

NORTHARVEST BeanGrower



INSIDE

Bean Day 2010

2009 Annual

Report

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VOLUME 16 ISSUE 1

STARTING POINT

See You at Bean Day

I'm always looking for new ideas. In my opinion, that's what Bean Day is all about. This year marks the 35th anniversary for Bean Day. We've had some great speakers over those three and a half decades and we've got some excellent presenters again this year.

At Bean Day, we'll review the 2009 crop, look at varieties, weed and disease issues. We'll learn about row spacing and fertilization. Bean Day will also offer an update on federal farm policy and pesticide regulatory issues. An update on trade opportunities in Mexico and the Dominican Republic will also be presented.

This edition of *BeanGrower* has more details on the Bean Day program on pages 7 through 9. Our slate of speakers includes experts from North Dakota State University, trade consultants Fradbelin Escarraman and Randy Duckworth, William Murphy, Administrator of the Risk Management Agency and Mike Hergert of the Red River Farm Network. I would encourage you to be an active participant in these presentations. Ask questions and provide your own input.

I'd also encourage you to check out the trade show. These exhibitors represent the best of our edible bean industry.

I've always thought some of the best ideas come from the growers at the meeting. The buzzword seems to be networking. Those hallway conversations result in fresh ideas on crop production, equipment, farm policy and more.

This is one meeting you won't want to miss. I'll see you at the Fargo Holiday Inn on Friday, January 15th.

*Tim Courneya, Executive Vice President
 Northarvest Bean Growers Association*



11



12



17



TABLE OF CONTENTS **WINTER 2010**

FEATURES

- 7** Bean Day
- 11** New Bean Combine
- 12** Reverse Trade Teams Visit Northarvest
- 24** ND Seed Production Up in 2009
- 26** New Reel Helps North Dakota Growers Get More Beans
- 31** Halo Blight Reduces Wyoming Seed Production
- 33** 2009 Annual Report

DEPARTMENTS

- 17** Northarvest Interview
- 29** Recipe
- 45** Pulse of the Industry

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USDA Pegs Dry Bean Crop 1.5 Percent Below 2008

According to USDA's December Crop Production Report, U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at nearly 25.2 million cwt for 2009, up 6,000 hundredweight from the October forecast but 1.5 percent below 2008. Planted area is estimated at 1.53 million acres, up three percent from the previous year's estimate. Harvested area is forecast at 1.45 million acres, fractionally higher than 2008. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,737 pounds per acre, a decline of 17 pounds from the October

estimate, and 31 pounds below the previous year. Production is expected to be higher than 2008 in 11 of the 17 producing states. However, the top four producing states are forecasting a decrease in production.

North Dakota's dry edible bean production was raised one percent from the October estimate, to 8.36 million cwt. The average yield was cut to 1,480 pounds per acre, from 1,500 previously, but harvested acres were increased by 15,000 acres from October. North Dakota's 2009 dry edible bean crop is 17

percent below 2008.

Minnesota's dry edible bean production is estimated at 2.52 million cwt, unchanged from October, but down 11 percent from 2008. Yield is forecast at 1,800 pounds per acre, 150 pounds below the 1,950 cwt per acre yield a year ago. Minnesota's dry bean harvested acreage of 140,000 acres is unchanged from October, and down 5,000 from 2008.

By class, USDA estimates U.S. pinto bean production at 10.9 million cwt, up six percent from 2008. North Dakota's pinto

crop declined 11 percent from 2008; Minnesota's pinto production is off 1.5 percent.

U.S. navy bean production is pegged at 3.3 million cwt, a 27 percent decline from the previous year. North Dakota produced 40 percent fewer navies in 2008, and Minnesota 22 percent less.

Black bean production was just shy of 3 million cwt, up 2.5 percent from the previous year. Minnesota growers produced 44 percent more blacks than the previous year; North Dakota's crop declined 17 percent.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS: AREA PLANTED AND HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION BY STATE AND UNITED STATES, 2007-2008 AND FORECASTED DECEMBER 1, 2009 (SOURCE: NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS), AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS BOARD, USDA)

State	Area Planted			Area Harvested			Yield ³			Production ³		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
	1,000 Acres			1,000 Acres			Pounds			1,000 Cwt		
AZ ¹			15.5			15.2			2,120			322
CA	59.0	52.0	68.5	58.0	51.9	68.0	2,090	1,850	2,050	1,212	960	1,394
CO	48.0	48.0	57.0	46.0	44.0	52.0	1,600	1,500	1,650	736	660	858
ID	90.0	80.0	100.0	89.0	79.0	99.0	1,800	1,850	2,000	1,602	1,462	1,980
KS	6.5	6.0	8.5	6.0	5.5	8.0	2,300	2,100	2,800	138	116	224
MI	200.0	200.0	200.0	195.0	195.0	195.0	1,600	1,850	1,800	3,120	3,607	3,510
MN	150.0	150.0	150.0	145.0	145.0	140.0	1,800	1,950	1,800	2,610	2,828	2,521
MT	18.3	11.2	11.9	16.6	9.8	11.5	1,670	1,950	2,030	278	191	234
NE	110.0	135.0	130.0	107.0	126.0	117.0	2,260	2,290	2,100	2,418	2,885	2,457
NM	8.3	9.3	12.5	8.3	9.3	12.5	2,180	2,300	2,250	181	214	281
NY	17.0	17.0	16.0	16.5	16.8	15.6	1,500	1,930	1,190	248	324	185
ND	690.0	660.0	610.0	665.0	640.0	565.0	1,620	1,570	1,480	10,773	10,048	8,362
OR	7.7	4.8	6.5	7.6	4.7	6.5	1,970	2,000	2,260	149	94	147
SD	13.0	8.5	10.3	11.7	8.3	9.9	1,760	1,840	2,340	206	153	232
TX	17.0	24.0	37.0	16.2	21.8	34.5	1,500	1,300	1,600	243	283	552
UT ²	1.5	1.2		1.3	1.2		400	580		5	7	
WA	60.0	50.0	58.0	60.0	50.0	58.0	1,700	1,770	1,800	1,020	885	1,044
WI	6.1	6.5	6.4	6.0	6.4	6.4	1,530	2,130	1,980	92	136	127
WY	25.0	31.5	36.5	24.0	30.5	35.5	2,310	2,310	2,100	555	705	746
US	1,527.4	1,495.0	1,534.6	1,479.2	1,445.2	1,449.6	1,730	1,768	1,737	25,586	25,558	25,176

¹ Estimates began in 2009. ² Estimates discontinued in 2009. ³ Clean Basis.



35th Annual

BEAN DAY

Friday, January 15, 2010

Fargo Holiday Inn

Bean Day Program -- January 15

Morning Program

- 8:00 - 9:50 a.m. **Registration, Coffee**
- 9:50 - 10:00 a.m. **Setting the Agenda**
Jon Ewy, President
Northarvest Bean Growers Association
- 10:00 - 10:20 a.m. **The Zollinger Report: Identifying Weed Problems in Dry Bean and Effective Control Measures**
Dr. Richard Zollinger
Extension Weed Specialist
NDSU Extension Service
North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND
- 10:20 - 10:40 a.m. **09 Variety Yield Performance and Direct Harvest Study Results**
Dr. Juan Osorno, Dry-Bean Breeding & Genetics, Department of Plant Sciences
North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND
- 10:40 - 11:00 a.m. **Row Spacing and Nitrogen Fertilization Effects on the New Pinto Varieties Lariat and Stampede**
Dr. Hans Kandel, Extension Agronomist
Broadleaf Crops, Department of Plant Sciences, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND
- 11:00 - 11:20 a.m. **Managing Dry Bean Diseases**
Dr. Sam Markell, Extension Plant Pathologist, Department of Plant Pathology, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND
- 11:20 - 11:40 a.m. **Bean Rust: Solving a Recurrent Threat**
M. A. Pastor-Corrales, Ph.D., "Talo"
Research Plant Pathologist
Agriculture Research Service- USDA
Beltsville, MD
- 11:40 - 12:00 p.m. **Pesticide Issues including Clean Water Act, Pesticide Label Improvement, State Law Changes**
Jim Gray, Director, Agriculture Chemical Division,
North Dakota Department
of Agriculture, Bismarck, ND

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. **Lunch**

Afternoon Program

- 1:30 - 1:45 p.m. **Association Business**
Jon Ewy, President
1) District Director Elections
- 1:45 - 2:05 p.m. **Update on the Status of the Crop Insurance Program**
William Murphy, Administrator
Risk Management Agency
Washington, D.C.
- 2:05 - 2:25 p.m. **An In-depth Look at the Dominican Republic's 2010 Demand for Dry Beans**
Fradbelin Escarraman, Northarvest
Trade Consultant, Santo Domingo,
Dominican Republic
- 2:25 - 2:45 p.m. **2010 Market Woes While Recapping the 2009 US Bean Harvest**
Mike Hergert, Red River Farm Network Farm
Broadcaster/ Bean Grower Co-editor,
Grand Forks, ND
- 2:45 - 3:05 p.m. **The Aftermath of the 2009 Mexican Bean Harvest and 2010 Export Market Perspective for Mexico**
Randy Duckworth, Director of Worldwide
Activities, U.S. Dry Bean Council
Grapeview, Washington



THURSDAY, JANUARY 14 PRE-BEAN DAY RECEPTION

Join us Thursday for a pre-bean day reception and an opportunity to socialize with exhibitors and fellow growers from late afternoon until 7 p.m. Cash bar and a hors d'oeuvre/sandwich buffet will be available. There is no fee to attend. Hope to see you there.

