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September 29, 2016 ISSUE

Cover photo: Greg Kracht steadies the combine as he empties soybeans into the grain cart pulled by tractor driver Roger Kracht Tuesday afternoon, Sept 20, northeast of Luverne. (Mavis Fodness Photo/Ag Tab Soybean Harvest 2016)

No kidding!

Amber Shaw (left), Brian Gacke and Mike Gacke, holding granddaughter Briley, are raising commercial goats on a farm outside of Hardwick.



By this time next year Brian Gacke expects to have lots of kids running around his acreage near Hardwick.

The Ellsworth Class of 2005 graduate and fiancée Amber Shaw already have daughter Briley, 16 months, and they are expecting their 260-head nanny goat herd to double in size.

Gacke and his father, Mike, operate Gacke Goat Company to supply goat meat to families primarily in metropolitan areas.

Photos and text by Mavis Fodness

His experience with the horned mammals goes back several years when he completed goat chores with a former girlfriend.

"They'd climb and play on everything," Gacke recalled. "They were pretty easy to take care of."

Experience growing up on the family farm on the Minnesota/Iowa border near Ellsworth, Gacke knew raising pork and/or beef took the right facilities and a large capital investment to establish a

Gacke Goat Company/see page 5A

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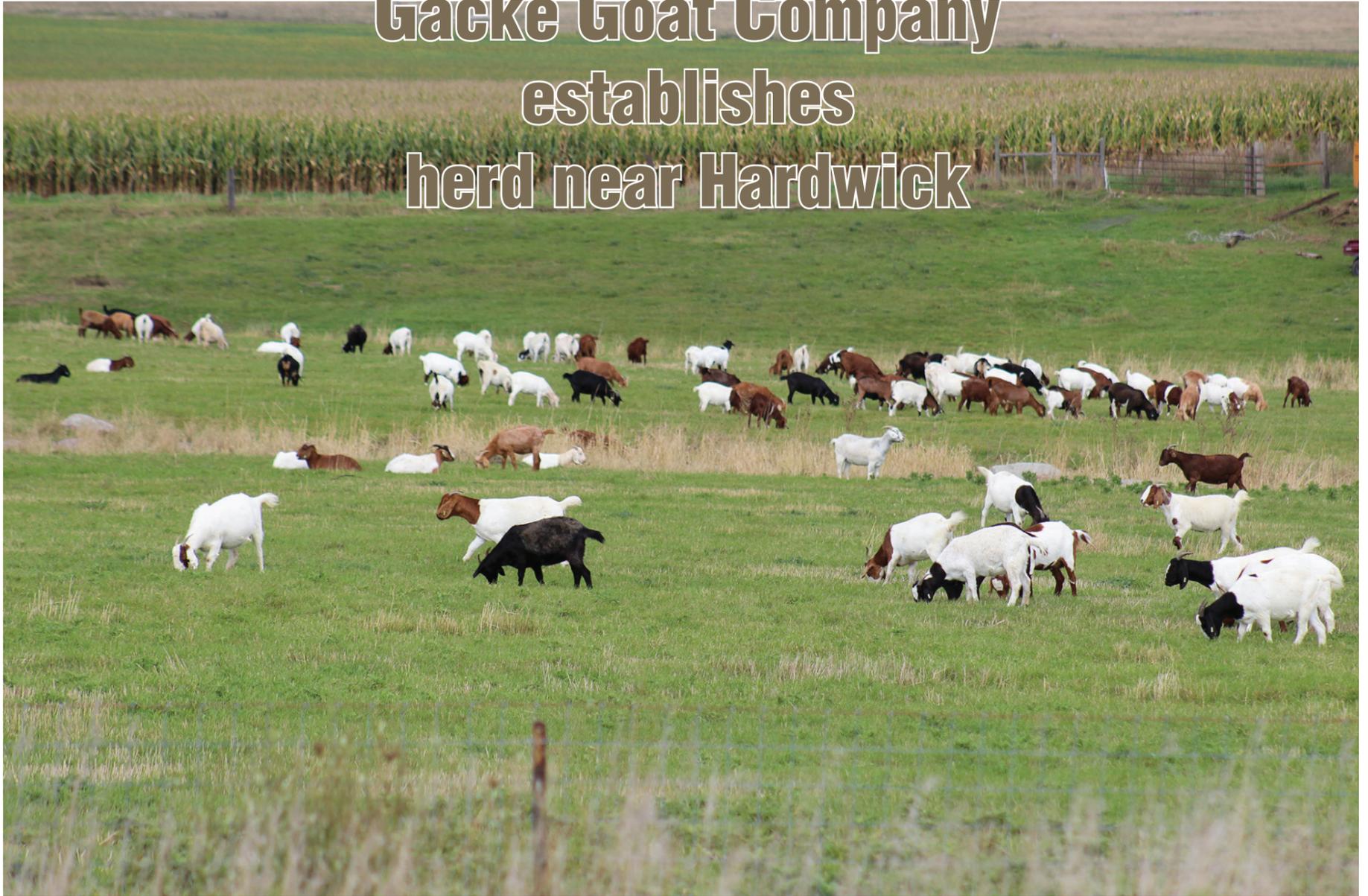
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Gacke Goat Company establishes herd near Hardwick



Mavis Fodness Photo/Ag Tab Brian Gacke Goat

Passersby on Highway 75 at the Hardwick turn-off often take a second look at the commercial herd of nanny goats grazing in the pasture owned by Brian Gacke.

We encourage everyone to put safety first this harvest season!

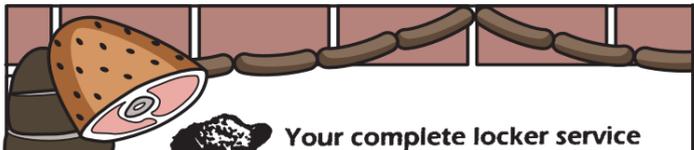


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Hardwick family operates Gacke Goat Company/continued from page 3

commercial herd.

Goats are smaller animals, so it's easier for Gacke to use existing facilities in the former dairy barn on Gacke's acreage west of Hardwick.

The building could easily be modified into grouping pens, and the pasture divided into grazing paddocks for goats.

In the past five years Gacke said he has been in and out of raising goats for meat production several times. This spring he purchased a 260-head nanny herd from Texas. They have become the basis for GGC and the desire to develop a progressive breeding operation.

Year-round breeding (also known as progressive breeding) divides nannies into smaller groupings that rotate among gestating, birthing, weaning and finishing at different times of the year.

Traditionally goats are bred in the fall, with only a spring kidding and summer finish, but with this schedule Gacke would miss the holidays of Easter and Christmas when the demand for fresh goat meat is at its highest.

He hopes with a progressive breeding timeline, Gacke Goat Company can increase available supply for slaughter when demand is high.

"So much of this is trial and error," Gacke cautioned.

A former farrowing barn is being moved to Gacke's acreage where the insulated facilities will become a kidding facility.



Amber Shaw gives the Billy goat named Rafiki a scratch on the head as daughter Briley tentatively observes.

Mavis Fodness Photo/Ag Tab Brian Gacke Goat

The nannies and kids will be moved to the nearby former dairy barn and held in grouping pens until the kids are weaned at two months of age and readied for market.

Gacke's goats have already garnered retail inquires from passersby.

