

# Logan Ag News

March 2019

## Financing Programs Provide Benefits For Producers

More and more producers are taking advantage of financing programs offered by crop protection chemical manufacturers, seed companies, and ag retailers in 2019. Why? These programs afford the opportunity to *purchase crop inputs at pre-season prices, finance at rates comparable to or lower than bank rates and make no payment until November or December after harvest.*

Many financing programs offered by crop protection chemical manufacturers provide financing rates at 0% depending upon the product mix and total dollars financed. Several seed companies also offer 0% rates on corn and soybeans. The **Logan Ag** financing program rate is **Prime -1%** (current actual rate is 4.5%) to qualified applicants through John Deere Financial. Nearly all programs delay payment until November or December 2019. Crop liens are not required with approved credit.

Discuss 2019 financing options with your crop specialist today. Avoid higher interest rates and take advantage of cash prices on the crop inputs you need this season.



## Logan Ag – One Stop Shopping For Crop Inputs

Few ag retailers provide complete one stop shopping for crop inputs. **Logan Ag can do it!** From petroleum to seed, we have you covered and that's so important in what will be one of the most hectic spring seasons in recent memory.

**PETROLEUM PRODUCTS:** Now in our 57<sup>th</sup> year, Logan Ag provides top quality petroleum products including **Power-Max<sup>®</sup> Diesel** by bobtail or semi-transport delivery, bulk and package **15w40 motor oil** and **premium hydraulic/transmission fluid, DEF, high temperature moly grease tubes**, and much more.

**FERTILIZER:** Dry bulk blends and liquids including **32% nitrogen, ammonium thiosulfate and NPK starters** are available. **Anhydrous ammonia** and a complete slate of **micronutrients** including **AGRI-YIELD<sup>®</sup> Premium Foliar** round out the lineup. Nitrogen stabilizers and phosphorus enhancement compounds are recommended to maximize benefit to crops of applied nutrients.

**CROP PROTECTION CHEMICALS:** Logan Ag warehouses are filled with pesticides in totes and package to tackle any **weed, insect, or disease** problem in crops. Premium quality adjuvants (see the article in February edition of Logan Ag News – available at

[www.loganag.com](http://www.loganag.com)) complement the crop protection offerings. Our trucks are on the road daily for deliveries in the Midwest.

**CUSTOM APPLICATION:** Logan Ag is licensed to apply crop protection chemicals in Illinois and Missouri. Our “certified” application team is experienced and uses the most technologically advanced **row crop sprayers, fertilizer applicators, and mapping tools** to apply products when and where needed in the field. Custom application of anhydrous ammonia is available to customers in western Illinois.

**FIELD SEEDS:** Logan Ag proudly represents some of the top seed companies in the industry including **Lewis Hybrids, Agri-Gold** and **Stine**. These companies boast all the popular traits in corn and soybeans to



## LOCATIONS

- \* Griggsville, IL 217-833-2375; 1-800-LOGAN AG
- \* Pittsburg, OH 937-692-5181 (JACK BAKER)
- \* Paris, MO DEAN OSBORN 573-406-8579; MEGAN MORGAN 217-617-3450

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



# Growing Large Crops Efficiently

**Tucker Beckmier – Nutritional Account Manager – Rosen’s, Inc.**

As I have met with growers from all around the state this winter, one theme seems to be consistent - **we must find ways to grow bigger crops more efficiently to compete in a changing agricultural landscape.** Yields have increased over the past decade at a staggering rate. 2018 national averages were 176.4 bushels for corn and 51.6 bushels for soybeans. As we dig deeper into Illinois statistics, we finished 2018 at 210 bushels per acre on corn and 65 bushels per acre on soybeans according to a recent *FarmWeek* article. With yields trending as they have been, there are three things I would keep in mind heading into the 2019 growing season.

**FOUNDATION FERTILITY:** Continue to NPK fertilization and look at options to stabilize nitrogen and make P fertilizers more efficient. Additionally, keep soil pH in line to maximize nutrient availability. Beyond the basics, there are some other options to continue driving yields.

stay strong on  
...look at options to stabilize nitrogen and make P fertilizer more efficient.”

