

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mother Nature continues to wreak havoc in many areas of the state and Midwest. While crops for the most part look great in the Central Sands and certain other areas of the state, many areas have lost crops to washouts, drown outs and there have been high winds that have flattened corn and hail in some areas. All of this rain has caused a significant amount of herbicide failures. Rescue treatments are being applied wherever possible but in many cases the corn has grown too tall. Another problem is that many sprayers are getting stuck in the fields.

If this moisture pattern continues you may want to consider applying fungicides on your corn and soybean crops. Even with cheap commodity prices, I think disease is going to be an issue and that fungicide application will pay off.

Insect pressure hasn't been significant up to this time in row crops. One benefit of the heavy rains is that it is keeping the aphids and mites in check, for now.

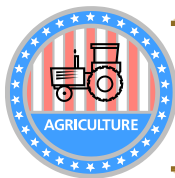
Pea harvest is in full swing with mixed reports on yields. Gray mold has started showing up in some fields. Harvesters are cutting some pretty deep ruts in many fields. Plenty of Colorado potato beetles are showing up in the Central Sands potato fields and they are starting to show up in northern Wisconsin fields as well. Hard to believe but we will be vine killing some of the early varieties in a couple of weeks.

All in all it is another interesting season in agriculture. We at T H have been through many seasons and we will continue to do our best to get your chemical needs to you in a timely fashion and provide experienced recommendations and great service.

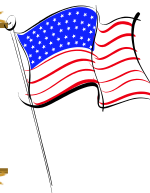
As always thanks for your support. I hope all of you took time to celebrate and had a safe and happy 4th of July!

Sincerely,

Robert L. Zimpel
President



I am proud to be an American,
and proud to be in Agriculture!



STRAWBERRIES

At Hillcrest our last day of harvest was Sunday, June 29th. Once again, Mother Nature has made strawberry harvest difficult this year. Heavy rains have caused disease issues, washed or drowned out many areas of the fields and kept people from coming out to pick. With most growers, the prospect of a good crop was in the making but weather has made it only a fair crop this year.

The rain has also caused issues with new plantings. Besides washouts and drown outs, weeds and grasses are taking over new plantings. Because of the excessive rain, early chemical weed control is gone.

Arrow 2EC/Clethodim will do an excellent job of controlling grasses in both new and established plantings. Other options for new plantings are:

- ◆ *For renovation in established beds, Formula 40 is the old standby for broadleaf control.*
- ◆ *Stinger is also a product which does an excellent job of controlling Canada thistle, clover and common ragweed.*
- ◆ *After mowing off the beds, I spread about 200 lbs. of 13-13-13 fertilizer to get the plants growing again.*

The only bright side to this season is that growers are continuing to increase their pricing. I have heard as high as \$1.85/lb. for pick-your-own and \$4.50/qt. was a common amount for pre-picked.

If you have any questions on the management of your strawberry beds please give me a call.

Bob Zimpel

****Arrow 2EC is a registered trademark of ADAMA; Clethodim 2EC is a registered trademark of Tacoma Ag; Stinger is a registered trademark of Dow AgroSciences.**

GENERIC QUADRIS

GOOD NEWS!!! We have generic Quadris available for this season. There are currently two products registered, Equation from Cheminova and Azoxy 2SC from Willowood USA. We currently have Equation in stock and should have Azoxy 2SC available next week. These products are going to save you a significant amount of money compared to what Quadris has cost in the past.

Give us a call here at T H for more information on these new products.

Bob Zimpel

****Quadris is a registered trademark of Syngenta**

CHEMICAL SUPPLIES

As many of you are aware of, Syngenta has had problems with supplying Bravo this year. We are fortunate to have worked with one supplier for a number of years and do have a good supply of Chlorothalonil products on hand. Give us a call if you need some product.

Many chemical companies are only making a certain amount of product and when that is gone they do not manufacture again until Fall. This is causing serious problems when disease or insect pressure suddenly escalates. We are doing our best to keep the warehouse well stocked. We may not always have the product on hand that you want but we will have something that will take care of the problem.

