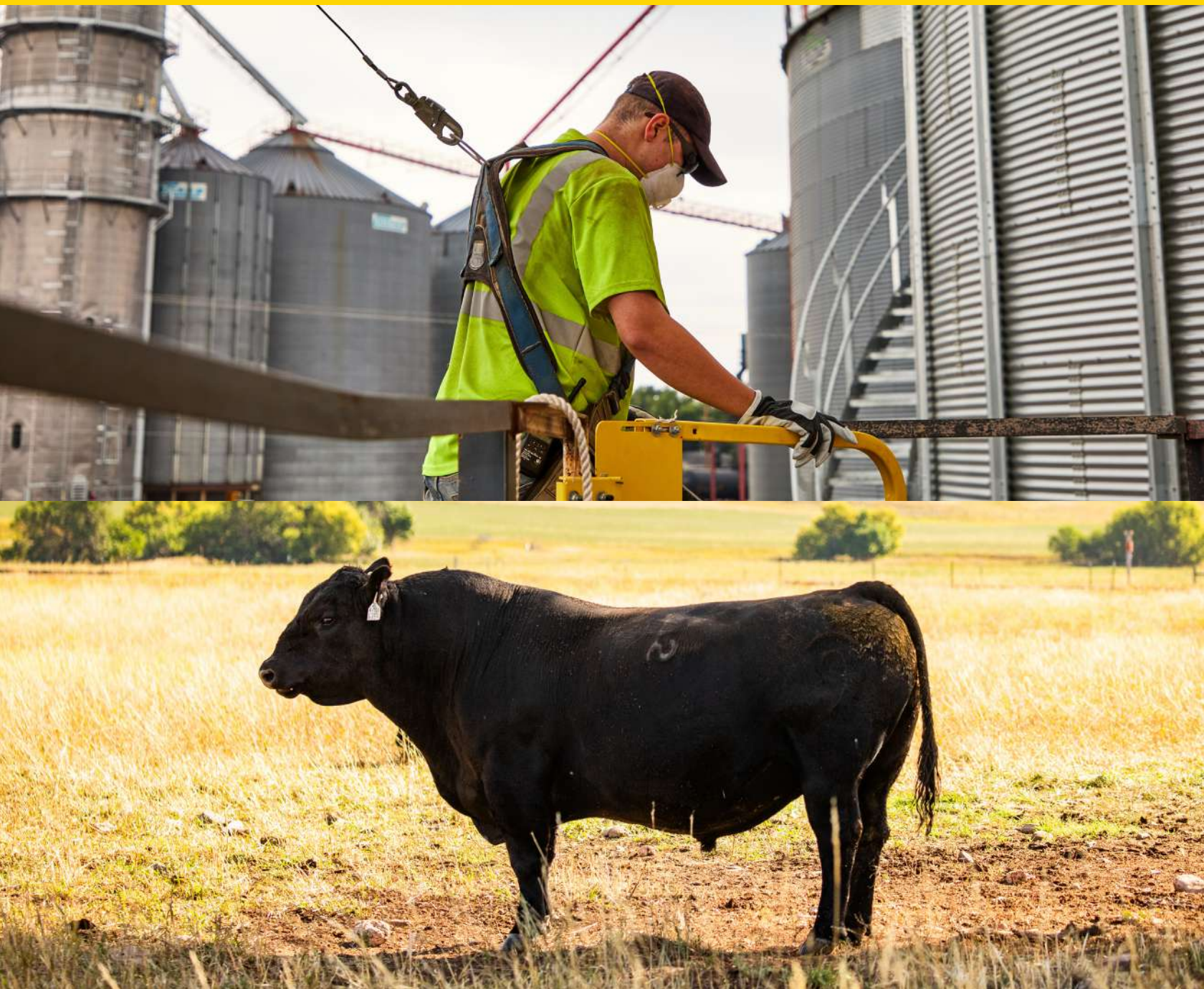




**Southwest
Grain**

The Grain Mill



Inside **this issue**

- Pounds pay
- Scholarship recipients

The power of your cooperative

From the board room



Shane Sickler

Chair

CHS Southwest Grain Producer Board

Good day, everyone!

What a difference the last month has made compared to what we were expecting earlier this summer for a harvest! In my last article, I talked about how dry it was getting when crops were seeded, then wow! You know what they say ... be careful what you wish for! The heavens sent us much needed moisture and saved a lot of farmers and ranchers from having to make some really tough decisions. Now we are mostly all looking at an excellent crop getting closer and closer to harvest. We still have a ways to go with row crops and how they will mature and yield. Those crops need some heat units to keep them maturing. It looks like it's going to be a later harvest for everyone thanks to all the wonderful rain. We still need to pray we don't get hit with any more hail. I know some have had their share and it's always a tough time to see all the hard work of seeding and spraying get nailed when a storm rolls through.