Located at the intersection of Highway 75 and County Road 7, the Boer/Spanish crossbred

nannies are eye catching not only for their varying shades of brown and white but also for their sheer numbers.

Most goat herds range in numbers from 20 to 50

head and are mostly raised by 4-H'ers.

Gacke's management style also garners interest from po-

Gacke Goat Company/see 12A

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Buffer legislation details rise to the surface

For information on how the buffer law could affect your operation, contact the Rock County Soil and Water Conservation District in the Land Management Office

We are available to sit down with you and review options you have to come into compliance. Our office hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, or give us a call at 507-283-8862 Ext. #4.

The Minnesota Buffer Law has been official since Gov. Mark Dayton signed it into law in June of 2015.

In the early stages of this new law there were more questions than answers, but some specifics have been worked out in recent months.

The basics of the law have not changed, however.

A 50-foot average buffer is required on public waters and a 16 1/2-foot buffer on public drainage ditches. The buffer area begins at the top of the water's bank or from the edge of normal water level if there is not a defined bank.

The deadline for installation of these buffers has not changed as well; they are still Nov. 1, 2017, for public waters and Nov. 1, 2018, for public ditches.

Some guidance policies have been adopted by the Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources to help with the implementation of the Buffer Law.



"In the early stages of this law there were more questions than answers, but some specifics have been worked out in recent months. The basics of the law have not changed, however."

— Arlyn Gehrke,
Land Management Office

Compliance determinations:

•An overall status of "Compliant" or "Not Compliant" will be determined and tracked on a parcel basis as identified by a unique locally defined property identification number or description.

•Each bank, or edge, of a water body on an individual parcel will be reviewed independently to determine if a compliant buffer or alternative practice(s) has been installed.

The Rock County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)/ Land Management Office (LMO) has compiled a list of parcels that are subject to the buffer law.

Each parcel is being tracked by its status of being compliant or not compliant.

The landowners of these affected parcels have been sent letters informing them of the Buffer Law and outlining the assistance available to them from the Rock County SWCD/LMO.

Initially the stream bank or edge of water is being reviewed with current high-resolution aerial photography.

Specific site inspections to determine the buffer area are being set up on a landowner request basis.

Alternative practices implementation:

It is the policy of the Board of Water and Soil Resources that assessments of the water quality benefit provided by an alternative riparian water quality practice(s) for compliance with the water resources riparian protections of 103F.48 must be applied to each bank within a parcel and must achieve water quality benefit.

This must happen via:
(a) documentation of the assessment method used;
(b) a map or diagram of the practices; and

(c) documentation that the water quality protection is comparable to a buffer for the water resource it abuts.

Water quality protection comparable to a buffer means that the alternative practice(s) proposed or implemented must:

- treat all water running off of a parcel which would otherwise be treated by a 103F.48 prescribed buffer prior to entering a water body identified on the Buffer Protection Map.
- demonstrate treatment or

Buffers/continued on next page

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Lori Sorenson photo/0929 AG TAB matus

Beaver Creek farmer Todd Matus seeded 50-foot grassy buffers along this creek that cuts through his cropland to comply with Minnesota's buffer legislation.

Rock County farmers get started on 50-foot buffers

By Lori Sorenson

Beaver Creek farmer Todd Matus is among dozens of Rock County crop producers affected by Gov. Mark Dayton's buffer legislation, and he's among the early ones to get his waterways seeded with the 50-foot buffers.

"It's not really a decision; the government said you gotta do it, so you do it," Matus said, when asked if it was a difficult decision to take land out of production.

He admitted he won't have the input costs for those

3-acre and 5-acre spots, other than spraying for weeds, but he said the hardest pill to swallow is taking that land out of production. "Sometimes it's some of your best ground," he said. "I've got hills all around it, so this is some of my nice flat ground."

While he doesn't appreciate being told what to do, Matus did say he recognizes the need for preventing soil erosion, and he pointed out some washed out gullies along his creek that are already healing since he seeded

his grassy buffer. "It probably needs to be done," he said. "But I feel they should do more individually to fix the areas that really need it, and leave others alone."

Since the buffer law was first passed, there have been many modifications to allow more options, but some of the basics, like deadline, remain the same. Nov. 1, 2017 is the deadline to have buffers in place along public waters, and Nov. 1, 2018, is the deadline to have buffers in place along public ditches.

Buffer law/ from page 6

protections from erosion and runoff pollution, including suspended solids, sediment and sediment associated constituents at least equivalent to that which the buffer would provide; and

- consider the stability of soils, shores and banks.

The buffer law allows use of alternative practices approved by the Board of Water & Soil Resources on agricultural lands which provide comparable water quality benefit to that of a buffer.

Conservation practices based on the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office Technical Guide are potential options to meet compliance with the buffer law.

Alternative practices that are not found in the NRCS technical guide will be considered and evaluated by an ad-hoc technical team of state and federal agencies along with the University of Minnesota.

Another option available to landowners as an alternative practice is enrolling in the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program. This program also offers priority consid-

Buffers/continued on page 8

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Minnesota Buffer Law implemented in Rock County/continued from page 7



Grassy buffers are intended to prevent the erosion pictured here near Kenneth after the June 2014 flooding events. A buffer of vegetation would have prevented the washouts and sedimentation left behind after extreme rainfall events.

eration for technical and financial assistance to implement practices that promote water quality.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has been a popular option for landowners looking to comply with the Buffer Law.

The CRP Filter Strip conservation practice is designed to remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides and other pollutants from surface water runoff by deposition, adsorption and plant uptake.

The design of these filter strips meets the requirements of the Buffer Law and offers landowners a yearly payment on land

taken out of crop production. The average payment for CRP in Rock County is from \$258 to \$272 an acre.

Other policies written by the Board of Water & Soil Resources address the requirements for the SWCD's to report and track compliance of each affected parcel of land and to implement the Buffer Law within their jurisdiction.

Failure to comply with these statutes would result in the state withholding funding from the Rock County SWCD/LMO.

The Board of Water & Soil Resources has a website with additional information on the Buffer

Law at www.bwsr.state.mn.us/buffers/

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has an online map showing the protected waters at <http://dnr.state.mn.us/buffers/index.html>

For more information on how the buffer law could affect your operation, contact the Rock County SWCD/LMO.

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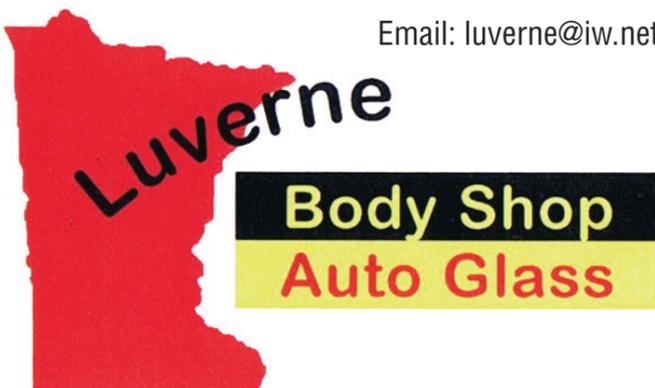


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Lessons from other side of the globe

New Zealand farmer learns tricks of trade at Hills farm

By Glenda McGaffee

William Duncan, 22, from Taihape, New Zealand, is visiting Eugene Sandager to learn the farming technique in the United States. He has been in the United States for two weeks.

