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Winter Newsletter 2018



LOCK IN NITROGEN WITH NO MONEY DOWN – 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 prices 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! The chart above shows how the nitrogen corn ratio changes over time and we will try to capture that best ratio for you. Ask us to explain this further and how to sign up today!

REMAINING SEED DISCOUNT DATE

Ends January 18, 2019 – 6 %

PREPAY FERTILIZER & CHEMICALS

NOW THROUGH JANUARY 11, 2019

Mark your Calendars for March 14, 2019 (at the Rendezvous in Muscatine, IA).

We want you and a guest to join us for drinks/dinner and guest speaker Jolene Brown



Farm-born and raised, I am truly a real “Farmer Brown.” I’ve made it my life’s mission to help the thousands of farmers, growers, and ranchers share their stories with the wider world. I help our families build a legacy, using my experience and tools to grow, fix, and transition their businesses. And always — always! — with large helpings of interaction, humor and respect. In the world of agriculture, there are no strangers — just new neighbors.

Check out this link on You Tube for a special message from Jolene about our event: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=olGXRLitz3g&feature=youtu.be> (it's a long link but worth viewing!)



As a valued customer we want to make sure that you know about all of the different finance offers for your 2019 crop inputs. Customers can save thousands of dollars by utilizing these finance programs through John Deere Financial at or below the interest rate of operating loans and some at 0%. Most of our customers are already set up with John Deere Financial so in most cases little paperwork is required to save. If you are new to John Deere Financial the application is only one page for up to \$50,000 and by providing some additional financials customers can be approved for higher unsecured lines of credit. Buy smarter in 2019 and contact one of our three locations to start saving money on inputs while not tying up operating loans.



OVERVIEW FROM WEATHER TRENDS 2019 GROWING SEASON

Weather Trends (for 2019 growing season) predicts somewhat drier than normal April and above average rainfall for all other growing season months. June looks to be wet early so with the label changes on Dicamba we will want

to be starting on post spraying corn as early as it's ready so we can get going on the soybeans. One of the label changes on the Dicamba soybean label is that we can only spray up to R1 instead of thru R1. Therefore considering the additional acres we will need to cover with Dicamba we will need to start earlier.

We will want to continue our strategy of good rates of residual herbicides on the soybean acres first and foremost to preserve the Dicamba weed control system. Waterhemp that is controlled before emergence has the possibility of being resistant to the Dicamba molecule. Residuals are also a good hedge in case weather prevents us from getting the Dicamba sprayed post. If we get to the stage of being off label by date(45days after planting) or growth stage(up to R1) we would have to resort back to the herbicides we were using before. Let's hope that doesn't happen! Understand we will do our best to prevent this and your assistance helping us be able to spray early will be key.

Dicamba

LABEL CHANGES FOR 2019/2020

The EPA has extended the registration for Dicamba formulated herbicides for the 2019 and 2020 growing seasons. With this approval, they added a few more limitations for applicators which include:

- Applications limited to 45 days after planting
- Applications limited to 1 hour after sunrise and 2 hours before sunset
- Applications up to but not through R1 growth stage (Beginning bloom)
- Use limited to certified applicators only

- Clean out instructions and label improvement

These changes bring a smaller application window for post Dicamba spraying.

It is again critical that growers relay planting information to your agronomist so that timely applications can be made. Along with planting dates, we ask growers to be aware of what trait of soybeans the neighbors are planting. Wind, weather, and neighboring fields play a HUGE role in our spraying plans. Communication now will save time in season and negate risk for crop injury. We believe Dicamba is the best weed control option for soybeans and we will continue to be safe and smart with our applications; and that starts with you!



Contracting is a great way to avoid high winter propane prices. If you don't already contract with us, call us at 319-726-3103 and we can add you to our list to contact when 2019 contract prices are available next spring!

Please be aware we are now on allocation so propane supply could be tight and prices could be high this winter with the prediction of below normal temperatures in January and February.

**Congratulations to the 2018 Yield Competition Winners!
Read on to see their results!**



Corn Winner



Neil Wulf

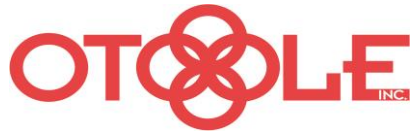
DKC 60-88 - 285.4 bu/acre

Soybean Winner



Scott Powell

AG 32X6 - 84.76 bu/acre



Corn Winner



Scot and Dave Bieri
NK1452-3210 - 255.4 bu/acre



Corn Winner



Richard & Vera Smith
Agrigold A6579 – 280.5 bu/acre

Soybean Winner



Riley Padgett
S33-T8X - 74.6 bu/acre

Soybean Winner



Kent Yoder
Asgrow AG29X8 – 79.6 bu/acre