BEAN DAY EXHIBITORS

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Register for the Bean Day Door Prize

Be sure to register when you attend Bean Day. Registration is free, but your ticket might be worth a great door prize. This year's door prize is a \$300 gift card, sponsored by Ag Country Farm Credit Services (ph: 701-282-9494). You must be a Minnesota or North Dakota dry bean grower to win this prize.

Last year, Justin Grinde (right) of AgCountry Farm Credit Services presented David Bjorge, of Buxton, ND a \$300 American Express Gift card as the recipient of the Bean Day door prize.



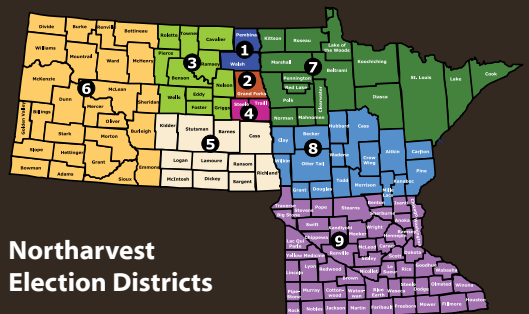
Bean Day Lodging Directory

The Fargo, N.D., Holiday Inn at I-29 & 13th Ave SW, is the headquarters hotel for Bean Day. Make your room reservations by calling the hotel directly. Phone (701) 282-2700. The Holiday Inn Express -- (701) 282-2000 -- is also adjacent to the Holiday Inn parking lot. For a list of other Fargo-Moorhead hotels/motels, visit www.fargomoorhead.org.

2010 Northarvest Bean Elections

District 2 (ND), District 5 (ND) and District 8 (MN) director positions on the Northarvest Bean Growers Association are up for election in 2010. The elections are being conducted through mail ballot. After committee review, the election results will be announced at the 35th Annual Bean Day.

Any dry bean grower or spouse, or any land-owner or spouse, who plants dry beans for marketing within the district and resides within that district may become a candidate for the Board.



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New Bean Combine

North Dakota State University researchers put a new Wintersteiger Classic plot combine to work this fall. This new combine, which is made exclusively for harvesting plots, replaces a 25-year-old soybean combine that had been modified for dry beans. NDSU dry bean breeder Dr. Juan Osorno says the old combine was in the shop most of the time, which delayed harvesting

of the plots and caused additional costs.

The new \$170,000 combine was paid for with joint funds from the Northharvest Bean Growers Association, the North Dakota Dry Edible Bean Seed Growers Association and the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.

Osorno says the main difference between the new combine and the

old one is the concave and auger system has a rubberized beater drum which is gentler on the seeds. The new Wintersteiger, which is made in Austria, also contains a computer system which calculates yield data right in the field, saving time and labor. In addition, it gives researchers the flexibility to do conventional or direct harvesting depending on the

objectives of each trial.

In a letter of thanks to the Northharvest Bean Growers Association, Dr. Osorno said, “we are very excited for this significant improvement in our project and we are sure it will facilitate our breeding effort in the coming years. This support is ensuring the leadership of the region as the number one producer of dry beans in the United States.”



Reverse Trade Teams Visit Northarvest

The plan was perfect. The North Central Bean Dealers Association and Northarvest Bean Growers Association, with the help of the U.S. Dry Bean Council, scheduled visits by bean buyers from Central America and Mexico for early September, to see the bean harvest in the Northarvest region. There was only one problem. They forgot to consult Mother Nature. While the week of Labor Day normally finds growers in high gear, that was not the case this year. In fact, the dry bean harvest did not get a good start until

two weeks after the trade teams' visit.

The Central American buyers visited the Forest River Bean Company, North Central Commodities, and the Steve Adams farm near East Grand Forks.

The five bean buyers from Guatemala and Costa Rica were primarily interested in black beans, and were impressed with

Bean buyers from Guatemala and Costa Rica examine the Northarvest bean crop with the assistance of Bill Thoreson of North Central Commodities, Inc.



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Brian Schanilac hosts Central American visitors at Forest River Bean Company.

the land, bean varieties and bean quality. "We appreciate the U.S. quality, but sometimes we are looking for price, so that's why we are looking for other sources," said Mario Garcia, who is from La Paqueteria in Guatemala. Guatemala buys black beans from China and Argentina, but is seeking other markets. Concerning quality, Garcia said the U.S. has the "best of the world."

According to the U.S. Dry Bean Council, Guatemala consumes approximately 120,000 metric tons of dry beans annually, of which approximately 80,000 MT is produced

Continued on next page

SRS Commodities

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domestically. The majority is black beans, which are consumed at almost every meal.

Costa Rica consumes approximately 40,000 MT of dry beans annually. Less than 10,000 MT are produced domestically. Consumption of dry beans is about 65 percent black beans, 30 percent small red beans and the remaining five percent, other types such as small white and garbanzo beans.

Randy Duckworth, Central American and Caribbean Region's Representative for the U.S. Dry Bean Council, says the U.S. has faced a lot of competition in Central America from China over

the past couple years.

"We brought them here to show them the quality product that we produce and the great processing plants and exporters we have and try to establish some relationships and try to maintain that business," said Duckworth. "Building relationships is critical, given the competition we face from countries, such as Argentina and China. We have to establish that we can provide better service and a higher quality product in order to maintain these markets."

Brian Schanilac, owner of Forest River Bean Company, hosted the bean buyers and processors from Costa

Rica and Guatemala.

Schanilac says trade visits like this are good for all parties involved to have interaction. "These visits help close some of the cultural differences," said Schanilac. "A contract might not mean the same thing in another country." Schanilac also thinks it was good for the Central American visitors to witness the production obstacles Northarvest can experience.

Northarvest also hosted a team of eight bean buyers from Mexico. While rain kept the Mexican visitors from touring bean fields, they did visit several processing plants, including Central Valley

Bean Cooperative, SRS Commodities, and Kelley Bean in Hatton.

Luis Montemayor, representing Granos Selectos, a food distributor in Monterrey, was impressed by the technology at the processing plants he visited, saying they were no match for any elevator in Mexico. Montemayor said he is happy to do business with the people in North Dakota, and that Mexico will keep consuming more or less the same amount of beans that they did last year. Concerning reports of drought damage to Mexico's bean crop, Montemayor said, "we tend to believe the news

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is exaggerating Mexico's drought problems. However, we will still need beans from the U.S., but we are confident the prices will hold in the neighborhood that we have seen throughout the year."

Violeta Picazzo, U.S. Dry Bean Council consultant in Mexico City, says Mexican bean buyers and packagers continue to be interested in the U.S. bean crop. "We can expect Mexico will do a normal amount of business." Concerning damage to the Mexican bean crop, Picazzo said the largest damage is to black beans, but late-planted beans recovered due to rains in early September. Picazzo

also said the group of buyers was happy with the hospitality they received from the people in North Dakota. "For the Mexican culture, that (relationships) is a key ingredient for doing business; we get our comfort zone with people that are more caring," said Picazzo.

The U.S. Ag Attache has revised Mexico's 2009/10 dry bean production estimate downward by 23 percent due to drought in Durango and Zacatecas. Meanwhile, the marketing year 2009/10 import estimate for dry beans has increased to 130,000 metric tons, from 93,000 tons the previous year, a 40 percent increase.



