



# Memberandum



Information for members and friends of Golden Growers Cooperative

Volume 19, Number 5

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## Deadline to return ADA is December 15th

The final day to change your 2014 corn delivery commitment is December 15th. Since December 15th falls on a Sunday, requests to change Annual Delivery Agreements (ADA) must be received at the Golden Growers' office no later than Monday, December 16, 2013.

In October each of you received your annual delivery election letter. A response is needed ONLY if you intend to change your delivery method.

For 2014, the Board set the Method A (physical delivery) Incentive Payment at \$0.05/bushel. Members who chose Method B (GGC serves as member's Agent to secure and deliver corn) will be charged a \$0.02/bushel Agency Fee.

## Method A Deliveries must be completed by December 31st

Members who select Method A (physical delivery) to fulfill their corn commitment have until the end of the year to complete deliveries. Bushels not delivered will be ineligible to receive allocated patronage income, the incentive payment, and will be subject to a \$0.10 penalty. For 2012 the combined loss was over 52¢ per undelivered bushel! For 2013, the combined losses are likely to be even higher.

By delivering, you will also be doing Melissa a big favor because tracking undelivered bushels through our accounting system is a huge headache for her!

## Annual Meeting set for March 26, 2014

Mark your calendars now for the Golden Growers Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 26th at the Courtyard by Marriott in Moorhead, MN. We intend to make our annual meeting a meaningful event where members can learn more about the corn milling and sweetener industries important to GGC's continued success.

We are also introducing something new this year. We are planning "short courses" that will occur in the morning prior to the start of our Annual Meeting. These are 15 minute presentations with a short time reserved for Q&A.

Tentatively, our short courses will include:

- How can practicing SAFETY FIRST reduce my workers compensation costs?—Presented by *Agrasure*
- Using Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRAs) to reduce health care costs—Presented by *AgriPlanNOW*
- A corn market outlook—Presented by *Cargill*

We think you will enjoy these presentations. In addition our presenters will be available to visit with you one on one during the remainder of the meeting.

## Other Important Dates

December 16, 2013—Last day to change 2014 Annual Delivery Agreements  
March 15, 2014—Last day to submit transfer requests for March Board action  
March 25, 2014—Board of Directors Meeting

**District Director Elections** Every year at our Annual Meeting, Members have the opportunity to re-elect or elect Directors to serve on the Golden Growers Board. Current directors eligible for re-election are: **Shaun Beauclair** of Steven, MN in the NE District; **Bernie DeCock** of Ghent, MN in the SE District; **Chris Johnson** of Wahpeton, ND in the SW District; **Glenn Johnson** of Mayville, ND in the NW District, and **Mark Harless** of Moorhead, MN in the EC District.

Any member in good standing is eligible to be nominated for the Board in the district where their membership is registered. If you are interested in serving on the Board or want more information about district elections, visit the Growers Website at [www.goldengrowers.com](http://www.goldengrowers.com) or contact:

**Scott Stofferahn**: 800-580-2676 or [scotts@goldengrowers.com](mailto:scotts@goldengrowers.com)

### **Pat Benedict Memorial Scholarship Fund**

December is a time when many of you are making final decisions about charitable giving. **The Pat Benedict Memorial Scholarship Fund is an excellent option for you to consider.** Pat was a tremendous agricultural and community leader. His leadership was essential to the creation of Golden Growers and ProGold. Scholarships from the fund will assist NDSU students with an agricultural background pursue their academic dreams.

**Note:** *ND Residents qualify for a 40% Charitable Income tax credit.*

For more information on how you can contribute, click the “Links” tab on the Golden Growers website ([www.goldengrowers.com](http://www.goldengrowers.com)).

### **Farming operations can save money through the use of Health Reimbursement Arrangement**

*Now is the time to consider enrolling.*

Golden Growers Cooperative utilizes the services of AgriPlanNOW to administer their Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) employee benefit plan. HRA’s allow a farm or small business to reimburse health insurance, long term care insurance, and dental insurance premiums. In addition, the HRA reimburses documented non-insured medical expenses. HRA contributions are a deductible business expense for the business. To the employee, HRA’s provide a pre-tax employee benefit.

Sole proprietors, family farm corporations, LLCs, and partnerships are particularly well suited to take advantage of HRAs. A typical situation could include a business owner’s spouse who becomes an employee in the business (in a corporation the owner may be the employee). The business owner provides defined duties and a reasonable taxable wage. The W-2 employee is now eligible for HRA reimbursement of medical related expenses. On average, an AgriPlanNOW HRA saves participants over \$5000 per year.

For more information on how HRAs can help your operation, visit [www.agriplan-bizplan.com](http://www.agriplan-bizplan.com) or contact Eric Herrmann at [eherrman@eot.com](mailto:eherrman@eot.com).

### **Corn Production Photo Contest**

Last year GGC held its first photo contest for images of corn and corn production. Winners had their photos featured in the GGC Annual Report. We’re doing it again and **we’ll pay \$150 for each photo we use!**

Please send your favorite digital images to [scotts@goldengrowers.com](mailto:scotts@goldengrowers.com) by January 15th to be entered in the contest!

#### **memberandum:**

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