The area ranchers are having a big challenge now in getting the hay crop put up, due to all the rain in the last 2-3 weeks. It seems to be a long time since we have had a cooler and wet July, making it difficult to start and finish the haying season. But it has been good for the cereal crops to finish filling out and hopefully will have some good weight. But we still have some time until it's in the bins!

As I mention bins, the thought goes through my mind ... how many bins have been damaged from the June storms that traveled through North Dakota? Since those storms, many producers have been racing to get their structures cleaned up and move ahead with rebuilding their bin sites. As I visited with insurance companies, the price of bins has increased 20-30%, as well as the availability of steel being a challenge with the tariffs. We may see more grain being stored in bags or more online shipping, which could cause even more challenges for the railroad to keep up with the increased movement of grain coming in. Be sure to visit with Brian or Kayla as harvest gets closer to see how much grain storage at CHS Southwest Grain locations will be available.

Thank you again to Delane for all your years working with CHS Southwest Grain. You have moved this cooperative forward in so many ways, which has benefited the producers all across southwest North Dakota. We appreciate the many ways that you have made CHS Southwest Grain a useful tool in helping producers grow and move their commodities from our fields to bins and local elevators. And for the services and products made available for all the area ranchers, too. You are truly going to be missed by your producers and even more importantly, by all your co-workers at CHS Southwest Grain. Enjoy your retirement with LeAnn and your family.

As harvest is right around the corner, I'd like to thank the CHS Southwest Grain employees for all you have done and continue to do every day to fill the void in certain offices and for stepping forward in fulfilling the farmers' and ranchers' needs with inputs, services and products to get everyone the harvest of crops and calves we all hope and pray for. The employees' work does not go unnoticed by the board, and we all thank you for your dedication and endless hours in helping producers in the area complete their tasks.

As the combines fire up for what we are hoping is a phenomenal crop, please remember to be vigilant about being safe out in the fields during harvest and every day. Take some extra time to be watchful and slow the pace down as needed. Think about taking time to enjoy your harvest with a field picnic or stop for refreshments and always be thankful for family and friends that are helping. Until next time, cheers to a successful and safe harvest everyone!

Always remember to take care of each other!

Producer Board Members

Chairman, District AL

Shane Sickler : 701-290-1322

Vice-Chairman, District C

Steve Verhulst : 605-567-3324

Secretary/Treasurer, District A

Ben Kuhn : 701-590-9300

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Loren Bock (District A) : 701-290-5143

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Ag Retail Service Centers

Administrative Office

3645 98th Ave. SW

Taylor, N.D. 58656

1-800-736-0450

701-483-6212

Service Locations:

Belfield

305 1st Ave SE

Belfield, N.D. 58622

701-575-4386

Dickinson

1722 South Main

Dickinson, N.D. 58601

701-487-2971

Elgin

P.O. Box 40

Elgin, N.D. 58533

701-941-9592

Gladstone

471 Rothschilder St

Gladstone, N.D. 58630

701-483-0021

Hettinger

302 Mirror Lake Road

Hettinger, N.D. 58639

701-567-2408

Killdeer

P.O. Box 120

Killdeer, N.D. 58640

701-764-5514

Lemmon

P.O. Box 239

Lemmon, S.D. 57638

605-374-3301

New England

P.O. Box 220

New England, N.D. 58647

701-579-4496

New Salem

P.O. Box 0

New Salem, N.D. 58563

701-843-7555

Reeder

502 Railroad Ave

Reeder, N.D. 58649

701-853-2302

Regent

P.O. Box 70

Regent, N.D. 58650

701-563-4318

Richardton

Drawer F

Richardton, N.D. 58652

701-974-3831

Grain Terminals

Boyle

3645 98th Ave SW

Taylor, N.D. 58656

701-483-6212

Dickinson

1519 W Broadway

Dickinson, N.D. 58601

701-483-6781

Lemmon

201 2nd St E

Lemmon, S.D. 57638

605-374-3301

New Salem

4456 County Road 139

New Salem, N.D. 58563

Agronomy

Dickinson

1722 Hwy 22 S

Dickinson, N.D. 58601

701-483-4552

Lemmon

201 2nd St E

Lemmon, S.D. 57638

605-374-3301

Feed Plant

CHS Animal Nutrition

4855 GTA Dr.

Dickinson, N.D. 58607

701-483-1277

Petroleum

Dickinson

1722 South Main

Dickinson, N.D. 58601

701-483-5157

Lemmon

201 2nd St E

Lemmon, S.D. 57638

605-374-3318

Propane

Dickinson, N.D.

701-483-5157

New England, N.D.

