



MAILBAG

July 1, 2013

Clover Creek 832-3458

Keystone Mill 832-3113

www.millhillag.com

Notes from Jim

Now is the time to get your seed lined up for fall grains and cover crops. If we know your needs ahead of time, we can have the seed here and ready for you when you need it. Not sure what seeds you'd like to plant or how much you need? Talk with Denny or Jim. They can help you decide what is right for your cropping system.

Thanks to those of you who were able to join us for the Cover Crop and Soil Health meeting. If you weren't able to make it and would like to have some questions answered, please talk with Denny or Jim.

4H and FFA Show time!

You have been working hard at preparing your animals for show. As show time draws closer, keep Mill Hill in mind for your show needs. We carry beet pulp, which provides fiber to fill your animal up, but it doesn't have much energy, so it won't make them fat. We also have baled pine shavings, which are easy to transport to the show. Check out your clippers. Are the blades in great shape, or would a new set make fitting easier and faster? Can you find all of your brushes, combs, shampoo and show halters? What about food and water tubs and hoses? If you are missing anything, or would like to upgrade, please stop by. We'll be happy to help you find the equipment you need! Also, Sarrah can help you find or design the feed you need to finish your animal out right. Call or stop by today!

Pet food at Mill Hill

Have you checked out our pet foods recently? We carry the Southern States line. This offers you many tasty, well-balanced choices for your pets.

Advanced Active and Advanced Sport are the top of the line! Designed for dogs that have higher nutritional needs, this food also contains Omega-3's for added healthy benefits!

The Complete line is next. These foods are available in several different formulations. Active and Sport provide extra nutrients for the busy dog in your life. Adult is perfect for normally active dogs. Complete Puppy is designed to meet all the needs of your puppy in their first year of life. The economy version is a good basic dog food option.

We also have cat food and rabbit food available in several different sizes of bags. Stop by either location and check them out today!

Property Maintenance

The hot weather reminds us that it's time to perform some routine maintenance on homes and property. Does the roof need some patching? Try elastic roof sealer. We also have black and aluminum roof coating in stock. What about the driveway? We have crack filler and sealer, as well pothole patch to fix up those imperfections. We also carry 3 grades of driveway sealer; good, better and best. The yellow lid is the good kind-it works if you have sealed your driveway recently and prefer to put a new coat on yearly. The red lid is the better kind-it is called fill and seal because it does help to fill in the hairline cracks that can appear. The blue lid is the best kind-it will last longer between applications. Stop by either location today-and don't forget the brush!!

Manure gas safety

As the crops are coming off the field and manure is being spread, it is important to remember about the dangers of manure gas. As the crust on the lagoon or pit is broken, gases that were trapped are released into the air, and can be deadly if inhaled. Remember the incidents from last summer? While this tends to happen where gypsum based bedding is used, manure gas occurs in all types of storage locations.

There are always lots of things to think about on the farm, but the safety of you, your family and your employees should always be number one!!

Dairy Recipe

Summer is here! I have received many requests to visit Senior Centers, Retirement Homes, the Children's Museum, Boy Scout Camp, Summer Reading Programs and parades as well as the upcoming dairy shows. I will be having a busy summer! Who wants to heat up the kitchen during the hot summer days? Enjoying MILK, CHEESE and YOGURT is an easy way to get the essential nutrients needed in your family's diet. Speaking of hot weather, did you know July is ICE CREAM MONTH? Why not try this delicious dessert using ice cream? *Submitted by Katherine Orczeck, 2013-2014 Blair County Dairy Princess.*

Mom's Ice Cream Dessert

- 20oz pkg chocolate sandwich cookies
- ½ c. butter, melted
- 1 ½ c. chopped Spanish peanuts
- ½ gallon vanilla ice cream, softened
- 2 c. confectioner's sugar
- 12 fluid oz can evaporated milk
- 2/3 c. semisweet chocolate chips
- ½ c. butter
- 1 tsp vanilla extract

Crush all but 10 of the cookies. Combine crushed cookies in a large bowl with melted butter and peanuts. Press mixture into a 9X13 inch baking dish and freeze until cold. Spread softened ice cream over cold crust and freeze until set. Combine confectioner's sugar, evaporated milk, chocolate chips, ½ cup butter and vanilla in large saucepan and bring to a boil over medium heat. Boil 7 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and cool completely; pour over ice cream and freeze until set. Note: if you do not want to make your own chocolate sauce you can buy a jar of prepared sauce.

July 21st is National Ice Cream Day!

From Alltech

Is the Heat affecting your Cows?

Summer has arrived which means the temperature is only going to rise! For some of us we may enjoy the hot, sunny weather but for our bovine friends this weather causes a lot of stress. Cows rely on water evaporation via sweating and panting to dissipate excess heat generated by their metabolism or the environment. Optimal body temperature is not maintained, while sustaining sufficient rumen efficiency and dry matter intake is not met.

Providing shade, ensuring adequate water supply, installing fans and water sprayers, and supplying more feed in the evening than the morning are all effective management strategies. Nutritionists can help by increasing the nutrient density of the diet to account for reduced feed intake.

When cows are heat stressed, dry matter intake is decreased. Yea-Sacc®¹⁰²⁶ also maintains the following:

- Getting more nutrients out of forage - helps to stimulate growth of fiber digesting bacteria in the rumen, increasing the rate and extent of forage breakdown.
- Boosting protein supply - more rumen microbes mean more microbial protein available post-rationally which promotes total protein supply to the animal for enhanced milk production.
- Promoting dry matter intake - acceleration of the flow of feed and forage through the rumen, reduces rumen fill to allow increased consistency in dry matter intake.
- Promoting rumen stability, avoiding wide variations in rumen pH that interfere with fiber digestion and feed intake.