

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ray Schmitz	Vince Wiedenfeld
Steve Fuller	Dave Unbehaun
Dave Manning	Brad McCauley
Ron Kepler	Jeff Monson
	Brian Denman

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Consumers Cooperative held the 70th annual meeting on March 8th, at the Courtyard at Center Lanes in Richland Center. Following a noon lunch, President Dave Unbehaun called the meeting to order and welcomed over 140 members to the 70th annual stockholders meeting.



President, Dave Unbehaun recognized Jerry Stibbe for 40 years of service to the cooperative. Pictured here are (left to right) Board President, Dave Unbehaun, Jerry Stibbe and General Manager, Jim Husnik.

In the president's report, Unbehaun talked about the changes the cooperative has gone thru over the years. He stressed that it is necessary to look at new opportunities to meet the changing needs of the patrons in the area we serve, and the need for the board of directors to look at new ways to keep the Consumers Cooperative diverse. The directors are committed to maintaining a strong balance sheet for the company while exploring new avenues to promote growth.



President, Dave Unbehaun recognized Ann Gerner for 10 years of service to the cooperative. Pictured here are (left to right) Board President, Dave Unbehaun, Ann Gerner, and General Manager, Jim Husnik.

President Unbehaun also stressed the commitment the cooperative has to the community and the support given.

Manager Jim Husnik announced this year's scholarship winners with introductions of each recipient outlining their past achievements and future goals. This year Consumers Cooperative awarded 14 scholarships of \$400 each. Since 1989 we have awarded \$50,600 to 119 area students.

The manager's report gave members the financial highlights of last year's operations. The Consumers Cooperative had total sales of \$12,328,445, which was an increase of \$1,258,449 from the previous year. Total operating expenses were \$2.5 million, which was an increase of \$71,000 from the previous year. The cooperative had a net margin of \$360,000 for the year ending October 31, 2005. This year the cooperative paid patronage refunds of 2% on qualified purchases to patrons. These checks were mailed to patrons on March 31st. The manager's report also included improvements to fixed assets that were made during the year. There was \$491,223 invested in various areas of the cooperative to keep facilities and equipment up to date.

Chairman Unbehaun recognized Ann Gerner for 10 years of service to the cooperative, and recognized Jerry Stibbe for 40 years of service to the cooperative. Steve Williamson was recognized as a retiring board of director; Steve served 12 years on the Board of Directors. Steve Fuller and Brad McCauley were re-elected along with new director Jeff Monson to serve 3-year terms as board members.

Jim Husnik
General Manager

JUNE IS DAIRY MONTH

First of all, don't forget to attend the Dairy Breakfast at the Adam and Ann Durst Farm on June 11th. It's a great time to see friends and neighbors, while enjoying a great meal at a reasonable price. Also in June, Consumers Cooperative will sponsor the "free milk with a meal" program at four area restaurants. Listen to your local radio for details.

Forage harvest season is here. Be sure to check with Consumers Cooperative for your preservative needs. We also have a complete line of Up North bunker covers, silage bags and bale wrap.

With most of the beef calves on the ground, it is important that both cow and calf have the proper nutrition. The Co-op can provide you with the proper mineral to satisfy the needs of both cow and calf. We also have lick tanks or protein blocks to supplement your cattle protein needs as pastures get more mature.

We hope the summer is prosperous for you. If we can be of any assistance, please give us a call. We look forward to working closely with you.

Bill Tracy
Feed Dept. Mgr.

MICRONUTRIENTS AND ALFALFA

Micronutrients will increase tonnage, feed quality and stand life. The two most important micronutrients are sulfur and boron. Sulfur should be applied at a minimum of 20#/ac/year. Boron should be applied at a minimum of 1#/ac/year. Both of these rates will vary depending on dry matter tons harvested each year. More aggressive cutting schedules that remove higher tons/ac should have more than the minimums of sulfur and boron applied.

Foliar feeding is also a good way to get quick response to micronutrients. However, foliar feeding does not replace broadcast applications of sulfur and boron and should be used in addition to broadcast applications. Foliar feeding with Max-In for Alfalfa has been shown to increase tonnages. In several side-by-side tests last year, Max-In applications also showed an average increase of 15 points in relative feed quality. Foliar feeding micronutrients with Max-In when spraying new seeding for weeds has also shown greatly reduced effects on new seeding growth. Foliar feeding allows the seeding to more quickly metabolize the herbicides, which greatly reduces the recovery period after application. Seeing is believing, and doing this in a side-by-side in your fields will help you understand what I am talking about. Plan to do a comparison in your fields this year and we will show you what this can produce for you.