Before coming to the U.S., Duncan was employed in New Zealand on a 1.7-million-acre ranch and operated a round baler on a daily basis.

Duncan was asked the following questions: What have you learned so far?

Duncan: I have observed how a combine operates. I attended the Dakota Fest, the Threshing Bee in Madison, South Dakota, a John Deere Combine Clinic and Pioneer and Monsanto Field Day.

Is there anything else about your experiences you would like to share with readers?

I have done sheep shearing and building scaffolds. I learned I hate the taste of root beer.

What brought you to the Sandagers?

Duncan: I wanted to learn the farming practice, especially baling hay. This is the first time I've seen soybeans and the process of changing color from green to brown. Also to experience the home atmosphere and try the food.

Eugene Sandager was asked what he has learned from Duncan.

Sandager said, "He is very polite, good-natured and easy going. A pleasure to have as a houseguest.

When Duncan returns to New Zealand, he will attend University Lincoln College in New Zealand.



Pictured in front of a John Deere combine are (from left) Mike Sandager, William Duncan, Nick Sandager and Gene Sandager Monday, Sept. 12, at the Sandager Farm in rural Hills.

Glenda McGaffee photo/0912 Sandagers



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4 pork T-bone (rib) Chops, 1-inch thick
Salt and pepper to taste
Olive oil for brushing

Preheat grill over medium-high heat and brush with olive oil. Season chops with generous amount of salt and pepper on both sides. Place pork on grill for 8-9 minutes, turning once halfway through, until internal temperature is 145°F. Remove pork from grill, tent with foil and let rest for 3 min.

SPICY BBQ SAUCE:
1 tsp. olive oil
1/2 yellow onion, chopped
1/4 c. ketchup
1 tbsp. brown sugar
1 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 tbsp. apple cider vinegar
1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper

SPICY BBQ SAUCE: Heat oil in pot over medium heat. Sauté onion until soft and add ketchup, brown sugar, Worcestershire sauce, vinegar and cayenne. Simmer for 15 min. until sauce thickens; turn off heat. Once cooled, puree sauce in blender. Serve chops with spoonful of sauce.

Serving Suggestion: These chops are delicious with Chive Mashed Potatoes. Find the recipe at PorkBeInspired.com



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 LP John Deere 8300 '97, MFD, 6848 Hours, Front Fenders, Front Weights, JD Steering System (S/N P011687) \$67,500.00
 LP John Deere 4105, MFD, 56hrs '13 (H610647) just in
 L Kubota L2900GST, '99, 535 Hours, MFD, Diesel, Mid Mount PTO, Glide Shift Transmission, (617911) \$11,700.00
 W Kubota L6060, '14, NEW UNIT, MFD, 60hp diesel, 3pt, PTO, factory Grand Cab, Kubota LA1055 loader w/ skid quick attach, blk heater, radio, bkt, ext warranty \$41,000.00
 W Kubota M135X, '12, MFD, powershift, 448 hrs, 520/70R38s GY Optitracs, 420 fronts, Kubota loader w/ skid mt bkt, radio, (51906) \$57,500.00
 L Kubota B3200HSD, '09, 250 Hours, 3 Point, Rear & Mid-Mount PTO, with loader and 60" bucket, turf tires \$14,600.00
 W Kubota BX25D, '15, diesel, 4wd, R4 tires, loader, backhoe w/ stabilizers, 72 month warranty, 0% financing, NEW DEMO UNIT \$17,000.00
 W Kubota BX2360, '11, 180 hrs, 4wd, diesel, 3 pt, 60" deck, joystick, turf tires \$9,950.00
 W Kubota BX2360, '13, 120 hrs, 23 hp diesel, mfd, loader, R4 tires, 3 point, mid pto \$12,500.00
 L McCormick MTX 110, '02, MFD, Cab, 4400 Hours, Semi PowerShift, 3 Hyd Remotes, \$36,900.00

TRACTOR - 2WD

L Case IH Maxxum 115, 2011, cab 342 hrs. (SN ZABE10521) \$59,000.00
 L IH 706 Gas w/ Miller M12 loader, 2pt hitch, 540/1000 PTO, Year Round Cab (Ser# 34564) \$6,500.00
 L IH 856 Diesel w/ Koyker K5 loader, 2pt hitch, 540/1000 PTO, 2 remotes, Factory Customer Deluxe Cab, 6800 hrs (Ser# U29139) \$9,900.00
 W IH 766 Diesel, '74, 7705 hrs, 540/1000 pto, open station \$9,500.00
 LP IH 1586, duals, 7200 hrs \$9,750.00
 W IH 5288, '81, 9162 hrs, complete new engine, 18.4x42 duals, 3 remotes, 14Lx16.1 fronts, rear end oh, rock box \$28,500.00
 W IH 84 Hydro, 2wd, 3468 hrs, Westendorf TA26 loader, rebuilt hydro, rear tires 80%, solid tractor \$14,500.00
 W Farmall Super A, \$6,500.00
 W John Deere 420, '56, wide front \$5,950.00

COMBINES

L CIH 1460, '81, 5485 Eng Hours, AgLeader Mntr, Dickey John Grain Loss Mntr, 24.5x32, NO RT or CHPR, \$4,500.00
 W IH 1480 \$7,500.00
 W CIH 1660, '87, 4200 hrs, RT, Chopper \$16,500.00
 LP CIH 2388, '04, 2872 e hrs, 2058 s hrs, RT, CH, 3rd lift cylinder (JJC0275440) \$89,500.00
 LP CIH 5130, '12, 240 hrs, 160 s hrs, RT, CH, 900/60R32 (YCG007628) \$199,500.00
 LP CIH 2388, 06, RT, FT, New Batteries (HAJ296423) \$105,000.00
 W CIH 2588, '08, RT, FT, YM, 1650e/1190s hrs, duals, mudhog, Maurer bin ext, Pro600 display \$139,500.00
 L CIH 5088, '10, 1120 E hrs, 775Sep, 30.5x32 near new, crary ext, (YAG004491) \$143,000.00
 LP CIH 7010, '07, 2633 e hrs, 1652 s hrs, RT, FT, Maurer Ext Auto Guidance Ready, '07, (HAJ200016) \$125,000.00
 LP CIH 7088, '09, 910 eng hrs, 780 sep hrs, RT, FT, power fold, 2 sp, 900/60R32, 600/65R28 (Y9G002804) \$169,500.00
 L CIH 7088, '10, 784 eng hrs, 467 sep hrs, RT, FT, power fold, 520R42 duals, 600/65R28 (YAG004362) RENTED MO
 L CIH 7120, '09, 1070 E hrs, 875 S hrs, YM, RT, CH, FT, Rev, Duals (Y9G207795) \$198,500.00
 W CIH 7120, '10, 1250 s hrs, 520/42 duals, accuguide ready, Pro600, RT, FT, Crary big top (YAG209414) \$159,500.00
 W CIH 7120, '11, RT, FT, YM, CH, Duals, Mudhog, 1076e/761s hrs

