

CORN TALK

October / November 2013

A Publication for North Dakota Corn Growers Association Members



DEVELOPMENT OF THE NDSU PEST MANAGEMENT APP

Contributor: Angela Kazmierczak, NDSU

As technology advances, information delivery can be enhanced. NDSU Extension Specialists update and print the Weed Control, Fungicide, and Insecticide Guides on an annual basis. In the next couple of months, the printed versions will not be the only place this information will be found. For the past year, the NDSU Pest Management app for mobile devices was being developed. The app will consist of selected information found in the Guides, but in a dynamic and searchable format. The app was designed for ease of use to provide growers with another tool as they make decisions in the field. The North Dakota Corn Growers were the first to support the project by funding the platform of the app, then several other commodity groups followed by funding other features of the app or the input of information for their respective crop.

The app will provide several benefits to the user compared to the print version. The app can be updated throughout the year, as opposed to on an annual basis. The app will be searchable within each category, which will allow users a quick way to find a pest or management aid quickly and efficiently. General information from the guides and resources that may be helpful for producers will also be included as supplemental information. There will also be special tools specifically designed for the weeds section of the app that provide herbicide efficacy ratings on specific weeds and crop rotational restrictions for herbicides with residual properties.

The app will be available for the iPhone, iPad, Android smartphones and tablets and will be free as funding for the project was generously provided by: North Dakota Corn Utilization Council, North Dakota Soybean Council, North Dakota Wheat Commission, Sugarbeet Research and Education Board, National Sunflower Association, Northarvest Bean Growers, and Northern Plains Potato Growers Association.

The app is currently still in development with plans of launching sometime over the winter months.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- December 3-4, 2013**
2013 ND Ag Expo
Fargo, ND
- December 4-5, 2013**
December Board Meeting
Fargo, ND
- December 10-13, 2013**
NCGA Action Team Meetings
St. Louis, MO
- January 29-30, 2014**
Research Summit
- February 19, 2014**
CornVenture
Fargo, ND
- February 20, 2014**
Corn College
Fargo, ND

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2013 CORN HARVEST, DRYING AND STORAGE

Kenneth Hellevang, Ph.D., PE, Extension Agricultural Engineer, Professor NDSU Extension Service, Ag & Biosystems Engineering Department

Variability will create challenges again this year. There are variations within regions and even within fields due to availability of moisture. Many fields have areas that are totally brown, but also have areas that are still green and vigorously growing. In those green spots, test weights and moisture contents will be high, while in the brown spots test weight will be lighter and moisture much lower.

Drought conditions stress the corn crop, leading to weak stalks and shanks. Weak stalks contribute to "downed" corn due to wind or other forces, and weak shanks contribute to "ear drop" and large field losses. Farmers need to check the condition of the corn in the field and possibly harvest early.

Drought conditions also lead to larger than normal in-field corn moisture content variations. Moisture content may vary from 15 to 25 percent in the same field due to soil variations or other contributing factors. Kernel moisture content will also likely vary on an individual cob. Kernel size and density or test weight will also vary along with the moisture content. If the moisture content varies going into a high temperature dryer, it will also vary coming out of the dryer.

Grain segregates based on size and density as it flows into a bin or any container. Generally, the smaller and denser material will accumulate in the center and the larger material flows to the perimeter of the bin. Therefore, there is potential for areas of wet corn and variations in test weight in a bin. Using a distributor or "coring" the bin may reduce the accumulation of smaller material in the center of the bin.

Operating an aeration fan will help to move moisture from the wet kernels to drier kernels. Run the fan longer than is required control grain temperature to "even out" the moisture content.

A natural-air drying system that provides an airflow rate of 1 cfm/bu (cubic feet per minute of airflow per bushel of corn) will dry 20 percent moisture corn to about 14 percent with North Dakota average October ambient air conditions of 50 degrees and 65 percent relative humidity. The estimated drying time is about 37 days if drying starts October 1.

