



## GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE



Allan Williamson  
General Manager  
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As we move into spring, activity across the co-operative is increasing quickly. This is an important time for our members, and while momentum is strong, external factors are impacting supply and pricing.

In Agronomy, nitrogen markets remain under pressure due to global conflict, particularly involving Iran, which has disrupted production and distribution. Midwest has secured enough nitrogen to meet current customer needs and existing commitments, though availability beyond that may be limited during

peak periods. Our team continues to work closely with suppliers to manage these challenges and support our members.

Our Retail division is fully into spring mode, with stores busy preparing for the season. Lawn and garden products, soils, mulches, and live goods are arriving daily, and teams are focused on keeping locations well-stocked. Members are encouraged to stop in and explore our expanding seasonal offerings.

Following a very busy winter, our Energy division is now preparing for the spring fuel season. Fuel prices remain elevated and supply in Ontario may be tight during peak demand. We are keeping bulk plants as full as possible and ask members to request tank fill-ups early to ensure timely delivery.

Financially, we have received our annual Offering Statement and are once again accepting Member Loans. Current rates appear to the right and are in effect until May 19. Member loans continue to be an important way for members to invest in the co-operative.

Midwest is also making significant infrastructure investments. Our largest project this year is a new 80' x 240' warehouse in Walkerton, which will enhance storage, agronomy support, and bulk chemical handling. Once complete, the existing fertilizer plant on site will be demolished due to its age and condition.

Thank you for your continued support of Midwest Co-operative as we remain focused on reliable service and long-term success for our members.

Allan

## INVEST IN MIDWEST CO-OP

### SUPPORT LOCAL. GROW TOGETHER.

When you invest in Midwest Co-op, you're helping us reinvest in the people, projects, initiatives, and communities we all call home. We're proud to live and work alongside you, building stronger local roots and a brighter future.

### HOW ARE MY INVESTMENTS USED

Your investments fuel progress. When you support Midwest Co-op, you're helping us stay competitive by adding new equipment and technology that keep us at the forefront of our industry. Together, we're strengthening local agriculture, expanding services, and building a co-op that's ready for the future.

### WHAT ARE THE CURRENT RATES?

You could earn:

- 3.75% per annum for 1 year
- 4.50% per annum for 3 years
- 5.50% per annum for 5 years

### HOW DO I MAKE AN INVESTMENT?

For questions or to make an investment, please contact:

- Allyson Cardiff, Controller
- 519-392-8692

## SAVE THE DATE SUMMER GROWER MEETINGS

- July 8- MCS Canola Field Day, Mildmay
- July 9- MCS Harriston Twilight Grower Meeting, Harriston Area
- July 16- Soil Compaction Day, Tupling Farms, Redickville
- July 22- MCS Dundalk-Markdale Cereal Field Day, Markdale Area
- Aug 19- MCS Walkerton-Belgrave Field Day, Teeswater Area

## AGRONOMY UPDATE - WALKERTON



**Clayton Dietz**  
Crop Specialist, Walkerton  
cdietz@midwestcoop.ca

Happy spring everyone! As we move into planting season, taking the time to properly set up your planter and/or drill can make a significant difference in your planting experience and final yields. A few key checks now will save you headaches in the field when you do not have the time to stop and fix machinery.

Before you hit the field, inspect your drill/planter from top to bottom. If it went in the shed with something wrong, it likely did not fix itself over the winter.

Key things to check include:

- Disc openers — inspect for wear, a worn disc creates a poor seed furrow and leads to uneven emergence
- Closing wheels and down-pressure settings
- Seed tubes and meters — ensure they are clean and free of residue from last season

These are very basic points, but important to keep in mind. A planter that isn't performing mechanically simply can't be corrected with agronomy. Getting these basics right before you roll into the field is key.

Seeding rates should be tailored to your variety/hybrid, your soil characteristics, row width, and your yield goals. We also have the capability to utilize variable rate seeding, if you have the capability and would like to try, please contact your Crop Specialist.