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		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	45.00	42.30	30.00	34.00	31.60
#1 - Premium Color	AB/CO/KS/NE/UT/WY	38.00	42.00	40.33	30.00	32.00	31.00
#1 - Premium Color	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	28.59	40.00	35.80	28.00	32.00	29.39
#1 - Good Color	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	38.00	43.00	41.40	30.00	34.00	31.60
#1 - Good Color	AB/CO/KS/NE/UT/WY	37.00	42.00	39.75	30.00	32.00	30.67
#1 - Good Color	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	28.59	38.00	35.16	26.00	31.00	28.68
#1 - Fair/Average Quality (FAQ)	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	38.00	41.00	40.00	30.00	32.00	31.33
#1 - Fair/Average Quality (FAQ)	AB/CO/KS/NE/UT/WY	37.00	41.00	39.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
#1 - Fair/Average Quality (FAQ)	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	28.59	36.50	33.85	25.00	30.50	28.06
#2	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	39.00	39.00	39.00			
#2	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	33.00	35.00	34.00	26.00	26.00	26.00
Splits	AB/CO/KS/NE/UT/WY	23.00	23.00	23.00			
Splits	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	24.00	27.50	25.83			
		2008 Dealer Price (USD/cwt)			2008 Grower Price (USD/cwt)		
	Region	Low	High	Avg	Low	High	Avg
Beans - Pintos							
#1 - Premium Color	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	37.00	37.00	37.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
#1 - Good Color	ID/MT/NM/OR/WA	36.00	36.00	36.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
#1 - Good Color	AB/CO/KS/NE/UT/WY				30.00	30.00	30.00
#1 - Good Color	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	30.00	35.50	32.75	27.00	27.00	27.00
#1 - Fair/Average Quality (FAQ)	AB/CO/KS/NE/UT/WY				30.00	30.00	30.00
#1 - Fair/Average Quality (FAQ)	MB/MN/ND/SD/SK	30.00	30.00	30.00			

NDSU Greenhouse Growing

D.C. Coston came to North Dakota State University in 2005. Before NDSU, Coston served as the associate director and chief operating officer of the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station and interim associate director of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service at Oklahoma State University. Coston has also been a member of the faculty at Clemson University, Virginia Tech and was the associate director of the South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station.

North Dakota State University is building



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For more than a decade, NDSU has needed new, controlled environment

facilities for plant growth. More often we talk in terms of greenhouses, to allow us to do the type of research that needs to be done to serve North Dakota and north-central U.S. agriculture. Those conversations proceeded, the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education, which works closely with NDSU in prioritizing budget requests to the State Legislature, talked about it and in 2005 the State Legislature provided some initial funding. Then in 2007, there was an added appropriation and in the 2009 session, an additional appropriation. So the discussions have been

going on for well over 10 years and the actual funding stream started with the 2005 session of the North Dakota Legislature.

So, at this point we've got two phases; we're in phase two and how many dollars are we talking about so far? The legislature in 2005 appropriated \$7 million. They provided \$2 million of that in bond funding and then said the NDSU Ag Experiment Station had to come up with the other \$5 million. In 2007, the legislature provided \$7 million of general appropriations funding and also added the authorization to pro-

Continued on next page



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ceed with construction with whatever funds were on hand. In other words, we didn't have to wait until funding for the entire greenhouse complex was on hand. So, through some fund raising efforts, through a small bit of federal funding that we were able to get, and through some other sources, we began construction in phase one in the summer of 2008, utilizing that \$9 million from the state and slightly over \$2.5 million from other sources. So the phase that's under construction, that's slated to be finished by the end of February 2010, the contracts on that are for \$11,575,000. This will be roughly an 18-month con-

struction period.

And are you calling that phase one? Well, the legislature and others have continued calling it phase one, so yes, we're calling it phase one. To continue the story, SBARE again put it as its top capital project for the 2009 legislative session. The request was for \$16.8 million. The Governor's budget recommended \$11,450,000, so essentially \$11.5 million. The Governor recommended that, both chambers of the legislature approved it, the Governor signed it, so we received funding for what they're calling, and we're calling, phase two, this past spring, of almost \$11.5 million. We

went ahead and bid the contracts for the foundation work and some other infrastructure work for phase two. Those contracts were awarded in August, and so the foundation work and some of the other infrastructure for phase two is underway. So actually, work on both phases is going at the same time. The final i-dotting and t-crossing on the plans for the above-ground portion of that are being completed now. If everything works well, we anticipate bids will be in before the end of the year, and hopefully we'll be in a position to award the full construction contracts on phase two. So essentially, the work will never stop

on the site. Phase one will be wrapped up and phase two just continues. The planners, architects and engineers tell us that will be approximately an 18-month build-out, just like phase one has been.

So, mid-2012, we're all done with phase two? I would guess, and hope, more like mid-2011. There's always details, but assuming they can get to work and one of the things that's been fascinating was building of walls and all sorts of things never quit in the winter of 2008/09, contractors were on site virtually every day, had tents built up around with heaters and they were laying block and doing all sorts of things, so

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we would anticipate that in constructing phase two, that the contractors would do similar sorts of things. When you see this thing, the complexity of it and the scale of it, it is amazing and you begin to understand this is a big undertaking and we feel very good about the contractors and architects and the folks that have worked with us on it.

Now, certainly there's been some private

A new state-of-the-art greenhouse facility on the campus of NDSU is slated for completion by 2011. Northarvest has contributed \$50,000 toward the multi-million dollar project.

money that's been raised, right? Right. We talked about phase one, let me finish the story. The entire complex from the very beginning, and this

predates my being here, people estimated that the whole thing would probably cost between \$30 and \$31 million to build what North Dakota agriculture

needs. If you recall when I said SBARE requested \$16.8 million in the fiscal year 2009 session and \$11.45 came in, so that's

Continued on next page



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slightly more than \$5 million left. We can't guess what SBARE may do, but I would anticipate that they will likely go back and try to work with the legislature to get that. That would finish up that piece. You add all that together with what we've had now, it's still almost \$3 million below that \$30 to \$31 million. Remember, we still have the legislative expectation from the 2005 session to secure \$5 million in non-state funds. From the very beginning we talked about having a biosafety level 3 facility, which would be a secure facility, where we can work on things that have a high probability of

getting to this part of the country; things that we need to be prepared to help agriculture manage if they come, but they have to be managed because they can't get loose. About a year ago now, the NDSU Development Foundation conducted a feasibility study for raising \$3 million, to build a biosafety level 3 facility as part of this complex. The study said it is feasible to raise these funds. It completes what people have been talking about for a decade as far as the types of facilities, and when we're successful with that fundraising effort, it also allows us to go back to the legislature and say, 'we heard

you and we complied with what you asked us to do.' We have been working on that for about a year and of that \$3 million goal, we have raised just over \$1.5 million.

And I would assume a lot of the farm organizations have contributed?

Much of that has come from our good friends in the agricultural industries, through their organizations. The Northarvest Bean Growers Association has contributed \$50,000 to the new greenhouse. We also have had some individuals who are very prominent in agriculture in this region and care deeply about the future, and also have done this.

It's an interesting thing when you talk with people, they talk in terms of two things: one is they see this as a strategic investment for their company or organization. They see that if they invest in this and it allows us to do the cutting edge research, that answers questions, keeps them competitive, they have an interest in their bottom line that can come from it. The other thing is many of them, as we talk with them, talk about what agriculture has meant to them. It's been their livelihood, and they are seeing this as a way to pay back some of that and leave a legacy and say 'thank you' for what peo-

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ple that went before them did that prepared them. So we have both of those motivations, and when we are talking with people about their becoming investors in this project, they tell us those stories of accomplishments in agriculture and their gratitude, and their optimism for the agriculture of this region.

Is there a deadline on raising the rest of that \$3 million? We and the Development Foundation have set a goal of having that done by June 30th, 2010, and we're going to see a lot of people. When we sit down and talk about what this is, and what it will mean for a number of decades, the

capability it has as far as doing research now, but also because of the wonderful things that'll be here, our enhanced ability to attract and retain superb scientists, most organizations and individuals say that is important and want to be part of it.

What is it that makes these organizations and individuals in agriculture excited about this project? What will it do, how does it put us on the map? The pitch on this is that North Dakota's economy depends on agriculture and agribusiness for a higher proportion of our Gross State Product than any other state in the nation. Agriculture has been and will con-

tinue to be a part of this economy, assuming that North Dakota agriculture remains competitive and we all know that to remain competitive new technology and information is needed on an ongoing basis, for our producers, our agribusinesses and others to keep going. What this facility does is provide us with as good of facilities as exist anywhere in the world, and better than most to be able to carry on studies that frankly right now we can't do. It allows us to be right there getting that information developed, getting it in the hands of people that need it. Another piece that's an important part about universities and research

work, is understanding that research scientists, the good ones, most of them are quite mobile and they tend to migrate to where the things that fascinate them, the type of work they want to accomplish in their lives, where the facilities and everything is in place for them to do that work. What this complex does is put it to where North Dakota State University will be one of THE places to work. In talking with faculty we already have about this, most of those conversations end up 'I've always dreamed about doing something, whatever, but I've never had the capability. Now I'll be able to do that.'

Continued on next page

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So when do you start working on staffing? We have made a commitment that there will be a person hired to oversee and manage this facility. We'll begin the recruiting for that person fairly quickly. Most of the faculty that will be doing the early work are already members of our faculty and people your readers would know. In fact, it's all we can do to hold them back. We anticipate that much of the spring of 2010 will be used to shake out the facility, make sure we know where the light switches are and the water faucets, make sure that everything works and be ready to really go at it in the fall of 2010.

Work will go on in the spring, but a lot of it will be learning how things work and all those sorts of things because this is an incredibly complex facility.

So, do you anticipate adding additional scientists? As we're able to add scientists, we would do that. Every time a position becomes vacant here, for whatever reason, we always evaluate what's the highest priority. Having this set of facilities will allow us to, will help flavor those conversations as we look at filling positions as some become vacant. I certainly don't want to pre-judge what SBARE might do as far as its pri-

oritizing, but certainly it will change some of the conversations that, as we interact with SBARE and we talk about the things that we see as important, having this capability will allow us to talk about scientists with skills and abilities that perhaps we just didn't even think about earlier. So, we anticipate that over time there will be new scientists, some in filling positions that got reformatted as people left and perhaps new positions completely.

I'd have to think this is a student recruiting tool? This will be a fabulous student recruiting tool. One of the things that's true of university-

related research is a huge amount of it is done by graduate students. These are scientists in training, most of them are on research assistantships through which they work in our research programs. A facility like this is the type of thing that when a student has offers from two or three or four universities, to go to school as graduate students, stipend-wise and so on, everything's fairly even. If we can get them to come visit Fargo, we think they'll sign on with us because they will see that they'll be learning in the types of facilities that other people will have later.



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North Dakota Seed Production Up in 2009

According to the North Dakota State Seed Department, 14,165 acres of dry beans were inspected in 2009. That is well above the 2008 total of 9,011 acres. It is also above the 2007 total of 13,325 acres. Steve Sebesta, Deputy Commissioner of the North Dakota State Seed Department, says one reason for the increase was to secure necessary seed volume for the three new varieties from North Dakota State University. Those varieties are Lariat, Stampede and ND 307.

The other good news is a much-improved pass rate

in 2009. Forty percent of the 14,165 acres inspected passed, a total of 5,642 acres of dry bean seed production. In 2008, only 23 percent of the acres inspected passed, or 2,072 acres. "Last year was pretty miserable, we had a lot of blight," said Sebesta.

The three new NDSU varieties ranked one, two, three in terms of acres inspected (see table below).

Sebesta says last year there was a lot of concern about seed availability.

"A 23 percent pass rate when we only had 9,000

acres planted is pretty tight. I think the growers are fairly happy this year; they've got a better supply of seed that they can work with."

Of the 60 percent of the acres that failed to pass inspection in 2009, the cause was common blight or nightshade. No halo blight or anthracnose was seen in North Dakota in 2009. "We know probably all dry bean varieties are susceptible to blight. We know the pathogen is present so you have to have the environment be conducive for disease development; this year, the environment was not

Lariat	5,340 acres	1,296 passed	24 percent pass rate
Stampede	3,639 acres	1,794 passed	49 percent pass rate
ND 307	3,333 acres	1,052 passed	32 percent pass rate
Maverick	978 acres	853 passed	87 percent pass rate
Mariah	494 acres	426 passed	86 percent pass rate
Eclipse	308 acres	158 passed	51 percent pass rate
Quincy	40 acres	30 passed	75 percent pass rate
Medicine Hat	33 acres	33 passed	100 percent pass rate



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the key factor," explained Sebesta.

Sebesta believes that the environment has more to do with disease development than where the seed originated. "Some people think western-grown seed is better than North Dakota-grown seed because they have strict blight standards," said Sebesta. "We have strict standards too. However, we also see blight in fields that have been planted with western-grown seed, just like fields planted with North Dakota seed."

Sebesta cites the 2008 pass rates for Lariat, Stampede and ND 307. Lariat was the best variety

with a 30 percent pass rate, and all Lariat seed was produced in western states. Just ten percent of Stampede seed acreage passed in 2008, along with six percent of ND 307. "So, 90 to 94 percent of those fields failed last year, and all that seed was western-grown," said Sebesta. "If you eliminate seed as a source of inoculum, that means to me there's enough inoculum in the fields in North Dakota that will still contribute to a problem if the environment is correct."

The North Dakota State Seed Department will continue to monitor dry bean seed quality to see if there are any issues.



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New Reel Helps North Dakota Growers Get More Beans

It was early October, and Lawson and Lee Jones still had the majority of their edible bean crop in the field. Their Webster, North Dakota fields were wet, and so were the beans. The idle time they had while waiting to be able to harvest was good for one thing: it gave them plenty of time to strategize.

The Joneses recalled seeing an Orbit reel at Big Iron. After a “Google” search, Lawson found the distributor, S.I. Distributing in St. Mary’s, Ohio. The Jones brothers installed the new reel, manufactured by HCC Inc., on their John Deere 635 hydro-flex header. They had to do some quick modifications to get their Crary air bar system mounted back on the header. That involved drilling ten holes and welding in two angle iron brackets.

The result was fewer beans on the ground behind the header of the machine. In fact, they were so convinced they bought a second one for another combine.

Lawson says the Orbit reel helps flip the beans from the cutter bar into the header auger a little better, and it allows him to do a better job on shorter beans. With his conventional reel, Jones says if beans didn’t get swept off the cutter bar, they’d get cut another time or two, resulting in lost beans.

According to the company’s website, www.hccincorporated.com, the Orbit reel has been designed as a retrofit for all HCC tube-type reels that have been built since 1990. Installation is easy and can be accomplished on the farm in



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a few hours.

The Orbit reel's unique shape allows the reel tines to break from their conventional circular path and swing directly past the auger. That pushes crop directly into the auger, rather than drop it on the header floor where the build-up will eventually work its way back. As a result, there is no heavy build-up and no need to slow down to handle tough crops.



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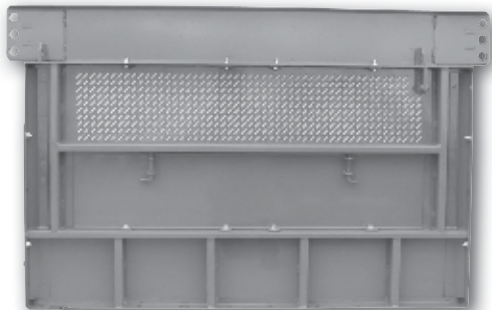
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Mexican Bean Crop Rebounds

According to the latest crop update from Mexico's SAGARPA, the dry bean crop has improved since the end of August. However, production estimates are below October levels.

The late-planted bean crop in Zacatecas improved because of good moisture and better weather conditions, which permitted those beans to develop well. SAGARPA reports the official total loss is still to be

determined, however they now expect production of around 188,000 metric tons. This is 2,000 tons less than the previous estimate, but up 28,000 tons from the forecast made in August. Of the 188,000 tons, 87,000 tons will be black beans and 50,000 will be pintos, with the remainder Flor de Mayo and Flor de Junio, Bayos and other colored beans.

SAGARPA Durango now estimates bean

production at around 130,000 MT, down 10,000 MT from October, but 30,000 MT above the August forecast. Eighty-five percent of Durango's production is pinto beans, 10 percent are black beans and the rest is other varieties.

Bean production in Chihuahua is now estimated at about 110,000 MT. This compares to 124,500 metric tons estimated in October, and 106,000 tons

in August. This is all pinto beans.

According to Raul Caballero, U.S. Dry Bean Council consultant in Mexico City, the Mexican bean trade is saying the Mexican black bean crop is short. While there is no specific program to increase acreage of black beans in Zacatecas, Caballero says farmers are expected to plant more given the shortage of black beans this year, and the consequently better

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prices for the next season. SAGARPA Chiapas reports that state will need to import black beans from other parts of Mexico to fulfill their needs. Like Zacatecas, there is no specific program in Chiapas to increase black bean acreage.

Caballero reports that Mexican importers are expressing concern because of the possibility of Chinese or Argentinean beans being exported to Mexico with U.S. origin. The trade has declared that if this situation happened, it would gravely affect both the Mexican and the U.S. bean industries. Traders say the Mexican government will be very alert for this type of situation and will be ready to apply sanctions in the event that a U.S. bean shipment would include some Chinese or Argentinean beans coming from the United States.

Another concern is the smaller difference in price between Mexican and U.S. black beans, which improves the market for U.S. blacks. However, sales have not been very good at the Central Market in Mexico City. Caballero's contacts in Mexico have said that it is possible the Mexican government would authorize imports of Chinese and Argentine beans in order to obtain the needed black beans at lower prices.

The average price of imported black beans in Mexico was 17.50 pesos per kilo (2.2 lbs) in September. Mexican black beans were priced at 17.00 pesos per kilo. U.S. pinto prices decreased from 16.50 to 15.50 pesos per kilo in Mexico City. In Monterrey and Guadalajara, the price of U.S. pintos was 16.33 pesos per kilo. The average exchange rate in

November was 13.10.

According to a recent article in *El Financiero*, the weather problems experienced this year in some regions of Mexico caused a four percent increase in grain imports from January through September. The drought in July and August, the worst in the last 60 years in Mexico, caused the loss of an estimated 1,500 million pesos worth of corn

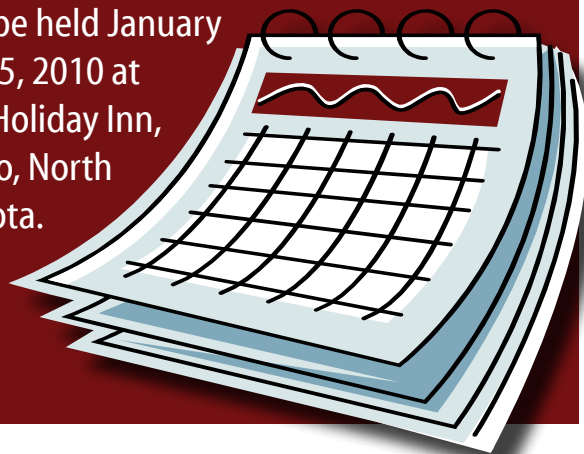
and bean production.

In the first nine months of this year, Mexican bean imports jumped 75 percent, valued at \$135 million (U.S.), according to SAGARPA.

U.S. Dry Bean Council consultant Caballero says, however, that some of the statements or numbers in news reports are not necessarily in agreement with the U.S. Dry Bean Council.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Northharvest Bean Growers Association invites you to Bean Day. It will be held January 14-15, 2010 at the Holiday Inn, Fargo, North Dakota.



TAMALE PIE

Nutrition Note: This recipe makes 6 servings. Each serving has 510 calories, 19 g fat, 33 g protein, 49 g carbohydrates, 7 g fiber, 163 mg calcium, 63 mcg folate, 395 mg potassium, and 262 mg sodium.

Ingredients:

- 1 pound 93% lean ground beef
- 1 cup masa harina or cornmeal
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup cream style corn
- ¼ cup oil
- 2/3 cup buttermilk
- 1 ½ cups (6 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 4-ounce can green chiles
- 1 large onion, chopped fine
- 1 15-16 ounce can chili beans
- 1 ½ teaspoons chili powder
- 1 8-ounce can tomato sauce
- ½ cup raisins, optional

Method:

- Preheat oven to 350° F. Grease and flour an 8" or 9" square or 7" x 11" baking dish.
- Brown the ground beef. Stir and turn occasionally as you prepare the cornbread.
- Combine the masa, baking soda and salt in a mixing bowl. *(continued...)*

Northarvest Represented at Two Culinary Institute of America Conferences

The Northarvest Bean Growers Association promoted beans at two recent Culinary Institute of America conferences. According to Northarvest Home Economist and Promotion Specialist Lynne Bigwood, the purpose of the conference was to envision the future and stimulate dialogue among chefs, American foodservice and U.S. agriculture.

The 6th annual Invitational Leadership Forum on Flavor, Quality and American Menus was held at the Napa Valley Culinary Institute of America campus. Twenty food-related groups, including the Northarvest Bean Growers Association, sponsored the event.

Hope, North Dakota grower, and Northarvest board member Alan Juliuson spoke to the

group, explaining how dry edible beans are produced. Northarvest's Latin recipe for Garnachas was served as a snack for an afternoon break, and three bean recipes were part of the chef demonstrations: Rajma, Tuscan bread and bean soup, and Fagioli al' Uccelletto. At the second night's reception, Juliuson and Bigwood served the Fagioli and handed out gift bags containing 12 Latin Flavor Bean recipes, "bean appétit" aprons, and DVD's featuring Chicago chefs explaining how they use beans in their menus.

Bigwood, and Northarvest Bean Growers Association board member Mark Dombeck, from Perham, Minnesota, also attended the CIA's Latin Flavors, American Kitchens Conference in San Antonio, in October.



Northarvest serves up bean menu ideas to those in the food service and culinary world.

This event attracted chefs from Brazil, Puerto Rico, Chile, and Mexico, as well as North American chefs, cookbook authors and foodservice directors. Bean dishes were demonstrated throughout the conference and many were served at the meals.

At the Napa Valley conference, one chef from San Francisco told Bigwood his people pay

much more attention to the food when they know a producer.

"We made friends and influenced future chefs," said Bigwood.

The new Latin flavors recipes were written for Northarvest by the Culinary Institute of America, as part of the organization's conference sponsorship.

TAMALE PIE (Method continued)

- In a small bowl, beat the eggs lightly with a fork, then add eggs, corn, oil, buttermilk, 1 cup of cheese, green chiles and half the chopped onion to the dry ingredients. Mix thoroughly and set aside.
- Add the rest of the onion to the browned ground beef and stir. Sauté until onion is clear, about 5 minutes. Add beans, chili powder, tomato sauce and raisins. Stir to combine and scrape the browned bits off the bottom of the pan into the mixture. Adjust seasoning to taste.
- Spread half the cornbread in the baking dish. Spoon the meat-bean mixture on top of the cornbread, spread evenly and then top with the rest of the cornbread. Spread cornbread to fully cover the meat-bean mixture.
- Bake uncovered for 1 hour or until the cornbread is done.
- To serve sweet potatoes with this meal, clean, cut into single servings, foil wrap and bake at the same time as the casserole.
- Sprinkle remaining ½ cup cheese over the top of hot casserole.
- Serve with a green salad, sweet potatoes or squash, milk and fruit.



Halo Blight Reduces Wyoming Seed Production

Halo blight apparently caused significant losses in pinto bean seed production in Wyoming in 2009.

According to the Wyoming Seed Certification Service, Wyoming ranked eighth nationally in dry bean production in 2008, and third in the production of pinto beans. 13,000 acres of beans applied for seed certification in 2009.

The North Dakota Foundation Seed Stocks Project is now in its third year of seed increase in Wyoming. North Dakota State University dry bean breeder Dr. Juan Osorno observed halo blight in Wyoming in 2009. "I visited 35 fields during two days in September, and 15 to 20, or more, had at least symptoms," said Osorno. "Some varieties didn't

have any symptoms, but some others, such as Lariat, Maverick, Hime, Windbreaker, and ND 307, among others, were severely affected." Osorno says many of North Dakota's seed increase fields in Wyoming did not pass certification, which will create some shortages of certain varieties.

Wyoming Seed Certification Service

Manager Mike Moore defends Wyoming's bean seed industry saying "Wyoming produces high quality seed year in and year out, with the last significant occurrence of bacterial bean disease being 1997. A strong, vigorous seed certification program, combined with a bean seed industry and quality growers with an

Continued on next page



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understanding of seed quality, have met the quality seed needs of our neighbors to the north for a lot of years." Moore said Wyoming had over 500 fields of beans and Osorno saw only a small percentage of the worst fields.

In addition to the disease issue, Wyoming also had a hard frost in early October. Single-digit temperatures were seen in much of the bean seed production area for two consecutive nights. This followed the coolest summer on

record, which Moore said is also impacting seed availability, especially for longer-season varieties.

According to Moore, the Wyoming Seed Certification Service and the Wyoming bean seed industry have taken every step allowed by current policies and procedures to address the problems related to this growing season, and are actively looking at additional options to reduce future occurrences.

Treasure Valley Seed Company sent an email to its customers in mid-

September informing them that it will not have any Lariat available for seed shipments in 2010. TVS partner Randy Mattson said it appears every field of Lariat it had in Wyoming had halo blight identified, and confirmed. Mattson says 26 percent of the pinto bean acres in Wyoming had halo blight, "so roughly one quarter of the pinto bean seed acres ended up taken out because of this problem (halo blight)."

While Wyoming indeed had a cool, wet summer, the exact cause of halo blight has yet to be fully confirmed. Mattson also said we have to be careful not to blame one variety. "As the growing season evolved, it became clear that halo blight was not exclusive to Lariat. There wasn't anything that escaped the problem, but it was in certain areas."

Mattson is extremely impressed and proud of the way the industry reacted. "The free flow of information has been heartening," said Mattson. "We all realize the gravity of the situation, and see the potential impact for the Bighorn Basin as far as a seed supplier for the Minn-Dak area."

All the seed industry players in Wyoming are discussing the problem, and possible ways to prevent its reoccurrence.

Current standards require fields rejected to be taken out of bean production for two years. The Wyoming Crop Improvement Association is considering a suggestion from the bean industry for a Wyoming version of the Idaho Bean Law.

"We have a profound interest in this not happening again," said Mattson, whose company will take very serious internal strategy reviews on the varieties it grows in a given area so it does not take a loss. "We'll just take it (certain seed production) to Idaho," where Mattson reports "super" yields and quality in 2009. "This is exactly why some seed companies have multiple production areas, such as Idaho and central Washington."

While Treasure Valley Seed Company will have no Lariat seed available for 2010, Mattson said it would be a mistake to say it has a short seed supply. TVS does have pinto seed available, although, in some cases it may not be exactly what growers wanted or ordered.

Osorno says there are still several questions to be answered about this halo blight outbreak in Wyoming. "We are trying our best to find the answers for those issues and do the best for all the stakeholders involved."

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NORTHARVEST BEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION 2009 ANNUAL REPORT



Another year is behind us as Northharvest continues to make progress on behalf of our dry bean industry. The focus of our organization in 2009 continued in five primary areas: Market development, promotion, research, communications and farm policy.

Throughout this annual report, you will learn more about the activities we collectively funded as bean growers, and I am pleased to report that we are making strides.

