

THE NORTH DAKOTA Soybean GROWER MAGAZINE

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SPECIAL ISSUE:

2024 Northern Corn and Soybean Expo



SPECIAL INSERT
North Dakota Soybean Council
2023 Research Report

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n the cover

The 2024 Northern Corn and Soybean Expo will feature a new location, but the same great blend of programming and activities for which it is known. Butler Machinery Arena on the Red River Valley Fairgrounds is the new home for the Expo which will include top-notch speakers, industry thought leaders, research information and a vibrant trade show.

—Photos by staff



Register to Attend the 2024 Northern Corn and Soybean Expo!

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Use the camera on your phone to scan this QR code, and you'll be taken to the registration page: northerncornsoyexpo.com/producer-registration

Visit the Northern Corn and Soybean Expo Site

For more information, please visit our website: northerncornsoyexpo.com



NEW LOCATION:

Butler Machinery Arena

Red River Valley Fairgrounds
West Fargo, North Dakota

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Special Session Offers Clarity

It took lawmakers two-and-one-half days to complete their task of passing the contents of one bill which was considered by the North Dakota Supreme Court to be too inclusive of different topics. Lawmakers broke the measure into 14 bills, a few of which would be of interest to the state's farmers.

One of the new actions was to confirm the emergency snow-clearing bill, which was amended to allow some political subdivisions with applications in the pipeline when the June deadline was reached to complete the application process. The deadline was extended until October 20, and an extra \$106,000 were added.

Another action occurred with the law which required all water resource districts (WRDs) to belong to joint water districts. That law required the WRDs to levy two mills, but this measure was amended to say that WRDs could, but did not need to, levy two mills.

The biggest action for agriculture was a financial incentive for a company that is willing

to build a fertilizer plant using green energy, in this case, wind. The \$125 million are to be paid only upon completion of the project, which is expected to cost \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion. The company had already begun research for siting because the incentive was originally passed in late April. While some legislators tried to amend the law in various ways, the majority of both houses kept it intact. An agricultural coalition of nine groups (including the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association) was working for that result.

In another interesting twist, the governor gave the State of the State address at the beginning of the special session and asked for some excess funds to be used to reduce the state's income tax. Passed by the House, the Senate defeated that proposal with about a two-to-one vote, mostly on the grounds that this proposal was not the reason that the legislature was called into special session and that, if the reduced income tax has enough merit, it should



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

be testified on and then passed or failed during a regular session.

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Building a Better Event

Just as farmers strive to be more productive, efficient and profitable each year, the team that brings you the Northern Corn and Soybean Expo also works to provide attendees with a meaningful experience. This year is no exception.

The 2024 Northern Corn and Soybean Expo is being held at a new venue: the Red River Valley Fairgrounds. The goal is to provide an intimate setting that greets attendees with easy access to top-notch presenters, the trade show floor, the Research Pavilion and more. With a more centralized event, you won't have to choose which concurrent sessions to attend. All the day's activities are there for you to enjoy.

In addition to convenient facilities, the organizing team, composed of representatives from the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA), the North Dakota Soybean Council, the North Dakota Corn Growers Association and the North Dakota Corn Utilization Council,

has worked diligently to provide attendees with a robust program. We want to make it well worth your while to dedicate a day to learning more about the many factors that affect your business.

The Northern Corn and Soybean Expo also provides the NDSGA with an opportunity to keep North Dakota farmers updated about the efforts to advocate on their behalf. Some factors that influence farmers are policy driven. The NDSGA's annual meeting takes place during the expo. We encourage you to join us to see how the NDSGA is working for you and all the state's farmers in Washington and Bismarck.

We haven't overlooked the importance of networking. Whether you're interested in talking with one of the dozens of trade show partners or want to catch up with your neighbor, we know that opportunity is valuable, too. That's why there is time built in for those conversations to take place.

We're very excited about what's in store for the 2024 Northern Corn and Soybean Expo,



Kasey Bitz
President, North Dakota
Soybean Growers Association

and I encourage you to attend. As always, the event is free. We're convinced that your time will be well spent.