701-579-4496

Elgin, N.D.

701-941-9728

Richardton, N.D.

701-829-1032

Lemmon, SD.

605-374-3318

Management and operations report

We are in the month of August 2025 with this newsletter, and we have finalized the first three quarters of fiscal year 2025 as of May 31, 2025. We made it through the spring planting season without any significant issues with the exception of an open and dry winter that continued into May. With the spring planting starting a bit earlier and much drier than we expected, the crop was planted in good order and the moisture that followed was welcome. The varied planting timeframe will result in some variability on the crop yields as timing is a big issue this year. We have experienced some more normal temperatures but overall, it has been a good growing season. The moisture this season has been good, although spotty in most cases, coming at the right time and it was beneficial to most crops. Of course, we have had our fair share of severe weather, and the recent hailstorms and tornado activity have damaged some of the crops. Commodity values have dropped and remain under pressure for the near future as the supply is ahead of any demand at this time in every commodity. The world events continue but the weather events have been minimal compared to prior years.

Grain and inputs

Planted acres appear to be shifting a little in terms of which crops are planted, with some acres changing due to timing and commodity prices at planting time and driven by economics. Sunflower acres appear to have rebounded some from last year as the prices for that commodity have improved due to more demand. Our grain handle for the first three quarters of fiscal 2025 is down by about 2.5 million bushels compared to last year, due to some changes in the harvest timing and it is hard to predict what grain quality and production will be considering the variable weather we are experiencing. The U.S. winter wheat harvest has progressed well into the Dakotas, with reports of good yields and normal to higher protein this year. Quality is excellent overall on the acres that have been harvested. Winter wheat harvest in the U.S. is estimated to be around 75% complete.



Delane Thom

General Manager and
Senior Director of Operations
Taylor, N.D.
delane.thom@chsinc.com

Harvest season will be drawn out this year as the planting progress during spring planting was scattered. Crops in general look good but have a lot of variability.

Ethanol demand has been good, so that is friendly to corn, soy oil and now canola oil. Renewable fuel is in extremely high demand, which is beneficial to soybeans and canola. Wheat has shown an increase in ending stocks to use with a good amount of old crop grain remaining in storage.

Depending on what the current crop yields are, the ending stocks could increase again this year. The strength of the U.S. dollar continues to impact the exports of U.S. grain. There will be a period of continued volatility as the markets figure this out, as the markets always do.

CHS Southwest Grain finished the third quarter of our fiscal year ahead of budget. We're looking to finish the fiscal year strong. While grain volume is down, margins look good. Last year the input side of the business had improved margins due to early positioning of fertilizer, chemicals and seed, and the fertilizer market is showing strength after planting season, which is unusual, but is driven by the unrest in the mid-east. The main volatility will show up in the nitrogen markets, but others are strong due to ongoing tariff noise. This year the margins on inputs and fertilizer are better. It's not a home run, but a base hit. With a more open and warmer winter last year, the energy business has shown good demand over the year but is off a little in volume due to changes in demand on the commercial and home heating side of the business. Depending on the crop maturity, grain drying will be up this year because of later maturity on the row crops. It looks like this year will be a year to fill the hay yard in most areas as the hay crop looks to be good.

"You must find the courage to leave the table if respect is no longer being served."

Supplies of all inputs were generally good throughout the planting season. Refined energy products are still in adequate supply and demand continues to increase across the nation as domestic travel continues to increase compared to a year ago. That is a good sign people are getting back to normal, but it does drive some seasonal demand for energy products. Inflation affects all of this to some degree. It feels like the demand for diesel fuel continues to grow while gas seems flat.

Feed

Feed and animal health sales have remained strong even with the better conditions of pastures and hay crop. During good times, it is still important to keep livestock herds maintained and healthy. Check with your nearest CHS Southwest Grain feed sales representative and help them understand your needs. A strong mineral program and water monitoring is always good management practices when cattle are on grass. Water quality is less of a concern this year but as we enter a drier time of year, monitoring water remains important. When and if nutrition is not the total solution, remember to get your animal health products from your nearest location. If you have a prescription from your vet that needs to be filled, we can accommodate that at our locations that handle animal health Rx products. We have knowledgeable staff and good working relationships with several of the local veterinarians. We fill all VFD prescriptions at all our locations and maintain the necessary records to comply. Let us know what you need, and we will do our best to make it available when you need it. Cattle prices remain strong, with recent record sales driven by screw worm concerns and repeated border closures with Mexico. Cattle numbers are still trending lower and that helps drive the recent record progress as growers are selling more heifers and not keeping replacements. With the fall looking to be better than normal, it still pays to add extra pounds to calves.

