

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



### Picton

38 Cold Storage Rd.  
Store: (613) 476-2171  
Crops: (613) 476-9183  
Fuel: (613) 476-1613

### Foxboro

552 Ashley St.  
Store: (613) 962-0769  
Fuel: (613) 961-0731

### Madoc

278 Lawrence St. W  
Store: (613) 473-9040  
Fuel: (613)-473-2499

[www.countyfarmcentre.com](http://www.countyfarmcentre.com)

### AGRONOMY CORNER

#### Top Dressing Wheat

April is a great time to apply fertilizer to your wheat. When you apply your nitrogen it is a good idea to add some potash as well since you're already going over the field. Also think about adding sulfur as it increases plant health and helps in protein synthesis.

#### Alfalfa Winter Damage

Now is the time to evaluate your alfalfa stands. If you have had winter damage you need to allow the plants to restore needed carbohydrates. The following are ways to manage a winter injured stand: 1)increase cutting height 2)fertilize prior to first cutting, if possible and 3)avoid late fall cutting this season to prevent the problem from happening again.

#### Alfalfa Plant Count Guidelines

(information from Quality Seeds)

| Stand Age                     | Good Stand<br>(plants per square foot) | Consider Replacement<br>(plants per square foot) |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Seeding Year                  | 25-40                                  | < 15                                             |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> year          | > 12                                   | < 8                                              |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> year          | > 8                                    | < 5                                              |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> year          | > 6                                    | < 4                                              |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> year or older | > 4                                    | < 3                                              |

### Agronomy Return Policy

A friendly reminder of our return policy: All returns must be made in resalable condition and within the posted timeframes.

### Lane Maintenance

When you're getting ready for the spring please don't forget to clear up your laneways. A 15 feet wide by 15 feet high clearance is required to prevent damage to our custom application equipment. Please help us keep our machinery in top working condition.

### STORE NEWS



With winter finally behind us, now is the time to get lawns and gardens ready for the growing season. County Farm Centre is prepared. We have rakes and wheelbarrows to clean up the lawn, seeds and bulbs to sow, fertilizers to help your the plants grow and all the other necessities you might need. Stop in and see what we have - you'll be surprised by our selection!



## FEED DEPARTMENT

### Interpretation of Milk Urea Nitrogen (MUN)

#### Why Test for MUN

#### MUN as a management Tool

Milk Urea Nitrogen (MUN) is created when excess crude nitrogen in the diet, caused usually from high levels of degradable protein cannot be totally absorbed by rumen microbes and as a result turns into excess ammonia which enters the blood stream where it is turned into Urea Nitrogen levels that end up in the Blood and Milk of a Dairy Cow. Why this is important is it allows the dairy farmer and nutritionist to evaluate how and if dietary protein is being utilized efficiently and effectively in a dairy cow's diet.



We test for MUN in milk to signal that the feeding program is in good balance. An imbalance of available protein and available energy in

the rumen will result in MUN scores being too high or too low which will directly affect milk production. Higher MUN scores are associated with higher feed costs, lower scores usually means less gross milk revenue and lower milk revenue over feed costs.

MUN is also used as a management tool in reproduction. Increased MUN levels have a direct influence with a decrease in fertility. Cows that have safe MUN levels have a 2.4 times greater chance of being confirmed pregnant than cows that are considered to be in a high range.

MUN levels are variable and can be influenced by types or protein in the diet, time between eating periods, stage of lactation, age of animals and different breeds.

If you have any questions on how your MUN scores might be affecting your herd don't hesitate to ask your nutritionist.

Good planting and be safe!

Dave...

## ENERGY SECTION

### SPRING FARM MAINTENANCE TIPS

After a long winter, the thought of preparing your equipment for the busy growing season ahead can be daunting. However, it pays to do the work.

By taking time to inspect your equipment and complete any necessary maintenance, you can avoid costly breakdowns during seeding and improve the productivity of your farm. With some extra work today — and some help from Mother Nature — you can be in the field in good time and well on your way to a successful growing season. The County Farm Centre is ready to equip your farm with all the tools you need. We offer a full line of fluids including various motor oils, hydraulic fluids and grease. Not to mention our exclusive supreme diesel additive Diesellex® Gold. Our Diesel fuel provides you with the best power, efficiency and protection available for diesel engines today.



Diesellex Gold helps save fuel and save money. When your filters and injectors are clean, your engine produces maximum power and peak efficiency. Diesellex Gold contains oxidation and corrosion inhibitors, fuel stabilizers and moisture control chemistry to keep your fuel clean and flowing freely.

Combined with the detergency that keeps injectors clean, it all adds up to improved efficiency. In fact, our test fleet showed a notable gain in fuel efficiency, that can equate to significant savings per litre!

The County Farm Centre is ready to equip your farm with the tools you need. For more information on products and services, contact or visit the experienced team at your local County Farm Centre today.

**Diesellex® Gold**