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Gackle Elected ASA President

Kulm farmer Josh Gackle is the newly elected president of the American Soybean Association (ASA). Gackle, who was elected in December, becomes the second North Dakota farmer to lead the organization. Richard Ostlie of Northwood, North Dakota, filled the role in 2006-2007.

“It is a good opportunity for me to take a leadership role at ASA and to work with a really good board,” Gackle says. “We have over 60 directors from across the country who are all excellent and committed to the work that the American Soybean Association is doing. We have excellent staff in Washington, D.C., and in St. Louis when it comes to both the advocacy, industry relations and state affiliate relations. It’s an opportunity as president to work closely with the states, not just North Dakota soybean growers, but the grower associations in the 38 affiliate states that we have.”

Gackle asserts that the ASA’s priority issues include getting a new

five-year farm bill passed, but his concerns go beyond that legislation.

Gackle states, “The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and their pesticide regulation and just access to crop protection products, personally, that’s probably my biggest priority. As a farmer, one of the things that concerns me the most is just having the ability to use the products that we know have worked. If we lose these products, our ability to do things sustainably and efficiently is impaired. We need access to the

tools, but we want to partner and make sure we come up with something that’s workable, so EPA can meet their requirements, but also find things that work on the farm.”

Gackle began serving on the ASA’s board of directors in 2017. He served as a director of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA) for two years and has been on the NDSGA’s legislative and membership committees.

“I think what makes us really effective as an organization, both in our state agencies and legis-

latures as well as at the federal level, is our farmers spend quite a bit of time having conversations with elected officials, and they really listen,” Gackle contends. “A senator or a congressperson is going to listen to their constituents and meet with them. When a congressional member hears from a farmer, it’s just a little different tone and a different conversation.”

—Story by *Daniel Lemke*,
photo by *staff*



Josh Gackle (center on stage) is congratulated after being elected American Soybean Association president in December.



2024 North Dakota Soybean Growers Association Annual Meeting Agenda

February 6, 2024 • 12:00 p.m. • Hartl Building, Red River Valley Fairgrounds

1. Welcome and Introduction of Board Members:
President Kasey Bitz
2. Secretary’s Report: Secretary Josh Stutrud
3. Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Spencer Endrud
4. American Soybean Association (ASA) Update:
ASA President Josh Gackle
5. Old Business
6. New Business
 - a. Election of Directors
 - District 2. Adams, Bowman, Emmons, Grant, Hettinger, LaMoure, Logan, McIntosh, Sioux and Slope Counties 3-Year Term
 - District 3. Cass, Griggs, Steele and Traill Counties 3-Year Term
 - b. Other New Business
7. Adjourn

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New Venue, Same Value

Each year provides new and intriguing opportunities on the farm. The new year is also bringing some exciting changes for the 2024 Northern Corn and Soybean Expo that you won't want to miss.

The 2024 Northern Corn and Soybean Expo will be held on February 6, 2024, at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds in Fargo. The event will be in the Butler Machinery Arena. This new location will offer easy accessibility to speakers, the trade show, the Research Pavilion and much more.

The Northern Corn and Soybean Expo is truly a team effort for the North Dakota Soybean Council, the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, the North Dakota Corn Utilization Council and the North Dakota Corn Growers Association. This collaboration has resulted in an agenda that is sure to be worthwhile for any North Dakota farmer.

The day's agenda is full of valuable information. Event speakers include leaders from such important trade organizations as the U.S. Grains Council and the U.S. Soybean Export Council. Attendees will also be briefed on the latest in

policy concerns by representatives of the American Soybean Association and the National Corn Growers Association. Policy issues have a major effect on farmers, so you owe it to yourself and your operation to stay up to date on what's happening with policies that could affect us.

Because we operate in a global economy, you won't want to miss keynote speaker Peter Zeihan, an expert in geopolitics, which is the study of how place affects financial, economic, cultural, political and military developments. He has been featured in numerous newspapers and broadcasts, including The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, CNN, ABC, The New York Times, Fox News and MarketWatch.

In addition to the opportunity to stay up to date on the latest factors affecting agriculture, the expo is a place to connect or reconnect with your fellow farmers and friends who are involved with agriculture. Those connections and conversations are among my favorite parts of the Northern Corn and Soybean Expo.

We encourage you to attend the 2024 Northern Corn and Soybean Expo in West Fargo. It's a day that can help set the stage for a successful year.



Rob Rose
Wimbledon, North Dakota
Co-Chairman, Northern Corn and Soybean Expo

Email:
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Checkoff Pavilion Highlights Innovation

Through the thoughtful investment of soybean checkoff funds, the North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) is helping move soybeans and soy products into exciting and innovative places. New this year at the Northern Corn and Soybean Expo, the NDSC is hosting a Soybean Checkoff Pavilion in the tradeshow area in order to highlight checkoff-supported research and accomplishments.

In the pavilion, the NDSC will feature soy-based products and will demonstrate how soy is making life easier and everyday products better. As soybean processing advances in North Dakota, the potential to process more soy products increases, opening new opportunities to add value and to create additional soybean demand.

In addition to being a

high-quality ingredient for human nutrition and livestock feed, soybeans are used in a multitude of products, ranging from industrial applications, such as artificial turf, adhesives, ink, tires and foam, to personal-care products, including lotions. Soy products are utilized to protect and to extend the life of shingles, concrete, asphalt and gravel roads.

The NDSC invests checkoff funds in research at North Dakota State University and elsewhere to develop more high-value uses for soy products in emerging areas, such as lubricants, pharmaceuticals, adhesives and even products which are designed for use in robotic applications.

In the Soybean Checkoff Pavilion, the NDSC will feature key checkoff partnerships and will highlight programming that

is helping to bring value back to North Dakota soybean farmers. NDSC farmer-leaders will also be available in the pavilion during the expo to answer questions and to visit with their fellow farmers about checkoff investments and emerging soy opportunities.

Soybeans already play a promi-

nent role in North Dakota agriculture. Be sure to visit the Soybean Checkoff Pavilion to get a glimpse of the exciting places soy is headed and see how the checkoff is benefiting North Dakota farmers.

—Story by Daniel Lemke,
photo by staff



The NDSC pavilion will feature key checkoff partnerships and soy-based products helping to bring value back to North Dakota soybean farmers.



Tuesday, February 6, 2024 • Butler Machinery Arena • Red River Valley Fairgrounds • West Fargo, ND

Tentative Agenda

7:00 a.m. | Butler Arena

Registration, Breakfast, Research Pavilion and Trade Show

8:00 a.m. | Butler Arena Main Stage

Welcome

Emcees Katie Pinke, Publisher, AgWeek;
Mick Kjar, Farm Director and Meteorologist, AgNews 890;
Co-chair Rob Rose, North Dakota Soybean Council;
Co-chair Tysen Rosenau, North Dakota Corn Utilization Council

8:10 a.m. | Butler Arena Main Stage

Standing Up for the Industry We Love

Brandi Buzzard, Rancher and Farmer, Buzzard's Beat

9:00 a.m. | Butler Arena Main Stage

Corn and Soybean Trade Outlook

Rosalind (Roz) Leeck, Executive Director for Market Access and Strategy and Northeast Asia Regional Director, U.S. Soybean Export Council;
Cary Sifferath, Vice President, U.S. Grains Council

9:50 a.m. | Butler Arena Trade Show

Visit Trade Show and Research Pavilion

10:20 a.m. | Butler Arena Main Stage

Priority Policy Issues for Corn and Soybean

Christy Seyfert, Executive Director of Government Affairs, American Soybean Association; Wayne Stoskopf, Director Public Policy, National Corn Growers Association

11:10 a.m. | Butler Arena Main Stage

National Perspectives on Corn and Soybean Checkoffs

John Jansen, Vice President, Oil Strategy, United Soybean Board;
Neil Caskey, CEO, National Corn Growers Association

12:00 p.m. | Hartl Building

Lunch

ND Corn Growers Association and ND Soybean Growers Association Annual Meetings

Visit Trade Show and Research Pavilion

1:15 p.m. | Butler Arena Main Stage

Weather Outlook for the Upper Great Plains

Mark Ewens, Owner, Home On The Prairie Weather LLC

2:10 p.m. | Butler Arena Trade Show

Visit Trade Show and Research Pavilion

Turn in your completed Passport by 2:45

2:50 p.m. | Butler Arena Main Stage

Geopolitical Impact on Agriculture

Peter Zeihan, President, Zeihan on Geopolitics LLC



4:00 p.m. | Butler Arena Main Stage

Closing Remarks

NEW LOCATION:

Butler Machinery Arena
Red River Valley Fairgrounds
West Fargo, North Dakota



Powerhouse Speakers Bring Global Insights

The diverse lineup of speakers at the 2024 Northern Corn and Soybean Expo offers global experience and insights on a range of topics that affect North Dakota farmers. Sessions include a look inside the political landscape, efforts to enhance market opportunities, trends in weather and much more.

All speaker sessions are free for the Northern Corn and Soybean Expo attendees.

Session: Geopolitical Impact on Agriculture

Headlining this year's expo is nationally known speaker, strategist and futurist Peter Zeihan, president of Zeihan on Geopolitics, LLC. Zeihan is a New York Times bestselling author with several titles to his credit, including *The Accidental Superpower*, *The Absent Superpower* and *Disunited Nations*. Zeihan's fourth book, *The End of the World is Just the Beginning: Mapping the Collapse of Globalization*, was published in June 2022 and became a New York Times bestseller.

Zeihan is an expert in geopolitics, examining how place affects financial, economic, cultural, political and military developments. He presents customized executive briefings to a wide array of audiences, including a mix of industrial, power, agricultural, and consulting associations and corporations. Zeihan has been featured in and cited by numerous newspapers and broadcast outlets, including



Peter Zeihan

The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, the Associated Press, Bloomberg, CNN, ABC, The New York Times, Fox News and MarketWatch.

Few industries are influenced by global events as much as agriculture, so you won't want to miss Zeihan's compelling presentation.

Session: Standing Up for the Industry We Love

With less than 2% of the nation's population involved with agriculture and food production, farmers and ranchers often deal with rampant misinformation and a lack of knowledge about modern agriculture. Brandi Buzzard is a Kansas farmer, cowgirl, rancher, runner and traveler who believes in telling the whole truth and keeping the word "can't" out of her vocabulary. Buzzard is an agriculture advocate who blogs at Buzzardsbeat.com. Her work can also be found on an array of other social media channels.



Brandi Buzzard

Session: Corn and Soybean Trade Outlook

Agricultural trade and exports are vital for North Dakota's corn and soybean farmers. Expo attendees will obtain insights from industry leaders who work to develop market opportunities for U.S. agricultural products around the world.

U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) Executive Director for Market Access and Strategy as well as Northeast Asia Regional



Rosalind Leeck



Cary Sifferath

Director Rosalind (Roz) Leeck will provide an overview of global activities and opportunities for U.S. soybean products. The USSEC is tasked with differentiating the value and quality of U.S. soy and collaborating with partners across the U.S. supply chain to elevate the preference for U.S. soy. The USSEC also strives to gain access to markets for U.S. soy products. Leeck originally hails from southern Illinois where she remains a partner in her family's grain and livestock farm. She has more than 10 years of experience in the grain trade field.

Cary Sifferath serves as the vice president for the U.S. Grains Council, a nonprofit organization that promotes the global use of U.S. barley, corn, sorghum and related products, including ethanol and distiller's dried grains with solubles (DDGS). In this capacity, Sifferath is responsible for overseeing the council's 10 international offices and all worldwide programs. He has held various positions within the council since joining in 1993. Sifferath will deliver an outlook on

global trade opportunities for U.S. grains and ethanol.

Session: Priority Policy Issues for Corn and Soybeans

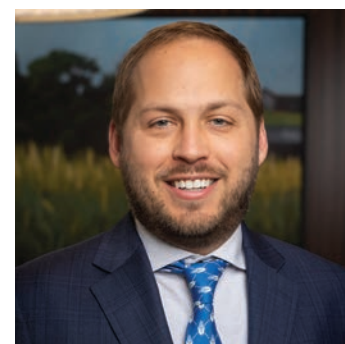
Policy issues affect farmers in many ways. Expo attendees will hear from some national experts who are working on the front lines to advocate for farmers.

Christy Seyfert is the executive director of government affairs for the American Soybean Association (ASA). She leads the ASA's Washington, D.C., office. Seyfert directs and implements policy strategy as well as managing the policy staff. The ASA has 26 affiliated state associations, representing 30 soybean-producing states and more than 500,000 soybean farmers. She joined the ASA in October 2019, having worked in both the private sector and in the federal government regarding public policy and agriculture.

Wayne Stoskopf is the National Corn Growers Association's (NCGA) director for public policy for risk management and



Christy Seyfert



Wayne Stoskopf

tax. Stoskopf also serves as the lead staff member for the Risk Management and Transportation team. Stoskopf came to the NCGA from the Senate Agriculture Committee where, as a senior professional staff member, he oversaw the commodity, crop insurance, disaster and grain standards programs. He led the staff-level negotiations for the commodities and crop insurance titles of the 2018 Farm Bill.

Session: National Perspectives on Corn and Soybean Checkoffs

In his role as vice president of marketing for the United Soybean Board (USB), John Jansen works to place soybean products with end users covering food, industrial and fuel, locating the most profitable opportunities that will generate the best possible return for U.S. soybean farmers. Jansen joined the



John Jansen

USB with 30 years of experience in product management and commercial sales at Bunge North America.

Neil Caskey is the CEO of the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA). Caskey previously served as the NCGA's vice president of communications and industry relations. He spent over a decade promoting agricultural issues as the executive vice president at OBP Agency, a leading advertising and public relations



Neil Caskey

firm. His professional background also includes work for the American Soybean Association and as a legislative aide for a member of Congress.

Session: Weather Outlook for the Upper Grain Plains

Weather patterns can affect agriculture in multiple ways. Mark Ewens, owner of Home On The Prairie Weather, will offer his insights about what the region can

expect for the coming months. Ewens uses the climate-prediction techniques developed while he was working for the National Weather Service to make medium- and long-term climate predictions for the Red River Valley. In addition to operating Home On The Prairie Weather, Ewens is staff meteorologist for KNOX radio.



Mark Ewens

—Story by Daniel Lemke,
photos provided by speakers

Research Pavilion Returns

One of the main focuses for checkoff organizations is to support research that is intended to improve the farmers' productivity and profitability. This year's Northern Corn and Soybean Expo Research Pavilion presents an opportunity for farmers, crop consultants and industry representatives to interact with a variety of researchers and to learn about the latest corn and soybean research information.

Unlike previous expo programs, the 2024 event won't have research breakout sessions. However, corn and soybean researchers will be on hand to interact with meeting attendees in order to answer specific questions or to discuss relevant topics.

"Research is one of the main focuses of what the North Dakota Soybean Council supports, so it's important to bring researchers and give them space to interact with

farmers so (that) there is two-way communication," says North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) Research Coordinator Miki Miheguli. "We will have scientists who work on corn and soybean research at the Research Pavilion, so we'll direct traffic during the breaks to this area so (that) there can be cross-pollination between various disciplines in the research community, as well as interaction between industry representatives, farmers and researchers."

Miheguli explains how the Research Pavilion's scope will go beyond production and agroeconomic projects.

"We'll also have research focused on innovation and improvements in crop production and some of the new uses as well," Miheguli states. "For example, we have invited soil scientists, weed scientists and pathologists. We have invited researchers who are working on new-uses research to find high-value, high-volume soybean uses do-



Expo's Research Pavilion is an opportunity for farmers to interact with a variety of researchers and to learn about the latest soybean and corn soybean research information.

mestically as well as internationally to increase markets for soybeans."

Having researchers from multiple disciplines in the Research Pavilion should give the Northern Corn and Soybean Expo attendees a robust experience.

Miheguli continues, "We feel that there are some synergies

between multiple disciplines, and they can complement each other's work. The Research Pavilion is going to act as a research and innovation hub that people can visit."

The Research Pavilion will be in the Butler Machinery Arena.

—Story by Daniel Lemke,
photo by staff

Pederson Reelected to Clean Fuels Governing Board

Rollette farmer Ryan Pederson has been reelected to the Clean Fuels Alliance America (Clean Fuels) governing board. Pederson represents the North Dakota Soybean Council on the Clean Fuels Board and has served several terms as treasurer and secretary. Now, he continues on the Clean Fuels board as the treasurer.

“It’s definitely an exciting time to be in the industry,” Pederson says. “Looking back over the last two decades, the industry has made tremendous strides in introducing new fuels to the U.S. market. Our industry currently meets 5% of the country’s need for heavy-duty on-road transpor-

tation fuel. And our growth is accelerating to meet new markets.”

Clean Fuels is the leading trade association for biodiesel, renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel. The organization works to advance the interests of its members by supporting industry growth for sustainable biodiesel, renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel. Clean Fuels also serves as the industry’s central coordinating entity for technical, environmental, quality assurance and advocacy programs.

To learn more about Clean Fuels Alliance, please visit cleanfuels.org.

—Story and photo by staff



Ryan Pederson

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE >> CHANGING LIVES

Western Soybean School



Sponsored by North Dakota Soybean Council

Interact with state resources on soybean production best management practices! Topics include weed control, insect management, soil fertility recommendations, grain storage and drying, variety selection and planting, and other agronomic considerations. CEUs for certified crop advisors requested for both events. More details to come soon.

No preregistration required. Free and open to all!

Thursday, February 15, 2024 | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. CT

Mountrail County South Complex Building, 8103 61st St NW, Stanley, ND

Friday, February 16, 2024 | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. MT

Stark County Family & Ag Resource Campus Office, Dakota Room, Door C, 2680 Empire Rd, Dickinson, ND

Individuals with disabilities are invited to request accommodations to participate in NDSU-sponsored programs and events. To request accommodation(s), please contact Charlie Lim at charlemagne.lim@ndsu.edu by February 14 to make arrangements.

NDSU

EXTENSION






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



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Stop the Bleed Training

Farming requires growers to be resourceful and self-sufficient. That necessity can be especially true during an emergency. Because help can be many miles away, North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension is offering a series of Stop the Bleed workshops to train and to equip farmers and others in rural communities to deal with bleeding injuries.

NDSU Farm and Ranch Safety Coordinator Angie Johnson says that Extension and the NDSU School of Nursing received U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) funding through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture to offer the Stop the Bleed sessions.

“Especially in rural North Dakota, emergency response times to an injury or some type of medical incident can vary,” Johnson states. “If you’re working out in the field or out in a remote area far away from an ambulance service, it could take 30 to 45 minutes, maybe even an hour, for help to arrive.”

A person can die from blood loss in just a few minutes, so time is of the essence during a bleeding emergency.

Over the next three years, the \$350,000 from the USDA will be used to train community members across North Dakota. Johnson describes how the sessions are targeting farmers, ranchers and rural residents to help them learn how to help during an active bleeding injury.

“This training is focused on how to pack a wound and how to properly use a tourniquet, and participants will learn how to get an active bleeding situation under control to increase a victim’s chances of survival,” Johnson explains.

Johnson says that NDSU will send trainers from the School of Nursing to rural communities via the county Extension agents. In addition to the training, session attendees will receive a tourniquet kit and other supplies that are useful to help slow down bleeding.

Sessions are scheduled across North Dakota through February, March and beyond. For a list of locations for the free sessions, visit ndsu.ag/stopthebleed.

—Story by Daniel Lemke, photo submitted by Angie Johnson of NDSU



Stop the Bleed training can be lifesaving because emergency responders can be many miles away in rural areas of North Dakota.



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