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# NORTH HARVEST BeanGrower

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## On the Cover

A cool, wet start to the summer has delayed the dry bean harvest in the region, possibly up to two weeks. Now, moisture is in short supply in some areas and yields could be affected. Read more about some of the conditions in this issue of the Northharvest Bean Magazine.

*Photo: Marlene Dufault*

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# BeanBriefs

## Grand Forks Nutrition Lab Stays Open – For Now

U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.) has announced that action taken by a key subcommittee will fully fund the Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center through next year, rejecting the Bush Administration's proposal to close the facility.

Dorgan secured \$10.2 million to keep the facility open through his seat on the Senate Agriculture and Rural Development Appropriations Subcommittee. The subcommittee holds the checkbook for Agricultural Research Service labs throughout the nation and approved Dorgan's request in its annual appropriations bill.

## ADM strives to make unexpected products full of beans

ADM is launching a new range of bean powders and ground cooked beans, which are intended to make it more convenient for consumers to include beans in their diets - and easier for manufacturers to use them in product formulations.

With its new ingredients made from black, red, navy and pinto beans, called VegeFull, ADM is looking to reduce these barriers by encouraging use of beans in products that would not normally be thought of as containing them.

At a recent trade show, ADM showcased VegeFull in blueberry-almond cookies and panini. Other suitable applications could include snacks such as dips, salads and dry soup mixes. The ingredients are said to have no effect on taste or texture.

"Beans are nature's perfect food," said Gordon Gregory, VP and general manager of ADM Edible Bean Specialties. "This gives different options for manufacturers as well as consumers."

For more information, go to [www.admworld.com/naen/about/vegeIntro.asp](http://www.admworld.com/naen/about/vegeIntro.asp).

## Six Great Foods for Men

Guys, if you'd like to improve your mood, memory, muscles, and more, there are six foods that can help prevent age-related health conditions. According to an all-star panel recently on the NBC Today show, black beans were proven in helping muscle growth, are full

of anthocyanins, an antioxidant compound that has been shown to improve brain function plus it is considered heart healthy. Lentils are essential to energy production, as well as iron, which helps red blood cells carry oxygen (substitutes allowed: peas, lentils, pinto, kidney, fava, and lima beans). The other foods on the list were sardines, brazil nuts, edamame (green soybeans in the pod), blueberries and sesame seeds.

## 12th International U.S. Dry Bean Congress

The U.S. Dry Bean Council, the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council, the USA Sunflower Association and the USA Popcorn Board will sponsor and organize the 2009 Bean Congress in the city of Acapulco, Mexico. The event will take place the weekend of February 12 - 15th, 2009. Check the website for further information, [www.usbeancongress.com](http://www.usbeancongress.com).

## Small but Mighty

In the March 2008 Issue of Reader's Digest, an article sites a study from North Dakota State University which states there are even more reasons to fill up on beans. They are chock-full of antioxidants, they lower cholesterol and beans prevent disease. It also goes on to say that black beans offer the most benefit, followed by lentils, black soybeans and red kidney beans.

## Minnesota and North Dakota Dry Bean Council Election Results

Scott Mund from Milnor, ND was elected to replace Julie Vculek, Crete, ND as the North Dakota Dry Bean Council District 5 representative.

In Minnesota, Don Stueve, Dumont, MN was elected to replace Mark Streed, Milan, MN as Area 3 representative on the Minnesota Dry Bean Research & Promotion Council.



*The Northarvest Bean Growers Association, North Dakota Dry Bean Council, and Minnesota Dry Bean Research Promotion Council discussed 08/09 program and budget business July 10-11, in Ottertail, Minnesota. One of the outcomes of the meeting was the establishment of the Dry Bean Health Research Program. The program provides up to \$100,000 in grant funding for research into dry beans and human health. Top*



*researchers from across the country have been invited to apply for the grants. Applications to the program are due by October 24, 2008. Selected applicants will then be required to submit full grant proposals to the National Institutes of Health by February 5, 2009.*

## Bean Day 2009

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend the 34th Annual Bean Day set for January 15 & 16 at the Fargo Holiday Inn.

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# Bush's Beans Celebrate 100 Years

If you had a bunch of friends over for a pool party/cookout this past summer, chances are you grabbed a can of Bush Beans. Your purchase has made Bush's products become the nation's top selling baked bean brand. After 100 years, it is still family owned and operated today.

In 1908, A.J. Bush started a tomato canner. Innovation during the 1940s led to the marketing of dry beans. "In honor of our 100th birthday, there have been celebrations in all three plants throughout the summer months," says Lynn Murray, senior manager of dry bean procurement at Bush Brothers. "Bush Brothers also participated in the Baked Bean Festival held on the 4th of July in Augusta, WI with the chairman and CEO of Bush Brothers and Co., Jim Ethier, serving as the Grand Marshall of the parade."

## U.S. Dry Bean Convention

In conjunction with the U.S. Dry Bean Convention which was held in Knoxville, TN, on July 19 - 22, Bush Brothers had another centennial celebration where participants of the convention were able to tour the Chestnut Hill production facility. The Dry Bean Council and approximately 275 attendees from the convention toured the plant. Northarvest's executive vice-president, Tim Courneya and board directors, Mark Streed, Milan, MN and Dan Webster, Penn, ND attended the celebration and business meetings following the convention.

Bush Brothers made an exception to their company rules by allowing the tour groups directly on the plant floor. "The groups actually saw all of the lines that the plant produces; all the baked bean products, hominy, variety beans, pinto and kidney beans. Bush Brothers also showed the tour groups where beans are unloaded, where they soak the beans, and even where



*Darryl and Tina Berg of the North Central Bean Dealers Association dine with friends at a picnic sponsored by Bush Brothers and Company.*

the sauce is made," says Murray. The group then went on the plant's observation deck overlooking the plant facility where chairman Ethier spoke to the participants.

After the tour, the groups were brought to a park where everyone enjoyed southern cooking of ribs, chicken, turnip greens

and Bush's new Grillin' Beans. Many participants mingled with Jay Bush, spokesperson for Bush's Baked Beans, Duke, 'the talking dog' and Jay's Cousin Drew, the 'family chili expert'. Jay is the son of Condon Bush and grandson of founder A.J.

Bush. With Bush members Jay and canine companion, Duke, they have helped spread the word about

Bush's beans and its famous "secret family recipe." It has become part of the company's most popular advertising campaign ever.

"We tried to really show some good ol' southern hospitality to our friends at the U.S. Dry Bean Convention. We hope our

friends in the dry bean industry enjoyed the time spent with us," said Murray.

Bush Brothers currently has three facilities. Their corporate office is in Knoxville, TN and production facilities in Dandridge, TN and Augusta, WI.

## New Bean Products

Bush's most recent products are their Grillin' Beans line. There are four different flavors: Steakhouse, Smokehouse, Bourbon and Brown Sugar, and Southern Pit Barbecue. Bush Brothers tout it as the perfect combination to go with your grilled chicken, steak and pork chops. These, along with their other product lines, have helped Bush Brothers currently capture the baked bean market.

