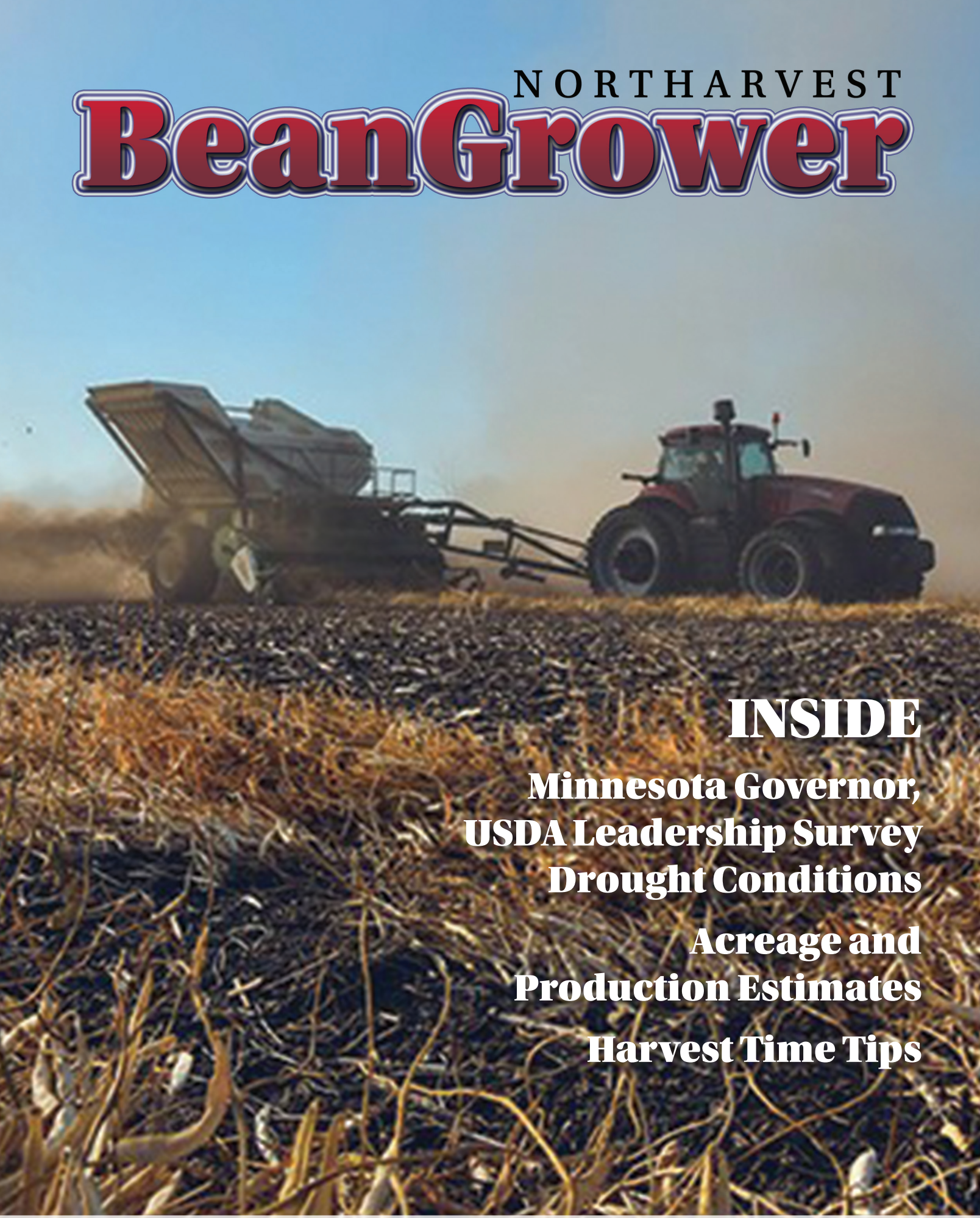
NORTHARVEST

BeanGrower



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VOLUME 27, ISSUE 5 WWW.NORTHARVESTBEAN.ORG FALL 2021

Quality comes in a variety of ways.

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[1] Vibrant is a SDP (Slow Darkening Pinto) variety and is a patented variety, US Patent No. 9,532,523. All varieties listed above are PVP protected.
[2] Cowboy and Gleam are Patent Pending.

NORTHARVEST BeanGrower

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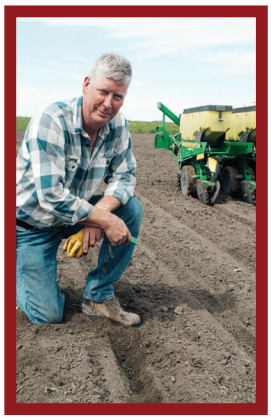
VOLUME 27 ISSUE 5

DROUGHT ISSUES PLAGUE NORTHARVEST GROWERS



If you don't like the weather, wait five minutes. That's a pretty typical situation in Minnesota and North Dakota. We're usually seeing dramatic changes in weather but going from two years of wet conditions and prevented planting to a drought is an attention getter.

As I write this column, 100 percent of the farmland in North Dakota and 97 percent of Minnesota is experiencing drought. Most disasters, like tornadoes or floods, happen quickly. Droughts are like a slow burn, happening over an extended period of time.

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz and Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen were in Crookston recently to survey drought-related crop losses and meet with producers. I had the opportunity to represent the Northarvest Bean Growers Association at this event.

Dry bean production across the Northarvest region has certainly been impacted by the dry conditions. Northarvest is fully engaged with state and federal officials about the drought. Disaster related programs and additional crop insurance flexibility have already been seen.

We anticipate a continuing dialogue about this issue as we finish out this growing season. More details about the drought can be found in an article in this edition of *BeanGrower*.

Weather-related challenges are always stressful. Watch out for family and friends as we all deal with this drought. Be safe this harvest season!

Sincerely,

Eric Samuelson, President
Northarvest Bean Growers Association

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Fall 2021

BEAN BRIEFS

USDBC BOARD MEETS IN DENVER

The U.S. Dry Bean Council (USDBC) Board of Directors convened in-person in Denver, Colorado in July after over a year of virtual meetings. The board tackled a comprehensive list of critical association and programmatic issues over the course of one and a half days, including:

- Legislative priorities
- Beans in food aid
- Trade teams and trade shows in 2022
- Upcoming bean innovation showcase at Worlds of Flavor with the Culinary Institute of America (CIA)
- Dues and budgets for the coming year
- BeanCon22
- New critical initiatives regarding global MRLs and sustainability

Committee meetings and general sessions discussed several activities planned for the remainder of the year as travel begins to open back up as well as plans for 2022. Global travel for the remainder of 2021 remains limited with ANUGA the only major trade show planned in October.

Additionally, the board discussed USDBC's debut participation in the WOF event taking place in Napa Valley in November 2021. This will be a showcase designed to target U.S. and global chefs and introduce them to the various flavor profiles of U.S dry beans and bean ingredients.

The trade team schedule for 2022 was finalized and applications will be sent out to the industry in the next week. The board also decided to forego an in-person reverse mission during the 2021 dry bean harvest and conduct another global harvest webinar, similar to 2020.

COVID continues to impact USDBC's activities and plans but the agenda is busier than ever, and we look forward to a return to in-person events in late 2021 and in 2022.

Northarvest Bean Growers Association Directors Kevin Regan of Devils Lake, North Dakota and Roger Carignan of Cavalier, North Dakota attended the summer meeting. Regan serves as the USDBC secretary/treasurer.

RETALIATORY TARIFF REMOVAL DISCUSSIONS PRESS FORWARD

Since June 2018, the European Union (EU) has applied 25% retaliatory tariffs on the import of select U.S. agricultural products, including dry beans. The tariffs were applied in response to a Section 232 case that resulted in the application of tariffs on imports of European steel and aluminum.

Almost since the day the tariffs went into effect, the U.S. Dry Bean Council (USDBC) has been advocating for their removal. Earlier this month, the United Kingdom government announced its determination at the conclusion of the commentary period to remove dry beans from the retaliation list. This is expected to take three to four months.

At the same time, during several conferences held between U.S. and EU trade authorities on the sidelines of the recent G-7 meeting in the UK, EU trade authorities also announced their optimism that the tariff dispute will be resolved by years' end.

While there are still details to confirm and some more work to be done, indications are the by the end of 2021 the 25% retaliatory tariffs on imports of U.S. dry beans to the UK and the EU will be removed. The USDBC will continue to monitor and report on this situation as soon as final determinations are issued.

Ecuador has lowered retaliatory tariffs on kidney and white pea bean classes from 25% to 20%. The U.S. makes up 86% of the kidney and white pea bean sales to the country.

