

Improving Nutrient Management

There is no denying that technology runs our world. Over the past few years advances in technology have helped industries including agriculture become more efficient. For years now we have been working with Variable Rate Technology for crop nutrients and seed. This technology has allowed us to be smarter and more cost effective with our applications. Looking ahead to the 2018 crop year, we will offer yet another form of technology. We will be using in season imagery for our late season nitrogen applications (y-drop). In season imagery has come a long ways since it was first developed. Advances with satellites, cameras, and computers make it more usable now than ever before.



2017 yield map from combine



In Season Image from 7-4-17

The images are not exactly the same, but overall the satellite imagery does a pretty good job of telling us what to expect when we pull in with the combine. On average we will get a new image every 8-12 days during the growing season. We can pick the image and use it to apply a variable rate y-drop application.

WINFIELD UNITED R7 TOOL

The R7 tool has been around for a number of years. Every year it is able to do more and more. Going into the 2018 growing season, it will have more information than ever before. Up to date weather data, GDUs, in season imagery, and overall crop health reports are some of the tools you can have access to on your phone or computer. Grower access can be obtained by enrolling your fields into the in season imagery program. Ask the agronomy team in Tabor or Lesterville for more information.

Calendar of Events

Winter Grower Meeting
Monday, February 19th
Lesterville Community
Center
Supper @ 6 pm
Meeting to Follow

Dicamba Training
Tuesday, February 20th
Kelly Inn Yankon, SD
9:00-11:30 am
Register online @
www.sdaba.org/dicamba-training

Annual Meeting
Tuesday, March 6th
Tabor Beseda Hall
Meal 5:30-7:00 pm
Business Meeting 7:00p

Tabor Lumber Coop Seed Update

One of the most important decisions that a farmer can make to maximize margins in their operation is selecting appropriate varieties to plant in different fields. Varieties can vary greatly in their response to different environmental and cultural practices. Each year Winfield United's AnswerPlot and strip trial programs generate millions of data points comparing Croplan brand products with competitor's products. The data shows that there are significant differences between varieties to such factors as soil fertility, soil type, tillage type, planting date, response to disease pressure, response to moisture stress, response to plant population, etc., etc. Through access to the information in this data base and observations from numerous local plots and side-by-side comparisons, the agronomists here at TLC have the resources and experience to help our customers make informed decisions on variety selection to help maximize the profitability of your operation.

Seed supply is becoming very tight on certain Croplan corn and soybean varieties. In particular the supply of LibertyLink soybeans is extremely tight in part due to the great performance of the unique Croplan varieties and the effectiveness and cost of utilizing this system. If you are considering switching to this system for 2018, please come see your TLC agronomist soon, before the supply is completely exhausted. There are also a few of the top performing Croplan brand RoundUp Ready 2 and Extend soybean varieties that are rapidly becoming sold-out.

Don't forget about us for your seed needs in addition to corn and soybeans. We carry the industry leading Croplan alfalfa and forage sorghum line-ups and can also get seed of most small grains, forage grasses, cover-crops and CRP blends!

General Manager, Jason Stark

2017 was definitely a challenging year for the growers in our area. The early wet weather delayed planting and turned the time to get crops planted into a few days instead of a few weeks. The Coop shared these challenges, it takes all of our employees putting in long hours to keep up with fertilizing and spraying needs in the short time frame we had work with.

The Ag industry is constantly changing and improving with better equipment to prepare soils, planters with on the go technology to place the seed with the best accuracy, sprayers with GPS to help steer and minimize overlap, fertilizer application equipment that can variable rate multiple products moving through the field with more precision than ever, harvest equipment with speeds we have never seen before, and a number of options for programs to help decipher through all of the data to assist in making decisions for planting a crop. Most importantly is the advisor in front of you, helping you make the right decisions to be able to harvest the best crop possible. Having a trusted advisor to make decisions and share your data with is vital to preparing for the next crop season. Tabor Lumber Coop has the staff to help guide you through the many options available. Our goal is to help your farm succeed by choosing products and services that have the best return on investment.

TLC would like to thank you for your past business and look forward to the future years of service!