The storage life of stressed low test weight corn is expected to be shorter than normal, so farmers need to be more diligent with drying and storage management. Dry low test weight and stressed corn a percentage lower than normal because of greater variations of moisture content within the grain mass and increased physical kernel damage and broken cobs, which could magnify storage mold problems.

FIELD DRYING

Standing corn in the field may dry about 0.3 to 0.5 percentage points per day during October, and 0.15 to 0.2 per day or less during November, assuming normal weather conditions. Field drying is normally more economical until mid-October and mechanical high temperature drying is normally more economical after then. If corn has a moisture content of 35% on October 1, it will probably only dry to about 25% moisture on November 1 assuming normal North Dakota climatic conditions.

The amount of drying in the field depends on parameters such as corn maturity, hybrid, and moisture content, air temperature and relative humidity, solar radiation, and wind speed. The moisture content to which corn will dry is determined by the corn's equilibrium moisture content, EMC, which is based on air temperature and relative humidity. A predictor of the drying rate might be potential

"Estimated" Corn Field Drying

Month	EMC (%)	GDD	PET (in.)	Estimated Drying (%-pt.)	
				Month	Week
Sep	15	250-350	4.0-5.0	18	4.5
Oct	16	100-125	2.8-3.5	11-12	2.5
Nov	19	20-30	0.8-1.2	4-5	1
Dec	20	0	0.5-0.8	2	0.5
Jan	21	0	0.5-0.8	2	0.5
Feb	21	0	0.5-0.9	3	0.8
Mar	19	0	1.3-1.6	5	1
Apr	16	50-90	3.2-4.5	16	4
May	14	200-300	6.5-8.5	30	7

PET=Potential Evapotranspiration

(NDAWN, Weather, Total PET, Estimate: 1-inch ≈ 4% drying)

EMC=equilibrium moisture content, GDD=degree-days,

%-pt. - percentage point of moisture reduction, for example from 20% to 15% are 5%-pts.

evapotranspiration, PET, which is based on parameters similar to those that affect drying. Values for PET calculated by the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network for 2008 are shown in the following table. There appears to be a good correlation between PET and field drying experience. The table shows these EMC, GDD, PET values and the estimated percentage points of field drying for each month.

The following table provides field drying rates for corn in Minnesota.

Date	Grain moisture loss (% per day)
September 15-25	0.75-1.00
September 26-October 5	0.50-0.75
October 6-15	0.25-0.50
October 16-31	0.00-0.33
After October 31	>very little

Source: Hicks (2004). <http://www.extension.umn.edu/cropenews/2008/08MNCN26.html>

POSTHARVEST MANAGEMENT OF CORN

Corn at moisture contents exceeding about 23% should not be stored in a grain bin because the kernels may freeze together and also may deform and bind together. The corn may not flow from the bin for unloading. Corn above this moisture content should be placed so it can be unloaded with a front-end loader or something else that can mechanically dislodge the corn.

It is critical to provide aeration to keep the corn cool. Wet corn will deteriorate rapidly unless kept cool. Corn will deteriorate even with airflow, but without airflow through the corn it will increase in temperature resulting in rapid deterioration.

Condensation and icing occurs on bin vents at temperatures near or below freezing, so leave bin covers open to serve as a safety opening when operating fans near or below freezing temperature. There have been numerous reports of bin vents freezing over and the fan pushing the roof up and damaging the bin roof.

—CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

"Approximate" Allowable Storage Time (Days) for Cereal Grains

M.C. (%)	Temperature (°F)					
	30°	40°	50°	60°	70°	80°
14	*	*	*	*	200	140
15	*	*	*	240	125	701
16	*	*	230	120	70	40
17	*	280	130	75	45	20
18	*	200	90	50	30	15
19	*	140	70	35	20	10
20	*	90	50	25	14	7
22	190	60	30	15	8	3
24	130	40	15	10	6	2
26	90	35	12	8	5	2
28	70	30	10	7	4	2
30	60	25	5	5	3	1

Based on composite of 0.5 percent maximum dry matter loss calculated on the basis of USDA research at Iowa State University; Transactions of ASAE 3330337, 1972; and "Unheated Air Drying," Manitoba Agriculture Agdex 732-1, rev. 1986.

