

# SFG Update

Smith Fertilizer & Grain

June 14th, 2018

**Charles Smith**  
**Agronomy Operations Manager**

Looks like we have gotten through another spring here at SFG. While we weren't real sure that it was ever going to get here. I actually think we went from winter straight into summer. The work this spring went well, since the weather never really challenged us so we were never more than 2 days behind on spraying. That just goes to show that all the preplanning and making sure the equipment is 100% ready paid off. We are glad we took the time to do so.

We have about 3 days of corn spraying and about 1 week of bean spraying left to post spray. Right now we have 2 operators running 3 sprayers, spraying Liberty beans, Roundup Beans and Roundup Corn. We will drive by some fields to use another sprayer so we don't have to clean out a machine. There is too much at stake when going back and



forth. It may take a little more time, but it will be worth it in the long run.

We are starting our summer work here now, going through and putting all the equipment away. Putting it away is the easy part, considering all we do is take each piece of equipment and go through it from top to bottom. This means going through it mechanically all the way to painting if it need be. There is nothing worse than go-

ing to get something out of the shed and having to work on it before you go to the field. This really pays off when it is time to use it again.

Another project for the summer is painting the equipment. We are repainting about 10 NH3 wagons, 6 grain trailer frames and several creep feeders. This takes a lot of man power to get the task done. Paul, our shop foreman, has 3 or 4 men that will be working extremely hard for the next 2 months. This does not include the crew putting it all back together. On behalf of the staff at SFG, we would like to wish all of our customers a Happy and Safe 4th of July!



**Kyle Smith**  
**Albia Location Manager**



So far this summer we've been fairly busy around the elevator and mill. As some of you may have seen we've repainted/sealed the Quonset roofs which should add another 10 years of protection. In addition we've been hauling grain out pretty steady over the last few weeks and will begin final cleanout of a few bins later this month.

We plan to redo the driveway on the west side of the elevator mid to late summer. We'll tear out some of the old concrete and slope the drive to better control rainfall, same as we did on the east side of the elevator last summer. We'll post notices a few weeks ahead of time to help prevent any issues with incoming grain.

Creep feed has steadily picked up over the last few weeks and appears it will continue with our weather outlook. If you think you'll need to rent a creep feeder please call in and give us as much notice as you can as they're in high demand and we are shuffling

them in and out to get sandblasted and repainted.

Kent Feeds is now expanding their premium Home Fresh product line to now include more species! In addition to the current Home Fresh poultry products, they are now going to be offering multiple sheep, goat, rabbit, and pig products. The goal in expanding the Home Fresh family of products is to offer the best premium multi-species product line on the market. More details will be coming soon as we will have all of these new products available August 1, 2018!



*fresh from our family to yours.*

## Triple Crown Products



- \$2 off per bag of **Triple Crown Lite**, **Triple Crown Low Starch**, and/or **Triple Crown 30% Ration Balancer** will run June 1-30, 2018.

### **HELP WANTED:**

**Full Time Truck Driver**

**Inquire @ Albia Office**

**641-932-2100**



**Jason Smith**  
**Centerville Location Manager**



With all of the pre and almost half of the post chemical application for the season completed, spraying has slowed down a bit in this area. Crop scouting is in full swing and has been going well. With the lack of rainy days it did allow this year's crop to be put in very quickly. This has made it challenging to keep up with all the scouting, but with the help of this year's crop scout; Josey Ryan, we've been able to stay on track. We are progressing forward from our traditional hand

written scouting reports to one generated on an iPad. This has taken a bit of getting used to but has been a welcome change. With this program, it enables us to better track plant health as well as identify any issues that may be developing out in the field and better communicate them to the grower. If there are any questions or comments about these reports please don't hesitate to give us a call at 641-856-2828. we will be happy to review them with you.

**HELP WANTED**  
**Part-Time Detailer**  
**Custom Applicator**  
**Inquire @ Centerville Office**  
**641-856-2828**

**Ryan Brennecke**  
**Pleasantville Location Manager**



Spring has been a busy season here in Pleasantville. We finished dry fertilizer applications in a timely manner with the almost perfect ground conditions we had. Now that summer is about here we have been applying fertilizer to several hay fields after the first cutting has been taken off the field. The hay crop has been good so far despite the slowness of growth early on this spring. Hopefully with fertilizer and timely rains we will see enough re-growth for a second cutting. Very soon we will be busy hauling fertilizer to the airplanes so that they can side dress corn fields.

Several producers are using this application to spoon feed the plant some extra nitrogen when the plant is in need of it. Several area producers agreed that the ground conditions were near perfect for planting this

spring. Most of the crops were planted in record pace. Both corn and beans emerged without any major problems and continue to look great as they are progressing. The 1<sup>st</sup> pass chemical application went on smooth and quickly. This time of year is when most of your residuals are wearing off and you are starting to see weeds coming through. We have most of the corn second pass completed and will be starting on the second pass of bean spraying. We like to apply another round of residuals with the second pass in order to keep the weeds suppressed until the crop canopies. We have had very good luck with weed control all season long when applying two residuals. Be sure to stop in with any questions or concerns that you may have with your crops.

Smith Fertilizer & Grain Inc.  
1650 Quebec Street  
Knoxville, IA 50138

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**Knoxville Location**  
1650 Quebec St  
Knoxville, IA 50138  
Office: 641-828-8500  
Watts: 800-828-5005

**Manager**  
Mark White  
Cell: 641-203-3602  
markw@sfgiowa.com

**Office Manager**  
Michele Brandon  
micheleb@sfgiowa.com

**Grain Merchandiser**  
Mark White  
Cell: 641-203-3602  
markw@sfgiowa.com

**General Manager**  
Max Smith  
Cell: 641-891-2919  
max@sfgiowa.com

**Administration Manager**  
Sharon Smith  
Cell: 641-891-8616  
Sharon@sfgiowa.com

**Pleasantville Location**  
702 E. Jasper  
Pleasantville, IA 50228  
Office: 515-848-5000  
Watts: 800-586-5005

**Manager**  
Ryan Brennecke  
Cell: 641-891-9323  
ryanb@sfgiowa.com

**Office Manager**  
Jamie Kendrick  
jamiek@sfgiowa.com

**Albia Location**  
805 N. Hwy 5  
Albia, IA 52531  
Office: 641-932-2100  
Watts: 877-932-5005

**Manager**  
Kyle Smith  
Cell: 641-891-8642  
kyle@sfgiowa.com

**Office Manager**  
Kristin Spaulding  
kristins@sfgiowa.com

**Centerville Location**  
1605 S. 24th St.  
Centerville, IA 52544  
Office: 641-856-2828  
Watts: 866-856-5303

**Manager**  
Jason Smith  
Cell: 641-891-6070  
jasons@sfgiowa.com

**Office Manager**  
Sharon Bolin  
sharonb@sfgiowa.com

**Agronomy Manager**

Mark Young C.C.A.  
Knoxville office  
Office: 641-828-8500  
Cell: 641-891-1514

**Agronomy Operations Manager**

Charles Smith  
Cell: 641-891-1449  
charless@sfgiowa.com

**Knoxville/ Pleasantville Sales**

Greg Willer  
Cell: 641-891-7457  
gregw@sfgiowa.com

**Centerville Sales**

Taylor Banks  
Cell: 641-218-0286  
taylorb@sfgiowa.com

**Albia Sales**

Kent Watson  
Cell: 641-218-4232  
kentw@sfgiowa.com

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