



News & Views

A Monthly Publication Dedicated to the Feed, Seed, Grain and Farm Supply Industries of Wisconsin

Annual Dues Notices ■

We're getting dues renewals in at a healthy clip. Thank you for your support and it is appreciated. If you have any questions or comments on any issue, please let us know so we may help you.

Bin Construction Update ■

In last month's issue of *News & Views*, we discussed a situation involving a member issue regarding new grain bin construction and review of construction plans by the state Department of Commerce. In order to clarify the situation, we asked the Department to write a brief note explaining the rule and policy for our association newsletter. That letter follows:

Although the Wisconsin Commercial Building Code (WCBC) applies to many differing types of commercial buildings and commercial structures, the requirements for submittal and approval of the plans for commercial buildings and structures vary by use and category. All submittal provisions are found in Subchapter III of the administrative portion of the WCBC (Chapter Comm 61). The criteria regarding the types of buildings and structures that require the submittal and approval of plans to the state (or agent) prior to construction can be found in Comm 61.30.

When it comes to structures like silos or bins, there is no requirement for the submittal of plans prior to construction when they are freestanding. That does not relieve the owner or designer of their requirement to comply with the other provisions from the WCBC, but it does relieve them of their responsibility to make the submittal. At the present time, the only structures that require submittal are some bleachers and all public mausoleums [refer to Comm 61.30(2)].

When those silos or bins are not freestanding and are an integral part of a commercial building, the

plans for those structures must be included as a part of the plan submittal for the building [refer to Comm 61.30(1)]. An example of that condition is when a silo or bin is used as a portion of the building such as to form a part of an exterior wall or where used to support structural elements of the connected building. Mere connection by pipes, wires or grain conveyors does not make the silo or bin an integral part of the building.

By J.B. Smith, P.E.

*Wisconsin Department of Commerce
June 2007*

If you have any further questions regarding this issue, please contact the WASA office. We can be of help.

Scholarships Awarded ■

Wisconsin Agri-Service Association (WASA) is pleased to announce the 2007 recipients of the Eldon Roesler Scholarships. This year's recipients are:

Nathan Casper - University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Annie Dorshorst - University of Wisconsin-Madison

Jarred Huber - University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Steve Wilkens - University of Wisconsin-Platteville

Nathan Casper is the son of Wayne and Therese Casper of Adell, Wisconsin. Nathan is currently studying Crop and Soil Science at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. His intended career upon graduation is Crop Consultant and Agronomist. Nathan is currently an employee of WASA member, Adell Cooperative Union, located in Adell.

Annie Dorshorst is the daughter of Dr. Charles and Donna Dorshorst of Junction City, Wisconsin. Annie is currently studying Dairy Science and Bacteriology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her intention upon graduation is to

continue her education in veterinary or medical school. Annie is employed by the UW Hospital Department of Orthopedic Research.

Jarred Huber is the son of Brian and Pam Huber of Melrose, Wisconsin. Jarred is currently studying Agricultural Business at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. His intended career upon graduation is to work with a large agricultural cooperative or implement dealership. Jarred is currently employed at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls Lab Farm.

Steve Wilkens is the son of David and Karen Wilkens of Random Lake, Wisconsin. Steve is currently studying Crop and Soil Science at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. His intention upon graduation is to continue his education as a Plant Breeder. He is employed with Pioneer Hi-Bred International.

On behalf of the WASA Scholarship Committee and members, we extend our congratulations to all of the 2007 Eldon Roesler Scholarship recipients.

Grain Dealer License Apps ■

By now, members holding either Wisconsin grain dealer or warehouse licenses should have received renewal applications in the mail. You may or may not be aware the Department has taken the position of very strict interpretation of what constitutes a “complete” application. An application that was sent on time, but not completely and correctly filled out by the license applicant, is considered incomplete and the equivalent of having not filed an application at all. Several members have fallen into this problem in the past year and have been subject to a \$100 late filing fee.

