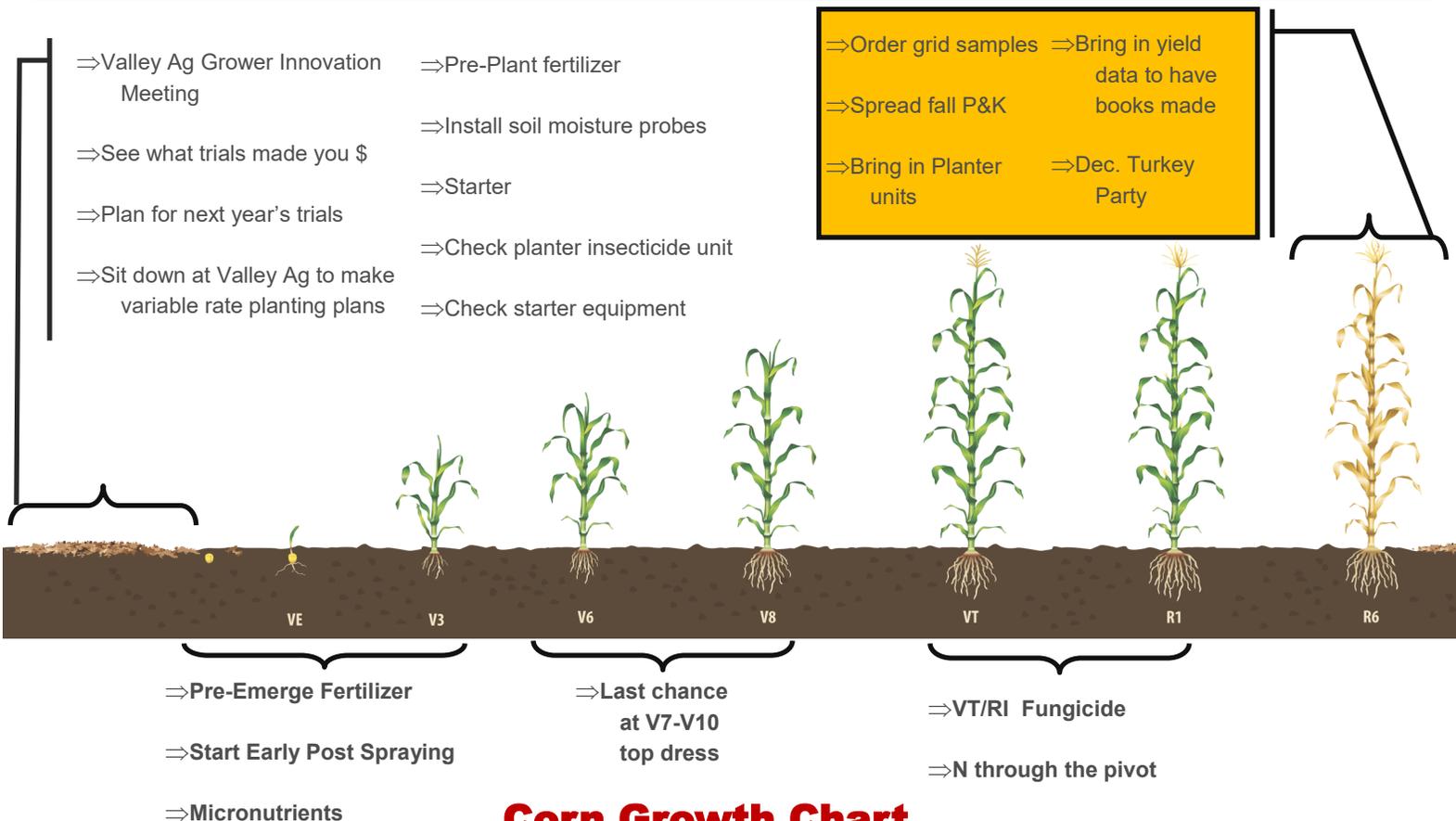


THE HAY STACK

Spinks
September 2018

Field to Table Organized by Cathy Nelson

Every year, Valley Ag Supply hosts the Field to Table program. This in-field learning experience started in 2001 when Mr. Ray Hall, a local farmer from Burbank, SD., opened his field to students so they could learn about corn and soybean production. Mr. Hall retired in 2006 and in 2008, Greg and Tara Pirak, owners of Valley Ag Supply, agreed to continue the program. This program provides a hands on educational opportunity for local youth to learn how their food gets from the field to the table by traveling through seven different stations: Corn Growth & Development, Soybean Growth & Development, Livestock, Plant Nutrition, Machinery, Soils, and Dairy. For the middle school level, Genetics & Biotechnology and Finance are added stations. Our Field to Table program was held September 5-7th. Elementary grades attended on the 5th and 6th and the Middle School grades attended on the 7th. We had a total of 14 schools attend with about 600 kids throughout the three days.



