

# HURON BAY CO-OPERATIVE INC. NEWSLETTER



#### **AUGUST 2020**

http://www.huronbaycoop.ca

#### **MANAGER'S MESSAGE**



Kelly Boyle General Manager kboyle@huronbaycoop.ca 519-392-8693 ext 304

We sure are having Summer! Hot humid weather certainly befitting of "the dog days of summer". Most areas have received some decent rainfall so crops are still looking great. Second cut hay is looking good after the much-needed moisture. Your Co-op still has a great selection of twines, wraps and

silage covers to help you wrap up your forage harvest. Don't forget to feed your forages. Forage fertilizer typically offers a 3 to 1 return on investment. Establishing a forage stand is an expensive proposition, so contact your HBC field man for recommendations to improve yields and the life of your stand. Now is also a good time to plan for cover crop establishment and your winter wheat. We can help with that too! You may want to review your FS Credit Crop Financing limit to be sure you have the funds you need for fall crop inputs. FS Credit is a great tool, and you can even use it to finance farm fuel and dryer propane purchases. Speaking of propane, if you are a current propane customer you will soon get information in the mail about contracting propane for the 2020-2021 heating season. For more information, contact the HBC Energy Team at 1-888-337-3835. They can help with equal-billing, automatic delivery and Dieselex Gold inquiries as well. Dieselex Gold is the best fuel to power and protect your diesel engines.

It sure is nice to see people back in our stores, even if they are wearing masks. We really appreciate your continued efforts to social distance, sanitize and to wear a mask when you visit. Keeping you and our staff safe is still an important priority at Huron Bay Co-op. Check out the great selection of BBQ's, patio furniture and power equipment in our stores. We also have everything you need for your livestock. Check us out, for salt blocks and lick-tubs for your pastures, waterers for your poultry and fencing products to keep everyone home! We have a good selection of fly and wasp control products for your home and farm.

We are still monitoring the current situation to see if it will be possible to hold our meeting to communicate with you and to receive your votes on the amalgamation of Huron Bay and North Wellington Co-op's. We also need to devise a strategy for our annual meeting and we will communicate our plans as soon as possible. Plans are under way for our popular Customer Appreciation Event to be held NOV. 5-14 in conjunction with North Wellington. You won't want to miss this one!

Enjoy the rest of your summer, and as always, thank you for your support!

Regards... Kelly

#### **EMPLOYEE NEWS**

We would like to welcome the following staff members to Huron Bay!

- Bonnie Stroeder- Store Manager (Wiarton)
- Shannon McGlynn-Branch Accounting Clerk (Teeswater)
- Lina Calvert-Branch Accounting Clerk (Mildmay)
- Tammy Wright-Store Manager (Mildmay)
- Jaime Henderson-Marketing & Communications Specialist
- Wendy Linn has spend her lives work dedicated to serving the farm community. We would like to thank her for her many years of service with the Huron Bay Coop. We wish her good health and happiness in her retirement years.

#### FROM THE ENERGY DESK



Allan Williamson Energy Division Manager 1-888-337-3835 awilliamson@huronbaycoop.ca

■ Summer is upon us and we are currently working on keeping everyone topped up while accommodating some much deserved staff vacations. August also means its time to start thinking about home heating programs for this coming heating season.

<u>Propane Fixed Price:</u> This program continue to become more popular each year! The fixed price program

protects you by fixing your price from October 1 until April 30th (throughout the cold months). If you had a contract last year then you will be automatically renewed and will not be required to send anything back to us again this year. You will receive a letter with the amount of propane and the rate of the propane we have booked for you, you will have 30 days to contact us with any changes or cancellations. If you did not have a fixed price contact last year you will be receiving a letter with all the information for the program and we encourage you to give us a call or email with any questions or to take advantage of the program. New Contracts must be received back to the energy office by the end of September for the October 1st start date.

<u>Summer Fill Program:</u> This program is available to propane and furnace oil customers. Historically speaking energy rates can be less expensive in the summer months when demand is down, so get your tank filled now and don't pay until November 20th! This allows you to hopefully save some money while taking some weight off our delivery trucks in the fall when they are typically very busy with Harvest, yet you don't pay until November 20th just as if you had waited until fall for your first top up.

<u>Billing Program:</u> The equal billing program allows you to make interest free Equal payments over a 10 month period for your home heating deliveries. We will use historic data to calculate your monthly rate, and you can set up payments in several convenient manners.

If you are interested in any of these programs and have not yet taken advantage please give the energy team a call!

We are also excited to welcome a Dieselex Gold branded petroleum truck into our fleet. This truck will be seen throughout the territory and will help spread the message on our premium diesel fuel. Dieselex Gold has several benefits when compared to conventional diesel fuel including efficiency, lubricity, demulsifies, and stability enhancers. Stay tuned for upcoming information sessions, or contact the energy team for more details!