FACG SUMMER MEETING REVEALS NEW FOOD ASSISTANCE PRIORITIES

In June, the U.S. Dry Bean Council (USDBC) participated in the summer meeting of the Food Aid Consultative Group (FACG). FACG is a public/private forum mandated in the farm bill to provide a platform for U.S. government agencies to interact with private sector counterparts including Private Voluntary Organizations, agricultural trade groups and Maritime on food assistance priorities. This was the first meeting under the Biden Administration.

While several ongoing humanitarian crises will continue to receive significant attention, there were several new initiatives introduced to the agricultural trade community that hint at a change in resource allocation. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a significant effect on global food assistance programming, and several new concerns were outlined that will likely impact future food assistance programming for the foreseeable future.

The dire food security outlook in Yemen will remain a top food aid priority as the situation is now compounded by COVID. Officials from United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) also outlined new funding allocations and priority assistance for the people of Tigray, Ethiopia in response to civil conflict and a severe humanitarian crisis.

Another priority area of focus in the coming year will be food assistance to Madagascar, as southern Madagascar is on the verge of a famine due to a severe drought impacting over a million people.

Two new areas outlined during the meeting include ongoing concerns regarding the price volatility of commodities used in food aid, and the need to provide new funding to food assistance programs in the Golden Triangle of Central America (Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador) as part of the Administration's Immigration reform initiative.

USDBC anticipates a strong need for all U.S. agricultural commodities, including dry beans. While beans have not been shipped to Yemen for food assistance as anticipated, the organization hopes to see a return to beans in the food aid basket for Yemen in second half 2021. USDBC has continued to work with USDA, USAID and other food assistance staff to continue to promote the use of dry beans in global food aid programs.

PRODUCERS RECEIVE CROP INSURANCE PREMIUM BENEFIT FOR COVER CROPS

Agricultural producers with coverage under most crop insurance policies were eligible for a premium benefit from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) if they planted cover crops during the 2021 crop year.

The Pandemic Cover Crop Program (PCCP), offered nationally by USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA), helps farmers maintain their cover crop systems, despite the financial challenges posed by the pandemic. The premium support was $5 per acre, but no more than the full premium owed.

The PCCP is part of USDA's Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative, a bundle of programs to bring financial assistance to farmers, ranchers and producers who felt the impact of COVID-19 market disruptions.

NEW GLOBAL MAXIMUM RESIDUE LIMIT INITIATIVE

The U.S. Dry Bean Council (USDBC) has begun work on a new initiative to tackle the global challenges of low or zero tolerance levels on pesticides/herbicides by launching the Crop Protection Action Coalition for Trade (CPACT). CPACT is funded through the USDA/FAS' Global Broad-Based Initiatives (GBI) program, as it is a USDBC led coalition of like-minded agricultural trade organizations that also includes the U.S. Dry Pea and Lentil Council and USA Rice.

CPACT will work in tandem with U.S. government efforts to address the challenges of low or zero-tolerance Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs). The objective of this work is to ensure that MRLs are based on sound science and not hazard-based systems, nor rely on the use of the precautionary principle. Hazard and precautionary principle-based systems are prohibitive and tend to be guided more by consumer advocacy than science.

CPACT will work in tandem with global U.S. government initiatives to negotiate reasonable tolerances and will also carve out its own private sector agenda. USDBC has retained the services of the North Hill Group to assist in the implementation of this project.

Earlier this week, project principles met to begin discussions on how this public/private partnership will be implemented, review upcoming global meetings with counterparts and discuss the ramp-up period that will likely take the next few months. A meeting with private sector participants will be scheduled over the next month and a CPACT website tracking issues and events will launch in the coming weeks.

USDA Estimating a Decline in Dry Bean Planted, Harvested Acreage

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) provides its assessment of dry edible bean acreage throughout the year. In March, NASS offers its forecast for planted acreage. That figure is adjusted in the June report and again in August. These charts provide USDA's perspective on crop size nationwide.

A future issue of the *BeanGrower* will include the January 2022 NASS report, determining the size of the 2021 crop for each bean class.

MARCH 2021 USDA PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS REPORT

Farmers intend to plant 1.54 million acres of dry edible beans in 2021. That's down 11 percent from the previous season's 1.74 million acres. Planted area is expected to be below last year in all estimating states except Washington.

North Dakota dry bean acreage intentions are estimated at 770,000 acres, down 6 percent from 2020. In Minnesota, acreage estimates come in at 230,000 acres, a decline from 275,000 acres last year.

JUNE 2021 USDA ACREAGE REPORT

USDA is estimating area planted for dry edible beans in 2021 at 1.51 million acres, down 13% from last year. Area harvested is forecast to total 1.44 million acres, down 14% from last year. Seven of the nine estimating States show a decrease in area planted for dry edible beans compared to last year.

In North Dakota, dry edible bean planted acres are estimated at 690,000, down 15% from last year. Harvested area is estimated at 660,000 acres, down 16% from a year ago.

In Minnesota, dry edible beans planted acreage is estimated at 235,000 acres, down 40,000 acres from last year, but up 5,000 acres from

Continued on Page 10

Table 1: Dry Edible Bean Area Planted - States and United States: 2019-2021

[Excludes beans grown for garden seed.)

State	Area Planted			
	2019	2020	2021[1]	Percent of Previous Year
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
California	27.9	29.0	25.0	86
Colorado	37.0	58.0	37.0	64
Idaho	47.0	68.0	60.0	88
Michigan	185.0	260.0	210.0	81
Minnesota	210.3	275.0	23.0	84
Nebraska	120.1	165.0	140.0	85
North Dakota	616.5	815.0	770.0	94
Washington	26.0	41.0	45.0	110
Wyoming	21.0	29.0	23.0	79
United States	1,290.8	1,740.0	1,540.0	89

[1]Intended plantings in 2021 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Table 2: Dry Edible Bean Area Planted and Harvested - States and United States: 2020 and 2021

[Excludes beans grown for garden seed and chickpeas]

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2020	2021	2020	2021[1]
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
California	29.0	19.0	29.0	19.0
Colorado	58.0	38.0	52.0	34.0
Idaho	68.0	70.0	66.0	68.0
Michigan	260.0	230.0	258.0	227.0
Minnesota	275.0	235.0	263.0	224.0
Nebraska	165.0	130.0	159.0	117.0
North Dakota	815.0	690.0	785.0	660.0
Washington	41.0	70.0	40.0	69.0
Wyoming	29.0	25.0	24.5	23.0
United States	1,740.0	1,507.0	1,676.5	1,441.0

[1]Forecasted.

the March intentions. Harvested is forecast at 224,000 acres, down 39,000 acres from last year.

AUGUST 2021 USDA CROP PRODUCTION REPORT

Production of dry edible beans is forecast at 32.8 million hundredweight (cwt), up 58 percent from 2019. Area planted is estimated at 1.63 million acres, up 3 percent from the June forecast and up 26 percent from 2019. Area harvested is forecast at 1.57 million acres, up 2 percent from the June forecast and up 34 percent 2019. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 2,088 pounds per acre, an increase of 319 pounds from last season.

In North Dakota, production is forecast at 13.9 million cwt, up 80 percent from last year. Harvested acreage is estimated at 770,000, up 40 percent from a year ago. The average yield is forecast at 1,800 pounds per acre, up 400 pounds from last year.

Dry bean production in Minnesota is forecast at just under 6.1 million cwt, up from last year's 4.1 million. Harvested acreage is estimated at 244,000, up 43,00 acres from 2019. The average yield is forecast at 2,480 pounds per acres, up 440 pounds from last year.

Table 3: Dry Edible Bean Area Planted and Harvested - States and United States: 2020 and 2021

[Includes updates to planted and harvested area previously published. Excludes beans grown for garden seed and chickpeas]

State	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2020	2021	2020	2021[1]
	1,000 acres			
California	29.0	15.0	29.0	15.0
Colorado	58.0	33.0	52.0	30.0
Idaho	68.0	70.0	66.0	68.0
Michigan	260.0	230.0	258.0	227.0
Minnesota	275.0	240.0	263.0	229.0
Nebraska	165.0	120.0	159.0	108.0
North Dakota	815.0	670.0	785.0	640.0
Washington	41.0	60.0	40.0	59.0
Wyoming	29.0	17.0	24.5	15.0
United States	1,740.0	1,445.0	1,676.5	1,391.0

[1]Forecasted.

