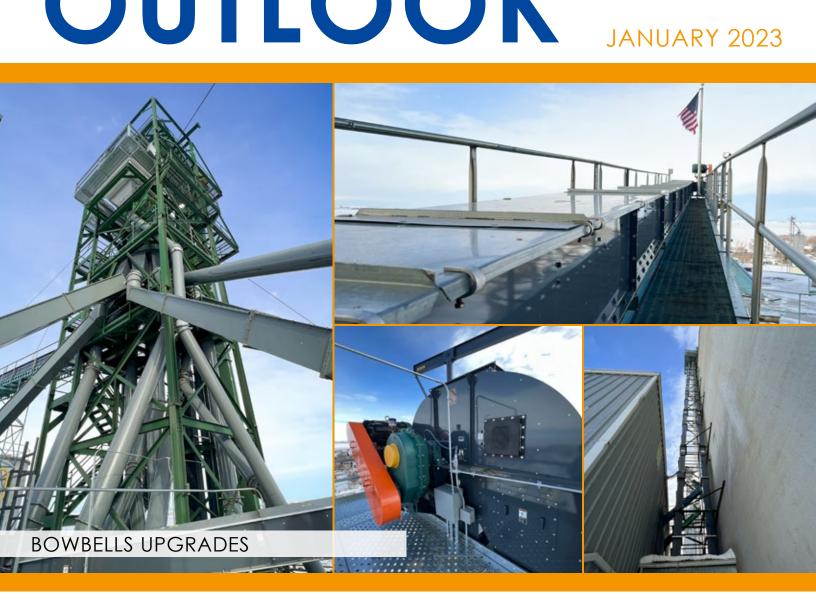
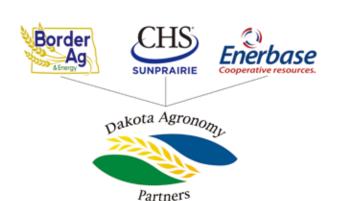
### PRAIRIE PARTNERS

# OUTLOOK





Three cooperatives... one agronomic vision.









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# FRIENDS NEW BEGINNINGS

Nothing ever quite stays the same. At the time of this writing it is -20 degrees with 30 mph winds. The weather threw curve balls at Christmas plans and even some of my year-end farm planning. As North Dakota farmers and ranchers we have grown accustomed to changes in plans when fuel gets expensive and fertilizer and crop protection product prices go through the roof. We grumble and stomp our feet but in the end we sigh, open our checkbooks and are just happy if we can get what we need. Production and supply chain issues have kept us and our suppliers on our toes. We don't like it but plans sometimes change.

At Enerbase the board and management team had a busy year. A fully renovated c-store at our Makoti location will provide upgraded services, c-store offerings and expanded fuel pumps. The old c-store building is a friend from the past and is for sale. Sadly, the Ryder location has been closed and the building was sold to a local patron. The oil station stood as a pillar in the Ryder community for many decades. My grandfather was one of the charter board members in 1928, so its closing fills me with memories of that old brick building. Enerbase obtained a parcel of land southwest of Ryder and a cardtrol system was constructed. This will serve the Ryder area for gas and fuel needs. High-speed diesel pumps and bulk fuel capabilities are an upgrade from the old downtown location.

Enerbase had a great year in 2022! Balancing supply chain issues and a shortage of c-store employees was a challenge, but the management team adapted to lessen the impact. Thank you to our local patrons who continue to be the backbone of our cooperative, and the employees and management who provide those products and services.





# ADVANTAGES OF DOING BUSINESS WITH A COOPERATIVE OWNED BY IT'S GROWERS

Greetings from the CHS SunPrairie producer board. I hope the winter has been treating you well. I mention this every year, but our goal has always been to be a profitable business unit and provide value to our member-owners. Profitability allows us to return patronage to you and improve our assets.

On that note, I am pleased to report that CHS SunPrairie, along with our share of Dakota Agronomy Partners, ended the year with a net savings of \$8.58 million. I would like to thank our general manager, Chris Gratton, and our dedicated employees for posting these numbers in another challenging year. Our employees are the reason we were profitable in a fiscal year that started off with the 2021 drought and then an extremely wet/late 2022 spring.

Our latest capital project was completed in Bowbells this past summer at a final cost of \$3.2 million. This will greatly reduce unloading times for producers at that location and make that facility more efficient. As a board, we will be meeting this summer to discuss future capital plans to benefit owners in our trade area. Expanding storage at our Wiley location is one of the projects on our list.

