

## General Manager's Message



We have had our share of wet weather, but we are in a much better place than last year, with respect to bean harvest, and winter wheat planting. Bean yields, and commodity prices in general, have put producers in a much better position than we may have planned. Now, we need to get

the corn harvest under control and wrap up, what has turned out to be a pretty good year.

Mark your calendars for some special dates! Our 76th annual meeting will take place on December 10th. Given the circumstances our Annual Meeting will be hosted virtually. Stay tuned for details, including your notice of annual meeting with webinar links. Your Board of Directors have decided to once again, move forward with plans to amalgamate with Huron Bay Co-operative. We are scheduling a special member meeting for March 11th. Given the current situation, we will be conducting the meeting virtually, however, if conditions permit, we will establish remote town-hall (in person) meetings, to allow those with limited access to the required technology, to participate. Please give me a call in Harriston if you have any questions around these proposed arrangements.

Your agronomy team already has eyes on Spring 2021. Seed booking programs are now open. We will look for your early attention to secure the best varieties, discounts and early pay advantages. Your directors have approved the addition of a new 24 tonne trailer mount, tender unit, to ensure we maintain our bulk fertilizer delivery capacities, in what seems to be an ever more compressed planting window. Call your agronomist or your local branch today to arrange for fall plow-down fertilizer applications, soil testing and orders for the best seed varieties for your farm, for 2021.

Your store staff are also gearing up for a busy fall season. They are bringing out the winter clothing, birdseed, snowblowers, snow shovels and everything else you need to face down Old Man Winter. Watch your mail for our annual customer appreciation flyer, packed full of great products, great prices, and special member deals! This event runs from November 5th – 14th. Shop early for best selection!

This year hasn't gotten any easier, but as always, we thank you for allowing us to serve you. We will continue to work hard to keep our members, staff, and our communities safe, as we work our way through the current situation. Thank you, for your continued co-operation with required protocols, as you visit our facilities, and interact with our staff. We appreciate it!

Regards.....

Kelly Boyle  
 General Manager

## Customer Appreciation Sale

Our annual Customer Appreciation Sale will be taking place from **Thursday November 5th to Saturday November 14th, 2020!** Make sure to watch for our flyer for the featured items.

## Energy Notes

Fall is upon us, harvest is underway and our fuel trucks have been busy, along with propane trucks looking after heating and crop drying requirements. We thank everyone for providing as much notice as possible for your energy requirements. Fall is a great time to maintain the trees and greenery that grow near your driveway. We are very proud of our great looking fleet of delivery trucks and your co-operation in keeping your lane free of low hanging branches is greatly appreciated. It's also a great time to mark your lanes and gateways before the ground freezes and the snow flies. As the cold weather is upon us, reminder to our "will call" customers that we require 3 business days notice for home heat deliveries. If you are currently on "will call" and wish to be on automatic, please give our team a call!

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.

**Energy Division**  
 North Wellington Co-op

56 Margaret Street  
 Harriston, Ontario N0G1Z0



www.northwellington.ca  
 energy@northwellington.ca  
 P 519-338-2331  
 C 1-519-641-0551

## FS Finance

North Wellington Co-operative Services works with Farm Credit Canada to bring you financing options like the FS Finance Program. The FS Finance Program helps you finance purchases of seed, crop nutrition products, crop protection products, general farm supplies, agronomic services and farm fuel through your local North Wellington Co-operative branch.

### Flexibility

- Competitive interest rates
- Terms of payment – allowing up to 18 months to pay
- Due dates that allow you to defer payments to the next crop year
- More opportunity to pre-purchase your crop inputs for discounts

### Convenience

- One-stop source for all your crop inputs (seed, fertilizer, crop protection, agronomy services and fuel)
- Full financing available (up to 100%)
- Easily transfer your existing account to FS Finance
- Streamlined loan process and auto renewal of loans in good standing

### Let's Talk

Contact your crop specialist or Jackie Ziegler or Kelly Boyle at 1-800-667-3056 or 519-338-2331 to discuss your options with a flexible convenient financing program today!

Please arrange Agri-Financing prior to ordering your inputs for the season.

**Seeding more successful todays and tomorrows.**



*Bringing you what's next*

## Voice from the Field

By Luke Hartung

### 2021 Corn and Soybean Seed—Early Order and Booking Savings

With soybean harvest completed and grain corn rolling on, it is time to start thinking about ordering your seed for 2021. We offer a wide range of corn and soybean varieties from PRIDE seeds, DEKALB, NK seeds, Sevita and SeCan. There are many early order and pay discounts to take advantage of, so we suggest putting your order in before the end of the month. This will also help guarantee that you get your first choice of variety, as they can sell out.

Do you grow corn silage or haylage? There is also early booking/pay savings out for alfalfa, tripper, grass seed, hay acid and silage inoculant. Talk to your NWC Crop Specialist to go over the early booking and pay opportunities, and to figure out which seed varieties will work best for your farm.