Patronage

To request equity retirement for age, currently 70, or estate, a form is required. Contact our main office for assistance. You may apply at 70 or any time after, and every five years if you continue farming.

Let out-of-area friends and family know they can call us to check eligibility and receive forms. Estate retirements take priority. CHS will review requests at fiscal year-end and retire what they can.

Safety

We continue to update and maintain our facilities and provide ongoing training for our employees to create a safety culture that is good for both the company and our owners. We educate our staff on safety and a host of new compliance issues. Safety and the health of our employees and customers will be an ongoing process for some time to come as we figure out how to continue to work and remain healthy. We have a good group of local safety specialists that are working on safety all day, every day, with the intent of becoming more proactive as we promote safety and compliance. Thanks to our employees for making safety and compliance a part of the culture and for maintaining our level of excellence. Safety at the farm level is something that should not be taken for granted. As we approach harvest and haying season for 2025, everyone needs to pay attention to doing things the safest way possible. Grain bin confined space entries are a focus for the industry now and should also be a focus on the farm. Bins are getting bigger, grain is stored longer and can lead to bridging, which is a main factor in confined space incidents. Taking chances never really works out well. Working safely should be talked about daily and each one of you should have a plan in place. If you do not have the time to do it right the first time, what makes you think you will have the time to do it over?

A final goodbye

As always, thank you for your continued support of the cooperative system, and for putting your trust in our people and your company. The success of your cooperative is not about any one person or event, but a true team effort. Please feel free to contact us with any questions, suggestions, or concerns.

This will be my last newsletter article as I retire from CHS. It has been an awesome and amazing 23 years with CHS Southwest Grain and 46 years in the agriculture industry. The agriculture business is a local relationship built on earned respect, trust and honesty. The calendar will tell everyone it is time to step aside at some point, but to continue to help where we can still make a difference to advance agriculture into the future. My cell phone number will not change (1-701-290-1440) and my personal email address will not change (thomdelane@gmail.com) so feel free to contact me at either of these if necessary.

Best of luck to all the loyal customers, awesome employees, and trusted industry people over the years.

“Do it safe by choice.”

Grain market update

The Wheat Quality Council recently held their spring wheat tour that concluded with a spring wheat yield estimate of 49 bushels per acre, compared to last year's 54.5 and the five-year average of 44.6. The final all wheat yield estimate (which includes durum) was 48.3 bushels per acre compared to last year's record of 53.8.

Our elevators have some space heading into harvest. We will continue to load and try to stay fluid through harvest. Demand is not stellar, but hopefully it will all work out!



Brian Fadness
Grain Manager
Taylor, N.D.

There has not been fresh news to get any of these markets excited. I anticipate markets remaining rather boring, as there is plenty of grain around, according to USDA's last crop report, and harvest in the Northern Plains has begun.

Have a safe harvest!

New England

location update

We have been busy getting grain out and ready for harvest. A big thank you to our transfer drivers who helped with that.

We would like to welcome Sarah Thompson to our area as an animal health nutritionist. Sarah can work alongside you to build a feed ration that works for what you need. She can help with hay samples, water samples and overall herd health. Sarah is at the Lemmon location and will be in the New England area when she can. You are more than welcome to reach out to Sarah if you need to either on her cell 605-673-1059. She has been with the company for over 10 years and is very knowledgeable.



Chelsie Clevenger
Location Manager
New England, N.D.

Right now, we do have sales on certain minerals, dog food, and Smartlic® tubs and other miscellaneous items. Please stop in and ask about those.

Terry is still here running around like crazy with all his fuel orders.

Happy Harvest.

Petro department

Interesting Note and Joke:

Do you know Hyperion, Helios, Icarus, or Daedalus? Few do as these are the names of the tallest trees in the world. These trees are found in the Redwood National Forest. These large redwood trees range from 300'-380' tall and are 600-800 years old. Boy the stories they could tell! But they are young compared to the 4,800-year-old Bristle Cone Pine which are the longest-lived trees on the plant. Talk about wrinkles!

Energy at a glance:

Propane: Summer fill is winding down for the season. Deferred billing invoices from summer fill will come out in your August statements to be paid, so watch for this invoice.

There will be some winter propane contracts available along with some dryer heat gallons. Those prices should be available starting the first of August. Check with Mary and Dalton, your certified energy specialists, on the prices and terms. There will be limited gallons. Once we run out, we are out for the season. Contracts typically are from October 1 to March 31 each year.

Another program we have for those with a tight budget is Budget Billing. This is a great way to spread out your propane and heating fuel financial needs through a monthly payment option. Visit your local service rep to find out all about the beneficial propane programs we have just for you.