In the area of foreign market development, we worked closely with the U.S. Dry Bean Council to maintain current market share and to cultivate new emerging markets. Specific areas we focused our attention on were the maintenance of our market in the Dominican Republic, and development of a new potential market in Turkey. We also participated in the Mexican Bean Congress which is an excellent venue for bringing buyers and traders from around the world together with our growers to learn more about quality issues and future trade opportunities.

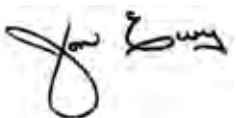
On the promotion front, our efforts focused on increasing the domestic consumption of dry beans through education and outreach. Obviously, targeting consumers directly is costly. Instead, our promotions are directed toward those people and organizations that influence consumers' buying and food consumption choices.

Research is always an important focus of Northharvest. While we continue to fund research on production problems and opportunities that we can put to use in our farming operations, we are also investing research dollars into finding industrial and new uses for our beans. And beyond that, we are funding health research initiatives to better understand how beans can improve human health.

Providing information to federal and state policy makers is also important to us. A major effort this year has been to secure an Actual Crop Revenue Insurance program for dry bean growers to help protect our income in cases of crop losses.

Finally, communications is a critical component of our overall effort. We are pleased to have the trusted team at the Red River Farm Network helping us communicate not only the activities of your Northharvest Association, but also dry bean information that can help us be better growers and marketers in our farming operations.

On all these fronts, we look forward to continued success as we move into the New Year.



Jon Ewy
President



Mission Statement

The Northharvest Bean Growers Association is an association of growers representing growers through the check-off system. We are North America's largest supplier of quality dry beans. We work together to better the industry through promotion, research, market development, education of consumers and monitoring of governmental policy. Our future goals must be continued market exposure and careful monitoring of new ideas, consumer choices, and producer needs.

Northarvest Directory

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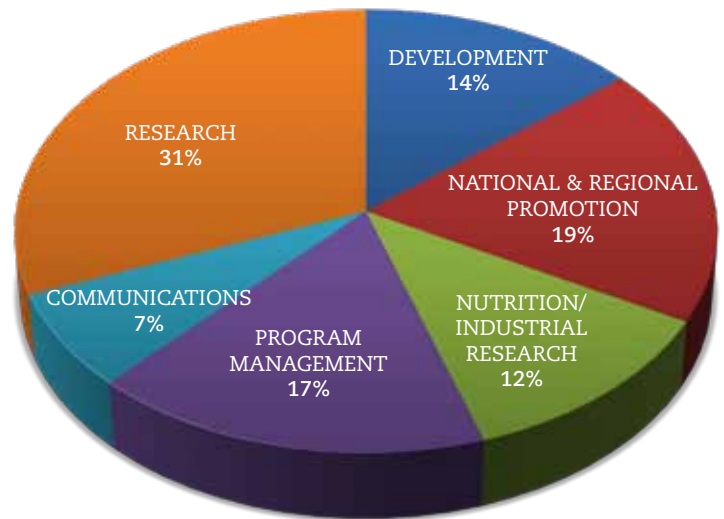
LYNNE BIGWOOD

Home Economist

DELORES MART

Office Assistant

2009-2010 BUDGET BY CATEGORY



ANNUAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION BY CATEGORY

EXPENSE	2008-09	2009-10
Nutrition/Industrial Research	330,000	150,000
Program Management	216,000	221,860
National & Regional Promotion	98,650	241,150
Research	225,783	394,422
Development	318,625	171,500
Communication	100,000	85,000
TOTAL	1,289,058	1,263,932
INCOME		
North Dakota Dry Bean Council	965,058	973,772
Minnesota Dry Bean Research & Promotion Council	216,000	200,000
Northarvest Bean Growers Association	108,000	90,160
TOTAL	1,289,058	1,263,932

Each year, the Northharvest Bean Growers provide continued funding for production research programs. This year was no exception, with 31 percent of the budget, or \$394,422, allocated to dry edible bean research. The NHB research committee meets in the spring of each year to evaluate the merits of various project proposals and to allocate funds based upon that evaluation. Below are brief summaries of the projects that were funded this year. The results of these projects will be reported in more detail in a future issue of the *Bean-Grower* magazine.

NDSU GREENHOUSE COMPLEX

Dr. Ken Grafton, Experiment Station, NDSU (\$50,000)

The Northharvest Bean Growers joined together with other North Dakota commodity groups to provide matching funds for the construction of a greenhouse complex on the campus of NDSU. The North Dakota legislature appropriated base funding for the \$30-35 million greenhouse complex and Northharvest allocated \$50,000 in matching funding this year.

GROWER SURVEY OF PEST PROBLEMS, PESTICIDE USE AND VARIETIES IN 2009

Janet Knodel, NDSU Department of Entomology (\$5,200)

Northharvest continues to fund the annual survey of dry bean pest problems, pesticide use and varieties. The results of the grower survey provide direction for ongoing research efforts and help support the registration of new chemicals and requests for section

18 special exemptions for restricted-use products.

EXTRUSION PROCESSING OF BEANS TO CREATE FOOD INGREDIENTS AND EXTRUDED PRODUCTS

Clifford Hall III, NDSU Department of Cereal and Food Sciences; Mehmet C. Tulbek and Thunyaporn Jeradechachai, Northern Crops Institute (\$35,320)

The use of extrusion processing to produce snacks, cereals and food ingredients from beans for the food industry holds promise for dry bean growers. A major trend in the food industry is to produce high fiber, gluten-free foods that have a low glycemic index. The goals of this project were to: 1) Develop methods for producing extruded bean ingredients that have the same physical and sensory properties as rice crisps -- a product that is used in snack bars and breakfast cereals; 2) Develop a method for producing chocolate-flavored extruded snack products from

dry bean flour and assess the sensory properties of them; 3) Determine the digestible and resistant starches in extruded bean ingredients and products; and 4) Develop technical data in support of extrusion as a technology to produce food and food ingredients from dry beans.

IDENTIFICATION OF RESISTANCE IN DRY BEAN TO SOYBEAN CYST NEMATODE

Drs. Berlin Nelson and Rubella Goswami, NDSU Department of Plant Pathology (\$23,400)

Previous research funded by the Northharvest Bean Growers demonstrated that soybean cyst nematode (SCN) can substantially reduce pinto bean yields. SCN is not yet common in the principal dry bean production areas of North Dakota or northern Minnesota, but it is only a matter of time until it is introduced. SCN is the most important soybean disease in the U.S. and it has steadily moved

north and now infests most of the soybean production areas in the Midwest. The primary control of SCN in soybean is the use of resistant cultivars combined with crop rotation to help lower SCN egg levels. The same control strategy could be applied to dry bean. This research focused on the identification and development of sources of resistance in dry bean varieties by obtaining pinto and navy bean accessions from the Western Regional Plant Introduction Station at Pullman, WA and from the Center for Tropical Research (CIAT) in Cali, Colombia. Because of the importance of those two bean types, NDSU will begin searching in germplasm that could be readily used in crossing experiments if resistant types are identified. Accessions of other bean types such as kidney and black bean will also be obtained for testing. Once germplasm with high levels of resistance are identified, the sources will be made available to bean



NDSU's Department of Cereal Science and the Northern Crops Institute are developing methods for producing extruded bean ingredients to help expand markets for dry beans in the food industry.

breeders to initiate breeding experiments to identify the genetic nature of the resistance.

EXPERIMENTAL HERBICIDES AND DESICCANTS IN DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Dr. Richard Zollinger,
NDSU Department of Plant
Sciences (\$10,000)

Herbicide testing of KIH-485 for dry bean tolerance continued in the second year of this research project. The purpose was to determine the potential use of KIH-485 in dry beans in North Dakota which will influence Kumiai's (the manufacturer of the product) decision whether to support its registration in dry beans.

Herbicide testing was also continued on Permit (halosulfuron) and Reflex (formesafen) for the control of ragweed and nightshade. The goal of the project was to develop a successful and sustained weed control system for two invasive weeds im-

pacting dry bean growers.

Research also continued in the area of dry bean desiccation, including BAS800 and other experimental herbicides. The goal of this project was to determine the potential of BAS 800 as a dry bean and weed desiccant and its possible registration as a desiccant in dry beans.

ROOT ROT RESISTANCE AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT OF DRY BEANS

Dr. Rubella S. Goswami
and **Dr. Juan Osorno,**
NDSU Department of Plant
Sciences; and **Dr. Samuel**
Markell, NDSU Department
of Plant Pathology (\$4,520)

This research evaluated commercial dry bean cultivars for resistance to multiple root rot pathogens under both greenhouse and field conditions. The varieties identified are likely to be much less affected by this disease and could serve as potential sources for these traits in breeding pro-

grams. Such varieties would greatly assist in reducing losses caused by this complex disease and would be easily incorporated into the integrated pest management program.

