

ALLIED Connections

WINTER 2025

A PUBLICATION OF ALLIED COOPERATIVE®



ALLIED
COOPERATIVE

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FALL UPDATE: A Busy Fall in the Fields

by David Rappa

It has been a busy harvest across our trade territory, and so far, the season has been productive and encouraging for both soybeans and corn.

Soybeans

Soybean harvest began in mid-September and picked up momentum in early October. Overall, quality has been excellent, with large beans and strong test weights. Despite a slow start to the growing season, timely rains in August and September helped crops recover, resulting in solid yields.

Even with soybean acres down roughly 10% in our area, we have already received more beans than last year, with deliveries still coming in at several locations. Farmers are reporting average yields in the 50–70 bushels per acre range. Some lower yields have been observed

in areas affected by deer damage or heavy localized rains in June.

Logistics have been challenging, but thanks to our dedicated transportation team, we've been able to keep up with deliveries—even when locations had less than 5,000 bushels of space for several weeks. With harvest weather cooperating and only a few rain events, we've been able to efficiently move inventory and create space for those finishing up. As of early November, some soybean fields were still being harvested.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



Rob Larson,
CEO/General Manager

As we approach the end of another year, I want to extend my sincere thanks to each of our member-owners and customers for your continued trust and support. Because of you, Allied Cooperative has experienced another strong and successful year—one that reflects the stability and strength of our cooperative.

On September 30, we closed the books on our second fiscal year since the merger. It's rewarding to see the vision we set in motion come to life. The plan is working. We're achieving organic growth, retaining business, and delivering results that align with both our short-term and long-term strategies. The savings we anticipated are becoming reality, helping us maintain stability and efficiency in an economy that continues to test many industries.

Strong Financial Results

While our audit is still being finalized, I'm pleased to report that we met both our sales and financial goals for the year. Our sales exceeded \$475 million, and local net earnings totaled over \$20 million which is up from the previous year. With ESP and regional earnings included, our total earnings exceeded \$34 million before income tax provisions.

One of the greatest strengths of Allied Cooperative is the diversity of our business. This balance helps us remain profitable and successful, even when the agricultural economy faces downturns. Each of our divisions—agronomy, energy, feed, grain, and retail contributed to a successful year, each achieving solid financial performance and continued growth.

And as a cooperative, that success is shared. We're proud to announce that this year's patronage distribution will be issued 55% in cash and 45% in non-qualified equity on which the co-op will pay the tax. The checks are scheduled to mail in February. In addition, members can look forward to receiving equity retirement checks in March, with the Board approving over \$4.7 million in equity retirements, this includes estates, age and equity retirements.

Altogether, through cash patronage and equity retirements, your co-op will distribute more than \$12 million to our members. Even though we experienced lower ESP and regional earnings this year, we are able to maintain this level of patronage and equity retirement due to our strong local performance.

2025 Highlights

2025 was a year of significant progress and investment in your cooperative. We opened a new fertilizer plant in Plover and began construction on another in West Salem. We made substantial improvements at the Auburndale grain site and installed a new tower in Adams. Several of our convenience stores received upgrades and remodels, and our Ace Hardware store was renovated to better serve our customers.

We've also continued investing in our infrastructure and our fleet—including trucks and application equipment—to ensure we have top-quality facilities, equipment, and technology needed to carry us into the future. These improvements are designed to strengthen our operations, enhance service, and position Allied Cooperative for long-term success. We remain committed to reinvesting in our business while maintaining strong cash patronage and equity redemption programs.

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead we understand that we're experiencing lower ag commodity prices, which directly affect your business. We recognize that declines in grain and milk prices may challenge many of our members in the coming year. Please know that we recognize those challenges—and remain deeply committed to supporting you in every way we can. Our team is here to work alongside you, helping you make the most of every opportunity.

Our continued focus on efficiency, service, and partnership will enable us to once again provide a strong cash patronage and equity retirement program. Together, we are building on a solid foundation—because at Allied Cooperative, our success has always been rooted in yours.

A Holiday Wish for You

As the year draws to a close, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to our employees for their dedication and hard work—and to you, our members, for your continued loyalty and partnership. It's a privilege to serve you and to be part of this cooperative community.

On behalf of all of us at Allied Cooperative, I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Allied Cooperative offers the following products, services and solutions:

AGRONOMY

Our powerful combination of expert agronomists, modern technology, and one-on-one service and consultation make our cooperative the go-to team for agronomic challenges both large and small.

ENERGY

From the diesel in the farmers tractor to propane to heat your home to the high tech lubricants to keep equipment running right—it's all available at our cooperative.

FEED

Backed by a highly skilled team of nutritionists and experienced staff, our feed division has the know-how and manufacturing capabilities to help livestock perform at their peak.

GRAIN

We have the capacity and flexibility to serve grain producers large and small. Understanding the grain markets and recognizing opportunity is our job.

RETAIL

From auto parts and tires to gas and convenience to hardware and country stores, we offer our rural communities a wealth of products, services and solutions close to home.

LAWN CARE

To promote a healthy lawn, our cooperative offers lawn care in the Marshfield area.

Allied Cooperative

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Adams, WI 53910

Central Regional Office

2327 W Veterans Pkwy
PO Box 988
Marshfield, WI 54449

West Regional Office

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EXPANDING FOR OUR GROWERS

Progress on New West Salem Agronomy Plant



Construction is moving right along on Allied Cooperative's new state-of-the-art agronomy plant in West Salem.

Designed with growers in mind, the facility will have the capacity to store nearly 8,000 tons of product—making it a valuable resource for growers throughout the region.

The project remains on track for completion ahead of the spring 2026 planting season, positioning the plant to serve area producers at

a critical time. As with any large-scale construction project, however, weather and supply conditions could influence the final timeline.

Equipped with the latest automation technology, the facility will streamline operations from product handling to loadout. These advancements will enhance speed, accuracy, and safety—allowing our team to provide even more timely and reliable service to customers.

By expanding storage capacity and integrating advanced automation, the new plant will help reduce wait times, improve turnaround, and increase efficiency during the busy growing season. This investment reflects Allied Cooperative's continued commitment to supporting local growers with reliable, efficient, and innovative agronomy solutions.

2026 Allied Scholarships



Allied Cooperative is now accepting applications for its 2026 College Scholarship Program! This program is designed to encourage local youth to pursue careers in agriculture and related fields, while supporting the families who make up our cooperative community.

Scholarships are available to Allied Cooperative members and their dependents.

Recipients will be selected based on academic achievement, demonstrated leadership, and a written essay.

Applications must be postmarked by **March 31, 2026**, and winners will be announced by the end of May.

To request an application, please contact Karmen Bernacchi at info@allied.coop, or download one online at www.allied.coop.

Planning Ahead for a Successful 2026 Growing Season



by Pat Cauley,
Agronomy Advisor
pcauley@allied.coop



It's hard to believe another growing season has come and gone. For the most part, yields have been above average—if not record-setting—and now it's time to start planning for the 2026 season. With December upon us, it's a great time to consider prepaying for inputs and getting a plan in place before spring arrives.

Here are a few key points to keep in mind while preparing for next season:

- **Review your maps** – Make sure all the farms you're operating are correctly entered in the system, accurately mapped, and clearly labeled with the names you use. This is also a good time to add any new acres you picked up this year or remove those you've let go. Doing this ensures the applicator, grower, and everyone involved are on the same page.

- **Create your plan** – Let your advisor know what crops you plan to grow on each farm and work together to build a plan that helps you reach your yield goals. It's also important to let them know whether you plan to apply products yourself or have our team bring in a spreader or sprayer to handle applications for you.

- **Check your prepay statement** – Review your prepay statement the following month to confirm all purchases are correctly listed. This helps avoid surprises once fieldwork begins and monthly statements start arriving. Fast forward a few months—spring is approaching, the weather's improving, and you'll be back in the fields before long. This is the time to double-check that you and your advisor are aligned. If any changes need to be made, schedule time to review them early.

Once the season gets rolling, everyone gets busy with spreaders, sprayers, and daily operations, making it harder to adjust plans.

After products have been delivered or applied, be sure to review your monthly statement to confirm that pre-paid items are being properly accounted for. If you notice any discrepancies or have questions, contact us right away so they can be resolved quickly.

Spring is always a busy and critical time of year. At the very least, take time this winter to meet with your agronomy advisor and develop a detailed plan going into spring. A little preparation now will help ensure the season runs as smoothly and efficiently as possible.

Lessons from the Field and a Look Ahead: *Choosing the Right Hybrids for 2026 in Western Wisconsin*



by **Eric Jacobson**,
Agronomy Advisor
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As the dust of the 2025 harvest settles and the financial sheets are tallied, farmers across Western Wisconsin are already looking to the 2026 growing season. The process of selecting next year's corn and soybean hybrids is perhaps the most critical decision of the year, influencing everything from yield potential to input costs.

Success in this region's diverse soil types and microclimates hinges not just on chasing the highest yield numbers in a catalog, but on a strategic blend of trait selection, appropriate seed treatments, and, crucially, a cold, hard look at how last season's choices actually performed in your specific fields.



2025 in Review:

The Ultimate Report Card

The first step in planning for 2026 is a thorough post-mortem of your 2025 results. A hybrid that topped a trial plot 100 miles away might struggle with the specific heavy clay soils or sandy river bottom fields common in Western Wisconsin.

What to analyze from your 2025 data:

- **Yield Maps vs. Field Conditions:** Did a hybrid perform well on high ground but struggle in low spots? This indicates a potential sensitivity to wet feet or nutrient variability.
- **Standability and Harvestability:** Did certain varieties present issues at harvest, such as significant stalk lodging or ear drop? Even high-yielding corn loses value if you can't get it in the bin efficiently.
- **Disease Pressure Notes:** Which hybrids showed resilience against common regional threats like gray leaf spot, northern corn leaf blight, or sudden death syndrome (SDS) in soybeans? Your anecdotal field observations are as valuable as any seed rep's data sheet.

Use your own farm data as the primary filter. Only hybrids that performed acceptably under your management style and within your environment should be considered for a repeat performance or expansion in 2026.

Choosing Traits for the Western Wisconsin Landscape

The modern seed catalog can be overwhelming, offering a dizzying array of genetic traits designed to protect your investment. For Western Wisconsin, specific regional pests and pressures should dictate your choices.

Key considerations for 2026 traits:

Insect Resistance (Corn)

Rootworms remain a persistent threat

in continuous corn rotations in parts of the region.

Bt Traits: Ensure you select hybrids with appropriate *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) stacked traits targeting both above-ground pests (corn borer, earworm) and below-ground pests (corn rootworm).

Refuges: Remember to adhere to refuge requirements, which are crucial for maintaining the long-term efficacy of these technologies. Many modern "refuge-in-a-bag" options simplify this compliance.

Herbicide Tolerance

The choice here dictates your weed management strategy for the year.

Corn: Decide between Roundup Ready®, LibertyLink®, or the newer balanced systems (like Enlist™ or XtendFlex®) based on the glyphosate-resistant weed populations confirmed on your farm (e.g., giant ragweed, waterhemp).

Soybeans: The XtendFlex® and Enlist E3® systems are popular, offering tolerance to multiple modes of action, which is a vital tool for preventing further herbicide resistance development in tough regional weeds.

Disease Resistance

Prioritize hybrids with strong scores against the fungal and bacterial diseases that thrive in our often-humid summers.

Corn: Look for high ratings against Goss's Wilt and various blights.

Soybeans: Select varieties with strong resistance to *Phytophthora* Root Rot and Iron Deficiency Chlorosis (IDC), especially if planting into low-lying or high-pH soils.

The Role of Seed Treatments:

Regional Necessity vs. Overkill

Seed treatments act as an insurance policy, protecting the vulnerable seedling stage from environmental and

Continued on page 7...



by Austin Bohm,
Ag Technology Specialist
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Variable Rate: *Why Wouldn't You?*

We all talk about getting the most out of every acre, but if we're still spreading fertilizer the same across an entire field, we're leaving efficiency on the table.

Variable rate technology isn't new. We've proven that it saves money on the lower-producing areas and pushes yield on the better ones. So why don't we see more acres being spread with VRT?

Comfort and uncertainty are holding us back: Sometimes it's comfort. Flat rate feels simple. Other times it's uncertainty, not wanting to risk underapplying or mess something up. But with the technology, equipment, and data we have today, there really isn't a reason not to.

Even uniform fields tell a different story: Some growers think their fields don't have enough variability to matter. I hear that a lot, especially when the

soil survey shows one soil type across the whole field. But even in those situations, I'd bet the combine tells a different story. The yield map still jumps around. Every field has small changes in drainage, organic matter, elevation, and sunlight that impact how a crop grows.

More than one data layer: VRT doesn't have to rely on just one thing like yield or soil tests. We can build recommendations that pull from multiple layers of data including yield, soil samples, and aerial imagery to get a more complete picture of the field.

Even if you don't have a yield monitor or it's not calibrated, we can still make it work. Using NDVI imagery, we can build maps that match yield patterns closely for that growing season.

Every field qualifies: Every field can have a VRT plan. It's not about whether a field qualifies for it. It's about using

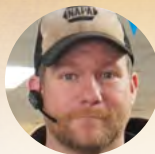
the information we already have to get more out of every pound of fertilizer we spread. Whether that means moving nutrients to where they'll pay back best or tightening up efficiency on the tough acres, VRT gives us the tools to make smarter decisions.

Backed by precision and experience: Our spreaders are precision tested and GPS controlled. Every machine is calibrated so we know the product is being applied where it's supposed to be, at the right rate.

If you're interested in seeing how it could work on your acres, talk with your Allied Agronomist. We can help put the pieces together and turn your field data into something that works for you.

Final thought: If you already know your field doesn't produce the same everywhere, why farm it like it does?

NAPA – A Great Source for Ag Parts



by Kevin Bucel,
NAPA Stores Manager

Wondering where to find parts for your agricultural and farm equipment? Ag equipment brands like John Deere and Caterpillar use engines just like a car or truck. Allied's NAPA Auto Parts stores in Adams and Mauston has an expanded line of agricultural products.

Products include everything from wheel bearings and tractor overhauls to air conditioner and heater parts to cab foam, tune up kits, u-joints, roller chain and more. Parts that are not in-stock can be ordered for a fast turnaround. The store can also supply parts for heavy equipment and semis.

Our goal is to provide people with the absolute best in customer service. That's

what people want. It's what they expect. And it's what we work hard to provide. Contact the Adams or Mauston NAPA stores for all of your parts needs.



Lessons Continued from page 5...

pest pressures before the plant's own traits kick in. In Western Wisconsin, where early spring conditions can be cold and wet, these treatments are often a necessity rather than an optional extra.

Fungicides: A robust base fungicide package is essential to protect against *Pythium*, *Fusarium*, and *Rhizoctonia*, which thrive in saturated spring soils and can cause significant early-season stand loss.

Insecticides: If you have known issues with early-season pests like seedcorn maggots or wireworms, an insecticidal treatment layer provides vital early protection that trait technology does not cover.

Biologicals/Nematode Protection: Specialized treatments addressing soybean cyst nematodes (SCN) are highly recommended in many Western Wisconsin fields, where SCN pressure is often high but visually undetectable in the early stages.

Work with your local agronomist to determine the appropriate treatment level for each specific field's history and planned planting date.

Looking Ahead to 2026

The ideal 2026 seed lineup for your Western Wisconsin operation will be a diversified portfolio. Don't put all your eggs in one genetic basket.

Diversify Maturity Groups:

Staggering maturities spreads out your planting and harvest windows, mitigating risk if the growing season ends abruptly with an early frost or a late-summer drought.

Trial New Options: Dedicate 10-15% of your acreage to testing new genetics or different trait packages on a limited, monitored basis. This keeps you informed about emerging technologies without risking your entire operation on unproven products.

By combining the hard data from your 2025 performance with a strategic selection of traits and treatments tailored to the unique challenges of Western Wisconsin, you can set the stage for a profitable and productive 2026 season.

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Building a Fertility Program for the Season Ahead



by Jake Rueth,
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Building a fertility program for the coming season is one of the most important—and sometimes most challenging—decisions a producer makes each year. With tight budgets, this year's balance sheet may have many scratching their heads, wondering what can be done differently. Some may be tempted to cut back on fertilizer, with phosphorus often being the first nutrient reduced—without realizing the long-term consequences that decision can bring. In this article, I'll highlight why phosphorus is so critical and share ways to evaluate and apply it to support sound management decisions for 2026.

Phosphorus (P) is a key macronutrient that drives plant growth and development. Early in the season, it promotes root and shoot growth and helps plants manage stress from cold soil temperatures. Phosphorus also plays a critical role in converting sunlight into energy, supporting energy transfer and genetic development. In the crops we grow today, phosphorus contributes to higher yields, better quality, and improved crop maturity.

Before deciding to reduce—or even eliminate—phosphorus applications, it's important to consider the potential consequences. Reduced yields, poorer quality, and lower stand counts can all occur in the first year. Applying less than crop removal rates over time will deplete phosphorus levels in the soil, leading to higher costs and reduced productivity down the road. Regular soil testing is an excellent tool for understanding current fertility levels. Having accurate data removes guesswork and is essential when determining how much—or how little—to apply.

The way phosphorus is applied can greatly influence nutrient efficiency and, ultimately, your return on investment. When planning applications, consider product source, placement, rate, and timing. Evaluate your equipment and make improvements where needed. Most importantly, work with your local agronomy advisor to develop a sound fertility plan that positions your operation for success in 2026.

Key Takeaways from 2025



Ginny Block,
Agronomy Advisor
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The 2025 crop season has tested our patience and planning from start to finish. A late, soggy spring and recurring bouts of heavy rain combined to make this year’s growing conditions both promising and precarious.

Fertility

Getting fertilizer applications timed correctly was one of the year’s biggest challenges. With early rains in spring, it was difficult to get most preplant applications done on time. Later in the season, rain was in the forecast nearly every week. Considering the amount of rainfall we had throughout the growing season, nitrogen loss should be on your mind.

To help protect your fertilizer investment, there are a few things to consider. Nitrogen stabilizers are the first line of defense in protecting your fertilizer investment. The next step would be looking at split-applying your nitrogen—top-dress or sidedress applications allow you to split the risk.

Another factor to consider this year was the increased demand in a short period of time. With delayed field access for preplant, many farmers were stressed about getting fertilizer applied in a timely manner. One thing to consider for next year is applying P and K in the fall when we’re not pressed for time. This helps lessen the workload come spring.

Fungicide

Without a doubt, there was disease pressure this growing season. The warm, humid weather created ideal conditions for disease to thrive. Fungicide is often an insurance policy that gets forgotten—or the first thing cut when the budget gets tight. I’d like to share some ROI numbers from a local plot that might have you second-guessing why you’re dropping it:

2025 FUNGICIDE PLOT					
PRODUCT	TEST WEIGHT	MOISTURE	YIELD	IMPACT	ROI
Delaro [®] Complete	59.1	13	65.4	9.5+	\$64.10/ac
Viatude [®]	57.9	12.8	62.2	6.3+	\$30.42/ac
Mirvais [®] Neo	57.5	12.8	67.5	11.6+	\$78.06/ac
Cover XL [®]	59	12.8	58.9	3+	\$23.4/ac
Control	59.2	13.1	55.9	-	-

**Soybeans price used \$9.05



Do you think an extra \$78.06 per acre would have helped your bottom line this year? Although this is just one example, I’ve been running a soybean fungicide plot like this for three years now—and each year has shown a positive return. Before you decide to skip fungicide next season, consider how much you might be leaving on the table.

Financing

Rising input costs, tight margins, and higher interest rates put added strain on operating budgets in 2025. Many farmers borrowed more just to cover seed, fertilizer, and fuel expenses. At the same time, market prices for corn and soybeans softened midsummer, putting pressure on cash flow.

Some patrons took advantage of our financing options here at Allied, allowing them to beat their personal bank’s interest rates and keep more cash on hand. We offer several different financing programs with attractive rates. If you’re interested in learning more, reach out to your Allied Agronomy Advisor.