Propane monitoring is becoming very popular, and I would say crucial to making sure you do not run out of propane. At no charge to you, we are able to place a cell phone monitor on your tank and keep you full. Not letting you run out of propane is the goal. With a link provided, you can see your tank level anywhere in the world and our drivers are watching your level and making sure you do not run out of propane.

Diesel and gas: Weather and global political uncertainty have been the leading factors on diesel and gas usage, supply and pricing. We have experienced a wetter than normal spring and summer. Crops, although late in the ground, have flourished if they have not been damaged by rogue storms passing through. Volatility in the geopolitical realm tends to cause companies and people to hold off on big decisions, vacations and big purchases. Both weather and political unrest have contributed



Jared Bookhardt
Energy Manager
Dickinson, N.D.
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to lower demand. Product availability in our area is not a problem, and we are flush with both diesel and gas products. Prices still seem to be on a seesaw and up one day and down the next, making purchasing trends hard to track. Contracts can be used to soften this volatility, but prices in the future just do not seem as attractive as in years past. Check with your local CES to find out what contracts could look like for your needs.

Lubricants: It is a quiet time for lubricants. Hydraulic fluids are used a lot in the haying season, but most maintenance is done in the winter or spring months before planting.

Supplies of oil are in good stock, but order times are up a little from this time last year.

Cenex® has a new line of lubricants out in the marketplace now.

MGL (Market General Line) lubricants are made from high quality base stock, with a less robust additive package keeping costs lower without losing the Cenex quality you have grown to love. The new line will offer the following products and viscosities.

- HD 15w40 diesel oil
- Universal tractor hydraulic fluid
- Industrial hydraulic fluid in 32, 46 and 68 viscosities.
- These fluids are available now in totes and drums.

Equipment: We have a good supply of both fuel and LP tanks in stock. Standard tank size is 300 gallon to 2000 gallon. We have also been selling a good number of 300-gallon tanks for those smaller bulk products like gas or clear fuel for the hobby farmer or convenience of not having to go into town. Supplies on tanks come and go so call today to get the most current availability and prices.

Thank you for your patronage and feel free to call the office with questions you may have.

Elgin team is ready to help

Hello, everyone, from the CHS Southwest Grain Elgin location. I hope your summer is going well. As always, the summer is flying by, and we are almost ready to start the harvest. With the earlier start this year everything is ahead of schedule. If you had asked me a month and a half ago if we would have a decent hay crop or good grazing, I would have said no. However, some very timely rains did turn everything around. I am sure hoping we can get a few more rains and a little more heat mixed in there to get the crops to the finish line because they are looking very promising now.

Well, onto business. With hay making in full swing, if you are in the need of any net wrap for baling this year, we offer three different sizes of net wrap. The sizes we have are 64x7000, 64x8000, and 64x9000, and they are the Pritchard brand. When you are done making all that hay, and you want to know what kind of feed value you have in it, just give Kristine Koepplin a call and she will come out and probe the bales and send it in. You can also collect the sample yourself and drop it off at the elevator and we can send it in for you. See page 11 for more information.

Flies are a big problem this year. We offer an array of IGR and the new ClariFly® lick tubs, ClariFly loose mineral, garlic salt blocks, garlic loose salt, and sprays to help combat those pesky flies. We have a good supply of darts in different sizes if you need to treat the cattle. If you have any questions on these products, please feel free to stop in or give us a call to answer any questions you have. I know with the rain this year pastures are in good shape, but now with things drying out, we have bulk creep available for the calves for pick up or delivery. Later this fall we will be carrying dry distillers in bulk to be picked up at the location or it can be delivered.



Jeremy Imhoff
Location Manager
Elgin, N.D.

We still offer custom application of spraying fields for weeds or insects. If your fields are past the time that a ground sprayer can get in there to spray the fields, we can get it done by an airplane. Just give us a call or stop into the elevator and talk to Ashley Roth and she can assist you. Also, we will be offering fall burn down for anyone interested.

As we prepare for harvest, it is time to service your equipment. Just a little friendly reminder that we have a good selection of Cenex® oils, lubes and grease available to help the equipment stay running during harvest. We also have a good selection of oil and DEF in 2.5-gallon jugs and small selection of oil and DEF in 55-gallon drums. If you are looking for any bulk fuel or bulk oil, you can always contact our Lemmon or Dickinson location, and they can assist you. We are still working on our home heat propane summer fill. If we have missed you, or you weren't on the list, just please give us call and we can fill you up before the snow flies.

I hope everyone has safe and plentiful harvest this year.



Stay informed this harvest!

Sign up now to receive cash bids and location updates straight to your phone or email.

Download the MyCHS app



App Store



Google Play

Questions? Contact MyCHS@chsinc.com or 800-548-9727.

May 2025 Grain Mill winner was from Killdeer, North Dakota.

Brent Dolezal was awarded a \$40.00 credit to his CHS Southwest Grain account.