For recipes and a complete line of products, go to Bush Brothers website at [www.bushbeans.com](http://www.bushbeans.com). Also on the website, check out their latest commercials with Jay and Duke, along with 'Duke's Doghouse', where Duke gives you a 'virtual tour' of his pad when he is not on tour.

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# Dingy Cutworm in Northwestern North Dakota and Eastern Montana

In June 2008, NDSU Extension Entomology received reports of several thousand acres of pulse crops, mainly lentils and peas, being impacted by dingy cutworm (*Feltia jaculifera*) larvae in northwestern North Dakota and eastern Montana.

Patrick Beauzay, research specialist at NDSU Extension said it appears the problem is under control because the applications of Mustang Max insecticide were effective. "We will see at harvest what kind of loss was incurred."

It's been a problem for the past few years in that particular area but this year happened to be exceptionally bad. Dingy cutworm overwinters as partially grown larvae. Larvae emerge in May and early June and begin feeding. "It could be because of the dry conditions that prevent the growth of naturally occurring fungi that will grow on those cutworm larvae and kill them. That may not have happened this year. Or at least not enough to offer any kind of control. We really don't know why," says Beauzay.

Considering the conditions the area is

having now, will it have an affect on next year's infestation? Beauzay says it's too early to tell "but given what has happen to that part of the country, I would definitely want growers to be aware that the potential exists again and to get out and scout their fields next spring."

Beauzay stresses that it is important for growers to keep in touch. "Any problems they are having, need to be conveyed to their county extension agent who will in

turn contact us, or the growers can contact us directly. The point is they need to be able to use that resource."

Dingy cutworm has a wide variety of host plants including peas, lentils, alfalfa, sunflower, corn, and wheat. For information on crops, chemicals and rates, see NDSU Extension publication E-1143 available in print or on-line at: [www.ag.ndsu.edu/pubs/plantsci/pests/e1143w1.htm](http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/pubs/plantsci/pests/e1143w1.htm).

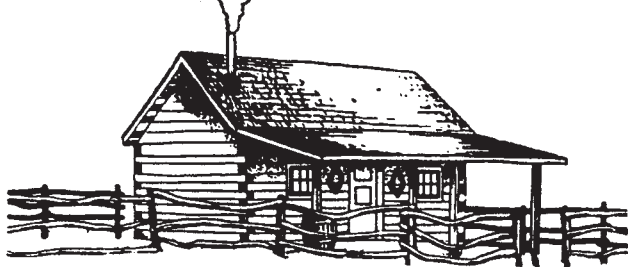
## Dealing With Frozen Beans

If Mother Nature decides to send us an early frost, the NDSU Extension Service has a few harvesting tips to deal with frozen dry edible beans.

- Pinto and navy beans are very sensitive to frost (30-32 degree range).
- Earlier pods with yellow to brown color are sufficiently mature to escape damage.
- Late green pods or flowers are easily damaged by frost.
- Harvest at the maximum moisture permissible around 17-18 % moisture for navy beans and 14-16 % for pinto beans.
- Keep frost damaged or late maturing beans separate from better quality beans. This may mean harvesting low frosted places in a field separately.

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# Prevent Disasters During the Harvest Rush – Think Safety

Combines are among the most dangerous machines on farms in our region. The size, power and moving parts of a combine when coupled with the stress and rush of harvest time, can be a recipe for disaster.

Follow these safety procedures:

- Set aside time to properly prepare the combine for harvest. Rushed repairs may lead to injuries.
- Conduct a safety check before taking to the field. Replace all guards and shields that may have been removed. Replace or repair all lights that don't work -- especially transport lights, such as headlights and tail lights.
- Examine fields for hazards such as erosion washouts and other surprises that can develop during the growing season. Alert other workers to those hazards too.
- Adjust and service the combine as directed in the operator's manual. There are usually some adjustments that need to

be made while the machine is running, but others should be done with the machine stopped and the key removed from the tractor or the combine's ignition switch.

- Always refuel the combine or tractor after it has cooled. Fuel vapors can easily ignite on hot engine and combine parts. Refueling accidents are a major cause of combine fires.
- Grease and check the combine in the morning while when your mind is fresh. Put the ignition key in your pocket while you are working on the combine so no one can start it or the tractor up while you are working on the machine.
- Check hydraulic leaks carefully. Use a piece of cardboard, wood, or sheet metal to detect leaks. Hydraulic oil under high pressure can easily be injected through the skin and result in serious medical problems.
- Drive the combine only while you are alert and aware of your surroundings.

Hours of steady operation can lull you into a hypnotic state. To avoid this dangerous situation, schedule a break for all workers every two to three hours. Change jobs with someone else who can operate the combine for a while.

- Use the safety stops on the header lift cylinders when working under the header. Don't trust hydraulics with your life.
- Keep your distance from other vehicles and machines. Combines need a lot of room to maneuver and have large blind spots. Always be aware of the location of other equipment.
- Move combines from field to field only during daylight. Driving combines on public roads after dark can be very risky. The size of a combine, coupled with its unfamiliar shape and lighting pattern make it a dangerous hazard on the road after dark.

*Source: NDSU Ag Communication*

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# Market Outlook

## Prices Remain Strong

The May 2008 U.S. aggregate dry bean grower price was estimated to be 49 percent above the strong level of a year earlier. Preliminary price estimates

were higher than a year earlier in almost every major State, reflecting dwindling stocks and high field crop prices. California is a possible exception but actual numbers remain unknown as limited sales have prevented dry bean prices from being

reported in the state since February. Grower prices in North Dakota, the top producing state, were up 39 percent from a year earlier. This was the smallest gain among the reporting states, reflecting the sizeable pinto bean crop last fall and subsequent larger stocks on hand. With grower intentions to plant fewer corn acres exacerbated by spring flooding and cool weather in the Corn Belt, field corn prices were approaching \$8/bushel in mid-June. With both corn and soybean supplies likely to remain tight and prices high well into 2009, further upward pressure on dry bean prices is likely over the next year.

In 2007/08, the current dollar (unadjusted for the effects of inflation) season average grower price for all dry beans was estimated to be \$26.40 per cwt. In the coming year, the current dollar season-average dry bean price should easily exceed the \$29.90/cwt record high set during the drought year of 1988. However, after adjusting this 2008/09 expected record-high price for the effects of price inflation over time, the 2008/09 adjusted price remains well below the inflation-adjusted (ex-

pressed in 2000 dollars) \$36.28/cwt of 1989 and even further from the 1973 inflation-adjusted \$85.72/cwt.