Throughout this growing season, we faced challenges beyond our control. However, there are steps we can take to reduce stress and better prepare for future uncertainty. Talk with your Allied Agronomy Advisor to start planning for 2026 and take advantage of early financing offers. It’s never too early to start thinking about the next growing season!

2025 and Beyond: *Navigating Disease Trends in West Central Wisconsin*



by Tyler Prudlick
Agronomy Advisor
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The 2025 growing season in West Central Wisconsin provided a rigorous test for regional agriculture. Persistent humidity, high moisture levels, and variable temperatures created an ideal environment for numerous fungal pathogens. As harvest concludes, the focus shifts to reflection: evaluating which management tactics worked, analyzing field-specific disease maps, and utilizing this critical data to build robust, proactive disease management plans for the 2026 season.

In corn, the primary antagonists were Tar Spot and Southern Rust, which established themselves as major regional threats. Tar spot, appeared in numerous counties, thriving under prolonged leaf wetness. In severe cases, it led to rapid leaf necrosis, compromising photosynthesis and stalk integrity, and resulting in significant yield losses. Southern rust also spread aggressively across the state earlier than usual, requiring constant monitoring due to its rapid lifecycle and potential to devastate late-season grain fill.

Soybean fields were not spared, with conditions favoring a complex of aggressive pathogens. White Mold posed a significant risk in irrigated and high-humidity areas, as apothecia production during flowering was widespread. Frogeye Leaf Spot and Cercospora Leaf Blight appeared earlier in the season and migrated further north than in previous years, directly impacting both yield potential and harvested seed quality.

Furthermore, soil-borne diseases remained a persistent challenge. Both Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS) and Brown Stem Rot (BSR) were commonly found within the same fields. Accurate diagnosis of these two diseases is crucial, as BSR is a major concern in shorter rotations specific to the upper Midwest. Red Crown Rot, a less common but increasingly present threat often misidentified as SDS, also made appearances, reinforcing the necessity of proper identification for long-term management strategies.

Amid high disease pressure like that experienced in 2025, fungicides proved to be a highly valuable tool. When applied timely and correctly, fungicides protect the photosynthetic area of the leaf, allowing the plant to reach its full genetic potential. For diseases such as tar spot, southern rust, and white mold, a well-timed application provided a strong return on investment by preserving yield and maintaining stalk or stem integrity. Selecting the correct product and application window is crucial to maximizing this benefit.

In 2026, an integrated approach is crucial. Begin by reviewing field maps from 2025 and implementing strategic crop rotation plans to disrupt disease cycles and reduce the carryover of overwintering pathogens. Select resistant varieties based on strong ratings against the specific diseases identified in your area. This genetic resistance is your first line of defense. Consistent, detailed field scouting throughout the entire season remains



Tar Spot on Corn



White Mold on Soybean Stem

critical for early identification, allowing for timely, effective intervention.

Ultimately, navigating these complex disease challenges requires expert, localized support. For specific product recommendations, timing of applications, and customized field planning tailored to your operation's unique needs, talk directly to your dedicated agronomy advisor at Allied Cooperative. They can help you utilize forecasting data, select the best genetics, and implement effective sanitation and soil health practices to mitigate risks and position your operations for a healthy and productive 2026.

Managing Cold Stress in Calves



by **Benjamin Stone**,
Livestock Production Specialist
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As temperatures drop across Wisconsin, it's important to remember that young calves are especially vulnerable to cold stress. Calves under 21 days old begin feeling the effects when temperatures fall below 60°F, while those over 21 days old experience stress below 42°F. With Wisconsin averaging around 250 days under 60°F each year, managing cold stress is a challenge producers face for much of the year.

At Allied Cooperative, we're here to help you keep your calves comfortable, healthy, and growing through the cold months with proper facility management, nutrition, and the use of calf jackets.

Proper Facilities

Pens or hutches should be deeply bedded to allow for nesting—helping calves reduce heat loss as they spend up to 20 hours a day lying down.

Nesting Scores:

- 3: Legs completely covered while lying down (ideal)
- 2: Legs partially covered by straw
- 1: Legs fully visible (needs improvement)

A calf jacket can raise a nesting score by one level. Keeping bedding dry is equally important for conserving body heat.

Good ventilation isn't just for keeping calves cool in the summer. It is key year-round. In the winter, fresh air exchange helps remove pathogens, ammonia, and excess moisture. Aim for at least four air exchanges per hour, ensuring the airflow reaches calf level to maintain a healthy environment.

Calf Jackets

Clean, dry calf jackets provide essential warmth and help calves maintain their core body temperature. Jackets should be put on before temperatures reach the calf's cold stress threshold, so they stay ahead of the cold rather than trying to recover from it.



Proper Nutrition

In cold conditions, calves need extra energy to maintain body temperature. Without adequate energy, they'll burn fat reserves, and eventually muscle, leading to slowed growth and a weakened immune system.

- **Upgrade milk replacers:** Consider switching from Land O'Lakes Amp Max (22:20) to Land O'Lakes Cow's Match ColdFront (26:20) for added calories and energy support.
- **Push protein, not fat:** Higher protein levels promote muscle growth and gain, while milk replacers with more than 20% fat can reduce starter intake and growth.
- **Colostrum and starter:** Feed high-quality colostrum within four hours of birth and introduce starter at one week to encourage rumen development. Starter intake can increase by up to 200% in cold weather as calves work to meet their energy needs.
- **Warm water access:** Provide water at 100–105°F immediately after milk feedings to avoid lowering the body temperature. Adequate hydration improves starter intake and supports digestion. Dry winter air can cause dehydration, so keep Land O'Lakes electrolytes on hand to prevent and treat it.

Managing cold stress takes preparation and attention to detail—but it's worth it. Healthy calves mean stronger herds and better long-term performance. Allied Cooperative offers a full line of milk replacers, electrolytes, and nutritional products to help you weather the season successfully. For questions or assistance, contact your local Allied Cooperative feed team.

Feed Update: Change of Seasons



by **Ed Sabey**,
Director of Feed
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As the weather changes, it's a good time to think about winter coming and to evaluate your facilities' needs for proper ventilation and weather protection. There are also a few things that can help keep your feed program running smoothly.

Commodity prices continue to be a big topic. With tariffs and market swings, things can change quickly—but right now, the market are actually working in favor of farmer inputs. Our team keeps a close eye on those markets every day so we can secure the best possible purchase prices for our producers.

We also know that this time of year can also be a stretch on cash flow, so we do offer financing options to assist in making sound financial decisions. If that's something that could help your operation, please reach out to our feed and credit department to talk through the details.

