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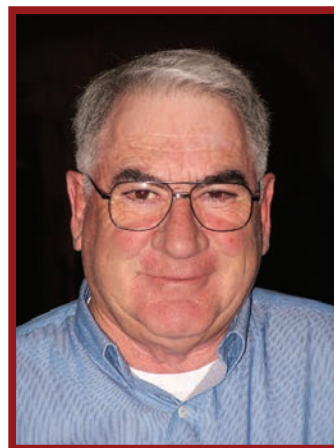
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VOLUME 16 ISSUE 4

A Clean Slate...

After 2009, I think most bean growers in the Northarvest growing region are happy to start with a clean slate and a new growing season. The smell of fresh dirt and diesel seems to lull us into a feeling of optimism at this time every year.

With a new growing season comes new leadership for your association. I want to thank Jon Ewy for his service as Northarvest



Bean Growers Association President. I have no specific agenda, but I do want to continue to fund promotion and research as we have in the last few years. Northarvest funds a lot of NDSU and UND research projects and I think producers like to see that. While we see more results in research than in promotion, probably the most important work we can be doing is trying to educate the world on the health benefits of beans.

Northarvest has been trying to get a revenue crop insurance product and I want to see that through. In addition to farming for 33 years, I also worked as a crop insurance agent for 25 of those years, and serve on Northarvest's crop insurance committee. And prior to farming, I worked as an FmHA County Supervisor for 17 years.

While we were initially led to believe that we would have revenue insurance by 2011, we were forced to go back to the drawing board. You'll read more about that process in this issue.

Also in this issue you'll read about some timely tips to manage white mold and rust; Spartan Charge; new value-added research on beans; food safety reform legislation, and trade missions to Central America and Spain.

I've been raising beans since 1981. They've been good to me and I'm just interested in helping out the industry if I can.

Why should you get involved in your association? Well, if we're not going to be interested in our own destiny, then nobody else probably will either.

Have a great growing season!

*Don Streifel-President
Northarvest Bean Growers Association*

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- Dr. Howard Schwartz - Colorado State University, Colorado Extension, Publisher -Colorado Bean News

FOB Price Report including prices since 2010-05-10 as of Monday, May 24, 2010

		2010 Dealer Price (USD/cwt)			2010 Grower Price (USD/cwt)		
	Region	Low	High	Avg	Low	High	Avg.
Beans - Pintos							
#1 - Premium Color	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	36.00	36.00	36.00	25.00	30.00	26.67
#1 - Good Color	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	26.00	28.00	27.00	20.50	20.50	20.50
#1 - Fair/Average Quality (FAQ)	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	27.00	27.00	27.00			
		2009 Dealer Price (USD/cwt)			2009 Grower Price (USD/cwt)		
	Region	Low	High	Avg	Low	High	Avg
Beans - Pintos							
#1 - Premium Color	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	38.00	42.50	40.83	30.00	32.00	31.33
#1 - Premium Color	AB/CO/KS/NE/UT/WY				27.00	27.00	27.00
#1 - Good Color	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	36.00	42.00	40.00	29.00	32.00	30.33
#1 - Good Color	AB/CO/KS/NE/UT/WY				27.00	27.00	27.00
#1 - Good Color	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	29.00	30.00	29.50	24.00	24.00	24.00
#1 - Fair/Average Quality (FAQ)	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	39.00	39.00	39.00			
#1 - Fair/Average Quality (FAQ)	AB/CO/KS/NE/UT/WY				27.00	27.00	27.00
#1 - Fair/Average Quality (FAQ)	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	28.50	28.50	28.50	24.00	24.00	24.00
#2	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	30.00	30.00	30.00			
#2	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	28.00	28.00	28.00	23.00	23.00	23.00
Splits	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	18.00	22.00	20.00			

Displayed prices in USD ~ Multigrain International LLC ~ Contact George A. Jibilian at 970.490.1878 or info@multigrain.com

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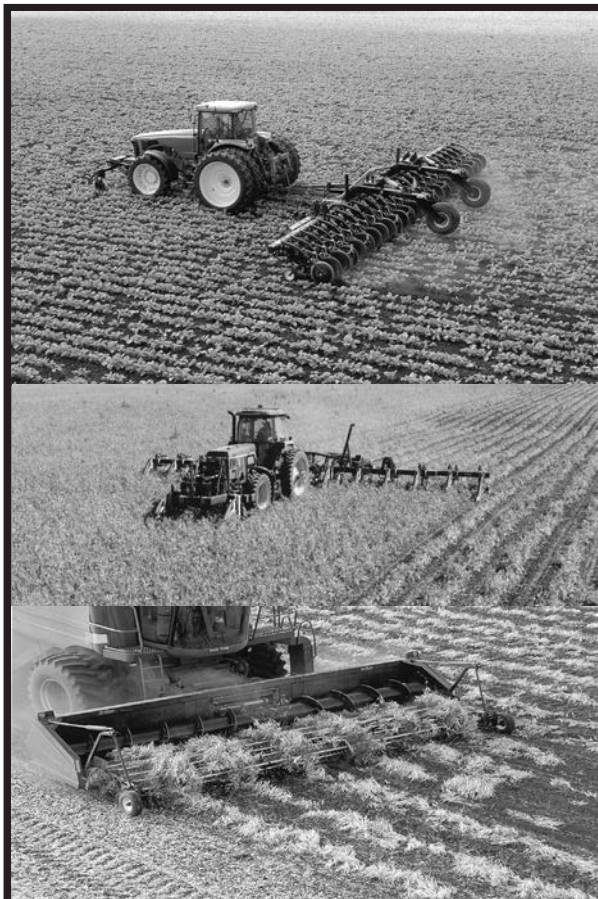
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Spartan Charge Returns to the Dry Bean Market

Dry bean growers in Minnesota and North Dakota once again have Spartan Charge herbicide available thanks to a Special Local Needs (24 C) Label issued by the Minnesota and North Dakota Departments of Agriculture. Spartan was labeled for dry beans in 2004, but the manufacturer, FMC, cancelled it due to crop injury claims from growers in other states.

Due to the lack of effective weed control options in dry edible beans, there have been at least 50 to 100 inquiries per year about labeling Spartan Charge. These requests have been made by growers, crop

consultants, dry bean buyers, the Northarvest Bean Growers Association, and from North Dakota State University Extension weed specialist Rich Zollinger.

FMC Technical Support Specialist Sam Lockhart says Zollinger was very influential in persuading FMC to label Spartan Charge in dry beans, writing several letters of support, and summarizing data that was sent to FMC. While dry bean growers are now using Spartan Charge at their own risk, Zollinger says if growers follow the label, they should have no trouble with crop injury.

"The crop injury in 2004 occurred on very light

soil, with very low organic matter. In all the years, and numerous studies of Spartan tested on dry beans, there was no injury when used at labeled rates," says Zollinger. "The soils we have here provide a very good buffer for safety for the herbicide, so I think that is why the company, FMC, has approved this use."

Zollinger explains that Spartan Charge is a mixture of Spartan, plus Aim, and is intended for pre-emergence use. The Aim is included for cases where dry beans might be planted no-till. In those situations, the Aim will help with the burndown weed control. According to Zollinger the main function of Spartan Charge is pre-emergence, small-seeded broadleaf weed activity, such as red root pigweed, common lambsquarter, kochia, ALS-resistant kochia, smartweeds, eastern black nightshade, and biennial wormwood.