## With Dollar Down, Exports Flow

With the weak dollar and steady food aid demand offsetting the impact of higher dry bean prices, U.S. export volume for dry edible beans was up 14 percent to 5.5 million cwt during the first 8 months of 2007/08. With 4 months remaining, volume has already exceeded the low quantity shipped during 2004/05 and appears poised to easily surpass last year's total and approach the strong 7.6 million cwt shipped in 2005/06. Great Northern beans have led the way this season, with support from dark red kidney, garbanzo, and miscellaneous beans. The volume of pinto bean exports has remained about steady with that of a year earlier. Through April, export movement of Great Northern beans was up 106 percent from the previous year with increased movement to Turkey, France, and Italy. Through April, Mexico was the top market accounting for 20 percent of U.S. export volume, down from 29 percent a year earlier. The volume shipped to the United Kingdom, the third leading market, was up 57 percent during the September-April period with navy beans accounting for 79 percent of the volume despite a 24-percent increase in the unit price for navy beans.

## Canada: Pulse and Special Crops Outlook

For 2008-09, total area seeded to pulse and special crops in Canada is expected to rise marginally from 2007-08, as higher areas for dry peas,

*Continued on Next Page*

## U.S. Dry Beans: Crop Year Export Volume to Date

Item	Crop Year	September - April			Change
	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2006-07
	-----1,000 cwt (bags)-----				Percent
Pinto	2,045	1,721	1,454	1,433	-1
Navy	1,217	809	893	892	0
Black	1,188	537	722	623	-14
Garbanzo	456	332	333	416	25
Gr. Northern	366	516	304	627	106
Baby lima	251	170	209	168	-20
Lt. red kidney	181	109	150	130	-13
Dk. red kidney	158	203	93	215	130
Cranberry	132	58	83	72	-14
Large lima	103	112	87	66	-24
Small red	99	138	52	58	11
Mung & urd	27	15	23	16	-28
Blackeye	19	27	13	19	43
Pink	15	34	14	53	279
Other	719	590	409	730	79
Total	6,975	5,371	4,839	5,518	14

Source: Compiled by ERS from data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

## U.S. Dry Beans: Monthly Grower Prices for Selected Classes, 2007-2008 1/

Commodity	2007		2008		Change Prev. Yr	
	May	June	May	June 2/	May	June
	----- Cents/pound -----				--- Percent ---	
All dry beans	24.40	24.40	36.30	--	48.8	--
Pinto (ND/MN)	22.10	22.00	29.50	29.50	33.5	34.1
Navy (pea bean) (MI)	22.70	22.75	38.50	38.50	69.6	69.2
Great Northern (NE/WY)	26.00	26.50	40.00	40.00	53.8	50.9
Black (MI)	26.50	26.50	35.75	--	34.9	--
Light red kidney (CO/NE)	31.00	31.00	--	--	--	--
Dark red kidney (MN/WI)	30.00	30.00	--	--	--	--
Blackeye (CA)	--	--	38.50	--	--	--
Small red (WA/ID)	24.00	24.00	40.50	--	68.8	--
Pink (WA/ID)	19.50	19.50	--	--	--	--
Garbanzo (WA/ID)	29.50	29.50	35.50	--	20.3	--

-- = not available. 1/ Prices are U.S. No. 1, cleaned basis. 2/ Partial month estimate.

Sources: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Bean Market News, except "all dry beans" from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Agricultural Prices.

## Dry Edible Beans: Area Planted and Harvested by State and United States, 2007-2008

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2007	2008	2007	2008 <sup>1</sup>
	----- 1,000 Acres -----			
CA	59.0	46.0	58.0	45.0
CO	48.0	55.0	46.0	51.0
ID	90.0	75.0	89.0	73.0
KS	6.5	6.0	6.0	5.5
MI	200.0	190.0	195.0	185.0
MN	150.0	150.0	145.0	140.0
MT	18.3	16.0	16.6	14.5
NE	110.0	120.0	107.0	115.0
NM	7.5	7.0	7.5	7.0
NY	17.0	15.0	16.5	14.5
ND	690.0	600.0	665.0	575.0
OR	8.0	6.0	7.9	5.7
SD	13.0	14.0	11.7	13.0
TX	17.0	15.0	16.2	13.5
UT	1.5	2.0	1.3	1.6
WA	60.0	50.0	60.0	50.0
WI	6.1	6.0	6.0	5.9
WY	25.0	25.0	24.0	24.0
US	1,526.9	1,398.0	1,478.7	1,339.2

<sup>1</sup> Forecasted.

Source: NASS, USDA Acreage Report, June 2008

lentils, and mustard seed are partly offset by lower areas for dry beans, chickpeas, canary and sunflower seed. Statistics Canada (STC) recently released its preliminary estimates of principal field crop areas for 2008, which provided estimates for all pulse and special crops. It is assumed that precipitation will be normal for the growing and harvest periods, and that the abandonment rate and quality will be normal. Trend yields are assumed for both western and eastern Canada.

Total production in Canada is forecast to increase marginally to 4.7 million tonnes (MT). Total supply is expected to fall marginally as lower carry-in stocks are partially offset by the increase in production. Exports are forecast to decrease marginally due to the lower supply, while domestic use is expected to remain relatively unchanged. Carry-out stocks are expected to fall to historically low levels for most crops. Average prices, over all types, grades and markets, are forecast to increase for

2008-09 for all pulse and special crops, with the exception of dry peas. The main factors to watch are growing conditions in Canada, the U.S., the EU, Australia, the Middle East and the Indian subcontinent.

## Dry Beans

For 2008-09, production is unchanged but supply is forecast to fall due to lower carry-in stocks. Production is expected to be relatively unchanged for all the major classes of dry beans - white pea, pinto, black, dark and light red kidney, cranberry, Great Northern, pink and small red. Canadian exports are forecast to decrease due to the lower supply. Carry-out stocks are also expected to remain unchanged. U.S. production is forecast to fall to below 1.0 MT, largely due to lower seeded area in North Dakota. The average price, over all types and grades, is forecast to increase because of the lower North American supply.



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## Chickpeas

For 2008-09, production and supply are forecast to fall sharply due to a 50% decrease in seeded area. Production is expected to fall for all types - desi, large kabuli and small kabuli. Canadian exports are forecast to increase despite the lower supply. Carry-out stocks are also expected to fall sharply. The average price, over all types and grades, is forecast to increase due to the lower world and Canadian supply.

Source: *Canada Pulse and Special Crops Outlook 2008-09*, July 2008

## Argentina Crop Report

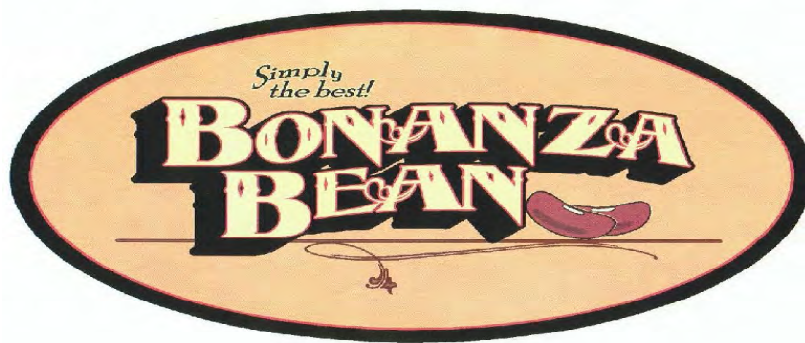
In 2008, dry beans planted in Argentina totaled 237,000 Ha or 585,390 acres with alubia and black beans taking up almost 82% of the total acres. As of July, the white bean harvest still had a long way to go before completion while the black bean harvest was just wrapping up. Quality and yields on both beans were good-to-excellent, with good color and very few defects. Quantity appears to be smaller than usual, estimated to be about 20% less than last year. Bean moisture levels were lower than usual due to unseasonably warm temperatures.