General recommendations:

- Corn: 32,000 – 36,000 seeds/acre
- Soybeans: 150,000 – 200,000 seeds/acre

Consistent seed depth is one of the most overlooked factors in stand establishment. Variability in depth — even within the same field — can lead to uneven emergence, yield loss, and higher disease pressures. Depth can also vary based on soil characteristics, moisture depth, tillage type, etc.

General recommendations:

- Corn & Soybean: 1.5 – 2.0 inches

Its important to get off the tractor and get your boots on the ground to check depth across multiple rows and adjust where need be to be sure you have consistent depth. Not all row units will plant the same depth consistently. Have a safe planting season!

## ENERGY UPDATE



**Katrina McDonald**  
Energy Division Manager  
1-888-337-3835

The start of a new growing season always brings a mix of optimism and uncertainty, and this year is no different—especially when it comes to energy markets! We are seeing less volatility in these energy markets, which is a welcome shift after several unpredictable months. Day-to-day price swings have calmed, allowing for better planning and less immediate uncertainty. That said, overall pricing remains high. Ongoing global supply disruptions continue to work their way through the system, and meaningful price relief is expected to take time.

One piece of short-term relief comes from the federal excise tax reduction, which has been lowered to 0¢ per litre until Labour Day. This measure helps offset some of the higher fuel costs during the busiest part of the agricultural season and is worth factoring into your summer planning.

Another area impacted by recent market conditions is Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF). This spring, DEF pricing has increased due to rising urea costs, a key component in its production. To help manage these increases, I encourage customers to reach out to our sales team. There may be price advantages available through skid quantities for jugs or, depending on your operation, bulk tank delivery options that can offer better overall value.

Finally, with the snow now behind us, this is an ideal time to take a look at your propane or fuel tanks. The heavy snow and ice this winter may have caused shifting or damage or simply getting buildup on the outside, reach out and our service team can arrange this to be corrected or washed.

As always, our team is here to support your operation with practical solutions, market insight, and reliable energy supply. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you'd like to review your fuel needs or explore options that fit your farm this season.

## CONTRACT PRICING CLARIFICATION

Many propane pricing contracts ended on April 30, and due to the long winter, some customers used their contracted litres sooner than expected. If your contract ran out on your last delivery, the truck ticket showed all litres at the daily price, but our system later rebilled any remaining contracted litres at the lower contract rate. If you paid based on the truck ticket, you may see a credit listed as Unapplied Cash on your statement. If you haven't paid yet, the difference between the ticket and your statement simply reflects this correction.

## RETAIL SPOTLIGHT - WIARTON



**Bonnie Stroeder**  
Retail Location Manager,  
Wiaraton  
bstroeder@midwestcoop.ca

Spring may have gotten off to a very wet and chilly start, but brighter days are definitely ahead! Despite the challenging weather, the Wiaraton team has been hard at work preparing our garden center for the season ahead. We're getting everything set up and ready to welcome our live plant arrivals expected in mid-May. From the first blooms of spring to the vibrant colours of summer gardens, we're excited to help you bring your outdoor spaces to life.

To help you get a strong start this season, we are fully stocked with a wide selection of soils, fertilizers, and other growing essentials. Whether you're planting a small backyard garden, refreshing your flower beds, or tackling a larger landscaping project, we have the products and knowledge to help you get things growing successfully.

Chick Days have once again been very busy this year, and we truly appreciate the continued support and enthusiasm from our customers. We are still able to take orders, so if you're planning to add chicks to your flock, be sure to stop in or reach out soon to place your order.

We're also very pleased to be offering the BMR line of products. This addition has greatly expanded the variety of items we can provide to both our rural and urban customers. From unique décor pieces and practical pet products to essential farm supplies like water troughs for the animals we stock, there's something for everyone. If there's an item you're looking for that we don't currently have on hand, our team will do their best to get it in for you within a short time.

As summer approaches, the Wiaraton branch would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone visiting the Peninsula. Whether you're a local resident or just passing through, we invite you to stop by, browse our wide selection of unique and practical items, and take a few minutes to enjoy the stunning view of Colpoys Bay from our building. We look forward to seeing you and helping make your spring and summer projects a success.