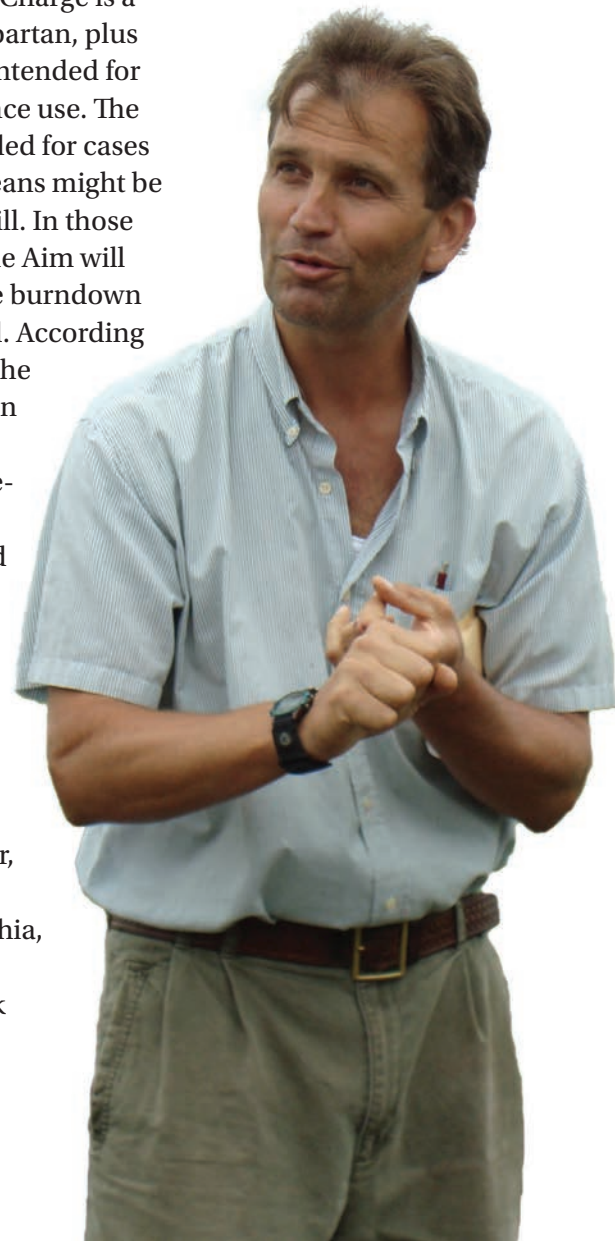
Zollinger says these are five of the six worst weed problems reported by growers in the 2009 Grower Survey.

"We try to be effective in our jobs by helping provide weed control solutions to growers. This is just a wonderful advancement of weed control for the dry bean user; it gives season-long

WORST WEED PROBLEM IN DRY BEAN FIELDS IN 2009

Weed	Respondents %
Lambsquarter	17.1
Ragweed	14.4
Canada thistle	12.6
Nightshade	11.7
Kochia	9.9
Biennial wormwood	9.9
*2009 Dry Bean Grower Survey	

Zollinger says ragweed has kind of been there as a nuisance weed, but now with the prevalent use of glyphosate, it has become a "pivot" weed in many areas. "So if dry beans are in the rotation, you battle several broadleaf weeds, but Spartan Charge will do a good job on the small-seed types."



control of many weeds.”

FMC’s Lockhart says Spartan Charge has a dual purpose for dry bean growers looking for better weed control, including pre-plant burndown and residual pre-emergent weed control of the labeled broadleaf weeds. Lockhart also stresses to growers to read, follow and understand all of the label precautions prior to using Spartan Charge in their fields.

“It always helps to review the field’s soil sample information to help determine a rate as the same rate doesn’t fit every field,” says Lockhart.

Spartan has always been



Note the difference between the beans treated with Spartan and the untreated beans.

available on soybeans, sunflowers, chickpeas, and field peas. “However, another Section 18 exemption registration on

flax is in the works, but we are also close to getting a federal registration on flax, so one or the other will happen,” says

Zollinger.

Zollinger says Spartan Charge controls small-seeded broadleaf weeds like lambsquarter, but ragweed is a large-seeded broadleaf. NDSU’s recommendation for good ragweed control is Permit herbicide, pre-emergence.

“Then,” says Zollinger, “if you have escapes or some weeds that come through, Reflex applied post-emergence can control small emerged ragweed. Ragweed is becoming resistant to ALS-herbicides, which is the same mode of action as Permit. So as long as we don’t get resistance, Permit will do an excellent job.”

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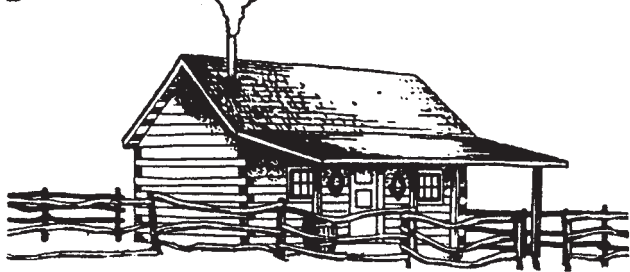


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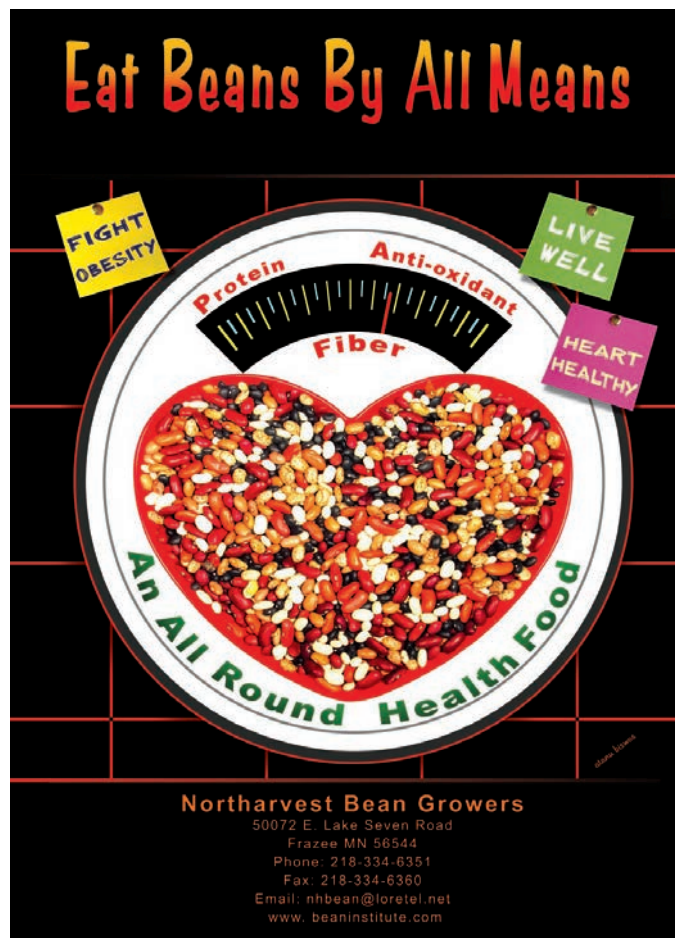
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Northarvest Funds Research on New Uses for Dry Beans

Ethanol, plastics and a more stable vegetable oil, are some of the potential new uses of dry beans that are being researched at the USDA's National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research in Peoria, Illinois.

The Northarvest Bean Growers Association funded the hiring of a post-doctoral student to work on this research project, using part of a Specialty Crop Grant it received from USDA. The research has been going on for a little over a year at the NCAUR, which has approximately 90 PhD's. It is the first research facility that has made alcohol from dry beans, as well as the first to utilize microwave ovens to enhance the extraction of antioxidants from dry beans.

Principal researcher Dr. Atanu Biswas says the Peoria ARS facility has converted part of dry beans to alcohol and is comparing the process made with dry beans to that made from corn. That work is ongoing. Biswas says research has also found that oil from dry beans is much more stable than soybean oil. Because of the antioxidants in dry beans, the oil is thermally very stable. Biswas says this oil may be



The National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research designed this nutrition poster for Northarvest.

used as an additive with other vegetable oils to increase their stability. This allows longer frying time at high temperatures. This research is being published.

