

THE NORTH DAKOTA Soybean GROWER MAGAZINE

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Renewable Fuel Volumes Announced

In early April, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that it had reached a consent decree (CD) in a lawsuit with petroleum groups; the agreement legally binds the agency to meet a deadline of June 1 for proposing 2014 and 2015 Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) volumes. The EPA also announced an aggressive and encouraging new timeline to establish biomass-based diesel volumes through 2017.

The announcement has three parts. Part one (the CD) does the following:

- Requires the EPA to have a final 2014 and 2015 program in place by Nov. 30, 2015
- Requires the EPA to propose the 2015 Renewable Volume Obligations (RVO) by June 1, 2015
- Requires the EPA to address the waiver request by November 30, 2015

Part two (not in the CD) does the following:

- States that the EPA will finalize the 2016 RVO process by November 30, 2015
- States that the EPA will propose the 2016 RVO by June 1, 2015

Part three (not in the CD) does the following:

- States that the EPA will finalize the 2017 biomass-based diesel program by Nov. 30, 2015
- States that the EPA will propose the 2017 biomass-based diesel program by June 1, 2015

National Biodiesel Board Vice President of Federal Affairs Anne Steckel says that the EPA announcement is a positive development that appears to demonstrate the EPA's commitment to ending these delays and moving the RFS forward. The announcement significantly expands the agency's earlier statements of proposing the 2014,

2015 and 2016 volumes by June 21 and would get the agency back on track with the statutorily required biodiesel deadlines.

Ongoing questions will remain about the volume levels proposed by the EPA, but the agency has reiterated that, by June 1, it will re-propose volume requirements for 2014 that reflect the volumes of renewable fuel that were actually used in 2014. The volume for biomass-based diesel used in 2014

was approximately 1.75 billion gallons, so the EPA reaffirming its commitment to actual use appears to be a step in the right direction.

Under the FRS, the EPA is supposed to finalize biomass-based diesel volumes 14 months in advance of the applicable year. The agency is late in setting biodiesel volumes for 2014, 2015 and 2016. It is also late in establishing the 2014 and 2015 volumes for other RFS fuel categories.



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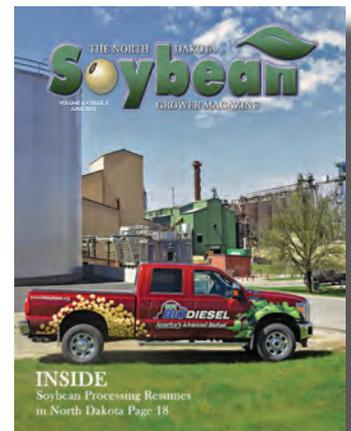
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On the Cover: Archer Daniels Midland is now offering soybean contracts at its Northern Sun Division in Enderlin, N.D. Soybeans are crushed in the green building.



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BIODIESEL IS A GREAT RESOURCE

North Dakota soybean production has been a great success story. Developing different varieties for the geographical areas greatly enhanced this success by increasing acreage, increasing yield potential and providing protection from disease and pests.

Now, we have to look at how our beans are used after they are harvested. As most of you know, a majority of the beans are railed to ports and shipped overseas. While our international customers represent a good market opportunity, we also need to look at other options, such as the ability to crush soybeans, in North Dakota.

If we had processing facilities in North Dakota, it would be a great benefit for producers. Although we have great soybean markets overseas and in portions of the United States, in-state marketing opportunities would be beneficial to producers' bottom lines. This outcome stands true for all North Dakota crops.

As producers, we need to take advantage of our own resources. Biodiesel is a great resource that is provided by farmers. Technological advances with biodiesel mean this product has a great opportunity to perform well in the diesel market.

If you don't already, I would encourage you to use biodiesel in your vehicles, tractors and any other equipment. If you have any questions about biodiesel, please contact the Diesel Helpline: 1-800-929-3437 or info@megcorpnmn.com because the helpline is a great resource to provide additional information and to answer any questions you may have.

Our future success hinges on the use of our products. This success can continue if we support our industries, not only for biodiesel but for any product or byproduct that is produced locally.



Craig Olson
President

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More Members Mean More Information

Reynolds, North Dakota, farmer Luke Kuster believes in giving back. Whether it's time, money or talent, Kuster has a passion for serving his industry. To do that, Kuster leads by example. He's in the last year of his second, three-year term as a member of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA) Board of Directors and currently serves as the board's secretary.

Kuster got involved with the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association when his good friend, Jason Nelson, asked him to come to a meeting. Kuster became a member right away and was elected to the board shortly thereafter.

Kuster says that membership is important. NDSGA members pay \$200 for a three-year membership or \$75 for a one-year membership. Those funds contribute to the organization being able to monitor the bills moving through the state legislature in Bismarck. Kuster sees funding for rural roads and bridges, water use and drainage as a few major issues facing the state's soybean farmers. As agricultural equipment has gotten larger, rural roads and bridges haven't been able to keep pace. Many bridges aren't rated to



Luke Kuster

hold the weight of larger equipment or fully loaded semis that are hauling soybeans home or to the elevator. Because of the organization's current membership, NDSGA is able to be in Bismarck protecting the members' needs and rights.

In 2014, North Dakota moved into the fourth ranking nationwide for the number of planted soybean acres. With the increased acres, there is more interest in learning more about growing soybeans. Membership provides several opportunities to learn through small, local meetings; regional sessions or even statewide meetings that bring members together.

When you become a member of NDSGA, you also become a member of

the American Soybean Association (ASA). ASA helps soybean farmers in Washington, D.C., by monitoring legislation that has the potential to impact, positively or negatively, NDSGA members. The Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Waters of the U.S. rule is one current example of legislation that ASA is monitoring for its soybean-grower members. Trade Promotion Authority (fast track) legislation is another example. The Trans Pacific Partnership as well as the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership's ongoing international trade negotiations are two more examples of topics that the ASA monitors for its soybean-grower

members.

Kuster says that NDSGA membership is also important because more organization members mean that the NDSGA has a bigger base of information and input from which to form policy. That base results in better information. Better information means better policy. Better policy means more support from members.

For the past 10 years, Kuster has been farming the land his great grandfather took over in 1943. He farms with his grandfather, Gerald Kuster, and uncles, Loren and Leroy Kuster. They raise corn, soybeans, sugarbeets, navy beans and wheat.

Luke and his wife, Sarah, have two kids, Madelynn and Brayden. Because he is a member, his kids will be eligible to compete for an annual \$5,000 NDSGA scholarship at NDSU when they are older.

Kuster encourages all soybean growers to consider NDSGA membership. More information about how to become a member of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association and the benefits of membership is available at <http://ndsoygrowers.com/about-us/become-a-member/>.

It Ain't over Till It's . . .

The 64th Legislative Session came to a strange ending after 78 days. One bill remained to have its differences worked out after the House adjourned. The session was dominated by the impact of reduced commodity prices, especially oil, and the projected drop in state revenue. Reductions in the March revenue forecast led to a \$1.3 billion reduction from the December budget proposal, ultimately ending at \$14.4 billion.

Roots of our legislative harvest go back three sessions for infrastructure needs. Rural road and bridge infrastructure needs were updated, and funding was appropriated for counties and townships across North Dakota. A critical Road and Bridge Asset Management Program was initiated to track needs, improvements and multijurisdictional collaborative work.

Producer inputs were the genesis for the Ag Research and Extension budgets. The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education fielded those inputs and wove them into an effective proposal. Strong legislative support yielded capital funding for a critically needed Veterinary Diagnostic



NDSGA Legislative Director Scott Rising was interviewed by many members of the media during the 64th Legislative Session.

Lab, foundation seed cleaning equipment and an opportunity to complete a needed agronomy facility in Streeter. Other core people, equipment and projects were also funded.

Two fortunate, but unusual, opportunities surfaced for research-related land purchases. The Dickinson Research Extension Center was authorized to convey needed school expansion land in Dickinson to the school district and to purchase a ranch southeast of Richardton for the center's research

needs. The Langdon Research Extension Center had a unique opportunity to acquire adjacent land that it has been renting for some time. The Langdon facility will need to raise funds to complete that purchase. If you have a desire to help, please email the director, randall.mehlhoff@ndsu.edu, for more information.

The top ag-policy story from the legislative session was the approval of corporate opportunities for our dairy and swine industries. The beef checkoff was enhanced at

the state level, allowing the Beef Commission additional, needed budgetary options. An Environmental Impact Litigation Fund and advisory committee were established in the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. Legislators worked the "buzz" of the Apiary law rewrite, bee-hive placement proposals, honey assessments and tweaks to the industrial hemp law.

It seems that everyone brought a tax-reduction proposal to Bismarck in January. The 1.5 percent Oil and Gas Extraction Tax reduction took center stage in the session's waning days when the bill was introduced and passed. The governor's Property Tax Taskforce bill eliminated unused, consolidated and capped (without voter approval) dozens of mill levies, providing reform and promoting a better understanding of property taxes. Individual and corporate income taxes were reduced. Property tax relief continued with the school mill levy buy-downs, a direct 12 percent reduction and \$23 million of social service cost absorption by the state. The total property tax relief topped a billion dollars.

Rescue Weed Treatment Starts with Scouting Fields

After spraying glyphosate on soybeans, growers may have a tendency to delay scouting the field for weeds. If there is any resistant ragweed, waterhemp or any other resistant weed, they're not going to slow down. Rich Zollinger, weed specialist with the North Dakota State University Extension Service, says that, if those weeds get above 2-to-3 inches, an emergency, sequential herbicide application will not kill them.

Zollinger uses the example of Flexstar, which has kind of become the "rescue" herbicide. "Flexstar is a contact herbicide; it doesn't translocate like Raptor and Pursuit and some others. Contact herbicides are really good on small weeds, 1-to-2, maybe 3-inch weeds," says Zollinger. "But, if the weed gets above 3 inches, you're going to burn the leaves but not kill the growing points. You may set them back for a week or two, but then, they will come back and be a worse problem."

Another issue with contact herbicides such as Flexstar is water volume. Researchers say that a low water volume makes

glyphosate work better, but Zollinger says that you have to reverse that line of thinking for contact herbicides such as Flexstar. Fifteen to 20 gallons of water make Flexstar more effective.

Zollinger also says that growers may have to be willing to accept some crop injury to control weed escapes. "The Roundup era has created a grower perception that herbicides will not injure crops. Roundup has been very safe; it kills most all the weeds, without injuring the crops."

Before Roundup, growers used Cobra and Blazer for broadleaf weed control, and Zollinger says that leaf burn on the crop was accepted as part of killing weeds. "Some growers have forgotten about the soybean burn from contact herbicides, and our new generation of growers was not around when we used Flexstar, Cobra and Blazer, and they don't want to injure the crop," according to Zollinger. "But, if they want to kill weeds using contact-type rescue herbicides, more than likely they will cause some leaf burn."

Adjuvants may also affect crop injury. Surfactants are not as

"hot" on herbicide activity, so crop injury may be less; as a result, the full potential of the herbicide will be less. Oil adjuvants are more effective with most herbicides but may also cause more crop injury, however the weed control would be better, especially with a methylated seed oil adjuvant, if the label allows that type of adjuvant.

There are a lot of different adjuvant classifications, says Zollinger. "When I teach adjuvants to growers, I simplify the categories to surfactants, oil concentrates and fertilizer. That's basically what the three divisions of adjuvants are." Each adjuvant has a function and will enhance herbicides. Oil adjuvants will always work better than surfactants with all herbicides except Liberty and paraquat herbicides. In fact, all that Liberty needs is ammonium sulfate if you're growing LibertyLink soybeans. Paraquat only requires a surfactant.

If glyphosate doesn't kill the weeds, Zollinger says that there are really only four herbicides labeled for post-emergent

weed control: "Basagran, Raptor/Pursuit, FirstRate and Flexstar. Cobra and Blazer are also in the same family as Flexstar, and have a PPO-inhibitor mode of action." Flexstar is likely used the most because it gives better kochia control than Cobra and Blazer.

Dry growing seasons create more hardened-off weeds, weeds that are not actively growing. Zollinger says that any weed that is not actively growing will be harder to kill, so size becomes an even bigger issue. "A 3-inch weed that is actively growing will be much easier to kill than a 3-inch weed that has been drought-stressed," says Zollinger.

Zollinger says that growers usually see the total effect of glyphosate herbicide 10 to 14 days after application, or seven to 10 days if temperatures are hotter. Scouting fields seven to 10 days after the herbicide application will show growers what weeds have died and what weeds are still living. "That small weed stage will allow growers time to apply Flexstar or other rescue treatments for good weed management until crop canopy," Zollinger says.



DEAR VALUED SOYBEAN PRODUCERS:

With biodiesel being the focus of this issue, it is the perfect opportunity to show how your checkoff dollars are being used to support this industry for your benefit. The North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) works with the National Biodiesel Board (NBB) to support programs that are designed to provide for the biodiesel industry's long-term success. These programs include the following activities:

ADVANCED BIOFUELS ACCELERATION

Develop an advertising campaign that promotes advanced biofuels as well as directing outreach to key groups in order to counter inaccurate and/or misleading attacks on biodiesel.

SUSTAINABILITY ANALYSIS

Biodiesel production and use are growing, and misinformation exists regarding advanced biofuels. This project will counter the allegations that biodiesel will harm the world's food supply or the environment; foster independent scientific analysis and awareness; and build stronger relationships with scientists, academics and environmental organizations to combat misperceptions and strengthen alliances in order to promote cleaner fuels.

INDUSTRY COMMUNICATIONS

Maintaining awareness and positive impressions about biodiesel is a key focus. Enhancing public perception by sharing science-based information and promoting factual data about biodiesel will be done to 1) ensure that biodiesel remains competitive, 2) prevent biodiesel from being labeled a "conventional or first generation fuel" and 3) increase the awareness and perception of biodiesel.

RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD EDUCATION AND ANALYSIS

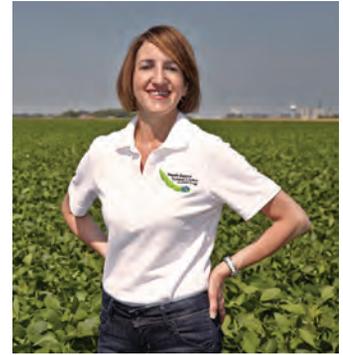
This project will provide technical, economic and market analysis, along with the education, communication and outreach necessary to continue growing the biodiesel industry and integrating biodiesel into the national energy portfolio. The project will also develop and communicate research that demonstrates the benefits of increased biodiesel production.

WHAT THESE INVESTMENTS MEAN TO YOU

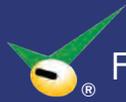
The national Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) increased the demand for bio-based diesel fuel to nearly 1.8 billion gallons in 2013. Soybean oil remains the predominant feedstock utilized by U.S. biodiesel producers. This use of soybean oil has been beneficial for soybean profitability. A 2012 Informa Economics study showed that, from late 2006-07 to 2011-12, the combined impact of biodiesel on the price of soybean oil was, on average, an increase of 12.9 cents per pound, which increased the price of soybeans by \$0.74 per bushel and decreased the price of soybean meal by \$25/ton. This contribution is at stake if 1) the biodiesel industry were to contract or collapse due to a lack of economic viability or policy support or 2) if using soybean oil for biodiesel was restricted or excluded for sustainability issues in either RFS2 or state mandates such as in California.

Biodiesel is a hedge against your energy and input costs, and helps support the crushing industry in the United States. The NDSC will continue working on your behalf to support this important industry.

Have a wonderful summer!



Diana Beitelspacher
Chief Executive Officer
North Dakota
Soybean Council



Farmer-Funded Projects Drive Innovations in Soy Chemistry, Keep Industrial Demand on the Rise

What does foam that keeps floors from squeaking have in common with NASCAR racing tires? Both contain soybean oil. Both are on the list of 33 new products that were commercialized in 2014 with soy checkoff support. Both are driving the demand for U.S. soybeans.

Since 1990, more than 800 soy-based products have been developed with checkoff support. United Soybean Board (USB) Director Jay Myers, a soybean farmer from Colfax, North Dakota has seen advancements firsthand and anticipates even more soy-based product development in the future.

“Biodiesel is a high-volume new use,” explains Jay Myers. “Other products may use smaller amounts of soy, like carpet backing, paint



NASCAR racing tires: Soybean oil used in rubber compounds by Goodyear Tire & Rubber.

and concrete-release forms, but have higher value. The demand for U.S. soy here and abroad continues to increase thanks to the market increase for ingredients like soy polyols in industries ranging from

automotive to furniture manufacturers.” Checkoff-funded research continues to pay dividends as manufacturers look for ways to displace industry standards such as petroleum, latex and

mineral oil in their products. Raw materials from sustainable soy provide environmental benefits and have been proven to perform as well as the ingredients they replace in a wide range of products and at a comparable cost. In fact, some soy-based perform even better.

Browse USB’s “Soy Products Guide”, an online catalog for thousands of currently available soy-based products, ingredients and manufacturers. Log on to www.soynewuses.org/soy-products-guide/



Eco Silencer HD FOF™: A high-density-foam underlayment for floors by Foam Products Corp.



North Dakota Soybean council Supports Renovation Project at 4-H Camp

Major improvements at the North Dakota 4-H Camp have become a reality, thanks to generous sponsors such as the North Dakota Soybean Council.

As part of this project, the North Dakota 4-H Foundation has purchased soy-based paints and soy-based carpeting. The facility's interior, including the renovated cabins, the dining hall and kitchen, as well as the new Johnsrud Education Center and new cabins, all feature the soy-based paint.

"We really appreciate what the North Dakota Soybean Council has done for us, along with our other sponsors," said Duane Hauck, North Dakota State University Extension Service director emeritus. "The project was really needed for our campers."

The camp, which spans 84 acres along the banks of the Missouri River near Washburn, was established in 1967.

The residential 4-H camp's primary purpose is to provide educational, outdoor recreation and leadership opportunities for youth. It's the only 4-H camp in North Dakota. In

recent years, camp attendance has grown significantly along with the demand for a space that can be used year-round.

"For some time, there has been a dramatic need to enhance the learning environment available for 4-H students," Hauck said. "The camp facilities were severely lacking, as there hadn't been any updates since the camp was established."

The desire for safe, wholesome and comfortable facilities resulted in plans to modernize the existing facilities and to construct a modern learning and

conference center. These improvements will help enhance the 4-H learning environment, increase the camp's capacity to accommodate larger youth groups, provide

access to people of all abilities and ensure a safe camping facility.

On May 31, the camp welcomed campers for the 2015 season.



Soy-based paint used at 4-H camp.



Renovated cabins all feature soy-based paint.



RLND Seeking Participants for Seventh Class

If you want to improve your farm or ranch operation, business, organization or community and to develop your personal skills, the North Dakota State University Extension Service's Rural Leadership North Dakota program can help.

Rural Leadership North Dakota (RLND) is looking for participants for its seventh class which begins in November.

RLND is an 18-month leadership-development program that prepares leaders for North Dakota's future. The program includes in-state seminars with experts; tours of agricultural and community businesses; out-of-state trips (Washington, D.C., and Minneapolis in 2016) to meet with agriculture, business and government leaders; and a trip to another country (destination to be determined) to learn about international agricultural and community issues. Previous classes have visited Brazil, Costa Rica and Panama.

The program helps participants enhance their leadership skills, such as thinking critically and creatively, communicating



North Dakota Soybean Council director and past RLND class member Matt Danuser in Washington, D.C. in 2012.

effectively, self-awareness, decision making, strategic planning and managing conflict. Participants also learn about agricultural and rural policy, the agricultural economy and future trends that could affect North Dakota. They also learn innovative ways to fund local and regional development projects, marketing, civic engagement, the value of coalitions and partnerships, industry and community advocacy, and how to work with the state legislature.

In addition, participants create a network of contacts and resources that they can continue to tap for ideas,

answers and support long after they graduate from the program.

"Rural Leadership North Dakota is the premier statewide leadership program in North Dakota," says Marie Hvidsten, RLND program director. "If you are seeking a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn more about yourself, the state, country and world to help move North Dakota forward, then we want you in Class VII of the RLND program."

North Dakota Soybean Council director Matt Danuser of Marion, North Dakota is a past RLND class member. "Rural Leadership North Dakota has given me the

knowledge, contacts, and motivation to get involved and make a difference in my local community and state," say Danuser. "Through my experience with RLND, I got to know and work with other outstanding leaders from around the state. I also got to see firsthand how leaders are helping their communities. You will also get to know your state and travel to see how leaders are making impacts nationally and internationally. If you can manage the commitment, you definitely would relish the experience!"

Tuition for the RLND program is \$3,750. That cost covers all meals, hotels and travel expenses, such as buses during in-state seminars and airfare to out-of-state seminars.

The deadline to apply for the class of 2015-17 is June 15. Applicants must have been a state resident for at least a year and must be able to attend all of the seminars.

For more information, or to register or nominate someone for the class, visit RLND's website at www.ag.ndsu.edu/rlnd; send an email to ndsuaruralleadership@ndsu.edu; or call (701) 231-5803.



Accurate Testing of Bridges Could Increase Farmers' Profitability

There are a lot of factors in agriculture that farmers can't control. When a farmer has conquered countless unpredictable scenarios—drought, flood, snow and hail—it only becomes that much more frustrating and expensive when he or she travels to the local grain elevator and comes to an impassable bridge.

A new soy-checkoff-funded study on rural bridges found that the weight limits making many of these bridges impassable for farmers could be too low.

Mike Appert, a Hazelton, North Dakota soybean grower, vice chairman of the North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) and Soy Transportation Coalition (STC) board member, understands the inconvenience. "If farmers have to alter their route because of a bridge, that costs them extra time and fuel that was not accounted for. This can make a huge difference especially during our busy season, like harvest. The ability to haul more per load reduces per bushel freight cost."

Bridges are typically inspected visually. Because safety is the

"The ability to haul more per load reduces per bushel freight cost."

highest priority when analyzing a bridge structure, many people err on the side of caution when setting weight limits. The checkoff helped fund a study conducted by the STC to use a more precise test to set bridge restrictions and to remove guesswork from the equation.

The testing method developed by the Bridge Engineering Center at Iowa State University (ISU) involves attaching sensors to strategic points on a bridge. When trucks move across, the sensors record data about how the bridge responds. By getting a more detailed account of a bridge's status, there's the potential to remove unnecessary weight restrictions from rural bridges. This information can also help county departments of transportation determine which structures need repairs the most.

National Oilseed Processors Association President Tom Hammer says, "The knowledge and

methodologies gained from checkoff-funded studies, such as the accurate testing of bridges conducted by the STC, can increase safety and improve efficiency for farmers, processors and communities by providing more accurate testing methods of weight limits on existing bridges."

In a pilot project by the STC and the Iowa Department of Transportation, each of the three rural-Iowa bridges had its load limit lifted. With nearly three-quarters of the nation's 607,380 bridges in rural areas, similar outcomes in other states could have a big impact on farmers. A longtime checkoff partner, the STC plans to work closely with soybean boards in other states to test more rural bridges.

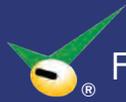
"Our goal is to see this more accurate way of testing bridges widely adopted in communities where the problem is more pronounced," says Mike Steenhoek, STC executive director.

"If a bridge is closed or load-limited, a 5- to 10-mile journey could easily increase to 20 or 30 miles or longer," says Steenhoek. "This results in additional costs being inserted into our nation's food-delivery system and diminished profitability for farmers."

While more costly than traditional methods on the front end, Brent Phares, director of the ISU Bridge Engineering Center, argues that the field test is worth the investment. "Over the course of a year, it doesn't take many vehicles to be impacted to basically pay for the cost of doing a more exact evaluation of a bridge."

Transportation is a major pillar of U.S. agriculture, and preventing bridges from being prematurely closed could improve efficiency for farmers. "Soy processing facilities operate 24/7, and our transportation infrastructure is key to continuing to maintain our competitive advantage," says Hammer.

Appert adds, "We can't let our transportation infrastructure deteriorate because it gives us such an advantage over our competitors."



Risk Exposure of Financial Failure for North Dakota Grain Handling

Grain and oilseed growers confront numerous risks. One risk is that buyers may become insolvent, resulting in losses for the grower. Most states, including North Dakota, have mechanisms that partially protect against these losses. However, the grain market has changed drastically, giving rise to increased risks.

Growers are becoming larger operators; crop mix has shifted toward corn, soybeans, canola and durum wheat; and price levels and volatility have increased for most agricultural commodities. These factors have resulted in an average North Dakota farmer's gross receipts increasing from \$100,000 in 1991 to \$803,351 in 2012 and being subject to higher variability. The grain-elevator industry is also experiencing trends toward consolidation and concentration into larger shuttle-loading facilities with higher volumes handled.

North Dakota has two basic programs to deal with buyer defaults. The first program includes licensing and bonding for grain warehouses and

grain buyers. This program requires warehouses and grain

buyers to be licensed and bonded based on the warehouse's storage

capacity and the 3-year average sale volume for grain buyers. The second





program is the North Dakota grain insurance fund which provides coverage for credit sales. The North Dakota grain insurance fund, or credit-sale indemnity fund, was established in 2003 to cover credit sales that were deferred for more than 30 days; the program has a maximum farmer payout.

The indemnity fund is particularly important in North Dakota and is subject to current North Dakota Public Service Commission proposals for change. The indemnity fund pays 80 percent of claims, up to a maximum of \$280,000 per producer.

The fund is financed by assessing \$2 per \$1,000 of credit-sale value. These funds are assessed when the fund started until a maximum is achieved; then, assessments are stopped until the fund drops to the minimum level when assessments are re-imposed. The initial maximum/minimum were \$10 and \$6 million, and these numbers were reduced to a maximum/minimum of \$6 and \$3 million in 2007. The fund's current value is \$3.6-\$4.5 million, or lower, depending on the outcomes for unresolved insolvencies.

The farmer's payout

limit with the indemnity fund is more limited now than in 2003 when the fund was created. The average claims paid from the indemnity fund per insolvency suggest that this limit has not been a big issue yet, although it has impacted the claim for one recent insolvency. The size of claims per insolvency on the indemnity fund has increased, with the largest claims being the most recent ones.

Most other states have either an indemnity fund or warehouse/grain-buyer bonding. States that focus on corn and soybeans tend to have indemnity funds while more traditional wheat-producing states tend toward bonding programs. Only two states (North Dakota and Oklahoma) have both.

The purpose of a study, which was co-funded by the North Dakota Soybean Council, was to identify the changes in relevant risks that confront grain and oilseed producers in North Dakota and to assess the adequacy of the mechanisms designed to mitigate these risks. The intent was not to prescribe specific changes but, rather, to identify those areas worthy of consideration for

legislative changes to assure protection for growers. It appears that the most important considerations for North Dakota include:

- 1) Increasing the maximum payment from the indemnity fund. Given the increases in producer size, production and market volatility, this value is probably inadequate. Indeed, given current market parameters, the maximum would have to increase to provide equivalent coverage as originally intended with this mechanism.
- 2) Several recent insolvencies that could potentially lower the indemnity fund's balance to near \$3.6 million, which is much less than earlier minimum levels at which assessments would be re-imposed.
- 3) Re-evaluating the structure of bonding mechanisms. Alternatives include considering
 - The commodity's value. Currently, the mechanisms in North Dakota are based on storage capacity (or sale volumes).
 - Whether to use indemnity funds or
- 4) Dry beans: This crop has greater risks than other crops. Other states' bonding requirements for dry beans are much greater than those requirements in North Dakota.

bonding, or to use both. Currently, North Dakota is one of the few states that has both mechanisms.

- Adding net-worth requirements. Typically, minimum net-worth requirements are imposed, and an additional bond is required to make up the difference for shortfalls in other states.
- The relationships between claims and the indemnity fund minimum/maximum suggest that, if the average payouts for claims increase, then the fund's minimums and maximums would likely need to increase in order to be consistent with other states.

- 4) Dry beans: This crop has greater risks than other crops. Other states' bonding requirements for dry beans are much greater than those requirements in North Dakota.

For more information, Agribusiness & Applied Economics Report 732 (October 2014) is available at <http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/handle/189418>



Weed Control for Food-Grade Soybeans is Critical in Early Summer

As planting wraps up and early season emergence brightens up your fields, weed control becomes critical for food-grade soybeans. With a strong germination and a good stand, weed control and disease management are much easier.

Northern Food Grade Soybean Association (NFGSA) member Bob Sinner of SB&B of Casselton, North Dakota, recommends three steps for the effective management of food-grade production during the early summer.

First, monitor your emerging stands. With a potentially wide window of available planting time, you might still have time to replant areas that did not germinate well. Second, begin scouting early for new emerging weeds. Knowing what spectrum of weeds need to be controlled is the first step to select the correct herbicide mix. Finally, Sinner says, "Farmers should scout field edges for potential contamination from adjoining fields and crops. If a checkstrip is necessary to eliminate

crossover seeding, getting this done early is much easier when plants are small."

While adding food-grade soybeans to your rotation can be a vital tool for minimizing weed resistance, NFGSA is engaged on many fronts of the food-grade soybean industry, including grower outreach and education, and working to meet the global demand for food-grade soybeans. Northern food-grade soybeans have a global reputation for being one of the highest-quality food products. Food-

grade soybeans can be processed into soymilk and tofu, tempeh and miso. As an ingredient for these products, food-grade soybeans deliver a premium for your farm business and thrive in your growing conditions.

To learn more about growing food-grade soybeans or to ask questions about this season's management, connect with NFGSA members at www.nfgsa.org/contact or on Facebook at facebook.com/foodgradesoybeans.





Safety with Spray Equipment and Overhead Power Line

Andrew Thostenson, pesticide program specialist with NDSU Extension Service, advises the following steps to stay safe when dealing with electrical hazards and spray equipment:

- Carefully observe power line locations before you enter the field.
- When setting up spray booms, maintain a minimum 10-foot clearance between your equipment and the power line. (Just because you do not physically come into contact with a line does not mean you are okay. Electricity can and will arc.)
- While 10 feet is a minimum, remember that it is difficult to judge distances when the end of the boom may be 50 or 60 feet from your cab location. Plus, the angle of your vision may be skewed or partially obstructed. Therefore, 25 feet of clearance would be desirable.
- If you arc or come into contact with a line, stop and call for help IMMEDIATELY on a cellular telephone or



- radio. Contact 911, indicating to the dispatcher that there is an electrical emergency.
- Instruct responding family members, co-workers, or neighbors to maintain a distance of 30 feet from your equipment. They should not enter this area unless instructed by a utility professional.
- If the equipment is still functional, slowly back away from the line.
- DO NOT exit the cab unless instructed to do so by a utility professional.
- Exiting the cab is a high-risk maneuver

- and should ONLY be attempted if your life is threatened, i.e., by fire.
- If you have to leave the vehicle because of fire,
 1. Keep your arms close to the trunk of your body.
 2. Do not grab handholds or railings as you exit the cab.
 3. Jump as far from the machine as possible, but stay in control of your limbs. Arms that are outstretched or legs that are energized, can arc. This placement can cause serious electrical burns or death.
 4. Once you land on the

ground, keep your arms close to your body, and take very tiny steps or small bunny hops away from the equipment. Keep your legs close together to avoid an arc. DO NOT run or stride away from the equipment.

Successful pesticide application requires attention to detail. Stay observant, and look for electrical hazards. If you come into contact with a line or if electricity arcs onto your equipment, do not panic. Call for help, and exit the vehicle only if your life is threatened or you are instructed by a utility professional.

AGP, ADM Investments in Soybean Processing Benefit Biodiesel

Ag Processing, Inc.'s (AGP) March announcement that it plans to build a new soybean processing facility in the Dakotas got the attention of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA). Matt Caswell, vice president, member/corporate relations for AGP, says that several locations are under consideration in both North and South Dakota, and negotiations are proceeding to find the right location. "That will be a combination of the right location, the right economic development incentive and the right market conditions," says Caswell. The new facility will process 35 to 40 million bushels of soybeans annually, which will be comparable to the typical output for one of AGP's nine existing soybean processing plants.

A month later, Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) announced that it is investing to give its Enderlin, North Dakota, processing plant the ability to crush soybeans in addition to canola and sunflower seeds. ADM will also convert a canola processing line in Windsor, Ontario, to a flex line that can also process



soybeans. ADM's North American Oilseeds President John McGowan said that the Enderlin investment will help ADM capitalize on growing soybean acreage in and around North Dakota.

Caswell says that AGP is targeting the Dakotas because of more soybean acres in the region, due largely to the good work of the soybean growers' associations and the soybean checkoff.

"They've done a great job of expanding acres and increasing yield, and we see that continuing," says Caswell. "The second advantage is that the geographic placement in the Dakotas gives us a competitive advantage to ship soybeans and soybean products to Asia. The growers in the Dakotas have also done a fantastic job of building new markets in Asia and

developing those relationships that are important there."

There are a number of local cooperatives that are member/owners of AGP in the Dakotas. AGP will build a plant in one of those two states; ship its products to the export terminal that it owns at the Port of Grays Harbor in Aberdeen, Washington; and then ship products to Pacific Rim markets. "It's a very good story about how soybean farmers who own AGP through their local member cooperatives will invest in the plant in the Dakotas, bringing more soybean processing capacity and new economic development to the region."

Asked if the location of AGP members in the Dakotas will influence the location of the new processing facility, Caswell said that it

probably won't influence the site but definitely impacted the project overall by knowing the cooperative could work with members who supported this endeavor.

Currently, AGP has six soybean processing plants in Iowa. Other facilities are located in Dawson, Minnesota; Hastings, Nebraska; and St. Joseph, Missouri.

Soybeans are processed into two primary products: soybean meal and crude soybean oil. Soybean meal is a high protein feed ingredient that is used in animal rations, including swine, poultry and dairy/beef cattle. Soybean meal is also utilized as feed for aquaculture operations. Soybean oil is used by several different sectors in the food industry, including food service, food manufacturing, packaged products and consumer retail.

FUELING SUCCESS WITH BIODIESEL

A good share of AGP's soybean oil also ends up in biodiesel, an important market for soybean producers. The cooperative is a pioneer in the soy biodiesel industry, having constructed the first purpose-built soy

biodiesel plant in the United States in 1996 at Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, south of Sioux City. AGP followed by constructing another soy biodiesel plant in St. Joseph, Missouri, in 2007 and acquiring a biodiesel plant in Algona, Iowa, in 2011.

AGP has led the policy conversation about biodiesel for a long time, says Caswell. “We were the first to build, and that was important that a farmer-owned soybean processing cooperative did it. We believe it’s been a home run for the soybean industry and for AGP. It optimizes our processing platform and finds a new market for the

soybean oil.”

The oil market is split between food and fuel, and Caswell says that’s a good balance for soy oil to have in the marketplace. Soybean growers have profited as soybean oil went from 4 cents per pound in the mid-90s, to 35 to 40 cents today. Caswell credits farmers for devoting checkoff dollars to fund the research that enabled the biodiesel industry.

While it’s not known if there will be any additional biodiesel production facilities in North Dakota, Caswell says that the oil from North Dakota and South Dakota soybeans is being used heavily for biodiesel.

That biodiesel, he says, has improved the overall profit margins for farmers in the Dakotas. “Biodiesel demand and Asian demand have been key drivers for the Dakotas,” says Caswell. “And the Dakota farmers have a great advantage in logistics when it comes to export. It is 10 days faster to take a soybean product from the Dakotas by rail to a port in the Pacific Northwest and get it to Asia than it is to take it down the Mississippi river.”

BIODIESEL FACTS

U.S. biodiesel production increased from about 25 million gallons in the early 2000s

to nearly 1.8 billion gallons in 2014, according to the National Biodiesel Board. The EPA has recognized biodiesel’s environmental benefits by classifying it as an Advanced Biofuel, making biodiesel the only commercial-scale U.S. fuel that is produced nationwide to meet the agency’s advanced criteria.

Biodiesel can be used as a pure fuel or blended with petroleum in any percentage. B20 (20 percent biodiesel with 80 percent petroleum diesel) has demonstrated significant environmental benefits with a minimal increased cost for fleet

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AGP’s export terminal at the Port of Grays Harbor in Aberdeen, Washington. *Photo by Marc Sterling*

operations and other consumers. Biodiesel blends that are up to 20 percent work in any diesel engine without modifications to the engine or the fuel system. All major U.S. automakers and engine manufacturers accept using up to at least B5, and many major engine companies have stated formally that using high-quality biodiesel blends up to B20 will not void their parts and workmanship warranties.

NDSGA Vice President Ryan Richard represents the association on the National Biodiesel Board (NBB) and says that the Renewable Fuel Standard 2 is the biggest issue.

“Trying to increase the use of biodiesel is NBB’s goal,” according to Richard, from Horace. Asked about the possibility of more soybean processing in North Dakota, Richard said that it would be nice to use more of the soybean oil in our state. “With the new standards in place, the biodiesel is as good a quality as No. 2 diesel,” says Richard. “We use 5 percent (biodiesel) in everything that we run and have for many years, and are looking at going to a higher blend rate.”

Richard likes the fact that biodiesel is renewable and gives us more independence from foreign oil. “In my opinion, we should be trying to do as much as



The Richard family of Horace, N.D. uses B5 in all of their equipment. Ryan Richard readies a planter.

we can with it (biodiesel) to have a new source other than having to rely on oil because you don’t want to be trying to find the answer after it’s already gone.” Referring to “Big Oil,” Richard says, “You’re fighting a David-and-Goliath-type battle.”

Cavalier, North Dakota, farmer and NDSGA Director David Hartz uses biodiesel in his tractors and in his semi-tractor. “It’s quieter; it smooths the engine out; and it has more power,” says Hartz. “The biodiesel has more cetane than regular diesel, so you get a little bit more power, and I think it has better efficiencies, too.” While he prefers to use B20,

Hartz says that it is not readily available in his area.

MINNESOTA MANDATE

Minnesota has a biodiesel mandate which, for the first time, requires B10 (10 percent biodiesel in every gallon of diesel sold) from April 1 through September. Last year, B10 was required in every gallon of biodiesel sold in Minnesota from July through September. Mike Youngerberg, senior director of field services for Minnesota Soybean, estimates that Minnesota’s total diesel usage falls under the mandate at 900 million gallons. He estimates that

biodiesel usage is somewhere in the 60-million-gallon range, per year, in Minnesota. “So it added about 20 million gallons to the consumption,” says Youngerberg.

Minnesota implemented its B2



David Hartz

biodiesel mandate in September 2005. The original legislation had step-ups to B20, but that bill was changed in 2008 to require B5 year-round. That requirement increased to B10 during the summer but was delayed until 2014 due to some infrastructure issues and regulatory problems. Minnesota's mandated blend will increase to B20 in 2018. Washington and Oregon also have biodiesel mandates. Other states, such as Illinois and Iowa, have tax incentives. California has a low-carbon fuel standard which biodiesels meet. Some states in the northeast also require the use of B2 for home heating oil, called "bioheat."

Minnesota's three biodiesel plants produce around 64 million gallons of biodiesel per year. The plants are located in Brewster, Glenville and Isanti.

IOWA AND ILLINOIS INCENTIVES

Iowa's comprehensive public policy has helped expand the production and distribution of biodiesel:

- There is a retailer credit of 4.5 cents per gallon for 5 percent biodiesel (B5) through 2017.
- A biodiesel producer incentive provides a 2-cent per gallon refundable credit on the first 25 million



Jamie Richard fills up with B5 before planting soybeans.

gallons of biodiesel produced at any single plant through 2017.

- The fuel tax increase of 10 cents a gallon includes a 3-cent exemption for biodiesel blends B11 and higher for 5 years.

Iowa is the leading biodiesel-producing state, generating 227 million gallons in 2014, down slightly from the 2013 record of 230 million gallons. The state's 10 operating biodiesel plants have an annual capacity of more than 300 million gallons, illustrating a lost economic opportunity for

Iowa.

Illinois enacted a sales-tax incentive to use biodiesel blends in 2003. Due to its success, the tax exemption was extended in 2011 to run through 2018. The biodiesel tax incentive works at two levels:

- A partial sales tax exemption of 20 percent (of the state's 6.25 percent) is applicable for biodiesel blends of 1 to 10 percent, also known as B1 to B10.
- A full exemption for the state's entire 6.25 percent sales tax is provided for blends of

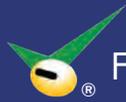
11 percent or more (B11, B20, B100, etc.)

Due to the financial advantage of selling higher blends of biodiesel, most retail fuel outlets in Illinois sell B11. In turn, these savings have led Illinois to become the country's leading consumer of biodiesel.

Illinois is home to seven biodiesel production facilities. These facilities represent 175 million gallons of total capacity.

The main hurdle for establishing some type of biodiesel incentive in North Dakota is a kind of "chicken and egg" situation, says Scott Rising, legislative director for the NDSGA. "The attitude is that nobody is using biodiesel now, so there is no reason to offer incentives. I would encourage the entire North Dakota agriculture community to increase the use of biodiesel and ask for it. Specifically, ask for biodiesel that is produced from oil producers in North Dakota."

According to a study done by Informa Economics two years ago, biodiesel was adding about 73 cents per bushel to the value of soybeans. The Informa study also claimed that biodiesel production has helped lower the cost of soybean meal by about \$25 a ton for Minnesota's livestock producers because processors can balance where their profits come from.

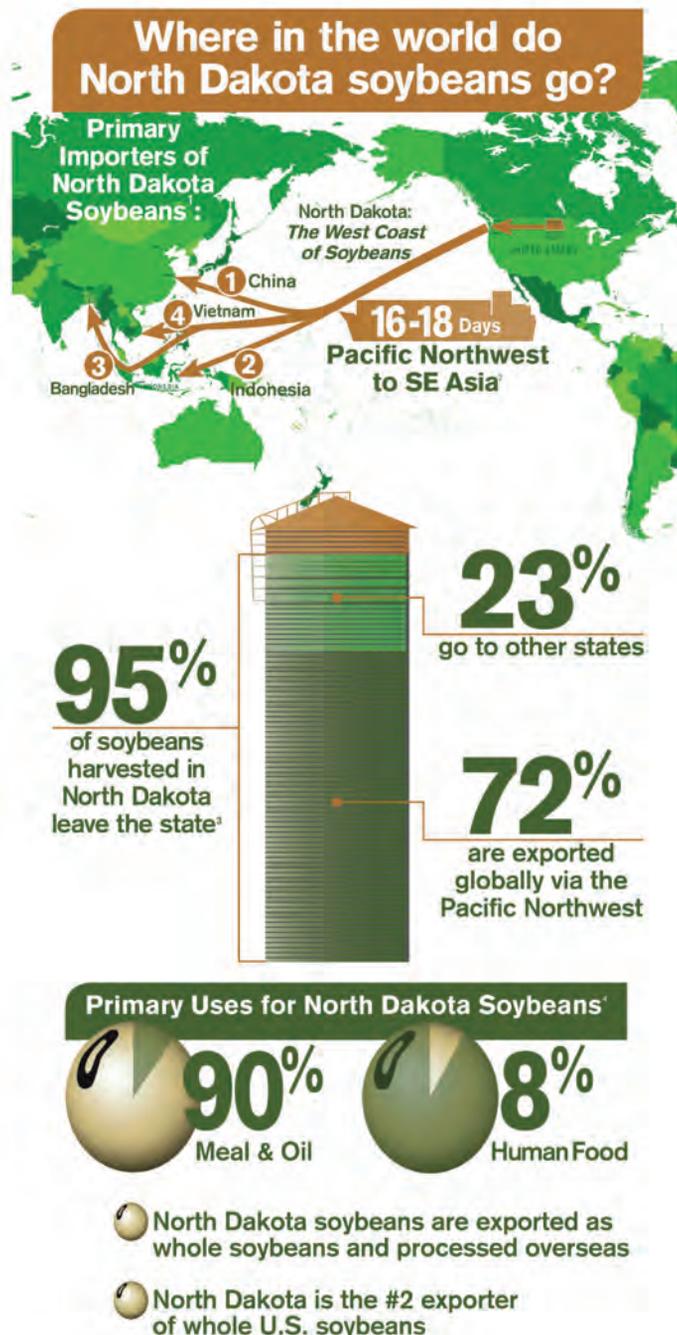


Essential Amino Acids and Their Relevance to International Marketing

PART 2 OF A 3-PART SERIES

As part of the Essential Amino Acids (EAAs) Tri-State Program, many North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) directors and other soybean-grower representatives have traveled overseas to our largest markets, such as Indonesia, China, Thailand and others, to visit livestock and poultry facilities in order to discuss how sourcing high-quality North Dakota soybeans, which are naturally rich in EAAs, can benefit their livestock production.

The EAA value is measured and noted as the Critical Amino Acid Value (CAAV), which refers to the amount of EAAs and the protein content for the soybeans. From a purchaser's perspective, CAAV is another tool to understand the value of soybeans. The overseas meetings are used to demonstrate how northern-grown soybeans are a natural supplier of EAA, due to climate and growing conditions, and to explain how CAAV provides buyers with a



more useful and reliable measure of a shipment's real protein value. By purchasing soybeans from the Pacific Northwest (PNW), buyers have the ability to buy crucial amino acids closer to their optimal feed requirements, resulting in greater production efficiency.

It is the person-to-person interaction, coupled with the delivery of consistently high-quality soybeans, that continues to set North Dakota apart as a leading supplier of soy to customers around the globe. Investing the time and money to meet with some of the world's largest soybean purchasers has a direct impact on you, the soybean producer. With this program, NDSC has invested in research and education to help livestock and animal feeders around the world understand how to calculate EAAs in their soybeans and to include these calculations in their feed formulations.

"It takes multiple,

SOURCES: ¹North Dakota State University. ²Transportation Consultants, Inc.; HighQuest Analysis. ³unitedsoybeanboard.org and soyatech.com ⁴North Dakota Soybean Council



Ed Erickson, Jr. (far right), Milnor, traveled to China in January 2015, promoting North Dakota soybeans on behalf of NDSC. Bill and Karolyn Zurn (second and third from the right), Callaway, Minn., and Bob Metz (middle), West Browns Valley, S.D., also traveled overseas in order to promote northern-grown soybeans to international buyers.

dynamic meetings with our buyers over time to grow the relationship and to help buyers understand the value of EAA when using northern-grown soybeans,” says Peter Mishek, coordinator of the EAA Tri-State Program. “Over time, this means profit back to our northern soybean producers.”

“Spending time in the offices of our buyers, touring their facilities and sharing a meal together is invaluable to our industry,” says Tyler

Speich, NDSC chairman. “We are appreciative of our directors and grower representatives who take time away from their farms and families to commit to carrying this message of high-quality, northern-grown soybeans to our buyers. Getting to know the buyers on a personal level is so important to the work of NDSC.”

Over 70% of North Dakota’s soybeans are exported, as whole beans, to international markets, largely Asian markets such as China, Vietnam,

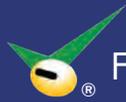
Indonesia and others in the region. The main use of the soybean meal is as a feed ingredient for livestock, poultry and aquaculture (fish) production.

In the April 2015 issue of the North Dakota Soybean Grower Magazine, an article highlighted the Essential Amino Acids project. As mentioned in that article, an important problem confronting the marketing of northern-tier soybeans relates to quality, protein and EAA content. It is generally

thought that, as a result of differences in protein content, soybean shipments from the PNW receive a discount relative to competing markets, such as the U.S. Gulf and Brazil.

According to Dr. William Wilson, a distinguished professor in NDSU’s Department of Agribusiness, buying based on CAAV, and feeding to known EAA requirements can lower the need for and cost of using expensive,

Continued on Next Page



synthetic amino-acid supplements for livestock and poultry. A diet using meal from a lower crude protein soybean with a higher CAAV can contribute to a healthier animal and a cleaner environment. Table 1 shows the typical EAA requirements for broilers and swine by body weight. “These results indicate that the requirements vary by species, age or body weight,” says Dr. Wilson. “It is likely that the requirements also vary across importing countries and market segments. Animal-feeding formulations use nutritional requirements

TABLE 1

Broiler EAA Requirements		Weeks					
Lysine	1.1	1	0.85				
Threonine	0.8	0.74	0.68				
Cystine	0.4	0.34	0.28				
Swine EAA Requirements		Body Weight (kg)					
Lysine	1.7	4.53	1.4	1.12	0.97	0.84	0.71
Threonine	1.05	0.95	0.87	0.72	0.64	0.56	0.49
Cystine	0.47	0.43	0.39	0.33	0.29	0.25	0.22

that are based on soymeal products. Nutritional requirements are not the same for each species; what may meet the CAAV requirements for poultry may not be adequate for swine production. Further, each growth

phase for different livestock requires a different CAAV balance.” Because international marketing plays a crucial role with the promotion of North Dakota soybeans, checkoff dollars are invested in many diverse

projects to ensure that these international markets remain strong and grow each year. By traveling to meet face to face with the buyers of North Dakota soybeans, as well as hosting trade teams in North Dakota throughout the year, NDSC is able to continue educating soybean buyers and nutritionists about the value they receive when buying North Dakota soybeans. The farmer leaders elected to serve on the NDSC are dedicated to make sure that the profits from these investments go directly back to the North Dakota soybean producers. In the next issue of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Magazine, Part 3 of this series will focus on the value of hosting international buying trade teams at farms in North Dakota.

International Marketing Pays off for U.S. Soy Growers

A recent study conducted by the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) concluded that international-market promotion efforts, which include soybean checkoff funding, have significantly boosted the U.S. soybean industry’s profitability.

- U.S. soybean growers increased their soybean exports each year by an average of 993,600 metric tons (MT).
- USSEC estimates that, for every checkoff dollar contributed by the producers, the international marketing activities returned additional revenue of \$74.50.
- The study concluded that the international-market promotion component of the soybean checkoff program has generated over \$20 billion in additional export revenue since 1980-81.

To read USSEC’s entire study, visit www.ussec.org/ussec-commissions-independent-study-on-international-marketing.



Clearing the Air with Soy-Based Products

The American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest (ALAUM) believes that good lung health begins at home or, more precisely, inside the homes of all consumers. The organization says that soy-based products are a great way to breathe easier.

“Biobased products made with soybean oil contain less toxins and harmful chemicals than petrochemicals,” ALAUM Director of Environmental Programs Abby Brokaw says. “Using them improves indoor air quality and lung health.”

To get the message across, ALAUM partnered with the soy checkoff to



Soy-based products

produce an educational video on the benefits of soy-based products. Featuring a close-up look at the Soy Clean production facility in Brooklyn, Iowa, the video illustrates many places in

a home where soy-based products can improve indoor air.

The soy checkoff invests in research and development for soy-based products to increase and diversify the

demand for U.S. soy. These investments have resulted in the commercialization of building materials that eliminate formaldehyde, a possible carcinogen, from wood paneling, laminate flooring and plywood.

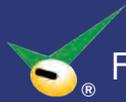
Some soy-based products also reduce volatile organic compounds, improving air quality. Using soy-based cleaners and other household products reduces irritants in the air, which Brokaw says is particularly important for people affected by lung diseases.

The checkoff’s 2015 “Soy Products Guide” can be referenced to find and use soy-based products. Log on the North Dakota Soybean Council’s website for more info on the “Soy Products Guide” at www.ndsoybean.org/resources/soy-products-guide

Learn about five new products that you might find on your farm or in a store near you. Click on the “Soy Inside” website (www.soyinside.org) hosted by the Ohio Soybean Council, and follow the beans to learn how to improve indoor air quality in order to breathe easier.



Biobased products made with soybean oil.



April Soyfoods Month Media Visits

April was Soyfoods Month, which provided the North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) the perfect opportunity to visit local media to promote soyfoods and other current NDSC projects.

On April 21, NDSC visited Joel Heitkamp on KFGO and discussed soyfoods on air. NDSC brought Joel soy snacks to try on-air. NDSC Director Joe Morken of Casselton and NDSC Marketing Director Stephanie Sinner also talked to Joel about NDSC's efforts in the areas of international marketing and the 2015 soybean season in North Dakota.

It's easy to incorporate tasty and healthy soyfoods into your family's meals and snacks. Soyfoods provide smart, simple options for meals and snacks with countless choices to meet every taste bud in your family. There are hundreds of soy products to try, in every aisle of the supermarket. Preparing meals with soyfoods is easy, delicious, and good for you, and there are many recipes from which to choose.

Take advantage of our many soyfoods



resources to learn more about how you can start incorporating the many health benefits of soy into your diet. To receive a free packet of soy recipes and

additional information, contact the North Dakota Soybean Council by email at swolf@ndsoybean.org or call 1-888-469-6409.



From left to right, Stephanie Sinner, Joe Morken and Joel Heitkamp.



Suzanne Wolf and Shawna Olson

Recorded in studio on April 29 for broadcast on May 10, NDSC Communications Director Suzanne Wolf was on AgWeek TV with Shawna Olson. Wolf showed viewers how to make the easy, delicious strawberry tofu pie, while discussing the health benefits and versatility of using soy. This was the first cooking demonstration segment for AgWeek TV.

Soyfoods are cholesterol free, low in saturated fat, high in complete protein, fiber and iron, and contain essential omega-3 fatty acids. Packed with high-quality protein, soyfoods will keep your family energized and satisfied all day long.

STRAWBERRY TOFU PIE

- 1 pound fresh strawberries, hulled
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup hot water
- 1 (0.3 ounce) package sugar free strawberry gelatin
- 3 ounces light cream cheese (Neufchatel)
- 1 pound soft tofu, rinsed and drained (about $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups)

Reserve 5 whole strawberries for garnish. Slice remaining strawberries in $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch slices. Arrange about 21 slices around sides of 9-inch pie plate. Set remaining strawberry slices aside.

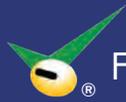
In 2 cup measure, place water. Cover with plastic wrap. Microwave at high for $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 minutes or until boiling. Add gelatin. Stir until gelatin dissolves. Set aside.

In small mixing bowl, microwave cheese at high for 15 to 30 seconds, or until softened. In food processor or blender, place reserved strawberry slices, the cheese, gelatin mixture and tofu. Process until smooth. Pour into pie plate. Cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate at least 8 hours, or

until set. Slice reserved strawberries for garnish.

8 servings, 90 calories per serving, 5 grams fat. (Recipe courtesy of cooks.com)





CommonGround Volunteers Change the Tide for Critical Food and Agriculture Conversations

With news headlines about GMO ingredients bubbling to the top daily, Dr. Oz as a resource of information and “Science Babe” countering “Food Babe” in social media, the role that farmers play in communicating to the public is elevated and becomes even more vital.

CommonGround North Dakota volunteers work to counter the rhetoric with fact-based information from their farming experience or agriculture career expertise. Over the past year,

CommonGround North Dakota grew to 19 active volunteers, up from seven active volunteers a year ago. More than ever, farmers are willing to listen to what consumers are saying, to respond to media inquiries and to share their own farm-to-plate knowledge.

Across the state, women are becoming active in the CommonGround program, engaging local non-agriculture consumers in conversations about agriculture production practices, answering questions about food issues and sharing how they feed their families. This late spring,



Sarah Wilson and daughter.

volunteers will be hosting “Moms After Five” events on their farms to build local relationships with food-purchasing mothers who want to know and trust a local farmer in their area. Local mothers will be invited to a volunteer’s farm for a tour and food.

Volunteer Sarah Wilson of Jamestown said, “We’ve been hosting international guests on our farm for years. But this ‘Moms After Five’ event later this spring will really help me bring out fellow moms and friends from our local church, home-school network, daycare and community organizations we are a part of to

showcase our farm, its history and the crops that my husband Jeremy and I raise and why. We look forward to tying the crops we grow into everyone’s daily life. It will be a great connecting opportunity that extends beyond food.”

Wilson added, “Our corn gets made into carpet that is in our house. Corn and soybeans go into adhesives, like Band-Aids and Post-It notes. Our field peas are in soup mixes and also feed cattle. We live so close to Jamestown, yet so many people never have an invite or reason to come out to a farm, visit and learn all that our crops do. We definitely hope to expand on our

local events and are grateful for CommonGround North Dakota for helping start this effort.”

The goal of the events is to build personal relationships, and the next time people see a questionable, sensationalized news or blog headline about food or agriculture, they can ask a North Dakota farmer for the facts rather than question how food is raised.

To learn more about CommonGround North Dakota, visit the organization’s

Facebook page: facebook.com/CommonGroundNorthDakota



Conversations About Food Should Include Farmer Voices

LEND YOURS TO COMMONGROUND AND HELP OTHER MOMS MAKE FULLY INFORMED FOOD CHOICES

Who is Common

Ground: We're a group of women farmers. We start conversations with urban moms who are concerned about their food and where it comes from. We share the facts on food using our personal experience as farmers, along with supporting science and research. CommonGround was developed by the United Soybean Board (USB) and the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) to provide a platform and support to help us reach urban consumers.

CommonGround

Approach: Food conversations can get pretty passionate. So we make it a point to keep our approach inclusive, positive, credible and real. We want to help moms make food choices based on facts, NOT FEAR.

CommonGround

Resources: Sorting through the myths and misinformation to find facts about farming and food outside of your area of expertise can be overwhelming. CommonGround makes



Sarah Lovas talks soybeans with guest.

the job easier for farmer women volunteers by collecting credible answers to the most frequently asked questions at www.FindOurCommonGround.com. The videos on our website will give you great ideas for hot-topic conversation starters.

WHAT WE DO:

We share with people how we grow and raise food! When we see misinformation about how food is raised in the U.S., we use a variety of tactics to respond:

- Blogs
- Letters to the Editor
- Media Pitches

- Community meetings, events and more
- We never criticize any food choice, farming practice, person or group who disagrees with our point of view. We don't tell people what to eat. We back up our personal stories with credible, third-party science and research to increase trust. We are farmers, and therefore experts in our field. We answer a wide variety of questions or direct consumers to resources where they can find more information.

CommonGround needs your passion, your expertise and your voice. Every woman who works with her family to run a

farm, or who grew up on a farm, has a personal perspective on modern farming. That perspective is far more powerful than any research or statistic on agriculture. We need you to share your point of view.

CONTACT US

Interested in becoming a CommonGround volunteer? Please contact us with any questions or requests for assistance. Contact either Katie Pinke, CommonGround North Dakota coordinator at katpinke@gmail.com, or Suzanne Wolf, North Dakota Soybean Council communications director at swolf@ndsoybean.org.



CommonGround volunteers, from left to right, Vanessa Kummer, Allyson Perry and Karolyn Zurn.



Start Your Grills!

The weather is getting warmer. It is time to get outdoors and enjoy grilling foods. Whether it is for a special occasion or just family dinners, soyfoods are part of a delicious and nutritious answer.

Soyfoods work great with meats. Just because

you are enjoying soyfoods, it doesn't mean the meal has to be vegetarian. Start thinking about how soyfoods and meats can be used together.

There are many options to include soyfoods with grilled meals. Start with a tofu dip (flavored with a

dressing packet) for fresh vegetables. Edamame in the pod is a great appetizer for kids. Shelled edamame can be used as a dip or as part of a vegetable mix (salad or side dish). Season meats with soy sauce or miso, and end the meal with cakes, cookies, puddings

or pies made with soy flour, textured soy protein, soybean oil or tofu. From start to finish, it is easy to include soyfoods.

Enjoy this delicious and juicy pork chop with an edamame, orange and walnut salad throughout the summer.

CRUSTY CITRUS PORK CHOPS WITH AN EDAMAME, ORANGE AND WALNUT SALAD

Make your fire on both sides of the grill. Then, put the pork chops in the center; this placement is called indirect grilling. The chops will cook slower, keeping them moist and succulent. (YIELD: 4 servings)

CHOP RUB

- ½ cup dark brown sugar
- ½ tablespoon coarse ground pepper
- 1 tablespoon kosher salt
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- ½ tablespoon smoked paprika or paprika
- 4 2-inch thick pork chops
- Soybean oil
- 2 oranges, cut in half

Preheat grill. In a small bowl, combine the first five ingredients; stir well. Pat the pork chops dry with paper towels. Brush lightly with oil. Sprinkle the chop rub over the chops (reserving 1 teaspoon for the salad below). Pat gently to form a crust, but do not rub hard.

Place the chops in the center of the cooking grate



over indirect medium heat. Let them grill for 15 minutes before turning. Turn and let the chops cook for 10-15 more minutes or until done. The outside should be crusty, and

the inside should be juicy and just a little pink. Remove the chops from the grill; let them sit for 5-10 minutes. While the pork chops are “resting,” put the orange halves on the grill cut-sides down, over direct heat, for 5 minutes or until charred. Remove the oranges from the grill; squeeze the juice from the orange halves over each chop. Serve with the Edamame, Orange and Walnut Salad.

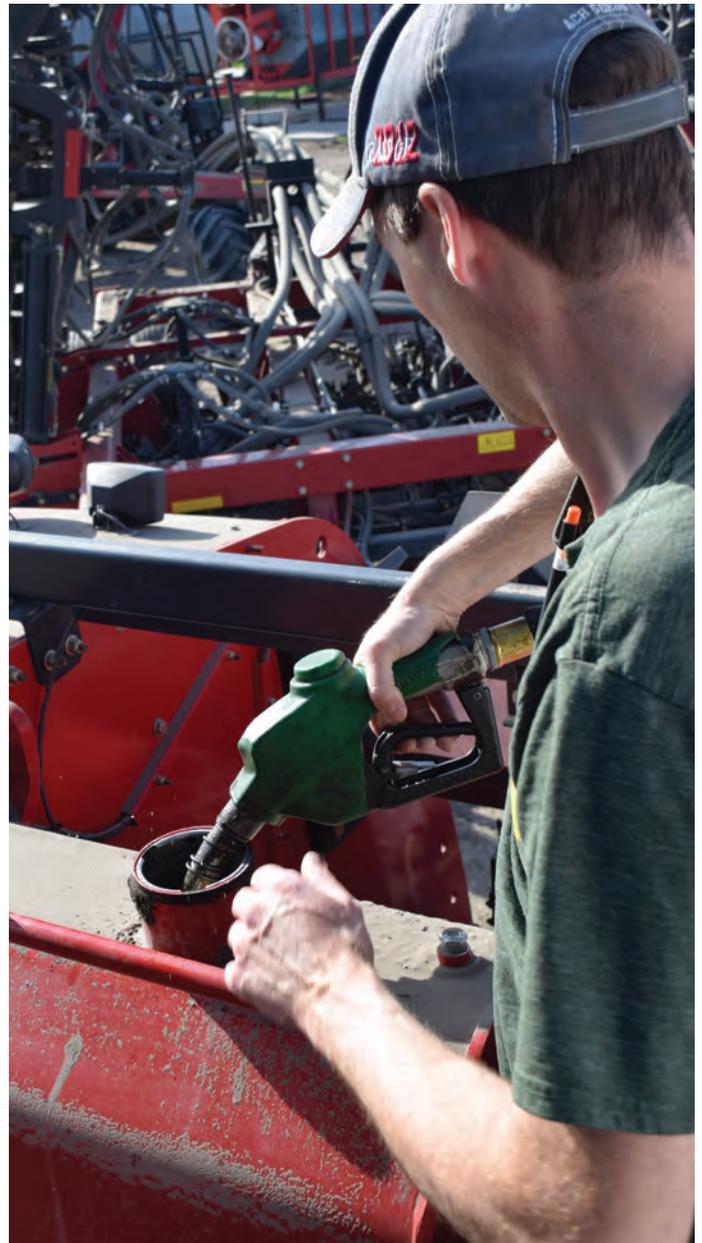
EDAMAME, ORANGE AND WALNUT SALAD

- ½ heaping teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons wine vinegar or balsamic vinegar
- ½ cup soybean oil
- Sea salt
- Freshly ground pepper
- 1 teaspoon grated fresh ginger
- 1 teaspoon chop rub (from the previous recipe)
- 4 navel oranges, peeled and sectioned
- 12 ounces shelled, cooked edamame
- ½ cup walnut halves, toasted

Combine the first seven ingredients; whisk together until emulsified. In a serving bowl, combine the orange sections and edamame; mix gently. Toss the oranges and edamame with the Ginger Dressing to moisten the salad. Taste for salt and pepper; adjust as necessary. Crumble toasted walnuts on top, and serve with the Crusty Citrus Pork Chops.

Routine Maintenance Tips for Your Fuel Equipment

- Check for water and sediment in tanks PRIOR to fuel delivery by looking at a sample from the bottom of the tank. Remove any free water so that it doesn't get stirred up into your fresh fuel.
- Check all hoses, caps, gaskets and vents for leaks. Make sure everything is in proper working order.
- Install a dispenser filter on a storage tank. You want to capture any contaminants with a dispenser filter to keep them from getting into the vehicle tanks. 30 micron size is sufficient.
- If you have a dispenser filter, change it before every planting season and again before every harvest. Make it part of your routine.
- Check vehicle fuel filters and change if necessary. Follow OEM specifications.
- Check vehicle fuel caps to make sure they are secured tightly.
- If you have a water separator, monitor and drain if it contains water.
- Fill your vehicle and storage tanks with fuel after the planting season is over. If you keep fuel tanks full, it reduces the amount of air in the tank. Air is the number one source for water in fuel tanks and can also lead to oxidation and degradation of fuel.



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Following in His Father's Footsteps

Dazey, North Dakota, farmer Eric Broten's first experience on the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA) board of directors was through DuPont's Young Leader program. That was three years ago, and the experience made an impact on the 29-year-old farmer. "The Young Leader program was really fun. I've talked with a lot of people and encouraged any young farmers, if they're

interested at all, that's a great way to get introduced to what growers associations do," said Broten, who still maintains regular contact with some of the couples he met from other soybean states.

Following that first year, Broten was elected to the NDSGA board in 2013 and currently serves as treasurer. His dad, Jim, previously served as president of the North Dakota Barley Council

and chairman of the U.S. Grains Council. Eric learned about the importance of being out there promoting your industry from his dad. "Some of the issues that come up are almost as important as actually putting the seed in the ground. It takes people to speak up for the producers; somebody has to do it," says the younger Broten. "So if you're going to be a producer and you want to be active, it's a

great way to really promote your industry."

Eric started farming as a junior in high school; graduated with a crop and weed science degree from North Dakota State University in 2008; and came home to farm with his father and his brother, Ben Elder, who also teaches in Jamestown. Broten sold his share of the cow herd when he went to college, and four years ago, the rest of the cows were sold due to

flooded pastures. “Since then, the cattle market has been nothing but up, so it’s been a tough time to be out of cows,” says Broten. “For the first time in my life, I’m buying hamburger, and it’s \$5 to \$6 a pound, and it’s not much fun.”

Broten Farms has traditionally grown just about everything that you can grow in North Dakota, except for edible beans. In the last couple years, however, Broten says corn has kind of taken over the rotation, along with soybeans and barley. “It’s really an easy, nice rotation,” says Broten. “But, as commodity prices fall, we might have to back away from that and try different commodities, and see if we can get a little bit more revenue out of some of these specialty crops.” With newer canola varieties that are resistant to pod shattering and that facilitate direct-harvesting, Broten says that canola may be one crop that they’ll add to their rotation.

One of the big things Eric has learned about farming is to not get into a rut. “Just because something worked really good one year doesn’t mean it’s going to work the next year or ever really work again,” says Broten. “Being open to change and open to new ideas, and trying new farming practices is really what it’s going to take to

stay competitive and productive year after year.” That mentality also applies to marketing, which he thinks is his biggest challenge this year because cash flows will be tight. Broten says that, if you look at what would have worked well last year and try that approach this year, you’re always a year late. “You have to realize that you may not ever get the highs or the lows, but if you do the same, consistent, balanced marketing plan, your marketing will average out. When you’re chasing the highs is when you can really get on the

wrong side of the market.”

Another ongoing challenge is employee management and developing good relationships with people. “Especially in the spring, you’re with your co-workers more than you are with your family, and you don’t necessarily love your co-workers. You need some time apart and know how to manage that and how to set things up so it’s fair. You expect a lot out of these guys in certain times of the year, and then, how do you keep them busy the rest of the year, and how do you incentivize that hard

work when it is really needed?” Broten Farms usually hires four full-time employees and three times that many during spring’s work and corn harvest.

Broten says that he’s never considered any other job and that he loves to farm. “I love watching the elements, seeing how the seasons change, and watching the crops grow and the challenge of trying to stay highly productive,” says Eric. “Technology in agriculture is changing so much. It’s exciting for me to see, and even now as we’re focusing more on soil health and the new ways of testing the soil and soil activity, it’s really exciting to see what we can do in the future to make this ground even more productive.”

Broten thinks that the biggest challenge for the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association is recognition. “We are representing soybean growers, but it helps to have the membership numbers so you can say these are members of our organization, not just these are how many farmers are in the state,” says Broten. “It’s nice to have that membership behind your name to show when we are talking with our state representatives that these people are behind us; they believe in our message. It makes our voice just a little bit more powerful.”



EU APPROVES 17 BIOTECH TRAITS

After expressing severe frustration with the European Commission's proposal to allow European Union (EU) member states to opt out of importing food and feed containing biotechnology traits, the American Soybean Association (ASA) welcomed news from Brussels that the EU has approved 17 biotechnology traits for import. The traits, which include the Plenish and Vistive Gold high-oleic soybean varieties as well as dicamba-tolerant and omega-3 soybeans, have been in the EU approval process for multiple years. ASA First Vice President Richard Wilkins, a soybean farmer from Greenwood, Delaware, noted the association's guarded optimism about this news in a statement:

"On the one hand, we're happy to see these traits finally receive Commission approval after years of delay. The 17 products approved by the European Commission today have been pending for 69 months on average, despite EU laws and regulations that foresee an 18-month time period for a decision. ... On the other hand, however, this

announcement means little if the EU persists in its current unscientific and delayed approval process for new varieties developed through biotechnology. Today more than 40 additional GM applications for import, submitted by various companies, remain pending in the EU system."

COEXISTENCE

In April, the Ag Biotech Alliance sent a letter, co-signed by the American Soybean Association (ASA), to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide comments on the coexistence workshop held in North Carolina.

The letter was consistent with ASA's position during the recent Advisory Committee on Biotechnology and 21st Century Agriculture (AC-21) process: that the best approach to coexistence for all types of production—conventional, organic, identity preserved (IP) and biotech—is for the USDA to facilitate cooperation and to provide educational opportunities for growers at the local level; that coexistence between

producers is working well, and has been practiced successfully both before and since biotech crops were introduced; and that this approach provides the greatest flexibility for all farmers to respond to the market demand for non-biotech, biotech, IP and organic crops. The ASA continues to encourage USDA to support the resolution of coexistence issues at the local level.

ASA LOOKS AHEAD AS TPA BILL EMERGES FROM HOUSE, SENATE COMMITTEES

Following the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee passage of a bill that would grant trade promotion authority to President Barack Obama, the American Soybean Association (ASA) is calling on both chambers to pass the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) bill and to give the administration what it needs to forge ahead with key trade agreements around the globe.

"Agreements like the Trans-Pacific Partnership and others that expand market access are of vast importance to American soybean farmers as we look to maintain our position at the vanguard

of the world's agricultural trade, however we can't conclude agreements without trade promotion authority. That's always been step one," said Wade Cowan, ASA president and a soybean farmer from Brownfield, Texas.

Trade promotion authority is among the ASA's top policy priorities during the 114th Congress. Soybean farmers, who exported over half their crop with an export value of \$30.5 billion in 2014, are the largest agricultural exporters in the United States.

ASA PRESSES THE EPA TO ACCEPT COMMENTS ABOUT RE-WRITING THE WATERS OF THE U.S. RULE

In a letter to Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, the American Soybean Association (ASA) urged the agency to accept the industry's feedback and comments as the EPA prepares a revised Waters of the United States rule as part of the Clean Water Act.

Following the introduction of the proposed rule in April 2014, ASA expressed strong concerns about the rule's jurisdiction, application and potential

impact on American farms, asking that the rule be withdrawn and that a new rule that included input from farmers be developed. In response to these concerns, EPA Administrator McCarthy has given assurances that problems in the original rule will be fixed when a final rule is issued.

“While we appreciate (Administrator McCarthy’s) strong statements that these problems have been fixed, we will not have an opportunity to offer comments if the rule is published as a final rule,” wrote ASA President and Brownfield, Texas, farmer Wade Cowan in the letter. “We anticipate, given (EPA’s) statements, that the revised rule will be substantially different from the first. Because the rule has the potential to have such large economic consequences for farmers and the entire economy, ASA strongly urges a second period to provide comments on this rule. This could be accomplished by issuing either a revised proposed rule or an interim final rule.”

The ASA’s concerns range from internal contradictions and inconsistencies with the rule to the lack of important definitions to

confusion over what land and water could be subject to the rule’s jurisdiction.

ASA APPLAUDS SENATE HEARING ON CUBA, CALLS ON CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION TO LIFT EMBARGO

The ASA welcomes renewed focus from the Senate Agriculture Committee on expanding agricultural trade to Cuba as part of a recent hearing on Capitol Hill. The hearing gave several groups, including the U.S.

Agriculture Coalition for Cuba (USACC) of which ASA is a member, an opportunity to speak about the challenges and potential opportunities for trade with Cuba.

“ASA applauds Chairman Roberts and Ranking Member Stabenow for holding such an important hearing, and for their attention to this issue,” said ASA First Vice President and Greenwood, Delaware, farmer Richard Wilkins. “Normalized and barrier-free trade with Cuba—an

emerging market only 90 miles from our shores—would have a positive impact on soybean exports in the form of increased demand for pork, poultry, dairy and eggs, as well as vegetable oil for cooking.”

ASA is a charter member of the USACC, which formed as a response to the need to reestablish Cuba as a market for U.S. food and agriculture exports. The USACC provided two witnesses for the hearing panel to discuss Cuban market opportunities.



EBEAN NEWS

The weekly *eBean News*, the American Soybean Association’s (ASA) redesigned e-newsletter, is where to find important stories that impact America’s soybean farmers. The new format of *eBean News* makes it easier to read; it will also be easier to share stories with friends and neighbors on social media.

Count on *eBean News* for information about legislative and regulatory happenings, export market development as well as activity that impacts the industry and advocacy efforts by and for soybean farmers. Each week, the special box at the top of the newsletter will feature a story of particular interest to or impact on soybean farmers.

ASA is interested in knowing what you think about *eBean News*. Email your comments to jbright@soy.org. If you don’t receive *eBean News*, request a free subscription by emailing jbright@soy.org.

Field trips aren't just for kids!

Join us this summer for Field Days.



We hope to see you at a Field Day event near you:

July 13 – Agronomy Seed Farm, Casselton

Starts at 5:30 p.m.

Visit the springboard for the evaluation and development of nearly all new crop varieties that rely on public breeding programs in the state.

July 14 – Carrington Research Extension Center 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

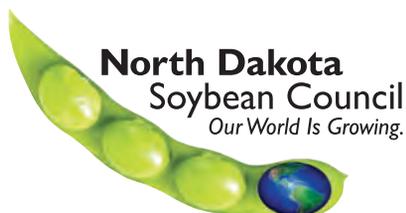
This Center conducts research and educational programs to enhance the productivity, competitiveness and diversity of agriculture in central N.D.

July 15 – North Central Research Extension Center, Minot 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

This Center specializes in crop research and Extension education activities, and in foundation seed production.

July 16 – Langdon Research Extension Center 8:00 a.m. to noon

The LREC serves a nine county region characterized by high precipitation rates, cool temperatures, rich productive soils and high levels of recurring disease problems.



NDSU

For more information about Field Days, contact your local NDSU Extension Office.



North Dakota Soybean Council • 888-469-6409 • www.ndsoybean.org



Garrison Diversion Supports Agriculture Initiatives Throughout North Dakota

Agriculture has been an important element of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District's (GDCCD's) foundation since its 1960 inception. GDCCD continues to develop, expand and enhance irrigation with its investment in agricultural initiatives.

MCCLUSKY CANAL

The McClusky Canal, constructed as part of the authorized Garrison Diversion Unit, was designed to carry 1,950 cubic feet of water per second in order to irrigate up to 250,000 acres, along with providing water for municipal and rural water systems. Through several reformulations, the authorized acres were decreased. Currently, 23,700 acres are authorized along the McClusky Canal through the Dakota Water Resources Act of 2000.

The McClusky Canal is in central North Dakota and has become a valuable resource for farmers looking to develop irrigation. GDCCD has assisted in developing nearly 4,000 irrigated acres within the McClusky Canal Irrigation Project, which is dedicated to successfully utilizing Missouri River water from the canal. GDCCD

provided the project's upfront investment to determine irrigable land and to complete initial design work for projects along or near the canal.

The largest portion of the irrigation project is the Mile Marker (MM) 7.5 Irrigation Project which was completed in 2011. Five 250-horse power (hp) pumps deliver water through the main transmission line, consisting of two 24-inch parallel lines, to irrigate approximately 3,500 acres near Turtle Lake.

The MM 49 Irrigation Project began construction in the fall of 2014 and was completed this spring. The project features a submersible pump station that can pump 1,700 gallons of water per minute. Two pivots will deliver water to approximately 220 acres during this growing season.

The MM 10 Irrigation

Project will begin construction this year with anticipated water delivery by June. An 80-hp centrifugal pump on a floating structure will deliver water to approximately 200 acres through two irrigation pivots.

OAKES TEST AREA

GDCCD is an integral component of the Oakes Test Area (OTA), an irrigation test site that was developed by the Bureau of Reclamation in cooperation with state and federal agencies. The 5,000-acre test site was designed to study the best management irrigation practices, water quality and management, and wetlands and wildlife. Irrigation at the OTA began in Spring 1988 and was authorized to irrigate up to 5,000 acres. Limited water supplies have prevented the test area from reaching its full

potential, with anywhere from 500 to 4,500 acres being irrigated.

The GDCCD operations and maintenance staff performs the daily tasks of operating pumps, servicing equipment and maintaining the extensive system of subsurface pipe drains.

OAKES IRRIGATION RESEARCH SITE

The Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS), south of Oakes, was established as a 20-acre irrigation test plot. The OIRS is aided through a cooperative agreement between GDCCD and NDSU, where NDSU provides technical staff and the GDCCD provides a majority of the financial resources.

Major upgrades are needed at the OIRS to continue irrigation research. The GDCCD and NDSU are working together to accommodate these needs. The upgrades are progressing steadily, and the opportunity to double the acreage has presented itself.

GDCCD is proud to support agricultural and irrigation research and development which help provide widespread benefits to farmers while economically benefiting North Dakota.





DAVID HARTZ
CAVALIER, N.D.

Tell us about your farm.

My dad started the farm, so I am a second-generation farmer, starting in 1989. I grow corn, soybeans, wheat, dry beans and high oleic sunflowers.

How did you become a member of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association's Board of Directors?

Scott Sinner, at Sinner Brothers and Bresnahan (SB&B), encouraged me to get involved. I've been growing

soybeans for them for 19 years. I've never grown a Roundup Ready soybean.

Have you learned a lot as a director?

The learning curve is incredible. It's been very interesting, and I've learned a lot. The association does a lot more than I ever knew they did. There is a lot of legislation that comes through that needs to be tracked. The association promotes policy and lobbies for soybean growers.

What other organizations have you been active in?

I've been on the Cavalier school board for six years and president for three years. I've been on the board of a basic-care nursing home facility since 1998.

Do you have any hobbies? I like to travel. I've been to France, England and Japan. I met up with my soybeans at a plant at the

base of Mount Fuji in Japan with SB&B. I also do a lot of test plot work on my farm with BASF, Monsanto and Syngenta. This year, Monsanto has 12,000 plots on 27 acres; Syngenta has five acres; and BASF has strip trials. I've done a lot of seed varieties on my own, mostly corn. In those trials, I see the potential of 200-bushel corn yields, even in northern North Dakota. The ears are just incredible. We're fertilizing for 200-bushel corn this year for Monsanto. We were the first to apply Headline in-furrow in trials, just on a whim, in 2007 or 2008. Then, BASF looked at our research, and Headline was eventually labeled for in-furrow application.

If you could add some new technology to the farm, what would it be? I'd probably have my own fertilizer spreader. I used to

do all my own until last year, with a little six-ton spreader. With the newer spreaders, you can apply variable rates and zones, which is so much better than the conventional spreaders. I'd also like to have the Watch Dog system to be able to operate my grain dryer with my smart phone from anywhere in the world.

Is there any technology you have that you couldn't farm without? I'm not going to give up auto-steer.

What is your favorite meal? Steak and shrimp.

If you could win a vacation to anywhere, where would you go? Aruba or the Galapagos.

What do you like best about farming? You always plan for something the next day, but you never know; it may change, and you have to work around those issues. You have to be flexible.



PERRY OSTMO
SHARON, N.D.

Tell us about your farm.

I'm raising wheat, soybeans, barley and edible beans this year; and occasionally corn and field peas. I started

farming in 1981, so I guess this is my 35th year. I live on the home farm where I grew up and my folks farmed for many years. When my dad retired in 1989, I took over.

Why did you get involved with the North Dakota Soybean Council?

I was interested in seeing how our checkoff dollars are used in finding new markets and expanding other markets and in funding research. I wanted to be a part of that.

What are the other organizations with which you have been active?

Right now, I'm on the township board and fire

district as treasurer on both. They both keep me busy. I'm also on the Steele County Farmers Union Board and am a member of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association.

Why are soybeans a part of your crop mix?

Soybeans are a really good mix with wheat in my rotation. It's helped me get rid of some problematic weeds, and I like raising soybeans, too; they're harvested at an ideal time when we're done with the small grain. I just enjoy raising them. I first had soybeans in 1985. We had

them for 2 years; then, I quit for a few years because varieties back then were too long for our area. They were real late back then. There were quite a few people that tried them at that time; then, most people got out of soybeans until more suitable varieties for maturity were developed.

If you could add any new equipment or technology to your farm, what would it be?

I would like a piece of equipment to handle trash: Salford or Joker. I do raise some corn, so I would like to have something to take care of the corn stalks and

soybean stubble.

What's the one piece of farm equipment or technology you wouldn't want to be without?

Autosteer.

What changes do you expect to see on your farm in the next 5 to 10 years?

I hope to have one or both sons farming with me—or a daughter.

Do you have any hobbies?

Scuba diving and bowling

What's your favorite food? Most Mexican food.

If you could win a vacation, where would you want to go? Anywhere

where it's warm with good scuba diving.

What do you like best about farming? Actually, being away from crowds: peace and tranquility.

Biodiesel Storage : What are potential issues with storage tanks and materials compatibility?

Underground storage tanks are preferred to avoid temperature extremes. Above ground storage tanks should be sheltered or painted with reflective paint to resist excessive heat in the summer. High temperatures during storage accelerate fuel degradation. Brass, bronze, copper, lead, tin and zinc may accelerate the oxidation of diesel and biodiesel fuel and potentially create sediments, gels or salts when reacted with some fuel components.

Acceptable storage materials include stainless steel, aluminum, Teflon and most fiberglass. Lead solders, zinc linings, copper pipes, brass regulators and copper fittings should be avoided. According to a National Renewable Energy Laboratory study, elastomers exposed to blends of B20 or less did not exhibit significant changes in dimensions or volume from those exposed to the baseline diesel fuel. The results indicate that all of the elastomers appear to be compatible with biodiesel blends of B20 or less. There are concerns that as temperatures increase, compatibility can be negatively impacted. This is currently being studied by the elastomers manufacturing industry. Watch for leaks and swelling in gaskets.

PROBLEMS WITH GOOSE DEPREDATION?

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department and USDA Wildlife Services offer assistance programs for producers who are experiencing crop depredation by geese, including scare devices, harassment techniques and training.

For chronic problems on agricultural land, special depredation permits are available that allow destruction of nests and eggs, and direct killing of Canada geese and goslings.

Depredation permits require a site inspection from USDA Wildlife Services to begin the process, phone number is 701-355-3300. For more information about Canada goose depredation permits, visit the Game and Fish website at www.gf.nd.gov/private-land-programs, and click on "Depredation Assistance."

Qualified previous permit holders can renew their permit at the Game and Fish web address above, or call 701-328-6351.

NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

100 North Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501-5095
701.328.6351 Email: ndgf@nd.gov
Web: gf.nd.gov



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