

Newsletter

Pyrenees Hay Processors Co-operative Ltd.

Volume 1, Issue 3

19 December 2001

Office Phone 03 5465 3633



Seasons

Greetings

Welcome to our third Newsletter. After so many months of planning and organisation the business is slowly taking shape and looking good.

The site is almost completed, with only finishing touches required by electricians and plumbers. All 3 hay sheds are standing and we have filled one and a half sheds so far.

The plant has had a thorough maintenance program conducted by our Plant Manager Ken Wills and we believe it is now in tip top shape, to handle this season with force.

We have started filling containers, and are pleased to say that our first consignment of 5 containers should be processed before Christmas and arrive in Japan mid January. A most exciting time for all.

HAY STORAGE ON SITE

We are pleased to advise that due to a lot of farmers storing hay on farm, we are able to accept more hay from growers who do not have on farm storage.

To store your hay here, you are required to notify the office of it's expected arrival date, expected tonnage, number of bales and which paddock it is from. Please ensure that if someone is carting for you,

SEED FOR NEXT YEAR - Still required

If your crops do not make the grade for export oaten hay this year, or it was too wet to cut the crop, it may be suitable to harvest for seed. Please ask David Jardine to inspect.

REJECTED HAY

If your hay is rejected, eg. Too grassy, please keep in contact with the Co-operative about selling it domestically. We have had a lot of interest from Dairy regions, if you would like assistance in selling your hay, please fax the specs of your hay, tonnes, feedtest results, reason for rejection etc to Caroline.

FEED TEST DISCOUNT

Sample bags, specific for Co-op hay are available at the office. All co-op members are entitled to a 15% discount on feed test costs. ****Correction:** As stated previously a cheque must be sent with the sample - this is not the case, Feedtest will bill the farmer, provided all contact details are completed on the form.

Co-op 15% discount price on NIR package

\$39.25 (inc GST)

Hay corers available through the Co-op \$120 (inc GST)

SAFETY VESTS

We shall be selling safety vests at \$10 + GST per vest from the office. It is advised, as it is required on site, that each truck have a vest left in it.

Marketing

It is pleasing to report that we are currently negotiating with International marketers, who have a proven track record of moving large volumes of hay and other stock feed produce around the world.

We have had a representative from their company down inspecting hay in the district and he positively received hay in the district.

He believes that weather damaged hay with black spot is saleable, as is yellow stained hay with black spot. Provided the black spot and yellowing is not excessive the hay will be accepted at the Co-op now.

If you have yellow hay or black spotted hay that you are concerned about, continue to treat it as export hay and have David Jardine out to look at it. Feedtests are required on all hay.

REMEMBER ALL HAY MUST BE BALED AT 12% OR UNDER

The reason for this, is that as it goes over the equator the temperature, rises and falls and the moisture rises and falls and if the hay is too high in moisture it effectively 'rains' on itself, due to condensation, as the temperature changes, which results in slushy hay when it arrives in Japan.

Contact Details for PHPC

Caroline Coggins 0438 653 330
General Manager

David Jardine 0429 653 633
Hay Manager

Ken Wills 0427 326 343
Plant Manager

STRAW: If you are considering baling your wheat, barley etc straw, we may have a market for it. Stay tuned or speak to David Jardine about supplying it here.

WorkSafe

We have had a few visits by WorkSafe Victoria, to inspect the plant and I am pleased to inform you that we have had the "thumbs up". They were very pleased with the modifications made to the plant so far and the guards which have been fitted to prevent an accident. They even said that they may use PHPC as a demonstration site, which is a great pat on our backs!

CHRISTMAS BREAK

We shall be closed over the Christmas period, resuming full operation on Jan 2nd.

However, hay deliveries can be made by contacting Ken Wills or David Jardine prior to arriving at the site.

Merry Christmas to all our members from everyone at PHPC, may the new year be prosperous for all.

Reminders:

- All visitors must report to office and sign in.
- No children or passengers are permitted to leave vehicles.
- All truck drivers **must** wear safety vests while out of vehicle.
- Truck drivers **MUST NOT** wander into the plant shed while it is operational, they must stay in the truck or at a safe point, in view of the loader and other traffic.
- If waiting to be unloaded drivers may wait in the office.
- Trucks must be swept down, once they have tared off, broom provided opposite the office.
- The site is a **non-smoking** site.
- No unauthorised personnel are permitted in the processing shed.