#### **ENERGY** Gasoline and Diesel Fuel - Where It's Made and How It Gets Here



Keith Volker Energy Division Manager

When we pull up to a gasoline pump at a local convenience store or have Farmers Cooperative deliver diesel fuel to our storage tank on the farm, it's a product that's ready to use. We put it in our vehicle or tractor and away we go. It's simple on our end, but it takes a large effort to get here.

All our fuel comes from states south of us such as Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas via pipelines from refineries. Fuel, like other commodities, is manufactured where the raw product originates. CHS (Cenex brand) is Farmers Cooperative's primary fuel supplier, operating a refinery in McPherson, Kansas, which is a large provider of

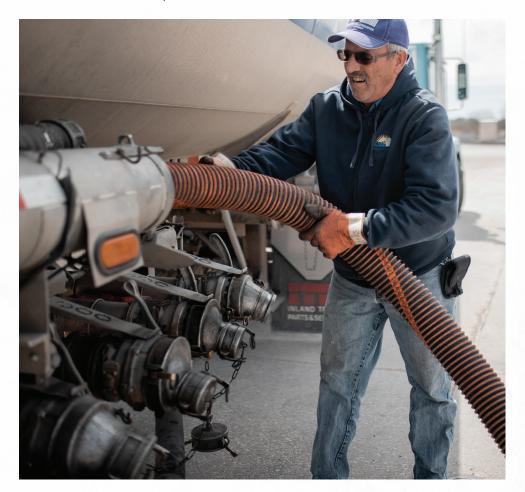
fuel coming north into Nebraska and the Dakotas. This pipeline generally follows Highway 81 through Nebraska. The second pipeline with product flowing north serving the upper Midwest comes into Kansas City, then runs up to Nebraska City, branching west to Lincoln and ends at Doniphan. This pipeline also continues north of Nebraska City to Omaha and continues north and east.

Currently, U.S. oil refineries are running "full bore", meaning they are supplying what the market wants but are unable to produce much more product. This time of year, the industry watches the weather forecast closely as we are in "hurricane season" which runs from August to late November. Thus far, it has been a quiet season, and the last thing the industry needs is to have a hurricane slam into the Gulf Coast knocking out a refinery. 4 of the 10 largest refineries in the U.S. are along the Texas coast and they contribute more than 25% of the nation's fuel needs! If one refinery is taken out of service, even for a short time, it has a significant impact on supply for all of us.

Crude oil is measured in barrels with 42 gallons making up one barrel. Approximately 60% of the fuel coming out of crude oil is gasoline and 40% is diesel fuel. Since the high mark in 2022, crude oil is trading \$41/barrel lower, gasoline has dropped \$1.31/gallon, and diesel fuel 84 cents/gallon. Demand for diesel fuel remains strong coming out of the pandemic and the market is calling for more.

#### I'm Glad to be Here

As I complete my first month of employment with Farmers Cooperative, I look forward to working with the energy team. Farmers Cooperative has built a solid reputation of being an excellent supplier of energy products and I'm excited to be part of this effort.



#### ENERGY New Assets Improve Efficiencies



Brian Irwin Lubricants Manager 2022 has been a demanding and trying year in the lubricants industry and keeping up with demand spikes was a major challenge. Suppliers have been scrambling to keep manufacturing going on a consistent basis, as base oil and additive shortages, as well as other factors, slowed production down while driving prices up. As industry observers are aware, repeated warnings were thrown out from manufacturers that supply issues were likely to arise. Your Farmers Cooperative lubricant team stayed ahead of the shortages as much as possible by ordering early and beefing up inventory to keep pace with

demand. We worked hard to manage cost increases to minimize price impact for our patrons.

All these challenges arose as we settled into our new bulk facility. New

assets include high speed pumps and new storage tanks. We also upgraded packaging and loading efficiencies that will help us improve our patrons' bottom lines in coming years. The benefits of having our inventory and customer service team all under one roof are already evident. We strive to deliver better products with greater fluid purity in the most professional and timely manner.

According to industry forecasts, our customers should expect base oil and additive shortages to continue into 2023, particularly considering the fact there are five fewer refineries operating in the U.S. than there were two years ago. Certain types of grease will likely remain difficult to source. We will continue to be diligent in maintaining inventories to ensure our patrons can keep the wheels rolling in the field.

We would like to thank our loyal customers for sticking with us during these hard times. We are looking forward to continuing to serve our customers with the best products and services available.

#### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM Applications Open November 1, 2022

Farmers Cooperative will award scholarships up to \$1,000 to high school graduating seniors enrolling in college as a full-time student. Preference will be given to students majoring in an agriculture-related field but all are encouraged to apply.

To be eligible for this scholarship, students must:

- Be a student of a Farmers Cooperative patron or employee
- Be a high school senior, graduating in the spring of 2023
- Enroll in a college as a full-time student following graduation

The application form will be open November 1, 2022 - January 15, 2023.

Visit **www.farmersco-operative.com/careers/scholarships** for more information.



#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Tuesday, November 1st** Scholarship Applications Open (Visit www.farmersco-operative.com/careers/scholarships)

Tuesday, January 10th Annual Meeting | DeWitt, Nebraska

Sunday, January 15th Scholarship Applications Close

**Thursday, April 13th** Ladies Night | Crete, Nebraska