There are many ways to contact the Energy Division with your inquiries or order needs. Please see below or scan the QR code. Please note the "Cell" number provided receives text messages ONLY.



#### **CROP NEWS**



Christine Wyville H.B.Sc(agr) Agronomy Sales cwyville@huronbaycoop.ca 519-375.2204

■This year we are again monitoring for Western Bean Cutworm. We have five traps set up in Shelburne, Dunedin, Markdale, Ravenna and Chatsworth. We have not seen any WBC moths as of today but it is something we continue to check every week. Once we start seeing moths our team starts looking for egg masses on the corn plants. In

previous years we have not had a problem with WBC but have had some evidence of feeding damage in both field and sweet corn in isolated areas. Below is a picture of the WBC moth, egg mass and larva.







To see local trapping results for traps in your area please visit the following website: https://ontarioca11.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=df7c044f224e43458 25e75d1fa561560

# Wondering if your cheque was received?



Your Co-Op provides online payment options for your convenience No more missing cheques or late payment fees. We are happy to assist in setting up your online payment. Jenessa Swanson jswanson@huronbaycoop.ca

Marilyn Moffat mmoffat@huronbaycoop.ca



### FROM THE BEEF DESK



Neil Damm | Feed Sales ndamm@huronbaycoop.ca 519-373-7187

## **Drought Management Strategies for your Pastures**

We have had a hot and dry start to Summer 2020. Hot and dry conditions have resulted in drought stress in pastures across the region. If this continues, producers in some areas may need to look for ways to supplement their cattle to make

sure they stay in productive condition. As we look for strategies to supplement cattle on pasture, a few options come to mind: lick tubs or barrels, creep feeding the calves, supplementing with pellets, or weaning calves early. All these strategies can alleviate the stress on pastures as well as continuing to provide proper nutrition to cattle given the current weather forecast. Below is more information on each strategy that will be helpful in choosing which option will be the best fit for your operation.

Lick Tubs and Barrels – These are an excellent choice for cattle on pasture where feeding pellets or creep feed isn't an option. Tubs and barrels can simply be placed directly in the pasture without need for additional feeders or equipment. They are also weather and heat tolerant. Cattle will typically consume roughly 1/2lb of the tub or barrel per animal per day. Tubs and barrels come in a variety of protein levels and are available for a variety of species and stages of production. They come in either a 60 lb or 220 lb tub or barrel, depending on the number of animals being fed.

Creep Feeding Calves – Once calves are about 60 days old, the dam's milk alone is no longer enough to satisfy the calf. The calves start searching for an alternative feed to meet their requirements. Calf intake of pasture can be significant – particularly for calves that are 90 or 120 days old. Supplying a creep feed will reduce the amount of pasture consumed by calves and have the added benefit of getting the calves acclimated to eating pellets. Furthermore, because the pellets are more nutrient dense, calves are typically heavier when they come off grass in the fall if they were supplemented with creep feed. Also, supplementing creep feed to calves when pastures are scarce takes some pressure off the cow to support the calf on her own.

<u>Supplementing Cows</u> – For pastures that have been hit hard by drought, an option is supplementing with pellets. For those that are tight on pasture, or the ground simply needs a rest, and if feeding facilities exist, supplementing with pellets is always a great option. Masterfeeds offers many different protein options for cow pellets as part of our Vintage line-up. These pellets provide sufficient energy, protein, vitamins, and minerals to cows and can be feed free-choice or at about 1% of body weight per animal per day.

Weaning Calves Early – For calves that were born early in the year and now are getting close to 400 lbs, weaning earlier than usual and putting them onto feed is a viable option to reduce the stress on the cow. At 400 lbs they will be consuming significant amounts of pasture. By removing these calves from the cow, this will alleviate the need for the cow to produce milk for the calf, which allows her to consume less pasture and channel more of her energy towards reproduction and/or rebreeding.

If your pastures are starting to show drought stress, contact your local Coop Branch to talk about options you have to ensure you are keeping your animals in ideal shape for the summer months and maximizing gain on your calves.

#### INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Huron Bay Co-operative is accepting new members. We use the funds generated to strengthen the position of the co-operative and for financing new capital purchases to provide better service to you our members and customers. To become a member of the co-op requires a \$15 one time non-refundable membership fee. Huron Bay Co-operative offers a \$500 basic member loan with a 10 year term at 8% interest per annum. This loan is required before any patronage can be paid out. Members are entitled to patronage refunds when declared by your co-operative. As a member you are able to exercise a vote on company policies. You are also able to vote on the election of your board of directors, nominated from our pool of members. It also allows the member to invest monies in special member loans that are currently returning:

 3 % per annum
 1 year

 4 % per annum
 3 year

 5 % per annum
 5 year

If you would like to discuss investing in your Co-operative, please contact your local branch manager, the Controller Rob Gordon at 519-392-8693 or the GM, Kelly Boyle at 519-367-5765