Light red kidney, cranberry, limas and dark red kidneys are also a staple crop of Argentina but production is small. Overall, the beans' quality and yield were reported to be good. As with some areas in the U.S., the crops appear to be having moisture concerns. Some of the beans appeared to be having color issues due to moisture damage.

It is estimated that cost of production for dry beans has doubled over the last three years, from \$300 U.S. to \$600 per hectare. Overall, the crop quality of the dry beans in Argentina appears to be smaller than usual, estimated to be about 20% less than last year.

"I was told that the Brazilians had a bad second crop of black beans and are moving quickly to shore up their supplies of black beans and alubias. With smaller than usual crops of both alubias and black beans, it is expected that Argentine exporters will first focus on their best customer, Brazil, before looking to other export markets," says Randy Duckworth, director of worldwide activities and representative for the Central America and Caribbean regions for the USDBC.

Argentina exported approximately 70% of its black beans to Brazil last year. With the short Argentine black bean crop and poor Brazilian second harvest, Duckworth estimates that this percentage will almost certainly increase significantly this year. On top of that situation, the government has been accused of being "slow" in processing export paperwork which frustrates exporters.



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# USDA Announces Crop Loan Rates for Pulses

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer announced on June 12th that the USDA had delivered its first actions implementing the new farm bill. Within three weeks of commodity title enactment in the 2008 Farm Bill, USDA is implementing marketing assistance loan and loan deficiency payment (LDP) provisions.

"We know we can rely on America's farmers and ranchers to grow our food, and they can rely on USDA to have the new farm bill ready," said Schafer. "The Department of Agriculture is putting into action the thousands of pages of new farm bill law for crop production, research, marketing, nutrition, conservation, food aid and rural development. Expect more on the farm bill from USDA soon."

USDA also announced the county loan rates for the 2008 crop of wheat, corn, soybeans, and regional loan rates for 2008 pulse crops for small chickpeas, dry peas, and lentils.

With enactment of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, (the 2008 farm

bill) national loan rates for the 2008 crops of wheat, feed grains, oilseeds, and pulses are at the following levels:

National Loan Rates for 2008	
Wheat	\$2.75 per bu.
Corn	\$1.95 per bu.
Soybeans	\$5.00 per bu.
Small Chickpeas	\$7.43 per cwt.
Dry Peas	\$6.22 per cwt.
Lentils	\$11.72 per cwt.

As required by the 2008 Farm Bill, these national loan rates are established at the same levels as those established for the 2007 crop, with the exception of rice. Starting with the 2008 crop, the 2008 Farm Bill specifies national loan rates for both long grain rice and medium grain rice.

## Regional Pulse Loans Updated

The 2008 crop West Region dry pea loan

rate is \$6.58 per hundredweight; the East Region dry pea loan rate is \$6.14 per hundredweight. The West Region lentil loan rate is \$14.23 per hundredweight; the East Region lentil loan rate is \$10.74 per hundredweight. These rates average to the national rate based on recent regional production shares.

The West Region includes the Palouse (Idaho, Oregon and Washington) and other states west of the Rocky Mountains (Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah). The East Region includes Montana, North Dakota and all other states not in the West Region.

USDA determined that insufficient reliable market information is available to establish regional loan rates for small chickpeas. Therefore, the national rate of \$7.43 per hundredweight applies for all producing regions. Under provisions of the new 2008 Farm Bill, producers of large chickpeas will not be eligible for marketing assistance loans until the 2009 crop year.

Marketing assistance loans provide pro-



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ducers interim financing at harvest time to meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices are typically at harvest-time lows. A producer who is eligible to obtain a loan, but who agrees to forgo the loan, may obtain a loan deficiency payment if such payments are available.

## Farm Bill Commodity Provisions of Interest to Dry Bean Growers

### • Planting Flexibility

- F&V general planting restrictions are retained
- Pilot program for 75,000 A of processing vegetables—starts in '09
- States: IN, IL, IA, MI (9,000 A), MN(34,000 A), OH and WI
- Each has temporary drop in base acres during the pilot
- Periodic evaluations and report to Congress

### • New large chickpea program established

- \$11.28/cwt loan rate and
- \$12.81/cwt target price for countercyclical payment

### • Permanent disaster program established

- Compliments crop insurance carried

by producer

- Additional assistance based on up to 90% of whole farm crop revenue
- Assistance capped at \$100,000 per entity
- Assistance applies to livestock, fish, bees, as well
- Would be funded by transfer of customs receipts (3.08%) from Treasury
- **Specialty Crop Research and Marketing**
  - Extends State Specialty Crop block grant program with mandatory funding of \$10M in FY '08, \$49M in FY '09, and \$55M/yr thereafter
  - Establishes several programs, including specialty crops, for plant pests and diseases—detection, surveillance, prevention—starting in FY '09 with mandatory \$12M, increasing to \$50M/yr
  - Establishes Specialty Crops Research Initiative—matching fund scientific research grants to entities—mandatory \$230M five year funding—additional \$20M/yr also authorized—USDA just announced \$28.4M available for FY '08
  - Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops funding increased to \$4M presently, with annual funding growing to \$9M
- **Domestic Nutrition Programs**
- **Purchases of commodities for**

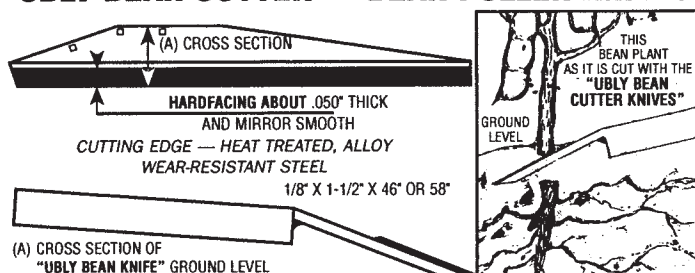
**distribution under the Emergency Food Assistance Program are increased to \$190M in FY '08, and to \$250M in FY '09 and fiscal years beyond with an inflation adjustment added**

- **An additional \$190M in FY '08 is added for Section 32 purchases of fruits, vegetables and nuts for distribution in domestic nutrition assistance programs**
  - such funding in addition to present \$200M/yr
  - Funding increases to \$212M/yr by FY '12 and thereafter
  - AMS requested comments on commodities to use
- **Trade**
  - MAP funding continues at \$200M through FY '12
  - FMD funding continued at \$34.5M through FY '12
- **Food Aid**
  - Language requiring U.S. commodity use retained, although pilot program for local purchase at \$15M/year for 4 years is mandated
  - A minimum "safe box" for annual non-emergency Title II programs, starting in FY '09 at \$375M, then increasing to \$450M/yr
  - McGovern/Dole funding increases by \$84M until expended
- **COOL to be implemented by 2008**

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# Drying, Storing, and Handling Dry Edible Beans

By Kenneth Hellevang

Research has shown pinto beans should be stored at temperatures of 40 F or cooler to maintain color and cooking quality. The Hunter-L values, a measure of the lightness, for beans stored at specific temperatures and moisture contents are shown in Table 1. Lower numbers indicate a darker color. After 10 months of storage, pinto bean cooking times of 16% and 18% moisture beans stored

at 20 F were only 1.2 times longer than before storage and at 40 F were only 1.7 times longer as shown in Table 2.