(YAG210745) \$169,500.00
 W CIH 7120, '12, RT, FT, YM, CH, Duals, Mudhog, 760s hrs (YCG214671) \$179,500.00
 LP CIH 7120, '12, RT, FT, Duals 785e hrs, 591 s hrs (YBG214252) \$260,000.00
 W CIH 7230, '12, RT, FT, CH, 834e/581s hrs, 520/85R42 duals, HIDS, Pro700 (YCG215269) \$169,500.00
 L CIH 7230, '12, RT, FT, 990E/800S, RWD (YCG215895) \$178,000.00
 LP CIH 7230, '13 RT, FT, 800 e hrs, 600 s hrs, (YCG217638) \$225,000.00
 LP CIH 8010, '04, 2500 e hrs, Pro 600, RT, FT, CH (HAJ105567) \$99,500.00
 W CIH 8010, '04, 3110e, 2152s, Pro600, Duals, RT, CH (HAJ105569) \$69,500.00
 L CIH 8230, '13, 675 E, 537 S, Luxury Cab, HID, Ind Cross Aug, Pro 700, Nav II, 372 Reciever, RENTED MO
 W CIH 8240, '15, 520e/390s hours, FT, RT, Pro700, pivot spout, cross auger control, diff lock, 520/85R42 duals \$269,500.00
 W NewHolland TR-99, '02, 2480e/1800s, Ag leader YM, duals, chaff spreader, tank extension, headsight wiring, well maintained \$34,900.00

BEAN PLATFORMS

LP CIH 1020 25', 3" cut (JC00323307) \$12,500.00
 L CIH 1020 30', '01, 3" cut, FT, updated AHHC link (JC0327032) \$10,900.00
 L CIH 1020 30' 97, FT 3" CUT, NEW EZ CUT 1 SEASON SNJC0223608 \$10,500.00
 LP CIH 1020 30' '05, 3" SI cut, FT (JJC033317) \$15,000.00
 LP CIH 1020 25' (JC0320666) "as is" \$1,950.00
 W CIH 2020 30', '10, 3", nice (Y9ZL50846) \$17,500.00
 LP CIH 2020 35', '08, FT, AHHC, Flagship (CBJ041017) \$20,000.00
 W CIH 2162 40", '11, flex draper (YBZN14566) \$59,500.00
 L CIH 3020 30', '12, 3", FT, AHHC, flagship (YBZL59252) \$21,500.00
 L CIH 3020 35', '11, 3", FT, AHHC, Flagship feeder mount (YBZL57155) \$25,000.00
 W CIH 3162 35', '15, draper head, NEW AGED WITH FACTORY WARRANTY call for pricing
 W CIH 30' reel for 1020 head - new \$2,500.00
 W MacDon FD75 35', '15, NEW UNIT, 3" coarse cut, spare knife, flagship mounts, setup price (273026) \$63,900.00
 L MacDon FD75 35', '15, NEW AGED, 3" coarse cut, spare knife, John Deere Mounts, LU1246 \$66,000.00
 W NH 74C 35', '07, 3" cut, crary air reel \$14,900.00

CORN HEADS

W Capello 830F 8RN, '13, NEW, chopping, headsight, debris curtains, hydraulic stripper plates, flagship mounts (9899) \$61,230.00
 L Capello 830F 8RN, '13, AGED NEW, chopping, headsight, debris curtains, hydraulic stripper plates, flagship mounts LN420 \$62,000.00
 LP CIH 2208, 8RN, '11, (HJ001953) \$15,000.00
 L CIH 2212 12RN, 2005, Ser# CBJ024166, FLAGSHIP MOUNTS \$25,500.00
 L CIH 2606, 6RN, '11, chop, flagship, (666604020) \$32,500.00
 L CIH 2606, 6RN, '10, chop, flagship, fender augers (off head) (666591007) \$32,500.00
 L CIH 2606, 6RN, '11, chopping, flagship feeder, fender augers (off head) (666602001) \$38,900.00
 LP CIH 2608, 8RN '08, Stalk Stompers, fits flagship (676546021) \$42,950.00
 L CIH 2608, 8RN, '08, chopping, Heritage Plate (676534024) \$39,000.00
 W CIH 2608, 8RN, '09 (676588003) \$37,500.00
 W CIH 2608, 8RN, '09 (676578004) \$37,500.00
 LP CIH 2608 8RN, '10, Fts flagship (676586033) \$42,950.00
 W CIH 2608, 8RN, '10 (676590015), hyd spiral dividers, row guidance \$42,500.00
 L CIH 2608, 8RN, '10, flgshp feeder, chopping w/ auger dividers, 8 stompers, new knives (676588030) \$44,500.00
 W CIH 2608, 8RN, '11 (676600027) \$44,900.00
 L CIH 2608, 8RN, '13, with Stalk Stompers, Oiler Kit (676634015) \$49,500.00
 LP CIH 2612, 12RN chopping '09 (686570006) \$39,500.00
 L CIH 3206, 6RN, '09, 3400 Conversion, excellent cond, (Y8S018711) \$29,900.00
 LP CIH 3208, 8 RN, '10 \$32,000.00
 W CIH 3406, 8RN, '09 (Y9S019059) \$19,700.00
 W CIH 3408, 8RN, '09, (Y8S018421) \$29,900.00
 LP CIH 3408, 8RN, '09, Fits new series (Y9S109417) \$34,000.00
 LP CIH 3408, 8RN, '11, (Y8S023541) \$45,000.00
 LP CIH 3408, 8RN, '11, (YCS022692) \$44,000.00
 LP CIH 3408, 8RN, '13, fits new series, only 450 acres (YCS039013) \$50,000.00
 LP CIH 3412, 12RN, '11 (YAS023793) \$67,500.00
 W CIH 3412, 12RN, '13 (YAS022380) SOLD (DS)
 L CIH 3412, 12RN, '13 (YCS039335) 22 inch \$55,900.00
 W CIH 4406, 6RN, '15, chopping, flagship mounts, NEW AGED INVENTORY (2 available) \$49,800.00
 W Cressoni 830, 8RN, '04, chopping, 7010 mounts \$12,500.00
 W Harvestec 4308C, 8RN, chopping, '07 (7184) \$19,500.00
 LP Harvestec 4312, 12RN, '07, Chopping (7200) \$37,500.00
 W Harvestec 5308C, '13, 8RN, NEW, chopping, CIH flagship mounts (201301324) \$55,995.00

CONSERTILS, CHISELS & SUBSOILERS

W CIH 730B EcoLoTiger, '05, 730", cushion gang, Gates 3-bar harrow, covering boards, lead shanks (JFH0020614) \$15,500.00
 LP CIH 730B EcoLo Tiger, '02, 7-30" (JFH0016407) \$21,000.00
 W CIH 730C EcoLo Tiger, '08, 7-30" (JFH0037074) - could add lead shanks (\$3,500) \$29,500.00
 L CIH 870 18", '10, Cushion Trunium Gang, ACS Basket, Replaceable Tips, \$49,500.00
 LP CIH 870 18" '12 ACS (YCD058957) \$57,000.00
 W CIH 870, '12, 18" width 9 shank, ACS basket, new points and blades before fall (YCD060698) \$54,900.00
 W CIH 870 18", '12, 9 shank, ACS, less than 2000 acres (YDD066763) \$54,900.00
 W CIH 870, 22", '12, disks measure 23 1/2", points good, very nice! (YCD061755) \$69,500.00
 W CIH 870, 22", '12, spike tooth harrow (JFH0053009) \$63,900.00
 W CIH 9300, '09, 9 shank, 30" (JFH0038182) \$39,500.00
 L CIH MRX690, '05, 7 shank (JFH0023687) \$16,500.00
 L DMI 730 EcoLo Tiger, '96, 7-30", '96 (525330) \$9,900.00
 L Landoll 1550 inline deep ripper, 7 shanks, 2015, 300 acres, 3pt mounted \$15,000.00
 W Summers 28' chisel plow, '13, NEW UNIT, 1050# shanks, bareback (harrow on hand if needed - add \$4000 + labor), green (M0706) \$35,595.00
 W Summers 28' 3-bar harrow - NEW take off \$4,000.00
 W Summers 36' chisel plow, '14, NEW UNIT, harrow, caster wheel pack-age, extended shanks, red, factory warranty \$50,999.00
 W Wilrich 357, 5 shank 30" mounted inline ripper, coulters, disk leveler \$8,250.00