STORAGE IN A POLY BAG

Even though the bag is sealed, it does not prevent mold growth or insect infestations. At moisture contents exceeding about 25% ensiling may occur at temperatures above freezing and prevent the corn from being dried and sold in the general market. Grain temperature in the bag will follow average outdoor temperatures, unless respiration heating causes the temperature to increase. Corn needs to be at an appropriate moisture content and temperature to limit the potential for heating and grain quality losses during storage. **Corn above 24% moisture should be placed in the bags when average outdoor temperatures are staying near or below freezing and the corn should be dried by early February before outdoor and grain temperatures increase and permit spoilage.** Corn at moisture contents up to 24% should be dried by early March. Corn stored during the summer needs to be below 14% moisture. Select an elevated well drained location for the bags and run the bags north and south so solar heating is similar on both sides of the bag. Wildlife can puncture the bags creating an entrance for moisture and releasing the grain smell which attracts more wildlife. Monitor the grain temperature at several locations in the bags.

NATURAL AIR AND LOW TEMPERATURE CORN DRYING

Corn above 21% moisture should not be dried using natural air and low temperature drying to minimize corn spoilage during drying. An airflow rate of 1.0 to 1.25 cfm/bu is recommended to reduce drying time. Because the drying capacity is extremely poor at temperatures below 35 to

40 degrees, little drying may be possible during the fall using a natural air system. Cool the corn to 20 to 25 degrees for winter storage and start drying in early April. Adding heat does not permit drying wetter corn and only slightly increases drying speed. The primary effect of adding heat is to reduce the corn moisture content. Natural air drying in the spring is the most energy and cost effective method of drying. Corn depth should be limited to about 20 to 22 feet to obtain the desired airflow rate for drying. Turn fans off during extended rain, fog or snow to minimize the amount of moisture moved into the bin by the fan.

HIGH TEMPERATURE DRYING

Using the maximum drying temperature that will not damage the corn increases the dryer capacity and reduces energy consumption. The amount of energy required to remove a pound of water is about 20% less using a drying air temperature of 200°F than at 150°F. Typical recommended drying temperatures are 210°F to 230 °F. Be aware that excessively high drying temperatures may result in a lower final test weight and increased breakage susceptibility. In addition, as the drying time increases with high moisture corn, it becomes more susceptible to browning.

Research indicates that exposure to drying air temperatures above 200 degrees for time periods in excess of 2 hours will likely result in some degree of browning. Dryer temperatures may need to be limited to prevent scorching or browning. The darkening during drying can also be due to sugar in the kernels that becomes caramelized, which is a sign of incomplete development.

MOISTURE SHRINK

Moisture shrink is the reduction in weight as the grain is dried. The moisture shrink (%) = [(Mo-Mf) / (100-Mf)] x 100. Mo=Original Moisture Content, Mf=Final Moisture Content. The moisture shrink drying corn from 25% to 15% is [(25-15)/ (100-15)] x 100 = 11.76%

Moisture shrink factor is the reduction in weight as the grain is dried one percentage point. Moisture Shrink Factor = 100 ÷ (100 – final moisture content). The shrink factor drying corn to 15.5% is 1.1834. The moisture shrink drying corn from 20.5 to 15.5 would be 5 x 1.1834 = 5.92%.



OBTAINING AN ACCURATE MOISTURE CONTENT MEASUREMENT

Moisture meters will not provide accurate readings on corn coming from a high temperature dryer. The error will vary depending on the amount of moisture removed and the drying temperature, but the meter reading may be 2% lower than true moisture. Check the moisture of a sample, place the sample in a closed container for about 12 hours, and then check the moisture content again to determine the amount of error.

In addition, moisture meters are affected by grain temperature. If the meter does not automatically measure the grain temperature and adjust the value, then it must be done manually. Even if the meter does it automatically, it is recommended to allow a sample in a sealed container to reach room temperature before measuring the moisture content. Then compare the moisture content of the room temperature sample to the initial sample to verify that the adjustment is done accurately.

Moisture meters normally are not accurate when grain temperatures are below about 40 degrees. Place the corn sample in a plastic bag or other sealed container, warm it to room temperature, and then measure the moisture content.

CORN TEST WEIGHT

Normally, corn test weight increases about 0.25 pound for each point of moisture removal during high temperature drying. However, the increase in test weight is affected by the amount of mechanical damage during harvest and the gentleness of the drying. Due to the high mechanical damage involved with harvesting 25% to 30% moisture corn and high drying temperatures typically used on high moisture corn, frequently there is no increase in test weight during drying. There will be little or no increase in test weight on immature or frost-damaged corn.

CORN STORAGE

More fines are produced when corn is wet, because more aggressive shelling is required, which causes more kernel cracking and breaking. There is also more potential for stress cracks in kernels during drying, which leads to more breakage potential during handling. In addition, immature corn contains more small and shriveled kernels. Fines cause storage problems because they spoil faster than whole kernels, they have high airflow resistance, and they accumulate in high concentrations under the fill hole unless a spreader or distributor is used. Preferably, the corn should be screen-cleaned before binning to remove fine material, cob pieces, and broken kernels.

Corn with damage to the seed coat and immature corn has a shorter storage life than mature corn. Therefore, cooling the grain in storage to about 20 to 25 degrees for winter storage is more important than for mature corn. It is recommended to dry the corn a percentage point lower in moisture content. More frequent checking of the storage is also recommended, and immature or damaged corn is not recommended for long-term storage.

SAFETY

Ice accumulation on fans leads to imbalance and vibration. Fans disintegrated in 2008-09 due to this problem. Monitor fans for ice accumulation and remove the ice if it is observed. Bridging of corn in a bin transfers more of the load to the bin wall that may lead to bin failure. Follow recommended storage management to minimize the potential for crusting or bridging and watch for the grain flow when unloading. Never enter a bin while unloading grain. Also, do not enter a bin to break up grain bridging. Several lives have been lost due to grain engulfment and there have been numerous entrapments where people needed to be rescued.

For more information do an internet search for NDSU corn drying.

LATE-SEASON DISEASES ON STRESSED LATE-MATURING CORN

Andrew Friskop – Cereal Extension Pathologist - NDSU

The cool wet spring delayed planting for numerous corn growers in North Dakota and may result in a late maturing crop. Additionally, hail and lack of moisture has occurred during the important grain filling stages. The combination of these factors may lead to some potential disease problems this fall. Two late season plant pathogen complexes to be on the lookout for are stalk rot and ear rot.

Stalk rots can be economically damaging because they can cause plant death and lodging, which in turn can make harvest difficult. Numerous fungal species can be responsible for stalk rot, and more than one species may be present in the infected stalks at one time. The more common pathogen causes of corn stalk rot in North Dakota are *Fusarium* sp. and *Gibberella zeae*, which can also cause scab on cereal grains. Common symptoms for stalk rot are pith degradation, pith discoloration, wilting and lodging.

Corn ear rots can result in quality issues, livestock palatability issues, storage difficulties, and mycotoxin production. Ear rots in North Dakota are often associated with prolonged moisture events on late maturing corn. In 2009, this combination factors resulted in a high incidence of corn ear molds in North Dakota and South Dakota. A survey conducted that year indicated that the two primary fungal genera isolated from corn ears were *Cladosporium* (non-mycotoxin producing) and *Fusarium* (mycotoxin producing). However, *Cladosporium* was identified on over 90% of the samples submitted and no mycotoxins were detected in a large majority of the *Fusarium* samples. The most visual sign of ear rots is the appearance of mold growth on the cob. The color of the mold will help distinguish ear rots caused by different fungal species. For example, *Cladosporium* mold growth is dark green to black, while *Fusarium* mold growth is typically white to pink in color.



Two late season plant pathogen complexes to be on the lookout for are **stalk rot** and **ear rot**.

Management of stalk rot and ear rot includes using less susceptible hybrids and crop rotation. Additionally, good corn production practices such as proper soil fertility, appropriate plant population, and insecticides will help alleviate stress during corn development. During the growing season, if significant levels of stalk rot are observed, growers should harvest the field as soon as possible to avoid additional harvest loss. When harvesting corn with ear rot, care should be used when storing the grain. Moisture levels of 13% and 15% should be used for summer storage and winter storage, respectively. If moldy corn is going to be used for feeding, corn should be tested for mycotoxins. More information for corn ear molds and mycotoxin testing can be found in NDSU Extension Publication PP-1451 "Corn Ear Molds – Basic Questions and Answers" and is available at: <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/pubs/plantsci/rowcrops/pp1451.pdf>.

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CULTURAL WEED MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Contributors: Angela Kazmierczak and Rich Zollinger, NDSU Weed Science

Herbicide resistant weed species are a concern for growers in North Dakota. Glyphosate-resistant common ragweed, waterhemp, horseweed, and kochia have been confirmed and continue to spread each growing season. Seed movement with flooding water, tillage and harvesting equipment, and in the case of kochia, plant carcasses rolling across fields disseminating seed, contribute to new infestations. Recommendations such as use a residual, soil-applied, foundation herbicide program, spraying small weeds, alternate herbicide modes of action, and killing or removing small weed patches have been the message from experts for several decades, yet there are other cultural management practices that can help manage resistant species.

Controlling weeds along field margins, ditch areas, and low areas in the field can eliminate spread of seed to the inward part of the field. This neglected but simple strategy can be very effective in delaying herbicide resistant weeds from occurring. This could be achieved either by extending the grass border around the field and spraying weeds out with a herbicide that is safe for the grassy area, or using a four wheeler type sprayer to clean up field areas that are difficult to reach with a spray boom.



RESISTANT WATERHEMP

Scout fields frequently throughout the season, especially for weeds like waterhemp that emerge throughout the season even AFTER canopy closer. Several corn and soybean fields this growing season contain late emerging waterhemp that have already developed seed heads, even though the weeds are hidden below the canopy. Another example of weed resiliency is when the top portion of plants have been burned off by a herbicide, but the surviving axillary branches below the canopy can still produce seed. From windshield inspections, fields can look as though herbicide applications were successful but after opening the canopy or crop senescence hidden weed infestations will be visible. A few plants here or there may not seem like a problem, but with a prolific seed producer like waterhemp (1 to 5 million seeds per plant) or kochia, which can move quite readily in the wind, it can exacerbate the problem in a short period of time.



RESISTANT WATERHEMP



RESISTANT KOCHIA

The method by which a herbicide is applied is crucial for a successful weed management program. Correct nozzle selection can increase the efficacy of the herbicide. Choosing a nozzle and spray volume that is going to provide the best coverage for a non-translocating herbicide (like Liberty, Flexstar, Cobra, or paraquat) can increase the effectiveness of the application. Making sure the entire boom is charged prior to making a pass across the field will decrease the chances of a partial rate being applied, which would increase the selection pressure for resistance to that particular herbicide mode of action. While it may seem like an extra burden, using herbicides correctly now may help keep tools in the weed management toolbox, instead of applying products poorly and subsequently selecting for another type of resistance.

Weed control can be a challenge, but by adapting a higher level of management it will preserve the chemical tools we currently utilize at a relatively low cost compared to a future scenario where cost and time required could sky rocket by not addressing weed resistance issues proactively.



Dr. Zollinger is a Professor of Weed Science and an Extension Weed Specialist in the Department of Plant Sciences at North Dakota State University. He received his Ph.D. in Weed Science at Michigan State University in 1988. Dr. Zollinger has an extension: research appointment with responsibilities for education and extension activities in weed control and herbicide use in North Dakota. His research addresses weed control in major and minor specialty crops and control of emerging weed problems. He has developed a dynamic adjuvant, formulation, and spray quality research and testing program for field and greenhouse research. Other responsibilities include developing emergency exemption herbicide registrations on minor crops and serves as the IR-4 State Liaison for North Dakota.

Dr. Zollinger was raised in a family farming operation with livestock and crop production farms in Utah, Idaho, Montana, and British Columbia, Canada. Dr. Zollinger serves in several professional societies including American Society of Testing and Materials Standards (ASTM), International Society of Adjuvants for Agrochemicals (ISAA), North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS), Weed Science Society of America (WSSA), and the Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS).



Angela is a Research Specialist with the Extension Weed Science project at North Dakota State University. She received her M.S. in Weed Science from North Dakota State University in 2008. Her responsibilities include assisting Dr. Rich Zollinger with research and extension activities that provide solutions for weed management challenges in North Dakota.

Angela was raised on dairy and crop production farm near Stephen, Minnesota. She serves on committees within the Department of Plant Sciences and is a member of North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS) and Weed Science Society of America (WSSA).

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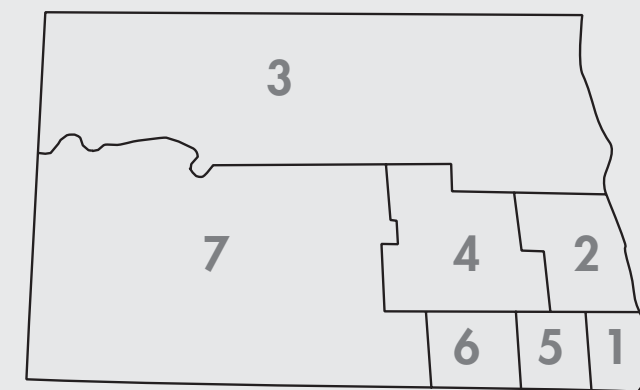
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LOOK AT POSSIBILITIES IN YOUR ACRES

If you are not already testing products on your farm, consider doing strip trials of five to 10 hybrids to test out new products and technologies. This gives you a jump-start on planning for the next year. It also allows you to try innovative technologies that may not be available in the supply you need for an entire field.

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2J340	92	SSX LL RR2
2V357	93	SSX LL RR2
2A400	95	SSX LL RR2
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You can see the performance of these hybrids for yourself on www.Mycogen.com by checking out plot data from the past three seasons. To see results from plots in your area, click on the "Grain Corn" tab and select the "Individual Plots" subtab.

As you look forward to the potential of next season, contact your local Mycogen Seeds dealer, sales representative or customer agronomist with any questions or concerns you have about your seed purchases.

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SHARE FARM TOUR AT BAGG BONANZA FARM

The Soil Health & Agriculture Research & Extension (SHARE) Farm Tour was held on August 22nd at the Bagg Bonanza Farm in Mooreton, ND. The day was a culmination of research that has been done over the past crop season to study the effects of soluble salts (i.e. salinity). Nearly 90 percent of producers in North Dakota experience reduced yield productivity as a result of sodic soils. Over 200 individuals came to the SHARE Farm Tour which began at 9:00 AM with a trip out to a field site to learn about sodic soil management.

NDSU and the ND Corn Council developed the concept of the SHARE farm based on concerns expressed by producers and consultants related to management for salinity. **An advisory committee made of local farmers including ND Corn Manager of Research, Greg LaPlante made recommendations to Assistant Professor of Soil Health-Extension at NDSU, Dr. Abbey Wick and her staff about the direction of the SHARE Farm.** These observations were related to every aspect of the cropping system (i.e. whole system).



During the morning session, Dr. Tom DeSutter from North Dakota State University gave a demonstration on how to sample and interpret sodic soil results which also focused on how to detect soil issues.

After lunch at the Bagg Farm, Dr. Wick kicked off the afternoon session back at the field site with the vision of the SHARE Farm and the plans for the future. She stressed how unique of an opportunity the SHARE Farm is and that many other University's would love to have such a research opportunity. The afternoon session focused primarily on whole systems management. The whole systems approach of understanding a variety of aspects of soil health, pest and weed pressures, root diseases, cropping dynamics, hydrology, and economics is essential to selecting proper management practices when facing issues like salinity.

After a full day of information, everyone was welcomed back to the Bagg Farm for a delicious supper. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Bagg Bonanza Farm for the use of their facilities as well as the lunch and supper that they provided for everyone in attendance. The ND Corn Council and Corn Growers are looking forward to working with NDSU for years to come on the SHARE Farm and thank Dr. Wick and her students for doing great work for North Dakota producers.



BIG CHANGES IN PREVENTED PLANTING IN 2014

Howard Olson; AgCountry Farm Credit Services

RMA issued a press release on August 26th regarding changes to the prevented planting eligibility for 2014. The next day Senator Hoeven and Senator Heitkamp held meetings in Grand Forks and Minot and were accompanied by Brandon Willis and Tim Hoffman from RMA to explain it further. I was at the meeting and had the opportunity to ask some questions and get some explanation and clarification on the press release. I think this is a big change and will really help to clarify what land qualifies for prevented planting and what land does not. It should help to remove some of the ambiguity in the claims process and make it easier for everyone to understand.



First of all, a new cause of loss is still required. Nothing has changed there. Old water will still be disqualified. Remember, the cause of loss, for example excess moisture, had to have occurred since March 15th of the previous crop year for carry over insureds or March 15th of the current crop year for new insureds. Also, the land must "physically be available for planting" which means it's free of trees and rocky outcroppings and it's not CRP, pasture, rangeland, forage or some other perennial crop. That has not changed.

What has changed for the 2014 crop year is the definition of normally available to plant. The new Special Provisions of Insurance will delete the statement that it must be normally available for planting. It will also delete the statement that land will be disqualified if there is evidence of marshland plants like cattails.

According to the press release and what we heard at the meeting in Grand Forks, the 2014 Special Provisions will state that if the land has been planted and harvested in one of the last four years, it is eligible for PP. If it wasn't harvested because of an insurable loss other than excess moisture it will still qualify. So assuming there is a new cause of loss, it's "physically available for planting" and it's been planted and harvested in one of the last four years, the land is eligible. If it doesn't meet the one in four year criteria, it's not eligible, period. There won't be the ambiguity and debate between farmer and adjuster if the

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acres can normally be planted or they aren't normally planted. No more debate on the meaning of normal and when the cattails started growing!

The challenging part of the special provisions change will be to make land eligible again that has become ineligible

The specific language for the Special Provisions has not yet been released so there could be some changes or clarifications to the information I've provided above. The

2014 Special Provisions aren't published until November 30th, so the exact wording regarding these changes may not be known until then.

Overall, this looks like it this will be a positive change for farmers that deal with prevented planting on a regular basis. It removes much of the ambiguity and frustration that we've experienced in the past with prevented planting and should make claims adjusting of prevented planting a better process.

CROP INSURANCE AND THE 2013 FARM BILL

Howard Olson; AgCountry Farm Credit Services



At the time of this writing, very little action has been taken by Congress to proceed with passing the Farm Bill and it seems there is very little chance it will be passed in 2013. By the time you read this that may have changed. When you read this, if the Farm Bill has not passed, we could very well be heading for another extension, this time a two year extension, and no further discussion on the Farm Bill until 2015. If that happens, we need to be very concerned and very watchful on the impact to the crop insurance program.

The current bills offered by the Senate and the House add additional shallow loss coverage programs, strengthening your current insurance coverage. The only cuts or restrictions

to crop insurance in the bills are the required compliance to the Sodbuster/Swampbuster requirements and a reduction in premium subsidy for farmers that have over \$750,000 Adjusted Gross Income. Our Congressional delegates think they may be able to deal with these issues in the conference committee.

If the current Farm Bill is extended again, the extension could include cuts in crop insurance or other farm programs, that are not presently offered in either of the existing bills. Also, when the Farm Bill comes up again in 2015, we could again be subject to additional cuts in crop insurance. The biggest concern in our area is if there is a significant reduction in the premium subsidy. The cost of crop insurance will increase for everyone. This may cause growers in the corn-belt to drop out of the program. In North Dakota and Northern Minnesota, most growers won't have that option because the risk is too big. Insurance depends on a pool of large numbers and spreading the risk across a large and diversified area. If we start losing participation in the program the cost for everyone else will increase.

I urge you to stay tuned to what is happening with the Farm Bill and be an active participant with your congressional delegates and your grower groups like the North Dakota Corn Growers. Your voice makes a difference and the crop insurance program is an essential tool for managing the risks of your farming operation.



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45 TOTAL SUNFLOWER • 25 TOTAL CANOLA(2)



NDCGA ATTENDS BIG IRON XXXIII

Big Iron XXXIII was held September 10, 11, 12 at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds in West Fargo, ND. Over 75,000 people were in attendance for the three-day show that showcased the newest in farming equipment as well as the latest technology that will advance agriculture through the 21st Century.

The North Dakota Corn Growers Association (NDCGA) was on hand for all three days. Staff and board members had a great time interacting with fellow members and also educating non-members on the benefits of ethanol, what the corn crop looks like in their area, and the latest farm news.

Tuesday morning started off with a bang as the NDCGA handed out over 1300 E85 Racing mugs before noon!

Afternoon visitors to the NDCGA booth were not going home empty handed as "Shamwow" towels were also given away.

Once again, NDCGA was handing out free popcorn to all visitors. The popcorn scent that was drifting throughout the exhibit hall seemed to bring many people over to the booth. A big thank you must go out to Giant Seeds for donating sample sizes of the Giant Corn nuts that were also handed out from the booth.

From signing up new members, to interacting with fellow corn farmers, to educating people who were unfamiliar with the mission of the NDCGA, Big Iron XXXIII was a success and we are already looking forward to next year.



NDCGA HOSTS MILITARY APPRECIATION DINNER

The North Dakota Corn Growers Association hosted their first annual Military Appreciation Dinner on Thursday, August 29 at the 119th Fighter Wing on the National Guard base in Fargo. Current members of the military, along with veterans and their families were invited to attend. Despite hot and humid temperatures, turn out for the event was excellent. Over 450 people enjoyed a steak dinner provided by Carnivore Catering from the NDSU Animal Science Department. Children were able to cool off with ice cream donated by Cass-Clay Creamery.

Speakers at the event included Major General David Sprynczynatyk, United States Congressman Kevin Cramer, representatives from Senator Hoeven and Senator Heitkamp's offices, as well as a letter from Governor Dalrymple's office.

The ND Corn Growers wanted to recognize and thank the military personnel for all that they do to keep our country safe, which in turn allows farmers to produce the safest, most affordable, and most abundant food supply in the world. Without the sacrifices of our nation's military personnel, we would not lead the world in agriculture production. As Veteran's Day approaches, please thank a member of your community who has served or is currently serving in the military. They deserve it!



Special thanks to L Maj Ryan Ramstedt for all his work in coordinating with the Corn Growers and the 119th, without his hard work, we would not have been able to put on such a successful event. Continued thanks to Dan Zimmerman of Arthur for the use of his tent, Carnivore Catering for putting together a delicious meal, Cass Clay for the ice cream donation, Steve Dye and the folks at InHouse Advertising for all of their help coordinating such an event, and to all the board members and ND Corn staff for their help.



11TH ANNUAL CORN CLASSIC HELD AT MAPLE RIVER GC

The 11th Annual North Dakota Corn Classic was held July 24, 2013 at Maple River Golf Course in Mapleton, ND. A full tournament of 36 teams competed in the scramble event, marking the second straight year that the tournament has been completely full. Golfers were treated to perfect golfing conditions as temperatures were in the low 80s, a slight breeze, and clear blue sky.

Along with the scramble, contests for longest drive, closest to the pin, longest putt, and a putting contest were held. Following the golf event, each participant was invited to a steak dinner back at the clubhouse where door prizes were also awarded.

The North Dakota Corn Growers Association would like to thank Maple River Golf Course for their help in coordinating the event, as well as the delicious supper that they prepared. Thanks goes out to our hole sponsors and the companies that donated door prizes.

We hope everyone enjoyed the golf event as much as we did, and we look forward to seeing everyone back for the 12th Annual Corn Classic in late July 2014.

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