

THE NORTH DAKOTA **Soybean** GROWER MAGAZINE

VOLUME 8 • ISSUE 3
JUNE 2019

INSIDE
North Dakota
Legislative Wrap
PAGE 6



ASK AN AGRONOMIST



EVAN TWEDT

DEKALB® Asgrow® Technical Agronomist
McHenry, North Dakota

HOW CAN I INCREASE MY SOYBEAN YIELDS?

Always start by selecting a soybean product that is fit for your region and maturity, as well as tailored to the specific field you are planting it in. The next place to look is your fertility program. We need to keep in mind that soybeans require approximately 5 pounds of nitrogen to produce a bushel of grain. Luckily, soybeans are legumes and can obtain between 50%–70% of their nitrogen requirements from the air when N-fixing bacteria establish functioning nodules on their roots. Inoculating your soybeans with these N-fixing bacteria can help to assure that there will be adequate populations of bacteria present for this relationship to occur. In ideal farming conditions, inoculation may not show a yield benefit, but most farmers know that conditions aren't always ideal in all parts of fields. Phosphorus, potassium and sulfur are also very important nutrients for soybean production. Without the addition of these nutrients to soybeans, yield can easily be limited. Seed treatments

Seeds and agronomy. They're the one-two punch for improving performance in any field. That's why farmers in central and western North Dakota rely on DEKALB® Asgrow® Technical Agronomist Evan Twedt for management advice. He's been working in his current region for four years and is a great source for local knowledge. Here he addresses some of this year's pressing management questions.

can also be very important by helping alleviate some of the early season diseases, such as Phytophthora, Pythium, Rhizoctonia and Fusarium. In-season fungicide applications to combat against foliar diseases can also provide better plant health that can translate to yield.

HOW CAN I KEEP MY FIELDS CLEAN FROM WEEDS?

To help achieve clean fields, plant Asgrow® Roundup Ready 2 Xtend® soybeans and take advantage of the Roundup Ready® Xtend Crop System that allows you to spray XtendiMax® herbicide with VaporGrip® Technology (a restricted use pesticide) in season. This provides contact activity on growing weeds, as well as up to 14 days of soil activity on some small-seeded

“ **ALWAYS START BY SELECTING A SOYBEAN PRODUCT THAT IS FIT FOR YOUR REGION AND MATURITY, AS WELL AS TAILORED TO THE SPECIFIC FIELD YOU ARE PLANTING IT IN.** ”

broadleaf weeds. Secondly, manage areas in your field where soybean and corn plants have a tough time growing. The ability of a crop canopy to combat growing weeds is commonly underestimated. We've all walked fields and come to an area where there was a skip in planting and found a host of weeds that were not within the crop canopy two or three steps back. Find the areas of your field where crop

growth is limited and ask yourself why. What is causing the crop that I planted to not be able to grow? If you can truly answer that question and then fix the problem, the symptoms (weeds) that come from that problem will more than likely also be fixed.

HOW CAN I INCREASE MY PROFITS?

During tough economic times in agriculture, we hear a lot of questions that sound something like this: How can I make more money? How can I improve my bottom line? How can I increase my profits? To truly maximize profitability, a farmer needs to be able to understand which practices on their farm are helping make money and which ones may have a low or negative return on investment. Not only do they need to understand which practices are helping or in some cases hurting them, but they need to understand where on their farm those practices may or may not be working. Digital agricultural platforms such as Climate FieldView™ give farmers the opportunity to look at their farms on a pass-by-pass basis as well as an acre-by-acre basis, providing insights on which decisions may increase profits and the specific acres they're seeing profits increase. FieldView™ also gives a better understanding of increased yields through insights pertaining to management practices such as fungicide treatments and starter fertilizer applications.



FIND MORE AGRONOMIC UPDATES AND TIPS AT ASGROW.COM/PLANTING

XtendiMax® herbicide with VaporGrip® Technology is part of the Roundup Ready® Xtend Crop System and is a restricted use pesticide. ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS FOR USE ON PESTICIDE LABELING. It is a violation of federal and state law to use any pesticide product other than in accordance with its labeling. XtendiMax® herbicide with VaporGrip® Technology and products with XtendFlex® Technology may not be approved in all states and may be subject to use restrictions in some states. Check with your local product dealer or representative or U.S. EPA and your state pesticide regulatory agency for the product registration status and additional restrictions on its use. For approved tank-mix products and nozzles visit XtendiMaxApplicationRequirements.com. Monsanto Company is a member of Excellence Through Stewardship® (ETS). Monsanto products are commercialized in accordance with ETS Product Launch Stewardship Guidance, and in compliance with Monsanto's Policy for Commercialization of Biotechnology-Derived Plant Products in Commodity Crops. This product has been approved for import into key export markets with functioning regulatory systems. Any crop or material produced from this product can only be exported to, or used, processed or sold in countries where all necessary regulatory approvals have been granted. It is a violation of national and international law to move material containing biotech traits across boundaries into nations where import is not permitted. Growers should talk to their grain handler or product purchaser to confirm their buying position for this product. Excellence Through Stewardship® is a registered trademark of Excellence Through Stewardship. ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS FOR USE ON PESTICIDE LABELING. IT IS A VIOLATION OF FEDERAL AND STATE LAW to use any pesticide product other than in accordance with its labeling. NOT ALL formulations of dicamba or glyphosate are approved for in-crop use with Roundup Ready 2 Xtend® soybeans. ONLY USE FORMULATIONS THAT ARE SPECIFICALLY LABELED FOR SUCH USES AND APPROVED FOR SUCH USE IN THE STATE OF APPLICATION. Contact the U.S. EPA and your state pesticide regulatory agency with any questions about the approval status of dicamba herbicide products for in-crop use with Roundup Ready 2 Xtend® soybeans. Roundup Ready 2 Xtend® soybeans contains genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate and dicamba. Glyphosate will kill crops that are not tolerant to glyphosate. Dicamba will kill crops that are not tolerant to dicamba. Contact your seed brand dealer or refer to the Monsanto Technology Use Guide for recommended weed control programs. Performance may vary, from location to location and from year to year, as local growing, soil and weather conditions may vary. Growers should evaluate data from multiple locations and years whenever possible and should consider the impacts of these conditions on the grower's fields. ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW GRAIN MARKETING AND ALL OTHER STEWARDSHIP PRACTICES AND PESTICIDE LABEL DIRECTIONS. Roundup Ready technology contains genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate, an active ingredient in Roundup® brand agricultural herbicides. Agricultural herbicides containing glyphosate will kill crops that are not tolerant to glyphosate. Climate FieldView™ services provide estimates or recommendations based on models. These do not guarantee results. Consult your agronomist, commodities broker and other service professionals before making financial, risk management, and farming decisions. More information at <http://www.climate.com/disclaimers>. FieldView™ is a trademark of The Climate Corporation. Asgrow and the A Design®, Asgrow®, DEKALB and Design®, DEKALB®, Roundup Ready 2 Xtend®, Roundup Ready®, Roundup®, VaporGrip® and XtendiMax® are registered trademarks of Bayer Group. ©2019 Bayer Group. All Rights Reserved.





NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT

Joe Ericson, Wimbledon | At-Large | joe.ericson@NDSGA.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Ryan Pederson, Rolette | D7 | ryan.pederson@NDSGA.com

SECRETARY

Greg Gussiaas, Carrington | D5 | greg.gussiaas@NDSGA.com

TREASURER

Eric Broten, Dazey | D4 | eric.broten@NDSGA.com

DIRECTORS

Kasey Bitz, LaMoure | D2 | kasey.bitz@NDSGA.com

Spencer Endrud, Buxton | D3 | kasey.bitz@NDSGA.com

Sam Landman, Northwood | D6 | sam.landman@NDSGA.com

Mike Appert, Hazleton | D8 | mike.appert@NDSGA.com

Matt Swenson, Kindred | At-Large | matt.swenson@NDSGA.com

Logan Ferry, Marvel | DuPont Young Leader | logan.ferry@NDSGA.com

AMERICAN SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS

Josh Gackle, Kulm | josh.gackle@NDSGA.com

Monte Peterson, Valley City | monte.peterson@NDSGA.com

NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN

Joe Morken, Cassellton | D4 | jmorken@ndsoybean.org

VICE CHAIRMAN

Austin Langley, Warwick | D9 | alangley@ndsoybean.org

SECRETARY

Mike Langseth, Barney | D1 | mlangseth@ndsoybean.org

TREASURER

Dan Spiekermeier, Sheldon | D2 | dspiekermeier@ndsoybean.org

DIRECTORS

Mike Schlosser, Edgeley | D3 | mschlosser@ndsoybean.org

Rob Rose, Wimbledon | D5 | rrose@ndsoybean.org

Levi Taylor, Ypsilanti | D6 | ltaylor@ndsoybean.org

Brian Jodock, Northwood | D7 | bjodock@ndsoybean.org

Perry Ostmo, Sharon | D8 | postmo@ndsoybean.org

Adam Redmann, Saint Thomas | D10 | aredmann@ndsoybean.org

Chris Brossart, Wolford | D11 | cbrossart@ndsoybean.org

Daniel Mock, Braddock | D12 | dmock@ndsoybean.org

UNITED SOYBEAN BOARD DIRECTORS

Jared Hagert, Emerado | jchagert@msn.com

Jay Myers, Colfax | jmyers@rrf.net

Darren Kadlec, Pisek | dkadlec@polarcomm.com

STAFF CREDITS

PUBLISHER/EDITOR

Nancy Johnson, NDSGA Executive Director

nancy.johnson@NDSGA.com | (701) 640-5215

STAFF WRITER

Suzanne Wolf, NDSC Communications Director

swolf@ndsoybean.org | (701) 566-9300

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Daniel Lemke

Stephanie Sinner

Harrison Weber

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Wanbaugh Studios

Betsy Armour Images

NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN COUNCIL

4852 Rocking Horse Circle South, Fargo, ND 58104

(701) 566-9300 | www.ndsoybean.org

NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

4852 Rocking Horse Circle South, Fargo, ND 58104

(701) 566-9300 | www.ndsoygrowers.com

The N.D. Soybean Growers Association and the N.D. Soybean Council do not endorse the use of products promoted in this magazine.

Contents

6 Cover Story

North Dakota Legislative Wrap

9 Many Thanks! Job Well Done!

10 North Dakota Soybean Council Elects Executive Officers

11 New Directors Join the North Dakota Soybean Council

11 Farewell and Best Wishes to Intern Josephine

12 North Dakota Growers Represent U.S. Soy on Mission to the Philippines

13 Northern Crops Institute Food Scientist Participates in Trade Mission to China

14 Consumer Trust: The key to Livestock Friendly Communities

15 Video Highlights Soybean Teamwork

16 Better, Not Bigger Necessity Leads to Benefits

18 Perdue Pressed on Trade, MFP by ND Soybean Farmers

19 NDSGA Visits the Hill

19 Thank You, Eric Broten

20 A Critical Month for Weed Control

21 Be Alert for Sudden Death Syndrome with Soybeans in North Dakota

22 Request Biodiesel

23 RLND Seeks Participants for 9th Class

24 CommonGround North Dakota Volunteer Training Held in Fargo

25 The Myth and Reality of Soyfoods

27 Easy, Breezy Summertime!

28 Training Soybean Leaders

29 Natural Resource Conservation Service Chief Visits North Dakota

30 Standing Together

30 Report Makes Case for Rural Broadband

Departments

4 ND Legislative Interim Update

5 President's Letter

8 North Dakota Soybean Council Report

32 Getting to Know the Grower

32 Bean Briefs

33 Getting to Know the Expert

On the cover

The priority for most North Dakota farmers is doing what they can to operate as productively as possible. Farmers like Joe Ericson also monitor what is happening in Bismarck and Washington D.C. because policy decisions can have a major impact on soybean production and profitability. This issue of the North Dakota Soybean Grower takes a closer look at how some activity from the recently completed Legislative Assembly could affect agriculture.

—Photo by Wanbaugh Studios



The North Dakota Soybean Grower is published six times a year by the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, 4852 Rocking Horse Circle South, Fargo, ND 58104. Website: www.ndsoygrowers.com.

To update subscription information, please call (701) 566-9300 or email info@NDSGA.com.

Send editorial and advertising materials to Nancy Johnson, 4852 Rocking Horse Circle South, Fargo, ND 58104, nancy.johnson@NDSGA.com. Publication of editorial or advertising material in the North Dakota Soybean Grower magazine does not imply endorsement by the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association. Check agronomic advice with local sources and always read and follow product labels.

A

Another session in the Books

It's over. The 66th North Dakota Legislative Session lasted 76 working days, plus one or two where legislators did not hammer in a floor session yet they worked in committees. My overarching view is that agriculture gained more in this session than we thought we might. Overall, I view this session as a positive one for the industry.

Among the wins was restored funding for North Dakota State University Ag Research and Extension Service. It came out ahead after several sessions receiving serious cuts. Research returns so much to the state, so it is good to see some of that funding reinstated. The North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA) had signed in support of the bill which passed on the last day. That day was a big for everyone involved with the grain and livestock industries in North Dakota.

Another success came with the passage of the bill which restored the farm home tax exemption. While it may not be huge monetarily, it will help people during these tough economic times. What was overlooked with this measure was the bridging of the urban-rural gap that we sometimes talk about in North Dakota. The measure had good bipartisan support which means that many urban legislators voted in favor of it. Our city brothers and sister recognized how important farmers and agriculture are to the state, showing that realization by supporting the exemption. That story was big to me because of what it symbolized.

Snagging and clearing legislation was also a win because it shows state support for rural infrastructure. Support for beginning farm loans also illustrated that the legislature was willing to put money where it should be.

In my view, the biggest failure of the session was not finding adequate funding for roads and bridges. The state's massive infrastructure bill, dubbed "Operation Prairie Dog," will provide some funds that should help over the next decade.

The legislative session is a difficult process. At times, it is a microcosm of society. You see the best and worst of human nature, but overall, participants have the best interest of North Dakota in mind.

Now, the legislative management team will decide which legislators get picked for which interim committees. Committee activities will fire up later this summer after the legislators, executive branch members and advocates take a month or three off to recover from the intense daily pressure cooker that is the session.

This session also marked the end of full involvement for your legislative director since 2008, Scott Rising. Having worked with him for 6 years as a senator and these past 3 years as his partner in Bismarck, I can tell you that no one cared more or worked harder to help agriculture than Scott. His philosophy is and was that your organization has to be there constantly to be effective. Day after day and incident upon incident, I have come to see that he is absolutely correct. I am happy that he will be able to go out having seen NDSU research funding restored. Again, not a single person in Bismarck was more dedicated, and he retires with the respect of his peers and others he sought to educate for the betterment of North Dakota soybean farmers. Thank you, Mr. Rising, I could not have asked for a better teacher and partner.



Veteran lawmaker and educator Phil Murphy is the NDSGA liaison between legislators and farmers.

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 that do not respond to nonlethal deterrents.

Producers who have not had a depredation permit in the past require a site inspection from USDA Wildlife Services, and can call 701-355-3300 to begin the process. For more information about Canada goose depredation permits, visit the Game and Fish website at www.gf.nd.gov/plots/landowner, and scroll down to "Depredation Assistance." Qualified previous permit holders can renew their permit at the Game and Fish web address above, or call 701-328-6610.

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



A New Season

As farmers, we're used to marking the year by seasons. That's no surprise because our livelihood and our schedules are marked by the seasonal changes.

For most of us, it has been a very long winter. The arrival of spring is always welcomed but maybe a little more so in 2019 because Old Man Winter seemed to flex his muscle more this year than most. I, for one, am okay watching that season disappear in the rearview mirror.

The arrival of spring also marks the end of the North Dakota legislative session. For the past four months, the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association's (NDSGA) directors and staff have been at the capitol, speaking on behalf of common-sense legislation that is good for the state and good for farmers. We worked in unison with other ag and non-ag groups in order to monitor and to shepherd measures that were important to us. Issues such as the farm-home exemption, trespassing bills, and North Dakota State University research and

extension funding were all on our radar. You can read a more detailed rundown of what happened with a number of important issues elsewhere in this magazine.

NDSGA representatives spent countless hours in Bismarck, lending our ears and, sometimes, our voices to issues that affect us as farmers. I would like to thank the growers who took the time to testify, to connect with their legislators or to simply talk with us about their concerns. I also appreciate the efforts of other farm organizations that helped raise the volume of agriculture's voice.

Now, the season has turned to one we look forward to each year: farming. It's time to till, plant and nurture our crops. Sure, we'll still keep an eye on what's happening with interim committees in North Dakota as well as activity in Washington, D.C., but right now, our focus is on raising the best crops that we can.

Have a safe and productive growing season.



Joe Ericson
President, North Dakota
Soybean Growers Association

Email:
joe.ericson@ndsga.com

Website:
ndsoygrowers.com



Membership Application

To join ASA and the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, complete and return this application with payment.

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Farm/Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

County: _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

Occupation (Please check all that apply)

☐ Farmer ☐ Retired ☐ Agribusiness

☐ Finance ☐ Elevator ☐ Other

Do you currently grow soybeans?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Soybean Acres: _____ Total Acres Farmed: _____

Do you raise:

☐ Cattle ☐ Hogs ☐ Poultry ☐ Dairy

How did you hear about NDSGA? (Please circle one)

Recruited in person; Recruited by phone, Magazine;

Internet; Mailing; Radio; Event; Other

☐ 3-Year Membership \$200 ☐ 1-Year Membership \$75

☐ Check enclosed (please make checks payable to NDSGA)

☐ Credit Card: Visa / MasterCard / Discover / American Express

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: ____/____/____ CVC: _____

Name on Card (Please print): _____

Signature: _____

Mail application with payment to:

North Dakota Soybean Growers Association

4852 Rocking Horse Circle South

Fargo, ND 58104

North Dakota Legislative Wrap



After 76 days, countless hearings, floor sessions, conversations and debate, the 66th Legislative

Assembly is complete. As a policy organization, the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association's (NDSGA) staff and farmer leaders were actively involved with monitoring, advocating and partnering with other groups to work on behalf of the state's soybean farmers.

Because farmers are also North Dakota citizens, everything the legislature does affects them. However, some bills and actions taken by the legislature have a more direct effect on agriculture. An overview about some of the many bills which the NDGSA tracked during the session follows. Each listing contains the bill number which can be used to review the bill's full language through the North Dakota bill-tracking system. <https://www.legis.nd.gov/legislative-council>

1020: NDSU Ag Research and Extension Funding

The bill provides funds for North Dakota State University ag research and Extension activities as well as funds for the Northern Crops Institute, the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and other activities. The bill passed and will provide funding for research and Extension until 2021.

1026: Soil Conservation District Supervisor Training

This measure provides for newly elected soil conservation district supervisors to receive annual training.

1066: Infrastructure Bill

This bill is the huge infrastructure bill, nicknamed Prairie Dog, which distributes money in various buckets to counties, cities, townships,

airports, school districts and more. This bill provides some certainty for funding as revenue is generated over the biennium.

1205: Sales Tax Exemption

This bill is a sales tax exemption for industry. It provides an exemption on materials used for facility construction, including fertilizer plants.

1220: Secured Lender Notification

This measure would have possibly changed the order as to who received the judgement in the case of a farm insolvency. It was turned into a study.

1291: Farm Truck and Trailer License

Bill 1291 passed. It allows owners of a semi or farm trailer to purchase

a lifetime registration for \$120. Individuals can purchase tabs annually for \$20.

1349: Industrial Hemp

North Dakota farmers can now receive a permit to raise industrial hemp. Interested growers must apply for a permit from the Department of Agriculture.

1383: Environmental Impact Mitigation Fund

This bill passed and set up a 20-member board to deal with money from wind siting land mitigation funds. Money will run into a newly created environmental impact fund.

1388: Corporate Farming

Bill 1388 is the "second cousins" corporate farming bill. It passed. This bill allows family farms which are set up as corporations to include second cousins as partners.

1467: Grain Handling

This bill brought the oversight and enforcement for warehouse, grain inspection and licensing issues from the Public Service Commission to the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. The bill turned into what will be an intensive study of financials with confidentiality, an expanded grain-indemnity fund, bonding and other issues.

2109: Environmental Quality

The action makes the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) a stand-alone entity. It had previously been part of the Health Department. The DEQ is where ag issues such as large animal-feeding operations and water quality will be administered.

2139: State Water Commission Cost Share

Bill 2139 restores the state cost share for snagging and clearing bridges which was lost during the last session. The NDSGA saw it as a very important roads and bridges issue and joined water resource districts in working to bring this practice back.



Bismarck attracts plenty of attention from farmers during the legislative assembly.

2151: Overweight Vehicle Permits

This bill changes overweight truck permit validity from a calendar year to a 12-month permit.

2176: Road Train Pilot Program

This bill would have started a pilot program for road trains which consist of two or more trailers or semi-trailers that are hauled by a prime mover. Road trains are in op-

eration in Australia and Europe, but would necessitate some infrastructure changes in the United States. This bill became a study.

2197: Family Farm Loans

Bill 2197 was passed by the legislature and established a loan program for qualifying family farmers at a loan rate that is 1 percent below the current Bank of North Dakota rate for 10 years.

2278: Farm Home Property Tax Exemption

This measure was passed and provided some financial confidentiality for applications for the new farm home exemption. This bill is a companion to bill 2360.

2297: Capital Project Appropriations

Bill 2297 addressed some building needs at state university campuses, such as Dunbar Hall at North Dakota State University, Gamble Hall at the University of North Dakota, some buildings at Valley City State University and Dickinson State, as well as the NDSU Harris Hall replacement. Termed the Agricultural Products Development Center, this bill was passed in the Senate but cut in the House. Private donations must reach the \$20 million mark before state funds kick in, up from the original \$6 million.

2315: Trespass Law Revisions

Bill 2315 was the automatic posting bill which kept posting for hunting as it has always been with a proposed committee to look at a way for landowners and hunters to work together on an app or database for access. It failed on a close vote in the House on the last day.

2328: Agricultural Products Utilization Commission

This measure moved the Agricultural Products Utilization Commission from the Commerce Department to the Agriculture Department.

2345: Animal Feeding Operations and Zoning Regulations

Bill 2345 has provisions for animal feeding operations to be permitted if the county or township receiving the application does not act within 60 days. There is also new language pertaining to setbacks which makes the local government explain why expanded setbacks are needed.

2346: Grain Licensing

The grain inspection bill sought to bring new protections to bear for farmers, especially in light of an elevator insolvency which has caused problems for many farmers. It also would have increased the indemnity fund which offers a level of protection for farmers in case of an elevator insolvency. The indemnity fund was not expanded, but the bill did move enforcement and inspection from the Public Service Commission to the Agriculture Department. All other changes were stripped from the bill and moved into an interim study.

2360: Farm Home Exemption

Passage of this bill was somewhat of a surprise. The law redoes the farm home exemption to mirror the Internal Revenue Service definition of a qualifying farmer at 66 percent of gross income from the farm. Bill 2278 is the companion bill that simplifies the application process, but still requires farmers to apply for the exemption while mandating financial confidentiality.

Interim Committees

Numerous issues were discussed at the legislature but were tabled pending further study by interim committees. These committees will likely hold hearings and public meetings to gather information for future decisions. Interim committees will meet until the next session.

Committees will be named in the weeks ahead.

It's important that, in addition to participating during the legislative session, when appropriate, North Dakota soybean farmers are encouraged to provide input to the interim committees. The NDSGA staff will monitor the interim committee activities and will provide updates to keep members informed.

—Story by Daniel Lemke

PREMIUM SOYBEAN PRODUCTION CONTRACTS AVAILABLE

SB&B FOODS, INC.

A Family Heritage Since 1906

- Full Production Contracts with Act of God Protection
- Attractive Premiums
- Guaranteed On-time Payment
- Flexible Pricing Options
- Wide Range of Soybean Varieties Available
- Direct Access to Global Food Markets

Contact us today!

Scott Sinner
Jeremy Sinner

PO Box 549
Casselton, ND 58012
Phone: 701-347-4900
www.sb-b.com
Email: foods@sb-b.com

Convenient Delivery Location

Identity Ag Processing
Casselton, ND



Dear Fellow North Dakota Soybean Producers,

We are becoming a strong customer base for biodiesel. Fueling our farms with biodiesel provides an opportunity to create a demand for the crops we grow, and spring and summer are the perfect time to begin using B20 (20 percent biodiesel and 80 percent petroleum diesel).

Biodiesel is a high-quality, high-performance fuel to use in our farm equipment and diesel vehicles. Even low blends of biodiesel, such as B2 and B5, offer exceptional lubricity, reducing wear and tear on engines. Biodiesel is naturally high in cetane and low in sulfur. If that benefit wasn't enough, biodiesel is a renewable, cleaner-burning fuel that is friendlier to the user and the environment.

This is our fuel. More than 20 years ago, soybean farmers helped to establish the biodiesel industry in order to create a market for soybean oil. Our commitment to biodiesel is reflected in our \$25 million checkoff investment. As soybean farmers, we have benefited from this investment and the growth of biodiesel. Growth in the demand for biodiesel increases the demand for, and the value of, U.S. soybean oil by 11 cents per pound, adding 63 cents of value to every bushel of soybeans. Biodiesel also works for the U.S. soybean industry's number-one customer, animal agriculture, by lowering the price of soybean meal by \$21 per ton.

I encourage you to ask your fuel supplier for biodiesel blends. More suppliers are now making biodiesel blends available to their customers because companies realize that there is demand for the fuel. Everyone has the opportunity to make a difference in North Dakota's biodiesel market. Ask for biodiesel, and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

Quick Facts about B20

- B20 has undergone more field testing than any other biodiesel blend.
- B20's solvency acts like a premium diesel with an enhanced lubricity and detergency effect to keep the injectors and fuel system clean.
- B20 has naturally higher cetane for quicker starts and less smoke.
- B20 reduces tailpipe emissions on pre-2007 equipment.
- No vehicle modifications are necessary to fuel with biodiesel blends up to B20.
- Power and performance are virtually the same when fueling with B20.

If you have questions about biodiesel, fuel handling, storage, and use or if you need help troubleshooting a fuel-related problem, contact the Regional Diesel Helpline at (800) 929-3437.



Joe Morken
Chairman
North Dakota Soybean Council

Email:
jmorken@ndsoybean.org

Website:
www.ndsoybean.org



North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) Director of Market Development Harrison Weber was in Jamestown on May 2 for a Biodiesel Workshop for area farmers. The Biodiesel Workshop covered: recent changes to diesel fuel; Biodiesel 101; benefits of biodiesel; best practices for preventing fuel problems; diesel and cold weather; and Q & A session. The workshop was hosted by MEG Corp Fuel Consulting and sponsored by NDSC. See page 22 to learn more about how NDSC and MEG Corp partner to promote and advance the biodiesel industry in the state.

—Photos by staff



Many Thanks!

At the end of March, the North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) said farewell to two of its directors. Troy Uglem of Northwood sat on the board for six years and repre-

sented soybean farmers in Traill and Grand Forks Counties. He had been the vice chairman for the past two years and was also the treasurer for two years. Matt Gast of Valley

City represented Barnes County for the past three years and was the secretary for two years. The NDSC extends its deepest gratitude to these two men for their years of dedica-

tion and service to the NDSC and North Dakota's soybean industry.

—Story and photos by Staff



Appreciation awards were presented by NDSC Chairman Joe Morken and NDSC Executive Director Stephanie Sinner. Troy Uglem is pictured on the left, and pictured on the right is Matt Gast.

Job Well Done!



During the Commodity Classic in Orlando, Florida, several North Dakota Soybean Council directors and staff members were recognized for having completed multiple Ag Leader Source board-member training modules online during the past year. Back row, from left to right: Troy Uglem, Levi Taylor, Harrison Weber, Joe Morken and Perry Ostmo. Front row, from left to right: Daniel Mock, Molly Fern and Chris Brossart. Ag Leader Source provides soybean farmers with an opportunity to continue enhancing and developing their leadership skills.



North Dakota Soybean Council Elects Executive Officers

Executive officers were elected during the North Dakota Soybean Council's (NDSC) board meeting

On March 27, Joe Morken of Casselton was re-elected as the chairman of the board. Morken represents soybean farmers in Cass County. He has been growing soybeans with his parents and wife, Robin, for 20 years. He comes from a third-generation small-grain and sugarbeet farm. Morken graduated from North Dakota State College of Science, has served as the treasurer of the Cass County Ag Improvement Association and currently serves on the Central Cass School Board.

"I am humbled that the board of

directors have elected me as chairman again," says Morken. "It is a complete joy to work alongside such great board members and staff."

The board elected Austin Langley of Warwick, North Dakota, as the vice chairman. Langley represents soybean farmers in Eddy, Foster and Wells Counties. He grows soybeans, edible beans, wheat, barley, alfalfa and corn. Langley farms with his father and uncles on their no-till farm. His family also has a cow/calf operation. Langley holds a degree from North Dakota State University in agribusi-

ness. He is a member of the National Agri-Marketing Association, Farmers Union and 4-H, and he is active with the Winchester Arms Collectors Association.

Mike Langseth of Barney, North Dakota, was elected as the secretary. He and his father raise corn and soybeans. Langseth is a member of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, the North Dakota Corn Growers Association and the Richland County Crop Improvement Association. He holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the Uni-

versity of Minnesota and is currently working on his master's degree in soil science at North Dakota State University. Langseth represents Richland County's soybean producers.

Sheldon, North Dakota, soybean producer Dan Spiekermeier was elected as the treasurer. He represents soybean farmers in Sargent and Ransom Counties. Spiekermeier has farmed since 1985 and, with his son, Nathan, raises soybeans, corn, wheat, barley and sunflowers. He is the president of the Ransom County Farmers Union and is the Sheldon Fire Chief for the Enderlin-Sheldon Fire Department.

—Story by staff, photos by Wanbaugh Studios



From left to right: Joe Morken, Austin Langley, Dan Spiekermeier and Mike Langseth

Who is My North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) County Representative?

Almost every county in North Dakota grows soybeans. Did you know, your county most likely has a County Representative? These soybean producers serve as a liaison between the soybean producers in their counties and the NDSC board members. County Representatives provide insight and feedback to NDSC board members on soybean related topics and can

help offer educational opportunities to soybean producers in their counties. To learn who your NDSC County Representative is, visit ndsoybean.org/the-council. Contact them today to learn more or see about hosting a soybean event in your county.



New Directors Join the North Dakota Soybean Council

The North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) recently welcomed three new directors to the board. They officially started their terms on April 1, 2019.

Wimbledon soybean farmer Robert (Rob) Rose was elected to represent soybean farmers in District 5: Barnes County. Rose farms with his wife, and they produce soybeans, corn, wheat, barley and pinto beans on a fifth-generation centennial farm. He has been a local township board supervisor for the past 18 years and holds an agricultural economics degree from North Dakota State University (NDSU).

Brian Jodock, a soybean farmer from Northwood was elected to represent District 7: Traill and Grand Forks counties. He and his son farm together, and they grow soybeans, corn, wheat and edible beans. Jodock is president of the Northwood Equity Elevator. He holds a degree from

NDSU in music education.

Adam Redmann, a soybean producer from Saint Thomas, was appointed to represent soybean farmers in District 10: Cavalier, Pembina and Walsh Counties. Redmann and his father raise soybeans, corn, pinto beans and pink beans. Redmann is involved with his local church and holds a finance degree from the University of North Dakota.

Austin Langley, a soybean producer from Warwick, was re-elected to represent District 9: Wells, Eddy and Foster Counties. He grows soybeans, edible beans, wheat, barley, alfalfa and corn. Langley farms with his father and uncles on their no-till farm. His family also has a cow/calf operation. Langley holds a degree from NDSU in agribusiness. He is a member of the National Agri-Marketing Association, Farmers Union and 4-H; he is active with the Winchester Arms Collectors Association.

"We are excited to welcome Rob, Brian and Adam to the board and look forward to working with them as they serve on behalf of their fellow North Dakota soybean producers," says Stephanie Sinner, NDSC executive director.

"We also congratulate Austin on his re-election to the board and look forward to his continued leadership."

—Story and photo by staff



From left to right: Brian Jodock, Adam Redmann and Rob Rose.

Farewell and Best Wishes to Intern Josephine

In early May, the North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) bid

farewell to marketing communications intern Josephine Hudoba. She

graduated from Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM) on May 17th with a major in Spanish and minors in general agriculture and public relations. She completed her agriculture classes at North Dakota State University (NDSU) as a Tri-College student.

Hudoba grew up in East Bethel, Minnesota. She began learning Spanish at a young age when she attended a Spanish-immersion elementary school in Forest Lake, Minnesota. She has always had a strong passion for agriculture. She raised poultry, had her own garden, and was actively involved with 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA).

After graduation, Hudoba will begin her career as a Spanish Bilingual Account Manager for an agriculture engineering company called Nova-Tech in Willmar, Minnesota. She would like to thank the office team, board of directors and everyone she has met along the way for the unforgettable and valuable experience with the NDSC.

The NDSC sincerely thanks Hudoba for all her help and hard work during the last year. She was a huge asset to the NDSC's office team. Congratulations and best wishes!

—Story and photo by staff.



Hudoba and Suzie Soybean. Many thanks for all the help with Suzie Soybean over the past year at various events.



North Dakota Growers Represent U.S. Soy on Mission to the Philippines

Two North Dakota farmers recently traveled to Southeast Asia on behalf of U.S. soybean farmers.

Monte Peterson, of Valley City, who serves as the vice chairman for the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) and as a director for the American Soybean Association (ASA), along with North Dakota Soybean Council Treasurer Dan Spiekermeier of Sheldon, took part in a U.S. soy producers' field-to-market mission in the Philippines from March 25 through 30.

Dynamic growth and an expanding middle class are making Southeast-Asian consumers among the most confident in the world when it comes to their economic prospects, making this region an important market for U.S. soy.

"Relationships have developed into consistent trade with that part of the world where U.S. soy can serve their needs effectively through the ports out of the Pacific Northwest," says Peterson.

The USSEC organized its 14th Southeast Asia Soy Food Symposium, "Soy Insight—Sustainability and Innovation Towards Development

Goals," in Manila on March 26.

Participants from across Southeast Asia who were involved with various aspects of the food industry, such as research and development, product marketing, food technologists, nutritionists and health professionals, as well as representatives from the trading community and government ministries, attended the conference.

On March 27, the USSEC co-hosted the joint buyers' conference, Ag Supply Chain Asia 2019 (ASCA), with the U.S. Grains Council (USGC) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). More than 250 key grain and oilseed importers from southeast Asia gathered to discuss current market dynamics, the Chinese market and the African Swine Fever situation as well as the grain supply and demand, U.S.-southeast Asia trade policy and big data in agriculture.

Participants at ASCA 2019 (previously known as the Grain Transport Conference) represented more than 130 organizations, including import-

ers, end-users, suppliers and service providers from across southeast Asia. The two-day conference provided participants with an in depth outlook about the region's current ag markets, as well as the influencing factors, strategic analyses and expert insights, in order to help navigate the global agricultural market.

Peterson gave a presentation from a U.S. soy grower's perspective about production and supply. Both Spiekermeier and Peterson took part in a U.S. ag producers' forum.

Such buyers' conferences help U.S. suppliers reach the growing demand in southeast Asia. In addition to forging relationships between traders and customers, the conference offered trade servicing and value added opportunities to partners in the region. The up-to-date information provided at the conferences is just one key selling point for U.S. origin commodities.

Following the conferences, the two farmers took part in field missions, including tours of a soymilk facility, A.B. Nutribev and Sunmade Agri-

Plus which is a full-fat, soybean-meal facility, on March 28.

The U.S. soy delegation visited Sahara Feeds Corp. and Southeast Feeds Specialist Corp., one of the Philippines' biggest aquafeed producers, on March 29. The company is a strong supporter of the USSEC's Soy in Aquaculture program and has been a cooperator for the USSEC's aqua-feeding demonstrations. Later that afternoon, the group visited B&V Feedmill and Layer Farm which uses 100 percent U.S. soybean meal, when available, and has begun using full-fat soybeans (FFSB) made from U.S. soybeans since the USSEC conducted a feeding demonstration in 2018 using 6 percent FFSB in most of its diets.

Last year, the Philippines emerged as U.S. soy's top soybean meal market.

"The U.S. enjoys a 95-percent market share of whole soybeans and a 81-percent market share of soybean meal exports to the Philippines," explains Peterson. "The Philippines have been great customers of U.S. soy for more than 24 years, so Manila was the perfect place to host the Ag Supply Chain Asia 2019 Conference, where we were able to meet and greet customers from all over southeast Asia."

—Story by Jen Del Carmen, USSEC, photos courtesy of USSEC



Valley City farmer Monte Peterson provides a U.S. soy grower's perspective to the ASCA participants.



North Dakota Soybean Council Director Dan Spiekermeier takes notes and participates in the buyer's conference.



Northern Crops Institute Food Scientist Participates in Trade Mission to China

The Bean Products Committee of China held its annual International Soyfood Processing Technology

and Equipment Exhibition on April 2-4, 2019, in Changsha, China. The North Dakota Trade Office (NDTO) staff introduced the state's food-grade, identity preserved soybeans to Chinese food-soybean buyers. During the exhibition, Northern Crops Institute (NCI) Food Scientist Dr. Zach Liu presented about the benefits of North Dakota's high quality soybeans. Dr. Liu's trade mission was also made possible with support from the North Dakota Soybean Council.

An expert on soybeans, Dr. Liu educated participants about the benefits of identity preserved soybeans. Soybeans, originating from China, have been consumed as food for thousands of years. One of Dr. Liu's specialties is tofu, a product which is made from soybeans. Upon the exhibition's conclusion, Dr. Liu attended a tofu workshop in Jingxi Province. During the workshop, he learned how to make both fried and dried tofu products. He also visited Xinyu Huale Food Company and Jumeihe Soyfood Company to see how their

products were manufactured. Xinyu Huale Food Company specializes in the production of yuba products while Jumeihe Soufood Company manufactures stinky tofu.

In recent years, there has been an intense focus on the emergence of plant-based proteins which are used in product development. Addi-

tionally, high protein foods, such as soyfoods, have been highly demanded. The soyfood market is growing fast in Asia and has a good potential for growth in Western countries. To expand growth, consumers need to be well educated about the health benefits and cooking methods for soyfoods. People should also have

some knowledge about how to incorporate soy with their eating habits. As an example, yuba is a traditional soy product that contains 45 percent protein. This product has a bland taste and flavor, and is widely used as cooking material for many Chinese dishes. Now, new yuba products have appeared in the market. One is yuba sheet, and the other is a fried yuba roll. Both products are very successful in the Chinese market and have a great possibility to be popular in Western countries.

Dr. Liu's travel to China helps enhance the Northern Crops Institutes' capability to evaluate soybean-processing quality and educational programs. North Dakota is the most important food-grade soybean producing state in the U.S. Knowing the soybean characteristic requirements to make different soyfoods will facilitate food-grade soybean exporting. Meanwhile, expanding the world's soyfoods market will benefit the North Dakota economy.

Dr. Liu's trade mission to China would not have been possible without the support of the North Dakota Trade Office and the North Dakota Soybean Council. He hopes to continue fostering his relationship with Chinese companies through future trade missions.

— Story and photos by
Dr. Zach Liu, NCI



NCI Food Scientist Zach Liu learned how to make fried tofu (top) and dried tofu (bottom) in China.



Dr. Liu visited a yuba manufacturer in China.



The yuba company's CEO, Mr. Kong, was showing a new product: a fried yuba roll.



Consumer Trust:

The key to Livestock Friendly Communities

Doesn't it sometimes feel as if new consumer trends are emerging every day? It makes a person wonder

how these changing food trends affect society's perception of how livestock are raised. How do farmers care for the environment and their neighbors? How do these perceptions influence livestock producers' abilities to operate and to expand their farms? With these big questions in mind, the North Dakota Livestock Alliance (NDLA) and Common Ground North Dakota teamed up to host a seminar titled Consumer Trust: The Key to Livestock Friendly Communities.

On April 24, 2019, at the Bismarck Holiday Inn, spokespersons from across North Dakota's agriculture community came together to participate in a day of lectures and activities with top educators from the swine, beef and dairy industries. The day's swine industry session was conducted by Operation Main Street leader Al Eidson. Operation Main Street is the spokesperson training and national outreach program developed by the National Pork

Board and Pork Checkoff. Eidson's presentation began with a video from inside the new swine barn at South Dakota State University, followed by a walk-through of the modern swine industry animal care, environmental stewardship and pork quality practices. His presentation closed with an interactive session of practice questions that members from the crowd had received in past interactions with consumers.

The beef industry session was conducted by North Dakota State University (NDSU) Livestock Stewardship Specialist Dr. Gerald Stokka, DVM. Stokka delivered a heartfelt and knowledgeable presentation about the U.S. beef industry's contributions to the world's safest food supply as well as the emotional and moral ties which farmers have to their land and animals. Sometimes, it is challenging to find the words to appropriately emphasize a farmer's dedication, especially when speaking to someone outside the agriculture

industry. Dr. Stokka said it perfectly, "Those who have been entrusted with raising and caring for livestock find purpose and meaning in their chosen way of life." It was goosebumps for everyone in the room!

Char Heer, manager of programs and partnerships with Midwest Dairy, provided the dairy industry session. Heer presented consumer trust research and value based message training which was developed by the Center for Food Integrity. Heer said, "It is important that we engage with consumers to find those important shared values to earn their trust in the food system. Research shows that 65 percent of Americans want to know more about their food." Some examples of the "shared values," the common ground that can help when talking with today's consumers, are a shared respect for the environment, a love for family, a desire for a healthy diet and a passion for animal care.

In addition to the industry sessions, Karl Rockeman of the

North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality conducted a great discussion about the state's livestock-operation permitting procedures, manure application regulations and farm-inspection programs.

The event adjourned with closing comments from NDLA Executive Director Amber Boeshans. "NDLA looks forward to working with these new, enthusiastic colleagues in pursuit of our shared vision to strengthen our connection with consumers," say Amber Boeshans. "A unified outreach effort is vital to instill confidence in the practices we use and the food and products we produce."

NDLA and CommonGround North Dakota have plans to organize more consumer trust focused events in order to continue enhancing the list of informed agriculture spokespersons. To get on the invite list for future trainings, please contact the North Dakota Livestock Alliance at (701) 712-1488, or e-mail amberboeshans@ndlivestock.org.

Thank you to Christie Jaeger of CommonGround North Dakota, as well as Al Eidson and Ernie Barnes of the Pork Checkoff for your assistance with planning and conducting this event.

—Story and photos by Amer Boeshans,
North Dakota Livestock Alliance



Char Heer, Midwest Dairy



Al Eidson, National Pork Board, presenting swine industry messaging.



Dr. Gerald Stokka, NDSU Livestock Stewardship Specialist



Video Highlights Soybean Teamwork

The missions of the North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) and the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA) may be different, but both groups work to benefit the state's soybean farmers. The organizations have teamed up to create a video that highlights their contributions and roles.

"Even people within the soybean industry are sometimes confused about the differences between the two groups," says Joe Morken, a farmer from Casselton and the chair of the NDSC. "This video helps explain to people how the checkoff works by supporting soybean research, market development and outreach into human use markets: things no one else is doing."

North Dakota soybean farmers pay into the checkoff when they sell their soybeans. Those funds are gathered and overseen by the NDSC, which consists of elected soybean farmers who direct investments for efforts which are designed to increase the profitability of soybean farming. By law, checkoff funds cannot be used for lobbying efforts. Only funds generated through NDSGA membership can be used for advocacy.

The NDSGA conducts advocacy efforts in order to achieve common sense policies that benefit agriculture in North Dakota.

"This helps to clarify what the funds are used for when we get our

check from the elevator and see the contributions that we make to the checkoff," Morken says. "It also clarifies what the NDSGA does and why it's important that we are asked to become members. Those member-

ship funds are used to support the work that's being done in Bismarck and Washington, D.C."

—Story by Daniel Lemke,
graphic by staff

To view the video, visit
bit.ly/NDSC-NDSGA19,
or on NDSC's website at
ndsoybean.org.



To relentlessly pursue opportunities to invest North Dakota soybean checkoff resources to become the leading soybean supplier in the world for the benefit of producers and consumers.

1985

The ND Soybean Council is created by farmers and put into statute.

Checkoff Funded

Each farmer contributes 1/2 of 1% of the price of each bushel at the point of sale toward the soy checkoff.

Every North Dakota soybean farmer invests in the soybean checkoff which funds research, market development, promotion, and education administered by the North Dakota Soybean Council.

Main Focus

Market development, research, promotion, and education to enhance the value of soybeans.

www.ndsoybean.org



Creating partnerships to proactively improve the profitability and representation of all North Dakota soybean growers and to develop quality community leaders.

1983

The ND Soybean Growers Association was founded.

Member Supported

Supported through dues paid by its membership.

Joining the ND Soybean Growers Association is a choice you can make to support the industry that the soybean checkoff cannot. The association advocates for growers in Bismarck ND and Washington D.C.

Main Focus

Farm policy, regulatory issues, leadership development, and grower education.

ndsoygrowers.com

Better, Not Bigger

Necessity Leads to Benefits

Sam Landman calls it a blessing in disguise. Several years ago, Landman, who farms with his wife, Whitney, and

his parents, Bob and Karen, near Northwood, North Dakota, lost some rented ground. The land was sold, and rental rates for other available fields were more than they wanted to spend, so the Landmans made a choice.

“We decided we wanted to farm better, rather than bigger,” Sam Landman says.

Sam Landman estimates that the farm’s acreage was reduced by about 40 percent. With fewer acres to manage, the Landmans chose to focus more closely on how they were farming rather than how much they farmed.

“We concentrated on improving our practices, including reducing tillage,” Sam Landman says.

Soil Health

Sam Landman is the fifth generation of his family to farm, with 2019 being his 13th year of farming. He raises soybeans, corn, wheat, pinto beans, and occasionally barley and field peas. In recent years, cover crops, such as radishes and oats, have been worked into the mix.

As the Landmans refined their farm’s focus, Sam attended numerous soil-health workshops and participated in North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension Café Talks which focus on farmers’ conversations about soil health and different farming practices.

Sam Landman says that he and his family started investing in soil health about 5 years ago. They practice minimum tillage with about 5 to 10 per-

cent of the farmland as no-till. He’s hoping to increase that percentage in the future.

“The process has evolved,” Sam Landman says. “We began thinking more about our own practices. We started reducing tillage and saw better results.”

Soybean and pinto-bean yield have improved, Sam Landman says. He credits that change to better water-holding capacity in the soil

from reduced tillage and increased soil organic matter. That moisture is especially valuable in late August when rain can be scarce and when soybeans really need the water to achieve maximum yields.

Sam Landman says that the process of moving to minimum tillage and incorporating cover crops involved some trial and error, but he’s committed to it because he likes the results.

“The more we do it, the more I like the time and fuel savings. There are many advantages,” Sam Landman says.

Among the reasons for Sam Landman’s soil-health focus is a desire to protect the soil, one of his most valuable resources. Strong winter winds caused soil erosion in his area, which raised his concern. While he isn’t against tillage, he’s concerned about the long-term future of farming if some practices don’t change.

“I want to preserve our ground for future generations. I don’t want to be the last Landman to farm,” Sam Landman explains.

Walking the Talk

Through his interest in soil health, Sam Landman connected with NDSU Extension Soil Health Specialist Abbey Wick several years ago. Wick was interested in what the Landmans were doing for soil health. This past fall, Wick rode with Sam Landman as he combined grain. During their conversations, Sam Landman floated the concept of establishing a Soil Health and Agriculture Research Extension (SHARE) farm in northern North Dakota. North Dakota State University (NDSU) currently operates a SHARE farm near Mooreton, North Dakota. It is the premier site for the NDSU Soil Health program where field-scale, long-term, farmer-driven research is conducted.

A SHARE farm in the northern part of the state would provide research information about how practices perform in areas with different soils and a shorter growing season.

“Now, here we are,” Sam Landman says. “It’s going to happen.”

The Landmans are setting aside a



Sam Landman is focusing efforts on soil health to improve his farm’s productivity.

100-acre field which they've committed for 10 years in order to establish a second SHARE farm. NDSU research will be doing replicated trials on practices such as tillage versus no-till and cover crops.

"Farmers like Sam are wonderful to work with," Wick says. "I rode in the combine in a field where he and his dad were already doing replicated tests on their pinto beans. They are analytical, thoughtful and intentional about what they're doing. Sam took the idea seriously because he knew what it would take to be part of a project this size. It worked out that he can make the time commitment work, and has a good field to make the SHARE farm in Logan Center happen. I really value his input in developing the project and will rely on him and other farmers in the area to guide the project over the next 10 years."

"We are in a totally different region than the other SHARE farm. There are different soils, different crops and a different growing season," Sam Landman explains.

Sam Landman will use his normal crop rotation and do the field work, and the crops grown are his. NDSU scientists will have input about the research that takes place.

Sam Landman currently uses some cover crops, including radishes and

oats. He's hoping to diversify the plant mix and get better at establishing cover-crop stands. Having university research will benefit farmers in the region who are interested in trying different tillage practices or incorporating cover crops.

"Getting cover crops established is a bit of a challenge due to our short growing season," Sam Landman says. "I'm hoping to get good research on things like timing and seeding methods. There is a lot of interest in trying things like this in my area, but there is risk, and there are unknowns. Anytime you try something different, there's a chance it could go wrong. If we have localized research, hopefully, more farmers will be willing to adopt the practices because they can see how it worked."

Sam Landman says that he received some funny looks from neighbors when he first started changing his tillage practices and seeding cover crops, especially when the neighbors saw him out with the planter in August. The curiosity about his practices got the ideas flowing.

"A lot of friends my age who are farming are interested in soil health and are doing different things," Sam Landman says. "It's good to have a network."

Future Focus

Sam Landman says that he enjoys being involved. He's on the local golf course board, nursing home advisory board and the Knights of Columbus at his church. He's also a director on the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association board.

"I like having a voice in the direction of things," Sam Landman admits.

Long-term, soil health is an important issue, according to Sam Landman. He says that there is a lack of policy that promotes soil health.

"There could be more done with policy," Sam Landman says. "Soil is the future of life on earth. We have to respect it and keep it around."

—Story and photos by Daniel Lemke

More to SHARE

In 2013, the first North Dakota State University (NDSU) Soil Health and Agriculture Research Extension (SHARE) farm was established near Mooreton, North Dakota with cooperating farmer Ken Johnson. The SHARE farm provides farmer driven research and demonstrations on a field scale. The goal of the SHARE Farm is to bring whole system evaluation to soil health-building practices by involving NDSU faculty from multiple disciplines, including soil and plant science, entomology, climatology, engineering and ag economics.

"The SHARE farm and the research projects are set up so farmers can drive by and see how different practices work and envision how those practices might work on their own farm," says NDSU Extension Soil Health Specialist Abbey Wick. "It also shows NDSU's commitment to soil health programming in an area; these sites tell farmers that we'll be around for at least 10 years, helping them get soil health building practices going on their farms."

The establishment of a new SHARE farm in northern North Dakota provides a platform for research in an area with different and more diverse crop rotations than the Mooreton farm.

"The Northwood farm sits outside the Red River Valley. The soil is different, so is the topography, and there are different climatic conditions. It's a shorter growing season, so there are more challenges getting cover crops established," Wick says.

Wick says that the challenges which farmers face in the northern part of the state are different from growers elsewhere in North Dakota because the planting window is smaller. Wick says that the farmers there are up against a different set of conditions. Having a research farm in their region will give farmers answers to local questions.

"Farmers need somewhere to go to see what works and what doesn't," Wick contends.

The SHARE farm in Logan Center will be home to multiple research projects about different tillage practices, residue management and cover crops.

"We're open to other ideas that farmers are thinking about. We want this project to be meaningful to their operations," Wick says.

The new SHARE farm is being established this spring on land committed by the Landman family.

"It's a little extra work for me," Sam Landman says, "but I'm very excited to see the research, and hopefully, we can get some meaningful results that will impact how people are farming and effect the future of farming in this region."

To learn more about the NDSU's soil health efforts, including the SHARE farm sites, visit www.ndsu.edu/soilhealth.



Minimum tillage and no-till practices are part of Sam Landman's farm management strategy.



Perdue Pressed on Trade, MFP by ND Soybean Farmers

North Dakota soybean leaders used a late April visit by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue to

Harwood, North Dakota, in order to drive home the importance of trade to the state.

Typically, about 70 percent of North Dakota soybeans are exported via the Pacific Northwest (PNW). Many of those soybeans would be shipped to China, but an ongoing trade war with China has choked that flow.

"We ship soybeans through the Pacific Northwest. That's our market," Valley City, North Dakota, farmer and American Soybean Association director Monte Peterson told Perdue.

Peterson told Perdue that, after months of no soybean movement through the PNW, there was a 16-consecutive-week period where soybeans left the PNW.

"That's encouraging," Peterson said, "however, the trend does not look promising, especially off the PNW."

Peterson told Perdue that total soy exports lag 28 percent for the market-

ing year, with trade down 52 percent from the PNW ports. Exports to China also lag 65 percent behind last year's totals.

Perdue explained how he has heard that message loud and clear from farmers.

"Trade, trade, trade, that's what you're saying," Perdue acknowledged. "You live and die by trade up here."

Peterson said that, while sales to China have been encouraging, purchases have fallen below what Chinese leaders have said they would make. He pushed Perdue and the administration to get a deal done with China as well as with Canada and Mexico.

"Please express our concerns to the administration about leaving tariffs on once we've completed a trade agreement," Peterson continued. "There has been some suggestion of that, and that is a concern for us."

MFP Extension

North Dakota Soybean Growers

Association (NDSGA) President Joe Ericson thanked Perdue for his role in extending the deadline to certify yields for the Market Facilitation Program (MFP). The NDSGA had advocated for that extension.

Farmers now had until May 17 to certify 2018 crop production for payments through the MFP, which helps producers who have been significantly affected by foreign tariffs, resulting in the loss of traditional exports. The USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) extended the deadline because heavy rainfall and snowfall have delayed harvests in many parts of the country, preventing producers from certifying acres that were harvested in the spring.

Payments will only be issued if eligible producers certify their yields before the updated May 17 deadline.

FSA Administrator Richard Fordyce said, "The MFP payments provide short-term relief from retaliatory tariffs to supplement the

traditional farm-safety net, helping agricultural producers through these difficult times. Weather conditions this fall, winter and early spring have blocked many producers from completing harvest of their crops, and we want to make sure producers who want to finalize their MFP application have an opportunity."

The MFP provides payments to producers of corn, sorghum, soybeans, wheat, dairy, hogs and several other commodities. The FSA will issue payments based on the producer's certified total production of the MFP commodity multiplied by the MFP rate for that specific commodity.

Perdue told Ericson and others at the Harwood event that he wasn't raising any hope that the MFP program would be extended to include 2019 crops.

—Story by Daniel Lemke,
photo by staff

NDSGA Visits the Hill

Trade agreements and tariffs were top of mind for the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA) delegation during recent meetings with Congressional offices in Washington, D.C. NDSGA and American Soybean Association board members Monte Peterson of Valley City and Josh Gackle of Kulm were joined by NDSGA board member Spencer Endrud and NDSGA Executive Director Nancy Johnson at these meetings.

Staff from Senator John Hoeven's office, Senator Kevin Cramer's office and Congressman Kelly Armstrong's office gave the delegation an update on the outlook for signing the U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement. No date has been set for consideration



Valley City farmer and NDSGA board member Monte Peterson reiterates the importance of concluding a trade agreement with China during a March meeting in Senator John Hoeven's office. Peterson was joined in the meeting by NDSGA Executive Director Nancy Johnson, NDSGA board member Spencer Endrud of Buxton and NDSGA board member Josh Gackle of Kulm. They met with Brita Endrud, Senator Hoeven's legislative assistant for ag when the meeting was held.

by Congress.

With the ongoing trade uncertainty, the importance of fully funding USDA market access programs like the Foreign Market Development (FMD) and the Market Access Pro-

gram (MAP) was discussed with the staff in each Congressional office.

The importance of implementing the 2018 Farm Bill in a timely manner was emphasized by the NDSGA delegation.

Finally, the need to have biodiesel tax credit reinstated was reviewed with each office.

—Story by staff, photo courtesy of the American Soybean Association

The Leader...



...in bringing food grade soybeans to market

- Total production contracts
- Industry leading premiums
- Flexible pricing options
- Wide range of maturity options available

Contact: **Matt Bohn**
Crop Production Manager
100 N 10th St
Breckenridge, MN 56520
218-643-1797 | 701-640-2279
matt@richlandifc.com
www.richlandifc.com



Thank You!



Eric Broten, left, is terming off the NDSGA board at the end of June. As the chair of the communication committee and treasurer, Broten has provided valuable insights to the organization. President Joe Ericson presented Broten with a commemorative plaque at the NDSGA annual meeting.



A Critical Month for Weed Control

If you ask North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension Specialist Joe Ikley, he'll tell you that nothing

good happens with weed control in July. Therefore, June is an important month for managing problem weeds in North Dakota soybeans.

"We want herbicide treatments to be done by the end of June," Ikley says.

June is a critical month for soybean development and weed control.

As June progresses, Ikley says that scouting is an important practice for farmers to undertake.

"Stay on top of weed size. If farmers are using products like Xtend®, Enlist®, Liberty Link®, the maximum weed height for effective treatment is 3 to 4 inches," Ikley says. "Scout so you know when you can spray weeds that escaped pre-emerge applications. Weed height for optimal control is about 2 inches."

Since pre-emerge herbicide applications have a window of effectiveness, post-emerge treatments should include residual control to prevent coverage lapses.

"Especially if farmers are fighting waterhemp, add residuals like a group 15 herbicide that will provide more in-soil control until we can get the crop to canopy," Ikley explains.

June is not only an important month for weed development, it's also a month of transition for soybeans. Plants go from the vegetative stage to the reproductive stage, which comes with weed-control ramifications.

"Once soybean plants initiate flowering, the spraying of some products would be off-label, so know the soybean development stage and the crop cutoff stage for herbicides," Ikley says.

Flower initiation (R1 growth stage) is the cutoff point for the application of dicamba based products, such as Engenia® or FeXapan®, as well as Liberty® herbicide and other generic glufosinate-products. Full flower (R2 growth stage) is the cutoff point for the new Enlist herbicides

with soybeans.

Ikley reminds growers that "if they plan to use dicamba products on soybeans in 2019, the application cutoff date in North Dakota is June 30. In addition to the growth-stage cutoff and date cutoff, there is also an application cutoff of 45 days after planting."

Positive Identification

Ikley says that, for many North Dakota farmers, kochia is the most problematic weed. However, waterhemp is gaining a foothold, especially in the state's eastern half. Waterhemp movement is likely aided by spring floodwaters.

"With spring flooding, if farm fields were flooded, farmers need to know which pigweeds are in their fields. Because waterhemp seeds can move by water, fields that have had no history of waterhemp could become infested due to the flood water," Ikley says.

To make effective treatments, Ikley says that weed identification is important. Knowing which weeds are

present determines the best plan of action. Also, rotating chemistries to reduce the development of herbicide resistance should be a standard management practice.

While herbicide-resistant weeds are a critical issue for North Dakota farmers, Ikley says that it's also important for farmers to know that not every weed-control failure is due to resistance.

"We need to recognize resistance versus a treatment failure. If there are two side-by-side waterhemp plants, for example, if one is dead following treatment and the other is green, more than likely, that plant is resistant. If weed control is poor across an entire field and on multiple species, then potential issues with that application should be considered," Ikley says.

Whatever circumstances farmers face, spending time checking their fields has resurfaced as a necessity.

"We're reentering the age of scouting and knowing your weeds because of selectivity," Ikley contends. "You have to know that, so you can plan your post-emerge options."

For more information about weed-management options and to download the latest NDSU Weed Control Guide, visit ndsu.edu/weeds.

—Story by Daniel Lemke,
photos by staff



Joe Ikley

NDSU Pest Management

The NDSU Pest Management app combines select information from the Weed Control Guide, Fungicide Guide and Crop Insect Management Guide.

Information in the app is grouped by diseases, insects and weeds for each crop (soybean, corn, dry bean, potato, small grains, sugar beet, and sunflower). Pest management options are provided through a user-selection process. Once a management strategy is selected, the user can view rates, mode of action, general information and additional resources. The app is available for free on Google Play and the iTunes App Store.





Be Alert for **Sudden Death Syndrome** with **Soybeans** in **North Dakota**

In 2018, soybeans in several Richland County fields expressed classic symptoms of Sudden Death Syndrome

(SDS). We are conducting the experiments required to verify the pathogen and to make an official scientific report of SDS in North Dakota. While symptoms consistent with SDS were only found in a localized area in the state, we believe that it is very important for growers in southeast North Dakota to be on the lookout for the disease during this growing season. Several photos of SDS symptoms which were observed in 2018 are included with this article.

Sudden death syndrome is a soybean disease caused by the soil borne fungus *Fusarium virguliforme*. SDS was first discovered in Arkansas in 1971 and has since been confirmed in most soybean-production areas of the U.S. This serious disease has caused large yield losses in years which are favorable for disease development. Because of the potential damage from this disease, we have conducted surveys looking for evidence of SDS in North Dakota. These surveys were supported by funding

from the North Dakota Soybean Council. SDS has been reported in Minnesota and South Dakota, and we expect this disease to appear in North Dakota at any time. In August 2018, we surveyed for evidence of SDS foliar symptoms in 150 fields in 10 counties located primarily in the eastern part of the state; SDS is most likely to occur where soybeans have been grown for many years and where SCN is a problem. The most visible symptoms of SDS are yellowing leaf tissue between the veins that eventually turns brown, and the dead leaves fall off the petioles. These symptoms generally appear in August. There is also root rot, and internal tissues of the tap root will be gray to reddish brown. Unfortunately, these symptoms, depending on the severity, can be confused with other diseases, such as brown stem rot foliar symptoms, symptoms caused by other *Fusarium* root rots or even iron chlorosis.

In those 150 surveyed fields, we did not find plants with typical

symptoms of SDS, although we collected plant samples and are still analyzing the tissue for evidence of the pathogen. In late August, a field with patches of soybeans expressing classic symptoms of SDS was reported by the Richland County Extension service. We identified soybeans in four other area fields with classic SDS foliar symptoms. In one of those fields, several acres of soybeans had intense foliar symptoms and dying plants. Our preliminary examination of the cause for this disease is that it is SDS caused by *Fusarium virguliforme*.

If you have soybeans displaying symptoms consistent with SDS, particularly if they appear in August, we recommend that you consult an expert for verification. The North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) has been very proactive with preparing for SDS in North Dakota. In 2016, the NDSC supported a field tour in southern Minnesota where several dozen county extension agents

and crop consultants participated in an SDS short course and field tour at the University of Minnesota. This August, the NDSC is supporting another survey around the area where the SDS plants were found in Richland County in order to determine the extent of this disease. In addition, the NDSC supports research to identify sources of soybean resistance to SDS that can be used in this northern soybean-production area.

It will be helpful if soybean growers in Richland County who believe that they have SDS in a field contact Chandra Langseth (chandra.langseth@ndsu.edu) or Berlin Nelson, Jr. (berlin.nelson@ndsu.edu) to report the field's location. Knowing the disease's extent is important information for our efforts to respond to a new disease threat for soybeans. We thank the North Dakota Soybean Council for its support of North Dakota State University's (NDSU) research and extension work on SDS and other important diseases in the state. For more information about SDS, including pictures and tips for identification, please contact your county extension agent, or visit bit.ly/ScoutingSDS or bit.ly/NDSUsoydisese.

*—Story and photos by
Dr. Berlin Nelson, Jr., Dr. Sam
Markell, Amanda Wilkinson and
Chandra Langseth, NDSU*



Beginning SDS with foliar symptoms.



Advanced SDS with foliar symptoms.



Request Biodiesel

The North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) has been actively involved with the biodiesel industry for

years, helping to promote growth for the current production level of more than two billion gallons per year. Over the years, NDSC directors have visited other parts of the country to see biodiesel projects firsthand and to hear success stories about the benefits biodiesel provides for communities, businesses and the environment. When these directors come back to North Dakota and are excited to use their homegrown fuel, it has often been difficult to find a local fuel distributor that offers biodiesel.

One goal of recent NDSC projects has been to increase the availability of biodiesel in North Dakota by conducting petroleum industry outreach and education in order to help North Dakota fuel distributors become more knowledgeable and comfortable with biodiesel. This effort includes activities such as participating in the state petroleum marketer conference and conducting



The NDSC, MEG Corp and fuel suppliers participate in a round table discussion about biodiesel during the See For Yourself trip to the National Biodiesel Conference.

educational advertising in industry newsletters, providing the opportunity for fuel suppliers to participate in See For Yourself trips to the annual National Biodiesel Conference, and conducting biodiesel workshops and training for the suppliers' staff and customers.

The NDSC and its partners have worked to develop relationships with these fuel distributors, finding

ways to work together to develop the North Dakota biodiesel market. Thanks in large part to these efforts, the number of fuel distributors that will now deliver biodiesel in North Dakota is growing; several stations also carry blends at the pump. This year, fuel distributors in Hoople, Jamestown and Minot have been added to the growing list of companies providing biodiesel blends as a result of partnerships developed during See For Yourself trips to the National Biodiesel Conference, where company representatives had the chance to see how large and successful the biodiesel industry has proven itself to be.

While the market continues to grow, there are many fuel distributors that don't offer biodiesel, often stating that they simply have not been asked for it. You can help change that situation. Support your industry by asking your fuel supplier to deliver a biodiesel blend such as B10 or B20 this year. Your request can go a long way toward expanding biodiesel availability.

If you have any questions about biodiesel or need help troubleshooting a fuel-related problem, contact



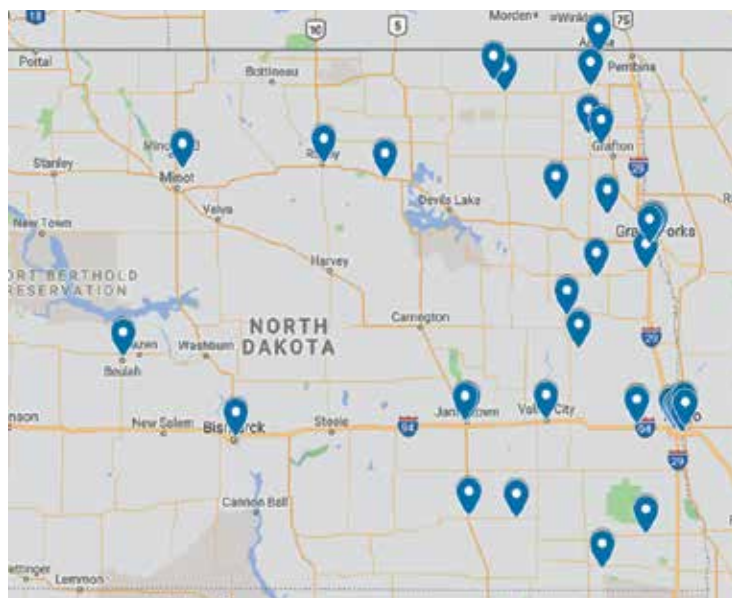
Hoon Ge of MEG Corp talks with fuel marketers at the North Dakota Petroleum Marketers' Annual Conference and Trade Show.

the Regional Diesel Helpline: (800) 929-3437 or info@megcorpnmn.com

—Story and photos by Lisa Pedderson,
MEG Corp Fuel Consulting

What You Need to Know About Biodiesel:

- The specification for diesel fuel includes up to 5 percent biodiesel (B5) because these low-level biodiesel blends do not change the physical characteristics of the fuel. Blends up to B5 can be used all winter, even in North Dakota.
- B20 has undergone more field testing than any other biodiesel blend and has been proven to perform in both on- and off-road applications. Use B20 during the warm-weather months.
- Biodiesel's solvency keeps the injectors and fuel system clean.
- Biodiesel reduces tailpipe emissions in pre-2007 equipment.
- No vehicle modifications are necessary for biodiesel blends up to B20.
- Studies show that biodiesel adds \$0.63 of value to each bushel of soybeans.



Fuel distributors across North Dakota offer biodiesel blends for on-farm delivery. If you don't see one in your area, ask for it!



RLND Seeks Participants for 9th Class

NDSU Extension's Rural Leadership North Dakota (RLND) Program began 16 years ago in order to

develop agricultural and community leaders for the future. Agriculture's future is critical for North Dakota, and leaders are needed to help shape that future.

This year, RLND is looking for participants for its 9th class which begins in November.

The 18-month leadership development program includes in state seminars with experts; tours of agricultural and community businesses; out-of-state trips (Washington, D.C., and Minneapolis in 2020) to meet with agricultural, business, and government leaders; and a trip to another country (destination to be determined) in 2021 to learn about international agricultural and community issues. Previous classes visited Brazil, Costa Rica, Panama, Thailand, Vietnam and Chile.

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



Kasey Bitz and Class VIII participants with U.S. Wheat Associates in Santiago Chile.

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 into for ideas, answers and support long after they graduate from the program.

"My experience with Rural Leadership North Dakota has helped me grow as a professional, both on and off the family farm," says Kasey Bitz, a soybean farmer from LaMoure, North Dakota, and a North Dakota Soybean Growers Association director. "Every single day, I will use

the leadership skills that I developed in this program in all aspects of my life. I continue to use the network I have developed with all my classmates in RLND and the alumni on many issues not only on my farm, but (also) in my community. The opportunity to be a part of this great program has challenged me to think outside of the box many times, and this happened with traveling across the state of North Dakota to view rural communities that are trying to be different in a positive way, using connections that I have developed in state to share the message of rural North Dakota in Washington, D.C., and learn(ing) about the government and agriculture in a foreign country in Chile."

The tuition for the RLND program is \$4,000. This amount covers all meals; hotels; and travel expenses, such as buses during in state seminars and airfare to out of state seminars. Participants are responsible for their travel costs to in state seminars and to points of departure for out-of-state seminars.

The deadline to apply for RLND Class IX (2019-21) is June 30, 2019. Applicants must have been a state resident for at least a year and must be able to attend all the seminars.

"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 IX of the RLND program."

For more information or to apply or to nominate someone for the class, visit RLND's website at www.ag.ndsu.edu/rlnd; send an email to maria.reinhiller@ndsu.edu; or call 701-231-7171. You can also check out RLND on Facebook.

One hundred sixty-six people from 83 communities in 39 counties have participated in RLND since it began in November 2003.

—Story and photos courtesy of RLND



Kasey Bitz, far right, visits National Council of Farmer Cooperatives Offices in Washington, DC.



Kasey Bitz, right, talks with a Chilean producer in Temuco, Chile.



CommonGround N.D. VOLUNTEER TRAINING HELD IN FARGO

A group of volunteer women who are dedicated to agriculture in North Dakota gathered in Fargo on March 25 and 26 to attend state CommonGround training. CommonGround is a national grassroots program that focuses on creating conversations between the farmers and ranchers who grow food and the consumers who buy food. Each state has its own CommonGround program, and North Dakota's program has a volunteer base of 130 women who have attended these trainings. The CommonGround North Dakota group holds various training and volunteering events throughout the year. The activities include public events and social-media outreach to continue conversations with the general public. The group also provides support and encouragement for fellow volunteer farm women. This outreach assists them to share their stories with the public.

The training allowed for a tour at Drekker Brewing Company on March 25. The group took part in a "Grain to Glass" tour. Learning about the brewing process and also the company's new Brewhalla was fascinating! CommonGround North Dakota will continue to work with Drekker Brewing Company for possible farmer and consumer events at its location. We are excited to develop this type of outreach with the business.

On the morning of March 26, the group gathered at the Holiday Inn

for official training. Christie Jaeger and Val Wagner, co-coordinators of the CommonGround North Dakota program, led the group in summarizing the past year's events, and then, they discussed upcoming events. Wagner also presented some information about the approach CommonGround uses when having conversations with consumers.

Volunteer Sarah Lovas shared her experience about being a farmer as part of the "Farming for the Future Panel" with the FARRMS group and talked about her trip to the Executive Women in Ag Conference.

Volunteer Sarah Wilson shared the success of the goat-yoga events which she has coordinated and gave an update about the connections which she and her family made with consumers! Wilson also shared information about the "Mom's After 5" events she has hosted and also about the upcoming "Dawn's Dairy Day" in Jamestown this summer.

Jaeger and Heidie Haugo, communications director for the North Dakota Corn Utilization Council, shared some of their experiences from the National CommonGround Conference which they attended earlier this year in Kansas City, Missouri.

CommonGround North Dakota is excited to be working with groups in Minot and Bismarck to bring "Farm to Table" dinners to those areas! Trainings will also be held in those cities to enhance the volunteer base.



CommonGround North Dakota volunteers visit the modern agriculture exhibit at the Red River Zoo in Fargo.

Some ideas for this year's "Banquet in a Field" were discussed as well as creating some new events to connect with the group's volunteer farmers and to connect ranchers with consumers.

The group adjourned and headed to the Red River Zoo to tour the agriculture display and classroom which was created by the North Dakota Soybean and Corn Councils. One highlight from the tour was watching CommonGround North Dakota videos that are run on a monitor in the classroom every day for zoo attendees to watch! Red River Zoo Executive Director Sally Jacobson talked about the "Ag Adventure Day at the Zoo" that is held each summer. Jacobson also provided some information about additional plans for this year. CommonGround North Dakota will, again, be a major sponsor of the event.

Lunch was catered by Megan Lewis with Milk Made Catering. A

delicious lunch of cheeses, meats, nuts and jelly was enjoyed by all. Lewis shared her business' story with the volunteers.

The networking and support that the volunteers give one another is essential for the success of the CommonGround North Dakota program and the events that it hosts. CommonGround North Dakota continues to find more events to partner with and will continue to find more places and ways to connect with consumers. If you are interested in being a volunteer for the CommonGround North Dakota program, please contact Christie Jaeger at gjaeger@gondtc.com or Val Wagner at wagntales@gmail.com.

—Story and photos by Christie Jaeger,
CommonGround North Dakota



The **Myth** and **Reality** of Soyfoods

Despite a seemingly endless winter, our North Dakota farm fields will soon be covered with lush expanses

of soybeans soaking up the spring sun. Once soybeans leave the farm gate, farmers don't often think about where their soybeans go or what the crop will become. Because the state's farmers grow so many acres of soybeans, producers sometimes overlook the important fact that soybeans aren't simply a commodity; soybeans really are food grown to nourish both people and animals.

Soybean acreage has expanded in North Dakota largely because, as economies around the world improve, the first thing people want to do is eat better. That typically means adding more protein to the diet. Because soy is an important source of healthy nutrition, it is one of the world's most widely sought and consumed foods and is a valuable feed ingredient. Growing global pork, poultry, dairy and aquaculture production has created increased global soybean demand.

In many Asian nations in particular, it's the soybeans that are the desired protein for foods such as tofu, miso and natto.

Despite widespread global acceptance and consumption, there is still a lot of misinformation about the value of soy and soyfoods. Those myths are especially prevalent in the United States where soyfoods aren't as widely eaten as they are in other countries. Internet searches can turn up dozens of dubious "reports" questioning the healthiness of soy products or even contending that soyfoods are bad for you.

Linda Funk has heard them all. As the executive director of the Soyfoods Council, she works to promote the facts and the health benefits of soy foods.

"Soy is a great lean protein," Funk says. "It's low in cholesterol and has great protein density."

Soyfoods have many health benefits for people of all ages. The benefits include

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recognizes soybean oil as heart-healthy.
- Eating soyfoods when young may dramatically reduce the risk of developing breast cancer.

- Soybean isoflavones help alleviate hot flashes.
- Soy protein helps to build muscle and to increase strength.
- Soyfoods improve several areas of cognitive function.
- Soyfoods may benefit breast-cancer survivors.

- Eating soy can reduce prostate-cancer risk.
- Soy may also reduce wrinkles.

All of these health claims are supported by unbiased, peer-reviewed research. The Soy Nutrition Institute (SNI) was established to identify soy and health research priorities and to provide evidence-based information about the effect of soybeans and soy components on human health. Any claims of health benefits have unbiased science behind them.

"Any health claims we promote have been well researched, so the health-benefit information is very strong," Funk says.

—Continued on page 26

1.5 TBSP OF SOYBEAN OIL PER DAY MAY REDUCE THE RISK OF HEART DISEASE

SoyConnection

Soy Allergic to SOY? NOT LIKELY.

THE BIG EIGHT

Approximately 90% of U.S. food allergy reactions occur because of 1 of 8 common foods. Soy is one of these foods; HOWEVER, the foods on the list are not equally allergenic and an allergy to soy protein is relatively rare.

Food	Prevalence
Peanut	2.8% (about 5 times more likely than soy)
Shellfish	1.4% (2.5 times more likely than soy)
Egg	0.8%
Soy	0.4%
Milk	1.7% (about 5 times more likely than soy)
Tree nut	1.0% (about 2 times more likely than soy)
Fin fish	0.5%
Wheat	0.4%

In a study of nearly 40,000 U.S. children, only 8 percent of children reported having a food allergy. Only 0.4% of those children reported an allergy to **SOY**.

Enjoy SOY with CONFIDENCE

SoyConnection

MYTH: Eating soy foods raise your risk for breast cancer.

VS

FACT: Soy foods are safe for women and provide fiber, a cancer-fighter.

LEARN MORE AT AICR.ORG

American Institute for Cancer Research



—Continued from page 25

Despite the wealth of information supporting the health benefits of soyfoods, myths linger. Dr. Mark Messina is an internationally recognized expert in soyfoods and the SNI executive director. He says that, despite evidence to the contrary, several soyfoods myths persist.

The first myth is that cancer survivors should avoid soyfoods such as tofu and soymilk.

“In fact, new research offers evidence that breast-cancer patients who consume soyfoods after their diagnosis actually fare better than patients who do not consume soyfoods,” Messina says. “The position of both the American Cancer Society and the American Institute for Cancer Research is that breast-cancer patients can safely consume soyfoods.”

Another myth is that soyfoods contain estrogen and that men who eat them may experience feminization or even impaired fertility. In reality, soyfoods do not contain estrogen.

“Clinical evidence indicates that soyfoods do not feminize men,” Messina explains. “Soy doesn’t lower testosterone levels or lower sperm count.

The myth may have its roots in the fact that naturally present isoflavones in soyfoods are commonly referred to as plant estrogens, or phytoestrogens. The good news is that soyfoods may offer several health benefits for men. For example, some evidence suggests soyfoods are protective against prostate cancer.”

Soy ingredients are found in hundreds of everyday products on store shelves, including protein bars, soybean oil and soy flour, so they are an easy way to begin adding more

soy to your diet. There is an ever-increasing array of new products that fit every lifestyle.

Soy protein and soyfoods are very versatile and are easy to incorporate into everyday meals. Soynuts, edamame and soymilk are great products to start enjoying immediately. Meat and soy proteins can be consumed together in order to gain the health benefits of both foods.

Farmers are a great resource and can share the message about soybean farming, including soy foods. Whether

it’s during a coffee-shop conversation, in the grocery store, or chatting with friends at church or the ball game, growers can counter the myths and help set the soy story straight.

Valuable information about the health benefits of soyfoods is available at www.soynutritioninstitute.com or www.thesoyfoodscouncil.com.

—Story by Daniel Lemke, infographics courtesy of the Soy Nutrition Institute and SoyConnection



On April 4th, in celebration of April Soyfoods Month, the North Dakota Soybean Council partnered with Linda Funk, executive director of The Soyfoods Council to promote soyfoods and soy ingredients at the North Dakota Nutrition Council Conference in Bismarck. Linda Funk spoke to attendees and handed out recipe samples to North Dakota dietitians and nutritionists, along with brochures and pamphlets about the health benefits and ease of cooking with soy.

—Photo by staff



Easy, Breezy Summertime!

Summertime is for families, backyard gatherings and pop-up picnics! It is the time of the year for less fussy

meals as well as quick and cool refreshments. Hopefully, there is some fun and relaxation, too.

The farmers' markets and produce stands will start to be plentiful, and now, is the time to enjoy the many local delicacies. Many people are planting their own gardens to savor the freshness of the season.

Soyfoods are perfect to pair with seasonal and local foods.

Think about when you need a creamy base. Start with silken soft tofu, and then, add the ingredients

to flavor. Why use tofu for the base of dressings and dips? There is no cholesterol, heart-healthy protein and a lot fewer calories.

The following options are some quick ideas.

- Vegetable dip: silken tofu with a packet of ranch-dressing mix, chopped onions and green peppers
- Spiced fruit dip: silken tofu, brown sugar and cinnamon/served with fresh fruit
- Fresh fruit salad: silken tofu, honey and toasted coconut

- Creamy coleslaw salad: silken tofu, a dollop of light mayonnaise, Dijon mustard and a little sugar
- Fruit smoothie: vanilla soymilk, your favorite fruits and shaved ice

Give soyfoods a try this summer with all the yummy fruits and vegetables!

—*Story, recipes and photos by Linda Funk, The Soyfoods Council*

Tofu Ranch Dressing

Ingredients

- 1 package soft, silken tofu
- 5 tablespoons soybean oil
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon parsley
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 teaspoons salt or to taste

Directions

In a food processor, add all the ingredients; blend. If it's too thick, add water to thin.

Drizzle over the salad of your choice.

—*Chef George Formaro
Gateway Market & Cafe*



Spiced Fruit Dip

Ingredients

- 1¼ cups firm, silken tofu
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon

Directions

In a blender, mix all ingredients until well blended and smooth. Cover and chill at least 2 hours. Serve with a variety of fresh fruits.

Yield: Approximately 1 cup.



Sun-Dried Tomato Tofu Dip

Ingredients

- 8 oz. soft, silken tofu
- 1 package (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 package (1 oz.) ranch-seasoned dressing mix
- ⅓ cup chopped, drained, marinated sun-dried tomatoes
- 1 teaspoon dried, minced onion
- ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
- Vegetable dippers or crackers

Directions

Blend or process the tofu until smooth. In a medium bowl, combine the blended tofu, softened cream cheese, and seasoning mix until smooth. Stir in the chopped tomatoes, dried onion and garlic powder. Cover and chill for 1 hour. Serve with vegetable dippers or crackers. **Yield:** 2 cups.





Training Soybean Leaders

Two young North Dakota soybean farmers got what they were looking for via their participation in the

American Soybean Association's (ASA) Corteva Agriscience Young Leader program.

Joshua Stutrud of Barton and Joshua Askew of Casselton recently finalized their training which recognizes and develops top soybean growers from across the country. Young Leaders participated in leadership development, industry-issue updates and outreach training.

"I was looking for a way to get more involved in the soybean industry," Askew says.

Askew is a fifth-generation farmer who raises soybeans, corn, wheat and sugarbeets. "The Young Leader program was a great first step."

"Whenever I can, I try to gain more leadership experience," Stutrud says. "As a younger farmer, I wanted to get more involved."

Stutrud farms with his father and grandfather, raising soybeans, barley, canola and hard, red spring wheat.

The ASA Corteva Agriscience Young Leader program has operated for more than 35 years, training soybean farmers from across the United States. Program participants received training in two phases. The first session was held at the Corteva headquarters in Johnston, Iowa, and the second round of training was held in conjunction with the Commodity Classic in Orlando, Florida.

"I got a lot out of the training and really enjoyed phase one, which included training for media interviews and information about different personality types," Stutrud says. "That will be beneficial for a lifetime, especially when you are working on different boards. It helped me learn

how to deal with different people."

"The program gave me some tools to use and laid the groundwork for how things work in the soybean industry," Askew adds. "It gave me a lot of insights into different aspects of the industry."

The Young Leader class had representatives from 17 U.S. states and one province in Canada. For both Askew and Stutrud, connecting with fellow farmers was a plus.

"Meeting the other Young Leaders, hearing about the different issues that we all face as farmers, but then realizing how similar the concerns are

on a national level was a big takeaway for me," Askew says.

"I really enjoyed meeting the other farmers," Stutrud echoes. "I met a farmer from Arkansas who also grew rice, which was new for me. I also learned about issues other farmers face and the different production practices they use."

Both Stutrud and Askew serve on the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association's Board of Directors as Young Leader representatives.

"With an emphasis on leadership-skill development and collaboration, the Young Leader program

provides us with growers who are working together to amplify the voice of the farmer," says ASA President Davie Stephens. "We are grateful to Corteva for their longstanding support of this program and for helping to secure the future of the soybean industry."

Young Leader classes are established annually. Young farmers who are interested in developing their leadership skills while learning about the soybean industry are encouraged to apply.

"I found it very beneficial and highly recommend it for any young farmer," Stutrud says. "It's a way to get your foot in the door, gain experience and get involved."

Applications for the next round of Young Leaders will be open soon. To learn more about the Young Leader program, visit <https://soygrowers.com/education-resources/grower-education/leadership-development-programs/young-leader-program/>

—Story by Daniel Lemke,
photo courtesy of American
Soybean Association

Do You Know Beans?

Attend NDSU Summer Field Days Featuring Soybeans and you will!

Summer 2018 Field Day Schedule:

June 19 NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center Crop Management Field School [Pre-registration and fee required, for information call (701) 652-2951]

July 10 Dickinson Research Extension Center [typically 8:30 a.m. to noon MDT, for information call (701) 456-1100]

July 10 NDSU Williston Research Extension Center, Dryland Tour [3:00 p.m., for information call (701) 774-4315]

July 11 NDSU Williston Research Extension Center, Irrigation Tour [8:30 a.m., for information call (701) 774-4315]

July 15 NDSU Casselton Agronomy Seed Farm Tour [5:00 p.m., for information call (701) 347-4743]

July 16 NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center Field Day [for information call (701) 652-2951]

July 17 North Central Research Extension Center, Minot [typically 9 a.m. to noon, for information call (701) 857-7677]

July 18 Langdon Research Extension Center [typically 8 a.m.-1 p.m.]

August 15 NDSU Oakes Irrigation Research Site Robert Titus Research Farm Field Day [for information call (701) 742-2189]

August 29 NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center Row Crop Tour [for information call (701) 652-2951]



NDSU

North Dakota Soybean Council • (701) 566-9300 • ndsoybean.org



Natural Resource Conservation Service Chief Visits North Dakota

NRCS Chief Matt Lohr, left, on a stop in North Dakota. Harvey Morken, center, explained his residue management program to Assistant State Conservationist Jennifer Heglund and State Conservationist Mary Podoll. Joe Morken, chairman of the North Dakota Soybean Council, is at right.



Join our family of growers who share our passion for cultivating goodness. We'd like you to grow with us.

Pulses | Soybeans | Flax | Cereal Grains | Corn



Let's cultivate goodness, together.

Call 844-275-3443 or visit **HFI**family.com



Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Matt Lohr recently visited North Dakota to learn more about local farmer concerns. One of the stops was at the Harvey and Mary Morken farm. A fifth generation farmer from Virginia, Chief Lohr learned about practices that maintain residue. Harvey Morken, center, answered questions from the Chief, left, and Assistant State Conservationist Jennifer Heglund and State Conservationist Mary Podoll. Joe Morken is shown on the right.

The Morkens have been farming in the Amenia area for years and are transitioning their farming operation over to Joe and his wife Robin. They have been working with NRCS since 2011. They have utilized EQIP and CSP which have helped their journey towards a more sustainable and efficient operation. NRCS has

recently been working with them on reduced tillage and trying new planting widths to facilitate establishment of cover crops in a corn/soybean rotation. They are also capturing data on the no-till and keeping excellent records of cost for conventional operations and the new conservation measures.

The Morkens provided input to the NRCS staff in attendance about conservation program signup challenges. Chief Lohr was interested in learning how the Morkens handle residue as they plant. He learned that their residue management helps prevent wind erosion in their newly-planted sugarbeet fields. Chief Lohr also heard the success story of the Morken CSP participation.

—Story and photos by staff



Standing Together

The numbers can seem a little daunting. Even in an agriculture-dependent state such as North Dakota,

farmers make up just over 2 percent of the state's population, despite farming being one of the state's biggest economic drivers.

North Dakota's population is just over 750,000 people. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agriculture Statistics Service, 97 percent of North Dakotans do not farm, so the remaining 17,500 who farm must do some heavy lifting.

That lifting includes not only providing food, fiber and fuel for the world, but also working on behalf of common-sense policy that benefits agriculture and rural North Dakota.

The North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA) was formed to represent the state's soybean farmers and to look out for their interests. NDSGA efforts are driven by the input from the farmer members.

Joe Ericson of Wimbledon, North Dakota, serves as the NDSGA president. He says that one of the organization's key roles is to keep members informed about issues that could affect their farms.

"Before I became an NDSGA member, I wasn't sure what it entailed," Ericson admits. "We strive to keep people informed, so they learn about what's going on in policy. Membership keeps people in the loop of what's happening in Bismarck and in Washington, D.C."

The NDSGA provides farmers with information through a variety of resources, including the North Dakota Soybean Grower magazine, social-media channels, educational events, grower meetings and much more.

"A big value is the information we provide: what to expect; what to look

for in areas like taxes, transportation or anything that could impact your farm," Ericson says.

Teamwork

The NDSGA does more than just inform, the grower-leaders who make up the NDSGA board of directors monitor legislation and advocate for sensible solutions.

"We fight for farm rights. There are a lot of people who don't like to do that on their own," Ericson says, so we work for them and for common-sense policy."

Ericson says that the NDSGA works closely with other farm organizations and commodity groups to offer a voice on ag issues. This collaboration delivers a unified voice through public testimony and one-on-one meetings with lawmakers.

"There is a lot more urban than rural representation," Ericson explains. "Fewer representatives know firsthand what's going on with agriculture, so our job is to help educate legislators on issues impacting agriculture so they can make good, informed decisions. Legislators want to do a good job, and we want to help them."

Ericson says that the board members and staff who work on behalf of the state's soybean farmers prefer to work collaboratively with legislators and other organizations rather than be

confrontational. Working behind the scenes, building relationships and providing sound information is what has helped the NDSGA build credibility at the state and national levels.

"Our approach is educational. We will stand against things, but if we do, we will have a reason that is supported by facts and data. We rely on factual education rather than emotions," Ericson says. "We prefer doing preventative maintenance rather than forcing a major overhaul."

Investment in the Future

For a 3-year membership of \$200, individuals become a member of the NDSGA and the American Soybean Association (ASA). Membership dollars support advocacy and policy achievements at both the national and state levels. Members also receive pertinent information about legislative activity at the county, state and national levels through the North Dakota Soybean Grower magazine, the American Soybean quarterly magazine and the weekly eBean News. There are also discounts that come with membership.

The NDSGA conducts its activities by utilizing membership dues. Checkoff dollars cannot be used for legislative activity. Ericson says that the NDSGA works closely with the checkoff board, which provides important industry information that growers use to help shape policy decisions.

With such a small percentage of North Dakotans involved in agriculture, Ericson says that it's important for farmers to protect their freedom to operate.

"It can be hard to quantify how membership pays off in (the) short term, but its value shows up in the long run," Ericson says. "We will always take new members because it gives agriculture a larger voice. It's a very good investment."

To learn more about becoming an NDSGA member, visit www.ndsoygrowers.com.

—Story by Daniel Lemke,
photos by Creative Treatment



NDSGA board members attend a hearing in Bismarck.

Report Makes Case for Rural Broadband

People living in rural areas recognize the growing importance of high-speed internet connections. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue has unveiled a groundbreaking report, *A Case for Rural Broadband: Insights on Rural Broadband Infrastructure and Next Generation Precision Agriculture Technologies*.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) report finds that deployment of both broadband e-connectivity and next generation precision agriculture technology on farms and ranches throughout the U.S. could result in at least \$47 billion of national economic benefits every year.

"Broadband and next generation precision agriculture are critical components for creating vital access to world-class resources, tools and opportunity for America's farmers, ranchers, foresters and producers," Secretary Perdue said. "The USDA is committed to doing our part to clear

the way for nationwide broadband connectivity that will allow the next generation of precision agriculture technologies to thrive and expand."

The report also finds that, if broadband infrastructure and digital technologies were available at a level that meets estimated producer demand, the U.S. economy could realize benefits equivalent to nearly 18 percent of the total agriculture production. Of that 18 percent, more than one-third is dependent on broadband e-connectivity, equivalent to at least \$18 billion in annual economic benefits that only high-speed, reliable internet can provide.

The USDA report concludes that the American economy stands to capture substantial gains from e-connectivity with the adoption of next generation precision agriculture. The USDA's analysis estimates that connected technologies are poised to transform agricultural production and to create a potential \$47-\$65

billion in annual gross benefit for the United States.

For many years, the USDA and the American agriculture industry have been actively researching the feasibility, usage and potential upside of next generation precision agriculture technologies. Until now, the interdependency of these technologies and broadband e-connectivity has not been evaluated. The report explores this symbiotic relationship, quantifying the potential economic benefit of broadband buildout and the complementary adoption of connected agriculture technologies.

Going forward, the USDA will be engaged in multiple facets of infrastructure and technology deployment, including financing rural capital investments and supporting producers who are exploring which next generation precision agriculture technologies are best suited to improve their operations and to serve

their customers.

In April 2017, President Trump established the Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity in order to identify legislative, regulatory and policy changes that could promote agriculture and prosperity in rural communities. In January 2018, Secretary Perdue presented the task force's conclusions. These findings included 31 recommendations to align the federal government with state, local and tribal governments in order to take advantage of opportunities that exist in rural America. The report identified "achieving e-connectivity in rural America" as a cornerstone recommendation. The administration has been executing this priority call to action through the American Broadband Initiative which reflects rural broadband buildout as one of President Trump's directives to the federal government.

—Story by staff





redriverzoo.org

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17TH
10AM-2PM
Fargo, ND



*Connecting Kids
with Agriculture*

Getting to Know the Grower



Adam Redmann, Saint Thomas, North Dakota

Tell us about your farm.

I farm with my dad, and we have a small, unique, “old-school” operation. My dad has maintained the farm, but we are a fourth-generation farm. We raise soybeans, wheat, pinto beans and pink beans.

What do you like best about farming?

I like knowing what you have to do and getting it done, and not having someone looking over your shoulder. I work in sync with my dad. We are great coworkers.

Did you always know farming was something you wanted to do?

Although I admired my dad for what he did as a farmer, I did not think I would become a farmer. I wasn't sure if it was in the cards for me. After graduation, I got a job in Minneapolis doing finance and, later on, went to law school. Eventually, my dad asked me if I wanted to come back home and farm with him, and I said, “Of course.” Since then, it's been going better than either of us could have imagined.

What's most exciting about the upcoming growing season?

We've been experimenting with a test plot of a new variety of wheat.

How and why did you get involved with the North Dakota Soybean Council?

I want to serve my community and fellow farmers. Also, I want to use this opportunity to work with my strengths. I am excited to be a part of (the) NDSC's Market Development Committee, and I think I will be able to make a strong impact with my background in finance.

Why are soybeans a part of your crop mix?

Soybeans are not too expensive to implement, and the market for them is good.

If you could change something about the current operating climate for North Dakota farmers, what would it be?

Prices: it is not as fun to farm if you are not making any money.

What has changed most about farming since you've been involved?

I see farm technology has changed, and once it becomes more cost effective, it is going to completely change the industry. Technology is something my generation will have to keep learning how to adapt to.

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

Eventually, my dad will retire, so I will take over the farm, and I may hire someone to help. Also, small farms like ours will need to adapt and expand, perhaps by adding another crop to our crop mix.

What do you like to do outside farming?

I love to travel. One of the perks of working back at the farm is being able to travel. I really enjoy having the freedom to work when work needs to be done and experience new things during the free time.

If you could go anywhere, where would it be?

I have never been to Europe, so I think it would be really cool to travel there. I have heard the Netherlands is pretty incredible.

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

I think most people are going to be surprised by this answer, but if we could add any technology to our farm, it would be auto-steer.

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

Cell service: to be able to communicate with my dad when we are both out in the field.

—Story by staff,
photo by Betsy Armour Images

Bean Briefs

EU Trade Excludes Agriculture

The American Soybean Association (ASA) is disappointed that the European Union (EU) has voted on a mandate to move forward with an EU-U.S. Free Trade Agreement that excludes agriculture. The EU is a critically important market for U.S. food exports, including soybeans.

In 2017, soybeans exported to the EU were valued at \$1.6 billion. The ASA applauded the initial decision to launch comprehensive negotiations between the U.S. and the

EU in order to liberalize trade and investment in a variety of sectors.

“We had high hopes that some of the longstanding concerns regarding the EU's policies on agricultural biotechnology and on revising the EU's pesticide laws would be addressed,” said Davie Stephens, a Kentucky soy grower and ASA president. “With the EU now formally excluding ag, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to address these non-tariff barriers that severely inhibit trade between our countries.”

The ASA maintains that the EU

approach to biotechnology, gene editing and pesticide regulation needs to be risk-based and consistent with international practice under the Codex Alimentarius (Codex), which is the foundation of internationally accepted standards and guidance.

Trade Commission Report Shortchanges USMCA Value

An International Trade Commission (ITC) report on the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) demonstrated marginal increases in agricultural exports, but

soybean leaders say that the value of the USMCA to soybean producers goes beyond what was reported. Soy-industry leaders say that the report is a good tool, but it does not account for valuable non-tariff provisions in the “new NAFTA” or look back historically on the myriad benefits to agriculture since NAFTA's inception.

Davie Stephens, a soy grower from Clinton, Kentucky, and the American Soybean Association (ASA) president says, “(The) USMCA

—Continued on page 34

Getting to Know the Expert



Dr. Caley Gasch
NDSU Assistant Professor of
Soil Health, Research

Where did you grow up?

I grew up near Cody, Wyoming, on 10 acres of irrigated alfalfa. We had horses, but it was not a farm or ranch.

Tell us about your education.

I earned my bachelor's degree in Biology from a small college in Colorado, then returned to pursue my master's and doctorate degrees at the University of Wyoming. My M.S. is in Agronomy, and my Ph.D. is in Ecology and Statistics.

What led you to go into ecology/soil health?

I always liked the natural sciences. I was on a pre-med track in college when we had some environmental microbiology labs in one of my classes. I really liked that topic, but there weren't any classes on soil and agriculture at my college. I started reading library books about the soil and all the things that live in it, and I liked how soil ecology brought my favorite topics together: biology, chemistry and environmental science. I've always had the perspective that the soil is an interesting habitat for studying biology. This ecosystem approach to understanding and managing soil is compatible with the concept of soil health.

What is your role at NDSU?

I am a research and teaching faculty member in the Soil Science department. I direct and conduct research on soil ecology. I spend most of my time advising graduate students in their research, writing proposals to fund our research and reporting our results. I also teach two classes on soil ecology and nutrient cycling.

What type of research are you conducting or partnering?

I have a few projects dealing with soil salinity in corn and soybean fields. Salinity is a stubborn problem, and we're trying to identify some management options that improve crop productivity in moderately saline areas. I have one student finishing some work on how Kentucky bluegrass invasion in the prairie is affecting soil properties. In the next year, I'll be starting a project looking at the potential

soil-health benefits of flax. I'm also marginally involved in a number of projects related to cover crops, tillage, and reclamation of disturbed and contaminated soils.

Why should farmers value soil health?

Soils are a non-renewable resource (at least in our lifetimes), and they're also the basis for terrestrial productivity. Yet, we lose soil every year to wind and water erosion. If farmers care about the longevity of their farm and its ability to produce crops long into the future, we need to get our erosion under control. To me, soil health is all about making a long-term commitment to protecting the soil as a resource. This seems like something that every farmer would be interested in doing.

What simple things can farmers do to benefit soil health short of making wholesale changes to their management style?

If I could make one recommendation for setting a soil-health goal, it would be to figure out how to have residues protecting the soil surface in the fall through the spring. One option is to try growing a cover crop. Another option is to undertake the great residue-management challenge and figure out how to leave crop residues after harvest, but then ensure optimal planting conditions in the spring.

What do you like to do away from work?

I like to read, garden, travel and go on adventures with my dog. My family and many of my friends live in the Rockies, so I spend a fair amount of time visiting them and doing my favorite things: hiking and skiing. I've been working on my Spanish-language skills, and I volunteer at a pet shelter.

—Story by Dan Lemke,
photo courtesy of NDSU

Get Ready to Corner the Market

NDSC Market Outlook for Soybeans

July 25, 2019 • 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Two Locations:

Bismarck State College Campus – Bismarck • NDSU Barry Hall Commodity Trading Room

Join North Dakota Soybean Council for a midseason outlook at the soybean markets and discussion of marketing strategies prior to harvest. Dr. Bill Wilson and Dr. Frayne Olson will discuss how the season is progressing, the South American crop, world demand and walk producers through marketing strategies and risk management options for the soybean harvest.

Free for ND Soybean Producers
Registration Required by July 17
Register online at ndsoybean.org
Questions, call (701) 566-9300



NDSU



Dr. Bill Wilson



Dr. Frayne Olson

North Dakota Soybean Council • ndsoybean.org

—Continued from page 32

builds upon the strong foundation set by the original NAFTA. Under NAFTA, the value of agricultural exports to Canada and Mexico increased to roughly \$43 billion each year. Soybean exports to Mexico quadrupled under NAFTA, making Mexico the number two market for U.S. soybeans, meal and oil. We also saw a doubling of soybean exports to Canada, making it the number four market for soybean meal and the number seven market for soybean oil.”

While continuing to review and assess the ITC, the ASA reaffirms its support for the USMCA and urges Congress to pass the agreement once the bill arrives. Passage of the USMCA is vital to ensure continued trade with two of U.S. soybeans’ top trading partners, Canada and Mexico.

Building Markets in Asia

As part of the continued, multi-country tour to promote U.S. soy, leaders from the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC), the American Soybean Association (ASA) and the United Soybean Board (USB) met with Chinese importers in Beijing and Shanghai in early April. ASA President Davie Stephens and USB Chairman Keith Tapp participated in the meetings, where they talked to buyers about the advantages of U.S. soy, including technology innovations, sustainability practices and being positioned to effectively serve a global marketplace.

The meetings were part of the USSEC’s efforts to maintain and to further build relationships with exporters and stakeholders in the international markets.

Globally, consumers are demanding soy products in record volume, and U.S. exports to other countries have grown significantly over the past year. To ensure that this demand continues, the USSEC is focused on

short- and long-term strategies to increase the availability of innovative, nutritious and quality U.S. soy.

As part of these strategies, the USSEC conducted a tour called Experience Today’s U.S. Soy Advantage in key priority markets. The purpose of these meetings was to remind customers about the benefits of U.S. soy, to thank them for their trust in American soybean farmers and to foster U.S. soy interests. To date, events have been held in numerous markets across the world.

Biodiesel Blenders’ Credit-Extension Proposed

Rep. Abby Finkenauer (D-IA) has introduced a bipartisan marker bill, the Biodiesel Tax Credit Extension Act of 2019 (HR 2089), that would provide a two-year extension for the \$1 per gallon biodiesel and renewable diesel blenders’ tax credit. More than a dozen House members have signed on as co-sponsors. The marker bill serves as a demonstration of support and, if enacted, would be part of a larger package of tax extenders or tax provisions.

Also, biodiesel supporters in the House of Representatives are preparing to send a letter to House leadership urging immediate action on the extension of the biodiesel tax credit.

Leadership at Its Best Class Graduates in Washington

In early April, farmers from 12 states graduated from the 2018-19 American Soybean Association’s (ASA) Leadership at Its Best program in Washington, D.C. The Leadership At Its Best program is sponsored by Syngenta and develops leadership, communication and advocacy skills in farmers who have already shown potential to be strong leaders through the positions they hold on their state soybean-association boards. This select group of farmer-leaders participated in the



Spencer Endrud, second from left, participated in small group discussions during the Leadership at its Best program.

first part of the Leadership at Its Best training this past summer in Raleigh, North Carolina.

“Growers from across the country are learning from one another while also enhancing their advocacy skills to stand up and answer the call for American agriculture,” says Andrew Lauver, industry affairs manager for Syngenta.

Participants attended sessions where they had the opportunity to learn more about important issues and topics for the agriculture industry, such as trade, gene editing and implementation of the 2018 Farm Bill. They also received training focused on how to become stronger advocates in Washington regarding issues which are important to soybean farmers. The class concluded its program with a day of Hill visits with their state associations.

Leadership at Its Best Program participants are nominated by their state soybean association. This year’s class of participants included Spencer Endrud, Buxton, North Dakota.

The ASA will begin reaching out to state soybean associations this spring in order to start collecting nominations for the 2020 class.

Proposed Changes for RINs

In March, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a

long-awaited proposed rule, allowing the year-round sale of 15-percent ethanol blends (E15), and as part of that proposed rule, the EPA also included changes to rules regarding Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs), which are the tradable compliance credits for the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).

Proposed reforms to RIN markets:

- Prohibiting certain parties from being able to purchase separated RINs,
- Requiring public disclosure when RIN holdings exceed specified thresholds,
- Limiting the length of time a non-obligated party can hold RINs
- Increasing the compliance frequency of the program from once annually to quarterly.

These changes seek to address the volatility in RIN markets and concerns from stakeholders about the lack of transparency with RIN trading. The American Soybean Association, along with the National Biodiesel Board and biodiesel-industry stakeholders, supports reforms to RIN compliance and trading, and says that the EPA’s proposed rule is a positive step in that direction.

—Story by staff,
photo courtesy of ASA



unitedsoybean.org

INVESTING IN NEW MARKETS FOR U.S. SOY

From promoting the profitability of using high-quality soybean meal in India to training animal producers on nutrition in Colombia, the soy checkoff is working behind the scenes to develop more market opportunities for U.S. soy. We're looking inside the bean, beyond the bushel and around the world to keep preference for U.S. soy strong. And it's helping make a valuable impact for soybean farmers like you.

See more ways the soy checkoff is maximizing profit opportunities for soybean farmers at unitedsoybean.org

Brought to you by the soy checkoff.

©2018 United Soybean Board. Our Soy Checkoff and the Our Soy Checkoff mark are trademarks of United Soybean Board. All other trademarks are property of their respective owners.

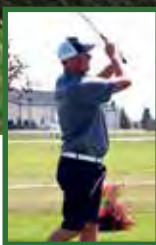
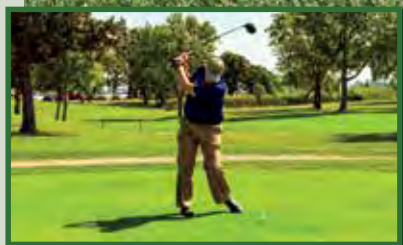
NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

4852 Rockinghorse Circle South
Fargo, ND 58104
(701) 566-9300



PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
Fargo, ND
Permit #1159

16th Annual NDSGA Golf Tournament



Join the fun! Sign up for the NDSGA 16th Annual Golf Tournament on **August 27, 2019** at the Maple River Golf Club in Mapleton, N.D. Golf, lunch, social, dinner and prizes are included. Register yourself or

a whole team by August 2 by going to the Events tab at NDSoyGrowers.com. For more information, contact Nancy Johnson at (701) 640-5215 or nancy.johnson@NDSGA.com.

