



The

Coop Scoop

...for the patrons, employees, and friends of Cooperative Elevator Co.

In unity
there is strength.

ISSUE DATE
June 14, 2010

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A Message from Pat Anderson...

What is this “Field to Fork” ...and why all the questions???

The Automated Scale (Coop Scale Trac) is here! What is this Field to Fork and why all the Questions from your Cooperative?

Cooperative Elevator Co. has embarked on a project that will start this wheat harvest in Pigeon and be implemented company wide beginning with bean harvest.

This project **automates the scale process**. If you have sugar beets, the process will be similar. Prior Coop Scoops have provided information about Field to Fork, which includes traceability and accountability from the field beginning with planting through to the ultimate consumer.

You have received a form to fill out and return to the Coop. We are asking that you reply with the following:

- The truck name, driver name (optional), and the field description for any commodities that you may deliver to the Cooperative, as well as the share information for those commodities.
- The field description is whatever name (and/or number) you have given the field on your farm.

- If you plan to deliver commodities to us, we will need this information prior to your first wheat delivery in Pigeon and prior to any other deliveries beginning with bean harvest at all other locations with the exceptions of Deckerville and North Branch.

- Having the cards completed prior to delivery will speed up the process at the scale. The information you return to us will determine how many cards will be created for you.

Now the big question, what is in this for you the patron?

- We will be able to provide reporting to you, the patron, on commodity delivered, from which field, and by specific truck. If you provide us both the field descriptions and acres (optional) we will be able to automatically calculate the commodity yield per acre. This data can also be used to calculate and report crop insurance information.

If you have questions or need assistance please contact Chris Gettel or Jen Timmons at the business office in Pigeon at 989-453-4500 option 5, or you can e-mail Scott Duprey at sduprey@coopelev.com or call him at 989-453-4500 extension 543.

– Patricia Anderson, CEO



*From the
Agronomy Department...*

Accurate Record Keeping & Added Revenue

There are a lot of exciting things happening in the fields right now! Dry beans are being planted, corn, beets, wheat, and soys are being sprayed. Everything seems to be coming to a head at once. One of the big things that we are advocating this year is our field to fork program. This is going to be an essential and important part of what we will be doing going forward in our agronomy department.

Keeping accurate spray records, and applying chemicals at the right time is going to be a very important part of the dry bean program going forward. Your COOP agronomist will need to get all of these records from you in the future so please take time to sit down with them and give them your information.

There are still some opportunities for some added revenue for your dry bean crops. Make sure that you get a hold of your agronomist to see what extra money you can make.

Thanks – Dan Armbruster

Bad Axe Open House



Rob Kirkpatrick, Bad Axe agronomist, is shown presenting Elmer Guigar with a Magellan Handheld GPS unit. This unit was the door prize awarded at the Bad Axe open house held March 18, 2010.

From Quality Control

Implementing the Coop Scale Trac

In the last *Coop Scoop*, I focused on traceability and accountability in our “Field to Fork” venture. This article is geared toward how and why we will capture some of the data with the implementation of the Coop Scale Trac along with some ISO and HACCP information.

The Coop Scale Trac will help the Coop track where the product comes from, what facility received it, where it is stored, along with giving our patrons a print out of the grades as they depart from the scale. Our IT department will be asking you for information that will help you manage your business and help the Coop meet our customers’ needs.

Over the last several months, Coop Elevator has had several companies visit our facilities. All the companies had similar questions, but the one question that stuck out to the Coop was **“Why is the Coop Elevator ISO & HACCP certified when no one else in the business is?”** Our answer is that the Coop is willing to set ourselves apart and meet demands of our current customers and future customers. By the Coop getting ISO and HACCP certified, we feel the Coop is setting the standard for elevators when selling food products. The Coop is also stating that we are here to help the customers we sell product to with their traceability and accountability, because they too need to have this information for their ISO and HACCP certification.

The companies that come and visit the Coop are visiting primarily because we are ISO and HACCP certified. This shows we are committed to quality and take pride in the products we sell. That also helps us build relationships and showcase our motto “In unity there is strength.”

If you have any questions please contact me.

*– Jamie Ewald, Quality Control
jewald@coopelev.com
989-453-4500 ext. 590*

Quality in Delivery

The combine is a primary source of on-farm grain comingling due to its complexity and the difficulty in completely cleaning out the machine. It is extremely important before you begin your wheat harvest in a few weeks to take the time to remove any contamination that may still be present in your combine. Inspection of all the trucks you will be using for delivery should be checked for contamination or other residue leftover from last fall’s harvest.

To insure reduced discounts, be sure all impurities have been removed from your investment that will maintain your quality products.

2010 Small Grain Harvest

Receiving Schedule

AKRON:
White Wheat

DECKERVILLE:
White and Red Wheat

ELKTON ELEVATOR:
Red Wheat (Dry only)

ELKTON TERMINAL:
White and Red Wheat

NORTH BRANCH:
White and Red Wheat

PIGEON:
White Wheat

RUTH:
White and Red Wheat,
Oats (Feed Bank Only, Limited
Space)

SEBEWAING:
White Wheat
(Maximum 16% Moisture)



In Unity there is Strength.