CHS SunPrairie had a great start to this fiscal year, which began September 1, 2022. Eric Mack, who many of you know, has been a great addition to our marketing team this past year. The Lances, Amber, Dana and Eric are always available to help you with your grain marketing needs.

CHS Inc. posted record earnings of \$1.7 billion, with all sectors of the business performing very well. As a business unit within the CHS Country Operations sector, this should translate into more capital investments in the country, as well as increased patronage returns to you and me as member-owners. This is just one advantage of doing business with a cooperative that is owned by us as growers. Patronage for fiscal year 2022 will be issued in late February.

The CHS board of directors will be proposing a bylaw change at the next annual meeting in December 2023 involving equity management. It could be a significant change in how equity is calculated. As a board, we are carefully considering this issue. Feel free to contact any of us on the CHS SunPrairie board if you have any questions.

In closing, on behalf of your local producer board, thank you for your business. As a grower, you have several choices in grain marketing and agronomy. CHS SunPrairie and Dakota Agronomy Partners strive to be your number one choice in both

CHS returning nearly \$1.2 billion in cash patronage and equity redemptions for FY22!







MERLIN ROUTLEDGE
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board president

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# RETURNING \$8 MILLION TO OUR MEMBER-OWNERS THROUGH OUR THREE PARENT COOPERATIVES

Hello from the Dakota Agronomy Partners board room! As we wrap up our 23rd year in business, and we look back on the changes our company has experienced as we have grown, it is pretty amazing. Dakota Agronomy's fiscal year end was August 31, 2022, in which we posted \$191 million in sales, our best year since the inception in 1999, and a local net profit of \$10,710,729. DAP is proud to say that it will be returning \$8 million to its member-owners in disbursements for this fiscal year through the three parent cooperatives.

As we are all aware, the industry experienced a year of supply constraints for all inputs that it takes to get a crop planted. DAP positioned itself well to secure products and equipment to get the season completed in a short period of time. The 2023 growing season is rapidly approaching and showing some of the same signs regarding owning supply and predicting shortages in some of the needed inputs, while also ensuring our rolling stock is sufficient. The DAP board is very supportive in making sure the team has the right equipment for an industry that is built around velocity and capacity. As the pace of agriculture increases, we are working each day to make sure our assets can match that pace. This process requires educated estimates for future seasons to secure products and equipment for years to come.

In closing, on behalf of the board of directors I would like to thank each and every one of the DAP patrons for their continued support. We look forward to working with you all this year and in the years to come.



# IMPROVEMENTS WRAPPING UP THIS SPRING TO BETTER SERVE YOU

Border Ag had another successful year thanks to our patron-owners, and we are happy to continue to help you in your farming operations. Border Ag will soon be finishing the new diesel fuel islands in Newburg, along with the new gas station building on the north side of Bottineau and installing the new grain cleaner in Russell this spring.

Border Ag is always ready to help you with your grain marketing decisions. Make sure to contact your local station manager or the merchandisers if you have questions, need help, or if you just want to visit about the markets. Border Ag's fuel department is also ready to help with your fuel needs, whether it be at the retail location, bulk delivery or lining up a tanker delivery.

Our annual meeting is scheduled for April 4th this year at the Cobblestone Inn in Bottineau. Please watch for a postcard in the mail as we get closer for more details. Thank you for your patronage and we look forward to working with you again this year.



## \$500 SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship will recognize academic achievements as well as leadership skills of high school seniors interested in pursuing a career in agriculture.

For more information and to view/download an application visit borderag.coop and click on Scholarship under the About Us section.

**DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MARCH 1, 2023** 



## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



HUNTER SCHREINER
DAKOTA AGRONOMY PARTNERS
agronomy sales rep

hunter.schreiner@chsinc.com



CHS SunPrairie is committed to investing in tomorrow's leaders through our scholarship program. As in years past we will be awarding scholarships to area students again this year.

We are proud to support these future leaders, some of whom may one day play an important role in the future of agriculture!

For more information and to view/download an application visit chssunprairie.com/scholarships

**DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MARCH 8, 2023** 

Call Dakota Agronomy Partners to Find the AgriPro Spring Wheat Varieties for Your Farm!