### Fall Fertility Application

Many growers have taken advantage of NWC's fall fertility application discounts, but if you haven't yet there is still time to apply fall Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K) for the 2021 crop. However, in regards to P applications, if you are not applying it to a growing crop, or not working it in, it is not advised to do so. Why? Primarily because there is a high chance the P will run off, and the nutrient will not stay in the field. Not only is this bad for the environment, it is not great economically, as the investment you made in fertilizer, is no longer in your field. On top of this, it does not follow the 4R nutrient stewardship guidelines, as applying late season P is not what would be considered the 'right time' to do so. Fortunately, with K, there is not the same concern, and it can be applied late into the season, as long as ground is not frozen. Talk to your NWC Crop Specialist, to determine the right rate of fall applied fertilizer, and to make sure you and your farm are complying with 4R nutrient management stewardship.

## Garden Corner

By: Jennifer Magwood

### Winter Protection For Delicate Plants:

Whether a plant is new to your garden and in need of some additional attention to ensure that it makes it through its first winter or you are pushing the plant zone limits and growing a variety that is only marginally hardy in your area, winter protection is something that you should be thinking about in the next few weeks. Wrapping, mulching, and mounding are the three most common techniques for protecting plants.

#### Wrapping:

The first thing to consider when planning on wrapping a plant for the winter is what the plant needs to be protected from. In most cases we are trying to protect needles, flower buds or evergreen leaves from drying winds. Road and sidewalk salt that blows or splashes onto plants will accelerate drying and otherwise hardy plants which can be damaged may need to have a barrier between them and the source of the spray. Another common reason for wrapping plants is to support branches which may be damaged or broken from snow and ice load over the course of the winter. To protect plants from wind and sun, you can either wrap the entire plant or you can erect a temporary fence on the exposed sides of the plant. Fencing can be effective if part of the plant is protected by structures or other plants, or if there is a particular direction that the wind generally blows from. The easiest approach I have found for erecting a fence is to pound pointed 1x2 stakes into the ground before it freezes, then to go back out after the cold weather is really here, usually not until November or even early December, and staple burlap to the posts. To wrap an entire plant, I still recommend installing stakes, since wrapping directly on the plant's foliage can

result in mold problems if we have a warm winter. For upright plants you can install tall bamboo stakes, at least three or more if required, and tie them together at the top to form a rough teepee structure. After the ground freezes in the late fall go back and wrap the structure in burlap starting at the bottom and spiralling up to the top. To hold the burlap in place while you are working with it you can quickly catch it with clothes pegs or any other type of clip. I then tie some twine around the top of the stakes and burlap and spiral back down to the bottom, tying the twine off at one of the stakes. Plants to consider protecting: Evergreens planted in the past year, broad leaved evergreens including rhododendrons, broad leaved hollies, boxwood, any plants right next to heavily salted roads or sidewalks, and evergreens exposed to particularly strong winds

#### Mulching:

Mulching is an effective way to protect the roots of plants that are either only marginally hardy or have been planted or transplanted after the start of September and are vulnerable to frost heave. Frost heave is caused by repeated freezing and thawing pushing the crown of a plant out of the ground and can potentially kill even hardy plants. A loose layer of shredded bark mulch is quite effective for winter protection. Lay it down at least 4 in., and as much as 6-in. deep, ideally after the ground has frozen. If aesthetics are less of a concern straw is also a good insulator if piled up about 8-in. deep, but avoid hay because hay is full of seeds which will be more than happy to germinate in your garden come spring. Consider protecting anything planting after the 1st of September, marginally hardy perennials and Japanese maples.

#### Mounding:

Mounding plants up for the winter is a technique that many of us are familiar with for protecting tender roses which can be used for a range of delicate plants. The purpose is to protect the bottom 8-12 inches. of the rose canes so that if the winter proves to be colder than the canes can tolerate, there will still be healthy stems and buds for the plant to grow back from. You can cut the roses back to a couple of feet tall before doing this to make it easier to get to the crown to add the soil, but I generally just pile a bucket or so of soil or finished compost over the centre of the plant and leave the canes. If the winter proves to be moderate then I simply remove any damaged or weak wood in the spring and have a larger shrub, and often more blooms, than I would have had if I had cut the entire plant back. Plants to consider protecting included any woody plants that die back to near the ground each winter including: Tender roses, Butterfly bushes, Big leaf hydrangeas (blue and pink varieties).

## Item of the Month

### Baffin Icebear Boots CSA

\$189<sup>99</sup>

Sizes 5 to 14  
Reg. \$239.99  
10302263, 10302363-69, 10302465-65, 10402688



Ends November 30th, 2020

## Annual Meeting

Our 76th annual meeting will be taking place on December 10th, 2020 and will be held virtually due to the given circumstances. Please keep an eye out for further details and the link for the meeting.

### Harriston

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### Durham

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### Hanover

691 10th Street  
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hanover@northwellington.ca

### Mount Forest

404 Main Street South  
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