Steve Marr
Certified Crop Advisor

SOYBEAN RUST

Asian Soybean Rust will be a concern for this year's growing season. There are currently confirmed reports of Soybean Rust in Florida and southern parts of Georgia and Alabama. It is predicted that once Soybean Rust begins to spread, it may only take 5 weeks for infectious spores to reach Wisconsin. This time frame will depend on many weather factors, the most important of which is wind currents. Soybean Rust requires at least 6 consecutive hours of moisture on leaves to infect plants in a temperature range of 50° – 80°F. Thus, Soybean Rust will thrive in hot, humid conditions.

Soybean Rust causes premature defoliation of soybean plants and can result in excess of 90% yield loss. Studies by Universities and Companies in South America and the U.S. show that the best way to control Soybean Rust is through the use of preventative fungicide treatments. This means that fungicides need to be applied before Soybean Rust has begun to infect plants. What does this mean to soybean producers in this area? It means that if Soybean Rust is confirmed in central Illinois it is time to start applying fungicides here. Depending on when the Soybean Rust reaches this area, multiple fungicide applications may be required. Keep this in mind; Soybean Rust should be able to survive in this area through August and into September depending on how long favorable weather conditions persist. Aggressive crop scouting and multiple applications of fungicides may be required to maintain the profitability of your soybeans.

Steve Marr
Certified Crop Advisor

SPRING IS HERE AT THE BOAZ COUNTRY STORE

Spring has sprung at the Boaz country Store, and we have new products popping up everywhere. We have everything from breakfast to lunch and dinner items. New for breakfast are stuffed bagels, filled with strawberry or blueberry cream cheese, or our cinnamon filled pretzel. For lunch our brats are back, or maybe try our pork and vegetable egg rolls, or our new pork sandwich. We have so many new things popping up everywhere that you will just have to stop in and let your taste buds do some popping.

Graduations are coming up and you don't want to forget the ice. We offer 4 sizes of bag ice from 5 lbs. to 20lbs. You can even put in an order for ice.

We're here for your convenience seven days a week with new hours. We're now opening at 5:00 a.m. Monday thru Friday, at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, and 6:30 a.m. on Sunday and we're open until 10:00 p.m. every night.

We're your one stop convenience store, whether it's filling up your tank with gasoline, or just stopping in for a quick snack, you can find it here at the Boaz Country Store. So stop in soon.

Ann Gerner
Store Manager

SIDE DRESS NITROGEN

Side dressing Nitrogen is a good way to increase your corn yields without spending more money on fertilizer. Nitrogen can leach in most soil types. Heavy rains may push Nitrogen down below the root zone of the plant. Split-applying Nitrogen will minimize leaching of Nitrogen early, and make more Nitrogen available to the plant when it needs it most.

At Consumers Co-op, we have liquid and dry fertilizer applicators available for 30 or 38 inch row spacing. Both do an excellent job of placing Nitrogen where you need it most. Urea and 28% can be impregnated with Agrotain. Agrotain reduces atmospheric Nitrogen losses of Urea in hot, humid conditions. Please feel free to call the Croplan Center for more information.

HOW ABOUT A DIXON?

Dixon ZTR Mowers offer advantages at every turn. For twenty-five years Dixon owners have known that mowing with a Dixon is not only fun, but the zero turning radius riding mowers also save time. The maneuverability of a Dixon reduces trimming, even with a yard full of trees.

When the first Dixon Zero Turning Radius mowers were introduced the Dixon people knew it's high productivity and maneuverability would attract customers. The Dixon continues to receive praise, compliments, and support from both the long-term owner, and first time buyers. No matter which model they have, owners agree that a Dixon mower is the best buy.

We have a Dixon residential mower that is designed for small to medium sized lawns, and an estate Dixon for the large lots and acreage. Both mowers have the sleek styling matched with fingertip controls to improve cutting efficiency. The Grand Rental Station also has Dixons available to rent. The Dixon parts and service department is ready to serve your needs. We provide routine maintenance and general repair. We also pick up and deliver. Stop in for a Dixon demo soon.

Mary Foege
Grand Rental Station, Store Mgr.

FROM THE CREDIT DEPARTMENT

Beneficial rains have brought on a good-looking hay crop and given newly planted crops a good start. Let's hope good weather continues through crop maturity.

I have talked with many of you about the credit you need to pay for the crop inputs. Direct and WHEDA loans were two sources of credit being used to pay for crop inputs and there are other sources too. If you haven't already arranged payment for your purchases, please let us know as soon as you can.

As the heating season is over, we would like to have the past due heating product accounts brought current just as soon as you can. Customers who prepaid L.P. found their locked-in prices were much better than prices during the heating season. We will have the prepay program available to you again in late summer.

Thanks to everyone who managed to keep their account current. We know this takes careful money management and a lot of work on your part.

If any of you who are not using vehicle fuel from our Cardrol pumps and would like to do so, please give us a call to get a card or discuss other options. Pumps may be used 24 hours a day in a well lighted environment.

Take time to enjoy the summer months, which are near. Be careful around your farm equipment during this busy season.

Arnie Pharo
Credit Department

GREENLAWN, FOR A HEALTHIER LAWN

With our Greenlawn program you will be the envy of the neighborhood. There is no secret for growing a nice looking lawn. Lawn grasses are living organisms needing sunlight, moisture and nutrients. They can thrive in many different types of soil and many different environmental conditions. The majority of the lawns in this area are a variety of bluegrass, rye and fescue. These are cool season grasses giving the best color and growth in the spring and fall.

A healthy lawn is a green lawn. A green lawn requires care and proper nutrients. Feeding your lawn the right amounts of the right nutrients at the proper time is critical. Nutrients applied incorrectly can cause stress to your lawn. Mowing at the right times, and the correct height, also helps improve the health of your lawn.

The Greenlawn turf program consists of four specially formulated applications to nourish the lawn, control crabgrass and broadleaf weeds, and also control sod webworms and other surface insects. The applications are made at intervals of six to eight weeks.

Let Greenlawn help you get a healthy lawn. We will apply a blend of nutrients at the right times to allow your lawn to look it's greenest. We can also apply weed control products to keep unwanted weeds out of your lawn. For a **free lawn analysis** call Grand Rental Station at 608-647-5278.

Mary Foege
Grand Rental Station Manager

Pesticide Container Recycling

Consumers Cooperative will sponsor pesticide container recycling. We encourage you to protect our environment. Only plastic containers that are triple-rinsed will be accepted. Please make sure jugs are clean inside and out. Please remove the caps and labels from the jugs. Jugs will be accepted from 9:00 a.m. to 4: p.m. on **June 8th, and 22nd and on July 6th.**

SHOW TIME IS COMING SOON

Soon it will be SHOW TIME! County and State Fair projects are in the early stages. Showing dairy and beef cattle is one of my favorite memories of youth. However, as I look back some of the best memories were with my show animals long before the show. Let Consumers Cooperative and HONOR SHOW feeds help with those memories.

We have HONOR SHOW feed that will meet your show animal needs. Whether you specialize in hogs, heifers, or hares, there is a HONOR SHOW feed suited for your prize animals. HONOR has the products and feeding programs you need to help your show animals become the best they can be.

HONOR
NOW AVAILABLE
SHOW FEED
Cutting Edge Nutrition for the
Ultimate Show Look
SHOW PIG
SHOW LAMB
SHOW CALF
Consumers Cooperative
Lake Country[®]
ANIMAL NUTRITION

The HONOR nutritionists understand the importance of sound feeding to ensure animal performance. They understand the hard work needed to participate in the show circuit. That's why you should provide the passion and let HONOR supply the feed. Stop and see us in the Richland Center mill for more information on all the HONOR SHOW feeds. Good Luck at the Show!

Amanda Daniels
Dairy Production Specialist

JUNE HAYMAKERS SPECIAL

June is Dairy month and is also time for our Haymakers Special. From now to June 30th, 2006 enjoy \$1.00/ acre off on custom spreading or free spreader rent for all alfalfa fertilizer. Call ahead to make arrangements for prompt, professional custom spreading, or delivery of a fertilizer spreader, and take advantage of our haymakers special.

CONSUMERS CO-OP PRESENTED SCHOLARSHIPS TO AREA STUDENTS.

