

2025  
**Prairie Grains**  
*conference*



***December 10-11, 2025***

***Alerus Center, Grand Forks, ND***

***Thursday Keynote Speakers***



**MIKE SPIER**

President  
U. S. Wheat Associates

***9:15 a.m.***



**ALAN KLUIS**

*Managing Director*  
Kluis Commodity Advisors

***10:00 a.m.***



**DARYL RITCHISON**

Director of NDAWN &  
ND State Climatologist  
North Dakota State University

***1:30 p.m.***

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# Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

## Morning Sessions

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<b>ND Crop Improvement Meeting - Eastern Regional</b>
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<b>Board Leadership Training Program</b>
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<b>North Dakota Barley Council County Representatives Meeting</b>
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	<b>Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group (FDRWG)</b>
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	<b>Minnesota Wheat Research Committee</b>

12:00 p.m. **Lunch**

*Registration by November 25, 2025 is required for all meal ticket guarantees. Don't delay!*

## MN & ND Malting Barley Program

1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

- 1:30 p.m. **Welcome** - Nathan Boll, ND Barley, Chris Englestad and Ryan Hough, Minnesota
- 1:35 p.m. **Barley Research Update**
- Optimizing Nitrogen Inputs to Reduce Scope 3 Emissions in Barley Production in Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota - *Dr. Brady Goettl, NDSU Ext Soils Specialist*
  - Preventing Sprout in Malt Barley Prior to Harvest - *Dr. Michael Ostlie, ND Ag Experiment Station, Carrington, ND*
  - Malting Barley Variety Development - *Dr. Max Fraser, AB-InBev*
  - Barley Pathology Update - *Dr. Thomas Baldwin, Assistant Professor, NDSU*
- 3:00 p.m. **Challenges & Opportunities in Malting & Brewing Industry**  
- Mark Black, Owner, 49th Parallel, LLC

**ANCHOR**  
INGREDIENTS



*Anheuser-Busch*



## Afternoon Sessions

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.	<b>MAWG Resolutions Committee Meeting</b>
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	<b>Minnesota Soybean Growers County Association Meeting</b>
4:00 p.m.	<b>TCG Wheat Meeting</b>
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	<b>North Dakota Grain Growers Annual Meeting</b>
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	<b>Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers Annual Business Meeting</b>

## Social, Banquet, and Live Auction

5:15 p.m.	<b>Social – Hors d'oeuvres &amp; Refreshments</b>
6:15 p.m.	<b>Welcome and Banquet</b>
7:15 p.m.	<b>Recognition and Awards</b>
7:30 p.m.	<b>Concluding Remarks, Hospitality and Auction</b>

*Hospitality hosted by:*



Bayer CropScience



**NDGGA**  
NORTH DAKOTA  
Grain Growers Association



Minnesota Association  
of Wheat Growers



**Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

Don't forget  
to register  
for meal ticket  
guarantees!

- 6:30 a.m. **Registration & Breakfast**  
7:00 a.m. **Wheat & Soybean Research Reporting Sessions** - see next page  
8:00 a.m. **Trade Show opens**  
8:50 a.m. **Break in Trade Show area**

### GENERAL SESSION

- 8:55 a.m. **Welcome**  
9:00 a.m. Thom Petersen, Commissioner, MN Department of Agriculture

- 9:15 a.m. **Driving Global Demand: How USW Promotes U.S. Hard Red Spring Wheat and Delivers Value to Producers**



Mike Spier  
*President, U. S. Wheat Associates*

An overview of how U.S. Wheat Associates promotes U.S. hard red spring wheat overseas, differentiates its quality, delivers measurable value to producers, and adapts to recent USDA funding changes.

- 10:00 a.m. **Strategies for Success in 2026**  
Alan Kluis  
*Managing Director, Kluis Commodity Advisors*



Al Kluis will review his marketing plan from last year and lay out a game plan for marketing your soybeans, corn, and wheat in 2026.

- 10:45 a.m. **Break in Trade Show area**  
11:30 a.m. **Breakout Sessions** - see next page  
12:15 p.m. **Lunch in Arena / Refreshments in Trade Show area**  
1:00 p.m. **Visit Trade Show**

### GENERAL SESSION

- 1:30 p.m. **Expected 2026 Weather Conditions**  
Daryl Ritchison  
*Director of the ND Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) and ND State Climatologist, NDSU*



After several years in its cold phase, the equatorial Pacific may be finally shifting to an El Nino pattern. What if any impacts will this have on agriculture in the United States? Daryl will discuss what type of changes he foresees for the next growing season. In addition, he will fill us in on the latest news on NDAWN's expansion into Minnesota in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

- 2:15 p.m. **Break in Trade Show area**  
2:30 p.m. **Breakout Sessions** - see next page  
3:00 p.m. **Social in Trade Show area**  
4:00 p.m. **Conference Closes**

CEU Credits will be available for most  
sessions on Thursday, December 11.

