



NORTHLAND
COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Farm Business Management Program

Moorhead, Minnesota

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Summer Reorganizational Meeting

Meeting will be Wednesday July 30th from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Location is M-State Moorhead B124. Check your email for final updates in July.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Frayne Olson, NDSU

Agribusiness and Applied Economics

Ron Dvergsten: NCTC FBM

Mitch Heimark/Ben Hiam: ND Soy Processors

Usset: No Clear Path for Market Decisions – As trade tensions with China persist under President Trump, University of Minnesota Extension economist Ed Usset says uncertainty is the biggest challenge facing U.S. agriculture. “Agriculture is so dependent on trade here in the U.S. We export 40 to 45 percent of our soybeans and wheat and we’ve done this for decades and decades,” said Usset. “What is new is the amount of pork and beef and chicken [being exported], that’s all in the last one to three decades.” The lack of clarity in trade policy leaves farmers with no clear path for making marketing decisions. “Markets don’t like uncertainty,” Usset said. “If I tell you to sell now, and tomorrow we solve our problems and the market goes back up, I feel like an idiot, but if things get worse and corn, soybean, and wheat prices drop by a buck, you’ll ask why I didn’t tell you to sell.”

Broadleaf Weeds Off to Early Start in the Region – NDSU Extension Weed Specialist Joe Ikley says many weeds have gotten an early start to the year. “Mainly broadleaf weeds like wild buckwheat and common ragweed are up in abundance this year,” said Ikley. “They also thrive in cooler conditions, so we had a little bit of heat there back in May, but it’s overall been a cooler weather pattern.” It’s looking like another year of early-season kochia and waterhemp issues. “A good year for kochia is a bad year for us.”

Struggling with Soybean Emergence – This spring’s combination of cold, wet conditions and summer-like heat left some farmers struggling with soybean emergence. NDSU Extension Broadleaf Crops Specialist Ana Carcedo sees no-till as an option for the future because it protects the topsoil from heavy rains. Another 2025 challenge has been frost damage. Some farmers also reported frost damage to their soybeans. “It was like three weeks ago,” said Carcedo. “If the growing point is not affected, the plant will grow. and it will be fine; if it’s just affecting the cotyledons, it will be fine. That’s something that you should consider, if that plant will survive or not.”

FROM OUR OFFICE

2024 Old Crop Targets

Mpls Wheat-July/Sept 25-\$6.30+

Corn-July 25-\$4.50+

Soybeans-July 25-\$10.60+

2025 Early Targets

Mpls Wheat-Dec 25-\$6.50+

Corn-Dec 25-\$4.75+

Soybeans-Nov 25-\$10.75+

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