

PUBLISHER

Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers 2600 Wheat Drive • Red Lake Falls, MN 56750 218.253.4311 • Email: <u>mnwheat@mnwheat.com</u> Web: <u>www.mnwheat.org</u>

EDITORIAL

Doug Monson, Ag Management Solutions
151 Saint Andrews Crt. Suite 710 • Mankato, MN 56001

Ph: 507.388.1635

Email: dmonson@agmgmtsolutions.com

CIRCULATION

Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers 2600 Wheat Drive • Red Lake Falls, MN 56750

Ph: 218.253.4311

Email: mnwheat@mnwheat.com

ADVERTISING SALES

Sara Hewitt, Ag Management Solutions

151 Saint Andrews Crt. Suite 710 • Mankato, MN 56001 Ph: 507.995.5208

Email: shewitt@agmgmtsolutions.com

ABOUT PRAIRIE GRAINS

Prairie Grains magazine is published six times annually and delivered free of charge to members of these grower associations, and to spring wheat and barley producers in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana. To subscribe or change address, please write or call our circulation department.



Minnesota Association of Wheat Grower

2600 Wheat Drive • Red Lake Falls, MN 56750 218.253.4311 • Email: <u>mnwheat@mnwheat.com</u> Web: <u>www.mnwheat.org</u>



North Dakota Grain Growers Association 2401 46th Ave SE , Suite 204 • Mandan, ND 58554 701.222.2216 • Email: danw@ndgga.com Web: www.ndgga.com



South Dakota Wheat Inc. 116 N. Euclid, Box 667 • Pierre, SD 58501 605.224.4418 • Email: wheatinc@midco.net



Montana Grain Growers Association P.O. Box 1165 • Great Falls, MT 59403 • 406.761.4596 Email: erobinson@mgga.org • Web: www.mgga.org



Northland Community and Technical College 1101 Highway One East • Thief River Falls, MN 56701 218.683.8800

Email: ron.dvergsten@northlandcollege.edu
Web: www.northlandcollege.edu

Prairie Grains

January 2022 | Issue 185

4

Against the Grain: Charlie Vogel sees a bright future

→ 5

Taming the Bulls & Bears: Betsy Jensen looks forward

12

Gary Anderson is going down in history as the farmer-leader who guided MAWG through a pandemic

18

Prairie Grains Conference 2021 recap . 14

Tim Dufault joined the Walz administration and commodity leaders for an international trade mission

34

Around the Prairie

Also inside

Like every legislative session, 2022 figures to be a unique one at the Capitol in St. Paul. The Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers are plotting their strategy in advance of another election season.





A bright future

The new year is a traditional opportunity to look at what was, what is, and what may be for 2022. I have heard it said, especially in agriculture, that there is no normal – "normal"

is just the average of a collection of unique growing seasons.

As I look back on 2021, this mantra rings true. 2021 saw a phenomenal market rally fueled in part by export demand and a historic drought throughout much of U.S. wheat country. As 2021 closed, we had a glimpse of

"normal" with tremendous showing at the annual Prairie Grains Conference in Grand Forks, North Dakota, with more than 730 in attendance. For many, this was a chance to reconnect with old friends, some who had not been physically seen in almost two years. I am incredibly grateful to our partners, sponsors, vendors, speakers and participants for their support and involvement. It is hard to underestimate the power of relationship-building, building a network and sharing what worked and what is being tried to overcome obstacles.

Farmers and the agricultural industry are incredibly adaptive and resilient,

but like most people we struggle with the unknown. As a result, January and February could be an uncomfortable period. Input prices and availability

are top of mind and the impact these decisions will have on crop rotations, productivity, and ultimately farm profitability. Which marketing strategies are best for individual farms? What impact does potential



have for individual producers and farms? The Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers (MAWG) is evaluating, tracking and working with others in the industry to monitor these developments and work to help put you in the best position possible for 2022.

While we are currently deep in the throws of winter, spring is coming... fast. As many of you are working to finalize plans, secure seed, and fertilizer, and plan for 2022, MAWG is there with you. In the coming weeks, we will host our annual Small Grains Update meetings across Northwest Minnesota to provide our members with the current agronomic, political

and market information to enable each of you to make the right decision for your operations. In February, the Best of the Best program will be held again (in cooperation with North Dakota) with more data and demonstrations to help make final decisions before it's time for planters to roll. Minnesota Wheat is also excited to pursue on-farm trials through our On-Farm Research Network to discover and develop best practices for wheat production and other conservation initiatives. What works and what doesn't - will provide all of us with critical information as we work with regulators, legislators, and industry on the upcoming Farm Bill.

As we all take a moment to reflect on what was in 2021, where we are now, and make plans for what might be in 2022, I have an ask of each of you. Your voice matters. I encourage each of you to be members of the associations for the crops you grow. I am obviously biased toward wheat, but there's strength in numbers. 2022 will have challenges, but it will also have great opportunities... I remain optimistic. The future is bright.

Join our mission today at mnwheat.org/growers/membership-info/.



Reflections on Looking Forward **Kellections on Pooking Forward**

Upon reflection, I have determined myself to be old aged. The line has been crossed and there is no going back.

My nightstand is filled with historical nonfiction books. I do not understand the latest clothing or home decorating styles. Please give me the bottom half of the shirt and stop with the cold grey and white interiors. I spend lots of time reminiscing about the past instead of planning for the future. I don't feel like I'm old, but when I look at my life, I accept that I'm old.

It's the looking back that bothers me. I should be looking forward at the opportunities I have instead of spending my time remembering all the good times. The best is yet to come, and I do not want to forget that.

I need to stop talking about \$20 wheat in 2008 or the glory years in agriculture of 2012 and 2013 when anyone could make money farming. There are opportunities for the future, and I need to be excited for them.

Someday we may remember 2022 as the year input costs skyrocketed. I certainly hope we are not establishing

a "new plateau" for input prices. The plateau theory gets mentioned in high prices years when it comes to corn, wheat and soybean price levels. A market analyst will say that prices can never go down to 2019 levels because we have established a new plateau.

The plateau theory is usually proven wrong in a year or so and I hope that input costs are a spike on the chart, and not a new plateau. Farming is already risky and spending twice as much for fertilizer and chemical just adds to our loss potential.

I would like input costs to drop but corn, wheat and soybean prices to stay. That is not going to happen, so planning for 2022, you need to make sure you are selling to offset the expensive inputs. It will hurt to sell wheat for \$6 next fall. It will hurt worse if your per acre expenses increase by 30%.

After the drought and price rally of 2021, I am a little hesitant to forward contract, but an hour with a break-even spreadsheet scared me straight. Nothing like some black and white numbers to help me make decisions.

We learn lessons from our past marketing decisions but looking ahead we need to acknowledge that each year is unique. What worked last year may not work this year. We must take each year on its own and make the best decisions we can.

Looking back and reminiscing is great when you're sitting with family and friends but we need to make sure we are looking forward when making farming decisions for 2022. There are opportunities to have a great 2022, and I am optimistic for the future of my farm. In the Northern Plains, we have the infrastructure near us to raise many different types of crops. We can forward contract those crops at profitable levels. We have opportunities.

My kids were cute as babies, but they are even better as they get older. I have my grandpa's 1947 Case SC tractor that is awesome, but I cannot imagine riding in that seat all day. Things do get better each year. Look back and smile but look ahead and smile even more. Cheers to 2022 and beyond!

Page 4 Prairie Grains • January 2022



With election looming,

normalcy slowly returning to St. Paul

By Drew Lyon

Ag Management Solutions

As part of the American Rescue Plan, Minnesota is eligible to allocate \$6.8 billion in COVID-related stimulus funds.

Throughout 2022, the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers (MAWG) are calling for state leaders to invest portions of those funds into improving long-neglected roads and bridges throughout Greater Minnesota.

"For the federal stimulus and any bonding measurements, we're going to advocate for transportation and infrastructure," MAWG lobbyist Bruce Kleven said. "There's no end to the need out in the country, and we'd like to see that money put into roads and bridges as much as possible."

The 2022 Legislative Session begins Jan. 30. Because it's the second year of the biennium budget, this session is shorter. The political climate in St. Paul will be shaped by several factors, including a projected \$7.7 billion surplus; a potential bonding bill; fierce battles over redistricting; and a statewide election that will likely see both sides of the aisle dig in their partisan heels. Governor Walz is also running for reelection in November; his Republican opponent has yet to emerge from a crowded field.

"It gives you an indication of what won't get done this year, which is a lot," Kleven said. "But it won't be from a lack of trying."

The DFL-controlled House, Kleven predicted, will be focused on legislation related to race, equity and climate change.

The GOP majority in the Senate will prioritize public safety, COVID-related restrictions and business-friendly policies.

"The parties are going in different directions," Kleven said.

MAWG will monitor any environmental initiatives that come out of the House, and oppose attacks on restrictions related to weed control and seed treatments. Agriculture groups, Kleven said, often join together to protect the industry's interests.

"An attack on one is an attack on all," Kleven said. "We all lock arms – our chemistries are too important."

Nonetheless, MAWG is undeterred, and debated their 2022 policy resolutions during its annual meeting at the Prairie Grains Conference. Members approved resolutions relating to value-added agriculture, farm insurance, climate change, taxes, mental health and more.