Dakota Agronomy Partners has the local knowledge and experience to help you select and manage your wheat crop for maximum production. For more information on AgriPro® wheat varieties and certified seed, contact Dakota Agronomy Partners.

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Yield Muscle and Straw Strength

#### **SY Ingmar**

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**AP Smith** 

Stands Strong

The Yield Warrior

**SY Longmire** 

Call (701) 852-5608

DakotaAgronomy.com

## NEW TOOLS IN THE TOOLBOX

Greetings from the frozen tundra of north central North Dakota! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season filled with family time and some well-deserved relaxation. As we move into 2023, I would like to touch on a couple of the new products/traits that were released in 2022 that will be great additions to our agronomic toolbox moving forward into 2023 and beyond.

#### XtendFlex® Soybeans

Over the last handful of years soybean traits have had the most additions of new varieties and new trait packages compared to any other crop. The newest addition being the XtendFlex® trait, which is tolerant to both dicamba applications and Liberty applications. This trait package gives farmers a lot more flexibility with weed control compared to the straight Xtend® soybean varieties. Being able to go in with an early-post application of dicamba before the late June heat, not only reduces the risk of that dicamba volatilizing and moving off target, but it gets applied to weeds that are small and actively growing, giving the grower a better chance at successfully controlling those weeds. If there is a need for a later application the grower has the option to come back in with Liberty to take care of any escapes or new growth of weeds that might have occurred.

#### BUTEO™ Start/Lumiderm™ Seed Treatments

Over the last three to five years flea beetles have been one of the biggest problems that canola growers in the area have had to deal with early in the growing season. Last year BASF and Bayer came out with new seed treatment options for their canola to help alleviate flea beetle pressure and give more time before an insecticide application is needed. Field trials done in 2019 by Bayer and BASF showed the BUTEO™ Start had 40% less flea beetle damage 14 days after emergence than the untreated, and the Lumiderm™ had 36% less damage than the untreated. These seed treatments are not a silver bullet, but they are another tool in the toolbox that can be utilized to help fight flea beetle pressure.

If you have any questions on these new products, contact your local ASR!





SHERI ENDRESEN ENERBASE energy relations

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#### **FUEL CONTRACTS**

#### THE NEXT BEST THING TO AN INSURANCE POLICY

Greetings from the Enerbase Energy Division! Anyone who had diesel fuel contracts for 2022 did very well. I would say most everyone saw at least a \$1/gallon savings and some were closer to \$1.50/gallon versus the rack price. Anytime you can put that kind of money in your back pocket it is a HUGE WIN!

We have already sold a lot of fuel contracts for 2023. We think supply will drive the price for 2023. Currently diesel fuel inventories are at a 20-year low. In April and May the CHS refinery at Laurel, MT will go on turnaround for maintenance and upgrades. This will be a large player, producing minimal gallons for at least two months.

There is no guarantee with fuel supply, but a fuel contract is the next best thing to an insurance policy. If we get into

a supply crunch, anyone who has fuel contracts in place will get their gallons fulfilled before those without a contract. We can contract any gallon amount, with no money down. We are strongly encouraging customers to call for their product as soon they have room for it and to keep their tanks on the top side for 2023.

Not only do we have a superior premium diesel fuel that we provide at a competitive price, we strive to have the best service possible and the money stays LOCAL! Last year the patronage we paid back on diesel fuel was \$.17/gallon - that is huge!

Please feel free to call me at 852.2501 or 263.7902 for any energy needs.





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## AMBER CORPE CHS SUNPRAIRIE grain originator

amber.corpe@chsinc.com

701.721.3994

# BRINGING YOU GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE

## WITH LOCAL FLARE

Where does the time go? Here we are about a month into a new year, and it feels like we just finished up a nonstop whirl wind of a harvest. I don't have to tell you how emotionally charged and frustrating this last year was across all sectors of agriculture, especially grain marketing. It seems the level of volatility has become the norm and riding that wave has been exhausting. It is no secret that grain marketing isn't the most loved part of the farm and ranch business and tends to be the last priority when things get busy, and let's be honest it's always busy. I could write a whole page on all the tasks that need to be accomplished in a short time, all the while the grain markets are open waiting on no one.