Pearl L. Wallace is currently a student at Kickapoo High School. She is the daughter of Earl and Betty Wallace of Hillsboro. Pearl is a member of FFA, Forensics, Choir, Band, Honors Choir, Honors Band, Marching Band, Pit Band, Musical, Solo and Ensemble, National Honors Society, and the Newspaper. She has also been a member of the Cross-Country, Basketball, and Track teams. Pearl intends to continue her education at a four year university, where she plans to determine her field of choice.



Alice D. Doudna is a student at Richland Center High School. She is the daughter of Sean and Darlene Doudna of Richland Center. Alice is involved in Volleyball, Basketball, Cheerleading (Football & Wrestling), Track, FFA (Secretary, President), 4-H (9 years), and Richland Area Jaycees. Alice plans to attend the University of Wisconsin Platteville where she intends to major in Agriculture Education.



Madeline R. Magee is currently a student at Ithaca High School. She is the daughter of Pat & Helen Magee of Richland Center. Madeline is a member of the Key Club, Forensics, Band, and National Honors Society. Madeline has also done volunteer work for Star Spangled Celebration and has been an assistant coach for the Richland Area Rotary Youth Soccer Program. She has also participated in



Volleyball, Basketball, and Track.

Madeline plans to attend the University of Minnesota to double-major in Civil Engineering and Architecture. After college she hopes to join the workforce specializing in the design and construction of large buildings and bridges. One day she hopes to own her own business.



Julie R. Stoltz is currently a student at Richland Center High School as well as the University of Wisconsin Richland. She is the daughter of James and Shirley Stoltz of Muscoda. Julie has been a member of the National Honor Society, 4-H, Student Council, Future Farmers of America, Key Club, Forensics, Future Business Leaders of America, Cross-Country, Track, and Science Club. Julie plans to attend the University of Wisconsin Richland and later transfer to the University of Viterbo where she plans to earn a degree in Social Work.

Sarah A. Mulholland is a student at Central Wyoming College. She is the daughter of Kevin and Chris Mulholland of Richland Center. She is a member of the Rustler's College Rodeo Team and Intercollegiate Volleyball team. In High School she participated in Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, Honor Roll, National Honor Society, FFA, Student Council, SADD, Letter Winner's, Class Officer, Pep Club, RCHS Math Team, Choir, Academic Letter, Prom Court, and Snoball Court. Sarah plans to complete her Associates' degree program at Central Wyoming College then transferring to University of Colorado where she intends to finish her Physician's Assistant Program.



Heather L. Meixelsperger is a student at the Ithaca High School. She is the daughter of Vince and Betsy Wiedenfeld of Richland Center. Heather has participated in Football Cheerleading, Yearbook Staff, Forensics, and Choir. She is also an active volunteer of the Special Olympics, as well, as a tutor for students in Elementary and Middle School. Heather's plans consist of attending UW-Richland and later transferring to UW-Platteville where she plans

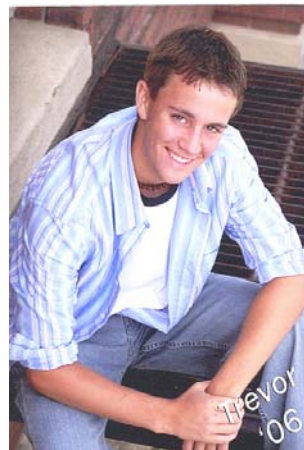


to graduate with a degree as a Special Education Teacher. She hopes to later move back to the area and teach at one of the surrounding schools.



Mark M. Latif is currently a student at Richland Center High School. He is the son of Maged Latif of Richland Center. Mark has participated in Football, Basketball, Wrestling, Track, Investment Club, FBLA, NHS, Key Club, Student Council, Mini Business World, American Math Contest, Big Buddy, Blood Drive, and Silent Trivia. He plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he will major in either Business or Medical Science.

Jodi M. Marshall is currently a student at Kickapoo High School. She is the daughter of Paul and Gail Marshall. Jodi has participated in the following: Viola United Methodist Church, 4-H, Horse & Colt Show Fundraiser, Star Spangled Celebration Volunteer, Red Cross Blood Drive Volunteer, Spanish Tutor, Student Council, Forensics, Math Team, Spanish Club, Ski Club, Volleyball, Cheerleading, Track, Cross-Country, Wrestling Manager, Future Business Leaders of America, Choir, FFA, and National Honor Society. Jodi will be attending the University of Wisconsin Platteville where she plans to earn her Bachelor of Science Degree. Later, she plans to teach Agriculture at the High School level.



