



food products division

WEBSITE www.hdc.on.ca

NEWSLETTER

Our Vision

Building a consumer focused, farmer-owned agri-business with innovative people committed to excellence in a global marketplace.

Our Mission

To be a progressive, diversified agri-co-operative providing the benefits of ownership.

Our Motto

Proud to be farmer-owned.

01/09

HDC FOOD-GRADE SOYBEAN CONTRACTS

DON'T DELAY – CONTRACTS ARE FILLING QUICKLY...

S03-W4	2650 CHU (limited)
S05-T6	2675 CHU
S10-B7	2750 CHU (limited)
HDC2701	2700 CHU (limited)
S12-A5	2850 CHU
S18-R6	2900 CHU
ADV Cadet	2875 CHU
HDC 1600T	2950 CHU (sold out)
S20-G7	3000 CHU
OAC Kent	3050 CHU
X790	3075 CHU (limited)

Please contact your local HDC Field Marketer if interested.

Directors' Report

HDC's Annual General Meeting was held at South Huron Recreation Centre in Exeter on November 26, with approximately 150 members in attendance. One new Director was elected and the three incumbent Directors were re-elected. Greg Kerrigan, RR 1 Camlachie, was the newly elected Director.

Jorg Genoch, Gerhard Eilers and Grant McComb were returned to the Board for another three-year term.

At the regular Board of Directors' meeting on December 23, Gerhard Eilers was elected as President and Rob Cornelis was elected Vice-President. After serving as President of the Board for two years, Jeff Allan declined nomination as President.

The Board of Directors, on behalf of the members, thanked Jeff for his leadership and contribution as President. The Board also congratulated Gerhard and Rob on their elections as President and Vice-President for 2009.

JANUARY FERTILIZER UPDATE

It is difficult to predict where world markets are headed, and this includes the fertilizer market.

Current Potash inventories at the manufacturer remain tight and the increasing price trend continues. Recent months have seen a decrease in both the Nitrogen and Phosphate market but as we have seen in the past 12 months, all commodity markets remain volatile and future trends are almost impossible to predict.

HDC is currently offering competitive fertilizer

prices for prepayment purchases. We will be accepting prepayments until January 19, after which there will be a price increase of approximately \$20.00/MT.

As usual, HDC will maintain our guarantee of a difference between prepay and HDC spring pricing of at least the amount of interest.

If you have any questions regarding planning for 2009 fertility requirements, please contact your local Field Marketer.

Fertilizing in 2009 - what has changed?

by Tony DeCorte (CCA-ON)

With an increased cost of fertilizer staring most producers in the face, a common phrase has been muttered by many, "Maybe this is a good year to cut back on fertilizer". As producers contemplate decisions, or as HDC Field Marketers help in the crop planning process, there are a few things we need to consider:

- Why have we put on what we did in the past?
- What were the reasons for past decisions?
- What nutrients are available in the field?
- What is the cost of under-applying, this year or in the future?
- How much cheaper, if any, will fertilizer be when I need to rebuild my levels?
- How many nutrients have the good yields taken out of the soil in the past few years?

Without a current soil test of a field, how do you come up with a sound economic fertilizer recommendation for a successful crop? Following is a quick reference chart showing the nutrient removals of the main field crops we grow. Keep in mind this is what the crop takes out of the soil, not what it takes to grow it. In my opinion, these amounts should be the minimums applied to a field, even if you think your nutrients are at adequate levels.

Nutrient Removal (lb/unit of yield) by Field Crop

Source: Fertilizer recommendations for Field Crops in Michigan (Christenson, et al. 1992)

Crop	Unit	N	P ₂ O ₅	K ₂ O
-- lb per unit --				
Alfalfa	ton	45.00	10.00	45.00
Corn	bushel	0.90	0.35	0.27
Soybeans	bushel	3.80	0.88	1.40
Wheat	bushel	1.20	0.62	0.38
Dry edible beans	cwt	3.60	1.20	1.60

Soil testing has never been so important – it's the best way of determining the amount of fertilizer you should apply this year. Please contact your HDC Field Marketer to discuss soil testing this spring. We can help with taking the samples, sending them in, assisting in interpreting results and making recommendations. Don't let saving a few dollars in 2009 be your biggest cost for the future.

WHITE BEAN SEED BOOKING

Early in 2009, HDC will be offering dry bean contracting options. As always, the dry bean markets will compete for your acres and return additional income over the traditional commodities.

HDC is currently offering a 5% early-pay option for growers wishing to save with some discounts. Deadline for the 5% early-payment is January 16, 2009.

Grower Pesticide Safety Courses

HENSALL

Thursday February 5, 2009 • 8:45 am
Hensall Arena

Contact Paul Cornwell or Rob Warwick at 262-3002 to register.

FOREST

Thursday February 12, 2009 • 8:45 am
Forest Fair Grounds

Contact Bob Wellington at 381-3606 to register.



<i>Hensall</i>	<i>Seaforth</i>	<i>Londesboro</i>	<i>Exeter</i>	<i>Ailsa Craig</i>	<i>Parkhill</i>	<i>Forest</i>	<i>London</i>
519-262-3002	519-522-1000	519-523-4470	519-235-1150	519-293-3272	519-294-6252	519-786-5424	519-453-4026
1-800-265-5190			1-800-265-9000	519-232-4449			

PAPER CONTAINS 50% RECYCLED FIBRE & 10% POST-CONSUMER WASTE