Allied is proud to be a co-manufacturer of Purina Feeds. That partnership continues to be a great move for our customers. Feed quality and value are top priorities for Allied, and this partnership has allowed us to offer top-quality products backed by trusted research—something that's always been a priority for our team.

Our bag routes keep expanding. We are also staying on top of our value-added services and we are constantly monitoring quality and changing them to meet your needs – from pelleting to flaking to custom blends and more. Whether it's feed quality, nutrition planning, or delivery, our goal is to make sure you're covered from start to finish.

And as always, our experienced team is here to help with any questions or challenges you might be facing this winter. Keep an eye out for our off-season meetings, including upcoming beef and mineral sessions—we'd love to see you there!

At the end of the day, we're all working toward the same goal: healthy animals and successful operations. Thank you for your business and for trusting Allied Cooperative to be part of your team. Best wishes to all for a successful harvest.

Fall Harvest

Continued from page 1...

Corn

Corn harvest began in mid-October and was about 50% complete by November 4th, with approximately 600,000 bushels being delivered daily across our locations. Yields are generally above trend line, with most fields averaging in the low 180 bushels per acre.

Moisture levels are more typical this year, averaging around 19%, and grain dryers are running nearly around the clock at several sites. Some fields have experienced reduced yields due to late-season disease pressures, including southern rust, anthracnose, and tar spot, as well as localized ponding from heavy rains in June. Fields treated with fungicide are showing stronger test weights and yields compared to untreated fields, although overall test weights are slightly lower than last year.

Looking ahead, we anticipate some logistical challenges as dry space fills up. While we have plans in place, including bagging operations in Adams and Auburndale, the tail end of harvest may extend into December in some areas.

Auburndale Project

The newly upgraded dump pit and dryer in Auburndale has significantly improved operations at the site. With the ability to handle over 80,000 bushels per day and minimal wait times, the improvements have received positive feedback from farmers and staff alike.

Overall, it's been a busy but rewarding harvest season. Thanks to the hard work of our farmers, transportation, and grain teams, we're moving crops efficiently and setting the stage for another successful year at Allied Cooperative.



David Rappa is our
Director of Grain. He works
out of our Tomah location,
and can be reached at
drappa@allied.coop.



Potential Challenges with New Crop Corn Silage



by **Chris Curran**,
Dairy Nutritionist
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The corn silage crop is harvested and some of you are beginning to feed it. We've noticed some corn silage that is drier than ideal and showing signs of surface mold. Here are a few issues related to feeding this year's crop.

Molds:

- Molds like *Penicillium*, *Aspergillus* and *Fusarium* are often found in corn silage and are common mycotoxin producers.
- Colorations can help us identify molds, especially in corn silage. White-to-red/pinkish molds are *Fusarium*, or field-borne, molds. Blue-green molds are typically *Penicillium*, which is more often storage-related but can occur in the field under certain weather conditions. *Aspergillus*, which is very common in dry climates, is olive green to yellow in color.
- When we observe large mold lines, we do not touch, inhale, grab or sample those areas. Many molds cause health issues to both animals and humans, and they can also produce a fair number of different mycotoxins.
- In humans and animals, *Penicillium* mold alone can cause dermal irritation as well as gut health complications if ingested.

Facing:

- Increased surface area permits more oxygen to penetrate the feed, triggering mold and yeast growth, which increases heating. We look for a

smooth face, with little loose material at the base and edges. The proper facing and feed out equipment can help reduce shrinkage. A silage facer provides a very smooth and clean surface and can help reduce losses with proper management. Rakes or claws will cause tine marks, increasing surface area, but they do limit oxygen penetration during facing. Only face what is to be fed in that day. Finally, bucket facing leads to a lot of oxygen penetration due to lifting the pile face.

As to why the fermentation might be bad and mold level high, it is possible that the rust and tar spot caused the plants to dry down faster than normal, making the silage drier than normal. It wouldn't pack as well as other years. This left more air in the silage for extra mold growth after ensiling.

Also, if you are testing silage that has been in for only 2-3 weeks, the silage is probably still fermenting and you will likely see high mold counts until the silage fermentation stabilizes. Then it is likely to drop to more normal levels.

There have been some pretty high clostridia counts this fall. The really high counts are probably from partially-fermented silage and should be retested in a month or so to see if those levels drop. Clostridia are usually associated with wet silage but there could be some on drier silage if there was dirt in the silage – possibly dust if the fall was dry and windy.

Silage Additives:

- Use inoculants with lactic acid bacteria to promote rapid fermentation and *L. buchneri* to preserve feed quality at feed-out.
- Consider silage inoculants that are proven to inhibit spoilage organisms like yeast, mold and clostridium organisms.
- SiloSolve® FC is the forage inoculant recommended to help ensure mold protection and rapid fermentation in challenged corn silage, including Southern Rust. A 2005 University of Florida study showed that corn silage infected with Southern Rust had elevated dry matter at harvest which has negative effects on packing density.
- Additionally, uninoculated high rust silage had high levels of aflatoxin, while the high rust silage that was inoculated did not. Inoculant application also decreased mold growth and increased aerobic stability of the high rust silage.

As for things to do if issues arise:

- Go ahead and do a toxin test – available at Allied Coop, this will establish a baseline on toxins.
- Also ask for a mold and yeast count.
- For general molds, if the count is very high, test again after the silage has fermented for at least a month.
- If you have mold plus multiple toxins, a low level (1 ounce) of Flomatrix is cheap insurance. DON alone doesn't cause a lot of issues but we don't really know how multiple



The Difference in Our Mineral Tubs



by Allison Bredlau,
Livestock Production Specialist
abredlau@landolakes.com

toxins affect the cow. Flomatrix is a flow-agent--mixture of clays and yeast cell wall compounds.

- If there is pieces of corn kernels coming through in the manure, especially if the NDFd of either the corn silage or haylage is a little low – add 0.5 ounces of EfficienZ can improve starch and fiber digestibility. Manure usually changes quickly with less corn passing and usually firmer manure. EfficienZ is a starch-digesting enzyme. Some of the intermediate products formed during digestion of starch can help the fiber digesting bugs in the rumen as well.
- If manure is very inconsistent, especially if there is corn passing in the manure or a history of HBS – adding 13 grams (0.5 oz) of Amulet can help stabilize the hind gut and minimize clostridia growth and its' damage to the hind gut. Amulet is a probiotic (*Bacillus subtilis*) along with live yeast, yeast cell wall compounds, and beta glucans.

Working with your nutritionist to identify problems and coming up with a plan to mitigate the affects will keep cows healthy and productive.



With today's strong beef markets, more producers are looking for ways to get the most out of every pound of gain and improve conception rates in their replacement heifers. These are just two examples of where Purina's Wind & Rain® mineral tubs can make a real difference in your herd's performance and profitability.