NCAUR researchers also found that dry beans contain a lot of antioxidants and they continue to study how good they are for the human body. Part of that finding has also been published in a journal.

Dry beans are also being

used to make biodegradable plastics, which is ongoing research. "We're seeing some encouraging results, but it is too early to report any benefits," says Biswas. This dry bean research will continue through the end of this year.

Biswas says research on the protein content of dry beans, and the starch in the beans, to see whether it has any cholesterol reducing properties, is ongoing. According to

Biswas, the dry bean is an excellent raw material for a variety of uses. At least four components are interesting from commercial points of view: starch, protein, oil and antioxidants. "We are looking into all these components to see what we can extract from beans."

Under suitable conditions, the use of microwave ovens can extract more polyphenols (which have antioxidant properties) than conventional heat extractions.

Summarizing his research on dry beans, Biswas thinks the stability of the oil is intriguing. "And we demonstrated that it has a lot more antioxidants which could enhance the market value of beans." Regarding alcohol and cholesterol reduction, Biswas says the jury is still out.

Additional research underway at the NCAUR will offer additional insights on the application of bean starches (plastics), as well as fractions with nutraceutical potential (tocopherols). In addition, potentially novel ways of processing beans, with application to the food sector, may offer opportunities for substitution of beans in foods or industry processing that may otherwise go unexamined.



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Harpestad Chairs North Central Bean Dealers Association

Members of the North Central Bean Dealers Association are still dealing with last year's pinto crop. The crop was harvested at high moisture and the color continued to darken. Rick Harpestad, general manager, SRS Commodities, remains confident the pintos will find a market, but isn't sure about the price level.

"We've had the luxury of some pretty good prices the last couple years. Three-to-four years ago, \$20 was pretty good, now we've had \$25 to \$30," says Harpestad. "We were hoping the government would be in to buy more pintos than they have, but it seems like all the tenders are headed towards peas and lentils."

Harpestad is the new chairman of the North Central Bean Dealers Association, a group with approximately 44 regular members and 72 associate members. Harpestad says bean dealers are in the middle, between growers who want the best price for their beans, and end users who want beans that meet their specifications, at a price that allows them to market the beans at a competitive price.

"Communication is the big thing, if we keep preaching to end-users

what the growers are going through, and do the same the other way...relationships are a huge thing in this business," says Harpestad. "If they know where you're coming from you've got a better chance of them understanding your situation."

According to Harpestad, bean dealers made big investments in dryers last year to help growers get the crop off. He thinks bean dealers face a lot of risk and challenges that are sometimes overlooked.

Most of the beans are all delivered to the bean plants at harvest. This requires a lot of storage, not only for the volume of beans, but also for the ability to segregate different quality of beans. "Packagers we sell to require low moisture, and nice color. Canners require low cracked seed coat, so it's our job to keep them in condition until they're sold and shipped," says Harpestad.

He also appreciates what the growers go through. "Their job isn't easy either," says Harpestad. "They've gotta really pay attention to what they're doing in the whole marketing game." Again, he thinks honesty is the best policy. "They might



not want to hear that the markets may be headed lower, but if you're honest, they can deal with it."

As growers face a lot of risk in growing the crop, bean dealers face a lot of risk in marketing the crop. While most bean contracts between growers and dealers include an Act of God clause, the sale between dealers and end users do not. "This," says Harpestad, "is where the relationship between grower and dealer is crucial."

Harpestad gave up his trucking and custom combining business to find a job that would keep him at home. The decision was

made when Rick's then 3-year-old son asked him if he was his daddy. That's when he went to work for O'Brien Seed in Mayville, North Dakota. Eight years later, Harpestad went to work at SRS Commodities across town, and six months after that, became the manager.

Harpestad is thankful for the four growers who stepped up to buy Commodity Specialists Company's minority ownership of SRS in 2007. "They put a lot of trust in me, and they put their neck on the line, personally guaranteeing this place. That was the only way to get financing."

A Primer on Dry Edible Bean Harvest Technology

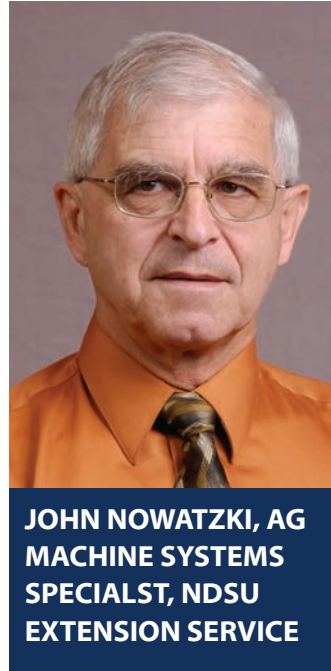
John Nowatzki is an Ag Machine Systems Specialist for the North Dakota State University Extension Service. John develops and teaches educational programs related to agriculture machinery selection and operation.

Harvest is still months away, but growers want to be ready when the season arrives. BeanGrower connected with Nowatzki for a primer on the harvest technology available in the dry edible bean industry.

BeanGrower: Dry ed-

ible beans are a sensitive crop to harvest. There are benefits and challenges with both conventional and direct harvest equipment and we want to learn more. Let's start with conventional harvest tools, what are the benefits?

Nowatzki: The conventional system, where you undercut them or lift them out with a rod and windrow them is two separate operations. If parts of the field are riper than the rest of the field, you can windrow them and



let them dry down and have them at pretty much the same moisture levels across the field. That is certainly a benefit. Generally, we've seen more of the traditional harvest equipment with the vine-type beans.

BeanGrower: Any challenges with this type of system?

Nowatzki: If you have rocks to deal with, there will be problems when you run that knife or rod under the ground. In general, there is going to be

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more loss with the traditional method. Dry bean harvesting has a significant amount of loss. The loss can come from having green seeds or split or damaged seed coat. There are issues with uneven fields. Those can be problems with both systems.

BeanGrower: What about direct harvesting equipment?

Nowatzki: In the past, it was used more for bush-type beans. I think we're seeing that changing. Today, with the flexible cutting bar, you're able to run that right on the ground. Plus, if you're going to use the straight harvesting, it is a good idea to make sure the fields are smooth and rocks are pushed

into the ground with a roller so you don't have the problem of picking up rocks with the header. Most of the loss when you do straight combining is caused by the pods being cut by the cutter bar or by traveling too fast. There can be up to 20 or more percent loss of yield if you don't run the straight header correctly, but experienced operators can reduce that to five percent.

BeanGrower: John, are there any after-market products that perform well with either type of harvesting system?

Nowatzki: The plastic lift bars that guard the reel are good. They have a C-shape so the front of

the sickle guard is not the thing that hits the ground first. That's one thing. The air reel helps. In terms of getting the combine to operate correctly, there is a speed-reduction mechanism that can slow the cylinder down that can really decrease losses inside the combine. The slow-down kit is something that is important for farmers to be aware of, if they can't run the cylinder speed down to 200 RPM, they need to slow down. I would also recommend a floating flex-head. Most fields are not going to be soft enough over the whole field to use a rigid header. Flex-heads are going to be expensive, but they are going to be worth it.

BeanGrower: What do you think of the rotary combines?

Nowatzki: They do a good job on beans. They have less seeds that are cracked in the combine. Again, the rotary has to be slowed down, compared to the typical operation with other crops.

BeanGrower: This is specialized equipment. If a grower is making a buying decision, what do you suggest?

Nowatzki: The first thing I would do is talk to people that have a similar combine and see what their thoughts are. The type of beans being harvested certainly will have an impact on the type of equipment used.