Trevor B. Clark is currently attending Kickapoo High School. He is the son of Shannon and Tammy Clark of Soldiers Grove. He has participated in Wisconsin Youth Leadership Congress, Band, Pep Band, Pit Band, Football, Baseball, Basketball, Fundraising and Planning activities and Solo & Ensemble. Trevor has also been a Volunteer Baseball Coach, Volunteer Baseball and Softball Official, as well as participant on the Home Talent Baseball Team. Trevor plans to attend University of Wisconsin Stout to major in Business Administration or Construction.



Lucas J. Annear is currently attending University of Wisconsin-Richland. He is the son of John and Kim Annear of Richland Center. In High School Lucas was a member of SADD, Ski Club, Christian Fellowship Club, Pep and Jazz Band, Soccer, Track, Cross-Country, and Little Britches Rodeo. Currently at the University of Wisconsin Richland Lucas is the UW-R Campus Ambassador for the spring of 2006. Lucas hopes to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Linguistics and earn a Master's and possibly a Ph.D. in Philology.



Brittany L. Ewing is currently a student at Edgewood College. She is the daughter of Andrea and David P. Ewing of Richland Center. Brittany has participated and served at the Luke House for the Homeless in Madison, visited the terminally ill children at the UW-Hospital, been part of Speaking Seminars, is involved in the Critical Thinking and Ethics Program, as well as the Basketball team for Edgewood, Weight Lifting, Work Study, and the Honors Vision Program. Brittany plans to continue her education until she receives her Bachelor of Science Degree. Afterwards she plans to go into Business Sports and Marketing.

Katherine A. Kuykendall is currently a student at Richland Center High School. She is the daughter of Kevin Kuykendall of Richland Center. Katherine has participated in the following activities: Yearbook (Editor), Band, Choir, Key Club, Big Buddy, National Honor Society, Senior Executive Board, SADD, Drama, and Student Council. Katherine plans to attend Purdue University where she will decide her career path for the future.



Mary J. Thering is a student at University of Wisconsin Richland. She is the daughter of Greg and Julie Thering of Plain. In High School she participated in Basketball, Track, Cross-Country, Forensics and Literary Magazine.



Currently she is a member of the UW-Richland International Club and speaks to Art Students at River Valley. Mary intends to attend UW-Richland for her first two years then transfer to UW-Madison where she will be majoring in Graphic Design.



Ellie K. Peckham is currently attending Richland Center High School. She is the daughter of Paul and Julie Peckham of Richland Center. Ellie is a member of the National Honor Society, Big Buddy, Key Club, Student Council, Senior Executive Board, SADD, Swing Choir, Jazz Band, and Solo & Ensemble. She has also participated on the Volleyball and

Basketball teams. Ellie plans to attend either the University of Wisconsin-Madison or Edgewood College where she will consider a career in the Medical field, possibly as an athletic or sports trainer.

Consumer Co-op believes in the value of the youth in our community, and supports young people in many ways. From purchasing animals at the meat auction sale at the County Fair to sponsoring ribbons and trophies at the High School Rodeo and many other community activities to awarding scholarships for ongoing education. Consumers Cooperative has awarded \$50,600 to 119 students in scholarships since 1989. Congratulations to our scholarship recipients and all area graduates. Everyone at Consumers Cooperative would like to wish area graduates good luck in their future ventures.

ALFALFA HEALTH

Last year produced typical leafhoppers infestations for this area. Plan that leafhopper management will be normal this year, meaning fields will need to be sprayed 2-3 times to control leafhoppers.

When choosing a leafhopper resistant alfalfa variety be sure to check the percentage of glandular hair expression. The most current varieties will have 80-85% expression. At 85%, Trailblazer 6.0 alfalfa from Croplan Genetics has the highest glandular hair expression of any Potato Leafhopper resistant alfalfa on the market. It also expresses the multi-leaf trait. Older varieties will be trifoliolate, not multi-leaf varieties. The percent of glandular hair expression in older or low cost varieties may be 70% or lower and will not provide effective protection against leafhoppers.