Purina's Wind & Rain® tubs are enhanced with Zinpro® performance minerals, designed to improve mineral absorption and utilization within the animal. Better absorption means your cattle are actually getting the nutrients they need—helping to support immune function, hoof health, and overall reproductive performance. Over time, that translates into better feed efficiency, fewer health setbacks, and improved conception rates—all key factors in protecting your bottom line.

Products like these can also help reduce common stress points that impact return on investment, especially around weaning. When calves transition more smoothly, you're not only saving time and labor but also helping to maintain performance and profitability during a critical phase of growth.

We offer a variety of Wind & Rain® tubs and loose mineral options to fit your unique management program and production goals. Whether you're targeting better gains, reproduction, or herd health, our team can help you build a mineral plan that works for your operation.

Don't forget to take advantage of our January booking to lock in the best pricing of the season—including fly control options to help you stay ahead next summer.

Contact your Allied Cooperative representative today to learn how we can help make an impact on your herd's performance and profitability.



Get a Head Start on Winter Diesel Blending



by Michael Kampstra,
Energy Sales Team Lead
michael.kampstra@chsinc.com

As temperatures begin to drop, it's the perfect time to start planning for winter diesel blending to keep your equipment running strong all season long. Cold weather can cause diesel fuel to thicken or "gel," restricting fuel flow and leading to hard starts or even shutdowns. Getting ahead of the cold helps you avoid costly downtime later.

Our Cenex® Premium Diesel fuels already contain a cold flow improver, specially formulated to enhance low-temperature performance. However, even the best cold flow additives have limits — they should not be relied upon to reduce cold flow beyond 15°F. For that reason, we use 0°F as a safe threshold for beginning to blend with #1 Diesel.

When temperatures are expected to dip below 0°F, we recommend blending with #1 Diesel to further improve winter operability. As a rule of thumb, every 10% of #1 added to #2 Diesel improves winter operability by about 3°F.

For example:

A 70/30 blend of #2 Diesel and #1 Diesel (with a cold flow additive) will perform reliably down to around -9°F.

It's also important to remember that once temperatures dip below freezing—typically around 24°F—most blending or additive treatments become much less effective.

This is because phase separation can occur: the lighter and heavier components of the fuel begin to separate, preventing additives from properly mixing and reducing their ability to protect against gelling. That's why it's critical to blend early, while fuel temperatures are still above freezing.

For those who want maximum protection, Cenex® Wintermaster® Premium Diesel offers unmatched cold-weather performance — guaranteed to operate in temperatures as low as -30°F and above. Wintermaster provides superior cold flow protection, lubricity, and injector cleanliness for dependable power and efficiency in extreme winter conditions.

Key Takeaways:

- Premium Diesel includes a cold flow improver.
- Begin blending before temps drop below freezing to avoid phase separation.
- Add #1 Diesel when temps approach 0°F.
- Blend #1 and additive when temps are at least 10°F above the cloud point — the temperature where wax crystals start forming in fuel.
- Each 10% #1 = about 3°F better operability.
- Cold flow additives alone should not be counted on beyond 15°F improvement.
- Cenex® Wintermaster® is guaranteed down to -30°F and above.

By getting a head start on winter blending, you'll keep your operation running smoothly and your equipment protected—no matter how cold it gets.

A REWARDING EXPERIENCE FOR YOU AND YOUR EQUIPMENT.



Get Rewarded for Your Cenex Lubricant Purchases

Loyalty pays off—literally! Allied Cooperative invites you to take advantage of a great program in which you can earn great rewards just for purchasing the Cenex lubricants you already trust to protect your equipment. From November 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026, you'll receive one \$50 e-gift card for every 100 gallons of qualifying Cenex-branded lubricant products purchased.

Whether you're stocking up on your go-to grease tubes or replenishing your supply of Quiklift® or other premium Cenex lubricants, now is the perfect time to buy and get rewarded for it.

Don't miss this opportunity to save while keeping your operation running smoothly. For full details or to confirm your qualifying purchases, contact your Allied Cooperative energy representative.



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Since you asked!

The propane department receives calls all the time from customers with similar questions about propane.

We're always happy to answer your questions, but we thought a Q&A article could come in handy.

Here are some of our most commonly asked questions.

Please contact your local Allied LP office if you have questions:

Adams 608.339.3394

Arcadia 608.323.3311

Hixton 715.963.3211

Marshfield 715.687.4443

Tomah 608.372.2458

West Salem 608.786.1100

Why does my gauge not read what I expect after delivery?

Propane Volume Basics: To understand what's going on with regard to differing tank gauge readings in extreme temperatures (hot or cold); we need to first explain basic principles that affect the liquid propane volume. The following example assumes a 250 gallon propane tank has 100 gallons of propane at 60°F. The industry standard 60°F is universally recognized as the base reference point for liquid propane volume correction.

- A properly functioning float gauge will read 40%
- 100 gallons of propane weighs 424 pounds (4.24 lbs. per gallon)

If there is a significant temperature drop (over 20°F) the gauge will indicate that there is less propane in the tank. Assuming the gauge dial sits between 35% and 40% following the temperature drop, there are still 424 pounds of propane in the tank. Although the propane volume has decreased, the amount of propane has not decreased, it has simply become more compact (dense). The amount of usable energy has not decreased. If the temperature were to rise by the same respective amount, the gauge would indicate a higher volume of propane but there would still be 424 pounds of propane in the tank. As temperatures fall, liquids become more dense and compact. As temperatures rise, liquids become less dense and expand. Propane is a liquid and is subject to the same rules of Mother Nature.

Why did the driver go past my home and not deliver?

Propane drivers are on the routes every day in the winter months and will travel many roads on what may seem like a daily basis. Drivers are routed

based on tank percentages along with calculated use and forecasted temperature. One tank may have a monthly usage of 20% dependent on temperature, while another may have a monthly usage of 60%. Trucks are loaded daily for specific deliveries and need to follow the routing to ensure timely deliveries for all our customers. If you call in for orders when your tank is between 20-30% you can ensure timely delivery.

Why do I have to have a leak test performed on my system?

Leak tests are required any time there is an interruption of service, meaning the flow of gas was stopped for any reason. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 54 (2006), 8.2.3 states that "Immediately after the gas is turned on into a new system or into a system that has been initially restored after an interruption of service, the piping system shall be tested for leakage. If leakage is indicated, the gas supply shall be shut off until the necessary repairs have been made." Also reference WI State statute 101.16 (4) (b).

Propane Leak Test Explained

All propane piping, connections and fittings are threaded so that they may easily connect together during installation or modification. These propane connections are coated with a pipe joint compound that lubricates the fittings during the joining process and will dry after a short while. During normal usage, a propane plumbing system is at a constant pressure. This means that as long as the tank has gas and is supplying the system with propane, a constant pressure is exerted on the piping and the pipe joint compound. The pipe joint compound will expand during normal pressurized usage and will retract if the system loses pressure. This loss of gas

pressure may cause leaks to form because of the expansion and retraction of the piping compound within the propane plumbing system.