**FOLIAR NUTRITION AND BIOSTIMULANTS:** Foliar nutrient applications have proven very successful over the past decade, giving your crop that extra “boost” when determining the number of rows around the ear or helping to retain and fill more pods on the soybean plant. Another crucial element in driving higher yields is biostimulants. An application of a hormone blend with your foliar feed application may be just what your crop needs to add more bushels. With the right blend of hormones at the correct ratios, we can certainly influence our crop and final yield by building bigger, healthier, and more robust plants. Hormones trigger continued growth in plants during periods of herbicide and abiotic (moisture-related) stress incurred throughout the growing season.

Triad  
-a hormone based biostimulant designed to mitigate stress and improve yields in corn and soybeans

**YIELD PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** Fungicide and insecticide application at early reproductive stages have been strong influencers of yield. This also provides a great opportunity for additional foliar nutrition and biostimulant application.

addition of foliar nutrition and biostimulants to fungicide and insecticide applications in corn and soybeans promotes plant health and improves yield

New products continue to emerge in the market in many of these segments and I strongly encourage you to utilize your crop specialist as an asset in staying abreast of our changing industry.

**YOUR LOGAN AG CROP SPECIALIST IS READY TO ASSIST YOU WITH HIGH YIELD PROGRAMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**

## New Team Member

Logan Ag introduces **Brian Baker** as our newest team member. Brian will work primarily in the transportation division and has been in “ride-along” training for several weeks to familiarize himself with petroleum supply terminals and delivery points.

Brian resides south of Pittsfield, IL with his wife Rachel and son Wyatt (10). Please join us in extending Brian and his family a warm welcome to the Logan Ag team!

## Sulfur Gains Importance In Soybean Production

Soybeans remove more sulfur today than they did 50 years ago. Of course, yield increases over time have something to do with the total quantity of sulfur used by the soybean crop. However, research conducted by Casteel at Purdue University indicates modern soybean varieties continue using sulfur later in the growing season (between R6 and R8) compared to older soybean varieties in which uptake of sulfur began to taper during the same growth stages.

Sulfur has many functions in the soybean plant. It is an essential building block in chlorophyll development and protein synthesis. Additionally, sulfur is required by bacteria for nitrogen fixation.



At the same time soybean plants use more sulfur, the amount of sulfur in the atmosphere has decreased significantly. According to Purdue’s Casteel, more than 18 LB per acre of sulfur came from the atmosphere in 2001 compared to only 3 to 5 LB per acre from the atmosphere in 2015. The Clean Air Act reduced industrial sulfur emissions, and we no longer hear any discussion of “acid rain”.

Due to increased requirements for sulfur by the soybean plant and lack of available atmospheric sulfur, agronomists recommend application of 15 LB sulfur as part of a balanced soybean fertility program. Be certain to include granular sulfur with your dry broadcast fertilizer or add ammonium thiosulfate (12-0-0-26) to your pre-emerge herbicide application to supply adequate sulfur nutrition to soybeans.

## Chinese Chemical Issues Continue

Several herbicides and insecticides sourced from China have been in short supply over the past several months. Recent reports suggest continued supply problems and price increases as a direct result of inspections conducted by the Chinese government on chemical manufacturing facilities. The goal of the inspections is to upgrade the entire Chinese chemical

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industry and make manufacturing more environmentally friendly. During the first round of inspections in early 2018, more than 2000 Chinese companies were phased out in the Jiangsu province alone. A second round of inspections began in October 2018.

Since the inspections began, there have been extreme fluctuations in price and export volume from China. Products affected include 2,4-D, bifenthrin, clethodim, diuron, lambda-cy, and metribuzin. ADAMA, a chemical company owned by ChemChina, expects product shortages and wild price swings to continue for as long as 3 years during which time financially strong Chinese manufacturing companies are expected to relocate and modernize production facilities to meet new environmental regulations.