DRY BEAN IMPROVEMENT FOR THE NORTHERN PLAINS

Dr. Juan M. Osorno, NDSU
Department of Plant
Sciences (\$127,500)

The main objective of the continuing dry bean breeding program at NDSU is to develop high yielding, high quality bean genotypes adapted to the Northern Great Plains. This involves many characteristics of dry beans and different disciplines of research (e.g. genetics, pathology, Physiology, nutrition, etc.). The first priority is to improve pinto and navy market classes, but also black, great northern, red and kidney market classes which are also an important part of the breeding program. A modified pedigree breeding method is used which allows continual evaluation and selection of desirable families and/or lines. Therefore, activities and procedures remain relatively similar from year to year, providing consistency in development and evaluation of new genetics materials in a step-wise manner. Each year, approximately 300 unique hybridizations are performed in the greenhouse. More than 40 percent of all crosses are focused on pintos. The remaining crosses involve the navy, black, dark and light red kidney, small red, great northern and pink market classes. Crosses involve adapted cultivars grown in the Northern Plains, breeding lines developed at NDSU, and germ-

plasm possessing desirable traits from other breeding programs. Unadapted germplasm lines from other sources are evaluated for desirable traits and introgressed into adapted material. Each year, the breeding program evaluates material from around the world as possible sources of resistance to white mold, rust, root rot, anthracnose, viruses, and bacterial blights, among others.

MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF DRY BEAN DISEASES

Dr. Rubella S. Goswami
and **Dr. Samuel Markell,**
NDSU Department of Plant
Pathology (\$33,082)

This research project monitored the spread of dry bean diseases with special emphasis on dry bean rust and evaluation of races of isolates obtained from the field. It also evaluated the efficacy of new fungicides for controlling dry bean rust, and assessed the amount of bacterial blight pathogens transmitted through seed infection. The project also assisted the dry bean breeder by screening advanced breeding lines for resistance to rust, white mold, bacterial blight and root rot; and continued work on developing molecular markers for root rot resistance.

ROW SPACING AND NITROGEN FERTILIZATION EFFECTS ON THE NEW PINTO VARIETIES, LARIAT AND STAMPEDE 2009

Drs. Hans Kandel, Juan
Osorno, B.L. Johnson and F.
Eckert, NDSU Department
of Plant Sciences (\$10,400)

The objective of this study was to evaluate yield performance, growth habit effect,

Continued on next page

ABOUT THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The purpose of the research committee is to determine what research Minnesota and North Dakota bean growers need to help them produce beans more profitably and to work with area university scientists to develop research programs and budgets to address those needs. Work on the committee involves investigating bean production problems in Minnesota and North Dakota, meeting and working with NDSU and U of M research and extension staff, and recommending research projects and a research budget to the Minnesota and North Dakota Councils and to the Northarvest board of directors. Committee members include: **Brian Love** (Chair), Euclid, MN; **Dan Webster**, Penn, ND; **Joe Mauch**, Hankinson, ND; **Todd Sorenson**, Fisher, MN; **Scott Mund**, Milnor, ND; **Jason Mewes**, Colgate, ND; **Jim Sletten**, Northwood, ND; **Nick Kitsch**, Webster, ND; **Tim Smith**, Walhalla, ND; **Mark Dombeck**, Perham, MN; and **James Zenk**, Danube, MN.

stand, lodging and the quality of Lariat and Stampede pinto beans compared with Maverick as a known check pinto bean variety. The research goal was to provide an indication of the optimal row spacing, nitrogen level, and their interaction when growing Lariat or Stampede. Utilizing winter meetings, web information and publications, NDSU will provide producers preliminary data to optimize the potential production ability of these varieties.

A NEW DRY BEAN PLOT COMBINE FOR FASTER AND ACCURATE TRIAL DATA

Dr. Juan Osorno, NDSU Department of Plant Sciences (\$95,000)

Northarvest funded the purchase of a new dry bean plot combine at NDSU that replaces the previous one that was provided by Northarvest more than 20 years ago. One of the major benefits of the combine is the computerized weighing system which enters the yield, moisture and test



A new dry bean plot combine at NDSU funded by Northarvest allows for faster and more accurate variety trial data.

weight data from each plot into the combine's computer. This eliminates the extra handling and processing of thousands of samples, saving

both time and money. The new combine is also better able to assess the direct harvest capability of new breeding lines and varieties and

includes all of the technological and engineering advances obtained in the past 20 years, including gentler handling of seeds.

Federal Crop Insurance

WORKING FOR ACTUAL CROP REVENUE COVERAGE FOR DRY BEANS

Each year, Northarvest monitors federal and state farm policy issues for the benefit of dry bean growers. This year, an important effort has been in the area of federal crop insurance.

Currently, only the Actual Production History (APH) insurance plan is offered to dry bean producers in the United States. Northarvest believes revenue coverage offers far

superior risk management and has been working to develop a workable insurance concept to provide meaningful revenue coverage for dry beans.

The initial proposal for the Actual Revenue History (ARH) insurance program was presented to the FCIC in July of 2009. A peer review of the concept received favorable feedback and a second review is scheduled for February of 2010. Northarvest is hopeful that a final decision will

be made so that the program could be implemented by 2011.

ABOUT THE FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Federal Crop Insurance Committee is to protect dry bean farmers' interests in crop insurance policy and provide input when new rules and price selections are being considered. The committee shall understand all aspects of federal crop insurance issues

and be able to represent dry bean farmers at hearings and be a source for crop insurance administrators when they have questions about how policy changes may affect dry bean farmers. Committee members include: **Don Streifel** (Chair), Washburn, ND; **Joe Mauch**, Hankinson, ND; **Jim Sletten**, Northwood, ND; **Tim Smith**, Walhalla, ND; **Scott Mund**, Milnor, ND; **Don Stueve**, Dumont, MN; **Brian Love**, Euclid, MN; and **James Zenk**, Danube, MN.

Working to Create Market Share for Northarvest Beans

Funding programs that help Northarvest growers develop and maintain market share around the world is an important goal of the Northarvest Bean Growers Association.

U.S. DRY BEAN COUNCIL -- Membership in the U.S. Dry Bean Council affords Northarvest the opportunity to work together with other leaders in the bean industry toward the common goal of promoting the U.S. edible bean trade here in the U.S. and abroad. In addition to the Northarvest Bean Growers Association, members include Bush Brothers & Co., California Bean Shippers Association, California Dry Bean Advisory Board, Colorado Dry Bean Administrative Committee, Goya Foods, inc., Idaho Bean Commission, Michigan Bean Commission, Michigan Bean Shippers Association, Nebraska Dry Bean Commission, New York State Bean Shippers Association, North Central Bean Dealers Association, Rocky Mountain Bean Dealers, Washington Bean Dealers Association, and Western Bean Dealers Association.

TRADE DELEGATIONS -- Northarvest continues to host trade delegations from around the world that visit the area to learn more about bean production, quality issues, trade opportunities and processing technology. Delegations this year included buyers from Central America and Mexico.

INTERNATIONAL VISITS -- In February of 2009, Northarvest sent board member, Jim

Sletten of Northwood, ND, to the Dominican Republic to meet with importers there and to gain a better understanding of their production practices. The Dominican Republic (DR) is consistently one of the top three importers of Northarvest beans and it is a priority to service this market and assist buyers as they seek high quality beans for their domestic needs. Plans for 2010 include continued contact with DR importers, including a return visit by Northarvest representatives.

U.S. DRY BEAN AND OTHER SPECIALTY CROPS CONGRESS -- Another important avenue Northarvest uses to keep in contact with new and

existing trade customers is through the International U.S. Dry Bean and Other Specialty Crops Congress held each year in Mexico. This year's event was held in February and was designed to develop long-lasting relationships that yield business opportunities. At the Congress, international speakers informed participants on topics such as industry and consumers trends. Representatives of the U.S. Dry Bean Council provided an update on the U.S. dry bean crop and market outlook for 2008-09. Buyer/seller "one-on-one" meetings were held during the Congress to share market information.

Along with the U.S. Dry Bean

Council, co-sponsors for the 2009 Congress were the USDA, the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council, the USA Sunflower Association and the USA Popcorn Association.

ABOUT THE U.S. DRY BEAN COUNCIL

The purpose of the USDBC is to increase foreign consumption of U.S. beans and to educate Congress and federal agencies on the needs and interests of the U.S. dry bean industry. The Northarvest delegate represents Northarvest's and the MN and ND Councils' positions to the USDBC. The delegate works with the Legislative Committee to establish Northarvest policy

Continued on next page



Buyers and sellers met during 'one-on-one' business meetings at the 2009 International U.S. Dry Bean and Other Specialty Crops Congress in Mexico. Above, Don Streifel, Vice President, Northarvest Bean Growers, Washburn, ND, Antonio Castillo, VP for a major importing company in the Dominican Republic, Tim Courneya Executive Vice President Northarvest Bean Growers and Mark Streed, Northarvest Bean Growers board member, Milan MN, discuss the DR's long term relationship as a leading importer of U.S. dry beans.

positions on USDBC issues. This year's delegate and alternate are: **Mark Streed**, Delegate, Milan, MN and **Dan Webster**, Alternate, Penn, ND.