## Wheat Reporting Session



MINNESOTA WHEAT  
RESEARCH & PROMOTION COUNCIL

### 7:00 a.m. 2025 Update on Variety Development and Breeding for Disease Resistance

– Dr. Karl Glover, Professor and HRSW Breeder, SDSU

### 7:20 a.m. Managing True Armyworm Outbreaks in Small Grains

– Dr. Anthony Hanson, Regional Extension Educator & Assistant Extension Professor-Field Crops Integrated Pest Management, U of MN

### 7:40 a.m. Breeding to Boost Seed-Filling and Increase Minnesota Wheat Yields

– Dr. Walid Sadok, Associate Professor, Crop Physiology, U of MN

### 8:00 a.m. Split Application of Nitrogen and Sulfur in Spring Wheat

– Szilvia Yuja, Soils Research Specialist, NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center

### 8:20 a.m. Bacterial Leaf Streak in Wheat: Current Research, Key Challenges, and Future Directions

– Dr. Rebecca Curland, Researcher 6, Department of Plant Pathology, U of MN

### Concluding Remarks

## 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions

Concurrent Sessions - **Choose ONE**

### A Review of the 2025 Variety Trials

– Dr. Jim Anderson, Spring Wheat Breeder, U of MN

### A New White Mold Solution in Soybeans and Canola from BASF

– Albre Brown, PhD, Senior Technical Marketing Manager for Row Crop Fungicides & Insecticides and Ken Deibert, Technical Service Representative, Eastern North Dakota/Western Minnesota, BASF

### What are the Financial Trends Telling Us? A Look at the 2024 Minnesota FINBIN Farm Financial and Production Highlights

– Greg Dvergsten, Ron Dvergsten and Brett Fellbaum, Farm Business Management Instructors, Northland Community & Technical College

### The War Against Waterhemp

– Dr. Joe Ikley, Associate Professor and Extension Weed Specialist, NDSU

### Strategies for Managing Crop Yields with High Fertilizer Prices

– Steven McKechnie, AgrIntelligence Agronomist, Helena and Robbie Holthusen, Product Manager, Helena

### Drainage in Compliance

– Kale Van Bruggen, Attorney, Rinke Noonan

### Real Property Legal Tools

– David Piper, Shareholder Attorney, and Tiffany Findlay, Associate Attorney, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.

## 2:30 - 3:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions

Concurrent Sessions - **Choose ONE**

### Making More (or Losing Less) with Soybeans in 2026

– Seth Naeve, Extension Soybean Agronomist, U of MN and Ana Carcedo, Broadleaf Agronomist, NDSU

### Involvement in Agricultural Land Protection in the Red River Basin of Minnesota

– Rob Sip, RRWMA Executive Director

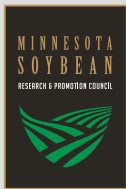
### The Hidden Costs of Marketing

– Betsy Jensen & Josh Tjosaas, Farm Business Management Instructor, Northland Community & Technical College

### Yours, Mine, and Ours: Managing Farm Stress to Reduce Risk and Improve Performance

– Jennifer Vaughn, MN Agricultural Mental Health Specialist, Acquire Mental Health, Monica McConkey, MN Agricultural Mental Health Specialist, Eyes on the Horizon and Meg Moynihan, Senior Advisor, Strategy & Partnerships, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

## Soybean Reporting Session



### 7:00 a.m. Minnesota Soybeans 2025 Production Dynamics, Pathogen Issues, and Waterhemp Pressure

– Sergio Cabello-Leiva, Director of Research, Minnesota Soybean Research & Promotion Council

### 7:20 a.m. No News is Good News: 2025 Western Minnesota IPM Survey

– Dr. Angie Peltier, Extension Educator - Crops, U of MN

### 7:40 a.m. Study of the Efficacy of Two Nematicides on SDS and SCN in Greenhouse Pot Assay

– Fariba Heydari Soreshjan, Postdoctoral Associate, U of MN

### 8:00 a.m. Advancing IPM for Soybean Gall Midge and Soybean Aphid

– Robert Koch, Professor and Extension Specialist, U of MN

### 8:20 a.m. Managing Fertilizer for Soybean Production

– Daniel Kaiser, Professor, U of MN

### Concluding Remarks

# Prairie Grains Conference Registration

## Join us for the 2025 Prairie Grains Conference!

From weather and marketing to research and business management, you will be sure to walk away with some new and valuable information.

The wide variety of speakers are sure to answer the questions you may have.

**Registration is open through the day of the conference - walk-ins are welcome.**

**Meals only guaranteed if registered by Nov 25, 2025.**

Meal tickets for those registering after the deadline will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Registration for both days of programming and meals are FREE for:**

*Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers members*

*Minnesota Soybean Check-off contributors*

*North Dakota Grain Growers Association members*

### REGISTRATION FEES

- Wednesday program & lunch - \$35 (\$40 after Nov 25)
- Wednesday banquet tickets - \$40 (\$45 after Nov 25)
- Thursday conference program & lunch - \$35 (\$40 after Nov 25)

Register online at [mnwheat.org](https://mnwheat.org) or scan the QR code



### ON-SITE HOTEL

**Canad Inn**, 701-772-8404, \$109.00/night, Block #909068, ask for Prairie Grains Conference  
**Hotel cutoff 11/10/2025** (based on availability after this date)

## We hope you will join us!

