

December 2020

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Monte Vista Coop . 1901 E Hwy 160 . Monte Vista, Colorado 81144 . 719-852-5181
www.mvcoop.com

Gear up for winter at the Monte Vista Coop Car Care Center
with a new set of snow tires!

Monte Vista Coop Farm Store

Black Friday & Saturday
Sale December 11-12, 2020

Two-day only sale! Social distancing practices will be in place!

The Monte Vista Coop Holiday Clothing Drive

**Drop off clothing at the Monte Vista Coop main office location
1901 E Hwy 160 Monte Vista, Colorado**

Gather your recipes for the Monte Vista Coop Women's Appreciation Cookbook! Submit your recipes online at www.typensave.com. US: 1949@mvcoop PW: lettuce945

You can also submit recipes by downloading the recipe collection sheet on our website mvcoop.com. Recipe collection sheets are also available at our main office location. Please return recipe sheets to the MVC main office or email them to mvcads@mvcoop.com

All recipes must be submitted by January 15, 2021. You can purchase holiday gift certificates and advanced sales coupons NOW at the MVC main office location. Make checks payable to the MVCDE.

All proceeds go toward the MVC Scholarship funds. Cookbooks will be available March 2021.

Colorado Farm Makes Winning Hay: Ben Schmidt

Cross Roads Farm, LLC earned a third place finish in the Commercial Hay Division at the 2020 World Forage Analysis Superbowl. The farm is owned and operated by Ben Schmidt and his family and is located in the San Luis Valley of Southwest Colorado in a town called Center. "My family provides the physical labor and mental stability to help keep the farm operating through the good and bad times," said Ben. Ben's family began farming in the high-altitude alpine valley in 1995. "We started here with a custom hay operation and after several years we were able to start buying some farmland. Today we raise 400-500 acres of alfalfa, along with durum wheat, canola (for seed), and oats for forage and seed production." The region where the farm is located offers a unique environment for growing high-quality alfalfa. "This high-altitude alpine valley creates a unique and challenging growing environment. We are perched atop this earth at 7,800 feet with a 90-day frost free growing season. Sunny days and cool nights and some wacky weather in between help grow some high-quality alfalfa," said Ben. The hay produced by Cross Roads Farm is sold to a dairy farm to be used as feed. Ben said, "The alfalfa hay we raise takes a 400-mile journey to Clovis, NM to help feed some top milk producing dairy cows. This is one of the rewards of raising quality alfalfa is to have developed a twenty-plus year working relationship with the same dairy."

Cross Roads Farm has entered forage samples to the World Forage Analysis Superbowl a few times in the past. This year, the farm's sample of CROPLAN LegenDairy XHD earned a third-place finish in the Commercial Hay Division. Typically, the World Forage Analysis Superbowl is held in Madison, Wisconsin in conjunction with World Dairy Expo. This year, the contest was held virtually.

A total of 266 samples from 16 states were submitted to this year's World Forage Analysis Superbowl. The top five samples submitted in a total of eight categories were awarded over \$26,000 in cash prizes. The samples judged are based 70% on a forage analysis and 30% on a visual analysis.

Dairyland Labs conducted the analysis of the forage sample, and the results of the Cross Roads Farm sample is listed below: %DM: 90.37, %CP: 25.21, %NDF: 27.76, 30 HR IV NDFD: 53.86, RFQ: 262, Milk per ton: 3,528, Final Score: 88.0.

Ben mentioned, "Several reasons for entering this contest is to hopefully help raise awareness to the high-quality alfalfa that is grown in this valley. Alfalfa seems to be somewhat of a stepchild crop and I feel like it doesn't garner the national respect and attention that many other crops do. I would also like to pay my respects to all the hardworking dedicated hay farmers from whom I have learned many things. I hope someday to see Colorado take first place in this contest." Congratulations to Ben, his family, and Cross Road Farm, LLC on their win! The Monte Vista Coop is proud to be your local Croplan dealer! Please contact the Monte Vista Coop Agronomy division 719-852-4046 for more information.

The Monte Vista Coop Scholarship DEADLINE is January 31, 2021

The Monte Vista Coop Dedication to Education Foundation was instituted to establish scholarships to assist students with financial support to the college of their choice. The scholarships are in honor of our Co-op's founding members and in remembrance of Dennis Kay and Mike Kelley, former employees who whole-heartedly believed in our young people. Scholarship applications are available at www.mvcoop.com

Pay your bill online at www.mvcoop.com

Return this portion of the newsletter to Monte Vista Coop and enter your name for a chance to win a holiday gift card! Drawing will be held December 31, 2021. Mail entry to Monte Vista Coop
Attn: Stephanie Schaefer 1901 E Hwy 160 Monte Vista, Colorado 81144

Name:

Phone number: