



Rice County Aerial Sprayers pilot-mechanic Spencer Maxwell inspects the engine compartment on one of the yellow crop-dusting planes used in the operation.

A DIVISION OF MKC

Rice County Aerial LLC serves local and regional farmers

Rice County Aerial LLC (RCA), located at the Rice County airport, started in Lyons in 1998 as an add-on to Bill Hoeffner’s Ellinwood Flying Service, which has been serving Rice County since 1981. That partnership ended in January of 2011 when Hoeffner kept Rice County Aerial Sprayers and his partner kept the Ellinwood business. Last fall the business became a division of MKC, however, Hoeffner still manages the day to day operation of the company. Heather Howard is the office manager. RCA uses three turbine spray planes

in the operation. They added the turbine planes in 2010 which increased their efficiency by 40 percent. The bigger planes carry a payload of 500 gallons and travel across a field at 150 miles per hour. Rice County Aerial LLC provides pasture spraying in the spring and fall, mainly for musk thistle control and crop spraying from March through Thanksgiving. By that time, most everything is dormant. The business serves a twelve county area from Great Bend to Marion, and from Wichita to north of Salina.

Jerry Kuckelman promoted to President & CEO

Luke Knight promoted to Manager at Knight Feed Lot

Barry Vratil hired to Manage Ag Systems, Inc.

Risk Management Office in Great Bend Expanded

Great Bend Feeding expands to 47,000 capacity

Bronson Smith promoted to Farm Manager

Senator Jerry Moran tours Great Bend Feeding

ILS acquires Ag Systems, Inc.



ILS

INNOVATIVE LIVESTOCK SERVICES, INC.

~ About us in 2015 ~

ILS has grown into an organization with a feeding capacity of 180,000 head and a farming operation that exceeds 34,000 acres of dry land and irrigated crop production. Strong leadership and experienced drives ILS and allows for the flexibility and capital required to meet the ever changing market demands necessary to satisfy our customers.

The ILS management team and its employees are dedicated to the principles that made all of its individual feed yards successful for over 57 years.

Each business unit independently focuses on quality and customer service to maintain established business relationships. However, by working together it allows each feed yard to provide a broader line of products and services to long-term customers and new customers alike. These economies of scale provide the framework for greater efficiency and improved cattle performance. We believe this vertically integrated business structure is the way of the future with modern agriculture.

At ILS, we believe there is no nobler of a profession than to grow quality food for man.

This is what we do and we do it very well!

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