If the beans cannot be kept cool, the moisture content must be low enough to permit storage without deterioration at typical summer temperatures. The recommended moisture content for edible beans to minimize the growth of mold is about 13% at 70 F.

Pinto beans darken rapidly when exposed to light, so they

should be stored in a dark environment.

It is important to follow good storage management practices such as measuring the temperature and moisture content of the beans at least monthly. Whenever there is more than a 10-degree differential between the average outdoor temperature and the bean temperature during the fall, the beans should be cooled with aeration. This should continue until the beans are cooled at least to 40 F for

short-term storage and about 25 F for long-term storage.

To minimize the potential for mechanical damage, beans should be handled at moisture contents of about 16% or greater

Table 2. Median pin cooking times for beans stored for 10 months at specified moisture contents and temperatures. Median cooking time before storage was 18.4 minutes. Shorter cooking times are preferred.

Table 1. Hunter-L values (whiteness) for specified storage conditions of temperature and moisture content

Date	Time Weeks	20 F			40 F			60 F			80 F		
		14%	16%	18%	14%	16%	18%	14%	16%	18%	14%	16%	18%
10/11/00	0	52.5	52.4	51.6	52.5	52.4	51.6	52.5	52.4	51.6	52.5	52.4	51.6
7/31/01	41	50.9	51.6	51.1	51.2	51.0	50.4	48.6	47.5	46.7	43.6	42.1	40.8
Change		-1.6	-0.8	-0.5	-1.3	-1.4	-1.5	-3.9	-4.9	-4.9	-8.9	-10.3	-10.8

Storage Temp.	Bean Moisture Content		
	14%	16%	18%
Pin Cooking Time (minutes)			
20 F	29.6	22.6	22.8
40 F	36.0	29.7	30.6
60 F	36.0	32.7	38.0
80 F	66.2	93.0	168.5



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and at warm temperatures. Research shows that the potential for mechanical damage of pinto and navy beans increases at bean moisture contents of about 15% or lower, Table 3. Research also shows that the potential for mechanical damage of pinto and navy beans increases at lower bean temperatures, Table 4.

Belt conveyors are preferred due to their gentleness in

**Table 3.** Mechanical damage, cracks in the seed coat, of pinto and navy beans at selected moisture contents at a temperature of 75 F.

Pinto Beans		Navy Beans
Moisture Content (%)	Damage (%)	Damage (%)
18	4	4
17	5	4
16	6	5
15	9	15
14	16	22
13	20	37
12	26	49

conveying. The speed of auger rotation should be reduced and augers operated "full" to minimize damage. Elevator legs need to be adapted for handling beans, including reducing the discharge velocity and utilizing a method of gently slowing the beans at the bottom of spouts.

The amount of damage as beans are dropped into a storage bin, either onto concrete or onto other beans, is large

**Table 4.** Mechanical damage, cracks in the seed coat, of pinto and navy beans at 16% moisture content and selected temperatures between 10 and 75 F.

Pinto Beans		Navy Beans
Temp. (F)	Damage (%)	Damage (%)
75	6	5
60	11	13
45	16	15
30	21	18
20	29	26
10	41	32

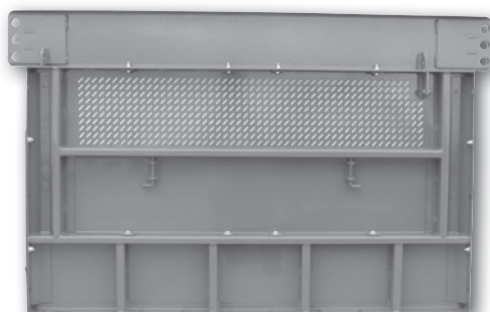
enough to justify using a bean ladder. The amount of damage to pinto beans and navy beans at 12%-13% moisture content increases linearly with drop height. Research showed the amount of damage, cracking, to navy beans when dropped onto concrete was 2% from 5 ft., 6% from 10 ft., and 12% from 15 ft. The amount of damage to other beans was 2% from 5 ft., 3% from 10 ft., and 8% from 15 ft., slightly less but still excessive. The amount of damage to

pinto beans when dropped onto concrete was 3% from 5 ft., 9% from 10 ft., and 15% from 15 ft. The amount of damage to pinto beans when dropped onto other beans was 1% from 5 ft., 7% from 10 ft., and 10% from 15 ft. Beans at 16% moisture content had less damage than beans at 13%, but it was still excessive. This validates the need to use a bean ladder when placing beans into storage or other places where the beans might be dropped.

*Continued on next page*

**Table 5.** Minimum recommended airflow rates and estimated drying times for dry edible beans using a natural air drying system from Mid-September to mid-October in North Dakota.

Moisture Content	Airflow Rate		Estimated Drying Fan Time days
	cfm/bu	cfm/cwt	
22%	2.5	4.2	23
21%	1.6	2.7	30
	2.0	3.3	24
20%	1.5	2.5	28
	2.0	3.3	22
19%	1.5	2.5	28
	2.0	3.3	22



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Natural air drying will work well for drying edible beans during mid-September to mid-October in North Dakota. Based on average climatic conditions the beans are expected to dry to about 12 to 14% moisture if the fans are operated continuously. Shutting fans off during the warmest and driest part of the day will permit drying the beans to about 15% to 16%, but will lengthen the drying time. Fans should run during the night with higher humidity to permit

drying the beans nearer to the desired final bean moisture content. Adding supplemental heat reduces the final moisture content of the beans and will likely result in beans dried to a moisture content lower than desired. Shut fans off during foggy or rainy weather, but do not leave the fan off for more than a couple days to minimize the potential for bean spoilage. Recommended minimum air-flow rates for various moisture contents and the correspond-

ing estimated drying times are shown in Table 5.

The static pressure associated with moving air through pinto and navy beans is equivalent to that of soybeans. Design the drying system using the data for soybeans.

Edible beans require special care when drying with a high temperature column dryer. The relative humidity of the drying air should not be lower than about 30%. Normally the drying should occur with the air heated

less than about 20 F above the outdoor air temperature, to keep the relative humidity above 30%. The beans need to be monitored continuously to assure that the beans are not being damaged. The drying process needs to be slow to minimize damaging the beans and will be slow in comparison to drying cereal grain.