Corn Growth Chart

From Tara's Desk

Now sits an empty desk next to mine. Where once my partner sat weary after long, hard days. Where he sat during endless meetings learning new products in order to become a better agronomist. Lunches shared. Visits with bankers. Sharing a beer and a shot of Crown to celebrate a new customer, a timely rain or excitement in the lives of someone who worked with us, now is an empty space.

Most importantly to me was the meetings with his partner, me. There were times when the days were stressful, too difficult, how could we go on? "I'm so tired!" "How long til that check comes to us?" And a myriad of questions and concerns I shared with him. He would give me a good, informed answer, often times gave me a hug or a kiss (benefits to sleeping with the boss) and if things were really crazy, slide the bottle of Crown across his desk to me.

To fill this chair will be difficult. He or she will have to be an agronomist to the tenth power. Smart, considerate of our customers' livelihoods, hardworking, the list goes on and on.

But to fill this chair for me will be the most challenging task I've ever taken. To lose a business partner is difficult, to lose a husband is heartbreaking. To lose both is beyond definition.



However, I know my husband, my partner, my best friend. I know that he wants me in my office, this place is our dream! He knew that our crew would rise up and help in incredible ways.

For our customers, Valley Ag Supply will continue just as we always have – Greg purchased most of our fall fertilizer needs. He took a substantial position on liquid fertilizer for 2019 so we have a great foundation from which to build.

There are new things for all of us to learn but it isn't insurmountable. I will still need hugs. I may need a bit of patience. And I will definitely need your support.

Remember to hug your family, tell them you love them, live with few regrets. If Greg taught me anything it is those things.

~Tara Pirak

Seed Pledge Week

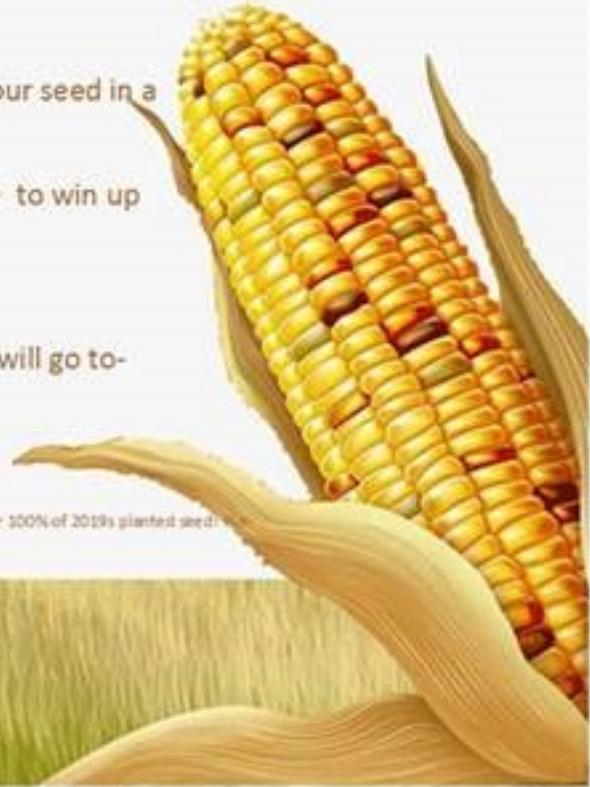


September 10-25 is your opportunity to buy your seed in a whole new way!

During these dates only, you'll have the chance to win up to \$15,000 cash.