Steve Marr
Certified Crop Advisor

MAKE PARTIES AND CELEBRATIONS SPECIAL

Grand Rental Station can make your summer parties, open house, or wedding an enjoyable event for you and your guests. A tent is a place to be for a well-planned and personalized event. Add a tent in your garden, in the park, or by a pond. Add some food, drink, music, and a theme to your perfect place to create a memorable occasion.

Parties can take many forms through the arrangement and design of tables. Good planning is always necessary, even for a very simple design. The amount of space available, the type of party, and number of guests invited will determine the shape and size of table that will be best for your event. Our selection of tables will provide the perfect setting for you. You can also choose from the many colors and styles of chairs to compliment the theme of your special occasion. We have tables, chairs, tents and other party needs available in any quantity, ready to use when it's needed.

We also have other items that you might not think of including in your rental list including audio-visual equipment, dunk tank, other games, and food service items to make your outing more enjoyable.

Grand Rental Station can help make your wedding day perfect and a day everyone will remember. We have candelabras, a unity candleholder, wedding arches and even Champaign fountains available for rent.

For your party and wedding needs, please stop in and see what we have available. Hope to see you soon.

Mary Foege
Grand Rental Station, Store Mgr.

PASTURES

If you haven't fertilized your pasture yet, now would be a good time, or it may be time for a second application. Applying fertilizer now will enhance grass growth for summer grazing. An additional application in August will give extra growth for grazing in the fall, and improve plant health for the winter.

Mowing pastures will help control weeds, generates new growth of grasses and legumes, and makes better, more palatable feeds. Other weed control measures, such as spraying weeds, can be used. There are several products available. Make sure you use a product labeled for that application and check for possible grazing restrictions. If you spray pastures for thistles or broadleaves, please keep in mind that you will also kill the legumes (clover, alfalfa, trefoil) growing there.

WELCOME TO SPRING

It's starting out to be a pretty nice spring, except for fuel prices. Once again, the big oil companies are taking advantage of the situation, recording the highest ever profits. The stock market, investors, and world political tensions, including Iran, are driving markets.

On to better news. . . we now have Biodiesel available for both on-road and off-road use at three locations. Get your Biodiesel at the XPress 24 cardrol station in Richland Center, the Boaz Country Store on Hwy 14, or off our bulk delivery truck. We are trying to use renewable fuel sources, such as Biodiesel and Ethanol enhanced gasoline products, as much as possible. This will help our own country's economy by using our renewable resources, such as corn and soybeans, and reduce our dependency on foreign oil. We can all do our part by using domestically grown and produced fuels. Plus, it's better for your vehicles and equipment, and better for our environment b helping to keep our air cleaner.

We will offer L.P. gas contracts later this summer, probably around the end of August or early September. Be patient and we'll send out our safety information and contracts at that time. Thank you for letting us serve your fuel needs.

Dale Servais
L.P. & Petroleum Dept. Mgr.

APHIDS MAY BE A PROBLEM

Soybean aphids have been becoming more of a problem in Wisconsin the last few years. Last season, aphids were spotty. Areas in South Central Wisconsin were spraying early for aphids. Some aphids were above threshold in our area, but did not have the impact they had the year before.

Aphids over-winter as eggs on Buckthorn. The latest reports are that the aphid population is expected to be high due to a mild winter and lack of natural enemies. Southern states have already seen above average aphid pressure. We will continue to monitor the aphid population.

Soybean aphids suck the photosynthetic material from the soybean plant, increasing the stress to the plant. Controlling soybean aphids at economic thresholds is critical in maintaining yield. Threshold levels vary based on current weather conditions. For instance, in drought situations thresholds will be much lower than a year with adequate rain. Check with your crop advisor for information on current thresholds. To contact us for information or questions concerning aphids, or if you would like your fields checked for pests, please call the Croplan Center. Our number is (608) 647-8894. We look forward to working with you.

Vaughn Ramsden
Agronomy Sales

**Have a Safe and Happy 4th
of July from all of us at
Consumers Cooperative of
Richland County**

BEANS, BEANS, BEANS

Foliar feeding soybeans may be the answer to higher yields. *Origin* is a soybean booster from Agriliance, and is a secondary micronutrient product with Mannitol. Mannitol is a naturally occurring plant growth hormone that helps the plant set more pods. Foliar feeding your beans with *Origin* just before, or during, flowering will enhance flowering and pod set. Studies have shown up to a 7-bushel per acre increase when beans have been foliar fed with *Origin*.