Each time the winner (\$20.00 credit to account) is not claimed, credit will increase by another \$20.00 in the next issue of the Grain Mill.

Read your newsletter . . . We will award \$20.00 to this issue's winner. It could be YOU!

\$20.00

We have randomly selected a name from our patron list and hid it in this newsletter.

FIND YOUR NAME AND WIN A

\$20.00 CREDIT TO YOUR CHS SOUTHWEST GRAIN ACCOUNT!

Call Kayla at 701-483-6212 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. MT

Get a **head start** on **weaning time** with CHS nutrition

Weaning can be one of the most stressful times in a calf's life, but it doesn't have to be. For producers looking to give their calves the best possible start, Payback® Head Start weaning pellets from CHS offer a proven solution that delivers consistent results year after year.

Why producers keep coming back

Even if you haven't heard of Payback Head Start before, those who've used it know the difference it makes. From improved health to faster weight gain, Payback Head Start is designed to support calves through the weaning transition and beyond.

Scientifically formulated for success

Payback Head Start is more than just a feed — it's a complete nutritional package. Each pellet contains:

- Balanced protein, energy, and digestible fiber
- Zinpro® Availa 4® trace minerals, backed by research and proven on the ranch
- Diamond V® yeast and PROTERNATIVE® to support rumen health and digestion
- Vitamins and consistent formulation to ensure reliable performance



Sarah Thompson
Animal Nutrition Consultant
Lemmon, Hettinger,
New England & Reeder
605-673-1059

Fast start, fast gains

One of the biggest advantages of Payback Head Start is how quickly calves take to it. Most calves begin eating it almost immediately, and many producers report gains of up to 3.5 pounds per day within just three days of starting the program.

Healthier calves, lower costs

By supporting the immune system and improving digestion, Payback Head Start helps reduce both morbidity and mortality rates. It also optimizes dry matter intake, which can lead to a lower cost of gain and smoother transitions to homegrown feedstuffs.

Flexible feeding options

With multiple formulas and feeding rates available, Payback Head Start can be tailored to fit any operation's goals and management style. The following additives are available: Rumensin, Bovatec, Decoquinat & Aueromycin (VFD Required by Veterinarian).

Ready to give your calves a head start? Talk to your local CHS Southwest Grain today and see the difference for yourself this weaning season.



Forage and water testing and nitrates

Forage testing is critical to balancing rations, which can improve health costs by 10-15%, reproduction by 5% and weight gains by 7%. It is best to core sample all forages with a bale probe (10-20 bales per field and type of forage) to get a good representation. High quality water is also vital to the herd's performance, resulting in healthier herds, improved reproduction, and higher weaning weights. Water is the most important nutrient of your herd's diet. Limiting one nutrient will limit all the nutrients in the diet.

Small grains and cover crops are a common source of livestock feed; however, there is potential for nitrate toxicity. Common forages which are at risk for nitrates: oats, barley, wheat, rye, triticale, millet, sorghum, sudangrass, corn silage. Weeds (kochia, pigweed, thistle, lambsquarter, etc.) and small grain straw may also be a problem for nitrates, therefore should also be tested. Small-grain regrowth and corn stubble can be dangerous for grazing as the nitrates accumulate in the lower third of the stalk, and we recommend testing prior to grazing. Evaluating all grass forages like corn silage, small grains and weeds for nitrates is an inexpensive resource prior to grazing or feeding and should never try to be predicted.

Nitrate is a form of nitrogen found in the soil, which is absorbed by the root of the plant. Typically, higher levels are found at night due to the root of the plant absorbing more moisture and nutrients during cooler temperatures. The plant converts the nitrate to protein through photosynthesis. During stressful conditions, plant growth and photosynthesis is limited, and the accumulation of nitrates can occur. When a ruminant, such as beef cattle or sheep consume an elevated level of nitrates, the good rumen bacteria or microbes are overwhelmed and convert nitrates to nitrites. Elevated nitrites absorbed into the blood affects the red blood cells from being able to carry oxygen which can result in the animal suffocating or death. Consumption of lower levels of nitrates can result in abortion of pregnant cows, weight loss and poor performance as nitrates can also be antagonist in the diet, tying-up important trace minerals (zinc, copper).



Kristine Koeplin

Livestock Nutrition Specialist
New Salem, N.D. and Elgin, N.D.
701-866-2827

TMR (Total Mixed Rations) can also be tested for feed analysis, however due to sampling errors of TMRs, it is better to sample the individual ingredients or feedstuffs and balance a ration based on the feed ingredient's analysis. At CHS Southwest Grain, we balance rations for crude protein, energy and minerals using the results from your forage samples while creating a least-cost TMR and selecting the proper supplement to customize your ration.