I know I've said it many times before, but volatility creates opportunity. Over the last few months there have been many opportunities for locking in profitable values both in the futures and basis, as well as nearby and new crop sales. However, the common theme with many of those upward trends was that they were short-lived and often missed. It's times like that why we stress the importance of having a plan and a target price during those marketing conditions. There is no doubt that there is a vast array of marketing information

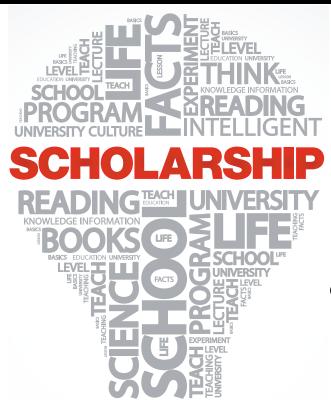
that is pumped out everyday and it can be overwhelming to navigate. This includes your plan for new crop sales next harvest. Forward contracting is important and should have a place in your overall marketing plan. Luckily for you we have an amazing grain team that can assist in deciphering what is happening in the world and how it pertains to our neck of the woods.

We have implemented a few new ways to bring you global knowledge with local flare. First off, we started a weekly overview that is sent through text which has recently been revamped. Secondly, we kicked off our Post-Harvest Happy Hours to discuss the harvest season and present ideas on current marketing topics. The feedback we received was very positive, and we can't wait to continue with the next segment of Pre-Planting Happy Hours to focus more heavily on new crop sales. If these low-key get togethers are of interest to you or you are curious about any other fresh ideas we have brewing, don't hesitate to call any one on our grain team and we'd be happy to chat with you. As always, we appreciate your business and stay safe out there.

If you would like to receive our weekly overview simply text TMCCHSsunp to 7014010185 or scan the QR code below







## 2023 SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Dakota Agronomy Partners will be awarding scholarships to area students.

For more information and to view/download an application visit dakotaagronomy.com and click on Scholarships in the upper right corner.

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MARCH 8, 2023







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## DARRELL SCHERESKY DAKOTA AGRONOMY PARTNERS washburn location manager

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# CREATING HERBICIDE PLANS FOR 2023

Hello from the Washburn area. We are looking forward to a moist growing season if the snow patterns are any indicator of a good moisture year. This is a good time of year though to make some strategic herbicide plans for the upcoming year. It used to be possible to be very reactive to weeds in a field. When you saw weeds and you wanted them gone, you sprayed them. And if we were using a glyphosate, these weeds were typically no longer an issue in nine days. With resistance issues, this just doesn't work any longer on select weeds. Now we need to be proactive. We need to start using some herbicides before weed emergence. Let's consider issues with Xtend™ soybeans as just one example.

#### Step #

We should be using the Xtend® technology! This is my highest priority. Does that mean spraying with the legal dicamba on June 29th like most of the requests I receive? Growers desire a late application to provide control in July and August on kochia and other broadleaves. We can do better than that if we spray the herbicide in early June at the full rate to provide early control before the weeds emerge. The crop canopy will likely handle the rest and prevent further emergence issues. At a full rate of Xtend®, we will typically see four to six weeks of residual. That is a wonderful option to have, and that is one reason we select Xtend® soybeans. Use the technology that you are paying for. Omitting that herbicide to save that expense typically costs you in the long run in yield loss when kochia overtakes the beans in mid to late July.

#### Step #2

Stack up residual products. Let's put a glyphosate, dicamba, Spartan® application on before emergence. I have this as step two, even though it needs to be done first, only because of its significance in the season of weed growth. This application starts us on the path to a clean field. Then when our field is still clean, we do the in-crop Xtend® application before we

see any weeds, described in step one. Now we are proactively getting ahead of them. Do not trust the fact again that the field is clean and skip this herbicide. Plan to follow up with step one now. Stay committed to doing that no matter how clean the field appears.

We could have the same conversation for resistance issues in corn, sunflowers, Enlist E3® soybeans or LibertyLink canola. My point for this discussion is to think about how you can layer herbicides to allow the crop to get ahead of the weeds. Then use the legal and labeled in-crop herbicide for your second pass in that respective crop. You may or may not have a residual product depending on crop, but stack one in if you are able to.

Glyphosate is not the only culprit in resistance. There have been other herbicides, from even a year ago, that have shown us new vulnerabilities. Talk to your local agronomy sales rep and develop a plan to stay ahead of weeds. Sometimes the first step begins with herbicide applications in October. Our options are greatly reduced when we have a crop with big resistant weeds in them. Take sunflowers for example, there are no in-crop options for kochia. If you did not plan for kochia before sunflower emergence, you will be growing kochia and sunflowers. Our soybean and corn fields will begin to look like that dirty sunflower field if we don't use the residual options we have available to us today.