Trucking has become a serious issue. Where we used to get one or two day service, now it may take up to a week or more. The economy must be booming because trucking companies are overwhelmed with freight. They are short of drivers and they will not haul chemicals when food products are involved, instead the chemicals are left on the dock.

Nitrogen companies have shut down deliveries today, July 2nd until Monday, July 7th because there aren't any trucks available. If you have not experienced the truck shortage yet— trust me you will.

Bob Zimpel

****Bravo is a registered product of Syngenta.**

YOU FEED YOUR COWS, WHY NOT FEED YOUR ALFALFA!

Fungicide programs have become a standard on many dairies across Wisconsin and the Midwest over the last several years. In fact, in the central Corn Belt states, alfalfa treated with fungicide outperformed untreated alfalfa demonstrating a yield increase of 13% and a 4% increase in relative feed value (RFV). The use of fungicides also increased leaf and stem retention prior to cutting, leading to more vigorous plants, visually faster green-up after cutting, and even quicker closing of inter rows of alfalfa in the fields. In addition to better leaf and stem retention after harvest, use of fungicides results in speedy alfalfa recovery after cutting. The remaining leaves after harvest capture light energy that is required for new stem elongation. More leaves after harvest means better regrowth which results in more stems per square foot.

Azoxy 2SC is a brand new generic fungicide we have available for you. Azoxy 2SC has a 14 day pre-harvest interval and the ability to be tank mixed with your insecticides should pests be present. Azoxy is a very affordable alternative, and just like we promise, we will help get you the most for your dollar.

Call me today at 715-570-7055 so I can help you set up your alfalfa program. I'm right up here in Stratford every evening so I can get you.... and your cows the products you need.

Bryce Erdman

BryceE@thagrichemicals.com

****Azoxy 2SC is a registered trademark of Willowood.**



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Summer Hours: Monday – Friday: 7 am – 5:30 pm & Saturdays: 7 am – noon

INSECT ALERT!!!

The Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) has made its appearance in Wisconsin. If you have fruit that is currently ready for harvest such as strawberries, raspberries or blueberries, you should consider starting a spray program. There are a number of effective chemicals available. Because we are harvesting these crops it is very important to check both PHI and re-entry intervals. Give us a call for more information!

APPLES

There has been a significant loss of apple trees this year. It doesn't appear to be confined to any certain variety or tree age group. One of the hardest hit varieties has been Jonagold, but many others were lost also. One of the most common theories is the extremely heavy fruit load in 2013 put the trees under significant stress and they didn't have time to recover before the unusually cold winter set in. I will go out on a limb (no pun intended) and predict that we will have a below average apple crop in Wisconsin.

Growers are also reporting peach trees being killed, also certain grape varieties have been hard hit so it appears the grape crop will be reduced significantly. This in addition to all of the weather extremes we are having this summer appears to be the making of a very interesting year in the fruit and farm market business in Wisconsin.

Numerous growers have reported scab showing up in their orchards. This isn't surprising with all of the rain we have had this season. 1.5-2" of rainfall will wash away your pesticide applications quickly. Always add a good spreader sticker such as Chem-Stik to help keep product on the leaves.

Bob Zimpel

***Chem-Stik is a registered trademark of Precision Laboratories.*

CHRISTMAS TREES



WHAT IS IPM???

IPM is an acronym for Integrated Pest Management. IPM is not new, but deserves to be addressed. The basic premise of IPM will save growers money when followed.

The basic premise of IPM is scouting fields for problems. Growers should scout fields for insect, disease and weed problems. Spraying should be conducted only after it is determined that thresholds have been exceeded. Blanket spraying only increases the likelihood of resistance and future failures of the products.

Rotation of products is also a part of IPM. Different classes of chemicals should be used if spraying more than once in the same season.

Give us a call with any questions.

SUMMER CONVENTION

The WCTPA convention will be held September 5-6 at Mickelson's Tree Farm in Deer Park Wisconsin. Plan on attending and supporting your exhibitors. See you there!

Steve Rosenthal, CCA