

CBH Cooperative Newsletter

As I work out of my office on an overcast June day, following several days and inches of rain, you can see the area transform into a beautiful sea of green. The Bear Butte creek is running out of the hills towards the plains feeding the reservoirs of the mottled pastures. New calves are growing each day trending towards the dinner plates of millions. Could it get any better than this?

Spring and summer are an exciting and busy time of our lives in western South Dakota and Eastern Wyoming. Field work has been rushed with the shortened season and the onset of the first hay cutting. CBH is well positioned to help with your energy and agricultural needs.

First of all I want to thank all our patrons for supporting CBH through your purchases and encouraging comments. Secondly, I want to thank the staff of CBH as we continue to provide valuable services and products to our customers. The relationships forged between CBH staff and customers are what truly breeds success for all of us.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the year thus far. The economy has created many challenges for CBH during the first six months of this fiscal year. Higher and volatile energy markets inflate the cost of doing business for all of us. I could go on with a litany of platitudes but my attitude remains positive that CBH will finish strong.

CHS Inc., of which CBH Cooperative has ownership in, is experiencing robust energy earnings from their refineries. This adds value to our purchases, reflecting potential down stream earnings to CBH customers.

Recently CBH purchased two new propane bobtails, one for the Rapid City location and the other for the Belle Fourche location. The new bobtails will insure that product is delivered efficiently and safely. Your cooperative has made strong investments into facilities and rolling stock assets to insure that we achieve a high level of service to our customers. I firmly believe that we are achieving this goal.

Speaking of safety, CBH propane staffs are aggressively conducting propane system leak checks of residential homes. Our goal is to be 100% compliant with insurance standards by the end of our fiscal year. In some cases, regulators may have to be replaced with new ones. Although, the customer may incur some cost, it should be a good investment into your family's safety.

I invite you to visit www.cbhcoop.com for information regarding CBH Cooperative. While visiting the CBH website, you can access your account information by registering on line. It is a valuable tool for the bookkeeper of your family or business.

Have a productive and profitable summer.

Jeff Dragseth