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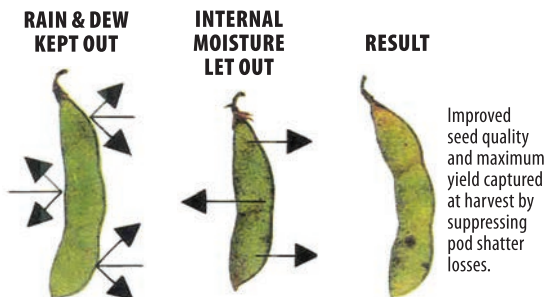
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MEDITERRANEAN CARROT & BLACK BEAN SALAD

Nutrition Note: This recipe makes 6 servings. Each serving has 127 calories, 5 g fat, 3 g protein, 22 g carbohydrates, 5 g fiber, 36 mg calcium, 111 mcg folate, 216 mg potassium, and 384 mg sodium.

Ingredients:

- 1 can (15 -16 ounce) black beans
- 3 medium carrots, peeled
- 2 tablespoons onion or green onions and tops
- 1 garlic clove or ½ teaspoon dry garlic
- 1 tablespoon fresh mint or basil or ¼ - ½ cup fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons honey

Communicating the Dry Bean Nutrition Message

Lynne Bigwood, Home Economist, Northarvest Bean Growers Association, represented the industry at a variety of events in recent weeks. One highlight was the North Dakota Long Term Care and Dietetics Conference in Bismarck. Northarvest exhibited at the North Dakota Dietetics Association and Long Term Care Association joint conference for the first time.

The conference attracted nearly 1,400 attendees. Bigwood offered new ideas for the use of beans in menu planning, which was welcomed by the dietary managers. The new Bean Institute website was also introduced at this important event.

Attendance topped 1,000 at the National Women, Infant and Children Association Conference in Milwaukee, Wis-



Lynne Bigwood, Home Economist, and assistant Ginger Knudsen met with dietitians at the North Dakota Longterm Care and Dietetics Association Conference

consin. Bigwood was able to share Northarvest's new educational materials. Cathy Breedon, who is with MeritCare and the UND Medical School, spoke about the latest hot topics in nutrition.



At the North Dakota Nutrition Council meeting, Northarvest presented Bean Appétit! aprons as a door prize.

MEDITERRANEAN CARROT & BLACK BEAN SALAD

Method:

1. Drain and rinse black beans. Pour into a 4 or 5 cup bowl.
2. Shred carrots with a grater or food processor. Chop onion very fine. Add to carrots.
3. Crush garlic clove and chop fine. Use a knife to chop or scissor to snip herbs into small pieces. Add to the bowl.
4. Add remaining ingredients to vegetables to make the dressing and stir to combine.
5. Chill or serve at room temperature. Refrigerate leftovers.



NUTRITION WEBSITES

www.Meritcare.com -- At this site, seek out Cathy Breedon's handouts. Breedon offers information on nutrition and health concerns.

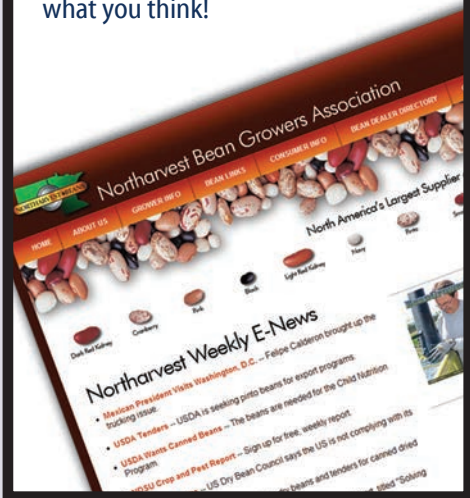
www.mealmakeovermoms.com -- Janice Newell Bissex is a registered dietician from Boston. She shares her secrets to healthy meal makeovers.

www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/food.htm -- Julie Garden Robinson, PhD, LRD, has food preservation tips. Northarvest is one of the sponsors for the Eat Smart, Play Hard magazine for North Dakota elementary students, published by Julie Garden-Robinson.

www.beaninstitute.com -- Northarvest's website geared toward both dietitians and consumers to improve awareness and understanding of the nutrition and health benefits of dry beans.

NORTHARVEST WEBSITE HAS A NEW LOOK

www.northarvestbean.org has a new design. The site maintains the information it had previously, but improved navigation will help you find what you need. Be sure to check it out, and let us know what you think!



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Northarvest Travels to Promote Beans

Minnesota Dry Bean Council Chairman Mark Dombeck, a grower from Perham, Minnesota, represented the Northarvest Bean Growers Association at the Alimentaria 2010 trade show in Barcelona, Spain March 22nd through the 26th. Dombeck helped man the US Dry Bean Council's booth at the show.

The event had about 4,000 companies with exhibits in 10 different halls. Approximately 130,000 visitors attended. The US Dry Bean Council's booth was part of the American pavilion which also included the US Pea and



USDBC trade team at Grupo Perfesa in the Dominican Republic. This includes Agro Commercial, the importing arm. The DR imports 60 percent of its bean needs, 90 percent of which are pinto beans.

Lentil Council, US Poultry Council, and Red River Commodities, which was promoting SunButter.

The booth gave out beans and lentils in the form of two different cold

salads as well as samples of hummus, served by students from a nearby culinary institute. The US Dry Bean Council also gave away booklets with pictures of each bean and

describing where they are grown, and listed company contacts for each product.

Main questions asked by those who stopped by the booth were the prices of both old and new-crop beans, and where prices may be headed. The other big questions concerned the price of freight and the availability of containers.

Dombeck thinks the bean products were well received in Barcelona, and there were maybe 120 legitimate prospects for future sales that stopped by the booth.

Also in March, Northarvest Bean Growers Association Vice President Todd Sorenson, from Fisher, Minnesota, was part of a trade team to the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Guatemala.

According to US Dry Bean Council Central



While in the Dominican Republic, the trade team visited a local supermarket. Northarvest Bean Growers Association VP Todd Sorenson is second from left.



Above and below are scenes from Alimentaria 2010 in Barcelona, Spain. The US Dry Bean Council was in the American pavilion, with the US Pea and Lentil Council, US Poultry Council and Red River Commodities.

America and Caribbean Regions Representative Randy Duckworth, the pressure being put on the Dominican Republic to make import permit issuance more transparent and timely appears to be starting to show results. The DR government is under tremendous pressure from domestic producers whose crops came off in February.

Shortly after the March trade mission to the DR, the government was reportedly starting to issue the physical DR-CAFTA import permits. Regardless, the US dry bean industry will have to remain vigilant to protect its interests in the DR. The DR import trade expects to see some increased exports to the DR as a result of the government's black beans-for-oil deal with

Venezuela.

During the visit to the DR, the team also discussed the US Dry Bean Council's idea of requesting the Haitian government to temporarily or permanently drop the import tariff on dry beans in order to increase food security in Haiti.

Some importers in the DR have seen increased purchases of dry beans in the DR by Haitian concerns. They felt that these increased purchases by Haiti will likely lead to further US bean exports to the DR this year.

In Costa Rica, bean producers are finding it increasingly difficult to remain competitive in the domestic market. Things are likely to get worse now that a trade deal has been reached between China and Costa Rica in which China will be allowed to export 10,000 metric tons of duty-free beans to Costa Rica. This agreement is expected to be ratified in September 2010 and become effective in January 2011. At present China has a virtual lock on the import market except for the first couple months of Argentina's new crop year, when a few companies seek out new-crop that will cook fast. Duckworth recommends the US dry bean industry approach USDA to seek equal treatment so that we at least start on a level playing field.

Importers in Costa Rica



must buy domestic beans in order to receive import permits for Chinese beans. The problem with China has been that it takes 60 days for delivery. There is a 30 percent tariff on bean imports but often the Costa Rican government will temporarily drop the tariff when local production runs out. Over the past few years, about 80 percent of black

bean imports have come from China and most of the rest from Argentina. Costa Rica used to be able to purchase a few blacks from Nicaragua, but this year Nicaragua has a deal with Venezuela to provide black beans in exchange for oil. Because of that deal, Nicaragua has made it illegal to export black beans to other countries.

No one had verifi-

able numbers on the Nicaraguan-Venezuelan beans-for-oil deal, but one importer with a plant in Nicaragua thought the total would probably be about 8,000 metric tons.

Per capita use of beans in Guatemala is very high but at present the US dry bean industry is largely limited to selling various classes of splits to refried bean manufacturers

such as Alimentos Kerns. Chinese prices for whole black beans are presently too low for US exporters to compete in this market with whole black beans. However, US exporters of small red beans may find opportunities for sales to refried bean manufacturers because prices for small reds in Central America are fairly high right now.

Bean Briefs

ADM SEEDWEST ANNOUNCES ACQUISITIONS

ADM Edible Bean Specialties, also known as ADM Seedwest, has made two recent acquisitions. The announcement includes the Syngenta Seeds dry bean business. The deal also includes 100 percent interest in AmeriSeed from Syngenta Seeds and Basic American. Orders now placed with Syngenta will be transitioned to Seedwest. The purchases include Syngenta's dry bean seed inventory, germplasm, parent seed and commercial seed.

STEIFEL ELECTED AS NHB PRESIDENT

Washburn, North Dakota farmer Don Streifel is the new President of the Northharvest Bean Growers Association. The new Vice President is Fisher,

Minnesota grower Todd Sorenson. Joe Mauch of Hankinson, North Dakota has been elected Treasurer. Reelected as a director was Mark Streed of Milan, Minnesota, and Dan Webster from Penn, North Dakota was reelected as alternate director.

CANADA PROJECTS INCREASE IN WHITE BEAN PRODUCTION

According to a recent survey of farmers, Statistics Canada projects a big increase in dry white beans in Ontario and Manitoba. White bean acreage in Ontario is estimated at 70,000, up 40 percent, or 20,000 acres, from 2009. In Manitoba, white bean acres are put at 65,000, up 44 percent, or 20,000 acres, from last year. Acres of colored beans are up 11 percent from a year ago in Ontario (50,000 vs. 45,000), but in Manitoba, farmers

intend to plant 20,000 less acres of colored beans, a 22 percent decline from 2009. Acres of dry peas in Canada are expected to decline four percent this year, even though Manitoba farmers plan to plant 41 percent more peas than last year. Manitoba farmers also intend to boost acres of chickpeas by 56 percent this year. Acres of lentils are estimated to be up 200 percent in Alberta, and up 16 percent in Saskatchewan.

HARPESTAD TO CHAIR NORTH CENTRAL BEAN DEALERS

Rick Harpestad, manager of SRS Commodities in Mayville, North Dakota is the new Chairman of the North Central Bean Dealers Association.

NHB ELECTION RESULTS

Walhalla, North Dakota bean grower Tim Smith

(District 1) and Jason Mewes of Colgate, North Dakota (District 4) have been reelected to the North Dakota Dry Bean Council.

GUATEMALAN BUYERS VISIT NORTHARVEST REGION

Two bean buyers from Alimentos Kerns in Guatemala were in Northharvest May 5th through the 7th after visiting Michigan. Quality control manager Maynor Ordonez and purchasing manager Oscar Morales were the guests of St. Hilaire Seed Co., North Central Commodities, SRS Commodities, Kelley Bean Company in Hatton, North Dakota, and Walhalla Bean Company in Merrifield, North Dakota. The two Guatemalan bean buyers were primarily interested in purchasing black bean splits for use in refried products.

Dry Beans, Peas and Lentils Team Up for Research Dollars

The American Pulse Association (APA) has been formed. The APA is a joint venture between the US Dry Bean Council and the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council to seek solutions to the critical health, nutrition and sustainability challenges facing the United States and the global community through research on pulse crops (dry beans, dry peas, lentils and chickpeas).

The first step toward finding solutions was a Pulse Health Initiative Workshop in Beltsville, Maryland, which attracted 50 members of the pulse industry, scientific community, and food industry to develop a strategic plan that defines the short and long-term research priorities in the following three areas: Health and nutrition, Functionality/end-use, and Sustainability.

While in Washington, the team met with several congressional offices and requested the establishment of the Pulse Health Initiative within the USDA/Agriculture Research Service (ARS) budget with an appropriation of \$25 million in Fiscal Year 2011.

The APA hopes to find ways that pulses fit as solutions to health issues such as obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer, etc., and nutrition issues. Another priority is increasing the functionality of pulse crops in new products or as ingredients through the study of milling, extrusion, extraction (starch, fiber, protein, etc.), cooking properties in baked goods, noodles, snacks, meat analogues and extenders, egg replacement, beverages, cooking properties and

other food items. Solutions also hope to be found to environmental (climate change, nitrogen fixation, etc.) social (carbon footprint, etc) and economic (cost/benefit analysis, etc.) issues facing the planet using pulse crops.

APA Chair and immediate past chair of the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council Greg Johnson, from Premier Pulses in Minot, North Dakota, says, "The USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council is happy to be joining forces with the US Dry Bean Council. We are facing serious health and nutrition challenges as a national and global population, and pulse crops have an important role to play in finding solutions to those challenges. It is an exciting time, and we look forward to accomplishing the goals of the Pulse Health Initiative as a

united front."

Cindy Brown, vice-chair of the APA and immediate past president of the US Dry Bean Council, says "The US Dry Bean Council is pleased to partner with the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council in launching the Pulse Health Initiative. Joining our two organizations in the creation of the American Pulse Association comes at a time when the United States and the world are crying out for improvements to our health and our environment. Pulse crops offer tangible solutions to these problems."

The Executive Director of the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council, Tim McGreevy, is serving as the CEO of the new American Pulse Association.

Some of the benefits of pulse crops are already known, but launching an



Representatives of the pulse industry participated in the Pulse Health Initiative Workshop.

intensive series of health, nutrition, functionality and sustainability research is imperative to fully realize the capabilities and versatility of pulse crops. The benefits of pulse crops include:

- An important source of protein, dietary fiber and essential nutrients.
- "Fix" nitrogen in the soil, reducing the need for energy-intensive commercial fertilizers.
- Consuming pulses reduced food and caloric intake, decreased waistlines and reduced hunger, according to preliminary research conducted in Canada.
- Regular consumption

of pulses has been shown to improve circulation of blood and reduce body mass index, a measure-

ment of obesity.

The scientific team is working hard to complete the PHI strategic plan. To

receive funding for the FY 2011 budget year, which begins October 1, 2010, they must act quickly.

SIGN UP FOR NDSU CROP AND PEST REPORT

Each season brings new challenges and pest problems in crop production.

To help, the North Dakota State University Extension Service is offering a "Crop and Pest Report" newsletter. It will keep producers and others informed and prepared on how to effectively manage any problem.

The newsletter is a weekly series of updates on crop, soil, insect, disease, horticultural and weed conditions. To subscribe for the free e-mail or mailed version of the report, visit the crop and pest report website at www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/aginfo/entomology/ndsucpr.

If you did not yet sign up for the crop and pest report you are encouraged to do so. Please note, in order to open the attachment you must have Adobe Reader version 7 or greater. It is available as a free download at: www.adobe.com/reader.

This issue is also up on the website at: www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/aginfo/entomology/ndsucpr/index.htm.

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Crop Insurance Update

After hitting some stumbling blocks, it appears the Northharvest Bean Growers Association's effort to get a Crop Revenue Coverage crop insurance product may be back on track.

After Senate and House Agriculture Committee leaders got involved with the Risk Management Agency, and following a recent conference call with Watts and Associates, the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Association, and Gordley Associates, the decision was made to pursue a non-futures CRC product, with quality adjustment included for dry beans.

