

June 15, 2018

“Accessing Innovation”

Ag Partners Welcomes New Team Members

The Agronomy Department is excited to announce **Nicholas Blevins** as the new Robinson and Fanning area Agronomist. Nick was born and raised North of Robinson, KS, and has worked for Hiawatha Implement the past 8 years in the AMS department.

The Grain Department would like introduce their new Grain Merchandiser/Originator **Carlee Overturf**. Carlee is a recent graduate of Kansas State University, and is from Johnson, Kansas. She is “excited to get to work with the producers and learn about their farming operations!”

We are excited to have them both. Feel free to stop by the office and introduce yourself!



Thank you for your support of Relay For Life! We've raised \$5626 from the lunch, vacation time, and pie auction so far!

Your Response to Fungicide: Cole Remington

On average, most corn is currently approaching the V9 stage of the growing season. While some of the corn that was planted early is going to tassel around June 25th, now is a good time to start planning fungicide application for your corn. There are many factors to consider before you invest and have it applied. If you wait for your corn plants to show symptoms before you decide to apply fungicide, the fungus will have already been damaging your leaves for 1-2 weeks. To help make a better decision before your fields become infected, the Answer Plot system has developed a response-to-fungicide score for multiple brands.

Hybrids that have a high response-to-fungicide are most likely to have a high return on investment, regardless of being at disease threshold. Hybrids with lower response-to-fungicide are more dependent on field history and the actual disease pressure to have a positive return on investment. Fungicide can be a major investment, and it's important to invest where you have the best chance to win. The data on the various hybrids will show us which fields are high priorities needing to be sprayed the most, and which fields we ought to keep an eye on.

Fuel and Propane Update: Jim Ward

Currently we have a fall harvest fuel contract good for Sept – Oct 2018. When asked if contracting fuel is worth it the only clear response is “Maybe”. A month ago, it looked like farm diesel was going to keep climbing up into the \$3 mark. Since then, the oil market has lost \$10 (with a hiccup or two) and then held somewhat steady. Fuel came down as well but not to the same extent.

Propane has been bouncing in and out of a \$.10 swing but otherwise is somewhat steady. We will be coming out with a summer fill price next month to allow an opportunity to top off tanks at a reduced cost in preparation for winter. We will also have grain drying contracts as well as home heat contracts towards the end of July.

Grain Market Update: Lincoln Hillyer

Grains were hit with a barrage of negative news this week. While temperatures continue to be above normal, much of the cornbelt has seen good rains the past week and more is forecasted. While there are some issues shown on the current drought monitor, the major corn producing states have little to no issues. There is talk among the trade we could be looking at a possible national yield north of 180.

The dollar has worked higher this week, making it difficult for grains to rally.

The major discussions have been around the possible implementations of tariffs between the United States and other countries. Thursday night it was released that the US would go forward with \$50 billion worth of tariffs against China, mainly focusing on high tech products. The worry is China will react by putting tariffs against US commodities, including soybeans. News from Mexico has also shown a chance it will introduce tariffs against US corn and soybeans if trade tensions do not improve.

All these developments do not provide a catalyst to get markets to react positively. With so much gloomy news, the money has decided to exit it's long positions until something changes. We are in a time of the year when news can change quickly. Next week could bring totally different results. I sure hope so. Have a good weekend!

[Click here to check out our website!](#)

Ag Partners Cooperative | 708 South 10th Street, Hiawatha, KS 66434 | (785) 742-2196

Visit our social media sites:

