

CORN TALK

August / September 2015

A Publication for North Dakota Corn Growers Association Members



13TH ANNUAL ND CORN GOLF CLASSIC A SUCCESS

The 13th annual ND Corn Golf Classic was a fundraising success for the North Dakota Corn Growers Association. The ND Corn Classic was held Wednesday, July 22 at the Maple River Golf Course in Mapleton, N.D. This year, there were 145 golfing participants and about 40 corporate sponsors that donated meal, cart and hole sponsorships. "The turnout was fantastic," North Dakota Corn Growers Association President Carson Klosterman said. "We want to thank our corporate sponsors, Growers members and Board, Maple River Golf Course staff and our golfers for their support and making this event a huge success!"

The ND Corn Classic started with registration at 11 a.m. which included lunch. Shotgun start was at noon and steak fry was at 5:30 p.m.

Prizes were given to first, second and third place teams. Prizes were also given to those who won the Longest Putt Contest, Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin and the Putting Contest. This year we had seven winners in the Putting Contest:

- Jeff Hoye
- Troy Sims
- Luke Rode
- Eric Larson
- Cale Arneson
- John Arneson
- Henry Steinberger

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 02** COUNCIL NEWS & GROWERS REPORT
- 04** NDCGA/NDCUC WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS
- 08** DDGs VALUABLE INGREDIENT IN FINISHING RATIONS

- 11** SENATOR HEIDI HEITKAMP RECEIVES NCGA PRESIDENT'S AWARD
- 12** 2015 CORN CONGRESS RECAP
- 13** NCGA TO EPA: "STAY THE COURSE" ON RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 14, 2015
NDCUC Board Meeting
Fargo, N.D.

SEPTEMBER 15-17, 2015
BIG IRON
Red River Valley Fair Grounds
West Fargo, N.D.

COUNCIL NEWS

SCOTT GERMAN, CHAIRMAN



Fellow Corn Producers,

I hope this newsletter finds you all with favorable growing conditions. It seems that not long ago we were facing challenges to get the crop planted now that tassels are plentiful.

The Council's top priority is finding a new executive director to lead our organization into the future. As we transition into new leadership, I would like to thank our staff for keeping our organization on track to serve our members.

Our July Board Meeting was held in Havana, N.D. in conjunction with our fellow ND Corn Growers Board. We chose this location to coincide with the field day at the CCSP Farm. The CCSP Farm is a no-till research site south of Forman, N.D. The Council has funded numerous research projects there over the years.

Finally, construction is complete on the National Agricultural Genotyping Center (NAGC). The Council along with several other commodity groups and the North Dakota Department of Agriculture funded this Center. The NAGC will be one of the most elite research facilities in the world. The NAGC will employ eight to 10 PhD level scientists along with four to six staff members to develop assay kits. The assay kits will be able to confirm the presence of many pathogens before symptoms are observed. Along with the agronomic pathogens, food borne pathogens can also be detected. The facility is located in the USDA building on NDSU's campus. An open house is scheduled for September 22, 2015, please come and check out this 'outer space' technology!

GROWERS REPORT

CARSON KLOSTERMAN, PRESIDENT



Dear Growers Members,

I'm excited to serve as your North Dakota Corn Growers Association (NDCGA) President. I also currently serve on the Production and Stewardship Action Team

at National Corn Growers Association (NCGA).

In June, the NDCGA sent myself and three other delegates to Kansas City, Kan. where we testified in front of EPA

officials. There were 260 speakers with more than 300 people in attendance to defend the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) by speaking out against the EPA lowering levels.

We also had nine board members and one staff member in Washington, D.C., where some board members attended their NCGA Action team meetings along with Corn Congress.

One of the pressing issues at Corn Congress included a proposal from Iowa to give an Actual Production History (APH) on Prevented Planting (PP) acres. As it stands now your APH isn't affected when PP is used. This proposal was brought up at Commodity Classic in Phoenix, Ariz. Since we had great representation at Commodity Classic, we brought many growers into meetings and they were able to give their thoughts and opinions on how APH would affect them. As this is a good management tool for us in the northern corn belt, our voices were heard and after some studies

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 3 -

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2 -

were done the proposal was pulled. Special thanks to Board member Randy Melvin who is a member of the Public Policy Action Team for the NCGA.

Another issue at Corn Congress was the RFS. There was a rally on Capitol Hill on Wednesday, July 15. We had a great turn out and brought this issue to the attention of Congress. We defended the RFS once again, and we will continue to do so.

WOTUS was dealt with during Corn Congress as well. Gina McCarthy of the EPA spoke to all the delegates and took questions about the RFS and WOTUS.

We met with Senator Heitkamp, Senator Hoeven and Congressman Cramer while in Washington, D.C., where we urged them to:

1. "Don't Mess with the RFS"
2. Don't let WOTUS come to life
3. Get together on a non-gmo label law (urged for a federal law not each state have a law)
4. Continue pressure on NRCS and Railroads

■ NDEPA GOLF SCRAMBLE

The North Dakota Ethanol Producers Association (NDEPA) will be holding its 2015 Political Action Committee (PAC) Golf Scramble on Monday, Aug. 24, at Oxbow Country Club near Fargo. Registration forms are available at www.ndethanol.org.

Registration is \$125 per person and includes green fees, cart, lunch, social and steak dinner. The Scramble will be a great opportunity to mingle with the representatives from North Dakota's five ethanol plants and enjoy a day of golf. It also is an opportunity to build the NDEPA PAC account, which makes contributions to political candidates who are advocates for North Dakota's ethanol industry.

If you have questions regarding the Scramble, contact Annie at 701-355-4458 or office@ndethanol.org.



2015

2015 CORPORATE SPONSORS

Thank you for your support!

PLATINUM LEVEL

DEKALB
DuPont Pioneer
Tharaldson Ethanol

GOLD LEVEL

Cargill
CHS Hedging
Dyna-Gro Seed
Farm & Ranch Guide
Mustang Seeds
Peterson Farms Seed
Proseed
Wensman

SILVER LEVEL

AgCountry Farm Credit Services
Conklin AgroVantage/AgroValley, Inc.
Bayer Crop Science
Ellingson Drainage
Mycogen
Nuseed
Thunder Seed
Titan Machinery
Valent

BRONZE LEVEL

360 Yield Center
BASF The Chemical Company
Butler Machinery
Columbia Grain, Inc.
Gateway Building Systems
Legend Seeds
Monsanto BioAg
ND Stockmen's Association
REA Hybrids
Red River Farm Network
USDA NASS



NDCGA, NDCUC WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

NORTH DAKOTA CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

The NDCGA would like to welcome Paul Thomas, Justin Halvorson and Tom Cook to the Board.



Paul Thomas is a fourth generation farmer from Velva, N.D. and will be representing District 3. Thomas and his wife, Karen, have two sons Michael and Johnathan. On their farm they grow corn, soybeans, pinto beans, wheat, oats, flax lentils and peas. Thomas is a graduate of NDSU with an Ag-Econ degree.



Justin Halvorson is a farmer from Sheldon, N.D. and will be representing District 5. Halvorson has been farming since high school. In 2005, he started his own operation, but continues to farm with his father and uncle. Halvorson is a graduate of NDSU with a degree in Ag Systems Management.



Tom Cook was elected as Industry Director to the NDCGA. Cook is a merchant from Cargill. He graduated from East Grand Forks AVTI in Farm Operation and Management and also holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from the University of Mary. He resides on the family farm in Sabin, Minn. with his wife, Marlene and sons Connor and Michael.



NORTH DAKOTA CORN UTILIZATION COUNCIL

The NDCUC is pleased to welcome Terry Wehlander and Jason Rayner.

Terry Wehlander will be representing District 5 on the Council and has been farming since he was a kid. In 1996, he started farming corn and soybeans on his own ground near Milnor in 1996. Wehlander went to NDSU and NDSCS for Farm Management/ Agronomy.



Jason Rayner will be representing District 2 on the Council and has been farming since 1994. He and his wife, Renae, have two sons Logan and Lucas. Rayner graduated from Mayville State University with a major in business and a minor in accounting.



Welcome New Board Members!

Peterson Farms Seed

GROUNDBREAKER FIELD DAY

Thursday, September 10, 2015

10am-4pm

LEARN MORE ABOUT ENHANCING YOUR "M"

John McGillicuddy Corn Yield Clinic
Karen Corrigan Soybean Yield Clinic
Ole & Sven Farming Practices Studies • UAV Technology
Tour Brand New State-of-the-Art Soybean Plant
Precision Planting • 360 Yield Center • History of Corn
New Traits Including Enlist, Xtend, LibertyLink
First Look at Corn & Soybean Genetics for 2016

G x E x M
(Genetics + Environment + MANAGEMENT
= PROFIT)



Peterson
Farms Seed

701.282.7476

PETERSONFARMSSEED.COM

■ UNDERSTANDING YIELD POTENTIAL AND GRAIN FILL

WHY IS MY CORN YIELD CALCULATOR ALWAYS OFF?



Jerad Liedberg
DEKALB/Asgrow
Technical Agronomist



We have all done it. This is the time of the year that we find ourselves walking out into corn fields, husking back the ears, and trying to outguess mother nature on what your corn field might yield by counting the kernel rows, length of rows and using that fancy corn yield calculator that you got from your seed rep to estimate your bushels per acre. ($\# \text{ rows} \times \text{length of rows} \times \text{population} / 90,000$).

Is your estimate usually right? Estimating corn yields may be a little easier compared to other crops like soybeans or wheat, but it is still a challenge as there are many factors that influence final yield. Below are some items for consideration:

Accurate Population

When estimating yields, make sure you have an accurate number for your calculation. A better way to figure for your calculation would be "ears per acre" instead of "plants per acre" After all, it is the ears that you are interested in harvesting anyway. Barren plants that do not produce an ear might be the result of an inaccurate planter or tough planting conditions. Including plants without an ear will throw off the accuracy of your estimate.

Also remember that if your field is more variable, you might have to sample more areas to get a more accurate number compared to a field that is more uniform.

Kernel Weight (TW)

Part of the yield calculator formula estimates that on average, it takes 90,000 kernels to make one bushel. The 90,000 number was developed by researchers in the Corn Belt. It is not uncommon for North Dakota corn producers to

experience shorter growing seasons depending on the year. How does that factor with our kernel counts per bushel? Some years our hybrids might really struggle to average a 90,000 count, especially years when GDU's are limited. A difference of 5,000 seeds (95,000 seeds/bushel) would be equivalent to a 10 bushel yield hit per acre.

Individual hybrids can also differ greatly in kernel size, kernel depth, and test weight based on their genetic differences. When estimating yields, make sure that you are aware of how your hybrid is rated for test weight. This kind of information can usually be found in a seed guide. While the environment can also influence the rating, a seed guide will give you a general idea if a hybrid will be below, above, or average for test weight.

Stress during grain fill can also affect kernel weight. Nights when lows are in the 70-80 degrees range can result in higher respiration losses as well as a shortened grain filling period. While this is typically more of an issue in other parts of the country, it could have an impact in North Dakota in warm weather conditions. On the other end of the spectrum, night time temperatures that dip into the 40's can also impair photosynthesis. Researchers in Canada have documented that after a night of temperatures in the 40's, photosynthetic rates decreased 18-30% during the following day. Last year some areas in North Dakota experienced several nights with lows in the 40's. Research out of the University of Illinois has shown that an ideal night time temperatures for corn is in the 65 degree range.

Fertility Components in Grain Fill

Nitrogen availability to corn plants during the grain fill period is critical to maximize yield. Lack of Nitrogen can lower leaf photosynthesis rates resulting in lowering the quantity of assimilates available for filling corn kernels. This lack of Nitrogen to fill the kernels will also result in reduced test weight.

Potassium (K) is a critical nutrient during pollination and grain fill. Most of the K uptake occurs during the early vegetative stages of the corn plant. If K is limited, silk emergence may be delayed, possibly resulting in unfilled ear tips. Potassium is also essential for the plant to move energy from the leaves to filling grain.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 -

SUCCESS NEVER RESTS

VALUE INSIDE THE BAG.

No other brand can match the genetics and trait innovations that go into every DEKALB® bag. It's a value that stands apart from the rest and offers you the best yield potential across your whole farm.



INDUSTRY-LEADING BREEDING

DEKALB individually analyzes 13 million corn seeds each year. It's the best way to match DEKALB industry-leading genetics to your acres.



ABOVE AND BELOW GROUND PROTECTION

Acceleron® Seed Treatment Products combined with Poncho®/VOTIVO® help to give enhanced protection against seedling and seed diseases, early-season insects and pests, and a wide range of nematode species to help maximize early-season performance.



BIOTECH TRAIT PACKAGES

With multiple trait packages to choose from, you will get the right traits to fit your needs and performance goals.



RIB COMPLETE®

You will value the convenience of refuge in the bag. No more calculating or planting a separate, structured refuge in the Corn-Growing Area. Just fill the planter and go.



ROBUST PRODUCT PIPELINE

DEKALB releases a completely new line of products every five years to provide you with the most advanced products for your farm.



Monsanto Company is a member of Excellence Through Stewardship® (ETS). Monsanto products are commercialized in accordance with ETS Product Launch Stewardship Guidance, and in compliance with Monsanto's Policy for Commercialization of Biotechnology-Derived Plant Products in Commodity Crops. This product has been approved for import into key export markets with functioning regulatory systems. Any crop or material produced from this product can only be exported to, or used, processed or sold in countries where all necessary regulatory approvals have been granted. It is a violation of national and international law to move material containing biotech traits across boundaries into nations where import is not permitted. Growers should talk to their grain handler or product purchaser to confirm their buying position for this product. Excellence Through Stewardship® is a registered trademark of Excellence Through Stewardship. **B.t. products** may not yet be registered in all states. Check with your Monsanto representative for the registration status in your state. **IMPORTANT IRM INFORMATION:** Genuity® RIB Complete® corn blend products do not require the planting of a structured refuge except in the Cotton-Growing Area where corn earworm is a significant pest. See the IRM/Grower Guide for additional information. Always read and follow IRM requirements. **ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABEL DIRECTIONS.** Roundup Ready® crops contain genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup® brand agricultural herbicides. Roundup® brand agricultural herbicides will kill crops that are not tolerant to glyphosate. Acceleron and Design®, Acceleron®, DEKALB and Design®, DEKALB®, Genuity Design®, Genuity Icons, Genuity®, RIB Complete and Design®, RIB Complete®, Roundup Ready 2 Technology and Design®, Roundup Ready®, Roundup® and SmartStax® are trademarks of Monsanto Technology LLC. LibertyLink and the Water Droplet Design®, Poncho® and VOTIVO® are registered trademarks of Bayer. Herculex® is a registered trademark of Dow AgroSciences LLC. ©2015 Monsanto Company.

Distillers Grains a Valuable Ingredient in Finishing Rations

By Colette “Koko” Gjermundson for the North Dakota Ethanol Council

Distillers grain is a valuable ingredient in finishing rations. It boasts about three times the protein of corn and is equal to or greater than the energy of corn. “There are a lot of plusses with the dry or modified products, but you will see energy values higher than corn with modified or wet product,” said Greg Lardy, Ph.D, department head, North Dakota State University Animal Sciences Department, Fargo. Data shows that modified or wet distillers grain has a greater feeding value because the drying process can cause heat damage to proteins and drive off some volatile fatty acids and other fermentation byproducts.

Feeding wet or modified distillers grain helps keep cattle on feed and reduces the risk of acidosis in finishing diets compared to diets that are exclusively corn. Nutritionists can help a producer manage any sulfur concerns. Though it’s Lardy’s experience that there isn’t a huge sulfur issue in the region, he stressed, “It shouldn’t be overlooked because you can have elevated sulfate levels in water.”

Brian Amundson, Jamestown, who operates the Bar V Ranch and Amundson Land & Cattle with his wife, Jennifer, began using distillers grains from the Walhalla plant in the late 1990s. “It’s a very versatile product,” he said. “Its advantages are palatability and availability, so you can be fairly flexible on how you use it.”

“It’s all about value exchange,” Amundson said, noting that there are two ways to price distillers grains: 1) as a protein source or 2) as an energy source. “In the last couple of years it’s priced itself more in the protein market,” Amundson said. “It’s very beneficial in cattle-feeding situations at many different levels. The biggest key is knowing your product as far as consistency, protein requirement and energy requirement. That dictates what you feed it to.”

A producer who is feeding distillers grains needs to understand and manage moisture, product quality, starch availability of concentrates in the ration and protein level in the diet. Lardy encourages producers to work with a



Brian Amundson, Jamestown. Photo courtesy of Laura Conaway

nutritionist to formulate their ration.

Transportation and storage are deciding factors in choosing dry, modified or wet distillers. “You have to weigh out transportation options,” Lardy said. Consider the cost and the challenge of moving wet product that is 50 to 65 percent water. “That’s a lot of water to transport so you need to buy at a discount to compensate for the freight costs,” Lardy said.

Dry distillers is easier to store and transport but wet distillers has more energy and is useful in conditioning rations. “When you include a modified or wet distillers you’re getting a little more moisture in the ration,” Lardy said. “That cuts down on dust and increases palatability.”

Regardless of what type of distillers grain is fed and what class of beef animal eats it, attention needs to be given to working with suppliers. “Like a lot of things in business, it comes down to relationships,” Lardy said. “It’s a matter of developing that relationship with a supplier and sticking with them. If they’re expecting you to take a load every week to ten days you need to figure out a way to take those loads. Then they’re going to be more willing to try to get you what you need when you get in a crunch.”

Amundson currently buys product from Dakota Spirit AgEnergy, Spiritwood. He has also used product

from Blue Flint Ethanol, Underwood, as well as plants in Mina and Rosholt, S.D. “It’s all about price point, availability and product quality,” Amundson said. “My two biggest criteria for buying a product are price and consistency.”

Amundson noted that a feedlot ought to be able to ebb and flow with the market. “Quite honestly, ethanol plants sometimes have problems,” he said, “We can help them with their problems.” If a dryer breaks down, the plant may offer a mass quantity of wet product at a very reasonable price. “At that point it becomes an energy source,” Amundson said. “If everything is running smoothly at the plant, then it’s a protein source. You’re competing against a foreign dried distillers market, so if you have a strong relationship with the ethanol plant and you have the ability to help them, they’ll help you.”

He added, “It’s all about value,” in reference to the ability to receive and store product. That requires an investment in facilities and management. The Bar V Ranch stores distillers grain on a cement slab that is walled. However, in temporary situations they’ll store it on good, hard ground between hay bales covered with a tarp.

He concluded, “We will always have distillers grains in our rations because of the palatability and performance factors. It really does help.”

WITH YOU
FROM THE WORD

GO



Steve Andereg
DuPont Crop Protection
Technical Sales Agronomist

Nathan LeVan
DuPont Pioneer Field Agronomist

Robert McCormick
Pioneer Sales Representative

Anthony Sillman
DuPont Pioneer Account Manager

Tanner Brass
Encirca Certified
Services Agent



HIGH-YIELDING
PRODUCTS

TEAM OF
PROFESSIONALS

ON-FARM
AGRONOMY TRIALS

Pioneer.com



DuPont[™]
Lumivia[™]
insecticide seed treatment



Science with Service Delivering Success[®]

PIONEER[®] brand products are provided subject to the terms and conditions of purchase which are part of the labeling and purchase documents. [®] [™] SM Trademarks and service marks of DuPont, Pioneer or their respective owners. © 2015 PHIL. DUPPBR15028VA 15-2524

PLANTING INTENTIONS 2016



John Flaa

District Sales Manager

Southesat North Dakota/
West Central Minnesota



Spring 2015 brought a resurgence in conventional corn planting. When I say conventional, I mean no herbicide tolerance and no insect resistance. Why did this happen? I know of 2 reasons: specialty markets and an attempt to reduce input costs. Was it a good idea? We shall see.

Regular old corn comes with some added management. These 2 areas are obviously weed management and insect management. Both need some consideration. Below are a few things to think about for next year when deciding on what trait package to plant.

Roundup, for many who are battling some type of weed resistance, has become an excellent grass herbicide. Familiar resistant weeds in our area are Common Ragweed, Kochia, and waterhemp. We always need something else in the mix anyway, so conventional corn seems like an easy choice. What we forget is that foxtail species, Proso millet, wild oats and many other grass species are hard to control without the herbicide Roundup. Field history and scouting are critical when we don't have that tool in the box.

Insect management has many things to consider. If CRW pressure is heavy, in furrow treatments won't do an adequate job without help from CRW traits in the corn hybrid. The next biggest pest in corn, which used to be a huge deal 15 years ago, is ECB (European Corn Borer). ECB requires careful scouting and thresholds are many times not reached because of different emergence times of the pest. Although pressures have been low for many years because of awesome corn traits, one can usually find ECB with ease in sweet corn.

Other than weeds and bugs, Conventional corn should be

Good to Go. Remember that Variety ABC will yield the same as Variety ABC Double Pro in the absence of insects and if weed control is the same. What I mean is that 1389 RR and 1389 VT3Pro, which are the same base genetics, will yield similar in the absence of insect pressure. Just don't get caught unaware on weeds because rescue treatments are hard without Roundup in the mix and rescue treatments for insects are troublesome at best.

Switching gears, we are hoping that some new technologies in soybeans will hit the market for 2016. Keep your fingers crossed. Liberty Link soybeans look great so far and are an excellent choice especially where there are weed resistance concerns.

PROBLEMS WITH GOOSE DEPREDATION?

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

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

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

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

NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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



SENATOR HEIDI HEITKAMP RECEIVES NCGA PRESIDENT'S AWARD



On Wednesday, July 15, National Corn Growers Association President Chip Bowling presented the NCGA President's Award to U.S. Senator Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota. This award is given annually to a leader who has worked to advance issues important to corn farmers and agriculture.

"Senator Heitkamp has been a champion for farmers during her time in Washington," Bowling said. "She promotes policies that help to tear down trade barriers and open markets for U.S. farmers. Her recent support of Trade Promotion Authority was critical to getting that legislation across the finish line. She has also introduced legislation to help increase agricultural exports to Cuba."

"Every day when I come to work in the Senate, I'm fighting for rural America – and that includes the corn growers across North Dakota

and the country who work hard to provide food and fuel for our families and communities," said Heitkamp. "Thank you for this award, which reinforces that the work I'm doing in Congress is having an impact. Whether it's supporting our ethanol production, giving more certainty to farmers, or removing trade barriers to enable farmers to export their products, I'll continue to make sure corn growers and all farmers have the tools and resources to do their jobs and feed the world."

"Senator Heitkamp understands the importance of ethanol and biofuels to America's economy, rural vitality, and energy independence," said Bowling. "She has defended the Renewable Fuel Standard and called on the EPA to provide greater certainty to the biofuels industry. Last year, she brought the EPA Administrator to North Dakota to hear firsthand from farmers and biofuels producers about how the Agency's proposal would hurt the industry."

Heitkamp is the junior Senator from North Dakota and the state's first elected female Senator. She sits on the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry on which she helped write, negotiate and pass the 2014 Farm Bill. Heitkamp has been a leader in pressing the EPA to set strong Renewable Volume Obligations for renewable fuels. She helped introduce bipartisan legislation to require the EPA to redo its proposed Waters of the U.S. rule, and to help support and improve the export of American agricultural commodities to Cuba. She previously served as North Dakota's Attorney General and as State Tax Commissioner.

"In a country that is too often divided by red and blue, Senator Heitkamp's desire to seek common ground and find common-sense solutions is refreshing," said Bowling. "We've had the privilege to work closely with her during her time in Washington, and we look forward to continuing that relationship."

UNDERSTANDING YIELD POTENTIAL AND GRAIN FILL

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6 -

There certainly is many moving parts to corn yield potential throughout the whole season. At the beginning of the growing season a lot of time is spent by farmers providing the right fertility, herbicides, and other management practices to set the corn plant up for a successful grain fill period. The last half of the season it is up to mother nature to give the final result- yield. While we can try and out guess mother nature by yield estimators and calculators, the ultimate yield calculator is the combine yield monitor and elevator scale! Hope that you have a safe and successful harvest!



2015 CORN CONGRESS RECAP



North Dakota Corn Growers Association members Kevin Skunes, Bart Schott, and Mike Clemens with U.S. Senator Heidi Heitkamp, who received the National Corn Growers Association's 2015 President's Award.

Nine members of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association (NDCGA) attended the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) "Corn Congress" meetings the week of July 13, 2015, in Washington, D.C. NDCGA representatives had a very successful set of meetings on Wednesday, July 15 with Representative Kevin Cramer, Senator John Hoeven and Tyler Jameson, legislative assistant for Agriculture for Senator Heidi Heitkamp (Senator Heitkamp was called to the Senate floor for a vote just prior to our scheduled meeting.) Topics discussed with our federal delegation included the proposed Renewable Volume Obligations (RVO) rule from the EPA, which NCGA and the NDCGA have been actively opposing; food labeling legislation which will prevent states and localities from passing "GMO labeling" laws; rail service/pricing issues; Waters of the US (WOTUS) rules, which – if enacted as proposed – could devastate the Ag economy; and Prevented Planting (PP).

On Thursday, July 16, NDCGA representatives met with senior officials from the USDA Risk Management Agency to discuss several key issues, including: Prevented Planting, Conservation Compliance, and drainage. Meeting with the North Dakota attendees were Robert Ibarra, RMA Deputy Administrator for Insurance Services and RMA Administrator Brandon Willis. On PP, the agency is looking at revised rules, which could adversely affect northern corn, and NDCGA is working with NCGA to provide feedback and communicate concerns. The agency already changed PP rules for 2014, requiring growers to have planted and harvested a crop at least once during a four-year period to be eligible for a PP

claim. Since that change has been in place only one year, ND Corn is urging the agency to let the rule work and not make any other changes in the meantime.

After the meetings in Washington, D.C. concluded, the U.S. House of Representatives on Thursday, July 23 passed H.R. 1599, the Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act of 2015. Representative Cramer was an original co-sponsor of the bill. This bill will establish a single voluntary national standard for the labeling of foods derived from biotechnology ("GMO labeling"), while ensuring and clarifying both FDA and USDA involvement in the regulatory process. Senator Hoeven is working on a Senate version of the bill that has not yet been introduced.



U.S. Representative Kevin Cramer joined members of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association for a working lunch on Wednesday, July 15, in Washington, D.C., to hear their views on WOTUS, EPA Renewable Volume Obligations rules and Prevented Planting.



U.S. Senator John Hoeven met with NDCGA Corn Congress attendees in his office to discuss safe and accurate food labeling legislation that he is sponsoring.

■ NCGA TO EPA: "STAY THE COURSE" ON RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD

In comments submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today, the National Corn Growers Association highlighted the importance of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and urged the Agency to restore the 2014-16 corn ethanol volume to statute.

In the comments, NCGA states, "The RFS has spurred growth in agriculture, increased energy diversity and decreased GHG emissions from fossil fuels through the development of renewable energy resources. ... We urge the Agency to stay the course and support this important piece of transformational energy policy, and we request it reconsider its proposed reduction in the 2014, 2015 and 2016 renewable volume obligations."

In a letter accompanying NCGA's comments, NCGA President Chip Bowling writes, "The RFS is doing exactly

what it was intended to do. It is successfully driving the adoption of renewable fuel alternatives to petroleum, supporting jobs across the country, and ensuring the United States remains a global leader in developing new renewable energy sources while decreasing GHG emissions here at home. ... [We are asking the EPA to] provide regulatory certainty to the most successful renewable fuel program in place. The continued stability and health of the rural economy and the nation's environmental improvements hinge upon your decision."

To review the NCGA's full comments go to:

<http://www.ncga.com/upload/files/documents/pdf/letters/2015-RVO-NCGA-Comments-EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0111.pdf>

■ VISIT US AT THE BIG IRON FARM SHOW

ND Corn staff and board members will be attending Big Iron on September 15-17 at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds in West Fargo, N.D.

ND Corn staff and board members will be popping and handing out more than 150 pounds of free popcorn to visitors at the booth. We will also be soliciting new memberships and talking with growers about ethanol, production and a whole host of corn related topics. Visit us in the Expo Center at booth C-42 and C-43.



BIG IRON
FARM SHOW

DOWNLOAD
THE BIG IRON MOBILE APP!

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BIG IRON IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND!

ANDROID APP ON Google play
Available on the iPhone App Store

2015
SEPTEMBER 15-17
RED RIVER VALLEY FAIRGROUNDS

TUE-WED 9-5 • THURS 9-4
WEST FARGO, ND • 701-282-2200 • BIGIRONFARMSHOW.COM

The Big Iron Farm Show is a subsidiary of the Red River Valley Fair Association

Red River Valley Fair Association



email: casselton@mustangseeds.com
website: www.mustangseeds.com

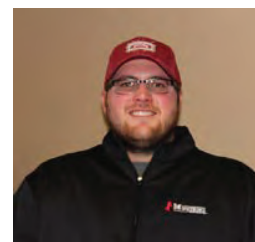
Mustang Seeds is a family owned regional company who has been delivering quality seed and customer service to growers for over 50 years. Mustang Seeds is proud to be an independent seed company that is able to offer their customers a full line up alfalfa, cover crops, small grains, grasses and forages; along with traited corn options ranging from 76 day to 110 day and conventional corn varieties that range from 80 day to 104 day maturities. Mustang Seeds is proud of their northern sales staff and how they continue to grow business in the ND and MN areas.

Clay Erdmann, (pictured right), Casselton, ND, serves as the Location and Area Sales Manager at the Mustang Seeds Casselton Seed Plant, located near Casselton, ND. Clay is excited to be part of Mustang Seeds and looks forward to helping growers increase their farms' productivity.



Mark Brownlee (pictured left), from Ada, MN, District Sales Manager for Northern ND and Northwestern MN. Mark brought with him several years' experience as an elevator manager along with holding a District Sales Manager position at a previous seed company prior to joining Mustang Seeds.

Bill Murray, (pictured right), covers Southern ND as District Sales Manager and is originally from Grand Forks, ND, which gives him a lot of knowledge of the State. Bill enjoys working with the dealerships and farmers and he looks forward to continuing to meet everyone and to growing his territory.



Dale Nelson, Sales and Production Manager, would like to thank all of Mustang Seeds' loyal customers for their seed purchases. Dale is excited about the choices Mustang Seeds has to offer their customers; from great genetics and all of the latest traits, to a strong conventional lineup of corn and soybeans.

Mustang Seeds is looking forward to continued growth due to loyal customers and dealerships, excellent customer service and seed performance, and Mustang Seeds' ability to provide products that farmers are looking

for. We encourage you to talk to your local Mustang Dealer or District Sales Representative to study all the different products and services we have to offer and we wish you a safe and prosperous 2015-2016 growing year.

PLANTING YOUR FUTURE



Mustang Seeds is a reputable provider of agricultural products who continues to grow long lasting relationships. We bring innovation to the market place with dedicated employees that are committed to providing valuable personal service and quality products.

MUSTANG SEEDS.
www.mustangseeds.com

Main Office:
306 S. Washington Ave.,
Madison, SD
(605) 256-6529

Casselton Office:
4044 155th Ave.,
Durbin, ND
(701) 347-0054

2015

NDCGA Board of Directors

District 1 – Carson Klosterman: Wyndmere (President)
 District 1 – Andrew Braaten: Barney
 District 2 – Randy Melvin: Buffalo (Vice President)
 District 2 – James Aarsvold: Blanchard
 District 3 – Darren Kadlec: Pisek
 District 3 – Paul Thomas: Verva
 District 4 – Robert Hanson: Wimbeldon
 District 4 – Ryan Wanzek: Jamestown
 District 5 – Justin Halvorson: Sheldon
 District 6 – Chris Erlandson: Oakes (Secretary/Treasurer)
 District 6 – Bart Schott: Kulm
 District 7 – Anthony Mock: Kintyre
 District 7 – Clark Price: Hensler

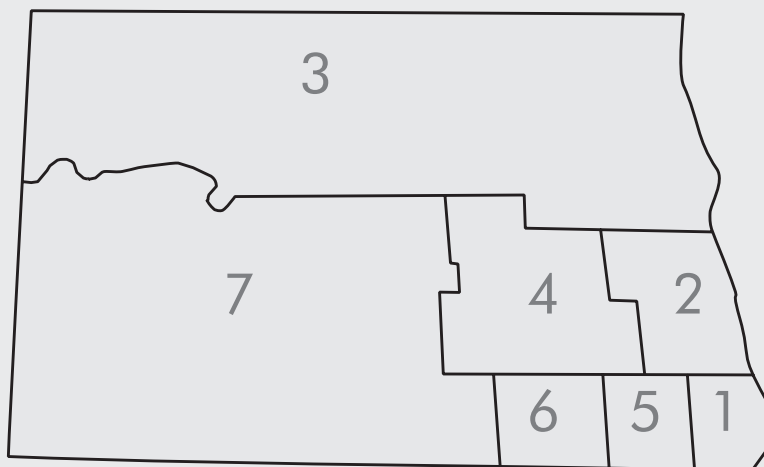
Director-at-large – Mike Clemens: Wimbeldon
 Director-at-large – Jeff Enger: Marion
 Director-at-large – Kevin Skunes: Arthur
 Director-at-large – Larry Hoffmann: Wheatland

NDCGA Industry Directors

Deana Weise – NDEC, Bismarck
 Vern Anderson – Livestock Consultant, Carrington
 Gary Geske – Latham Hi Tech Seeds, Enderlin
 Ray Kotchian – Prairieland Ag Inc., Fargo
 Tom Cook – Cargill, Wahpeton

ND Corn Utilization Council

District 1 – Arnie Anderson: Hankinson
 District 2 – Jason Rayner: Finley
 District 3 – Paul Belzer: Cando (Vice Chairman)
 District 4 – Dave Swanson: New Rockford
 District 5 – Terry Wehlender: DeLamere
 District 6 – Scott German: Oakes (Chairman)
 District 7 – Paul R. Anderson: Coleharbor (Secretary)





1411 32nd St. South, Suite 2 • Fargo, ND 58103-6304
ndcorn.org



The ND Corn Growers Association does not endorse the use of products promoted in the newsletter.

**GROWING A HEALTHY, PROFITABLE
BUSINESS CLIMATE FOR
NORTHERN CORN**