*Dr. Kenneth Hellevang is with the NDSU Extension Service, Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering Department*

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# Getting Ready for Harvest in the Northharvest area

*The theme heading into this harvest is dry conditions and a late harvest*

**Compiled by Marlene Dufault**

Dry bean harvest will soon be in full swing across the Northharvest region. All across Minnesota and North Dakota, farmers and elevators are monitoring their fields. Rain is needed in most areas, which could make the difference between an average or below average yield. Harvest will be starting late this year, up to two weeks in some areas. With prices strong, most are hoping this year will turn out in their favor.

Observations of area farmers and managers:

**ADM Edible Bean Specialties, Inc. Galesburg, ND**  
-- Beans grown in the area: navies, pintos, blacks

The beans are short. They look like they are a little bit late but overall they look good. We anticipated harvest to be a little late this year, probably a week to 10 days. We anticipate an average harvest compared to last year.

**Barlow Grain & Stock Exchange, Carrington, ND**  
Beans grown in the area: pintos

Conditions are fair. They don't have very many grown this year. We are down 75% on our planting. The reason is alternative crops. Looking at the profitability between Nato beans, which is another specialty soybean and other crops, it just didn't look like pintos were the crop to plant. The moisture is about right, about

fair. We could use some, but I don't know of anyone that ever turns away rain. We anticipate harvest to be late, the end of September to beginning of October.

**Bird Island Bean Co. LLC, Bird Island, MN** -- Beans grown in the area: navies and kidney beans

Right now most of the crops look to be very good or average but a little behind. Harvest will be later than last year. We have about an average crop. We have a few fields that will be behind but it seems kind of like the rest of them have caught up. There is some root rot; poorer fields due to root rot from wet conditions in the spring planting. We have some areas that need some

rain right now. About half our crop has adequate rainfall and the other half is not hurting yet but we need some rain to make a good crop. We did have a tornado right on the edge of the town where I live, but as far as I know there weren't any beans that were damaged from the tornado in the area. I think we are looking at an average crop at this point.

We have areas that are really hurting for moisture right now. The beans kind of like dry heat but to get a really good crop they need rain and without it they will be less than average. We may be a week later for harvest even though some of the fields have caught up.

*Continued on page 19*



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**Central Valley Bean Cooperative, Buxton, ND** -- Beans grown in the area: pinto, navy, blacks

We had a cooler spring. The beans are about 10-12 days behind. There are some stands that are a little thin but generally the beans look pretty good. The fields are average. We are sitting pretty good for rain right now but we will need more rain as the summer progresses because there is a lack of subsoil moisture. We had quite a crop here last year so the hope for that again is pretty high but I think with these prices and an average yield we'd be sitting pretty good.

**Colgate Commodities, Colgate, ND** -- Beans grown in the area: northern, navies, pinto, blacks and pinks

Conditions here at Colgate are good -- everything was planted in a timely fashion. We had a good start and then we got cool, wet weather through most of the end of May and actually most of June so our crop is delayed. It looks really good. The rows are starting to close in; we're blossoming but we're just a couple weeks behind. No bad weather this year, we missed it. We had all the bad weather last year. The last two weeks the plants have really grown. For moisture we are probably a little bit on the dry side but we are not terrible. It looks good so far if we can get it in the bin.

**Green Valley Bean, Park Rapids, MN** -- Beans grown in the area: dark red kidneys and light red kidneys

The conditions are good. Moisture is fine; we just got an inch. As far as harvest, we are slightly late but things are catching up. The growing conditions are perfect. We are not getting these 90 degree screaming hot days in July so our beans are actually having a perfect growing environment right now and have been the whole month of July. They are catching up. We are off a few days but we will not be too far away from normal. Growers will be happy with harvest. Prices are going to be nice and hopefully it's a speedy harvest.

**Jason Mewes, Colgate, ND** -- Beans grown: navies, pintos and blacks

The dry beans in our area are about average. They are a little shorter and not as bushy as it would be in a normal year. We are perfect for moisture at this time. If I had to guess when harvest will be, I would say we are about two weeks behind. We didn't get any hail this year. There was a storm that produced hail about 20 miles north of me, but nothing in my immediate area.

**Red River Bean of Oslo, Oslo, MN** -- Beans grown in the area: pinto, black and small reds

Conditions are behind a couple weeks. We need moisture; it's getting dry again. We've had some rain, spotty here and there but it is dry, we could use some and mainly warmth too. Our crop will be average to a little bit below average because the crop is behind. The stands are smaller too.

**St. Hilaire Seed Co., St. Hilaire, MN** -- Bean grown in the area: pintos and blacks

The conditions of our beans are good overall. There are some fields that have lower stand counts as the earlier beans were crusted over and some of them couldn't get through. So with the lower stand counts we are concerned with the lateness of this crop. A majority of this crop is eight to ten days late. Some fields have lower stand counts and we are concerned that these will compensate and take even longer to mature. But overall I think the crop looks good. As far as moisture, right around St. Hilaire we are adequate. We've got a receiving station in Devils Lake that could use rain. Compared to last year, the crops will be average.

**Don Streifel, Washburn, ND** -- Beans grown: pintos

The beans are way behind this year. For the most part, the plants are still very little. I don't know of any beans in the area that are blooming yet. Maybe just a few are starting but most of the beans have a long way to go.

There is a good possibility we are going to run out of summer. It is going to be a question mark if we are going to first run out of summer before we run out of water. We are really, really dry here. They actually don't look too bad for their size, it is just they are going to be really late. How much they pod is going to depend on how much rain we will get between now and harvest and what the temperatures are going to be in August. After driving around the area, I noticed that everyone's fields are having the same issues. The fields are all the same; they are way behind.

## University of Nebraska-Lincoln Releases 'Coyne,' a New Great Northern Edible Bean

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Agricultural Research Division has released the Great Northern Edible Bean variety "Coyne" tested as NE1-06-12. The University is requesting business plan proposals for the exclusive licensing of the seed production, distribution and commercialization for Coyne.

Great northern common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) cultivar 'Coyne' (Reg. No., PI) was developed by the University of Nebraska Agricultural Research Division and released in 2008. This cultivar, tested as NE1-06-12, was bred specifically for enhanced resistance to common bacterial blight (CBB), a major seed borne disease of common bean caused by the bacterium *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *Phaseoli* (Smith) Dye (Xcp), and bean common rust *Uromyces appendiculatus* (Pers.:Pers) Unger, and for adaptation to Nebraska common bean growing conditions. Coyne is a great northern F7:F8 three-way cross (G95023/Weihsing//BMN-RMR-11) developed by the University of Nebraska dry bean breeding program. Coyne has Ur-3 and Ur-6 genes for resistance to common bean rust and carries the single dominant hypersensitive I gene that provides resistance to all non-necrotic strains of the Bean common mosaic virus (BCMV). Coyne has bright white seed, blooms 44 d after planting, and is a midseason bean, maturing 90 days after planting.