Your association has worked with the Department to modify the application itself to clarify, and hopefully eliminate, some of the more common causes of incomplete application filings. But, we would suggest a further step on your part. We realize many members literally wait until the last minute to send the application with payment into the state for financial reasons. We would suggest a slight modification in that process to make your own life a

little easier. Simply fill out the application as you normally would, but prior to mailing the application with payment, fax the application only to the Department (608-224-4937 to the attention of Dar) for a “completeness” review. Department staff has assured the association that faxed applications for review will be turned around in a matter of a couple days up until the last week of August (the deadline for applications to be postmarked for submittal for license purposes is August 31). This “completeness” review will give you the knowledge that the application has been done to the Department’s satisfaction or what needs to be changed to consider the application complete. And of course, faxed applications are not being accepted for license purposes and fees must be included to ensure proper filing. So fill out the app completely, fax it in for a review and get your answer back now in order to avoid any unpleasant surprises after September 1.

Fertilizer License Fees ■

As an additional reminder, the Department is also in the process of renewing fertilizer licenses, which expire in August. As part of the renewal process, tonnage fees for the July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 period are due. You may have heard or read about reductions in fees that were part of the state Assembly, Senate or Joint Finance Committee budget packages. But, all of these fee reductions are in proposals that have not yet been signed into law. We wish to make clear that **since the budget has not yet passed and been signed; the current fee structure is still in force and will be mandated.** Therefore, manufacturers who hold a current license can expect their license renewal package to reflect the current fee structure, not any of the various legislatively-proposed ACCP surcharge reductions.

Once the Governor has signed the budget and it becomes effective, the Department will then implement any program or surcharge changes that have been approved. And it is anyone’s guess when that will occur given this year’s budget process.

Feed Profitability Workshop ■

We want to remind you again; WASA, in conjunction with both Texas A & M and Kansas State Universities, will be presenting a three-day

workshop for feed mill managers and supervisors August 7th through 9th in Green Bay. This workshop has been presented in other areas of the country and has drawn national audiences.

The instructors will be two nationally recognized individuals for their knowledge of the feed industry. And this is a program, that, as a feed manager, you can't afford to miss. And an additional benefit as a WASA member, you can register at a 10% discount to the regular fee. Only WASA member company employees are eligible for the discount. A top-notch, nationally known program and a discount, you can't beat that.

We have included a program brochure with this issue, so if you're interested there's more information there. Space is limited, so be sure and register early as this workshop has sold out in other parts of the country, and we expect that to happen here as well.

Facility Registration Update 2■

In last month's newsletter, we told you about how the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) had issued an interim final rule under which facilities that "possess or come into possession" of any of 344 "DHS chemicals of interest" at quantities exceeding specified threshold trigger levels would be required to register with the agency and complete a web-based screening tool (dubbed "Top Screen"). The "Top Screen" assessment would be used by DHS to evaluate whether the facility represents a "high risk" chemical facility that should be subject to additional performance-based regulation. With the early draft list of these "chemicals of interest," DHS severely underestimated both the breadth of impact on agriculture and the staggering number of facilities, farms and private homes which would be required to comply.

To that end, DHS has indicated that it intends by the end of July to issue a final version of a list of chemicals – many of which are used in agriculture – that will be used to determine whether facilities potentially will be regulated under the agency's chemical facility antiterrorism rule. In addition, DHS has stated they will: 1) address concerns regarding

the low threshold quantity trigger levels of some chemicals; 2) establish specific threshold quantity trigger levels for chemicals that it previously proposed to potentially regulate if present at "any level"; 3) consider an exemption for propane when used as a fuel; 4) explore alternatives to listing urea as a regulated chemical; 5) address anhydrous ammonia used as a refrigerant in dairy food processing operations; 6) clarify the treatment of chemicals present in a mixture; and 7) reconsider chemicals possessed that are incidental to transportation.

As further changes or requirements are announced, we'll keep you updated.

Source: NGFA

WASA Directory Update■

The following updates should be made to your WASA Directory.

New:

DeBruce Grain, Inc
PO Box 96
Joice, IA 50446
Phone: (800) 584-9274

Looking Down the Road■

July 31 & Aug. 1 **Grain Quality Management School presented jointly by NGFA & GEAPS**

Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel

Aug. 7-9 **Feed Industry Profitability Workshop presented jointly by WASA, Texas A&M Univ. and Kansas State Univ. (see insert) Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Green Bay**

Sept. 11 **WASA Golf Outing SentryWorld, Stevens Point**