Remember how we took advantage of clean fields and crop rotations after a roundup ready crop? We have been losing that advantage lately. That will re-appear if we start using residual products on a roundup ready crop to keep them clean all season long.

Good luck this spring. I hope you are blessed with good rains, clean fields and some big bushels.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2023 ANNUAL MEETING

#### Thursday March 23, 2023

Grand Hotel - Minot 6:00 pm Meeting

#### WE ARE AWARDING EIGHT

\$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS



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To be eligible, either the applicant or his/her guardian must be a current patron member of Enerbase (must have done at least \$2,500 worth of business in 2022).

#### **DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS - FEBRUARY 10th**

GO TO ENERBASE.COOP/SCHOLARSHIP AND EITHER PRINT OFF THE APPLICATION OR SUBMIT IT ELECTRONICALLY, OR PICK ONE UP AT ANY OF OUR LOCATIONS IN MINOT, VELVA, DRAKE, WASHBURN, GLENBURN, RYDER, PLAZA OR MAKOTI.

#### THE BEST PIECE OF EQUIPMENT YOU MAY EVER PURCHASE







It always amazes me how you can take a piece of equipment and have 20 different people use it and you might find it being used 20 different ways. I guess it means both the salesperson and the producer have to do their homework to make sure it is the correct piece of equipment for the job.

The Degelman Pro-Till has been one of the most rewarding pieces of equipment we sell. Multiple producers have made the comment that it is single handedly the best piece of equipment they have ever purchased. The popular use is breaking up heavy cornstalks, or sunflower stalks, but the neighbor might just be using one to hit the low spots and leveling wheel tracks in the field. The next person might be using it to incorporate fertilizer, or work heavy residue into the soil. The next person might be breaking up a quarter that has not been in production in years, or as we saw this spring, some people had to work the ground so it would be ready for seeding a few days later. Another popular use has been to darken the soil to gain heat units with certain crops and to raise the soil temp for faster germination in the spring. I guess it just goes to show there are many success stories for doing things different ways, but many of them share the use of a very durable and dependable piece of equipment from Degelman.

If you have questions or need a Degelman Pro-Till give us a call and we will get you taken care of. Thanks again for another successful year as we find ourselves heading into 2023 and hope to see you at the KMOT AG show!







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# KEEPING YOUR HERD IN PRIME CONDITION

Let's talk about keeping your cows in tip top shape through this bitter winter that seems to have settled right in and made itself at home. As I write this article it is the last week of December, and it is -16 with a real feel of -38, not the worst we've seen, but still not ideal conditions for keeping waters open and livestock in good condition. If you're looking for a way to supplement your cows, bulls, replacements or your backgrounding cattle, we've got some options for you! Our most versatile product that we see fed to all classes of livestock would be Bull Challenger.

Bull Challenger, a research-based product developed by CHS Nutrition, provides developing bulls and heifers a highly digestible fiber, low starch formula that enables them to safely and efficiently reach their genetic potential in development. This formula delivers energy, protein, vitamins and minerals to balance diets containing a wide variety of forages. Feeding highly digestible fiber, low starch diets like those containing Bull Challenger, have shown to eliminate many problems with feet, semen quality and over conditioning that often happen on high starch diets. Bull Challenger is a 14% protein complete feed that is available as both medicated and non-medicated.

With calving season right around the corner, we need those cows to be in prime nutritional condition. The best way to do this is to make sure they are receiving a balanced ration that includes a mineral program. Our workhorse for this time of year is Bio-Mos. Bio-Mos aids in helping the cow get rid of E-Coli and Salmonella, therefore reducing the chances for disease in the calf when it's born. We've had great results with this product. It can be added to any dry minerals, SmartLic tubs, or our liquid supplement. Bio-Mos can either be force fed or offered as free choice, depending on mode of delivery.

Finally, I'd like to introduce our new CHS Nutrition consultant, Kaitlyn Metzger. Kaitlyn is a graduate of BSC and a Towner native. She raises registered black angus cattle with her family and has already been a great asset to the producers in our trade area! She is more than happy to stop and visit with you about your operation. If you have any questions feel free to contact Ritch at 701-720-1501, Kaitlyn at 701-340-6981, or me.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you again in 2023!

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#### PRAIRIE PARTNERS OUTLOOK

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