Feed testing is a small investment which can prevent expensive underfeeding or overfeeding of nutrients. Forage analysis and water testing is a tool for better returns to help improve overall herd performance. Remember water is the most important nutrient in any animal's diet. Contact your local CHS Southwest Grain to get your forages and water evaluated.

Thank you and have a SAFE harvest!



Terminal updates



Christopher Scherr
Senior Operations Manager
Taylor and Dickinson Terminals

What a crazy summer we have had so far! From the cool spring to the scorching heat, to the constant storms! One thing for sure is that this summer is going by way too fast.

Harvest is right around the corner and might be going by the time this is read. With the recent tornadoes and thunderstorms some fields took a beating. I've seen some fields totally wiped out. On the plus side, the other fields I've seen that didn't get hit by storms look amazing and should produce a high yield.

Taylor and Dickinson have been trying to take as many trains as they can find to stay empty for harvest. The buyer's market has been tough, but the grain desk has been doing a great job finding them for us.

A couple of changes have happened in Dickinson if you haven't been up there lately. The ramps coming into and out of the scale are in and it has been day and night for driving. We have also put in an outside ticket printer in Dickinson to speed up truck traffic a little bit. Farmers don't need to come inside anymore for a ticket. This will be the first harvest in Dickinson that we will have two big bins set up and ready for canola harvest. We are still trying to update some equipment in Dickinson but that will come in time. Other than that, it's business as usual.

One big change we will see is that Jackie Lefor retired on August 1, 2025. Jackie has been with CHS Southwest Grain for 19 years. She has been to numerous locations for us and has done different jobs. It will be sad to see her leave but let's congratulate her on retirement! She said she will have more time with her grandchildren now and more time for her hobbies. Once again, thank you Jackie for all your years of service.



Jackie Lefor

Grain bin entry



Nikita Lorenzen
Safety Specialist
Taylor, N.D.

Flowing grain is dangerous and behaves much like quicksand. In four seconds, a full-grown adult can sink knee deep from the suction of flowing grain. In just 20 seconds, they can be completely buried.

Safety precautions to prevent grain-related incidents include:

1. Manage grain to prevent spoilage. The most common reason people enter bins is to address problems associated with spoiled grain. To reduce the chance of grain spoilage:

- Maintain aeration equipment in working order.
- Check the structure to identify and fix roof leaks.
- Store grain at the correct moisture content and temperature to prevent grain from spoiling.

2. Work from outside the bin:

- If clumps or crusts develop in the grain, use a pole from outside the bin to probe or knock the clump free.
- Restrict access to bins, storage structures, and outdoor grain storage piles.
- Post signage and lock access doors so unauthorized persons, bystanders and youth cannot enter.

3. Create a safe environment on your farm:

- Provide training to your workers on the farm on the dangers of grain handling and what the safety precautions are.
- Have an emergency rescue plan in place.
- Shut down and lock out all grain handling equipment and turn off all power sources when not in use.

4. Take proper safety precautions if you need to enter the bin:

- Always visually inspect the grain bin or storage before entering it.
- Never enter alone, have at least one person in a safe position watching you and there to help in case something goes wrong.
- Use fall restraint equipment when entering the bin. I know on a lot of farms this isn't the case, but a harness and lifeline can save your life.



2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The CHS Southwest Grain Education and Support Committee is proud to announce the winners of the 2025 scholarships. Eight students received \$1000 each on behalf of CHS Southwest Grain. All winners demonstrated a personal goal to contribute to rural America. Application requirements included average or above average grades, leadership in agriculture and an essay explaining how applicant or applicant's family is involved in agriculture and what cooperatives mean to them. CHS Southwest Grain strongly supports the youth in our region and would like to wish the winners the very best of luck in obtaining their career goals.



Kacee Wasem will attend Colby Community College, Colby, Kan., to major in animal science. She plans to become an embryologist and bring her knowledge back to the family ranch. She is the daughter of Chris and Jolyn Wasem, and her family owns and operates the Wasem Red Angus Ranch in Halliday, N.D. She graduated with a 4.0 GPA, first in her class. Kacee is very involved in FFA and 4-H, showing and judging animals.



Tessa Zarak is the daughter of Christopher and Emily Zarak, of South Heart, N.D. She graduated first in her class with a 4.0 GPA. She plans to attend North Dakota State University. This is one of the few colleges in the U.S. where she can major in agricultural economics. Tessa comes from a multigenerational family of farmers and ranchers and wants to protect that way of life. One day she plans to use her degree to write key pieces of legislation to help American farmers and ranchers.