Origin Crop Booster can also be applied with Roundup. Approximate cost is about \$4.00/acre, which means you only need about a one bushel/acre increase to offset the cost of the *Origin*. If you have any questions about *Origin* Bean Booster, please call the Croplan Center.

Vaughn Ramsden
Agronomy Sales

KEEP COWS COOL THIS SUMMER

Every summer high temperatures and humidity have a negative impact on our dairy cattle. Heat stress occurs when a dairy cow's heat load is greater than her capacity to dissipate the heat. Heat stress results in milk production loss and poor reproductive performance.

Several strategies can be used to reduce the effects of heat stress on dairy cattle. First provide plenty of shade either from natural sources, or construct it from metal or plastic shade cloths. Also, provide plenty of clean, cool water for the dairy cow. You might also consider supplemental cooling when shade and air exchange are insufficient to relieve heat stress. Other alternatives for cooling cows include fans, low-pressure sprinkler systems, or high-pressure misters. Remember, cow comfort is a priority when considering your course of action in reducing heat stress.

Bill Tracy
Feed Dept. Mgr.

CUSTOM SPRAYING

Call Consumers Cooperative for all your crop spraying needs on corn, soybeans, and alfalfa. Call us for timely service to help keep weeds and insects from costing you money.

CONTROLLING MULTIFLORA ROSE AND BRUSH

Controlling brush can be done several ways. You can simply apply a ready-to-use product, such as Tordon TRU, to fresh cut stumps with the squirt bottle applicator. Be sure to wet the cambium area along the inner bark. This treatment controls stump growth year-round.

Cimarron or Ally are available for Multiflora Rose and weed control in pasture and other grass and wooded areas. Crossbow is another option. The same four percent Crossbow plus oil solution used for basal, or dormant, stem treatments also works on cut stumps. That allows a person to take along a chain saw, basal treat smaller stems, and then cut and treat stems larger than six inches in diameter. Thoroughly wet the cut surface and stump to soil level. Crossbow is an ester formulation, so you don't have to treat immediately after cutting. Crossbow also works very well on other woody plants including multiflora rose, prickly ash, berry briars and most broadleaf weeds as well as most varieties of thistle.

Granular applications toss out brush problems. Spreading granules below a plant's drip line allows the herbicide to gradually move to the "targeted species" root zone. It then translocates throughout the plant. Applying a granular herbicide, such as Spike, keeps the applicator out of thorns, which can take their toll on clothes, skin, and a person's disposition. This product is also useful for tough-to-control species, such as oaks, or as a long-term solution for problem brush. For further information call the Croplan Center at 647-8894.

JULY IS BEEF MONTH

Consumers Cooperative will be sponsoring a "What's for Breakfast? BEEF" meeting again this summer. The meeting will be held Saturday, July 8, 2006, at the Richland County Fairgrounds probably in the early morning. Topics will include the Life Cycle of a Brood Cow, Pasture Management, and Retail Cuts Adding Value. Mark your calendars for this event and stay tuned for more details about this up-coming event.

Joe McDonald
Livestock Production Specialist

FARMERS SAVE MONEY WITH RUBY FIELDMASTER®

Ruby Fieldmaster® is formulated expressly for the rugged demands of agriculture. And, it's proven to deliver: Field tests illustrate using Ruby Fieldmaster® in ag equipment provides 4.5% more power than conventional diesel fuels.

- Up to 4.5% increased power and performance
- Better fuel economy
- Engine protection & lower maintenance costs
- Smoother, quicker starts
- 9.1% Fewer emissions

Save More Money at High Fuel Prices with Ruby Fieldmaster®				
Ruby Fieldmaster Field Tests Show 4.5% more power/efficiency than conventional #2 Diesel				
Fuel Price	Estimated CPG Savings	Cost over #2	Net CPG Savings	Savings per 1,000 gallons
\$2.00	\$0.0900	\$0.03	\$0.0600	\$60.00
\$2.15	\$0.0968	\$0.03	\$0.0668	\$66.75
\$2.30	\$0.1035	\$0.03	\$0.0735	\$73.50
\$2.50	\$0.1125	\$0.03	\$0.0825	\$82.50

the Spirit Shows