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# Michigan's Huron County Top Producer

**By Gary Lucier, Agricultural Economist, USDA/ARS**

Michigan's Huron County was the leading dry-edible-bean region in 2006. Huron accounted for 45 percent of Michigan's dry bean crop with growers there harvesting 84,000 acres, down 1 percent from 2005. Per-acre yield rose 14 percent from a year earlier to 2,180 pounds—second only to the 1999 record high of 2,360 pounds.

Although dry bean production has waned in the state of Michigan, production in Huron remains strong, with output in 2006 the third-highest on record. Although it is possible Huron remained the top producer in 2007, until estimates for Michigan counties are released later this year, North Dakota's Walsh County stands as the top producer, the position it last held in 2003. Walsh accounted for 16 percent of North Dakota's dry bean crop in 2007. Production in Walsh County rose 51 percent in 2007 as good weather pushed yields up 56 percent to 1,766 pounds.

Yields were strong across most North Dakota counties in 2007, led by Barnes County at 2,036 pounds per acre. Dry bean production is relatively widespread in North Dakota with 19 counties reporting production of more than 10 million pounds. The top five only accounted for 58 percent of the State's 2007 crop. Five of the top 10 dry bean counties in the Nation are in North Dakota with four (Walsh, Grand Forks, Pembina, and Wells) frequently among the top five national producers annually.

Dry edible beans: Production in top 30 counties, 2003-07 1/

County & State	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2006-07
			--1,000 cwt--			% Change
Huron, MI	860	1,310	1,630	1,830	--	--
Pembina, ND	923	455	815	1,221	1,433	17
Walsh, ND	1,170	695	1,380	1,087	1,646	51
Grand Forks, ND	1,135	715	975	1,035	1,574	52
Polk, MN	615	284	774	660	--	--
Scotts Bluff, NE	754	559	785	651	--	--
Tuscola, MI	325	448	515	603	--	--
Twin Falls, ID	583	657	580	560	--	--
Wells, ND	760	489	995	553	--	--
Box Butte, NE	559	463	682	537	--	--
Benson, ND	414	198	590	457	571	25
Traill, ND	297	190	335	455	621	36
Steele, ND	646	368	385	408	539	32
Bay, MI	275	303	380	408	--	--
Yuma, CO	325	266	315	400	265	-34
Ramsey, ND	278	153	405	392	661	69
Sanilac, MI	220	230	305	376	--	--
Chase, NE	289	274	481	296	--	--
Nez Perce, ID	50	98	200	254	--	--
Cavalier, ND	118	23	145	246	391	59
Towner, ND	263	54	290	239	325	36
Ransom, ND	195	223	203	213	172	-19
Marshall, MN	168	31	103	210	--	--
Morrill, NE	374	227	388	209	--	--
Jerome, ID	248	247	235	205	--	--
Grant, WA	223	218	278	203	--	--
Cassia, ID	140	136	178	192	--	--
San Joaquin, CA	183	168	145	188	--	--
Saginaw, MI	131	154	160	183	--	--
Park, WY	217	204	237	183	--	--
Latah, ID	39	64	104	182	--	--
Canyon, ID	120	132	198	182	--	--
Stanislaus, CA	245	200	251	180	--	--
Weld, CO	204	227	250	172	94	-45
Sutter, CA	124	122	137	165	--	--

-- = Data for 2007 not yet released. 1/ Sorted by 2006 production levels.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

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# Dry Bean Recipes

## Fiesta Salad

By Lynne Bigwood,  
Northarvest Home Economist

This salad was recommended by NDSU Extension staff. When I gave them a new bean cookbook last fall they wanted to know if I had tried their favorite bean salad. They said that Fiesta Salad's taco flavoring, ingredients and ease of preparation make it a favorite.

I tried the recipe, cut the oil, increased the beans from ½ cup to a whole can and used the whole package of taco seasoning rather than 2 tablespoons. (I don't like to use or specify partial cans

and packages. At my house, those leftovers usually spoil and get thrown away later, so I try to use them to begin with.)

The Grand Forks School Nutrition staff just smiled when I offered them a sample at their conference in June. They had tested out the recipe, re-named it Bean Caviar and plan to serve it on their lunch line this year as part of the Healthy U.S. Challenge. School Nutrition groups are asked to serve beans once a week and increase their use of whole grains as part of that challenge.

The ladies were right; this recipe is a keeper!

### Fiesta Salad

**Nutrition Note:** Serves 10. (5 cups salad) Each serving has 110 calories, 3.5g fat, 4g protein, 17g carbohydrate, 3g fiber, 22mg calcium, 21mcg folate, 93mg potassium, 424mg sodium.

#### Ingredients:

- 1 package (1.25-ounce) taco seasoning mix
- 1/4 cup water
- 2 tablespoons canola or olive oil
- 1/4 cup vinegar
- 1 can (15-16 ounce) pinto beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (14 - 16 ounce) whole-kernel corn, drained
- 2 tomatoes, peeled and diced
- 1/4 cup red, yellow or green pepper, diced
- 4 green onions, cleaned and finely chopped

#### Method:

1. Mix taco seasoning, water, oil and vinegar together in a 6 cup bowl.
2. Add vegetables and stir.
3. Cover and chill several hours or overnight.

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- 6) If off rows, plant is cut as long as plant contacts the end of knife.

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# The Bean Scene



*The National Women, Infant and Children Association's 25th Annual conference was held in Minneapolis, MN, May 27 – 29. Northharvest's revised, full-color Spilling the Beans brochure debuted at that exhibit. It was very well received. The USDA food package for WIC has changed to allow canned beans as a substitute for dry beans (64 ounces per pound of dry). Canned beans are also allowed as a canned vegetable purchase.*



*The North Dakota School Nutrition Association Conference met in Minot, ND, June 9 – 11. Northharvest exhibited at the food showcase sampling Northharvest Three Can Chili, the new full-color Spilling the Beans brochure and offering school food service personnel posters and cookbooks.*

## Put Our State on Your Plate

Heartland Child Nutrition 2008 Workshops, "Put Our State on Your Plate" were held this past spring throughout North Dakota. The workshop focused on using North Dakota agriculture products for child care meals and children's activities.

At the workshop the childcare providers are shown the types of beans produced in ND; how to count dry beans as either a meat alternate or a vegetable to fulfill the USDA meal requirements; the health benefits of beans; and how economical they are to serve. Northharvest Bean Growers provided "The Bean Cookbook" for each of the child care providers that Heartland Child Nutrition, Inc., sponsor of the USDA Child & Adult Care Food Program serves. Ann Schuetzle, Heartland's

Nutritionist, organized the workshops.