Watts and Associates' Alex Offerdahl says the intent is to offer the same coverage for pulse crops that producers can currently get for their corn, soybeans and wheat. The most popular product currently is Crop Revenue Coverage (CRC). But, while those program crops have futures markets available and thus a basis for developing the revenue part of the coverage that is well studied and practiced, a different mechanism has to be developed for pulse crops to determine the revenue component. "It's going to have to be a non-futures CRC product," says Offerdahl, "and it's one that's never been developed previously."

"Dry beans certainly feel like they've been squeezed a bit just simply because a grower who's making a decision about what to plant could either have the security of a revenue guarantee for corn, soybeans or wheat, or deal with the uncertainty associated with planting beans, knowing that there's no revenue guarantee available and they have yield coverage only."

ALEX OFFERDAHL
Watts and Associates

There are some that suggest that the availability of these revenue products has pushed out a lot of these smaller crops, where CRC coverage is not available. "Dry beans certainly feel like they've been squeezed a bit just simply because a grower who's making a decision about what to plant could either have the security of a revenue guarantee for corn, soybeans or wheat, or deal with the uncertainty associated with planting beans, knowing that there's no revenue guarantee available and they have yield coverage only," says Offerdahl.

Offerdahl thinks prog-

ress is being made, but it is a painfully slow process. Watts and Associates is currently developing a concept submission, which is a small, simplified explanation of what the product will be, where it will be put in place and what data are available to support it. Offerdahl is working with the Northharvest Bean Growers Association, and now the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council to collect a lot of the data he thinks he'll need.

The concept submission will be presented to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation on July 8th. The draft submission will then go under review by

the FCIC who may then choose to send it out for independent expert review. These independent experts will then have up to 12 weeks to review the package and provide recommendations back to the FCIC. Following those recommendations, FCIC may either choose to provide funding to Northharvest to develop the product, or choose not to do so, in which case the product will probably not go forward.

"So," says Offerdahl, "there are a bunch of little speed bumps that you have to cross over to finally get a product. So, it's very likely at this point they're looking at a product no sooner than crop year 2012." Asked what the odds are, Offerdahl said he feels like there is a "reasonable chance, but we're a long ways from completion. If I were a betting man, I would say that I think there's a pretty strong chance; we feel like there's a pretty decent shot."

Offerdahl commends the Northharvest Bean Growers Association for taking action on crop insurance. "They've been working on this for some time now; they understand that growers feel like they're at a disadvantage and they're working to rectify it."

FOOD SAFETY REFORM: What It Means for Beans

The House has passed its version of the food safety bill, while action on the Senate's bill is pending. The bills strengthen the Food and Drug Administration's enforcement capabilities and have the support of most of the food industry, in particular the fresh fruit and vegetable sector.

Infrequent, but highly visible instances of outbreaks of food borne illness have increased calls for reform efforts to

improve the safety of US foods, and of all phases of our system from grower to the ultimate consumer.

Some farm groups are worried about recordkeeping and traceability issues in the

bill, while others oppose amendments that would exempt small, local and organic farms from the food safety legislation. The food safety bill would also give the FDA authority to issue mandatory recalls. More than two dozen farm organizations have expressed opposition to the inclusion of any traceability standards that would subject farms to new recordkeeping requirements or apply to commodities that are currently co-mingled for transportation, storage and processing.

The US Dry Bean Council has issued a position paper, strongly supporting food safety reforms that are cost effective and that identify priority areas where risk management actions are deemed vital to protecting public health. USDBC does, however, oppose the imposition of additional licensing and user fees on grower storage structures, on facilities already licensed and regulated by state and/or federal warehouse authorities, and/or multiple structures within the same facility.

USDBC's Government Affairs Liaison Bob Sindt says one of the initial concerns had to do with the extent to which farmers would have to allow an FDA inspector onto their land, and the confidentiality of any information gathered during those inspections.

Other questions the dry bean industry had involve what possible new registration fees would cover, and whether a grain elevator, for instance, would pay a fee for each of its individual facilities.

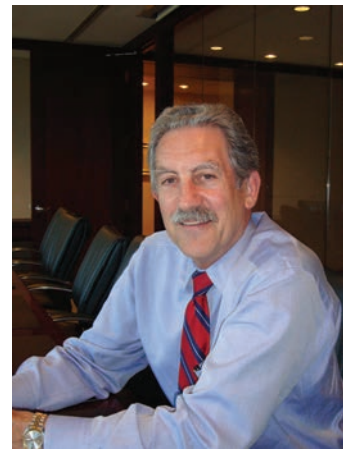
Sindt says the Council supports improving food safety, but wants to do it in a responsible, cautious way. "And in a way that starts with the premise that we have the safest food safety system known to man, which is not to say we can't improve, but we don't want to have an overreaction to it either. The devil's in the details," says Sindt.

Regarding what he calls the "massive" Senate bill, Sindt thinks a lot of the concerns expressed about the House bill have been understood and addressed. The House-passed bill establishes licensing and registration fees, which are \$500 per facility. There is an effort in the Senate to not in-

clude these fees in its version of the bill.

Sindt says a lot of people think that if it's important enough to have a major rewrite and requirements imposed on our entire food production, processing and manufacturing

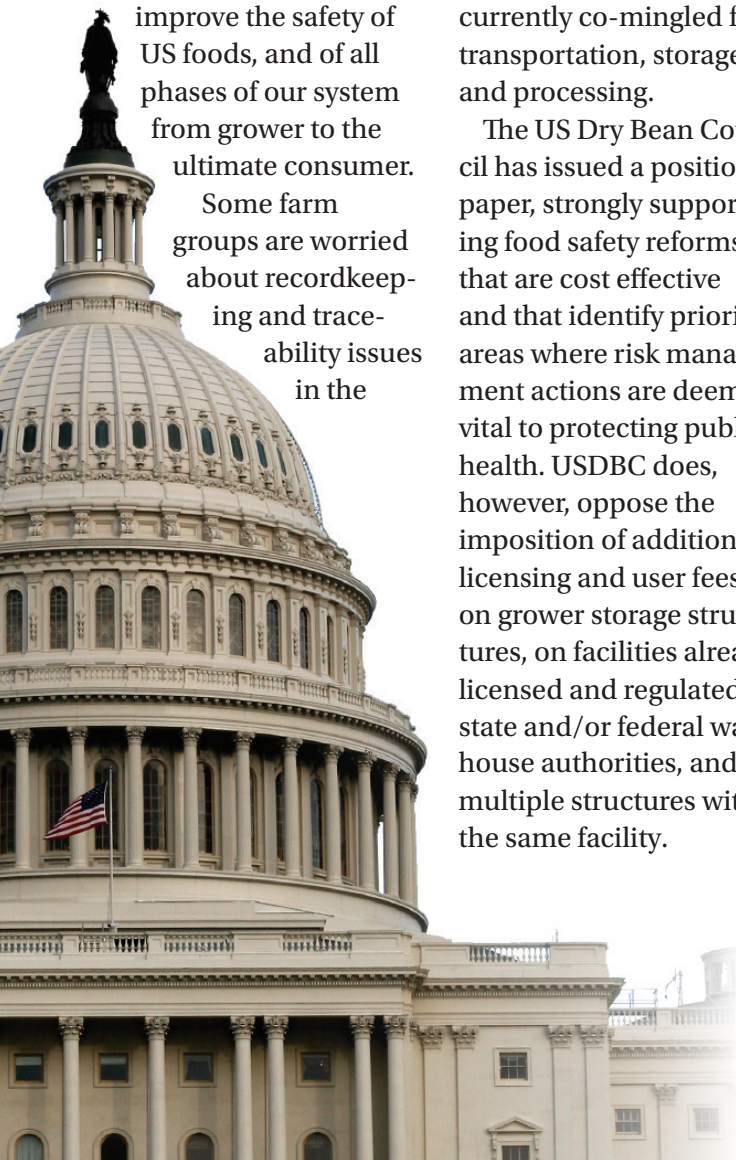
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When it comes to food safety reform, Bob Sindt, U.S. Dry Bean Council, says "the devil's in the details."



House Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson promises to fix the food safety reform bill when it goes to the conference committee.



industry that it should be paid for in the normal US budget as an appropriated item, rather than having fees associated with it.

The Ranking Member on the House Agriculture Committee, Oklahoma Congressman Frank Lucas, says the House food safety bill does not require FDA to spend any additional funds on the inspection of food, but does authorize the agency to regulate on-farm production practices.

House Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson admits the House bill was problematic, but that he got it fixed by exempting grain

and livestock farmers from it. Peterson explains the food safety bill came about because of the fruit and vegetable industry in California and Florida who wanted traceback to the farm by the Food and Drug Administration. Peterson had to convince the Energy and Commerce Committee that the fruit and vegetable people did not speak for everybody in agriculture.

Peterson says the only people that still have trouble with the food safety bill are the small organic farmers, some of whom do not want to be regulated at all. The Senate bill does not contain Peter-

son's fixes, "not yet, but it will. There'll be a conference committee and I'll be on the conference, and we'll get it fixed."

Nebraska Senator, and former US Agriculture Secretary, Mike Johanns, thinks there is strong support for the food safety bill in the Senate. But Johanns cautions, "it's the amendments that could really change that bill and wreak havoc with what has the potential to have a huge number of bipartisan votes."

The American Farm Bureau Federation is still hoping to get an indemnification provision in the bill to pay producers who

may be banned from marketing their produce. But AFBF Public Policy Director Mary Kay Thatcher admits it's an uphill battle. Otherwise, Thatcher thinks they've been able to work most of the troublesome provisions out of the bill, and have worked in some provisions requiring more regular inspections of food imports.

"I just think at this point in time we probably have the major problems out of the bill and what passes now will have very little impact on most producers—maybe if you're packing your own fruits and vegetables, yes," says Thatcher.



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Managing White Mold and Rust

White mold and rust are the two diseases dry bean growers worry about the most. These two diseases thrive in very different environments. North Dakota State University Extension plant pathologist Dr. Sam Markell says it's unusual to see both diseases in the same year.

With white mold, the crop is more at risk when there is ample water in the soil and moderate temperatures. "So, if the soil is wet or saturated within two weeks before bloom starts, we know that those sclerotia are going to germinate," says Markell. "So, as a rule of thumb, getting one to two inches of rain, one to two weeks before flowering, you'll have inoculum." High temperatures of 65 to 70 degrees, with high humidity, are high risk conditions for white mold. If it's dry and windy, the risk is much lower.

While there is no white mold prediction model available for dry beans, there is one for canola that is applicable. It looks at the same factors, but canola will bloom a couple weeks before dry beans. "So, if the canola model shows bright red and none of your dry beans are in bloom yet, don't worry, just wait a week," says Markell.

Markell stresses the importance of the proper

timing of fungicide application. "When the spores land on a plant they can't directly infect a leaf or a pod. They have to land on dead tissue and the florets (flowers) are the most accessible form of tissue. And once it lands on that tissue, it will start to grow on dead tissue and then grow into the plant. That's why that early bloom is so important; you've got to get that protection on that plant when the flowers start coming out because otherwise you're missing the boat. Once it gets into the plant, the game is over. So if you put a fungicide on at first bloom, R1 to maybe R2, you're gonna protect that plant for a couple weeks and that is the time that is most critical."

Markell says you can't scout for white mold, you can only monitor the environmental conditions for the disease. "If you see it, it's too late."

Last year, the Northarvest region had a prolonged wet, cold July. Growers who sprayed twice to widen the protection window enjoyed a benefit. That is the exception to the rule, according to Markell.

While it's hard to say which fungicide works best on white mold, Markell says it is pretty easy to separate each fungicide from the untreated



Apothecia are the tiny mushroom structures that germinate from sclerotia and then release aecospores (white mold-causing spores).



With sclerotia in the pod, the pinto bean shrivels up.

beans. However, with a really high disease environment, they will all be overwhelmed; none of the fungicides will prevent white mold.

There was also a lot of white mold on other crops in 2009 which could plague growers for the next one to three years. Markell says, "we had so much white mold in edible beans, soybeans and sunflowers that we're going to have a lot of inoculum potential out there, so when we get that wet

soil before bloom, there's going to be a lot of spores floating around."

Markell says there is some evidence suggesting one reason white mold was so bad last year is that it was so cold, it took longer for the sclerotia to germinate. "Canola didn't have much white mold, yet dry beans that bloomed two weeks after canola got nailed."

The BeanGrower asked Markell if the price of dry beans will justify spraying

Continued on Next Page

for white mold this year. He answered with another question. "If you're looking at a 20 to 30 percent yield loss, how much difference does that price of beans really make, because it's all relative to what you've got in the field?"

The take-home message on white mold is simple -- pay attention to the weather. If the weather is favorable, if the three components, the soil moisture before flower, the temperature and the moisture during flower, are favorable, you might consider spraying. "Once we get to R3 or R4, go fishing, because you can't do anything with white mold," according to Markell.

For reference purposes, R1 is first bloom, R3 has pods about one inch long at the first blossom position, and at R5, pods will be three to four inches long and you can feel the seed.

RUST ANOTHER STORY

The new race of rust was found for the second straight year in 2009 in Traill County, North Dakota, but it showed up late and did not cause any damage. Markell says, however, if we have an environment opposite of last year, he would expect rust to show up and potentially be an issue.

"Rust can show up basically at any time but we worry about it the most

when it shows up early," says Markell. "If you get it early in the season, it's going to go through more cycles than if you get it late. And it's exponential; each one of those pustules will pump out a thousand spores with no problem, it will really move quickly."

Rust does not need rain. It doesn't really care if the soil is wet or not. It needs heavy dews, and not a lot of them. It needs several hours of heavy dew, minimally, maybe six or eight preferred, and that's going to be a very good environment for rust to take place. Rust is also favored by warmer temperatures than white mold. At 65 to 85 degrees, Markell says rust will progress quickly,

whereas white mold will not like 85 degrees.

Markell cautions against preventive treatments of rust because you never know when you're going to get it. Last year, for example, growers would have lost money with preventive treatments.

Markell recommends scouting fields, especially during the reproductive phases. It would be somewhat unusual to see rust in the vegetative stage. "When we had rust epidemics the last time, it was showing up around first bloom."

Markell recommends scouting in areas of fields where you might see rust, such as tree lines, low areas, and next to last

year's dry beans -- any place where dew is likely to linger. And don't look at the top leaves; look in the middle part of the plant. "You'll always miss rust if you look at the top leaves," says Markell. "And look at the underside of the leaves, and rub off suspected rust spots." If it is rust, the spores will rub off, but the pustule will not. You should still be able to see a circular area remaining.

There are several really good fungicides to control rust. Markell mentions triazoles such as Folicur and Proline, as well as strobiluron fungicides, like Headline and Quadris. Endura, Topsin, and Bravo will have some efficacy

WORK TO DEVELOP RUST RESISTANT VARIETIES CONTINUES

It's fair to say the new race of rust survived the winter again this year. The new race is virulent to every variety that NDSU Extension Plant Pathologist Dr. Sam Markell has tested. (See Fall 2009 *BeanGrower*) NDSU dry bean breeder, Dr. Juan Osorno, is continuing to work on developing varieties that are resistant to the new strain of rust.

Osorno is at the point of his first major seed increase of Stampede, which has shown some bona fide resistance to the new strain of rust. Osorno just finished harvesting the last round of purification in the greenhouse. He has two batches of seed: one has been purified by NDSU, and the other was initially purified by Dr. Talo Pastor Corrales from USDA-ARS in Beltsville, MD, and finished at NDSU. The two batches will now be sent to the State of Washington for seed increase this summer. Once the seed is sent back,

Osorno will screen it again to make sure it has homogenous resistance and then could constitute the new breeder's seed. Then Foundation Seedstocks could start increasing seed.

