

# GILMAN CO-OP CREAMERY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## MAY 2025

### A NOTE FROM THE CORNER OFFICE,

Thank you all for your patronage!

April showers bring May flowers, but what did the early April snow bring? Besides a shock to the system? On the brighter side of things, the forecast looks promising! There is so much to look forward to with spring here! We are ready for all your spring needs here at the Coop! We have all of your seed needs covered from plants, veggies, small grains, forages, corn, soybeans, and food plot seed! Our knowledgeable staff is here to help you with whatever you're looking for!

Don't forget the fertilizer! We have several different types to fit your every need in this department! We have bags for the lawn, food plot, garden, and even your crops! If you're looking for bulk fertilizer, give our sister company a call for all of your crop needs! Mille Lacs Soil Service Assn. (320) 294-5511. Their friendly staff will help in any way possible!

Thank you again to all of you who make our little world go around! We appreciate your business very much!

Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers out there!

As we head into the fields here soon, please remember to be safe! Whether you're putting in long hours or driving on the roads with those people, be safe! All of your loved ones want you to come home every night!

Have a safe and productive spring!

Adam Bonovsky

### EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & DATES

#### MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday, May 11

#### MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 26  
OPEN 8:00am-3:00pm

#### FAMILY DAY

Saturday, June 14  
10:00am-2:00pm

### FSA DATES, DEADLINES, & MESSAGES

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The Gilman Coop Creamery



9920 115th St NE Gilman, MN

Connect  
With Us!



"The customer always comes first and deserves  
the utmost respect."

- Adam Bonovsky, Manager

## A WORD WITH RYLEE,

Happy Mother's Day to all of the selfless mothers out there!

The spring rush is officially here, and we are ready for it! The store begins to get a little fuller each week with new products for us to share with you!

May is Beef Month at the Gilman Creamery, so Lydia has all kinds of in-store specials ready for you! We would also like to give a special shout out to all of the hard-working beef farmers out there!

Thanks to all of you for your continued patronage, and stay safe this spring!

Happy planting!

## FROM THE FINANCIAL TEAM,

Hello May!

We would first like to wish all of the farmers good luck during the planting season, and to be safe out there!

Just a reminder that when picking up seed and chemicals, you have your slip with you. We want to ensure that you are getting the right product. This will also help to make sure billing is correct and runs smoothly. If you do see any billing errors, contact us as soon as possible.

We want to wish all of the mothers a very happy Mother's Day! Stop in and grab them something special for their very special day.

Have a great planting season and enjoy the spring!

Judy + Joe

*Thank You For Your Patronage!*

**-TEAM GILMAN**

**Ben Wuebkers**

**Purina; Livestock Production Specialist**

Feeding a milk replacer has many advantages over feeding whole milk to your calves. Some of these advantages are mitigating diseases passed through the milk to the calves, higher growth rates, additional vitamins and minerals, and products added for a healthy gut biome. I have personally seen these advantages as both a herd manager and as a nutritionist out in the field working with other herds.

Disease prevention is critical for the wellbeing of your calves. We want to reduce the amount of stress as much as we can on our calves, so that they can grow up to be the best versions of themselves that they can be. Some diseases that can be passed through the milk are Johne's, Bovine Tuberculosis, Salmonella, Clostridium, and possibly avian influenza. All of these can put your calves at risk of a weakened immune system, causing some serious setbacks or even death if not addressed in a timely manner. I have worked with a few producers who have struggled with some of these issues for many years, and by switching to a milk replacer, have controlled some of these potential risk factors.

Another benefit is consistency of the milk replacer can be less variable than feeding whole or waste milk to the calves. Most dairy producers see the swings in butter fat and protein throughout the year due to the weather conditions or a change in the feed being fed to the lactation cows. These changes can also cause some issues in our calves by either receiving too many solids when components are high or underfeeding when components drop. Also, different cows that are used to feed calves have varying levels of SCC and this can also cause some issues. Are these cows with high SCC inoculating the gut with some pathogens that could be causing the calves to scour? They could be.

There is still another option out there if you still want to utilize whole/pasturized milk and receive a lot of the same benefits as a milk replacer. Milk balancer is a product that can be used to fortify the whole milk. By adding a milk balancer, you can bring in more vitamins and minerals, add a coccidiostat, prebiotics/probiotics, and fly control. Milk is short on 7 different trace minerals for the requirements of calves, which a milk balancer can bring in. I have seen calves both on the dairy I managed and out in the field, over 10% heavier at weaning, just by adding the balancer. The most shocking result I saw was when these calves fed a balancer were part of the milking herd; they were producing 5-7 more pounds of milk per day than the same birth month cows that didn't receive the balancer.

If you are tired of hand mixing your milk replacer or doing small batches at a time, Purina is running a promotion on a milk replacer mixing vat right now. We have a few different sizes available, ranging from 32 gallons to 150 gallons. Feel free to contact me about details and see if you qualify to receive one for free.

Ben Wuebkers 320-248-0436