Table 4: Dry Edible Bean Area Harvested, Yield, and Production - States and United States: 2019 and Forecasted August 1, 2021

[Excludes beans grown for garden seed and chickpeas]

State	Area harvested		Yield per acre[1]		Production[1]	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
	1,000 acres		pounds		1,000 cwt	
California	29.0	15.0	2,400	2,400	695	360
Colorado	52.0	30.0	2,060	1,940	1,069	582
Idaho	66.0	68.0	2,410	2,550	1,592	1,734
Michigan	258.0	227.0	2,340	2,400	6,033	5,448
Minnesota	263.0	229.0	2,100	1,650	5,525	3,779
Nebraska	159.0	108.0	2,270	2,360	3,607	2,549
North Dakota	785.0	640.0	1,630	1,080	12,794	6,912
Washington	40.0	59.0	2,800	2,670	1,120	1,575
Wyoming	24.5	15.0	2,160	2,420	528	363
United States	1,676.5	1,391.0	1,966	1,675	32,963	23,302

[1]Clean basis.

Table 5: Dry Edible Bean Area Planted by Commercial Class - States and United States: 2020 and Forecasted August 1, 2021

[Excludes beans grown for garden seed and chickpeas]

Class and State	2020	2021
	1,000 acres	
NAVY		
California	(D)	-
Colorado	(D)	(D)
Idaho	1.0	1.0
Michigan	87.0	75.0
Minnesota	50.6	50.6
Nebraska	-	(D)
North Dakota	92.0	78.0
Washington	1.0	1.4
Wyoming	(D)	-
Other States[1]	1.7	0.3
United States	233.3	206.3
GREAT NORTHERN		
California	-	-
Colorado	(D)	(D)
Idaho	4.5	4.4
Michigan	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	-
Nebraska	58.0	34.8
North Dakota	(D)	9.8
Washington	1.1	1.9
Wyoming	(D)	(D)
Other States[1]	16.4	4.2
United States	80.0	55.1
SMALL WHITE		
California	-	-
Colorado	(D)	-
Idaho	1.7	2.3
Michigan	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	-	-
Washington	(D)	(D)
Wyoming	-	-
Other States[1]	4.4	4.3
United States	6.1	6.6
PINTO		
California	-	-
Colorado	39.5	20.5
Idaho	25.4	25.1
Michigan	2.8	2.0
Minnesota	22.0	17.7
Nebraska	78.2	57.8
North Dakota	561.0	463.0
Washington	13.0	17.0
Wyoming	21.0	14.0
Other States[1]	-	-
United States	762.9	617.1
LIGHT RED KIDNEY		
California	(D)	(D)
Colorado	8.6	5.5
Idaho	2.4	2.3
Michigan	7.5	7.5
Minnesota	24.9	25.6
Nebraska	13.2	11.8
North Dakota	(D)	(D)
Washington	2.9	7.0
Wyoming	(D)	-
Other States[1]	1.2	3.2
United States	60.7	62.9
DARK RED KIDNEY		
California	(D)	-
Colorado	(D)	-
Idaho	4.4	4.3
Michigan	3.0	3.0
Minnesota	84.5	67.7
Nebraska	(D)	-
North Dakota	(D)	(D)
Washington	1.8	(D)
Wyoming	-	-
Other States[1]	9.2	8.0
United States	102.9	83.0
SMALL RED		
California	-	-
Colorado	(D)	(D)
Idaho	5.5	5.3
Michigan	21.0	20.0
Minnesota	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	13.5	14.0
Washington	4.7	4.8
Wyoming	(D)	(D)
Other States[1]	2.9	4.4
United States	47.6	48.5
BLACK		
California	(D)	-
Colorado	(D)	(D)
Idaho	5.3	4.9
Michigan	128.0	110.0
Minnesota	71.1	62.3
Nebraska	4.6	4.8
North Dakota	125.0	85.0
Washington	(D)	(D)
Wyoming	1.5	0.8
Other States[1]	7.3	8.2
United States	342.8	276.0

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Minnesota Governor Gets a Firsthand Look at Drought Conditions

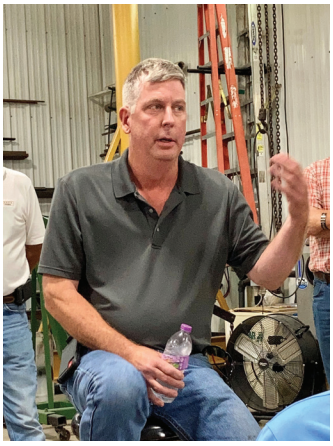
Walz surveys crop conditions in Polk County.

At the Jim and Robin Reitmeier farm southwest of Crookston, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz got a firsthand look on July 22 at the impact drought is having on the wheat crop.

At the time of the visit, about 80% of the state was in a moderate drought. Twenty counties have at least parts of them in a severe drought.

"Drought is more insidious and less visible than hail or flood damage," said Walz. "So it's sometimes difficult for people to understand what a serious issue it is for farmers and the financial loss it causes."

Later in the day, he spoke to area farmers about the drought that is escalating in the state. Crookston farmer Eric Samuelson, president, Northarvest Bean Growers Association shared comments with Governor Walz on behalf of dry bean growers.



Samuelson speaks during the roundtable discussion portion of Governor Walz's visit.

Governor Walz (left) looks at a drought-stricken wheat field on the Reitmeier farm.

"Dry bean production, especially in northwestern Minnesota, will be greatly reduced. I can see that (reduction) in North Dakota, too."

Samuelson went on to say that it's important for the Governor to stay informed about what's happening on the farm and relay that message, especially to the Risk Management Agency. "We need those crop insurance dollars back out in farm country so we can start utilizing them."

Most farmers are used to having some cash flow at harvest time, added Samuelson. "It probably won't be there this year. I think Governor Walz received that message well."

Walz also highlighted the emotional and financial stress seen on the farm due to the drought. The impact on Main Street, which is still trying to recover from COVID-related losses, was also discussed.

"It really does. Like I said, my wife runs a family restaurant here in Crookston and it's a trickle-down effect," reiterated Samuelson. "We've seen isolated problems from time to time, but this is a fairly widespread issue. Especially coming out of COVID, it's going to impact Main Street a little more every time."

The governor spoke with Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack twice during the week of July 22 and said USDA understands the urgency of the situation. "They were very responsive, but this feels like a once-in-a-generation drought and maybe we need to approach it that way," said Walz.

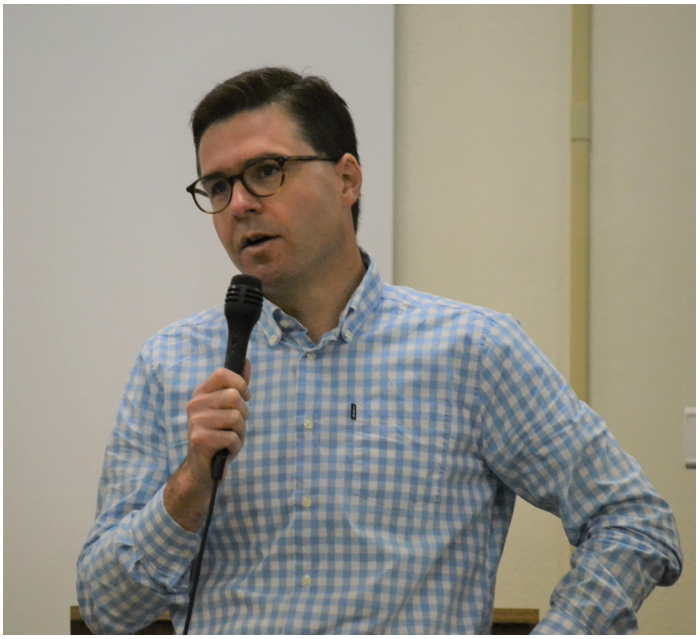
In a media briefing, Walz acknowledged the state misses having a Minnesotan at the helm of the House Agriculture Committee. "What I can tell you is calls would have speeded up with the chairman (former Representative Collin Peterson) and creativity would have been more likely."

Rather than partisan politics, Walz said emphasized the importance of seniority in Congress.

RMA Adds Insurance Flexibilities, Strengthens Dry Bean Policies

In early July, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA) Acting Administrator Richard Flournoy visited North Dakota to see drought conditions first-hand and gather comments and feedback from farmers.

As a result, the agency is working with crop insurance companies to simplify the adjustment of losses and issue indemnity payments.



Flournoy speaks to farmers and ranchers during a visit to Carrington, North Dakota in early July.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

RMA authorized emergency procedures as extreme drought conditions persist across the country. The agency is working with crop insurance companies to simplify the adjustment of losses and issue indemnity payments.

"We recognize the distress experienced by farmers and ranchers because of drought," said Flournoy. "These emergency procedures will authorize insurance companies to expedite the claims process, enabling them to plant a new crop or a cover crop."

