Crosswind Jerseys

Stefan Temperli
Elkton, SD
Crosswind Jerseys

- Elkton, SD
- 900 Jerseys milking
- Heifers Offsite
- Contract Raised Feeds
  - 450 acres BMR Corn
  - 200 acres Alfalfa
- Purchased Forages
  - Straw
  - Alfalfa hay
  - Grass hay

- 63 lbs Milk
- 5.0 Fat
- 4.0 Protein
- 130 SCC
Challenges dealing with contract growers

- Focus on feed quality rather than just volume
- Getting them to think of long term relationships

Corn Silage
  - Getting the grower to understand the importance of agronomics of BMR Hybrids
  - Figuring out the right pricing formula for mutual benefit.

Haylage
  - Timing of harvest – who’s decision
  - Getting consistently high quality haylage
Keys to success with contract growers

- Being able to show the financial benefits of the relationship
- Lots of communication

- Corn Silage
  - Early planning for corn varieties, acres
  - Practicing good crop rotation, especially with BMR silage.

- Haylage
  - I call the shots
  - Showing the grower the benefit of increased yields
Innovative things we are trying

• Headline fungicide on silage

• Smart silage packing
Miltrim Farms

Tom Mueller
Athens, WI
Miltrim Farms Cropping Innovation
Ascend on Alfalfa

- Need more data (works but does it pay?)
- On corn trials 8% increase in yields
- Cost of ?
- At $50/ton corn silage price returned $100/acre
- Treated 23.45 ton/ac
- Untreated 21.45 ton/ac
Headline & Ascend on Alfalfa

- 7% increase yield
- $50 per cutting return per acre
- Cost of $26.45 acre
- Used on 2,3,4th crop
- Need to use on 1st crop
Gypsoil – calcium sulfate

- 1000 lb/ac
- Cost of $30.50/acre
- Benefit of $82.50/acre
- Av 3rd crop yield was 94% of 2nd crop
- Were we used Gypsoil 3rd crop yield was 113 % of 2nd crop
Swath control for corn planting

- Cost of $17,000 with Auto Track and Display
- First year saved over planting 110 acres or 5%
- Saved $6600 on Seed, Fuel and Fertilizer
- Yield drop of 50% on 70000/ac population $46000
- Use the Auto Track and Display for other applications
Variable rate application of potash and lime

- NRCS has Equip funds for equipment
- Have had to purchase less of both products
- Sampling cost go up from $4/acre for 5 acre grids to $8/acre for 2.5 acre grids
Auto steer and mapping for tillage, planting, & harvesting

- Getting more accurate information to use for crop insurance (increase APH)
- Be able to show the DNR our true yields so they will allow higher application rates
- Seeing 5% to 10% increase in productivity on tillage (depending on field size)
Farm Works software to help monitor & track results

- Was looking for a program that would help us monitor and track results
- Able to download data from John Deere, Trimble, Ag Leader and Precision monitors
Silo Solve OS on top of corn silage bunkers

- New product from ChrHanson to help prevent spoilage on top 6” of pile
- Something different to replace Silo stop and the safety concerns of the man power needed to cover bunkers
Shredlage corn silage and new chopper/processor
Pattison Dairy

Lee Pattison
Garnavillo, IA
Pattison Dairy

- 700 cow farm w/ 610 milking and 585 heifers
- 14 employees w/ extra help during harvest times
- Farm 1,300 acres w/ 500 in alfalfa
Alfalfa planning

• 3 years before seeding – start planning w/ soil fertility
• 1 yr before seeding - grid soil sample, soil pH
• Year of seeding - plant early silage maturity
• Seed in August
• Field cultivator 2 passes
• 20# rate and seed company replant policy
Alfalfa production

- New seeding alfalfa – 24 inches tall taken with old stands
- Grid apply potash, MAP and gypsum after 1st for all stands
- Reapply fertilizer after 3rd cutting except for stand coming out of production
- Spray Respect and Headline 7-8 days post harvest
Alfalfa production

- Cut with 2 – 16 ft machines
- Harvest 250 acres plus
- Goal 3 days for each crop
- Cutting intervals vary from 21 to 28 days with target feedout value at 165 RFV
- Oxbo merger makes it possible to harvest in 2 days
- Next year going to triple mower
- 3 year stands
Questions?