The leak test will indicate any leaks within the propane piping system due to interruption of service or out of gas situation. The leakage test is simply testing the integrity of the system plumbing joints and the seal of the pipe joint compound. This is the safety reasoning behind leak testing. The real reason a leak test is performed is because it is required by law and none other.

Can I repair or modify my own propane system?

This is probably the single most important safety issue the propane industry battles on a daily basis. People constantly want to fix their own leaks or make changes to their gas system to save money or because the propane service technician isn't available immediately.

DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES try to modify or repair valves, regulators, connectors, controls, or other appliance and cylinder/tank parts. Doing so creates the risk of a gas leak. **CALL AN EXPERT.** If you are unable to operate any part of your propane system, or if you think an appliance or other device is not operating properly, call your propane retailer or a qualified service technician. They can inspect, adjust, repair, or replace any part of your propane system.

YOUR PROPANE SYSTEM IS DESIGNED FOR SAFETY. Propane cylinders, tanks, and appliances incorporate special components (such as valves, connectors, controls, burners, and pilot lights) to keep them safe for use. Damaging these components can cause gas leaks.

How (or where) do I dispose of a propane tank or cylinder?

Propane cylinders and tanks of all sizes sometimes have to be discarded. Although there are other uses for condemned propane tanks and bottles, people frequently just want to get rid of them. Propane tanks can be disposed of but it's important for them to be disposed of in a proper manner.

Propane tanks, gas bottles and other hazardous materials will not be picked up by the local garbage collectors. In fact, improper propane tank disposal might be illegal in some areas. Propane tank disposal is a safety issue that is easily handled by a propane company.

How many gallons of gas do I lose in a leak?

A common question propane dealers hear when customers have a leak is "how much gas did I lose?". The answer is usually not that much. In reality, a small leak on a tank will result in the loss of *maybe* a gallon of propane over a considerable period of time.

Propane Leaks and Gallons Lost

Consumers often feel that a leak on their propane tank results in the loss of many gallons of propane gas. The following example will hopefully illustrate that the actual amount of gas lost is nowhere near what they envisioned. We've all seen a helium tank fill balloons and we're all familiar with the loud hissing noise and force at which the helium is coming out of the tank and into the balloon. If you hear a propane leak that's remotely similar to that of a helium tank filling a balloon, you need to be calling the fire department instead of reading this! We'll now use that which we're familiar with and attempt to equate it with propane.

Propane Leaks - Balloon Illustration

Let's take a standard size balloon (like a party balloon), which holds a volume of roughly .5 cubic feet and for the sake of this example, you think your tank has leaked 10 gallons of propane. 10 gallons of propane equals 363.9 cubic feet of vapor which will fill about 728 standard size party balloons. Some customers believe the gas they have lost is over 50 gallons and if they have in fact lost 50 gallons of propane, that's enough propane to fill 3,639 standard size party balloons. Just one gallon of propane which produces 36.39 cubic feet of vapor will fill almost 73 standard size balloons or 2 standard size (18 cu. ft) refrigerators.

- 1 gallon of propane lost in a leak fills roughly 73 standard size party balloons
- 5 gallons of propane lost in a leak fills roughly 364 standard size party balloons
- 10 gallons of propane lost in a leak fills roughly 728 standard size party balloons
- 5 Gallons of propane lost in a leak fills roughly 1820 standard size party balloons
- 50 Gallons of propane lost in a leak fills roughly 3639 standard size party balloons

As you can see, the actual amount of propane lost in a leak is far less than most people realize due to the volume of propane vapor that is produced by one gallon of liquid propane.

How do I read my gauge?

Your gauge is located under the tank lid and reads in percentages. See the image on the previous page. When your gauge reads between 20-30%, place your order by calling your local Allied Cooperative office.

What can I do to help ensure there are no delays in delivery?

Keep a path from your driveway to your propane tank clear and free of snow. Failure to do so will impact our delivery team's ability to fill your propane tank. We want to ensure you have heat all winter, but we need your help to ensure we can access it. We recommend clearing a path after each snowfall and whenever drifting occurs, to keep the path accessible for propane delivery trucks.

Are there any safety practices I should be following?

Keep your tank free from deep snow coverage.

Propane tanks that are covered in deep snow are at greater risk for leaks, as the fittings, joints, and even the whole tank (with deep snowfall) can shift due to the weight of the snow. Snow-covered tanks can prevent any leaking gas from escaping, causing a dangerous gas build up. The snow also impacts how well your tank operates, as heavy cover can cause improper vaporization. Stay safe and keep your propane system fully functioning by periodically brushing the tank off this winter.

Ensure safe practices when clearing snow. Keep safety top of mind around your propane tank this winter—be sure to exercise care when using heavy equipment to move snow, and use a broom (rather than a shovel) to clear snow from the tank.

As always, if you smell gas, leave the area immediately! Avoid flames and sparks—don't turn on light switches, and wait to use your cell phone until you are away from the area. If it is safe to do so, turn off the main gas supply valve on the tank then, report the leak, using a phone from a safe distance away from the leak. Allied Cooperative has 24HR emergency service. By calling your local office and following the prompts for after hour emergency service, you will be connected to one of our on call personnel to assist you.



Jeff Bunker is our Director of Propane. He works out of our West Salem location and can be reached at jbunker@allied.coop.

Winter Care for Your Propane System

Wisconsin winters are famous for heavy snow, ice, sleet, and freezing temperatures. It is important to keep in mind some snow hazards specific to your home propane heating system. Following are some steps you can take to help ensure you stay safe and warm during the cold winter months.

- Carefully clear heavy snow and ice from regulators, regulator vents, piping, tubing and valves. Failure to do so can cause damage that could result in an oil or gas leak. Appliance vents, chimneys and flues must also be kept clear of snow and ice so appliances can vent properly. Again, be very careful when doing so to avoid damage to system components. Finally, carefully clear snow and ice off the top of tanks, gauges, fittings, and lines. Using a broom to do so will help avoid damaging the tank or system components.
- If you use a snow removal service, make sure you review the location of your propane equipment and instruct them to steer clear of all parts of your propane system.
- If you suspect any of your propane appliances or equipment have been compromised, or you have turned off your gas supply, please contact us so we can inspect your propane system, perform a leak test, and re-light your pilot lights.
- It's important to keep your driveways and a path to propane tanks clear for the safety of our drivers.
- And again—keep an eye on your tank gauge. The tank gauge is located under the lid on your propane tank. Give us a call when the tank percentage on the gauge reads between 20 and 30%.

