

VeraSun to auction plants

VeraSun Energy plans to auction seven of the eight ethanol plants it bought last year from U.S. BioEnergy, including Iowa facilities at Albert City and Dyersville, as the next step in its bankruptcy reorganization. The plants have been idle since late 2008. VeraSun received approval for the auction from a bankruptcy court judge. Time line for the sale includes filing a motion for the sale, conducting an auction on or before March 16, obtaining a sale order and a target date of closing the sale by March 31.

News Briefs**Limit manure application**

A proposal by Iowa's Environmental Protection Commission to ban surface applications of manure on frozen or snow-covered ground from Feb. 15 to April 15 and during other situations when runoff is likely is advancing through the rule-making process. It would apply to confinement feeding operations that are required to submit manure management plans. The two

livestock farmers on the EPC panel have raised objections to the proposed rule. "In general, most farmers try to do the right thing," says Dave Petty, an Eldora cattle farmer. "By putting dates in the rule, we're eliminating all operations from making the best possible choice. Anytime we eliminate best options and put everyone in a lesser category, we don't get the best environmental results." Iowa Department of Natural Resources officials say the date restriction is justified based on data showing that 50% of runoff occurs during late winter. The

scope of other application periods varies depending on slope of land and whether manure is solid or liquid. EPC Chairman Henry Marquard considers the proposed rule an open book and would consider revisions based on public comments received. DNR will accept comments on the rule until April and will likely hold six public hearings around Iowa in March and early April. Comments on the rule may be e-mailed to Claire Hruby at claire.hruby@dnr.iowa.gov. Under the rule, ground is considered "frozen" when the soil is impenetrable.

FIND A TRIMBLE PRECISION AG DEALER IN YOUR AREA.

Agri-Tech Solutions
Onawa, IA
712.423.3934
tom@atsgps.net

FECO LTD
Oelwein, IA
319.283.4863
FECOLT@MSN.COM

Heartland Agri Supply
Ames, IA
800.779.7979
rbengtson@heartlandagames.com

Heartland Co-op
Des Moines, IA
800.513.3938
rlemke@heartlandcoop.com

Heartland Technologies Solutions
Harlan, IA
712.744.3619
agittins@heartlandtechnologies.com

Kunau Implement
DeWitt, IA
563.659.2866
rbratthauer@kunauimplement.com

Lucas Automation
Blencoe, IA
712.452.2006
jason@lucas-automation.com

Mid Tech Services
New Hampton, IA
888.260.5390
brady@midtechservices.com

NCJC, Inc
Titonka, IA
515.886.2445
joegeoche@hickorytech.net

Or visit us online at
www.trimble.com



RIGHT ON THE MONEY



New! FmX Integrated Display

Choices. Future Proofed. Game Changing.

- Better visibility from a 35% larger and brighter screen housed in the same size box.
- Two GPS+GLONASS receivers built right in, so no need to buy more hardware.
- It works with both manual guidance and automated steering so it's easy to hook up to your existing steering system.

Strapped for Cash? A little technology can go a long way.

Get more out of the equipment you already own with the game-changing new FmX—for a fraction of the cost of a new tractor. As affordable as the FmX is, you'll be amazed that everything you need is already in the unit. A single display that controls your vehicle and the implement you're pulling. Simply upgrade by activating new services.

So if you've been holding off on making the leap to precision ag or upgrading your current system, the FmX is everything you've been waiting for—and more.

For more information, call 1-800-874-6253 or visit www.trimble.com/agriculture to learn more or find a reseller near you.