Paige Kraenzel also graduated top of her class at Hebron High School, in Hebron, N.D., with a 4.0 GPA. In the fall, she plans to attend Bismarck State University to study farm and ranch management. The daughter of Dave and Kristi Kraenzel, she sees herself returning to their fifth-generation family farm and ranch, continuing to uphold the superior genetics of their Black Angus herd with the knowledge she gains from her studies. She is very passionate about giving back to her community to ensure her small town of Hebron thrives.



Samuel Weishaar is a graduate of Lemmon High School, in Lemmon, S.D. He is the son of Shawn and Sarah Weishaar, also of Lemmon. He grew up on a fourth-generation cattle and dryland farming operation. He plans to attend Bismarck State College and major in farm and ranch management. Samuel was a member of the National Honor Society since 2023, a five-year member of FFA, and an active member of 4-H for eleven years. After college he plans to return to the family ranch and implement new farming and ranching ideas to keep the operation progressing into the future.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!



Raymond Holle is planning on attending the University of North Dakota, in Grand Forks, N.D., where he has chosen to major in biology: professional health emphasis. After college he plans to continue on to dental school to obtain his doctorate in dental medicine at the University of Minnesota. Raymond is the son of Charles and Catherine Holle, of New Salem, N.D. He comes from a dairy farm and understands the importance of commitment and hard work. He is an active volunteer firefighter, a member of FFA, and many other extracurricular activities.



Blair Ham plans to attend Bismarck State College to pursue a major in the mechanical field. His goal is to return to Lemmon after college and work on machinery for farmers and ranchers. One day he plans to buy a ranch of his own, so he can do both things he truly loves. Blair is the son of Brady and Kristen Ham, of Shadehill, S.D. He graduated third in his class and has been an active FFA and 4-H member for the past five years, all while working on the family farm.



Sydney Elkins is the daughter of Dustin and Mandy Elkins, of Richardton, N.D. She has been an active member of her 4-H club for 10 years, serving as both secretary and vice president while maintaining a 3.9 GPA at Richardton-Taylor Public Schools. Sydney plans on attending Dickinson State University, in Dickinson, N.D., this fall to study production agriculture. One day she will use her studies to operate her own ranch focused on raising and selling quality market lambs. She wants to make a name for herself in terms of sought after market sheep fit for show.



Shay Burian graduated from Killdeer High School first in her class with a 4.0 GPA. She is a member of the National Honor Society and has been an active member of FFA and 4-H for years showing, judging, and holding multiple offices and titles. Shay is the daughter of Paige and Brenda Burian, of Manning, N.D. In the fall Shay will attend Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture, in Curtis, Neb., to obtain a degree in agribusiness management.



Mark Baar
Location Manager
Belfield, N.D.

Hello from the **Belfield service center**

It was a busy spring planting season and summer is moving along quickly. Winter wheat harvest is or shortly will be underway. Our team has spent time getting things ready for harvest, cleaning out all the bins and making room for this year's crop. Belfield hopefully will have a good harvest if the severe weather stays away.

We have a good supply of twine and net wrap on hand along with animal health products, salt and mineral.

Come see us for your calf creep B68 needs. Calf creep is a cost-effective way to fill the nutritional gap between the calf's nutrient requirements and the pasture diet. We also have a good supply of IGR products on hand along with dust bags and back rubbers, dust and sprays to help combat horn and face flies.

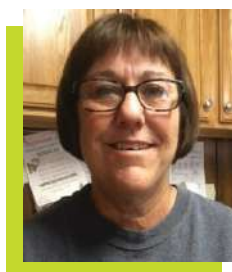
At the Belfield location we have started handling Cenex® premium lubricants.

If there is anything you need and we can help, stop in or give us a call. Your business is always appreciated. Have a safe harvest.

Hettinger update

Flies, flies, and flies! CHS Southwest Grain of Hettinger has all your fly control needs from the pasture to the yard. We have back rubbers, oil, pour on and sprays for the cattle and CV-80 for the households and Tempo® for the yard. We also carry Smartlic® tubs and loose mineral with fly control. No need to be buzzed by those nasty flies. Stop by and pick up your fly control needs today.

The rain greened up the countryside and the pastures still look good. If you start supplementing your calves today with calf creep, that will help your pasture grass and put extra pounds on your calves. Please give Jared a call at 701-567-2408 to ask about delivery of your calf creep.



Suzie Reuther
Location Manager
Hettinger, N.D.

We are ready for harvest. We will have plenty of room for spring wheat, and we will be taking corn during corn harvest. Plan to call ahead on whether we have room for winter wheat. Hours during harvest will vary depending on how busy the season is, so if you are planning on showing up after regular hours please call ahead.

Jeff, Jon, Jared, Caitlin, Hope and I would like to thank you for your patronage this past year. Have a wonderful end to summer.

Once again, THANK YOU for your business!!