DISK

W CIH 3950, 33', '00, cushion gang, 3 bar harrow \$29,500.00
 L CIH RMX340, 28', '09, cush, 3 bar harrow, Hyd level, (Y8S010150) front blade 21.25" rear 21.5" \$32,000.00
 LP CIH RMX340, 34', '10, cush, 3 bar, 9" spacing, 21.5" blades (JFH0044104) \$45,000.00
 LP CIH RMX340, 34', '11, cush, 3 bar, 9" spacing, (JFH0049350) \$45,000.00
 LP CIH RMX 370, 34', '10, cush, 3 bar, 9" spacing (JFH0046528) \$45,000.00
 W CIH true tandem 330 34", new blades, rolling basket \$40,500.00
 L CIH 345 True Tandem, 25ft, rolling basket, NEW AGED, two to choose from LN1226 and LN1227 \$45,900.00
 L CIH 345 True Tandem, 28ft, rolling basket, NEW AGED, LN1157 \$51,250.00
 L Great Plains, SD2600, SHORT DISC, 26ft, rolling basket harrow, NEW AGED, LN1351 \$59,400.00
 W Krause 7400, 45', '06, 9" spacing, self leveling hitch, lights, no welds or cracks, double fold, new scrapers \$45,000.00

STALK SHREDDERS

W Alloway 20' mounted \$6,950.00
 L Alloway 20' Pull-type, 300 acres on new knives, 1 3/8" PTO \$7,750.00
 L Loftness 360SH, 30ft, end pull transport, Ser# 02-1069, Consignment \$14,500.00

FERTILIZER APPLICATOR

W Case IH 2800 Nutri-Placer, '14, same as new, 1300 gal, 37.5", double pump, ground drive, liquid coulters and knife set \$31,500.00
 W Case IH 2800 Nutri-Placer, '15, same as new, 1300 gal, 37.5", hydraulic centrifugal pump, ISO rate control system, liquid coulters and knife set \$35,500.00
 L FAST 8118 '14, 1800 Gallon Tank, 40'/60" Split, Raven Monitor, 5 Sections Shut-Offs, (8118-5167-0414) \$58,500.00
 L CIH 940, 24 shank, 60" anhydrous bar, dual coolers, dual tank connection, wired for Raven, no controller \$64,500.00

GRAVITY WAGONS

L Parker 2600 Wagon, 12 Ton gear, 10.00-20 Truck tires, New Light Kit \$4,400.00
 L DEMCO 365 LIGHTS, GREEN \$2,900.00
 W Brent 657, '15, green, brakes, oil bath hubs, NEW AGED INVENTORY (B33620117) \$15,950.00
 W Brent 657, '15, green, fenders, brakes, oil bath hubs, NEW AGED INVENTORY (2 available) \$16,650.00
 W Brent 744, '12, green, fenders, 455/22.5 truck tires, like new condition! (B29470170) \$16,900.00
 LP Brent GT 657, wagon, fenders, '13, never used (B31770101) \$16,500.00
 W Demco 325, red, 10 ton Westendorf gear, flotation tires, shedded \$3,400.00
 W Demco 450, '14, NEW UNIT, red, 425-65R22.5s, brakes, lights, factory warranty (E03455) \$10,040.00
 W Demco 650, red, '08, nice \$13,500.00
 L Demco 650, Green, 445-65R22 tires, NEW AGED, LN840 \$14,750.00
 L Demco 750, Red, 455/55R22.5 tires, NEW AGED, LN571 \$17,500.00
 L E-Z Trail 500, Red, 385/65R22.5, No Brake, No Lights, NEW AGED LN751 \$7,800.00
 W J & M 250, with seed auger, 8 ton running gear \$2,000.00
 W Killbros 385, 385/65R22.5, 13T gear \$4,650.00
 W Parker 2500 wagon, tarp, seed conveyor, hydraulic system with gas engine, \$5,950.00
 W Demco 450, '14, NEW UNIT, red, 425-65R22.5s, brakes, lights, factory warranty (E03455) \$10,040.00
 W Demco 650, red, '08, nice \$13,500.00
 L Demco 650, Green, 445-65R22 tires, NEW AGED, LN840 \$14,750.00
 L Demco 750, Red, 455/55R22.5 tires, NEW AGED, LN571 \$17,500.00
 L E-Z Trail 500, Red, 385/65R22.5, No Brake, No Lights, NEW AGED LN751 \$7,800.00
 W J & M 250, with seed auger, 8 ton running gear \$2,000.00
 W Killbros 385, 385/65R22.5, 13T gear \$4,650.00
 W Parker 2500 wagon, tarp, seed conveyor, hydraulic system with gas engine, \$5,950.00
 L Parker 2600, '95, 16.5-16.1 tires, lights, great shape, green (P94181) \$5,400.00
 L Unverferth 400, '97, red \$4,400.00
 L Unverferth 630 wagon, tarp, fenders, 425x22.5 wheels and tires, AGED NEW (LN1343) \$17,100.00
 L Unverferth 630 wagon, tarp, fenders, 425x22.5 wheels and tires, AGED NEW (LN1342) \$17,100.00
 L Unverferth 730 wagon, tarp, fenders, 445x22.5 wheels and tires, AGED NEW (LN1211) \$19,300.00
 L Unverferth 630 wagon, red, like new \$14,500.00

GRAIN CARTS

LP Brent 1080, '08, red, tarp/scale (B24380141) \$35,950.00
 W Brent 774 Cart, 16" unload auger, 30.5 x 32 bar tires (B1665115) \$21,750.00
 W Brent 880, '06, red, tarp, 30.5x32 diamonds (B22730148) \$29,500.00
 LP Brent 880, grain cart, '07, red, tarp, (B23740127) \$25,000.00
 W Brent 882 grain cart, '14, NEW UNIT, 30.5 x 32s, tarp, factory warranty (B32380136) \$28,850.00
 W Demco 850 grain cart, '14, NEW UNIT, 30.5 x 32 bar tires, tarp (E020646) \$28,495.00
 L Demco 1050 grain cart, 900/60R32 tires, tarp and scale, NEW AGED (LN831) \$36,750.00
 L Demco 1150 grain cart, 900/60R32 tires, tarp and scale, NEW AGED, LN572 \$42,750.00
 L Demco 1050 grain cart, 900/60R32 tires, tarp and scale, NEW AGED (LN891) \$36,750.00
 W Kinze 1050, '04, 1250/45-32 Soft Tread, Weigh Tronix scale, excellent condition, like new (505873) \$44,500.00
 L Unverferth 6225, tarp, 1 3/8" 1000 PTO, 24.5X32 Tires, 14" Auger, 600+ bushels, Nice Shape, (S/N D48010145) \$17,750.00
 L Unverferth GC-7000, no tarp or scale, Augers- tires and appearance are good, (B1666197) \$11,900.00
 L Unverferth 7250, tarp, 24.5x32 diamond tread, red, very nice \$19,250.00
 LP Parker 624 with Tarp, Red, '08 (D51860126) \$14,500.00

