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Summer & Fall Newsletter 2014

What happened to Sweetland AgTech?

We just changed the name to Muscatine Ag! Why you ask? Because we are much more than Sweetland Ag Tech....we are a new organization, with new management, new facilities and a new attitude! We have made so many exciting changes at this location you've got stop in so we can show you around!



Introducing Our Sales Team

We have added some new members to our existing team. Pictured above (from left to right) Front Row:

Ben Lacina – O'Toole Inc., Conner TeStrake –

Muscatine Ag, Amanda Lund – O'Toole Inc., Bryan

Nugent – Muscatine Ag. Back Row: Brian Miller –

Muscatine Ag, Alan Stalkfleet – Nichols Ag and Jerry

Gerot – Nichols Ag.

. We feel we are even better equipped to service your needs with this dynamic group who can provide not only sales information but scouting, application services, recommendations and so much more!

Watch for your invitation to our annual customer meeting. The meeting will be held on March 12, 2015 with a happy hour, industry speaker and dinner at the Rendezvous in Muscatine, IA. We are pleased to announce Dr. Below will speak about how to grow

100 bushel soybeans. If you remember, he spoke to us a couple of years ago about 300 bushel corn. He's absolutely fantastic and you definitely won't want to miss this meeting! Details will be sent early next year!



Introducing Becks Hybrids

We would like to announce that we are now a Becks Hybrids dealer. We will still be selling Dekalb/Asgrow and NK brands but think that Becks will give us some options to diversify our current seed offering.

Becks offer some conventional, waxy, and white corn hybrids. Along with some different trait packages and genetics than we carry now.

Becks purchased the seed corn production facility in Mt. Pleasant and will be growing seed in south east lowa area in the near future.

If you have questions about Becks and their offerings please talk to your local seed specialist.



DON'T FORGET TO PROTECT YOUR 2015 CROP FROM VOLUNTEER CORN!

As we are getting ready to get the combines rolling for the 2014 harvest we may see some yield loss due to the high wind damage of this spring, lodging across our area along

with a few other factors. These conditions may also cause more volunteer corn issues in next year's crop. We need to be aware of this as we harvest, and start to plan our spring approach for protecting our yields in 2015. Growers should be thinking of applying soil or foliar applied herbicides, and building this into their prepay dollars for the 2015 crop year.

Volunteer corn is becoming an increasingly problematic weed in soybean fields. The presence of volunteer corn in our soybean fields, has several important implications on which affects yields. Purdue research has shown just 16 corn plants in a square meter of soybeans can reduce yield by up to 45%. Iowa State reports, that for every one plant per 10 feet you lose 1% yield. Like any weed, any early emergence will rob the soybean from moisture, nutrients, and light. Thus is why early control of volunteer corn in our fields is so critical.

COVER CROPS – call your local office today to learn more!



Production involves many practices that compromise soil health, and therefore limit productivity. Therefore, leading growers want to overcome this barrier to success with practices that maintain soil health. We have specially formulated blends which address these barriers which:

- Provide low maintenance winter kill
- Build up Nitrogen surplus in the soil
- Provide Erosion control
- Bust up compaction

It is important to note the government is beginning to regulate the need for cover crops which has already taken place in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. You can be sure these regulations will be here in the Mississippi Watershed soon!

NITROGEN TESTING ON SOYBEANS

As you have heard in the past we continually test products, timing and programs looking for the best results for our customers. This summer we have tested adding Nitrogen both irrigated and non-

irrigated soybeans after the R3 stage. Check back in the winter newsletter to find out the results of this testing!



DON'T WAIT IN GRAIN LINES!

With the beginning of harvest just a short 6-8 weeks away and with the speculation of a possible bin busting crop to be harvested, we want to assure or customers we are already in full power mode gearing up at our Nichols Ag and Muscatine Ag (Sweetland) grain facilities to accommodate the expected increases.

Our Nichols facility recently added a new 70k bushel bin for corn, which will also allow for an increase in soybean storage capacity. With the addition of a new 1k dryer, and a 14k bushel/hour unload auger, there should be little to hinder our customers from getting right back to harvesting that huge crop!

At our Muscatine Ag facility, we've expanded our "wet bin" holding capacity to match our grain dryers daily bushel drying ability so we can dry around the clock!

Muscatine Ag also will be using a 14k bushel/hour auger to off-load grain, significantly decreasing the "turn-around" times for our customers.

Between our Nichols Ag and Muscatine Ag facility, we will have almost 50k bushel/day drying capacity.

WOW! Why wait in line at some terminal when you can get back to the field in great time by bringing it to us!

FOR THE **2014 YIELD COMPETITION**!!!

Don't miss your opportunity to be our next \$1,000 winner!

