



319-723-4221

www.nicholsag.com



563-263-2373

www.muscatineag.com



319-726-3891

www.otoolecorp.com

Newsletter Spring 2019

WEATHER TRENDS PREDICTIONS FOR 2019 GROWING SEASON

Weather Trends was 83% accurate in 2018 with the forecast done 11 months in advance.

This year's growing season summary looks like May will be near normal temps and rainfall. June looks to be cooler than last year with 1 to 1.4 inches of rain every week. This is near normal but could make it very tough to get all the dicamba beans sprayed on label.

July is near normal rainfall and temps which is 1" of rain over 2018. August is supposed to have normal temps and a full 1" over normal rainfall. Overall the growing season looks good for 2019!



DICAMBA LABEL CHANGES

There have been several changes made to the dicamba label for this year. The change that will affect us the most is the one that states that we can only spray dicamba 45 days after planting or up to R1 (beginning bloom). This could create some issues trying to get everything sprayed in June. We will

be trying to get all of the corn acres post sprayed a little sooner to give us the time needed to insure the best wind directions while spraying the dicamba beans. Hopefully it won't be as wet as Weather Trends says it will be in June or we might have to make the choice of mudding through the bean fields or spraying alternative chemicals.

As a reminder please be asking what your neighbors have planted around your fields.



Lock in your nitrogen with no money down and a year in advance!

Does it seem too good to be true? It isn't anymore. With the advancements in nitrogen trading we can lock in profits a year in advance. You don't have to worry about price spike or

buying for tax reasons. You can buy on your own terms and the best part is you can do it with no money down. We are going to try to buy nitrogen like we are selling 7 dollar corn. The chart above shows how the nitrogen corn ratio changes over time and we will try to capture that value for you.

We are working with you to figure out demand for this program now. Since we are getting really close to an attractive ratio for UAN, it is important you let us know if you are interested in this great program right away so you don't miss out!



SOYBEANS ARE LIGHT HARVESTERS!

When we think of our traditional planting practices the majority of farmers typically plant all of their corn first and then move on to planting soybeans. Extensive research has been done year over year that proves planting your soybeans earlier and your corn later could improve your yields and your bottom line.

Our objective with corn is to get as many plants in the field to put on ears and then to maximize the size of those ears. But we are limited on how many plants we can put out there to properly manage those ears. Corn is also a crop driven by heat units to get from seedling to maturity. Since emergence, final stand and heat units are crucial factors in the overall yield potential

of corn, it may be a better idea to plant corn when the ground temperatures are warmer.

Soybean plants, on the other hand, do put on a large amount of flowers and pods, more than we will ever keep in a crop. Our objective with soybeans is to keep as many flowers/ pods on the plant to maximize yield. Think of a soybean plant as a solar panel, the more sunlight that a soybean plant intercepts in its lifetime, equates to longer flowering period which also equals more pod set, which in the end turns to more grain fill. Soybeans are much more forgiving in terms of final stands vs yield potential: for example Purdue University says you can have 80,000 plants per acre and still be able to achieve a 100% yield potential.

AJ Woodyard has done extensive research on planting dates and soybeans, below is a link to his presentation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jVFcChdgGa4>

Talk with your trusted advisor at any of our 3 locations for more information about high soybean yield management.



**IOWA STATE 2018 FUNGICIDE TRIALS
SHOW PROMISING RESULTS**

The new product Lucento from FMC showed promise during the Iowa State 2018 Fungicide Trials. It has 2 modes of action which yielded approximately a 3 bushel increase over the older technologies. Frogeye Leaf Spot has shown some resistance to the Strobilurin chemistries which are what most of the old products contain.

Syngentas new fungicide Miravis Neo also shows increase over old technology scoring slightly behind Lucento on Frogeye Leaf Spot and slightly above Lucento on Septoria Brown Spot.

Both diseases are very common in our trade area. We will be looking at splitting fields with both products this summer to verify the results in actual field applications.



Blue Flame Propane offers 3 product choices for dust control

We offer naturally safe Tree Sap dust control product. In addition, we offer a Calcium Chloride Product only. This product attracts moisture and is produced from a natural brine deposit found underground so it is also safe for the environment. The third product is a Tree Sap/Calcium Chloride product blend which gives you the benefit of both product characteristics. The county you live in determines the registration and application deadlines so call us at 319-726-3103 today so you don't miss your chance to get signed up for this service!



THANK YOU FOR THE OUTSTANDING ATTENDANCE AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING!

Attendance at our annual meeting was great again this year. We truly appreciate you and your guest taking time to join us for the evening.

Jolene Brown's message was insightful, timely and entertaining. She made us think about how we run our business and most importantly how to transition those businesses to the next generation.

You can check out her website at jolenebrown.com if you did not get a chance to purchase her books, if you want to view her videos or if you are interested in contacting Jolene.



REMEMBER WE CAN TREAT ALL YOUR SOYBEANS EVEN IF YOU DID NOT BUY THEM FROM US!