AUGERS & GRAIN VACS

L Batco 1335TD, 60AMP/240V Single Phase \$4,900.00
 L REM 2700, REBUILT, 512.5 hrs., SN.2619, 2012 \$13,000.00
 LP REM 2700, '10, (1742) \$16,500.00
 LP REM 2700, '10, 255 hrs (1488) \$16,950.00
 LP REM 2700, '11 314 hrs (2843) \$16,950.00
 LP REM 2500, 08, 165 hrs (9865) \$13,500.00
 L Feterl 10"X82" Auger w/Swing Hopper Galvanized, '12 \$9,700.00
 L Feterl 8" X 55" (91200P) \$1,150.00
 LP Feterl 12"x71" Auger w/ hyd swing and elec lift (386) \$11,000.00
 LP Harvest International 10x32, 17" hopper \$3,950.00
 W Mayrath 8x72 auger, swing hopper \$4,000.00
 W Peck 10" x 31" auger w/ bin hopper and dolly wheel, side PTO \$3,250.00
 W Sudenga Drive-over hopper, hydraulic drive, '14, NEW UNIT \$9,455.00
 L Sudenga Drive-over hopper, hydraulic drive, NEW AGED, LN566 \$9,600.00
 L Sudenga 10X76 Galvanized, w/Swing Hopper, Hyd Scissor Lift \$4,900.00
 W Sudenga 10 x 61", '14, NEW UNIT, swing hopper, galvanized, factory warranty (48-5310) \$7,670.00
 L Sudenga 10x66, truck hopper, galvanized tube, NEW AGED \$8,000.00
 LP Sudenga 594, 10x71, hyd self contain \$4,950.00
 LP Sudenga Hi-Ef 10x71 (48-4709) \$6,

Hardwick family operates Gacke Goat Company/continued from page 5A

tential customers.

"I want a self-sufficient herd," he said.

That means he stays as close to a natural diet as possible and he operates a closed herd, where offspring would repopulate and expand the herd versus bringing in outside animals. Diseases such as highly contagious caseous lymphadenitis (CL) can be controlled and not exposed to the entire herd.

Gacke is hopeful GGC could be the first commercial goat herd in Rock County.

"You think you know a lot about goats and then you read more about how to do things differently," he said.

University of Minnesota Extension Educator Wayne Martin said having the proper facilities to combat weather extremes and a market to sell product are key to any successful livestock operation.

However, raising goats in Minnesota in large numbers is a rarity. "There are a fair amount of goats in the state but most are goats for 4-H'ers as an introduction to animal husbandry," he said.

As of Jan 1., Minnesota had 21,000 meat production goats in the state, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Texas leads the U.S. with 765,000 head.

Martin suspects the domestic market for goat meat may grow due to better quality control in the U.S. than in Australia, where most of the current goat meat is imported.

"The most profitable are



Mavis Fodness Photo/Ag Tab Brian Gacke Goat

A nanny goat grazes peacefully outside of Hardwick where she is among a herd of 260 goats owned by the Gacke Goat Company.

animals around 60 pounds," he said.

Australia mixes young and older goats in the same slaughtering process and both types of meat are packaged together.

Martin said Latino customers want the aged goat meat

while Somalian and Ethiopian customers want a younger cut of meat.

The demand has brought higher prices for the goat market.

Gacke said in the 1990s price per pound for a kid

ranged from 30 to 60 cents. Last week at the Pipestone Livestock Market prices ranged from \$1.10 to \$2.32.

Despite the increase in goat meat consumption, Martin said it is a myth that goat meat is the most widely consumed protein

in the world.

"Pork is overly the favorite," he said.

Chicken, beef, lamb and then goat follow pork consumption. Martin estimates only 6.3 percent of the red meat consumed worldwide is goat.



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Targeting erosion, saving soil

Fields near Mound and Elk creeks targeted for erosion prevention

By Lori Sorenson

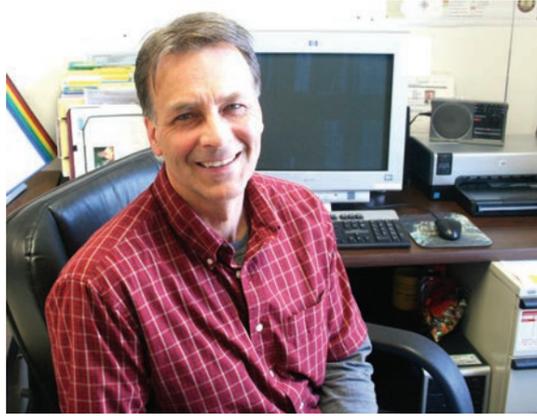
Farmers in Rock County's most vulnerable watersheds are helping to clean the polluted Rock River, thanks to a pilot program that targets state and federal dollars where they're needed most.

"We used to assist those who came through the door and asked for help," said Doug Bos of the Rock County Land Management Office.

"But that was more of a shotgun approach — one waterway project here, another in another part of the county ..."

While any conservation project (grassy waterways, control basins and terraces) is a good thing, he said it's best to prioritize limited resources where they'll do the most good.

Right now tributaries north of the Rock River need the most attention.



A study of the Rock River watershed shows Mound Creek near the Blue Mounds State Park and Elk Creek in east central Rock County carry the most pollutants to the Rock River, which is considered to be seri-

Targeting erosion/see page 14

"We used to assist those who came through the door and asked for help. But that was more of a shotgun approach — one waterway project here, another in another part of the county ..."

We as taxpayers provide funds for conservation practices. We need to find where they do the most erosion control for the dollars spent."

— Doug Bos

Rock County Land Management Office



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Targeting erosion, one troubled parcel at a time/continued from page 13



Conservation projects, such as grassy waterways, control basins and terraces (pictured here) — along with cover crops, nutrient reduction and conservation tillage practices — will eventually help clean up the polluted Rock River and keep soil in fields.

ously impaired.

Both creeks are heavily polluted by sediment washed off from nearby fields, and digital topographic maps show specific spots along those creeks that are most at risk for erosion.

There are 79 such areas near Mound Creek and 275 near Elk Creek, identified by ground slope, estimated water velocity and nearby row crop farming.

Bos estimates most of the problem spots — probably 75 percent — need work in order to slow further soil erosion.

Equipped with this information, Bos and his office have made it a priority over the past 18 months to work with landowners in these areas to curb soil erosion and improve water quality.

“We know which tributaries are contributing the most sediment,” Bos said, “so now it’s a matter of reaching out to the landowners in those areas.”

And that’s exactly what he and other conservation officials in neighboring counties have been doing.

Between January 2015 and June 2016, 392 landowners received letters, 152 responded and 85 have physically walked their fields with conservation officials.

“The first step is meeting with landowners,” Bos said, pointing out that any and all conservation work is strictly voluntary. “We go out and talk to them, show them some designs and give them ideas.”