At this point, Osorno only has about one pound of one batch, and one-half pound of the other. By sending these seeds to the west, he is trying to maximize seed production.

Markell says it is possible that in one to two years, we could have some Stampede R, which would be resistant to the new rust. "This is like warp speed for breeding, to actually have something in the can that's an agronomically viable line and has this trait. It's a pretty good deal," says Markell. If the "new" Stampede becomes a reality, it may have a different name, so growers don't buy Stampede thinking it's resistant to the new strain of rust.

but are not considered rust products. How many times you spray depends on when you see rust.

Markell gives two scenarios: If you get rust at the beginning of bloom you're probably going to need to spray it. Then when pods are forming, if you see rust on the upper canopy, you may need

to spray again. But there is no benefit to spraying for rust after pinto beans have striped. The second scenario is you find rust when pods are two inches long. Markell says the beans may need to be sprayed and then scouted a few weeks later.

For navy beans, Markell says the R7 stage is the

cut-off, that's when the oldest pods have developed seeds. "When you get full-sized seeds, you can stop worrying about rust." In fact, Markell says late rust is actually a pretty good defoliator, helping the beans to mature quickly. If you see rust, Markell recommends you call your county Extension

agent, or your crop consultant. "Call somebody! Let somebody know so we can get somebody in there to confirm it, and we'll get the word out to scout fields." Markell also needs to know the variety of beans where rust is found, since there are still a few varieties that are susceptible to the old races of rust.

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USDA Projects 15 Percent More Dry Bean Acres in 2010

Because of a combination of shrinking stocks, favorable U.S. dry bean prices, and lower prices for alternative crops, USDA estimates the area planted to dry edible beans will rise 15 percent in 2010.

If realized, dry bean area in Minnesota would be second only to the 1999 record high of 205,000 acres. North Dakota growers intended to plant the fourth highest dry bean area on record.

In 2010 USDA says the share of planted area that

is harvested may be greater than a year ago. Assuming average weather this growing season, about 96 percent of the area is expected to be harvested, compared with 95 percent last year. This would result in a 16 percent gain in harvested area, to 1.7 million acres.

The average yield over the past three years would be about one percent higher than last year. With possible gains in both area and yield, U. S. dry bean production could increase four to five mil-

lion cwt and approach 30 million cwt for the first time since 2002.

PER CAPITA USE DECLINES

Disappearance of dry edible beans remained under pressure in 2009, apparently defying conventional wisdom which holds that during times of economic downturns consumers turn away from higher-priced protein sources, like meat, to lower-priced sources such as dry beans. Some

of this can be explained by reduced availability for the domestic market due to several consecutive modest crops occurring at the same time that export demand soared in 2008 and 2009.

The limitation in available supplies plus pressure on dry bean markets from alternative grain markets sent dry bean retail prices up 15 percent from a year earlier and 48 percent above those of two years earlier.

As a result, per capita disappearance of dry




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beans fell seven percent in 2009, to 6.1 pounds—the second consecutive annual decline in per capita use. Total net domestic disappearance of all dry edible beans fell six percent, to 1.9 billion pounds in 2009 due to reduced production, fewer imports, lower beginning stocks, rising exports, and higher seed use for the 2010 crop. With a slowly improving economy and larger supplies driving down retail prices later this year, USDA expects domestic disappearance

of dry beans will likely improve in 2010.

In 2009, per capita use of white beans fell 13 percent, while the use of non-white beans was down five percent. Per capita use of pinto beans, the largest class of non-white beans, totaled 2.7 pounds, down 10 percent from 2008. Domestic disappearance of navy beans was estimated to have declined 18 percent in 2009 due to lower production, imports, and carryover stocks. Net domestic use of navies was estimated

at 230 million pounds in 2009, the lowest since 2005. Domestic disappearance of black beans fell about 10 percent in 2009 as record-large exports siphoned product away from the domestic market.

EXPORTS FALL 3 PERCENT

During the first six months of this marketing year, U.S. exports of dry beans fell three percent from the strong levels of the previous year. Black

bean exports were up 48 percent, and garbanzo bean shipments jumped 108 percent. They were the only gainers from last year.

Exports to Mexico through the first six months of this marketing year were up 55 percent from a year earlier and were the strongest for this period since the 1990-91 season. Black beans accounted for 68 percent of total volume shipped to Mexico, up from 55 percent a year earlier.



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BOB MARTIN
Bowdon, ND
Wells County



How did you get into farming? I rented land and started farming.

What classes of beans do you grow? Pintos and blacks.

What's the best tractor you ever owned? It's the 7120 Case I-H, a very dependable tractor.

What is your favorite thing to do on the farm? I like to feed the cows.

What is your biggest challenge as a farmer? Trying to keep up with technology.

If you won a trip to travel anywhere in the world, where would you go and why? I would like to tour the United States because I have not seen it all.

What's your favorite tool? The electric-powered grease gun.

What do you like to do in your free time? I like to read. I also like to check out the countryside on the ATV.

Tell us about your farm? We raise grain, row crops and beef cattle.

JAMES OSTLIE
Northwood, ND
Steele County



How did you get into farming? I grew up on a farm and started farming myself after college at NDSU.

What classes of beans do you grow and why? Navy beans. They are easier to straight harvest.

What's the best tractor you ever owned? I like our 1066 International. It has good power and starts good in the winter time.

What is your favorite thing to do on the farm? Two things, planting seed in the ground and harvesting.

What is your biggest challenge as a farmer? Marketing the crops.

If you won a trip to travel anywhere in the world, where would you go and why? Norway. I'd like to see where my ancestors came from.

What's your favorite tool? The computer.

What do you like to do in your free time? Visit with family and friends.

Tell us about your farm? Our farm has 1,500 acres of various crops; barley, wheat, edible beans, soybeans and corn.

LAWSON JONES
Webster, ND
Ramsey County



How did you get into farming? I bought a 2470 Case in 1972 and started farming with my family.

What classes of beans do you grow and why? Pintos, they are rugged and dependable. Blacks stand up good and harvest at 18 percent moisture.

What's the best tractor you ever owned? It's our John Deere 8630. I bought it in South Dakota on a ski trip to Colorado. We put triples on it and won a tractor-pulling contest. It pulled 150 percent of its weight.

What is your biggest challenge as a farmer? Meeting the physical demands; I'm hoping my health lasts until I can retire.

If you won a trip to travel anywhere in the world, where would you go and why? Jamaica and the beach.

What's your favorite tool? The Salford. It resulted in a big change in our production strategy.

What do you like to do in your free time? Ski. Ski and ski.

Tell us about your farm? I farm with my younger brother. It is a medium-sized operation, about 5,000 acres. Our major crops are durum, wheat and pinto beans. We also raise corn, soybeans, sunflowers and black beans. I have two daughters that need someone tall, dark and handsome to help them understand the value of feeding the world.

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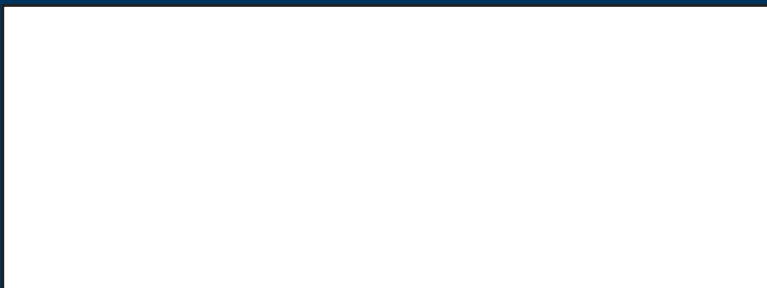




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