From the Marketing Department...

Daily Market Commentary & Weekly Market Update

Did you know that each morning the Coop sends via e-mail information on night trade activity and Bullish/Bearish comments on what to expect from the markets that day? We also have a Weekly Market Update, this includes all closing prices on grains for the week and will advise of any basis changes that have occurred during the week.

It's true all you need to do is call the marketing department to have your e-mail address added to the list. For your privacy, these e-mails are sent as a blind carbon copy so that your e-mail address will not be distributed to everyone receiving these comments.

If you do not have an e-mail address or would rather not be included on our daily/weekly e-mails you can find the same information on the front page of the Coop web site.

– Michelle Bergman



Congratulations!

Annual meeting prize winners of GPS Navigational Systems from left to right: Joel Weber, Loren Mazure, Robert Krohn, Bernard Niester, Dennis Fritz, Jerry Wehner

Go GREEN

Thumb Industries recycling trailer is parked in the Pigeon Main Office parking lot. Items that can be collected: corrugated cardboard, boxboard, newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, mixed office papers and manila folders. These items are turned into biomass fuel pellets. These pellets can be burned in biomass fuel systems like corn burning stoves. These pellets burn pound for pound and as good as or better than corn. Biomass fuel pellets are economically affordable and use recyclable material that is normally dumped in landfills.



From the Petroleum Division...

Winter Home Heating Bills... It Pays to Plan Ahead!

Plan ahead and budget your winter home heating bill with the **Coop Budget Plan**. Our Budget Plan includes fuel oil and propane. Call today!!!

Benefits of the program:

1. It is easy to budget! You have the same payment each month, thereby eliminating any large winter fuel bills.
2. You will be put on a stay full list, where we monitor your tank and fill you up as needed; eliminating the possibility of running out of fuel during those cold winter days.
3. Automatic payment withdrawal is available, which will eliminate writing a check each month.

Details of the Program:

1. The program runs from July 2010 through June 2011.
2. You will receive a packet of 12 payment coupons that will need to be returned each month with your payment. Payments are due by the 20th of the month. Ten of those will be used for the monthly estimated payment and the remaining two will be used, if necessary, to pay the remaining balance.
3. If you have a credit remaining at the end of the heating season, you have to option to receive a check or leave it on your account until next season.

How to get started in this program:

1. You need to be approved for credit at the Cooperative Elevator Co. If you are not yet approved, please contact us for a credit application.
2. Call 1-800-968-0601 and ask for Tim (ext 514), Connie (ext 582), or Sharon (ext 565), or stop by the Pigeon office and ask for one of us.

Thank you for choosing Cooperative Elevator Co. as your source for your home heating fuel oil and propane!

A Message from your Safety Director...

June Is National Safety Month

The Cooperative Elevator Co. holds Safety and the Quality of our products to be a priority every day. The month of June is the month that is recognized as "National Safety Month".

When visiting our locations on Fridays during the month of June, teamwork and togetherness will have a whole new meaning, because in the month of May, the employee group received tee shirts that promote both Safety and Quality. The shirts are a wonderful popular color, hunter orange, and while visiting the plants, you will see the Coop employee group proudly wearing tee shirts that promote both Safety and Quality. We are asking the employees to wear them every Friday during the month of June. Our hope is that the employee group will wear them to help promote Safety and Quality in the Cooperative Elevator Co. This sends out a great message and it is a wonderful way to celebrate the Cooperative Elevator Co.'s commitment to Safety and Quality!

We are very pleased and proud of the efforts everyone has made and continues to make to keep our Company a Safe place to work and for making the Quality of our products a priority.

These shirts were purchased with both Safety and Quality in mind! "SAFETY PROTECTS PEOPLE AND QUALITY PROTECTS JOBS" is the message on the tee shirts and this is a perfect way to show the communities that we work in that the Cooperative Elevator Co. takes both Safety and Quality seriously. I would like to ask our farmers to recognize our Company's efforts to promote Safety and Quality during the month of June and to wear the popular color of our shirts, hunter orange, on each Friday in June.

Remember our Vision: "To develop long-term relationships with customers and the community that exceed their business expectations" and our Mission: "To provide quality service, products and markets to enhance the value of the Cooperative".

I hope that you all have a very safe and prosperous wheat harvest! Stay Safe!

– Colleen Emerick



April 24th featuring information on our biodiesel and E-85 products. We also distributed information and small samples of the biomass fuel pellets that we sell in Pigeon, Ruth and Sebewaing. There were approximately 20 vendors that participated in the event.

Petroleum News...

New Card Readers at the Pumps

Notice to all Coop gas station pump users: For those of you who purchase your fuel at the Pigeon and Ruth gas stations, you may have noticed new card readers by the pumps. We are currently in the changeover process of updating our card reading machines which will enable you to not only use your Coop Petrovend Card, but you will also be able to use a credit or debit card at the pump. However, credit and debit cards can only be used during the normal business hours of 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Our website will be updated when the process is complete. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Shop for Tires, 24/7!