Rest assured that your experienced, dependable LP staff, from the drivers to the customer service representatives and management, will do whatever is necessary to provide you with the quality service you deserve and expect.



Honoring Our Retirees

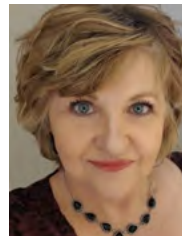
After many years of dedicated service to our cooperative, four valued team members are beginning a well-deserved next chapter—retirement. While it's never easy to say goodbye, we are deeply grateful for their commitment, hard work, and contributions over the years.

Please join us in celebrating their accomplishments and wishing each of them many happy, healthy, and fulfilling years ahead.



Dawn Beihoffer
Director of Credit

After nearly 30 years at Allied Cooperative, Dawn Beihoffer has retired. Starting as Marketing Manager in 1996 and later leading our Credit Department, Dawn navigated mergers, rebrandings, and growth with skill and dedication. Known for her “firm but fair” approach, she built lasting relationships with both customers and colleagues. Dawn’s dedication and expertise made an important contribution to the success of our co-op.



Gina Klaus
Director of
Human Resources

Gina Klaus has announced her retirement after 10 years of dedicated service as Director of Human Resources at Allied Cooperative. During her time at Allied, she guided the HR department through mergers and leadership transitions, creating a strong and collaborative environment. Known for her knowledge, compassion, and mentorship, Gina has had a significant impact on both employees and the organization.



Kathy Kuss
Graphic Designer

Kathy Kuss is retiring after 12 years with Allied Cooperative as our Graphic Designer in Marketing Communications. Since joining in 2013, Kathy has brought creativity, precision, and a keen eye for detail to everything from newsletters, brochures, web graphics to signage, photography, and aerial imagery. Her talent, dedication, and positive energy have strengthened our brand and left a lasting mark on the co-op. She will be missed.



Michael Raasch
Grain & Feed
Originator

After more than 23 years of dedicated service, Michael Raasch has retired. Michael wore many hats for the co-op over the years, including Grain and Feed Originator and Dairy Nutritionist. He possessed deep market knowledge and a strong understanding of farmers’ needs, making him an invaluable member of the team. As a licensed grain merchandiser and commodity broker with CHS Hedging, he skillfully balanced the complexities of the market while always keeping customer service at the forefront. His commitment to excellence set a high standard and left a lasting impression on both colleagues and customers alike.

A New Chapter in Supporting Our Youth

At Allied Cooperative, we're proud to support the next generation of agricultural leaders through youth livestock programs across our trade area. Each year, we're inspired by the hard work, dedication, and care that local youth put into raising and showing their animals.

Last year alone, we received more than 300 requests from children of our members asking for our participation at their county fair livestock auctions. Our team attended 21 different sales and placed as many bids as our budget would allow. While we are honored to be part of these events, the traditional bidding approach doesn't allow us to support every deserving youth in a fair and consistent way.

After much discussion, our Board of Directors has decided to take a new, more equitable approach—one that will allow us to recognize and reward all youth who take part, not just a few.

Beginning with the 2026 fair season, children of Allied Cooperative members can complete and submit a simple form along with a photo of themselves and their livestock project at the fair. Qualifying participants will receive:



- \$100 for large animals (beef, swine, sheep, goat, dairy, and horse)
- \$50 for small animals (chicken, turkey, duck, and rabbit)
- An additional \$100 for Grand Champions and \$50 for Reserve Grand Champions

This new structure allows us to stretch our support further—reaching more young people across our communities

while still recognizing outstanding achievements.

We remain deeply committed to our youth and to the agricultural traditions that make our rural communities strong. We look forward to celebrating even more of these hard-working exhibitors in the years ahead!

For full program details and to download the application form, visit www.allied.coop.

Get Your Grain Settlement Payments—Faster!

Skip the wait for the mail—have your grain settlement payments deposited directly into your bank account via ACH. *It's fast, secure, and convenient.*

Sign up today at www.allied.coop/grain#grain-settlement-ach-enrollment-1 or scan the QR code on the right. For a paper form, contact any of our grain locations.

Please note: Grain customers with active lien notices are not eligible for ACH payments. Allow up to 5 business days for processing after enrollment.

The composite image illustrates the digital process of ACH enrollment. It features a browser window displaying the Allied Cooperative website, a QR code for quick access, a close-up of a hand pressing a green 'ACH Automated Clearing House' key on a keyboard, and a document titled 'Grain Settlement ACH Payments' with a prominent green 'ACH ENROLLMENT' button.



allied.coop

P.O. Box 729 • Adams, WI

JOIN OUR TEAM

As a large cooperative with five divisions and multiple locations, Allied Cooperative employs a diverse staff in a number of different career fields. Our employees play a critical role in our success as a cooperative. If you are looking for an opportunity to grow and join an organization that values your contributions, we would love to hear from you! Allied Cooperative's employees play an important role in our success as a cooperative. We'd love to talk to you about career opportunities with our cooperative. Come see what Allied can do for you!

For a list of current openings, visit www.allied.coop/careers. For more information on any of these openings, call Michelle Gubser, Director of Talent Management at 715.502.3128 or email careers@allied.coop.



Board of Directors Election

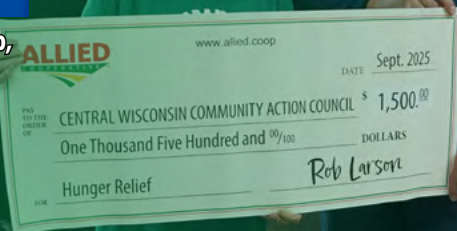
Are you interested in helping shape the future of Allied Cooperative? Three seats on our Board of Directors are up for election, and we're looking for dedicated members to serve. If you'd like to be considered as a candidate, please let us know by December 15, 2025.

For more details, contact Karmen Bernacchi at (608) 339-3394, ext. 1162 or email info@allied.coop

Board Report



John Vehrenkamp,
Board Chairman



Greetings, fellow co-op members!

It's been exciting to see expansion projects that have been in the works for some time begin to take shape. Your cooperative continues to grow—with our new fertilizer plant in Plover now complete, construction underway on a new fertilizer plant in West Salem, and plans moving forward for a new agronomy facility in Galesville. These projects will be tremendous assets to our farmers, improving efficiency and service while positioning our cooperative for continued success well into the future.

Even as we invest in growth, we remain committed to giving back to the communities we serve. Recently, Allied Cooperative donated more than \$25,000 to area food pantries throughout our trade territory, in partnership with the Land O'Lakes Foundation's corporate match program. The gratitude we received was heartfelt, as many shared that the need for assistance is greater now than ever. If you're looking for a way to give back this holiday season, I encourage you to consider supporting your local food pantry.

On behalf of the Allied Board of Directors, I wish you a safe and successful conclusion to the harvest season—and a very happy holiday season ahead!