## SEED PICK UP DAY WINNERS

- Husqvarna Chainsaw – Jason W Shantz – Mount Forest
- Milwaukee Grease Gun – Steve Cook – Tara
- \$500 Ag Credit – Richard Gross – Mildmay
- \$500 Retail Gift Card – Mike Goudy - Markdale

myFS Agronomy subscriptions:

- Aaron Hunking – Mulmur
- Dan Kidd – Paisley
- John Schiestel – Mildmay
- Andy Lennox - Kenilworth

## WELCOME NEW TEAM MEMBERS

We would like to welcome the following to our team:

- Jessica Batte – Controller, Teeswater Corporate Office
- Hailey Ernewein – Agronomy Intern, Walkerton
- Tyler Arkell – Driver, Hanover
- Kevin Bernard – Seasonal Operator, Belgrave

We would also like to congratulate the following on the position change:

- Mickey Howes – Agronomy Service & Retail Inventory Coordinator, Belgrave

## EMPLOYEE NEWS



**Aneal Ramsewak**  
Crop Specialist, Harriston

On behalf of MCS's Agronomy team, we are pleased to congratulate Harriston Crop Specialist Aneal Ramsewak on earning his Certified Crop Specialist (CCS) designation.

The CCS is a respected Growmark credential that recognizes excellence in both agronomic expertise and consultative sales skills. To achieve this designation, Aneal successfully completed the International and Ontario Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) exams, followed by an in-person evaluation that assessed his ability to develop and present a crop production proposal.

This accomplishment reflects Aneal's strong commitment to providing knowledgeable, trusted advice and delivering added value to our customers. Please join us in congratulating Aneal on this well-deserved achievement.

## CHICK DAYS ARE BACK

Stop by your local Midwest Co-op to place your 2026 chick order today. While you are there, don't forget to get a Chick Club Card which gets you a feed deal - buy 10 bags of Masterfeeds Farm Choice Poultry feed, get 1 free!

**MAY  
ITEM OF THE  
MONTH**



REGULAR \$18.99  
**SALE \$14.99**  
**2kg Premium Grass Seed**

An Excellent & Quick establishing mix for new lawns or overseeding  
Coverage: 882 Sq. ft.  
Sku# 984648

**GET IT DELIVERED**

Contact your local store at least 2 days before to set up delivery.

- Orders under \$400 will have a \$25 fee on scheduled delivery days.
- Regular delivery costs \$20 per metric ton or skid (minimum \$60 charge).
- Hand unloads will cost an extra \$20 per metric ton or skid charge.

**TUESDAY** | Mount Forest, Belgrave, Chesley, Teeswater

**WEDNESDAY** | Owen Sound, Wiarton, Harriston, Mount Forest, Mildmay

**THURSDAY** | Mount Forest, Durham

**FRIDAY** | Hanover, Dundalk, Markdale

*\*Note: Please contact nearby locations for deliveries in Owen Sound and Dundalk areas.*

**NEW PRODUCTS IN STOCK**



**Green or Red**

We've Got You Covered.

- Same spec
- Same protection
- Save money



Visit Your Local Midwest Co-op Retail Store or Contact Chris Keenan (Energy Sales and Marketing Manager) Today For More Information

☎ 519-450-8470 📧 [CKEENAN@MIDWESTCOOP.CA](mailto:CKEENAN@MIDWESTCOOP.CA)

**EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE**

**OPPORTUNITIES AWAIT IN OUR CAREER CENTRE**

<b>Belgrave</b> 519-357-2711	<b>Hanover</b> 519-364-4777	<b>Mildmay</b> 519-367-2657	<b>Walkerton</b> 519-881-2021
<b>Dundalk</b> 519-923-2014	<b>Harriston</b> 519-338-2331	<b>Mount Forest</b> 519-323-1271	<b>Warton</b> 519-534-1840
<b>Durham</b> 519-369-2415	<b>Markdale</b> 519-986-2031	<b>Teeswater</b> 519-392-0090	<b>Energy</b> 1-888-337-3835

**Head Office**  
888-718-8010