Soon you will have the opportunity to shop for tires right at your fingertips. Check the website for our "Shop For Tires" icon which will allow you to get a quote on tires anytime of the day, with next day availability. Please contact us for details.

Petroleum Projects

We will soon be featuring a new link called Petroleum Projects. This link will show you pictures and information on different projects that we have done for our patrons. Keep checking the web for updated information.

Don't forget to check our website for our **Petroleum Specials link**.

Summer/Fall Hours

Summer/Fall Petroleum hours are upon us:

PIGEON & RUTH are open:
Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, 7 a.m. - 12 Noon

SEBEWAING is open:
Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

A Message from the Human Resources Department

Cooperative Elevator Co. 2010 Scholarship Recipients

The Cooperative Elevator Co. is pleased to announce it has awarded seven, \$500.00 Scholarships to Thumb area high school seniors.

Requirements to qualify for the scholarship:

1. Any Thumb area high school senior planning to attend college (either a two or four year program) pursuing a career in agriculture and/or natural resources.
2. Active membership in a local FFA chapter.
3. Minimum high school G.P.A. – 3.0

Congratulations to each of this year's recipients. We look forward to your future contributions to the agricultural industry!



NICHOLAS HOLZWART
Laker FFA
Plans to attend Michigan State University to study Agribusiness Management
Parents: Scott & Cindy Holzwart



KATIE JO GENTNER
Ubly FFA
Plans to attend Michigan State University to study Crop and Soil Sciences
Parents: Craig & Mary Kay Gentner



CHELSEA KOROLESKI
North Huron FFA
Plans to attend Saginaw Valley State University to study Pre-Agriculture
Parents: Steve & Mitzi Koroleski



JORDAN HIEBER, Ubly FFA
Plans to attend North Dakota State University to study Animal Science
Parent: Cheryl Hieber

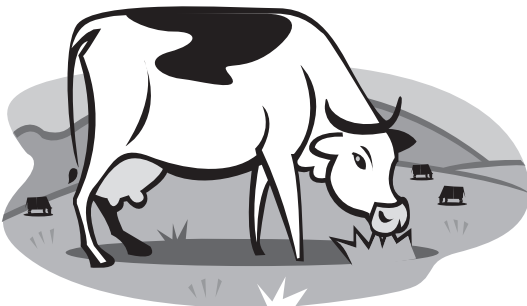


SARAH MICHALEK
Sanilac FFA
Plans to attend Michigan State University to study Food Science and Food Safety
Parents:
Dr. Tom & Lucinda Michalek

CODY TYRRELL, Ubly FFA
Plans to attend Michigan State University to study Ag Industries
Parent: Jim Tyrrell

ASHLEY NITZ, USA FFA
Plans to attend Baker College to study Veterinary Technology
Parents: Christine Nitz & Randall Nitz

June is Dairy Month!



Support the Dairy industry by consuming your daily 3 servings of milk, yogurt, and cheese.

Research shows dairy foods, when consumed as part of a healthy diet, improve overall diet quality and may help to reduce the risk of osteoporosis, hypertension, obesity, colon cancer, and metabolic syndrome, a cluster of conditions that can lead to heart disease and type 2 diabetes. Visit www.nationaldairycouncil.org for more info.

Thank you to all the Dairy Farmers for your hard work and dedication to the industry! And many, many thanks to all our customers for your business!

PIGEON

Main Number 989-453-4500

Main Toll Free 800-968-0601

When auto-attendant answers, follow instructions, or select option from below:

Petroleum Option 1

Feed Mill Option 2

Fertilizer Plant Option 3

Seed Plant Option 4

Bean and Grain Marketing... Option 5

Bean and Grain Plants Option 6

Closing Market Bids Option 7

Scale and Plant Hours Option 8

AKRON 989-691-5711

**BAD AXE
FERTILIZER** 989-269-9929

ELKTON

ELEVATOR 989-375-4001

ELKTON TERMINAL

Main Number 989-375-2288

When auto-attendant answers, follow instructions, or select option from below:

Office Option 1

28% Plant Option 2

Closing Market Bids Option 7

Scale and Plant Hours Option 8

FAIRGROVE

FERTILIZER 989-693-6104

GAGETOWN

Main Number 989-665-9975

Toll Free 800-261-6533

NORTH BRANCH

Main Number 810-338-4086

RUTH

Main Number 989-864-3391

Toll Free 800-800-4958

When auto-attendant answers, follow instructions, or select option from below:

Office Option 1

Petroleum Option 2

Feed Mill Option 4

Closing Market Bids Option 7

Scale and Plant Hours Option 8

SEBEWAING

Main Number 989-883-3030

When auto-attendant answers, follow instructions, or select option from below:

Office Option 1

Tire Garage Option 2

Closing Market Bids Option 7

Scale and Plant Hours Option 8

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

Tire Service Emergency
989-550-0212

Pigeon Feed Emergency
989-553-0640

Ruth Feed Emergency
989-553-0639

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT: www.coopelev.com



7211 E. Michigan Ave. • Pigeon, MI 48755
Cooperative Elevator Co.

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