A key piece of the conversation centers on cost-share funds available through Minnesota’s Clean Water Legacy Act or USDA’s Environmental Quality Improvement Program (EQIP).

Also, since 2014 flooding, State of Minnesota Flood Relief Funds can be used to cover costs.

For several years, Bos said his office has connected landowners with these funds to improve their ground, but now there’s a concerted effort to put that money where it’s needed most.

And that, Bos said, is good for everyone.

Targeting erosion/continued on next page



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Targeting erosion, one troubled parcel at a time/continued from page 14

"We as taxpayers provide funds for conservation practices," he said. "We need to find where they do the most erosion control for the dollars spent."

Each project, depending on its size and scope, can cost \$10,000 — sometimes up to \$60,000. That's why the cost share dollars are so important to incentivize the work.

Rock County is among the first in the state to use the "priority management zones" approach to cleaning polluted waters, and Bos said his office will be asked to measure results.

So far, a dozen conservation projects have been initiated in the priority zones, and another two dozen have been approved for cost-share funds.

Bos said these projects — along with cover crops, nutrient reduction and conservation tillage practices — will eventually help clean up the Rock River.

While that day is still in the distant future, he said he's hopeful that each success will generate more interest and that individual efforts will ultimately result in clean water.

"We now have an approach that should be more effective," he said.

"It's not any one of these projects on their own but all of them together that will make a difference in our water quality."



Digital topographic maps show specific spots along creeks that are most at risk for erosion in the watershed area (shown at left). There are 79 such areas near Mound Creek and 275 near Elk Creek, identified by ground slope, estimated water velocity and nearby row crop farming. Most of the problem spots — likely 75 percent — need work in order to slow further soil erosion. "We know which tributaries are contributing the most sediment," Bos said, "so now it's a matter of reaching out to the landowners in those areas."

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Worthington average cash prices		
Calendar Year	Soybeans	Corn
2015	\$9.06	\$3.48
2014	\$12.94	\$3.97
2013	\$13.99	\$6.04
2012	\$12.64	\$6.83
2011	\$12.83	\$6.62
2010	\$10.01	\$3.84
2009	\$9.89	\$3.40
2008	\$11.59	\$4.92
2007	\$7.78	\$3.38
2006	\$5.39	\$2.15
2005	\$5.80	\$1.68
11 YR Average	\$10.17	\$4.21

Table 1 shows Worthington Average Cash Prices for Corn and Soybeans. Current corn price starts with a 2 in front, something not seen since 2006 as indicated in Table 1, while 2016 soybean prices start with an 8, something not experienced since 2007.

	Soybeans			Corn		
	Yield	Total Cost	Cost/bushel	Yield	Total Cost	Cost/bushel
2015	59.4	\$ 514.77	\$ 8.66	204.6	\$ 784.16	\$ 3.83
2014	46.9	\$ 528.91	\$ 11.27	178.0	\$ 846.54	\$ 4.76
2013	47.0	\$ 527.09	\$ 11.21	168.1	\$ 872.90	\$ 5.19
2012	49.3	\$ 472.00	\$ 9.58	175.4	\$ 778.63	\$ 4.44
2011	40.6	\$ 418.00	\$ 10.29	157.9	\$ 687.88	\$ 4.36
2010	51.4	\$ 397.00	\$ 7.73	189.2	\$ 625.36	\$ 3.31
2009	48.7	\$ 384.03	\$ 7.88	190.5	\$ 661.15	\$ 3.47
2008	44.8	\$ 378.24	\$ 8.44	175.1	\$ 584.67	\$ 3.34
2007	49.7	\$ 305.64	\$ 6.15	166.1	\$ 463.61	\$ 2.79
2006	52.2	\$ 281.29	\$ 5.38	176.3	\$ 417.34	\$ 2.37
2005	53.1	\$ 267.36	\$ 5.03	185.0	\$ 384.50	\$ 2.08

Table 2 shows southern Minnesota soybean and corn average yields, input costs and costs per bushel. During the same timeframe that grain prices fell steeply, soybean input costs increased from \$267.36 per acre on average in southern Minnesota to a high in 2014 of \$538.91 per acre. If you divide these costs by the average yields, you determine the cost per bushel listed in the third column.

Surviving low corn and soybean prices — what you need to know

For the past few years, corn and soybean prices have risen and fallen deeply.

Current corn price starts with a 2 in front, something not seen since 2006 as indicated in **Table 1** at left, while 2016 soybean prices start with an 8, something not experienced since 2007.

Prices started in 2005 with an average soybean price of \$5.80 and an average corn price of \$1.68.

These prices increased significantly to a high for soybeans in 2013 at \$13.99 and \$6.83 for corn in 2012, with soybean prices more than doubling and corn prices

In order to make a profit, farmers will also need to examine input costs with rent, seed, fertilizer and chemicals as the top input costs. Farmers need to determine their own costs and develop a marketing plan that will market their crops if and when prices reach levels that will cover their input costs and make a profit.

quadrupling.

In 2015 soybeans prices are almost \$5 off the high and corn is over \$3 less per bushel, a dramatic and quick change.

Meanwhile, during this same timeframe, soybean input costs increased from \$267.36 per acre on average in southern Minnesota to a high in 2014 of \$538.91 per acre in **Table 2**.

These figures are from the farmers' records in the adult farm management programs reported in the FINBIN database.

If you divide these costs by the average yields, you determine the cost per bushel listed in the third column.

Even with record corn yields in 2015, the cost per bushel was \$3.83 per bushel

produced compared with an average cash price of \$3.48 as a difference of 35 cents or a loss of \$71.61 per acre on average.

Soybeans fared better with an average cost per bushel of \$8.66 in 2015 with the average price at \$9.06 or a potential profit of 40 cents per bushel or \$23.76 per acre.

From 2005 through 2015,

soybean costs per bushel have averaged \$8.33 while corn input costs average \$3.63.

Average prices were \$10.17 for soybeans and \$4.21 for corn, a difference of \$1.84 per bushel for soybeans and 58 cents per bushel for corn.

Using 50 bushels for soybeans and 180 bushels for corn, the average profit per acre would translate to \$92 per acre for soybeans and \$104.40 for corn.

Farmers don't always receive the average price for soybeans and corn, which has an impact on these profit figures.

Input costs declined for the first time in 2015, and with 2016 and 2017 cash corn prices below the 2015 cost per bushel of \$3.83, farmers will have to look for ways to lower input costs. The largest costs are rent, fertilizer and seed.

For soybeans, average input costs are at or slightly below current 2016 and 2017 cash prices, but in order to make a profit they will also need to examine input costs with rent, seed, fertilizer and chemicals as the top input costs.

Farmers need to determine their own costs and develop a marketing plan that will market their crops if and when prices reach levels that will cover their input costs and make a profit.



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Certified quality producer

Local producers can still earn \$300 through the Minnesota Water Quality program

By Mavis Fodness

Since its expansion statewide earlier this month, the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program has recognized 22 producers including Rock County's Josh Ossefoort.

"It doesn't hurt to do it," said Ossefoort, who serves on the local soil and water conservation board.

"If you don't pass, it doesn't negatively affect you. I think it's a good tool to use to find weak spots in your operation."

In a matter of hours certification specialist Danielle Evers toured his livestock feedlots and hay field northeast of Luverne.