Companies can now accept delayed notices of loss in certain situations, streamline paperwork and reduce the number of required samples when crop damage is consistent. Farmers should contact their crop insurance agent as soon as any damage is spotted.

Insurance companies must look at the damage before the crop acres are put to another use. Once it has been appraised and released, farmers can then cut the crop for silage, destroy it or plant a cover crop on that field.

ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY

Additional time is also available to pay premiums and administrative fees. Interest will also be waived for 60 days.

With crop losses and current commodity prices, the majority of affected farmers would normally the automatic $200,000 APH review. With the volume of claims expected in the region, Flournoy said that is being addressed.

"We've adjusted that where everyone that hits that mark will be audited. We use data mining to be more specific and precise about who needs to be audited: that will significantly reduce the number of audits."

Flournoy encourages farmers with questions to contact their local crop insurance agent. More information on these emergency procedures is available at rma.usda.gov.

New for Dry Beans

USDA has made improvements to crop insurance to better enable agricultural producers to manage risk on their operations. Specifically, RMA has added new options for producers of dry beans.

"RMA is focused on how we can make crop insurance a better risk management tool for producers," said Flournoy. "We're rolling out a suite of updates based on feedback from producers and agricultural organizations that strengthen coverage options and increase consistency, clarity, and flexibility."

Dry Beans and Dry Peas

In February of 2020, the Northarvest Board of Directors asked RMA to consider providing producers that grow several types of dry beans in a single crop year with an additional option. That option was to offer enterprise units by dry bean type. Therefore, losses would be calculated based on each dry bean type insured in the county.

Beginning in 2022, the Dry Beans and Dry Peas regulation will:

1. Allow enterprise and optional units by type for dry beans and dry peas, preventing a gain on one type of crop from impacting an indemnity for a loss on

Continued on Page 16

another type. Enterprise units by type allow a producer to insure all acres of a type in a county as one unit, as opposed to basic and optional units which may base insurance on a portion of the acreage. Enterprise units are attractive to producers due to additional premium discounts provided given risk is diversified across the county.

2. Also, allow enterprise and optional units for dry beans to be insured by written agreement, which is consistent with current provisions for dry peas.
3. Clarify that if no insurable fall planted acreage exists, the later spring sales closing date would apply in counties that have offers for both the fall and spring-planted types.

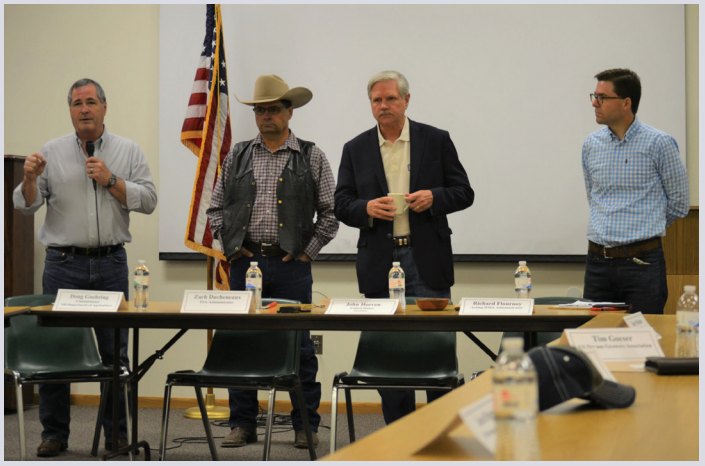
USDA Officials Survey Drought Conditions in North Dakota

Flournoy and Ducheneaux visit Minot, Mandan, Carrington and Argusville.

North Dakota farmers and ranchers are dealing with historic drought conditions. Their voices were heard firsthand by USDA leadership June 30 and July 1.

North Dakota Senator John Hoeven hosted USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) Acting Administrator Richard Flournoy and Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Zach Ducheneaux at Minot, Mandan, Carrington and Argusville, where the officials received firsthand knowledge of the situation.

In opening remarks at the Carrington location, North Dakota Senator Hoeven painted this picture. "When I was governor, there were three different years of drought in a ten-year stretch. I think this drought is every bit as bad, maybe even worse.



From left to right, Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, Ducheneaux, Hoeven and Flournoy hear from the crowd in Carrington.

Those in attendance expressed concerns about the availably of using drought-damaged crops for livestock feed. Chaseley, North Dakota farmer Corey Hart had already filed a crop insurance claim.

"However, I'm having trouble getting an adjuster to come out and look at it. Two days later, I was notified they wouldn't even be sending an adjuster out and to just leave strips," said Hart.

Jeff Schafer, who farms near New Rockford, has already taken crops out of seed production and cut and baled them for feed. Schafer said not all producers are willing to take that leap of faith.

"The most important thing is to have boots on the ground and make these assessments. Farmers need to know dollar amounts and have all the facts on the table," said Schafer. "Financially, your better off with a crop in the bin. But to sustain our livestock herds, we need feed production, too."

Hoeven concluded that it was critical that Administrators Flournoy and Ducheneaux were in North Dakota to hear about these challenges directly from producers.

"This was not only an opportunity to ensure farmers and ranchers can access the available assistance, but also helped inform our continued efforts to strengthen the federal emergency response and provide support when it is needed most."

Experts Talk Dry Beans at Extension Field Days

Dry beans were part of discussions held at annual field days hosted by North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension.

At the Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC), the annual field day took place on July 20. NDSU dry bean breed Juan Osorno talked about some of the variety trials at the center.

Despite the dry conditions, the good news is dry beans don't need a lot of water. Osorno cites some minor problems early on, along with dicamba drift. "Otherwise, the trials look very good."

The work at the CREC is focused on pinto, navy and black beans. "We're excited about the new pinto variety ND Falcon. We also have the new black bean variety ND Twilight that was released last year here."

Also featured are breeding lines in the later stages of testing. "We're trying to make decisions on wheth-

Osorno gives a dry bean breeding update at the CREC field day.

er they're good enough to be released or not."

Osorno reminds farmers that these variety trials are open to the public. "Contact your Extension agent or myself if you want to take a look. It's nice to have that side-by-side comparison and to see how we do things."

The Langdon Research Extension Center (LREC) held their annual field day later that week on July 22. During the event, research agronomist Bryan Hanson highlighted the work being done on dry bean row spacing and plant population at the center.

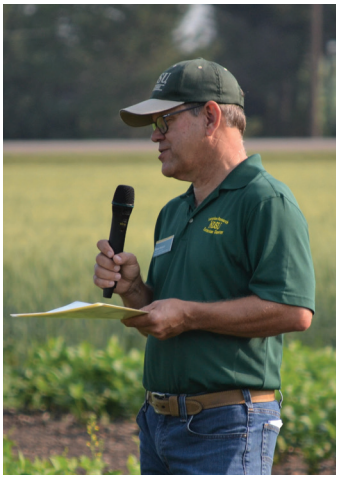
For several years, dry beans have been popular in the Red River Valley. Hanson says the number of acres is creeping up in north central North Dakota.

"There are about 16,000 acres of pinto beans in Cavalier County. South and west of here in Towner, Benson and Ramsey Counties, there's 30,000-40,000 acres."

This is the second year of pinto bean trials at LREC. Hanson is teaming up with colleague Greg Endres at the CREC. "Since this is only year two, I'm assuming we won't find out too much of a difference."

The traditional row spacing for most classes of dry beans is 30 inches. "Producers are starting to plant in narrower rows," said Hanson. "We are seeing slightly better yields with narrower rows. That holds true for pinto beans."

However, Hanson adds that narrower row spacing means different management. "There is more direct harvesting with narrower rows. That means you must select varieties that stand up better. The pods don't lay on the ground like older varieties."



Hanson speaks about row spacing and plant population during the LREC field day.

Harvesting Dry Beans

By John Nowatzki, agricultural machine systems specialist, NDSU Extension

ESTIMATING BEAN YIELD

Bean yields can be estimated by knowing the number of seeds per pod, pods per plant and plants per 1/1,000 of an acre. At the time of counting seeds and pods, the maturity status of each should be determined.

If a seed or pods appear not to mature, they shouldn't be counted. Count the total plants per 1/1,000 acre to complete the data collection. An accurate estimate of plant population per acre can be obtained by counting the number of plants in a length of row equal to 1/1,000 of an acre.

Make at least five counts in separate representative areas of the field, calculate the average of these samples, and then multiply this number by 1,000.

Within a representative and uniform plant stand, randomly select five plants each from at least five randomly selected locations in the field. Keeping all plant data separate, pull and count the pods from each plant and then count the seeds to determine average seeds per pod for all five replications. These data are combined with the average number of plants per 1/1,000 acre.

Seeds per pound can vary 10% to 20% for different cultivars within a bean class. If available, use reported estimates for seed number per pound for your cultivar. The accuracy of yield estimates can be improved by counting seeds and pods from at least 10 plants per replication.

(Average seeds per pod) x (average pods per plant) equals average seeds per plant.

(Average seeds per plant) x (plants per 1/1,000 of an acre) x (1,000) divided by seeds per pound of the cultivar equals yield in pounds per acre. Use data in Table 6 for the range in seed weights by class to arrive at seeds per pound if cultivar seeds per pound are unknown.

Length of row equal to 1/1,000 of an acre.

Row Width (inches)	Length of Single Row to Equal 1/1,000 of an Acre (feet)	(inches
6	87	1
10	52	3
15	35	10
22	23	9
30	17	5
36	14	6

HARVESTING

Bean harvesting is done by one of two ways: undercutting, windrowing and combining from the windrow or straight combining. Beans should be harvested at the 15% to 18% moisture level to minimize splitting and seedcoat damage.

Harvesting at lower moisture levels may result in an excessive percentage of split beans and checked/cracked seedcoats. Beans with damaged seedcoats may split with further handling.

Harvest beans before a killing frost. Frozen, immature beans are difficult to separate in processing, while unfrosted immature bean seeds will shrink during drying and can be separated.

Beans are ready for harvest when some of the pods are dry and when most pods have turned yellow. The nearly mature beans in the yellow pods will continue to ripen after they are cut. Too many dry pods at harvest will result in heavy shattering.

Shattering can be reduced by undercutting and windrowing at night or early in the morning when the plants are damp with dew. All bean classes, but especially whites, require a harvest period relatively free from rain to avoid seed discoloration.

Dry Beans as Livestock Feed

Considerations for when the crop has been impacted by drought, hail.

By Karla Wilke, cow/calf stocker management specialist, UNL Panhandle Research and Extension Center

Dry edible beans such as pintos, great northern, and black beans are a very valuable commodity. However, hail and drought can easily reduce bean quality and the feasibility of harvest for the rigorous human consumption standards. So, the question becomes, when dry edible beans are not suitable for human consumption, what options are available?

What are Lectins?

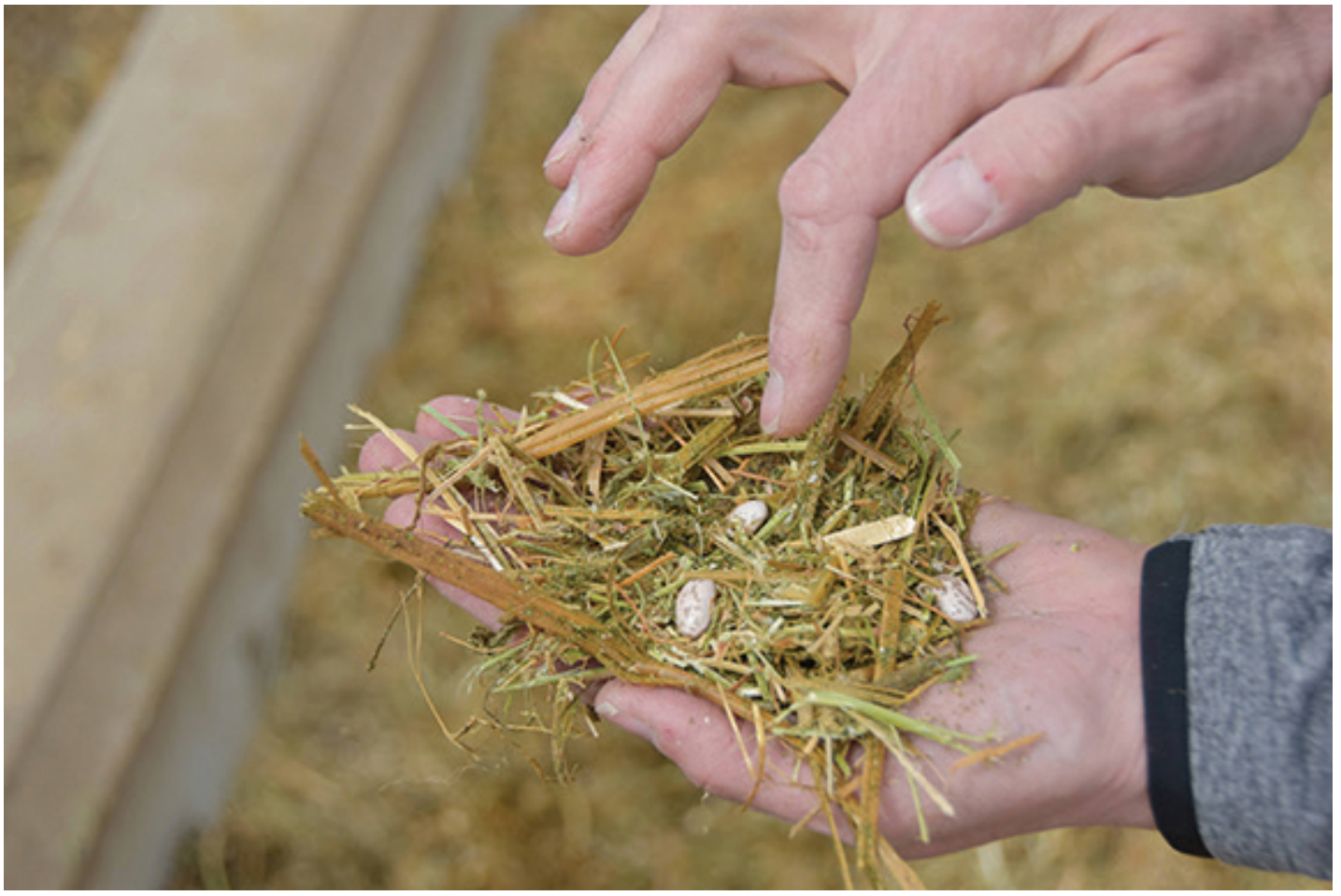
Dry beans contain a compound called lectins. Lectins are a type of protein, that when not properly denatured by heat, can damage the intestinal wall, impair digestion and nutrient absorption, and create immunosuppression issues. This presence of lectins impacts the amount that can be fed to beef cattle.

What if I was able to harvest my crop, but the beans were rejected for human consumption?

Dry beans have great binding characteristics, which make them a great ingredient in pelleted or cubed feeds such as protein supplements. Research from Kansas State University has indicated that the heat produced during pelleting is not enough to denature the lectins.

However, because the beans will likely only be included at 2% of the dry matter in the pellet formula, and the pellets will likely be less than 20% of the diet dry matter, the lectins will likely not be an issue. Therefore, selling the beans as a binder to a feed company who makes pellets might be an option.

Selling the beans to a feedlot to incorporate into a finishing diet might also be an option. However, there are some precautions when including dry beans into a beef cattle finishing diet. Research



from Colorado State University reported that finishing cattle fed up to 15% dry edible beans on a dry matter basis had reduced intake, poor feed efficiency and gain. That particular experiment was terminated after 30 days due to poor performance.

In a subsequent experiment the researchers noted steers fed 0.5 and 1.0% dry edible beans gained better than those fed 2% (dry matter basis) while feed efficiency was similar. This suggests the anti-nutritional properties become evident at 2% of the dry matter in finishing diets. A factor to consider when pricing cull beans is that a Colorado State study found pinto beans to be 44% the value of corn in a lamb study.

Growing calves are traditionally on a high-roughage diet and supplemented with protein and energy. Research from the University of Nebraska indicated growing calves did not experience reduced performance compared to a control diet when dry edible beans in a roughage-based diet were included at 5 and 7.5% of the diet dry matter but did when dry edible beans were included at 15%.

What if the beans are not worth harvesting? Is there value in bean forage?

When a crop is to be used for something other than its intended use, producers need to first check with government agencies and insurance companies to evaluate any stipulations for that use.

An immature bean plant does have some forage value but harvesting that forage, either mechanically, or by grazing needs to be economically evaluated first. The tonnage available must be evaluated against the cost of swathing and baling, chopping and packing, or building fence.

Immature black bean whole plants after a frost were evaluated at the University of Nebraska. The in vitro dry matter disappearance (IVDMD) similar to total digestible nutrients (TDN) was 66%. As a reference point, good quality corn silage is about 70% TDN and wheat straw is 45% TDN. The crude protein on the immature black bean plant was 11.5%, which is more than adequate to maintain rumen function in the beef cow.