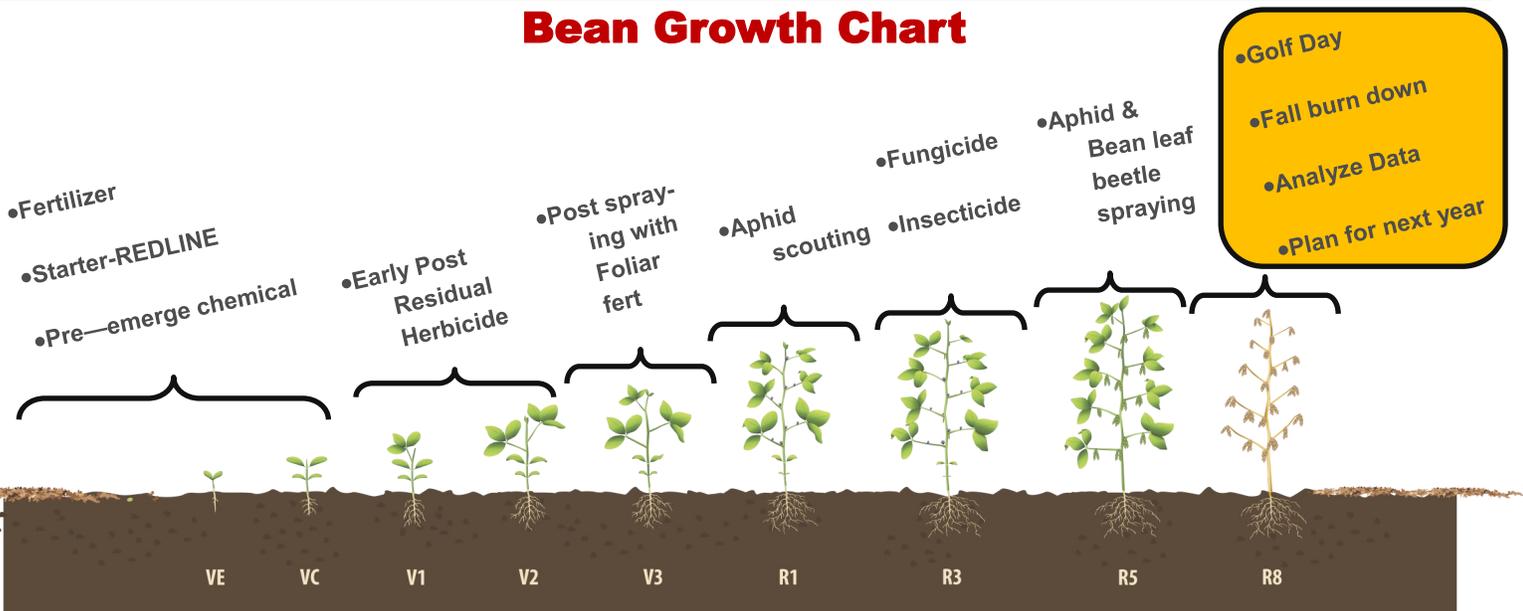
Additionally, 1% of your seed purchase pledge will go towards cash payment.

Drawing held August 1, 2019, winning customer will get a CHECK for up to \$15,000 or 100% of 2019's planted seed purchased from Valley Ag Supply.



Exciting News at Valley Ag Supply! We have a new opportunity for our growers, Seed Pledge Week! As the flyer shows September 10-25th only, we are giving our growers a chance to win up to \$15,000 for committing to buying your corn or soybeans at Valley Ag Supply. We will be calling customers during this time to set up meetings with growers and go over the details. Hybrids do not have to be picked out at this time, just an idea on number of bags. If you have a time that works good for you, please call and set something up so we can get you entered into the drawing.

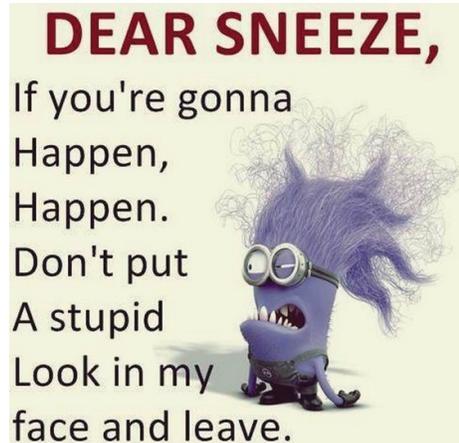
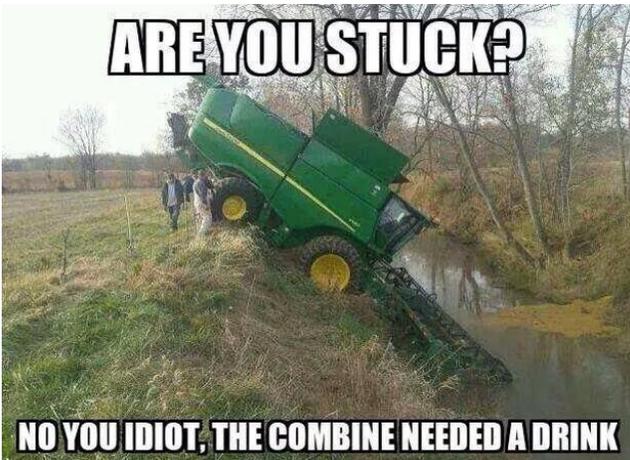
Bean Growth Chart





47261 SD Hwy 48
Elk Point, SD 57025

Valley Ag Supply's annual golf day was held August 28 at the gorgeous Glenridge Golf Course in Irene. Even though the day started a bit rainy and chilly, there were 52 golfers, and many more that showed up for lunch. Laura, with the help of Cathy on the grill, provided a meal of brat burgers, hamburgers, baked beans, chips, Seven-layer salad and cookies from Hyvee. Thank you for coming and we hope you had as much fun as we did!



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