They discussed what is done or not done in managing his operation, and Evers loaded this data into a program to see where Ossefoort's practices rank in minimizing water pollution.

As a certified producer, Ossefoort is deemed compli-

ant with the state's new water quality rules (including the new buffer law) during the 10-year certification period.

He will also receive priority status for any technical or financial assistance that promotes water quality, and he received \$300 for working with Evers.

Any farmer in Evers' 11-county area receives \$100 for going through the application process, whether or not they fully qualify for certification. The producer receives an additional \$200 if they agree to work toward the certification requirements.

Five Rock County producers have completed application process.

Evers said 99 producers in Pipestone, Nobles, Murray, Cottonwood, Jackson, Lyon, Lincoln, Redwood, Yellow Medicine, Lac qui Parle and Rock counties have applied since she began in her position this spring. Her goal is to work

with 110 producers.

Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program is a voluntary program meant to accelerate the adoption of on-farm conservation practices to protect the state's rivers and streams.

"It's a proactive approach to water quality issues," Evers said in February when she started her job. "It's a great direction for the state to go."

The certification program was piloted for three years in three watersheds located in various parts of the state before expanding statewide this spring.

Evers' office is housed in the Pipestone County Soil and Water Conservation Office in Pipestone. She can be reached at 507-825-1199.



Mavis Fodness Photo/Ag Tab MAWQCP Update Josh Ossefoort
Josh Ossefoort is one of five Rock County producers who applied to the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program and is the only local farmer who has achieved certification.

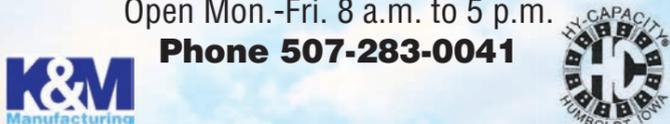
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Expanding vision



Photo credits: New Vision Facebook page

The new plant will blend and load out dry fertilizer ten times faster than the old New Vision Co-op plant. Plans call for construction of 900 tons of liquid fertilizer and nine bulk chemical storage tanks with 5,000-gallon storage capacity. When complete, it will be a state of the art fertilizer and chemical terminal. The original plant design was changed from 9,300 tons to 12,300 tons due to an opportunity to utilize surplus land after the traffic flow was engineered.

Work continues on Hills co-op expansion project

By Glenda McGaffee

Work continues on the expansion project at New Vision Co-op located at 521 41st Street, Hills.

The bushel bin is ready to go and the work on the fertilizer plant has been pushed back due to the rains but still plans to be open by spring.

Craig Vreeman, Western Area New Vision supervisor, said the project includes a 1.2-million-bushel bin and a 12,300-ton fertilizer chemical shed.

The project scope included a 25,000-bushel-per-hour receiving leg, a 1.2-million-bushel bin and a new control system for the new leg, bin and elevator.

The elevator control system was installed in the elevator office and scale office allowing the scale operator to operate the elevator remotely.

This unique feature adds to the off-season operating efficiency.

The new receiving pit, leg and bin will double the unloading capacity at the terminal elevator location. Due to this enhanced speed

and storage capacity, New Vision is evaluating the best use for the downtown elevator during harvest.

This decision will be made after the new project motor and control testing is complete and the company has a better idea on yields, rail car supply and demand for fall labor.

The original plant design was changed from 9,300 tons to 12,300 tons due to an opportunity to utilize surplus land after the traffic flow was engineered.

The new plant will blend and load out dry fertilizer ten times faster than the old plant.

The plant will also have 900 tons of liquid fertilizer and nine bulk chemical storage tanks with 5,000-gallon storage capacity. When complete, it will be a state of the art fertilizer and chemical terminal.

"A benefit of the project is with the new storage all beans will be at the terminal instead of in Hills," Vreeman said. "Hopefully it will service our customers and better serve their needs."

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The New Vision expansion project includes a 1.2-million-bushel bin and a 12,300-ton fertilizer chemical shed. The project scope included a 25,000-bushel-per-hour receiving leg, a 1.2-million-bushel bin and a new control system for the new leg, bin and elevator.

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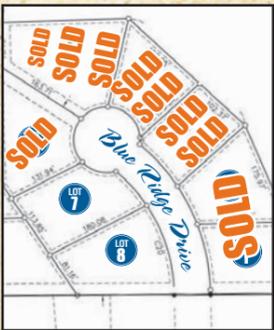


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Think before you spread

Consider conditions when land-applying livestock manure in winter

Land-applying livestock manure in winter requires much greater attention to locations and weather. The main concern comes from insufficient incorporation and runoff from frozen and snow-covered soil.

For large livestock farms with state or federal operating permits (NPDES or SDS permits), land application of liquid manure is prohibited after Nov. 30 on frozen or snow-covered soils unless an emergency application is approved.

When planning to land-apply either solid or liquid manure, applicators should

The main concern with winter manure application is insufficient incorporation and runoff from frozen and snow-covered soil.

always check soil conditions and weather forecasts. The Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture provides a webpage with links

to soil temperature sites around the state. Regardless of whether or not they have an operating permit, all livestock operations need to follow the Minnesota 7020 rules.

During winter land application they must maintain a 300-foot setback from all sensitive features and use other best management practices to prevent manure from running off and preserving its nutrient value for next year's crop.

For more information see the fact sheet, "Managing manure land application during adverse weather conditions."

Wisconsin farmers have access to the Manure Management System Advisory System map, which provides real-time weather information about runoff risk. The Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture is working on a similar map.

Some common sense best management practices:

- Manure is applied more than 300 feet from sensitive features including lakes, streams, open tile inlets, sinkholes, water supply wells, mines and quarries, intermittent streams, un-bermed drainage ditches, or public water wetlands;

Winter manure/see next page

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Speedy harvest

A new 1,000-bushel dump pit was installed at Mouw Feed and Grain Hardwick location to speed the grain handling process for farming during the upcoming 2016 harvest.

At right, workers with Nepp Sales and Service of Slayton lift the 1,000-bushel metal grain dump into the ground earlier this month. The new dump allows a semitrailer load of grain to empty in minutes.



Mavis Fodness Photos/Ag Tab Mouw Hopper

Winter manure/ from page 22

- No active snowmelt is occurring that can create runoff from an application field. Active snowmelt is deemed to be occurring if there are two or more inches of snow on the field and maximum temperatures that exceed 40 degrees Fahrenheit are occurring or are predicted to exceed 40 degrees Fahrenheit within 24 hours of spreading manure;

- No rainfall over 0.25 inches is predicted by the National Weather Service with a probability greater than 50 percent within 24 hours of the end of the application period;

- Slopes should be less than or equal to six percent on the entire portion of the field where manure is land applied;

- Water or ice should not occupy tillage furrows to the extent that additional snowmelt or precipitation cannot be contained between furrows or in other depressional storage areas within the field.

If you have questions on winter manure application, please call Rock County SWCD/ Land Management Office at 507-283-8862 ext 4.



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The Luverne Farm Store is a proud supporter of all our local swine producers. We continue to focus our efforts toward bringing new technology in Feed Premixes, Animal Health Products, Advancing Barn Efficiencies, and Livestock Marketing to our local producers. The Luverne Farm Store applauds the efforts of all area farmers in utilizing local livestock manure as an innovative method of fertilization. We look forward to providing more value-added services to local farmers, as we all work to protect our environment and strengthen our local farming economy.

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