Dry beans impacted by drought and hail may have some salvage value for livestock feed. Consider the cost-benefit ratio of all alternative uses for the crop before deciding.

SAVE TIME USING A PRESSURE COOKER

Tips Courtesy of the Bean Institute

Want to save some time and energy when cooking dry beans? Use a pressure cooker!

A pressure cooker is a great tool for preparing dry beans quickly. Pressure cookers combine high pressure and high heat, which dramatically reduces cooking time. Beans cooked in a pressure cooker will cook in about one-third of the time it takes to cook beans on the stove.

PRESSURE COOKING FEARS

Some people have a fear of using a pressure cooker, often based on childhood memories of a rattling old pressure cooker on a family stove. However, today's pressure cookers are nothing like Grandma's. Like any modern piece of kitchen equipment, when you follow the directions carefully, it's as safe and convenient as every other kitchen appliance.

STEP 1 - CLEAN THE BEANS

- Plate the beans in a shallow layer in a pie plate, baking sheet, or bar pan.
- Pick out and discard any foreign objects like leaves, small stones or twigs, as well as any broken beans.

STEP 2 - RINSE THE BEANS

- Place the beans in a colander or strainer and rinse them under cold running water.

STEP 3 - SOAK THE BEANS

- There are three soaking methods you can use, the Hot Soak Method, the Traditional Soak Method, and the Quick Soak Method.
- Soaking reduces gas-producing compounds the most and it produces consistently tender beans.

STEP 4 - COOK THE BEANS

- Place seasoning and beans in pressure cooker.
- Cover with about 1 1/2 inches of hot water over the level of the beans. Be sure to not fill the cooker over halfway.
- Cook for 22 to 30 minutes, depending on the variety. Beans should be tender but not mushy.
- Allow pressure to release.
- Drain immediately.

FOR BEST RESULTS, FOLLOW THESE TIPS!

While cooking dry beans in a pressure cooker is a fairly simple process, they do tend to froth and foam during cooking. Therefore, it is necessary to use the following guidelines when pressure cooking dry beans:

- Never fill the pressure cooker more than the half full line. This includes beans, ingredients, and water.
- Pressure cookers must contain a minimum of ½ cup of liquid in order to operate correctly.
- Add 1-4 tablespoons vegetable oil and up to 1 tablespoon of salt to one pound of beans during the soaking or cooking. Tests have shown that when oil and salt are added, dry beans keep their shape and exterior skin intact, and froth and foam less during pressure cooking.
- Allow pressure to drop on its own accord. This will add another 18 to 20 minutes to the cooking time but requires no tending.

Cover Crop Considerations for Dry Conditions

Mike Ostlie, research agronomist, NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center

Cover crops can offer several benefits to a cropping system including increased biodiversity, crop/livestock integration, erosion control, or water management. One of the greatest risks to cover cropping is failure to establish, and in North Dakota that often is the result of insufficient moisture. What can be done to reduce the risk of cover cropping?

At a glance, cover cropping is often considered to be a fall activity. Following wheat, barley, or another short season crop, a cover crop is planted which will terminate when at freeze-up later in the fall. This is often a 2–3-month window of 'fallow' time for a field, making it a convenient option for cover crops.

Several recent falls have highlighted some of the largest challenges for cover cropping. For instance, in 2020 and 2018 conditions were very dry and poor emergence occurred. In 2019, there was much more moisture, but the temperature was cool enough to reduce the growth and resulted in small, unimpressive cover crops. Are there any alternatives?

One practice that is trending upward is planting cover crops earlier, often into corn crops. There has been a lot of hype about 60" corn rows, which is very cover crop friendly. However, even on standard row spacings cover crops can provide value, particularly if they are direct seeded (rather than broadcast).

Planting the cover crop in mid-June or early July into corn has translated to high establishment success over the last three years at Carrington REC. This overcomes the production barriers of limited growing season and rainfall. However, do note that the narrower the corn row, the less biomass will be produced.

With a mid-summer planting date, a wide range of cover crop species are viable. Plus, weed management isn't sacrificed as many cover crop species are compatible with a number of corn herbicides (check labels if the intent is to graze the cover crop).

Some new machines assist with interseeding cover crops into corn, but it is also possible to interseed with existing or older equipment. We converted a 71 JD Flex planter into a three-point mounted unit specifically to plant be-

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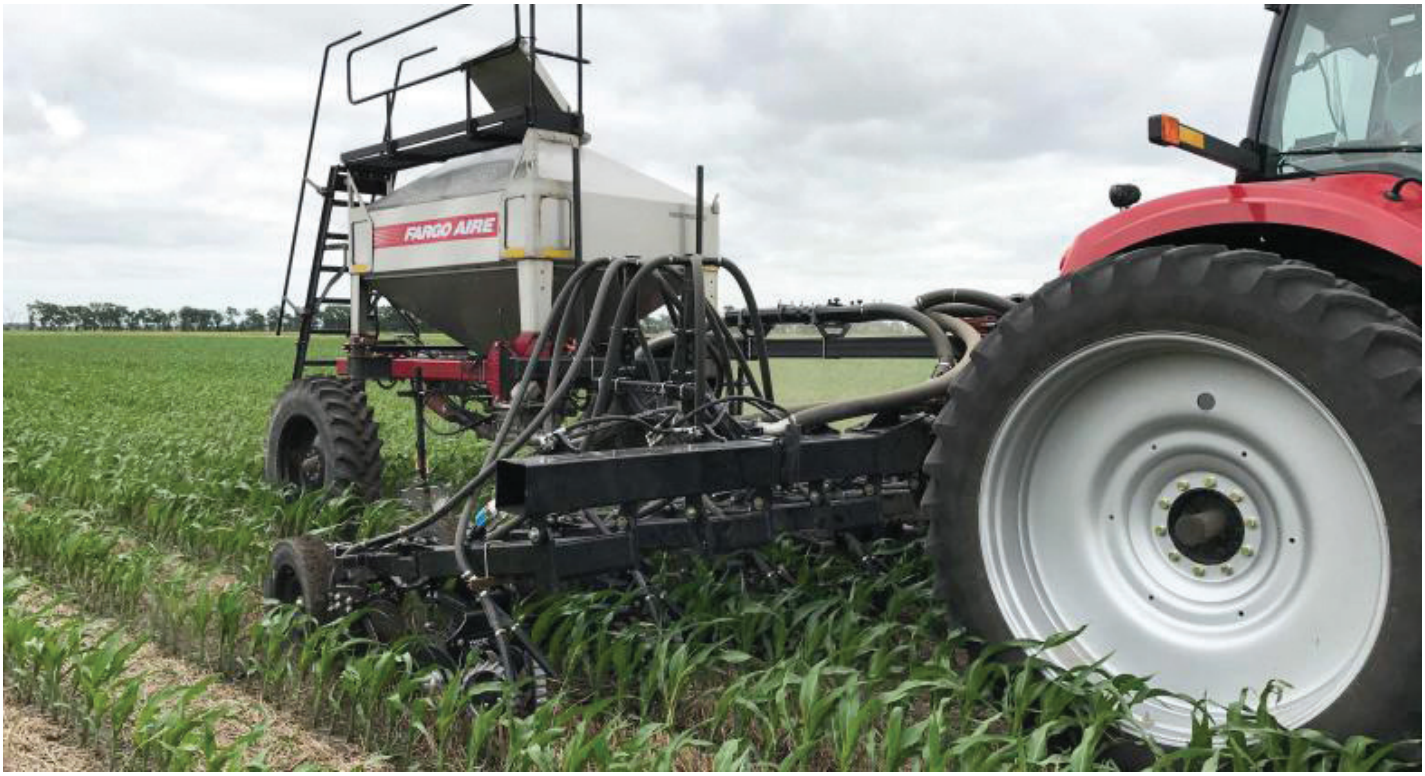


tween corn rows (Figure 1). This option has provided good establishment, even with cover crop blends (Figure 2).

Our primary goal has been to grow cover crops for grazing. While doing this, corn cover cropping has delivered much better outcomes over the last three years compared to a small grain to cover crop relay.

NDSU does not endorse commercial products or companies even though reference may be made to tradenames, trademarks or service names.

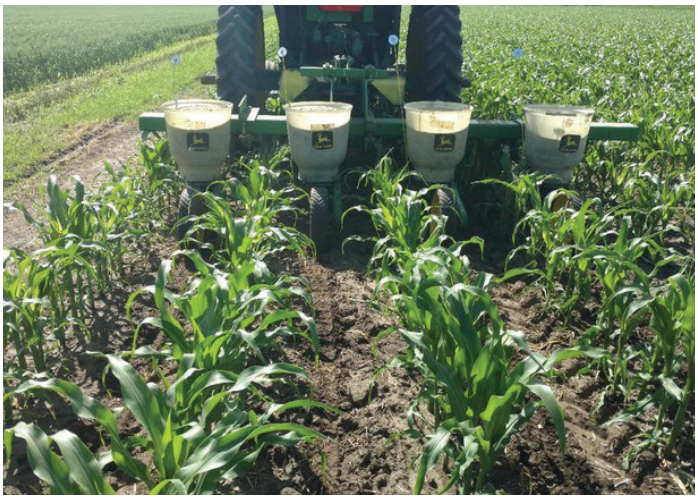


Figure 1. Planting cover crops into V5 corn on July 1, 2019.

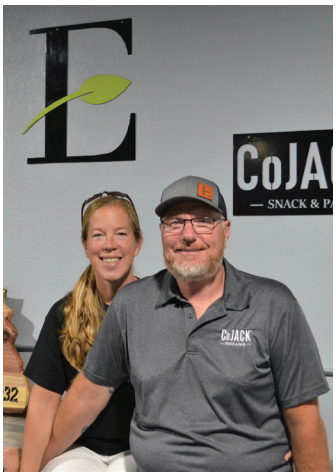
Cover crops emerging following the planting in Figure 1.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

1 YEAR AGO:

The Engstroms Enter New Endeavors -- There was never a doubt in Brian Engstrom's mind that farming was in his future. "I was probably six years old and knew I would be a farmer someday."

He didn't venture far from the farm for college, just 20 miles from home, attending Lake Region State College for two years. Brian then planned on attending North Dakota State University. "I had the opportunity to rent



Kim and Brian Engstrom

three quarters of land, so I started farming instead."

In 2013, Brian expanded within the bean business and purchased Jack's Bean Company in Holyoke, Colorado with Kurt Bollingberg. The facility in the western part of the state processes pinto and light red kidney beans, along with popcorn.

"We could have easily given up the popcorn portion of the business, but decided to do something with it," he says. "Popcorn is a tricky crop to raise because it has to be grown on the proper parallel. In my opinion, the flavor of the popped product is better with the proper climate. Colorado has that."

FIRST EVER VIRTUAL USDBC SUMMER MEETING HITS ' THE HIGH NOTES

The U.S. Dry Bean Council (USDBC) wrapped up its annual summer meeting that should have taken place together with the U.S. Dry Bean Convention in Nashville. Instead, it took place on Zoom.

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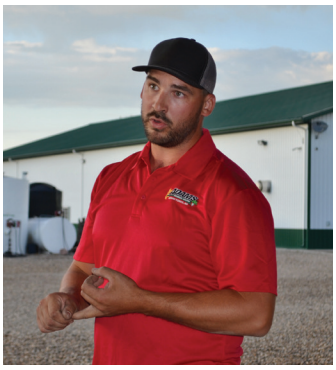
Participation was high and discussion was lively and productive as USDBC unveiled several plans for the coming months and year ahead, capitalizing on the popularity of and interest in dry beans.

This has been an extremely busy and exciting time for the U.S. dry bean industry. The summer meeting helped define priorities for the remainder of 2020 and outline several important new initiatives for 2021 and beyond.

5 YEARS AGO:

The Cranberry King -- Cranberries, dark red kidneys, pinks and blacks; that colorful combination is being grown this year by Adams Family Farm, based in East Grand Forks, Minnesota. But it's the cranberry bean market that Chris Adams wants to pursue. His dad, Steve, has raised cranberry beans for probably 20-to-30 years, and Chris has raised them since graduating from college.



Chris Adams

"They have done very well for us over the years," says Chris, "until some of the bigger companies tried to get other farmers to start raising them and flooded the market. So now they are not that great."

In 2014 Adams thinks he and his dad had about 45-to-50 percent of the nation's supply of cranberry beans sitting in the bins on their farm. "Last year, the 2015-crop, we probably had the same acres, but we were down to 25 percent of the country's total supply, so that's how many more were planted."

Adams sold the farm's cranberries in early May at a loss. "We usually sell to local companies that export them to Canada, and then they export them all around," says Adams. "So, a lot of the cranberries that Canada is getting credit for exporting come right from our farm, until recently. Colombia is a pretty big market, but most of them go to the Mediterranean."

Consider Storing Beans on the Farm -- St. Thomas, North Dakota dry

bean grower Tom Kennelly has stored dry beans on his farm for about 10 years. He says it gives him a little more control, or flexibility. "For example, last year we didn't have a contract with the company we bought our seed from," says Kennelly, the current president of the Northarvest Bean Growers Association.

"When we went to haul them in, they said they were only taking contracted beans, so we put them in a bin and about two weeks later another bean dealer called and needed our navy beans. Storing on the farm means I'm not married to one bean processor."

The first time Kennelly stored his beans was when he ran out of trucks during a tough fall and was starting to get hot spots in the trucks. He put them in a bin with air to dry them down and it worked well.

Kennelly was even more convinced when an August frost led to discolored beans and large dockage several years ago. "We threw them in a bin, hauled them in six months later and they never docked us nearly as hard."

10 YEARS AGO:

Desiccants Will Be Popular In 2011 -- The wide variability in crop development will likely cause dry bean growers to make use of desiccants as a preharvest aid in 2011. North Dakota State University Extension weed scientist Dr. Rich Zollinger says any stress at all will delay the physiological maturity of the dry bean crop.

"So, if you have a wet spot, if you have a spot that's been affected by fertility, if you have diseases or insects, you're going to have some delay in maturity, and some spots where it's going to stay green."

Zollinger expects this will be a banner year for non-uniform dry-down, so if fall doesn't come too soon, September would be a good time to think about desiccants.

"We have one that's kind of become the standard on the market right now—Valor. But another one that's going to be registered before use season is called Sharpen." In his NDSU studies, Zollinger says both Valor and Sharpen have done very well.

Northarvest Helps Sponsor Travelling Ag Exhibit -- The Northarvest Bean Growers Association is a sponsor of the North Dakota Agriculture Department's travelling ag exhibit which made its first appearance in June at the McLean County Fair in Underwood, North Dakota. The display, designed by Mathisons in Fargo, is under two tents, totaling 20 feet by 20 feet. There are 14 grain commodities and six livestock commodities, which each have two feet of space.

The murals have interesting facts about the commodities plus actual products from the commodities. There is also an eight-foot map of the world that shows our main exports, major trading partners and the price of food in the US compared to other countries. There is also a section on local foods and Pride of Dakota.

Also featured is a table that features 24 different seeds of crops in North Dakota. 32 feeds are on display along with a map of North Dakota processing plants. Outside the tent are 21 crops growing in containers.

15 YEARS AGO:

Hillsboro Farmer Testifies -- The U.S. dry bean industry strongly favors retention of fruit and vegetable (FAV) planting restrictions for non-program crops – such as dry beans – on program crop acres. And because of the unique situation of growing dry beans, any change in the present status quo would require establishing offsetting direct economic compensation to historical dry bean producers.

That's the key message Mike Beltz of Hillsboro, North Dakota gave on behalf of the U.S. Dry Bean Council, in testimony before the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee, which held a field hearing recently in Great Falls, Montana to gather input in drafting the new farm bill.

While the FAV planting restriction has been beneficial to all non-program and specialty crops, it is most important to dry bean growers, said Beltz, since dry beans are typically grown in rotations with, or in areas where major program crops are grown.

New Pinto Bean Lines Resist White Mold -- Two pinto bean germplasm lines are now available for breeding varieties of the crop that will resist white mold, according to the USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

Crop losses can be minimized with fungicides, careful irrigation, widely spaced rows and other measures. But the cornerstone defense is to plant a disease-resistant crop, according to Phil Miklas, an ARS plant geneticist who led in the development of the new pinto bean lines, USPT-WM-1 and USPT-WM-2.

The new pinto lines owe their resistance to crosses made between Aztec, a semi-upright pinto bean, and ND88-106-4, an upright navy bean breeding line.

Miklas developed, tested and evaluated the new pintos together with James Kelly at Michigan State University in East Lansing, and Ken Grafton and Darrin Hauf, both with North Dakota State University in Fargo.

