

December 2021  
Vol. 2 No. 4

# the coverall



*Community Committed,  
Agriculturally Driven*

*Wishing you and your family a very*

*Merry Christmas*

*and a Happy New Year!*



[www.mvcoop.com](http://www.mvcoop.com)

1901 E Hwy 160 Monte Vista, Colorado

**719-852-5181**



Monte Vista Coop Farm Store

## Black Saturday Sale December 11

**7 AM - 4 PM**

Preview Sale Begins Friday, December 10

### “Santa on the Farm”

You better watch out, you better not cry  
because Santa will be at the  
Monte Vista Coop Farm Store during the  
Black Saturday Sale December 11th!

Take a photo with Santa, grab a goodie bag,  
and be good for goodness sake!

**Visiting hours with Santa: 8 AM - 12 PM**



[www.mvcoop.com](http://www.mvcoop.com) [mvcads@mvcoop.com](mailto:mvcads@mvcoop.com) 719-852-5181

# Agronomy Insights: December 2021

By Mike Hampel, MVC Agronomy Manager

Happy Holidays to one and all! As the holiday season approaches, most of you are working on your 2022 farm plans then cussing and discussing the year-long increase in fertilizer pricing that is encroaching on your bottom line. What started all of this? Well, we cannot point to a single incident; but here are some of the factors that have influenced the fertilizer markets over the last year and half:

- U.S. tariffs against Russian and Moroccan importers of 11-52-0 dry phosphates.
- Drought in Brazil reduced their corn crop by over 300 million bushels.
- Poor spring wheat crop in the Dakotas.
- Rising grain prices in response to global demand. Corn - \$5-6/bu, Beans - \$12/bu, Wheat - \$7/bu. Even with high fertilizer prices, the economics for grain still work. Demand is up.
- Last winter's cold weather push into south Texas crippled the large fertilizer manufacturing facilities.
- Hurricane Ida wreaked havoc on the coastal fertilizer manufacturing facilities this summer.
- Major equipment failure at a Florida phosphate plant.
- Proposed tariffs against UAN-32 imports from Russia and Trinidad.
- Proposed tariffs against imported potash from Belarus.
- Exploding natural gas prices in Europe (\$20-25/MMBTU). (Natural gas is the feed stock for Nitrogen manufacturing.)

Tidbit: English gov't stepped in to make sure the Nitrogen plants in England were re-started. They needed the Carbon Dioxide (CO2) by-product for beer production.

- Congestion at the ports, especially Long Beach and Los Angeles. A shipping container used to rent for \$3000/trip, now we hear about \$15,000/trip. Affected products would be micro nutrients and some crop protection active ingredients.



Ground breaking of NEW Dry Fertilizer Shed, July 2021. Pictured left to right: Mike Hampel- MVC Agronomy Manager, Cory Iten - MVC CFO, Jeff Hopper - MVC Agronomy, Eric Hinton- MVC CEO, and representatives from Marucs Construction.

Coupled together, all of these factors have created the perfect storm – we are under the clouds with nowhere to hide.

Rumor has it that there are shortages – not true – at least not for your MV Coop. We might not be able to bring in products as early as we would like, but because of the relationships we have with the manufacturers and suppliers, we are well positioned for spring. As many of you know, your MV Coop is investing in infrastructure with a new dry fertilizer facility in Monte Vista. By the time you read this, the 8,000 ton dry shed should be enclosed and ready for the inbound and blending equipment. We are very excited and anxious for this facility to go into service for your 2022 dry fertilizer needs. The adjacent shop/warehouse/office complex should be ready by summer. Again, we are very excited about what this complex can do for the MV Coop membership and the San Luis Valley. You can reach me at the 3-Mile facility (852-4046) or on my cell phone (496-7276) or email (mhampel@mvcoop.com).

I look forward to our visit!

## Holiday Recipes

Recipes from the MVC Women's Appreciation Cookbook

### Christmas Morning Breakfast Casserole

12 oz. ground pork sausage  
1 - 2 lbs. ground beef  
1 - 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese, plus extra to sprinkle on top  
1 small white onion, diced  
8 large eggs  
1/2 cup milk  
1 tsp. kosher salt  
1/4 tsp. ground black pepper  
1 (32 oz.) bag frozen tater tots  
1 green bell pepper, diced  
1 red bell pepper, diced  
Hot sauce, pico, salsa, if desired

(Use a large cast iron skillet for this recipe if you have one). Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Warm skillet over medium heat. Brown sausage, ground beef and diced onion. Whisk together the eggs, milk, salt and pepper in medium bowl. Spread the sausage/beef mixture into an even layer over the bottom of the skillet. Sprinkle with shredded cheese, and pour egg mixture over the top. Arrange the frozen tater tots over the egg mixture. Bake until the eggs have fully set and the cheese has melted, about 35-45 minutes. If desired, sprinkle some additional shredded cheese over the top and bake and extra 2-5 minutes, until the cheese has melted. Let casserole cool slightly and serve with hot sauce, pico or salsa, if desired.

### Nutmeg Log Cookies

3 cups flour  
1 tsp. nutmeg  
1 cup butter  
3/4 cup sugar  
2 eggs, unbeaten  
2 tsp. vanilla extract  
1/2 tsp. rum extract  
Rum Frosting  
3 T. butter  
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract  
2 tsp. rum extract  
2.5 cups powdered sugar  
2-3 T. milk

Sift flour and nutmeg. In a separate bowl, cream butter and sugar together. Add egg, vanilla, and rum extract to liquid mixture. Mix dry ingredients with wet making a dough. Roll dough into skinny snake like rolls. Cut 1.5" pieces. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Cool for 5 minutes. Top with rum frosting.