## Final Comments

### Edward Logan, Logan Ag President

Nearly 70 growers from Illinois and Missouri attended dicamba training seminars held during the month of February in Griggsville and Paris. If you plan to apply dicamba in 2019, make certain you have proper licensing and training. With so many eyes watching – EPA, state Departments of Agriculture, neighbors, etc. - I think it is imperative to **dot the i's** and **cross the t's** as you make dicamba application. This technology is one of the few available to aid in the control of resistant weeds in soybeans and there are no new chemicals in the pipeline to bail us out if EPA does not re-register the products in 2021.

Stop by one of the warehouses and pick up **Talc USA 80/20 Talc Graphite** in 10 LB and 20 LB pails. Talc USA products are manufactured in the U.S. and provide outstanding fluency to aid seed flow in all planters. Recommended use rate is only ¼ cup per 80,000 seeds.

The extended local March weather forecast appears to be conducive for field work during the first 3 weeks before rain showers begin during the last week of the month. I know everyone needs to get into the fields as quickly as possible to apply NH<sub>3</sub>, dry fertilizer, and burndown herbicides. Don't push the timetable on field work to the point where compaction layers are established that will hinder crop development throughout the growing season.

**BIOSTIMULANTS** will become commonplace in corn and soybean production. It makes sense from an agronomic standpoint that a larger root mass and increased fine root hairs enable plants to uptake more available nutrients and moisture during the growing season. I have utilized various biostimulants over the past several years on our acres and have been impressed with early plant growth and vigor. We plan to continue testing/evaluating in our 2019 field trials.

Congratulations to the Griggsville-Perry Eagles 7<sup>th</sup> grade basketball team which completed an undefeated season culminating in the IESA State Championship!

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provide solutions for the diverse needs of growers throughout the Midwest. Our On-Demand soybean seed treatment system accurately applies **fungicide, insecticide, inoculation, and biologicals** to soybean seed to ensure optimal plant stands and maximum yield.



In 2019, more than ever before, take advantage of one-stop shopping at Logan Ag! You'll enjoy **quality products at competitive prices** with **service that exceeds expectations** along with a professional team dedicated to helping you achieve success.

Power-Max is a trademark of E.T. Products. Agri-Yield is a trademark of Logan Agri-Service, Inc.

## Burndown Options In Dicamba-Tolerant Soybeans

Many growers planting Roundup Ready 2 Xtend<sup>®</sup> soybeans plan to apply burndown herbicides prior to or at planting to control winter annuals and early emerging broadleaves and grasses. It makes sense that if the soybeans are tolerant to post-emerge application of dicamba that any dicamba product could be used pre-emerge as a burndown. To an extent, that is true. However, as with any herbicide, **the label must be followed.**

Dicamba products such as Banvel<sup>®</sup> and Clarity<sup>®</sup> may be used in burndown applications with **planting restrictions.** The Banvel label states, "**The minimum interval between Banvel application and planting soybeans is 30 days.**" Similarly, the Clarity label reads, "**Following application of Clarity and a minimum accumulation of 1" rainfall or overhead irrigation, a waiting interval of 14 days is required for 8 fluid ounces per acre or less, and 28 days for 16 fluid ounces per acre.**"

Dicamba herbicides labeled for post-emerge application in Roundup Ready 2 Xtend soybeans including **XtendiMax<sup>®</sup>, FeXapan<sup>™</sup>, and Engenia<sup>®</sup>** have no such planting restriction when used pre-plant as part of a burndown program.

All products listed above, as well as several others, will provide excellent control of labeled weeds in burndown applications with no concern over crop safety. **Only XtendiMax, FeXapan and Engenia are labeled for pre-emerge application to Roundup Ready 2 Xtend soybeans with no planting restrictions.** Avoid potential problems and follow label instructions. Your Logan Ag crop specialist is ready to assist you.

Roundup Ready 2 Xtend and XtendiMax are trademarks of Bayer. Banvel is a trademark of Arysta Lifescience. Clarity and Engenia are trademarks of BASF. FeXapan is a trademark of Corteva.