New Research on Western Bean Cutworms

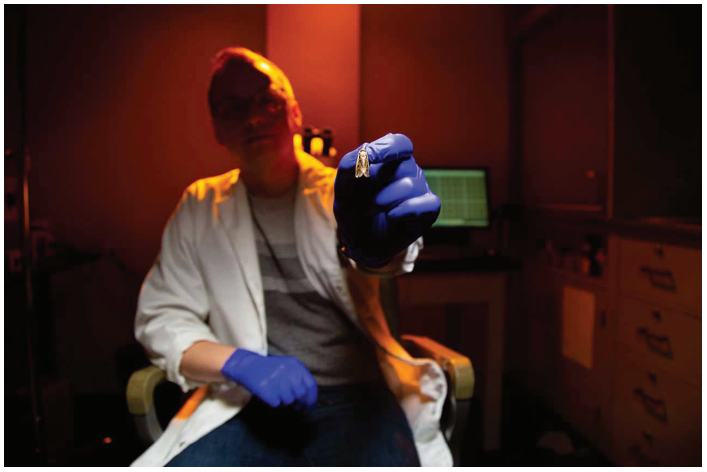
Cutworms mainly developing on corn and not dry beans in central Michigan.

New research on the feeding habits of the Western bean cutworm has found that careful consideration of pest control is needed when growing dry beans next to corn to prevent resistance development to insecticides and toxins.

Normally, refuge crops are planted so that pests such as the Western bean cutworm, which is actually a moth, that manage to survive toxins or insecticides on corn or beans, may mate with moths that were not exposed to them. This results in a new generation of weaker moths that are less resistant to insecticides.

Dry beans are sometimes grown near corn fields because of soil nutrient requirements, and Illinois Institute of Technology Ph.D. candidate Dakota Bunn wanted to see if these crops were an effective co-refuge for each other.

Bunn examined how the populations of the moths that fed on beans as larvae were interacting with the moths that fed on corn as larvae. He and his colleagues captured more than 3,200 moths over two summers in central Michigan, froze them, and then conducted a stable carbon isotope analysis on their wings and heads,



which revealed whether the adult moths fed on corn or beans in the larval state.

"Overall, we found that very few moths that we captured developed on dry beans, and almost all moths that we captured developed on corn," Bunn says. "We were able to determine that corn and beans are not suitable as co-refuges, and that mainly adults that developed on corn are contributing to the next generation of Western bean cutworm in Michigan."

In a paper published earlier this year, Bunn says that the results "demonstrate that beans and corn cannot be used as mutual refuge in insect resistance management (IRM) in central Michigan, and that further research is needed to determine proper IRM for areas where corn and dry beans are grown in close proximity."

The findings underscore the need to continue to closely monitor the cutworm's resistance to the control methods used for corn.

Western bean cutworms can cause significant damage to corn crops, affecting both the overall yield and quality. The moths are native to the western plains but have expanded their territory eastward and are now in 25 states and four Canadian provinces.

The research was published in the February 2021 issue of Environmental Entomology, in a paper titled "Contribution of Larvae Developing on Corn and Dry Beans to the Adult Population of Western Bean Cutworm in Michigan."

(Source: Illinois Tech)

Northarvest Bean Growers Association and Dry Bean Council Results

The Northarvest Bean Growers Association held a special election for District 9 in March. The mail ballots certified election results show Jeff Kosek of Brownton, Minn. the winner of District 9 to complete the incumbent's two-year term.

Kosek raises corn, kidney beans, black beans and has a cow/calf operation and a feedlot. He is a member of the Brownton town board and the Corn Growers Association. In his nomination description, Kosek said he would like to bring more farm program attention to the board, stop insurance abuse and provide fair and equitable insurance for dry bean farmers. He also enjoys working with others.

The North Dakota Dry Bean Council elected Kevin Regan of Webster, ND to serve his third 3-year term as representative of District 2. Regan is currently elected by the Northarvest board to serve as delegate to the U.S. Dry Bean Council (USDBC). Regan currently serves as Treasurer at the U.S. Dry Bean Council (USDBC), elected by the Council members.

The Minnesota Dry Bean Council elected Jacob Faugstad of Climax, MN to his first 3-year term in District 1. Mark Dombeck of Perham, MN was elected to serve a 3-year term representing Minnesota's District 5.

In 1976, the Northarvest Bean Growers Association was created as a cooperative effort between dry bean growers in North Dakota and Minnesota. Northarvest Bean Growers Association (NBGA) provides a full range of services and funding to help producers and shippers supply the world with dry beans. These efforts help fund export marketing initiatives, advertising, trade shows, public relations and communications. NBGA also funds research to improve the quantity, variety and quality of dry beans grown in the region.

JEFF KOSEK

Brownton, Minnesota
Crops/Livestock Raised: Black beans, dark red kidney beans, corn and beef cattle

Tell us about yourself? How did you get involved with agriculture? -- I grew up on a pretty 'typical' Minnesota farm with dairy and beef cattle, hogs and chickens. Before I started farming full time in the late 1970s, I had a few other jobs in between. Our dairy barn burnt down in 1974, which is when we excited that industry and just stuck with hogs and beef cattle. I bought out my dad's portion in the early 1990s and that's when I started raising dry edible beans. Today, I farm 3,500 acres with my wife Tammy and son Josh.

How long have you raised dry beans? Why are they appealing to your farm? -- We were looking for something different to place into our rotation and have continued to expand our bean acres ever since. My neighbor started raising Great Northerns, which initially piqued my interest. Eventually, I started raising navy beans in 1988 and then decided to graduate to dark red and light red kidney beans because the market was more stable. We don't raise any soybeans on our farm, so that's where the black beans came into play.

What is your favorite piece of farm equipment? -- My favorite piece of farm equipment is probably the planter since I do most of the planting on our farm. It's just a good feeling to be in the driver seat and planting a new crop, which will hopefully be of some value, each year.

Do you have any hobbies, or what do you do in your spare time? -- We do some snow removal in the wintertime. In addition to farming, my son also operates a gravel pit and does custom tiling. Our small cow/calf herd and 150 head of feeder cattle also keep us busy when we're not in the field. I personally serve on our local Township Board and recently joined the Northarvest Bean Growers Association Board of Directors. I like to ice fish for fun and spend time at our camper by the lake.

What is the best part about being a farmer? -- I am a firm believer that farming takes a lot of faith; you depend on it every year, almost every day. Every year is different, and you hope and pray for a bountiful harvest (most of the time it is!) I also like being my own boss. If I want to watch my grandkids play ball or take a trip, I can do that.

Jeff, Tammy and Josh Kosek

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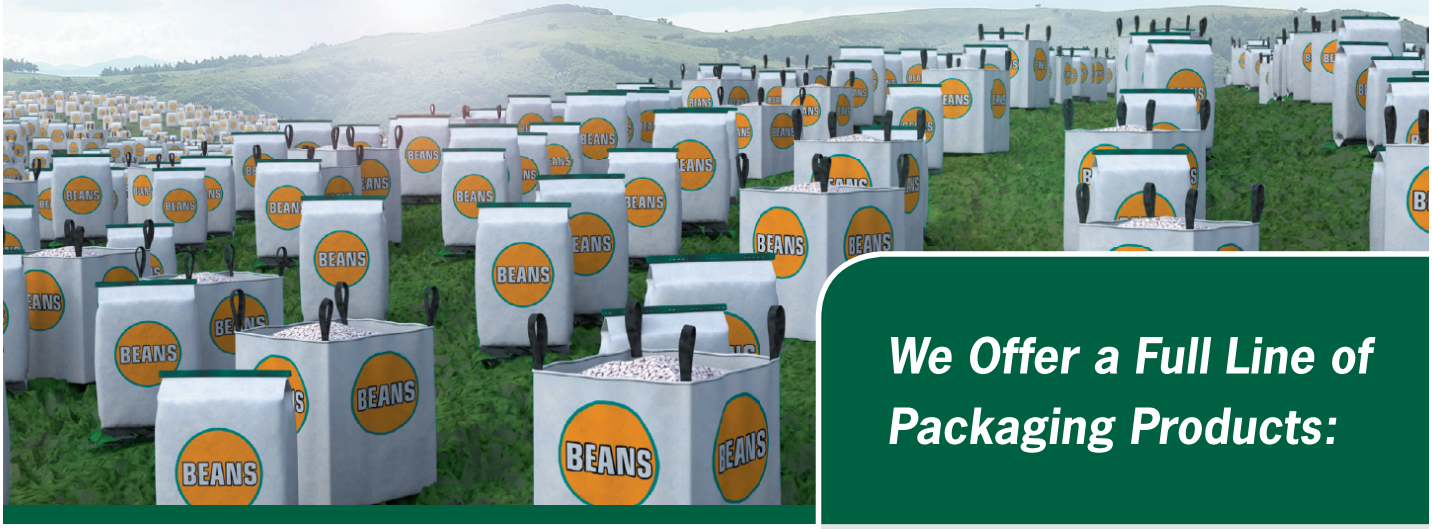

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