"Our farmer-led board devised a clear set of goals for 2022, and we are looking forward to finding solutions with the Walz administration and lawmakers from both parties," MAWG CEO Charlie Vogel said. "While this may be a difficult year to see legislation passed, that certainly won't stop our efforts."

The status of in-person advocacy is also up in the air this year. The House plans to convene virtually, while the Senate hopes to gather in-person at the Capitol. MAWG also has tentative plans to hold its annual Hill visit, but those plans were in flux at press time.

To view MAWG's full list of 2022 policy resolutions on legislation ranging from research to transportation, visit mnwheat.org/growers/resolutions/.



By Bailey Grubish

Ag Management Solutions

At the Prairie Grains Conference, Jake Westlin, vice president of policy and communications for the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG), and James Callan, Washington, D.C. lobbyist for the North Dakota Grain Growers Association (NDGGA) shared updates in a breakout session.

"I think we're just looking forward to rolling up our sleeves and really digging into the Farm Bill," Westlin said.

Renewing the 2023 Farm Bill is a main priority of NAWG and its 20 state affiliates in 2022.

"From our perspective, we would like to see the hearings happen so we can play an active role in having our grower-leaders provide testimony," Westlin said. "Right now, we're in the middle of our own internal evaluation of those programs so we can help inform lawmakers of what changes might be necessary as we look for reauthorization ahead of the 2023 expiration date."

Callan agreed that work needs to be put in on the next Farm Bill.

"We come together on these (Farm Bill) issues, we work internally, and we work with other state groups, and we work with other national organizations to go to Congress with two or three or four big ideas," Callan said. "We try to do that early rather than later because that's what's required to make sure that our issues are being considered. I think that's the effective way for us to achieve our objectives."

NAWG will also be advocating on Waters of the United States, pesticides, budgetary constraints, climate change conversations and other key issues.

Callan said NDGGA is focused on staying ahead of environmental regulations, conservation and water, budget concerns, as well as other policies.

Rollover issues

Ongoing issues NAWG and NDGGA are focused on is climate policy. President Biden's administration and his Democratic allies in Congress have placed a high importance on addressing climate change. NAWG President David Milligan launched a sustainability committee to hold indepth conversations on climate change. NDGGA plans to share its feedback with members.

"(NAWG) wanted to be able to play a constructive role in providing

meaningful feedback for both lawmakers and the administration as they considered legislation, regulations and initiatives so that we could make sure those programs either work for wheat growers or they were aware of the concerns of the regional uniqueness of growing wheat across the country," Westlin said.

A look back

In 2021 sessions, Westlin worked on informing new Congress and administration members on the Quality Loss Adjustment Program, trade, infrastructure and other key issues.

NAWG tackled infrastructure policy in the 2021 session, with a \$1.2 trillion bipartisan bill signed into law in November 2021. States will be eligible to distribute the funds starting in 2022.

"It's been a long time negotiating a larger infrastructure package," Westlin said. "There's been a lot of pent-up demand for that investment, not only in cities but also in rural America."

NDGGA's 2021 priorities included: successfully adding crop coverage for spring and winter wheat under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, Grain Standards Reauthorization, moving up harvest date for cover crops and more.

Page 6 Prairie Grains · January 2022 · · Jan

GRAIN GAINS

North Dakota wheat and barley farmers cautiously optimistic in 2022

By Drew Lyon *Ag Management Solutions*



Executive Director Dan Wogsland and NDGGA Directors meet with Sen. John Hoeven at the U.S. Capitol.

Despite slogging through a pandemic and crippling drought in parts of the state, the North Dakota Grain Growers Association counted 2021 as a step forward for its farmers.

"The year went well. It was a busy year," Executive Director Dan Wogsland said. "We've been very involved." While navigating virtual advocacy, NDGGA secured a number of priorities on the legislative front at the state and federal levels. The group, established in 1967, advocated for \$50 million in state funding for the state-of-the-art Peltier Complex (formerly known as the Ag Products Development Center) at North Dakota State University, which is expected to open in 2024. In addition, NDGGA helped secure \$30 million toward township and bridge infrastructure upgrades and \$10 million for the Grand Farm Research and Education Initiative.

"Research is the lifeblood of North Dakota agriculture," Wogsland said. "We were pleased to see the Peltier Complex break ground – that was one of our top priorities – and that infrastructure was addressed in a major way during the special session."

NDGGA worked with Washington, D.C. lobbyist Jim Callan in recent months to advocate on Capitol Hill on agriculture issues related to transportation, climate

legislation and H2A. In late 2021, NDGGA visited with EPA leaders to discuss the ongoing status of WOTUS. The organization also recently joined the Midwest Coalition of Agriculture, a lobbying group co-founded by former U.S. Rep. Collin Peterson.

"We're lucky to have Jim Callan in D.C. to keep us in the middle at the federal level," Wogsland said, "and then our directors keep us in the middle at the state level."

In December, NDGGA held its Annual Meeting at the Prairie Grains Conference. Tom Bernhardt was reelected president; Ed Kessel will serve as vice president; Ryan Ellis as second V.P. and Dean Knell was named secretary/ treasurer. The organization also finalized its resolutions, including policy priorities related to farm programs, technology, energy, taxes and more.

"There's no end to the issues," Wogsland said. Although the spring wheat harvest didn't meet expectations, a spike in wheat and barley prices proved encouraging. NDGGA is hopeful heading into 2022.

"We're excited for the new year," Wogsland said. "We're looking forward to the continued opportunities to help wheat and barley farmers be successful and dealing with the policy issues that impact them positively."

NDGGA will be co-hosting the virtual (and free!) Best of the Best Conference on Thursday, February 11 from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Visit ndgga.com/events to register.



Read all about it

MGGA is a supporting partner of Prairie
Grains Magazine. The organization also publishes its own monthly magazine, Montana Grain News, that is distributed to members. Visit mgga.org to learn more about the latest news from MGGA.

Between weather issues, swarms of grasshoppers not seen since the 1980s and a pandemic, Alison Vergeront confronted many barriers during her first year as executive vice president of the Montana Grain Growers Association.

"It certainly was a challenging year," she said. "A lot of fields didn't even see equipment come through ... It was devasting for a lot of our guys. But there's always next year."

The year ended on a positive note, as MGGA held its 66th Annual Convention & Tradeshow. Members reconnected, approved the organization's policy priorities for 2022 and also elected new officers. Just as importantly, snow fell across Montana the night after the convention ended.

"It was a good start," Vergeront said with a laugh. "We're enjoying the snow."

The board elected Kalispell grower Tryg Koch to serve as MGGA president.

"I'm hoping to bridge the gap between suits and ties on the hill and the boots on the ground in agriculture. We need to fully understand how the two work side-by-side, while one grows the food and the other one keeps and implements safety nets," said Koch, co-owner of Heritage Custom Farming. "Both need each other in order to keep Montana producers in the business of growing some of the highest quality grain in the country!"

Loma farmer Nathan Keane was elected vice president; Boyd Heilig of Moore was named treasurer; and Shelby farmer Klayton Lohr earned a spot as secretary. Mitch Konen of Fairfield will serve a year as past president.

"I'm thrilled to see Klayton come on board as our new officer. His great uncle, Ray Lohr, was on the founding board of MGGA in 1956." Vergeront said. "With his passion for agriculture and experiences from Farm Bureau and US Durum Growers, we look forward to seeing Klayton go through our leadership chairs."

Reelected for a second four-year term on the MGGA Board of Directors are Steve Sheffels of Great Falls and Trevor Wolery of Rudyard. Newly elected directors include Chase Brady of Fairfield, who will serve District 5 and Fallon farmer Dustin Mathiason, who will represent District 14.

MGGA is based in Great Falls and represents 1,143 farming operations, with an average farm size of 4,883 acres for a total of 5,581,000 acres of wheat and barley production.

"The majority of our folks diversify with different rotations," Vergeront said.

Montana's state legislature convenes every other year and will be out of session in 2022. In January and February, MGGA will be traveling to Washington, D.C. to meet with elected officials to discuss the next farm bill. MGGA is also planning to hold virtual and in-person listening sessions in 2022. After a tumultuous year, MGGA is ready for whatever 2022 has in store.

"The Association is doing well heading into 2022," Vergeront said. 🖇

January 2022 • Prairie Grains • January 2022



South Dakota's wheat producers hope 2022 is a stabilizing year

By Drew LyonAg Management Solutions

South Dakota's wheat growing season holds a distinction among the other states in Prairie Grains Magazine's readership map.

"South Dakota is unique compared to the other wheat states in that we're half winter wheat and half spring wheat," said Reid Christopherson, executive director of the South Dakota Wheat Commission, the organization that directs the state's wheat checkoff resources. "We place a strong emphasis on both, and that's why we support the breeding programs at South Dakota State for both winter and spring wheat."

Generally, winter wheat is grown in the southern part of the state, while spring wheat is produced in the northern areas of South Dakota, though Christopherson adds that wheat acres throughout the state have decreased during the past several years. He points to climate change, changes in genetics and a shift toward a cornsoybean rotation as factors, all part of an evolving agriculture landscape.

"But that's not atypical from other wheat states," Christopherson said.

Still, according to the latest USDA results, wheat production remains strong in South Dakota. Though 2021 totals will paint

To view results from South Dakota's Spring Wheat Variety Trials – and to learn more about wheat checkoff investments – visit sdwheat.org/.

a different picture, in 2020, spring wheat farmers produced just over 35 million bushels, totaling \$180 million in value. Winter wheat was close behind, harvesting 34.8 million bushels, generating \$167 million.

"There's still a strong place for wheat when you're in the central portions of South Dakota," Christopherson said, pointing toward favorable weather conditions in that region.

Buzzwords

The past growing season was anything but typical in South Dakota. The winter wheat crop fared better than the spring wheat, which suffered through a devastating drought.

"Dry was the buzzword in the entire state," Christopherson said.

Winter wheat, Christopherson said, still sees a positive basis.

"There's a strong interest to attract that wheat out of storage and get it through the supply chains," he said.

The spring wheat that did make it to harvest reported average yields with above-average milling qualities, Christopherson said. With growing conditions improving over the fall, he's also hoping to see a slight increase in acreage for 2022.

"There's still certainly a demand out there," he said. "There's optimism."

In 2022, the Commission, which is chaired by Tregg Cronin, is making investments in greenhouse construction and plans to invest in purchasing equipment for the spring breeding program.

"We continue to tell the story of wheat in a soil health profile that shows what wheat can do in a rotation,' Christopherson said.

Naming rights

South Dakota Wheat Inc. rebrands

By Drew Lyon

Ag Management Solutions

A new year is bringing a new name to South Dakota's leading wheat advocacy group.

The organization once known as South Dakota Wheat Inc. is rebranding for 2022. During the Annual Meeting at the 2021 Ag Horizons Conference in Pierre, S.D., farmer-leaders agreed to change the organization's name to the South Dakota Wheat Growers Association (SDWGA).

"It's about clarification," Executive Director Caren Assman said.
"We're not the elevators anymore, we're not the commission anymore.
This new name defines who we are."

The group had been known as South Dakota Wheat Inc. since the 1950s. Along with the streamlined name, SDWGA will unveil an updated logo, tagline and marketing materials later in 2022.

"This new name will be huge for us," Assman said. "A new name can have a big effect on how you're perceived."

The organization also elected a new president, Doug Simons, who farms 5,500 acres of east central South Dakota land alongside his two brothers and his father. Simons previously served as vice president, and replaces Todd Mangin.

"Doug comes from a big agricultural family and has strong leadership skills," Assman said.

South Dakota's legislative calendar runs from Jan. 11 through March 28. In 2021, the state approved more than \$100 million toward improving the state's infrastructure and rural broadband. At the state level, most of SDWGA's priorities in 2022 will be aimed at lowering local land taxes. Assman, who serves as SDWGA's lobbyist, predicted that the debate around recreational marijuana will be a top focus of legislators in Pierre.

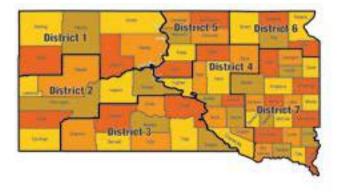
In Washington, D.C., Assman and farmer-leaders will work with the National Association of Wheat Growers to advocate for a new farm bill, which expires in 2023. In January, the SDWGA team heads to Washington, D.C. to engage with South Dakota's congressional delegation, and in February, grower-leaders from across the state will hold the annual "Day on the Hill" at the state capital.

"There's always issues coming up all the time," she said.

Membership in SDWGA starts at only \$100 per year, or producers can select a three-year membership for \$250 (equating to less than 25 cents per day). To join, visit sdwheat.org/inc/membership/.

"We like to be an action-type group, so our members have a lot of input in what we do," Assman said.





As a benefit to joining SDWGA, members receive a free Diagnosing Wheat Production Problems booklet. The 56-page publication helps growers diagnose likely causes of slow growth, distorted appearance, off-colors, injury and death of wheat plants that occur throughout the growing season.

Page 10 Prairie Grains · January 2022 · Prairie Grains · Page 11

RISING TO THE TOP

Gary Anderson's calm, steady presence helped lead MAWG during pandemic

By Drew Lyon

Ag Management Solutions

Gary Anderson's tenure as president of the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers (MAWG) didn't unfold as anticipated. And that's OK for this farmer. While presiding during a pandemic, Anderson learned a few things about his leadership – and technology – skills, and the upside of stepping outside of one's comfort zone.

"Leading a meeting on Zoom is a little bit more challenging," Anderson said, "but I made it work, and I'm proud that I made it work because it was something I'd never even attempted before. Staff was very helpful to me during this process."

After six years on the MAWG board, and two as president, Anderson stepped off the board during MAWG's Annual Meeting in December at the Prairie Grains Conference.

"It was an experience that I hadn't expected and I think it went well," he said.

Anderson raises spring wheat and soybeans in Grygla on the family farm in northwest Minnesota. The operation in Marshall County has been in Anderson's family since 1899. Prior to joining the MAWG board, he served on the Resolutions Committee and represented his district on the Minnesota School Boards Association. During his term on the MSBA, Anderson earned his first experience advocating with state and federal leaders, a tool that would serve him well on MAWG.

Throughout his six years on the board, he lobbied in both St. Paul and Washington, D.C., with both the state and national wheat organizations.

"One of the priorities always seems to be the farm bill," Anderson said

"WOTUS was one that we talked about a lot, and now I can see carbon being the big new thing, because it's not well understood by anyone I've spoken with."

The strong, silent type

Anderson was elected to MAWG in 2015, and became president in early 2020. He presided over one in-person meeting in March before the pandemic upended business as usual for advocacy groups.

"It was surprising because the pandemic required us to do something in a different manner," he said. "It wasn't at all what I expected it to be but it was still satisfying."

Through it all, Anderson retained an optimistic outlook, helping steer MAWG during an unprecedented period in the organization's nearly 50-year history.

"Gary stayed positive," Minnesota Wheat CEO Charlie Vogel said. "He had this attitude of: 'We're going to figure this out, we'll get through it."

Both Vogel and MAWG lobbyist Bruce Kleven described Anderson as an advocate who isn't prone to bloviating. Soft-spoken, Anderson considered all opinions before reaching a decision.

"He's a man of few words," Vogel said.
"He listens a lot, pays attention, but you know where he stands. He's a leader that way."

Kleven, who helps deliver MAWG's policy priorities and messaging to legislators, agreed.

"Gary was a steady hand, a calm presence," Kleven said. "He'd let folks talk, then make his call. With people like Gary who don't say a whole lot, when they do talk, people tend to listen."

Shared responsibilities

Anderson said he's proud of the legislative successes he was able to garner during his two legislative sessions

as president, including emergency relief for producers and infrastructure investments. In late 2020, MAWG helped successfully advocate for Section 179 Conformity, which will bring Minnesota farmers and businesses up to \$200 million in tax relief.

"That's a big win that will affect every producer, not just wheat," Anderson said. "It was very cumbersome to file two sets of depreciation schedules, so that's something I'm pretty proud of."

MAWG has yet to elect Anderson's replacement, but is hopeful a farmer-leader steps up to fill the leadership gap. Anderson encourages others to throw their hats in the ring. Serving on a leadership board, he says, is worth the time commitment.

"People should share some responsibility for their industry, and advancing the industry," he said. "You get a sense of satisfaction. If you try to accomplish something, you probably will, and you won't have regrets. For me, serving has been rewarding and I imagine it is for others as well."

Anderson hopes to stay involved with MAWG on an informal level.

"I don't plan to disappear," he said.
"I've learned a lot about farming
practices in many areas of the state. It's
been very beneficial and I've learned a
lot from other producers, and I imagine
maybe some could learn a bit from me,
too."

An ardent student of history, Anderson says he's thankful for his unique run as president. During a presidency unlike any other, he held down the fort and kept MAWG moving forward.

"It was an experience I'll never forget," he said. "I rose to the challenge and did well enough."



Are you interested in joining a non-partisan



Minnesota Wheat vice chair represents growers on trade mission

By Drew Lyon
Ag Management Solutions



The growing season in the Upper Midwest and Great Plains is all too short. But as Minnesota farmer Tim Dufault learned during a trip to a Finnish dairy production company, it's all relative: Finland's season is even quicker.

"Grazing time for southern Finland is four to five months and northern Finland is only three months," Dufault said. "They don't have a lot of time where the cows are out on pasture. It's crazy."

Dufault, who serves as vice chair of the Minnesota Wheat Research & Promotion Council, represented the checkoff organization as part of a trade mission to the United Kingdom and Finland with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the Walz administration. Dufault was joined by leaders in the agriculture, medical technology, environmental and education sectors during the week-long visit.

"It was an interesting experience," Dufault said. "It was fun to get to know the other people in the group. The more people you meet, the more you realize we're all dealing with the same issues."

The international mission, the Walz administration's (and Minnesota Wheat's) first since the pandemic began, had four tracks of concentration: MedTech and Health, Environmental Technologies, Agriculture and Food and Higher Education. The trade mission began with Gov. Walz laying a wreath to honor 27 fallen Minnesota sailors and soldiers who are buried in Brookwood American Cemetery. Stops on the tour included the governor meeting with Finnish President Sauli Niinistö and many other state officials. In both locations, the Minnesota

Trade Office hosted events with companies and state officials focused on networking and increasing the U.S.'s partnership and trade with both the United Kingdom and Finland.

"We shared our message with our partners in Europe: Minnesota is an outstanding place to do business and increase trade," Gov. Walz said. "The business leaders on the mission shared their knowledge and experiences of how Minnesota has helped their businesses succeed and reach global markets."

On the agriculture side, Dufault and commodity leaders met with government officials, trade leaders, and toured grocery stores and production and research facilities, including NIAB, the U.K.'s leading crop science organization.

"We got a good view of agriculture from the government to research to the production and retail side," Dufault said.

Trade possibilities

The United Kingdom was Minnesota's 8th largest export market in 2020. More than 70 U.K.-based companies operate at more than 180 business locations in Minnesota, and more than 60 Minnesota companies operate at about 150 business locations in the U.K. In total, trade with the U.K. amounts to about 20,000 jobs in Minnesota. U.K. farmers grow a lower grade of wheat, and have to import higher protein wheat. When the U.K. was still a member of the European Union, the country mainly imported its wheat from France or Canada.

Continued on Page 16

Page 14 Prairie Grains · January 2022 · Prairie Grains Page 15



MDA Commissioner Thom Petersen finds a familiar food at a U.K. grocery store.



Leaders from across 30 businesses represented Minnesota on the international trade mission.



Tim Dufault listens to a presentation at NIAB's Crop Science Centre in the U.K.



Gov. Tim Walz (right) led the delegation in an effort to promote trade with the United Kingdom post-Brexit.

"Now, with Brexit, they're kind of a free agent," Dufault said.

The U.S. and U.K. are currently deep into negotiations on a free trade agreement. Dufault said he's remaining patient: trade deals aren't hatched overnight.

"There's a chance we could be selling them some wheat in the future," Dufault said. "That would be fantastic."

Farmer leaders were more focused on building relationships and expressing priorities than securing contracts.

"We're not going to see great benefits overnight," Dufault said. "This is for the long term, and I hope we moved the needle a bit."

Dufault and his fellow commodity representatives discussed trade barriers and non-tariff trade issues with U.K. Minister for Trade Peggy Mordaunt. The minister pledged to not let bureaucratic matters stand in the way of sound science.

"She was in the room with wheat, corn, soybean, pork (leaders)," Dufault said. "She heard from us on our concerns, and hopefully she'll take that into consideration when there's a trade agreement."

Takeaways

The mission focused on bringing the state's business opportunities to the world and sharing why Minnesota is an exceptional place to start, build or grow a business. Building off the recent launch of Minnesota's "Build What Matters" campaign, the mission pitched Minnesota as the problem-solving capital of the United States. Minnesota has long been a state that builds businesses that make global transformations in a variety of sectors, including healthcare, clean energy and agriculture.

"We all had similar stories but the same concerns," Dufault said. "It's not just one commodity that's got issues. It's the whole of U.S. ag trying to export over there. ... It wasn't a tourist trip at all."

Dufault commended MDA International Manager Jeff Phillips for navigating COVID protocols and ensuring the health of nearly 70 Minnesotans traveling abroad.

"It was a logistical nightmare," said Dufault, who tested for COVID several times before, during and after the trip. "It was amazing everyone was able to stay safe."

The mission concluded in Finland. Total trade between Minnesota and Finland was valued at \$58 million in goods in 2020 - where Minnesota imported \$39 million from Finland and exported \$19 million to Finland. Additionally, in October, Minnesota entered into a Letter of Understanding with Finland focused on clean energy, sustainable bioeconomy and the digital economy.

"This mission provided Minnesota's leading food and agriculture companies the opportunity to showcase our highquality exports and why they're a good investment," Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen said. "We look forward to continuing to strengthen our trade relationships with the U.K. and Finland."

Finland imports most of their wheat from Baltic countries. The U.S. exports about \$68 million worth of agricultural products to Finland annually.

"As wheat growers, we're just not going to compete but with prices." Dufault said, "But there again, it was very interesting to see their agriculture industry."

Sustainability and climate change were hot topics throughout the visit. Dufault says it's a message he's eager to bring home with him to northwest Minnesota.

"That was a lesson I can take back," he said. "If we think we can't address sustainability, then we're missing the point, because every other country is working hard on it."



WHEAT HARD RED SPRING VARIETIES WITH PROVEN RESULTS



MN-TORGY

High Yielding **Very Good Protein** Good Scab and BLS Resistance Well adapted to MN, ND and SD

MN-WASHBURN

Good Yields Strong Straw **Excellent Disease Resistance** Resistant to Pre-harvest Sprouting

Other University of Minnesota Developed Varieties

SHELLY

Very High Yielding Good Pre-harvest Sprout Rating

BOLLES

Superior Protein High Baking Quality

LINKERT

Very Strong Straw High Protein

LANG-MN

Excellent Disease Resistance High Protein and Test Weight

Visit the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station at www.maes.umn.edu or check your state or local variety trials. For a list of seed producers, visit the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association at www.mncia.org or call 1-800-510-6242.

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

Conference from the Conference

Prairie Grains conference



CHS IS A PLATINUM SPONSOR OF PRAIRIE GRAINS CONFERENCE.



OUTGOING MAWG PRESIDENT GARY ANDERSON IS HONORED BY THE BOARD DURING THE ANNUAL MEETING.



MEDIA FROM ACROSS THE REGION ATTENDED PRAIRIE GRAINS TO VISIT WITH GROWER LEADERS AND THE AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY.

WHEAT RESEARCHER DR. WALID SADOK GIVES AN STRESS-RESILIENT MINNESOTA WHEAT VARIETIES.

(LEFT TO RIGHT) PAUL SPROULE AND HIS DAUGHTERS,
GRACE LUNKSI AND MOLLIE FICOCELLO OF THREE FARM
DAUGHTERS, AND BACK WHEN FOODS OWNER BRIAN
LAPLANTE DISCUSS WHEAT DIGESTIBILITY.





THE RETURN OF THE IN-PERSON PRAIRIE GRAINS
THE RETURN OF THE IN-PERSON OF BREAKOUT
THE RETURN OF THE IN-PERSON OF BREAKOUT
CONFERENCE FEATURED DOZENS
CONFERENCE FEATURED
SESSIONS ACROSS SEVERAL COMMODITIES.



EMBRACING

the

CHALLENGES

Prairie Grains Conference keynotes take the temperature of agriculture

By Drew Lyon

Ag Management Solutions

The agriculture community returned in droves to the 2021 Prairie Grains Conference, with more than 700 attendees participating in research sessions, legislative updates and panels with industry leaders. Throughout the two-day conference, agriculture experts summarized the tribulations and successes of 2021, and forecasted the year ahead.

"There's great opportunities and great challenges, and it's exciting to be involved, no matter where you are," said William Wilson, an agribusiness and applied economics professor at North Dakota State University. "We're in the most intense competitive environment we've ever had in agriculture."

During his 50-minute presentation, Wilson outlined the myriad challenges and opportunities facing agriculture in the coming years. By the end of the 2020s, the world's population is expected to surpass nine billion people. Driven by population growth, urbanization and changing consumer habits, demand for U.S. commodities remains strong. But Wilson says an upheaval in the logistical system, along with climate change, sustainability and global competition present potential obstacles. Skyrocketing input costs are also factors that could blunt further growth in U.S. agriculture.

"I don't know what's going to happen (with input costs), but it will have a huge impact on the marketplace," Wilson said.

Wilson also addressed American agriculture's "love and hate affair" with the world's largest purchaser of commodities, China. In North Dakota alone, about 75% of the soybeans produced in the state are shipped to China. The U.S.' total ag exports to China amounted to \$26.5 billion in 2020.

"I don't think you can talk about ag without talking about China," Wilson said. In a global marketplace, Ukraine and Russia have increased their presence as exporters of non-GMO crops. So far in the 2021/22 marketing year, Ukraine's wheat



There's an app for that



NDAWN - with checkoff support from the North Dakota Soybean Council and additional funding

from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture – has also launched the Inversion App, which can detect low-level air temperature inversions. The cooler and therefore, denser air, may make spray particles drift off target, often referenced as spray drift. Because spraying during an air temperature inversion is in violation of label instructions, this app, once an inversion is detected, sends a push notification to the user informing them that spraying may no longer be advisable.

"This is a one-of-a-kind app," Ritchison said. "Nowhere else can you get an alert that there's an inversion in your field." exports are up more than 20%.

"This is a permanent shift in agriculture," Wilson said. "They can penetrate most of Europe, and now China."

In the European Union, buyers will be seeking to work with suppliers who conform to ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) standards, which could bring another set of challenges to U.S. agriculture.

"That's what driving these food companies to want to label their products as 'sustainable," said Wilson, who predicts the EU will be one of the largest importers of commodities within a decade.

Wilson also highlighted the latest developments with renewable diesel production. The industry is proposing to build 18 plants across the country to create renewable diesel.

"There's no doubt this is good for agriculture," he said

Wilson added a caveat, though: He estimates if those plants went into production, the demand for soybeans would grow by 7 to 10 million acres.

"That's like saying we'll need another region as big as North Dakota and South Dakota to supply that industry alone," Wilson said. "We're going to have a huge battle for acres."

Dry dominates

Meteorologist Daryl Ritchison, director of North Dakota State's NDAWN, wasn't exactly delivering breaking news when he told attendees about the drought of 2021. But for those who watched last year's virtual Prairie Grain Conference, attendees can't say the longtime forecaster didn't warn farmers.

"I said 2021 was going to be a dry summer, which it was," he said, pointing to his map from last year. "I also thought 2021 was going to be warmer than average summer, which it was."

But Ritchison, self-deprecating as always, also admitted he missed the mark with his prediction that 2021 wouldn't be warmer than 2020.

"Getting too specific gets me in trouble sometimes," he said, smiling.

Most areas in North Dakota and western Minnesota were between two and five inches below average, although isolated pockets in the region (about 20% in N.D.) received sufficient precipitation. Most locations in the region average about 10-12 inches in the summer. It wasn't all bad news. For historical perspective, Ritchison showed the audience a graphic of 1988 precipitation and temperature totals.

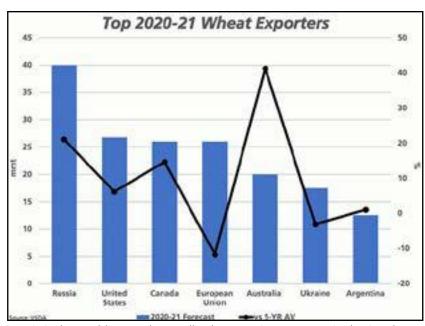
"88 was warmer, more extreme," he said. "If you want to compare 2021 versus 1988, 1988 wins by a landslide."

NDAWN data across its 168 stations can be found at the following three websites:

- 1. Ndawn.ndsu.nodak.edu
- 2. Ndawn.info
- Cloud.ndawn.org



North Dakota's annual soybean crop is valued at \$2.04 billion



Russia is the world's top wheat seller, but a grain export tax is slowing the pace of the country's export totals for the 2021-22 marketing year.

October 1 is considered the start of the new water year, because most precipitation that falls in October stays in the ground until spring. In October 2021, most areas in North Dakota and western Minnesota received higher than normal rain totals and above-average temperature.

"In many ways it was an awesome autumn," Ritchison said. As a result, soil conditions heading into 2022 are likely to remain favorable.

"We'll start off really well, above average," Ritchison said.

The 30-year average for the northern plains also indicates that many locations in North Dakota and Minnesota averaged higher rain totals, with drier winter precipitation. Although Ritchison said the term "average" evolves over years, decades and even centuries – "We've had wet and dry cycles for the last 10,000 years" – he advised growers to remember a Mark Twain adage.

"Weather doesn't repeat itself," he said, "but it does rhyme."

Page 20 Prairie Grains · January 2022

January 2022 · Prairie Grains · Page 21



Ag Management Solutions

Close your eyes. Imagine the smells of your favorite dinner. Perhaps it's ham, potatoes, corn. Now imagine the same dinner without bread.

Home-cooked, delicious bread.

For many people across the U.S., this is reality. While approximately 1% of the population has celiac disease, a chronic digestive and immune disorder that damages the small intestine brought on by eating foods containing gluten, many more suffer from gluten sensitivity.

The Agricultural Utilization and Research Institute (AURI), in partnership with the Minnesota Wheat Research & Promotion Council (MWRPC) and the University of Minnesota, was awarded an Agricultural Growth, Research, & Innovation (AGRI) Crop
Research Grant from the
Minnesota Department of
Agriculture (MDA) to fund a
two-year study on gluten sensitivity.

"Gluten sensitivity is real, and people want to enjoy savory breads, comfort pastas and decadent desserts, said Charlie Vogel, MWRPC executive director. "Figuring out the AND of that statement holds tremendous market potential and quality of life for individuals. This research and supporting grant are so important, not only for the consumer, but for the entire industry."

The study, done in conjunction with the Agricultural Utilization Research Institute (AURI), the

Many sourdough products sold in stores aren't sourdough. An indicator of whether or not bread is sourdough comes down to three key ingredients, salt, flour and yeast. Sourdough labels with a laundry list of ingredients generally aren't sourdough.

University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and its Regional Sustainable Development Partnership, and Back When Foods, Inc., aims to better understand wheat digestibility by looking at fermentable oligo-, di-, monosaccharides and polyols (FODMAP) and amylase-trypsin inhibitors (ATI) and the role each plays in digestion. The overall study hopes to answer a few questions: Is breeding an issue? Can processing reduce negative impacts? What is a pathway for the industry to implement the research?

UMN wheat breeder Dr. Jim Anderson presented an update at the Prairie Grains Conference in December. Anderson has been working to answer the breeding question.

In his research,
Anderson compared
the FODMAP and ATI
levels of 46 heritage
wheats (grown before
1970) and 142 modern
wheats with a good
representation from each
decade but with an emphasis on recent
varieties. Some of the results were
encouraging while others were head
scratchers.

"The difficulty is FODMAPS are likely controlled by several small genes," Anderson said. "There's no clear path. It doesn't mean we can't breed for them, but it'll take some time to figure out."

The study has shown some positives in ancient grains, such as Einkorn and Emmer, which could be beneficial for growers of these grains.

Dr. Micahel Ganzelle, a professor at the University of Alberta well known for his work in this arena, was very blunt with the attendees.

"The thing that really changed over the last 100 years," he said, "it's not the wheat, it's not the farmer or the breeders, it's the processors."

The work Dr. George Annor, UMN Assistant Professor, Dept. of Food Science and Nutrition, and Brian LaPlante, owner of Back When Foods, are doing to understand processing is also important. Together, they have studied more than 600 samples of sourdough from the St. Paul and St. Cloud areas. There is a belief that longer, traditional processing of bread allows time for the FODMAPs and ATIs to break down.

As a pathway forward to implementation, AURI is looking at creating a verified sourdough process much like Monash University in Australia, which boasts a low-FODMAP Certified program.

Whether a person has celiac disease, has a true intolerance for gluten crops, or is a fad eater, LaPlante says establishing a consistent, trustworthy

program is critical.

"Process verified is so important," LaPlante said. "We can't blur the lines

here for consumers.

AURI Business

Development

Director Harold

Stanislawski

notes that a verification process will soon be needed due to innovative products from LaPlante and fledgling companies like Three Farm Daughters artisan pasta.

"We will have a few companies enrolled early in this that will truly have low-FODMAP products that consumers are looking for," he said.

> Learn more about the study at auri.org/access-auri-services/ partnerships/agri/ 🐇

Advertorial

HELPFUL TIPS TO PLAN AHEAD FOR 2022 PLANTING

By Peter Comis, WestBred® Regional Commercial Manager, Northern Region

The 2021 growing season was unlike what many have ever seen or, at least for the older growers, not experienced in a long time. Growing wheat in the difficult weather conditions resulted in many observations about placement and management of wheat varieties. We learned that proper placement and planting of WestBred® wheat varieties is important for maximizing yield potential, and there are some factors to consider that can help get the 2022 crop off to a good start.

- 1. Planting Date Field conditions and weather will dictate when we can plant, but targeting the earlier end of the planting window is typically the best practice. Being timely with planting is not always easy. However, being prepared to plant when field conditions are optimal should be the goal.
- 2. Variety Selection It is highly recommended to plant multiple wheat varieties on the farm each season. Just as important is matching wheat varieties with the soil types and growing conditions they are targeted toward. Placement can be key to maximizing performance potential of wheat varieties. It is also a good idea to divide a field and plant different wheat varieties for a side-by-side comparison.
- 3. Plant Certified Seed In 2021, 46% of National Wheat Yield Contest winners won with WestBred wheat certified seed only (CSO) varieties. CSO varieties offer current genetics and improved disease protection and protein potential.
- **4. Seed Depth and Placement** Check your seeding depth for a 1.5-inch target depth at the start, and recheck the seed depth throughout planting. Also, check that all row units are dropping seed and are not clogged. Planter maintenance is important for planting seed correctly and accurately.
- 5. Seed Treatment Planting wheat early can offer many advantages. The earliest-planted wheat, however, has the highest likelihood of facing adverse growing conditions as the young plants try to establish a stand. Fungicide and insecticide seed treatments can help protect young seedlings from diseases and insects and are recommended on all seed being planted.

For additional information, contact Peter Comis, WestBred Regional Commercial Manager, Northern Region at 919-600-3788, or peter.comis@bayer.com.

WestBred

Performance may vary, from location to location and from year to year, as local growing, soil and weather conditions may var Growers should evaluate data from multiple locations and years whenever possible and should consider the impacts of thes conditions on the grower's fields. Bayer, Bayer Cross, WestBred and Design® and WestBred® are registered trademarks of Bayer Group. ©2022 Bayer Group. All Rights Reserved.



Page 22 Prairie Grains · January 2022

January 2022 · Prairie Grains · January 2022







In the world of on-farm research in 2021, one trend became apparent: The drought affected research data points.

Minnesota Wheat's On-Farm Research Network (OFRN) conducts producer-funded, producer-driven research that investigates producer-selected research topics in a large plot environment. The on-farm trials involve using a farmer's planter, combine, etc., and managing for variability out in traditional field conditions versus small, replicated trials. OFRN presented their on-farm research results at their ninth annual On-Farm Research Summit during the Prairie Grains Conference in December.

"Lessons from the 2021 season, it was dry. Our research plots did okay, most of the locations did get a little more rain than the Crookston/Thief River Falls dry band," said Missy Carlson, vice president of research for Minnesota Wheat. "Because of the drought, we are just focusing on how these 2021 locations responded to the dryness, rather than combining that information with our data."

Almost all the on-farm locations reported the same narrative in 2021 – the drought that plagued Minnesota skewed any kind of possible long-term data collection.

Research Trial: Wheat Seeding Rates – A Look at How Wheat Seeding Rates Were Affected By the Drought

As Carlson discussed the first trial researching seeding rates, the most popular rate of seeding 1.3-1.4 million/acre among attendees via a text-in poll, fell in line with the University of Minnesota seeding rate recommendations.

"The drought presented the on-farm trials with less weed pressure. We didn't have the weed pressure we normally do," Carlson said. "Our results from 2021 are not representative of what we would see in a normal year."

Carlson noted that the lower seeding rates stayed greener for longer – likely due to less competition for available soil moisture with a lower seeding rate. The lower seeding rate also produced the same number of heads on par with the higher seeding rates.

Seeding at .75 million live seeds per acre resulted in yields that were 1-6 bu less than seeding at 1.25 or 1.75 million seeds per acre. However, the results were not significantly different. In a year with normal weed pressure, the thin stand at the lowest rate would have yielded for less.

The seeding rate research was coupled with an economic

analysis by agriculture economist Kyle Jore. This provided a broader look at seeding rates from both an economic and agronomic threshold.

"There isn't huge variation in yields as we increase or decrease our seeding rates, but if we are looking to optimize yield, it hits 1.4 million seeds per acre right on the spot, which is the same as the extension recommendation," Jore said. "Looking at an optimal seeding rate, the market price still needs to be between \$7-\$8 for break even. The economic optimal seeding rate is below the agronomic optimal recommendation. At our current prices of seed, the response may be to seed lower than the agronomic threshold."

The On-Farm Research Network Advisory Committee plans to discontinue seeding rate research as farmers look to funding different research projects in the future.

Research Trial: Elevated P and K Fertility – Three Years into the Rotation: Where Do We See the Extra P and K Going?

Soybean acres have increased significantly in northern Minnesota in recent years with more varieties having maturity dates that work in a shorter growing window, but how does the relationship of P and K, yield, and a wheat and soybean rotation work? That was the answer University of Minnesota Extension Agronomist, Dr. Dave Grafstrom has been seeking in his research.

"Between 2007 and 2017, we had an increase of 700,000 acres of soybeans, but why were the yields in soybeans not changing?" Grafstrom said. Wheat yields changed about 15 bushels. We know soybeans in the wheat rotation make wheat better, but what about soybeans? We didn't know, so we thought maybe it is P and K."

The drought affected this research trial, too. Soybean yields were flat due to lack of pod fill in 2021.

"On the wheat, 1 of 4 sites showed a response to additional P and K – no impact on protein or test weight. For the soybeans we had 1 site, but the yields were mid 40s so we would like to see a bit more response to an elevated P," said Grafstrom.

Grafstrom sees a need for continued research as questions continue to arise through observations with these on-farm trials.

Continued on Page 26



Special thanks to our supporters

- Minnesota Soybean Research & **Promotion Council**
- Agricultural Fertilizer Research & Education Council
- Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- Minnesota Wheat Research & **Promotion Council**

"When we take tissue tests in soybeans with the high pH soils we have, more often than not, we have potassium deficient soybeans, even though the soil test levels of K are high," Grafstrom said. "There's some disconnect with what the plant gets and what the soil test is. I don't have an answer to that - it is an observation we have noticed."

Fertilizer prices in 2022 will have an impact on how the study looks at and applies fertilizer in on-farm trials moving forward.

"There may be a stronger interest in banding fertilizer due to fertilizer prices," Grafstrom said. "It is really just some food for thought moving into the new year. The projected fertilizer prices for 2022 will play a large part into application."

Research Trial: Nitrogen Stabilizers - Three Years of Measuring Anhydrous Ammonia Applications With and Without A Stabilizer

For this research trial, Koch and CHS Ag Services donated CENTURO, a nitrogen stabilizer on two plots in Dorothy and Argyle, Minnesota. CENTURO stops the ammonium from turning into nitrate. Anhydrous ammonia (NH3) was fall applied in October 2020 for the 2021 growing season with and without CENTURO.

"Ideally what we would want to see is a greater proportion of nitrogen saved in the ammonium form compared to the control, but with the results, this year was kind of a wash," Carlson said. "If you are applying nitrogen and its going to be susceptible to losses, it is kind of an insurance policy just in case you do get a major rain event that washes away your nitrogen."

Research Trial: Green Seeding Soybeans into Rye - Lessons from Three Different Environments About Managing a Rye **Cover Crop**

With this study, rye was planted in September 2020 and the farmer came back in May and planted soybeans into the rye,

prior to terminating the rye cover crop.

"There was new growth on March 25th. When your lawn starts greening up under the snow, that rye is greening up also," Carlson said. "The rye grows quickly in the spring – we were going into heading stage by the time the rye was terminated on May 28th."

"Rye took up a lot of moisture and a lot of nitrogen also. There were significant differences in soil nitrogen with that rye treatment. By the time we got to termination, there was about 30 pounds less nitrogen per acre in the rye treatment compared to the control," Carlson said. "Depending on the year, it may or may not be a good thing, it just depends on the situation. This year it was not helpful."

The drought also reared its ugly head in this research trial, taking a toll on available moisture.

"The rye took up a lot of moisture and the soybeans were stunted and farther behind in the rve treatment compared to the regular control – due to moisture competition. The soybeans were a little behind in growth stage," Carlson said. We also ended up with some yellow beans and ran into a potassium deficiency. In this trial both treatments showed a slight K deficiency, , but it was more pronounced in the rye cover crop because the rye was using up more moisture and exasperating the deficiency."

Future research in this area during the 2022 planting season will involve figuring out different rye termination dates and the impact that has on soybean yields. The new goal is to find an optimal termination date (within seven to 10 days of soybean planting) that won't reduce yield.

"The story for these locations emphasizes the importance of terminating early and keeping on top of the density of the rye stand – a thick rye stand uses up a lot of moisture and will affect your soybeans. We had a 6 bushel/acre yield loss because we did not terminate the rye on time," said Carlson.

The full report is available at mnwheat.org/council/farmresearch-network/.







2022 International Crop Expo

Wednesday, February 16th ~ 9 am to 5 pm Thursday, February 17th ~ 9 am to 4 pm Alerus Center, Grand Forks, ND www.cropexpo.com

Keynote Speaker

Seminar Topics



The Millennial Farmer - Zach Johnson

1:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 16

Farmers Are Just Like Real People!

With his wit and dry sense of humor, Zach will share his story about why the channel was created...what he has learned... and how

agriculture can communicate with non-farmers. Known to his 800,000+ followers on YouTube as the "Millennial Farmer", Zach is a 5th-generation farmer who's spent his life growing, working, and learning on his family's farm. With growing consumer awareness about where their food comes from, Zach has identified the need for an independent voice from the front lines of agriculture. Zach actively promotes agriculture by sharing his day-to-day experiences in the agriculture world while providing farmer-to-farmer education to help facilitate a collaborative conversation between farmers and the public.

Sponsored by:





Ron Haugen, NDSU Extension Ag. Economist



Jeremy Johnson, AgCountry Crop Insurance Specialist



Randy Martinson, Martinson Ag Risk Management Group

Income Considerations Beyond Crop Sales

1:00 p.m. -2:15 p.m. on Thursday, February 17

Our panelists will explain different options & strategies farmers can use to boost income when yields are lower than expected. This includes crop insurance, marketing tools and flexible cash rent agreements. It will include a question & answer session.

Sponsored by:







Soybeans / Dry Beans

Wednesday

- Weather Outlook 2022
- Fueling your Farm
- Soil Health and Dry Bean Production
- The Current Supply Chain Bottlenecks and the Price You Pay (Joint Session with Small Grains)

Thursday

- Soybean Research Update
- Fertility for 2022 Beans
- Weed Management Considerations for 2022
- 2021 Marketing With 20/20 Vision

(Joint Session with Small Grains)

Potatoes

Wednesday

- ND and MN Seed Potato Update
- National Potato Council Update
- United Potato Board Update
- Potatoes USA Update

Thursday

- Managing Storage Diseases
- Tools for Managing Potato Storage
- Tuber Quality: Sugars and Starch
- Physiological Aging of Potato in Storage

Small Grains

Wednesday

- Last Fall's Trend in MN & ND Regional Soil **Sampling Results**
- Current Trends in Machinery and Land Sales
- Should Last Season's Drought Change this Season's Small Grains Variety Selection?
- The Current Supply Chain Bottlenecks and the Price You Pay (Joint Session with Beans)

Thursday

- Small Grains Disease and Pest Outlook
- Can Farmers Profit from the Carbon Credit Marketplace?
- From Malt to Specialized Beer: A Taste of the Craft Industry
- 2021 Marketing With 20/20 Vision (Ioint Session with Beans)









Research conducted over the last few years shows MN-Torgy among the top varieties in the region.

Dr. Jim Anderson, spring wheat breeder with the University of Minnesota, held a breakout session at the Prairie Grains Conference where he revealed his findings from 2021 checkofffunded research and his "Picks List."

The 2020 MN-Torgy release stood out with a combination of strong yield, straw strength and disease resistance. The new release is named in tribute to former Minnesota Wheat Executive Director Dave Torgerson, who retired in 2019.

A MAWG survey is held each year to determine which varieties are favored by growers. WB9590 came in as number one in 2021, followed by SY Valda, Linkert, WB9479 and MN-Torgy, respectively.

Linkert had been the top variety for each of the past five

"I always like to look at these trends, look at what is being grown because that helps us target our new releases and our breeding program to plant those eventually with better varieties," Anderson said during his presentation. "It really tells me what traits are important to you as growers, because we're testing all of these guys, so we know a lot about them and the comparative performance."

There are several releases created by AgriPro/Syngenta, Champions Alliance Group, WinField United, Peterson Farms Seed and Meridian Seeds that are still in the research stage. The 2022 releases will be sent out in mid-January.

Anderson spoke on the significance of heading, yield, protein, baking quality, straw strength and disease resistance.

the range in heading dates for spring wheat varieties," Anderson said.

MS Barracuda, LCS Cannon were early and then there are some very late varieties: CP3099A, CP3119A and PFS-Buns are the last three to reach heading dates, Anderson said.



Jim Anderson takes a selfie in Fergus Falls in 2021.

"I did a correlation between heading date and yield, the later heading dates are tending to yield better," Anderson said. "The correlation was 0.52 (.25 in 2020), that's probably the highest number I've ever seen in my 23 years. I think a lot of growers don't like the later wheats. You want it to finish early, get it out of the field, maybe spread that risk a little bit, have other maturities out there, but just a word of warning that we are getting some that are rather late."

Mother Nature's mercy

Due to the dry 2021 growing season, research results were difficult to gather.

One of the new variety releases, AP Murdock, looked good for yield in 2019/2020, but in 2021 it produced poorly.

"It really stuck out to me because (AP Murdock) was "I wanted to point out this year that there's getting to be quite looking really good the last two years and it did not like 2021

conditions," Anderson said. "I went back and thought it had to be a mistake, and I looked at all of our individual locations and pretty much every location was the same story, relative to performance in 2021."

Research on Bacterial Leaf Streak (BLS) was also affected by the drought because it thrives in high temperatures, humidity and moisture that wasn't there in 2021.

"This one (BLS), there really is no other control option available that we know of," Anderson said. "There's no chemical that really works; we're just at the mercy of mother nature."

Anderson also pointed out two other problems being examined: Fusarium Head Blight (FHB/Scab) and Preharvest Sprouting (PHS). There is continued emphasis on fungicide research and PHS, which can bring low falling numbers for wheat, meaning a drop in grain quality for growers.

The picks

Anderson looks at how the wheat varieties have tested for three years to pick the best options for growers. He considers where it ranks on the FHB or BLS chart, if it's low on the PHS chart and ranks a six or less for quality to find the best choice.

His top picks: Dyna-Gro Commander, CP3530, CP 3915, Lang-MN (.7X), Linkert, MN-Torgy, MN-Washburn, SY 611 CL2, SY McCloud and SY Valda. SY Valda and MN-Torgy were among the highest yielders in the group.







MN-TORGY WHEAT



- High Yielding
- Very Good Protein
- Good Scab and BLS Resistance
- · Adapted to MN, ND and SD
- Resistant to Pre-harvest Sprouting

Visit the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station at www.maes.umn.edu or check your state or local variety trials. For a list of seed producers, visit the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association at www.mncia.org or call 1-800-510-6242.

Page 28 Prairie Grains · January 2022 January 2022 · Prairie Grains Page 29

MAWQCP Endorsements recognize certified producers who go above and beyond to implement conservation on their farms

Many conservation practices targeting water quality have benefits for other conservation goals, and the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) Endorsements provide additional recognition to certified producers who are going above and beyond to implement conservation on their farms. Endorsements build upon the criteria established in the certification assessment process. Endorsements are also an educational opportunity for producers who'd like to learn more about whole farm resilience.



The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Endorsement recognizes producers who take an intentional, proactive, and multi-faceted approach to pest management and follow an IPM plan developed by a trained agronomist or person with appropriate credentials.



The **Wildlife Endorsement** recognizes producers who implement intentional, purposeful actions with wildlife benefits in mind including integrated pest management, species diversity, preservation of food sources and preservation of nesting cover.



The **Soil Health Endorsement** recognizes producers who manage their operation in accordance with the five core principles of soil health: minimize disturbance, keep the soil covered, maintain a living root, maximize diversity and integrate livestock.



The **Climate Smart Farm Endorsement** recognizes producers who implement practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and sequester carbon. It is also an opportunity for producers to explore practices that qualify for agricultural carbon markets.

MDA marching toward one million certified acres

The MAWQCP is on track to reach the one-million-acre milestone by the end of 2022, a bold objective set by Gov. Tim Walz.

"We must do this because Minnesota's natural resources are a unique part of our state and culture," Gov. Walz said. "Farmers understand this. They are stewards of our land and water and are already helping to protect these resources."

More than 1,000 producers are currently certified in the program, covering more than 800,000 certified acres, and implementing more than 2,000 new conservation practices. In summer 2019, Gov. Walz and Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen marked the MAWQCP exceeding the half-million-acre mark. Now, the program is more than 80% of the way toward the Walz administration's goal. The governor predicts farmers will continue leading the way in implementing time-tested conservation practices benefiting all Minnesotans.

"We have always been able to count on farmers when we need them the most," Gov. Walz said, "so I am confident we can make this goal, ensure we're making measured improvements to our valuable natural resources, and safeguard farming profits all at the same time."

Farmers can contact their local SWCD to apply for MAWQCP certification and then complete a series of steps with local certifiers using a 100 percent site-specific risk-assessment process. By law, all data is kept private, and only by signing a formal release can a farmer's name be released publicly. After becoming certified, farmers receive a 10-year contract ensuring they will be deemed in compliance with any new water quality laws, an official MAWQCP sign to display on their farm and other benefits developed by local MAWQCP providers.

"These practices are time-tested and true," Gov. Walz said. "(The MAWQCP) proves we don't have to make a choice between stewardship and production."

Page 30 Prairie Grains - January 2022

IT'S NOT JUST YOUR LAND. IT'S YOUR LEGACY.

The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program rewards farmers like you for what you do best, taking care of your land and its natural resources.

To get started and learn more, contact your local soil and water conservation district or go to:

MyLandMyLegacy.com









By Prairie Grains Magazine staff

The National Association of Wheat Growers welcomes the news from Vice President Kamala Harris' trip in November where a bilateral trade package was announced. The agreement included a suspension or elimination of the Vietnam Wheat Import Tariff. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) and Vietnam's Ministry of Finance have been working diligently on a bilateral package that includes reducing or eliminating import tariffs on several U.S. commodities, which includes wheat.

The reduction follows one from July 2020, when Vietnam reduced its tariff on imported U.S. wheat (excluding durum) from 5 percent to 3 percent in a revision of its Most Favored Nation (MFN) tariff rates. Of the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) countries, Vietnam is the only country still applying tariffs against U.S. wheat imports and not against Canadian and Australian wheat. This tariff suspension will enhance U.S. wheat growers' competitiveness and help reduce food costs for the Vietnamese people.

"We are very excited to see this tariff being lifted between Vietnam and the U.S., and we commend the Administration, FAS and Vietnam's Ministry of Finance for their diligence to aid both the U.S. and Vietnam," NAWG CEO Chandler Goules said. "We are eager to see all of the doors this will open for both countries. NAWG will continue to work to advocate for an efficient trade system that will have a positive impact on U.S. wheat producers and their customers around the globe."

In the 2020/2021 marketing year, the U.S. exported hard red spring (HRS), soft white (SW), and hard red winter (HRW) wheat that exceeded 500,000 metric tons even with the import tariffs, where Vietnam averages more 3 million metric tons of wheat imports per year. In 2020, Vietnam was the seventh largest market for U.S. agricultural exports, totaling \$3.4 billion. Since 2016, U.S. agricultural exports to Vietnam have increased by 40%.

"With about half of the wheat we produce available for export each year, we depend on increasing access to markets like Vietnam," said Dave Milligan, NAWG president and a wheat grower from Cass City, Mich. "Here at home, NAWG will continue advocating for trade policies that work toward positive opportunities for wheat growers and their customers."

NAWG is the primary policy representative in Washington D.C. for wheat growers, working to ensure a better future for America's growers, the industry and the general public. NAWG works with a team of 20 state wheat grower organizations to benefit the wheat industry at the national level. From their offices on Capitol Hill, NAWG's staff members are in constant contact with state association representatives, NAWG grower leaders, Members of Congress, congressional staff members, Biden administration officials and the public. The Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers is a proud member of NAWG.

Best of the Best in Wheat and Soybean Research

Wednesday, February 2, 2022 - Courtyard by Marriott, Moorhead Thursday, February 3, 2022 Alerus Center, Grand Forks



The North Dakota State University and the University of Minnesota Extension, along with the MN Association of Wheat Growers, MN Wheat Research & Promotion Council, MN Soybean Research & Promotion Council, ND Soybean Council, ND Grain Growers Association, and ND Wheat Commission have joined together to present producers with current research information. In this workshop growers will have the opportunity to learn from researchers and extension specialists.

Meetings are free. Pre-registration is requested.

To register call (218) 253-4311, ext 4 or register online at www.mnwheat.org and click on Best of the Best.



PROGRAM

8:20 a.m. Welcome

8:30 a.m. Preventing Erosion and Soil Loss

- Jodi DeJong-Hughes, U of MN Extension

8:30 a.m. Can Genetic Marker Data Help Us Tailor Nitrogen Fertility Recommendations in Spring Wheat?

- Dr. Jochum Wiersma, U of M Extension

9:00 a.m. Field Crop Insect Updates for 2022

- Dr. Janet Knodel & Pat Beauzay, NDSU

9:30 a.m. Optimizing Fungicide Timing, Droplet Size and Application Frequency for Management of White

Mold in Soybean

- Dr. Michael Wunsch, NDSU Extension

10:00 a.m. Soybean Management Suggestions Based on Grower Survey Results and Field Research

- Dr. Hans Kandel, NDSU Extension

10:45 a.m. Herbicide Carryover Concerns

- Dr. Joe Ikley, NDSU Extension

11:15 a.m. Pigweed Control

- Dr. Debalin Sarangi, U of M Extension

11:45 - 2:00 p.m. Lunch and Hands on Demonstrations Lunch speaker: Commodity Market Update

- Dr. Frayne Olson, NDSU Extension

Hands on Demonstrations:

LoRaWan Technology

- John Nowatzki (retired), NDSU Dept of Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering, Fargo

Pigweed Identification

- Dr. Debalin Sarangi, U of M Extension, St. Paul

· IDC in Soybean

- Dr. Angie Peltier, U of M Extension, Crookston

· Wheat Quality Demonstration

- DeLane Olsen, NDSU Wheat Quality Lab, Fargo

· Kernza: A New Perennial Grain

- Dr. Clair Keene, NDSU Extension, Fargo

2:00 p.m. Fertility Management with High Fertilizer Prices

- Dr. Dave Franzen, NDSU Extension, Fargo

2:30 p.m. High Residual N and Management of IDC in Sovbean

- Dr. Seth Naeve, U of M Extension, St. Paul

2:40 p.m. Panel on Soil Fertility and IDC in Soybean

- Dr. Dave Franzen, Dr. Seth Naeve, and Dr. Mike Metzger, Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative

3:05 p.m. Adjourn

Sponsored by













Page 32 Prairie Grains · January 2022 · Prairie Grains · Page 33

AROUND THE PRAIRIE

By Prairie Grains Magazine staff

2021 USW Crop Quality report now available for world's wheat buyers

As a key part of its commitment to transparency and trade service, U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) has produced its annual Crop Quality Report that includes grade, flour and baking data for all six U.S. wheat classes. The report compiles comprehensive data from analysis of hundreds of samples conducted during and after harvest by our partner organizations and laboratories. The report provides essential, objective information to help buyers get the wheat they need at the best value possible.

The 2021 USW Crop Quality Report is now available for download at uswheat.org/crop-quality/. USW also shares more detailed, regional reports for all six U.S. wheat classes on its website, as well as additional information on its sample and collection methods, solvent retention capacity (SRC) recommendations, standard deviation tables and more. View and download these reports and resources here.

USW continues to provide unique ways for our customers to experience and gain more knowledge about the 2021 U.S. wheat crop. USW has expanded its Crop Quality page on its primary website to include unique, individual pages for each of its six wheat classes. When viewing the website, users can access these new pages via the "Crop Quality" tab in the main menu across the top of the website. On the Crop Quality site, customers will find a variety of pre-recorded presentations covering 2021 U.S. wheat crop quality data and analysis, as well as several special topics in English or captioned versions in several different languages. View and download these reports and resources at uswheat.org/crop-quality.

18 senators urge Biden administration to take India to the WTO on wheat and rice subsidies

In December, 18 U.S. senators sent a letter to USDA

Secretary Tom Vilsack and U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai requesting the administration pursue a World Trade Organization (WTO) case against India's domestic support for rice and wheat production. The United States has previously highlighted India's noncompliance through counter-notifications at the WTO Committee on Agriculture.

"American rice and wheat producers are operating at a clear disadvantage compared to their competitors, primarily from India, where the government is subsidizing more than half of the value of production for rice and wheat, instead of the 10 percent allowable under [WTO] rules," the letter reads.

Ag Innovation Campus completes first phase of construction

The first phase of construction on the Ag Innovation Campus in Crookston, Minnesota is completed, as the non-profit crush and research facility moves a step closer to its 2022 production goal.

"Despite all the sizable obstacles the pandemic and supply chain issues have thrown at us, we're proud that we've stayed the course and are continuing to advance the Ag Innovation Campus in the right direction," AIC Board Chair Mike Skaug said.



The Campus will host a specialty crushing facility, allowing entrepreneurs from universities and private business, private seed developers and processing companies access to affordable processing, designed to lower costs while promoting growth of value-added products. Education will also be a key component, featuring state-of-the-art classrooms; a conference room that can host up to 100 people; laboratories; a training site to develop the next generation of processing professionals; and a space allowing customers around the world a direct connection to premium U.S. agricultural products.

In the months ahead, the AIC team will be seeking in-kind donors and private and public partners; finalizing assessment of equipment needs; and determining engineering designs. The next phase of construction is set to begin in 2022. To learn more about the project, visit aginnovationcampus.org.

North Dakota accepting applications for 2022 Specialty Crop Grants

Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring has announced that applications are now being accepted for 2022 Specialty Crop Grants.

Eligible applications include enhancing food safety; pest and disease control; developing new and improved seed varieties and specialty crops; and increasing child and adult nutrition knowledge and consumption of specialty crops. Projects that directly benefit specific, commercial products or profit a single organization, institution or individual are not eligible.

Specialty crops grown commercially in North Dakota include dry beans, dry peas, lentils, potatoes, confection sunflowers, grapes, honey and various vegetables.

An information manual with application instructions, scoring criteria and an application



North Dakota Ag Commissioner Doug Goehring.

template can be found on NDDA's website: www.nd.gov/ndda/scbgp.

Applications must be submitted in electronic form by 4 p.m. on Jan. 19, 2022. Applications will then be reviewed, scored, ranked and provided to Commissioner Goehring to determine which applications will be forwarded to USDA for final approval in May 2022. Projects funded by the grants start Oct. 1, 2022 and must be completed by Sept. 30, 2024. Growers needing more information should contact Deanna Gierszewski at (701) 328-2191 or scbg@nd.gov.



DISCOVER THE FARM CREDIT ADVANTAGE TODAY!





FarmCreditMandan.com

Page 34 Prairie Grains · January 2022 · Prairie Grains · Page 35

Small Grains Update Meetings Wheat, Soybean & Coth New time in crookston

JANUARY 25-28, 2022

Visit mnwheat.org for more details.

Meetings are free - No pre-registration required.



Dr. Jochum Wiersma Small Grains Specialist, U of MN

Spring Wheat Variety
Selections for Yield and
Quality in 2022



Bruce KlevenLegislative Strategist for
MN Wheat

State Legislative Report - What Happened, What Didn't and What to Look for in 2020



Dr. David Kee Director of Research
Minnesota Soybean Research &
Promotion Council

Minnesota Soybean Research Update



Mackenzie BoubinBiofuels and Industry
Relations Director

New Use Opportunities for Corn



Betsy Jensen NCTC Farm Business Management Instructor

Better in 2022





MN Association of Wheat Growers and the MN Wheat Research & Promotion Council Update

Sponsored in part by: Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers, Minnesota Wheat Research & Promotion Council, University of Minnesota Extension, Minnesota Soybean Research & Promotion Council and Minnesota Corn Growers Association











LOCATIONS

DILWORTH

Tuesday, January 25 12:00 p.m. Dilworth Community Center (Lunch served)

ADA

Wednesday, January 26 9:00 a.m. Ada Event Center (Lunch served) (In conjunction with Norman County Ag Day)

NEW TIME! CROOKSTON

Wednesday, January 26 4:00 - 7:30 p.m. Bede Ballroom - UMC (Dinner served) (In conjunction with West Polk County Crop Improvement)

LANCASTER

Thursday, January 27 8:30 a.m. Community Center (Lunch served) (In conjunction with Kittson County Crop Show)

ROSEAU

Thursday, January 27 3:30 - 7:00 p.m. Gene's Bar & Grill (Dinner served)

ST. HILAIRE

Friday, January 28 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Community Center (Lunch served)

OTHER AREA MEETINGS:

Small Grain Update MORRIS

Monday, January 17 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. WCROC (Lunch served)

Clay County Annual Crops Update DILWORTH

Tuesday, January 18 TAK Music Venue 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (Lunch served)