### Apple Pie Punch

1 gallon apple cider  
2 liters ginger ale  
32 oz. pear juice or white grape juice  
Sliced apples  
Cinnamon sticks  
Combine all ingredients and chill.

## A Message from our CEO- Eric Hinton

Happy Holidays to everyone. This is one of my favorite times of year, due mainly to the time spent with family and friends, both in giving thanks, and reflecting on what is most important to us. The Monte Vista Coop is very thankful for many things, but especially our great customers, members, and employees.

We are very excited for our new project going on in Monte Vista. As I mentioned in my last letter, we are building a well overdue Dry Fertilizer Shed, along with an Agronomy office and chemical storage, and a shop for both Agronomy and Petroleum. We continue to do our best to serve you with quality products and services. To do that, reinvestment in the company is necessary. I know a lot of you have had questions about it, and we look forward to showing it off when it is complete.

This has been a very busy year for us, and I am sure that will continue through the winter. Financially we are having a great year, and I hope to see that continue. As I am sure many of you are aware, sourcing product has been a challenge for everyone this year. I do not see that going away anytime soon. Please know that we are doing everything we can to meet your needs.

We are exploring new and different vendors and are fortunate to have as many connections as we do in the industry. Once again, I hope you have a great Holiday season and I welcome anyone to come in and visit with either question, compliment, or concern.

## Monte Vista Coop Board of Directors

Community Committed, Agriculturally Driven

Roger Mix - Chairman  
Moe Bond - Vice Chairman  
John Curto - Secretary  
Sherry Haugen - Director  
Justin Rogers - Director  
Dale Bartee - Director  
Byron Kunugi - Director  
Eric Hinton - President/ CEO

Sale ends December 31, 2021

# Oil Sale

719-580-2738

Brian Claunch

719-852-5181

Skotty Morris

North American Bulk Oil Products

## WIN BIG WHEN YOU BUY MORE

For every 50 gallon purchase of North American Bulk Oil Products, you will receive 5 entries into a drawing for a chance to win one of the the following prizes: Traeger Grill, Cenex Gift Card, or a Monte Vista Coop Gift Card. Drawing will be held January 5, 2022. Participants do not need to be present to win.

## Auto Tips from Gary

MVC Car Care Center Mgr.

### 10 tips to winterize your vehicle

1. **Check your wiper blades:** cracked = streaks! This will hurt your visibility creating a safety hazard.
2. **Consider winter tires:** Cold weather can cause the rubber in standard tires to harden, and this hurts their traction.
3. **Check your battery:** Cold weather reduces battery power.
4. **Examine your cooling system:** Rubber components in the radiator and heater can crack and leak over time. Check the cooling system, and replace hoses that show signs of damage or wear.
5. **Check your wiper fluid level:** Make sure there's enough wiper fluid in your car's reservoir and choose a wiper fluid with antifreeze properties.
6. **Test your coolant:** Your car's coolant helps prevent the engine from freezing up.
7. **Use the right engine oil:** Engine oil thickens in frigid weather, and this can hurt your engine's performance.
8. **Pack a winter survival kit:** If the worst happens and your car breaks down, make sure you have what you will need to survive with you.
9. **Inspect your tires:** Determine whether there is enough tread on your tires.
10. **Test tire pressure:** Frequently check the air pressure in each tire. Each 10-degree drop in outside temperature can mean a one-pound loss in air pressure.

The Monte Vista Coop Car Care Center is the place to get a new battery, winter tires, oil changes and more to winterize your vehicle! Call today!

719-852-5181



### Monte Vista Coop Equipment Division In Stock Equipment:

*Lockwood 656 6 Row Potato Windrower  
Lockwood 606S 6 Row Air Cup Potato Planter*

*Logan Tare Pro 24' Tare Piler  
Logan 24' Load Pro Potato Bulk Bed*

*Ag Engineering 8 Row Dammer Diker*

*Kubota tractors – 23hp up to 115hp  
Cab and non-cab models  
Kubota Construction Equipment  
Kubota KX057-5 Excavator  
Kubota KX040 Excavator*

*Kubota BV4580 Prem Round Baler*

719-852-5565

Monte Vista Coop Equipment Division  
2607 N. Hwy 285 Monte Vista, Colorado



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# Community Connect



Stay Connected with the MVC!  
WWW.MVCOOP.COM MVCADS@MVCOOP.COM

## The Monte Vista Coop Clothing & Toy Drive

*Help make this Christmas merry & bright!*

We will be collecting unwrapped toys for the San Luis Valley Hope & Home Christmas Shoppe for foster families through December 13, 2021. The Monte Vista Coop Clothing Drive will be held through January 3, 2022. All clothing items will be donated to the Monte Vista Food Bank and local agencies. Please bring unwrapped toys and any clothing items to the Monte Vista Coop main office.

The Monte Vista Coop Generations of Farming Calendar will be available for purchase December 2021 in the Monte Vista Coop Farm Store. All proceeds will go towards the MVC Progressive Safety Day Program.

# WWW.MVCOOP.COM

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Mail this portion of the newsletter and your name will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a gift from the Monte Vista Coop.  
Mail entries to: MVC Marketing Attn: Stephanie Schaefer 1901 E Hwy 160 Monte Vista, CO  
Name:  
Phone number:  
Email:

Congrats to Judy Collins! You are the winner of the April MVC Newsletter drawing!