There were door prizes featuring North Dakota products and everyone took home a 22-page booklet of menu ideas, recipes, and simple directions for dozens of farm-themed crafts and kid's activities. All child care providers participating with Heartland Child Nutrition are either licensed or state-certified. The number of children they are licensed to care for varies from 5 to 18, from the ages of birth to 13 years old. On a typical day, 5,400 children are fed in family child care homes through Heartland Child Nutrition.



*Several of the child care providers helped prepare Bean Quesadillas for their group to taste.*

# Desiccating Edible Beans for the 2008 Season

By **Lionel Olson**  
NDSU Extension Service

Growing up on a farm that produced dry beans, I can relate to the difficult decisions growers face as harvest season approaches. Harvesting edible beans in a timely fashion to insure quality can be a real challenge. Direct harvesting was not much of an option in the past due to the plant architecture. Dry bean breeders have been working for years trying to breed a bean plant that has an "upright" plant structure, good yield, disease tolerance/resistance, and uniform dry down along with other traits.

Unfortunately it takes many years to incorporate specific traits into a plant. The upright architecture of varieties that are now available fit a few of these characteristics but not all. With the increased availability of varieties with a more "upright" architecture, the direct harvested acres have increased dramatically the past few years. Trying to get the fields to dry down uniformly, along with a few weed escapes here and there can pose a few harvest problems.

Desiccating edible beans is nothing new and with direct harvest increasing in popularity, many growers are implementing an application into their yearly crop budgets. There are only a few herbicides that are labeled for desiccation and most have been used for years with varying results.

Glyphosate is labeled on edible beans for pre harvest weed control. It's good to be reminded each fall that glyphosate is NOT labeled as a crop desiccant. Dry beans are a direct food source meaning they can go from the field to the final consumer. A concern of many in the bean industry is glyphosate residue being found in the beans due to improper timing of a glyphosate application. It is important to wait until the bean pods have turned a yellowish color and have a leather texture before making an application of glyphosate. The bean should be in the hard dough stage and 30% or less seed moisture. Application before this could lead to glyphosate residue in the bean itself. It is not recommended to apply glyphosate to dry beans grown for seed because reduced

germination and/or vigor may occur. There are various glyphosate trade names and formulations available. Be sure to read and follow the label directions. Glyphosate has a seven day pre harvest interval (PHI).

Herbicides labeled for desiccation include paraquat (Gramoxone Inteon, and Gramoxone Max), carfentrazone (Aim), and flumioxazin (Valor). Application timing of these herbicides differs when comparing to a glyphosate application. Bush type beans should have 30% green leaves remaining while vine type beans should have 40% green leaves remaining before application with at least 80% of the pods a yellow brown color. Thorough coverage is essential with a contact herbicide to help avoid a second application. The pre harvest interval for paraquat is 7 days, Aim 3 days, and Valor 5 days.

For more information consult the 2008 North Dakota Weed Control Guide circular W-253. It is also available on the web at [www.ag.ndsu.edu/weeds](http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/weeds). Remember with all pesticides to read and follow all label directions. The label is the law.

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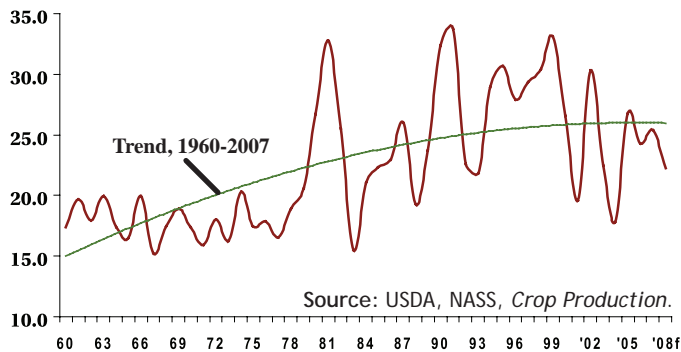
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# U.S. Dry Bean Market

Gary Lucier, agricultural economist with ERS/USDA, presented the latest U.S. dry bean market outlook information at the U.S. Dry Bean Council convention held recently in Knoxville, TN. Included in his report was an update on export markets, acres harvested, trade, and prices for major classes such as pinto and navy beans. Below are some of the graphs he shared with the convention attendees.

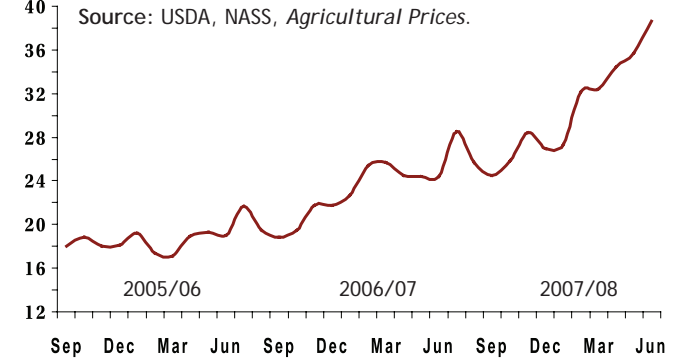
## U.S. Dry Beans: Production

Million cwt

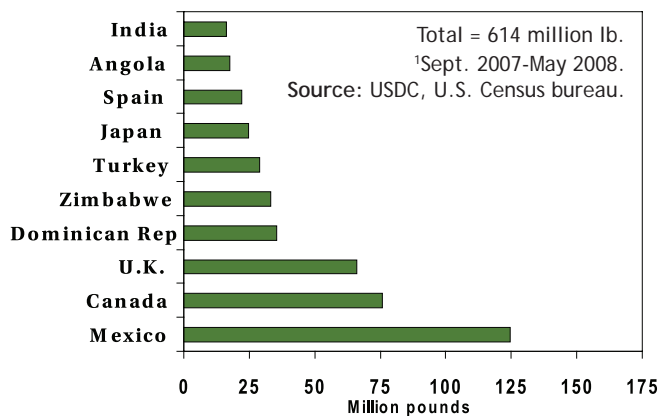


## U.S. Dry Beans, All: Monthly Grower Prices

\$/cwt

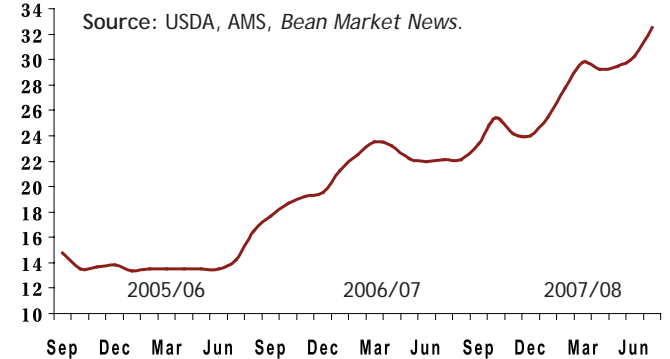


## U.S. Dry Bean Exports: Top Markets, 2007/08<sup>1</sup>



## Pinto Beans, ND/MN: Monthly Grower Prices

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**Fiesta Salad:** The taco flavoring, ingredients and ease of preparation make Fiesta Salad a favorite. For the recipe, turn to page 23.