ABOUT THE FOOD AID COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Food Aid Committee is to increase dry bean activity (pinto, navy, black, dark red kidney) by development of a market orientated food aid program for repositioning the ND and MN dry bean industry, targeting congress, USDA and all U.S. programs responsible for international food relief, world food programs, etc. This year's committee members include: **Jim Sletten** (Chair), Northwood, ND; **Todd Sorenson**, Fisher, MN; **Alan Juliuson**, Hope, ND; **Gary Paur**, Gilby, ND; **Jason Mewes**, Colgate, ND; and **Paul Johanning**, Park Rapids, MN.

Turkey is Emerging Market for Pinto Beans

Each year, Northarvest works with the U.S. Dry Bean Council to identify and develop emerging markets for dry beans. Turkey is one such potential opportunity.

Turkey has a young and growing population and a rapidly-growing economy. Its location and assets, such as the free trade zone in Mersin, place it in a unique position to trans-ship products around the region and the world. And Turkey's move toward gaining membership in the EU greatly enhances its trade capabilities.

To capitalize on the opportunity, Northarvest cooperated with the North Dakota Trade Office to participate in a trade mission to Turkey in November of 2008. As a result,



PHOTO: ND Trade Office

Melmeit Tulbeck, technical director at the Northern Crops Institute (center) and **Gary Paur** of the Northarvest Bean Growers Association (left), inspect a food wholesaler's supply of beans in Istanbul, Turkey during a North Dakota trade mission last year.

Northarvest learned that U.S. pinto beans have potential in the Turkish market as both

a canned and dry packaged product. Since that time, extensive market development

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The USDBC is headquartered in Washington, D.C. with a management office in South Dakota. In addition, the USDBC has representatives around the world who facilitate activities and dialog between the U.S. and overseas trade.

Nutrition & Industrial Research

efforts have been conducted in the region by the U.S. Dry Bean Council, reports Gary Paur, member of the Northarvest board of directors from Gilby, ND who participated in the trade mission.

Most Turkish canning companies use both speckled and white beans in a product known as “pilaki.” Considered a national dish, pilaki is traditionally produced using domestically-grown beans. However recent production problems have resulted in use of higher-priced imported beans from China and Kyrgyzstan.

“Production of pilaki could increase if high quality, affordable dry beans were available,” says Paur. “This is the role we see the Northarvest region filling in this important emerging market.”

In addition, Paur says the Turkish market holds promise for pintos in the dry packaging sector. Trade estimates indicate that Turkey uses 50,000 MT of speckled dry beans per year as a dry packaged product. While some is produced domestically, again most is imported from China and Kyrgyzstan. “The U.S. pinto bean, if offered at an acceptable price, could enter this market,” says Paur. “Even a minor market share could represent an important export opportunity for Northarvest bean suppliers.”

Future plans include bringing Turkish processors and buyers to the Northarvest region to learn more about our production practices and the quality of Northarvest’s dry beans.

DEVELOPMENT OF “THE BEAN INSTITUTE”

A new project underwritten jointly by Northarvest and a USDA Specialty Vegetables Block Grant will develop a new, health-related website and electronic newsletter focusing on the health benefits of beans.

A trademark application for the name “The Bean Institute” has been submitted for the website and, upon its launch expected in January of 2010, the site will be accessible by both consumers and the dietetic community. Currently, development and testing for the site is underway. An expert editorial board of researchers from Arizona, Colorado, California, Manitoba, and North Dakota has been established to review and oversee web content, and a survey of competitive commodity website and practicing dietitians regarding website features and possible newsletter features is underway. The second phase of the project involves the development of a newsletter targeted toward dietitians. The lead investigator on the project is Dr. William Lesch, Department of Marketing at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks.

Northarvest has also prepared a series of projects reviewed and approved by USDA Block Grant personnel to obtain additional funds to cover expansion of the website and newsletter projects throughout 2010, and to support efforts at improved labeling in the industry concerning the health benefits of beans.

WHAT’S IN A BEAN?

A project to help determine industrial uses of dry beans has been underwritten by Northarvest and is nearing the completion of the first full year of investi-

gation. The lead researcher on this project is Dr. Atanu Biswas of the National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research (NCAUR), Peoria, Illinois. To date, a team of researchers under his direction has published one paper on methods of extraction for a class of chemical called polyphenols (compounds widely believed to have pharmaceutical value in the prevention of cancer). Three additional manuscripts on a range of bean compounds are under preparation and are expected to be completed in early 2010.

DRY BEAN HEALTH RESEARCH PROGRAM

Established in 2008, Northarvest’s Dry Bean Health Research Program (DBHRP) is designed to attract federal funds to the area of dry bean and human health research. Ten \$10,000 awards were offered to the top dry bean health research proposals as an incentive to apply to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for further funding of at least \$150,000 per year for three years. The past twelve months have seen the end of year one of the DBHRP and the beginning of year two.

This year, a total of 16 applications were received from researchers around the country in the areas of cardiovascular disease, obesity, colon cancer, gastrointestinal health, immune system function and diabetes. These applications have undergone a peer review process and the selected researchers have until February of 2010 to submit complete proposals to the NIH to earn their DBHRP awards and have the chance at federal funding.

A breakthrough in scientific funding and successful research could mean an increase in human dry bean consumption for years to come.



Each year, Northarvest participates in numerous events to promote the importance of beans as part of a healthy diet. These efforts are focused on providing information to nutrition educators and decision-makers which, in turn, translate into an economical and effective way to reach end consumers.

2009 began with Northarvest's participation in the Minot and Bismarck Living Ag Classrooms. 1,750 fourth-grade students and their instructors attended these two events. They took workbooks and supplemental materials back to their classrooms to use in their North Dakota studies units. Typically, this program also includes classroom programs for more than 2,000 students and educators in Fargo and Lisbon, but spring flooding forced the cancellation of both for the first time since the program began.

Northarvest joined other Minnesota exhibitors in the Department of Agriculture aisle at the Upper Midwest Restaurant, Hospitality and Lodging Show in Minneapolis this year to exhibit and host an "Ask



Children in Minot learn about the production and nutritional advantages of dry beans at the Minot Living Ag Classroom.



Northarvest home economist Lynne Bigwood visits with a reporter about the benefits of dry beans in a healthy diet as part of the Susan G. Komen Run 4 the Cure at one of the events in Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

the Expert" session. "Magical Fruit – NO – Magical 'Veggie'" themes were used on new coasters, napkins and posters. They are great conversation starters, promotion for nutrition with reasons to eat more beans and they serve a practical purpose, as well.

Northarvest exhibited at ND Ag Day at the Capitol, doing a brisk business with handouts including black bean brownies.

Nutrition Council, Dietetic Association, School Nutrition, Instructor and Society for Nutrition Educators conferences provide opportunities to network with regional and national professional educators and food service staff. It continues to be important to attend these events to offer reliable, up-to-date dry bean materials to help them learn how to prepare and include beans in meals and assist with teaching resources.

Northarvest attended the Minnesota and National WIC (Women, Infants and Children) conferences. Minnesota had many actual food displays to help inform WIC staff about the specific foods

Beans, beans, the Magical Veggie,
the more you eat, the more you
reduce the risk of birth defects and
help your heart health and digestion.

One half cup of cooked beans contains folate for reducing birth defect risks, potassium for heart health, and fiber for a healthy digestive system. Beans also contain low-fat vegetable protein for maintaining healthy muscles, bones, skin, teeth and glands. The complex carbohydrates digest slowly, satisfying hunger and providing long-lasting energy.



NortharvestBean.org



Northarvest distributed dry bean educational materials like this at numerous events held throughout the year as a way to educate the public about the nutritional benefits of beans.

that are and aren't allowed in the new healthy choices food packages. Many of the staff visited the booth with testimony about how valuable *The Bean Cookbook* is. They regularly order and use it as an incentive with their clients. They are very pleased that, at last, canned beans are available in the food packages.

The Susan G. Komen Run 4 the Cure events in Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin were a unique opportunity to promote beans by sharing canned black beans and recipes with a different audience.

The Culinary Institute of America's Flavor, Quality and American Menus in Napa Valley, California, and Latin Flavors, American Kitchens in San Antonio, Texas, were outstanding fine dining and food service events for chefs who lead elegant restaurant and huge food service businesses across the nation. Northarvest increased its sponsorship level and, as a result, dry beans were featured in many demonstrations, menus and meals. Northarvest also printed a set of 12 Latin Flavors recipes created by a

Culinary Institute chef for the gift bags.

The Culinary Institute also plans to develop a web based new media program that highlights the use of beans in cuisine around the world, tentatively titled "The World Bean Kitchen: Contemporary Menu Ideas for American Kitchens." The target launch date is May 30th 2010.

The "Spoon Up Healthy Beanefits, Bean Nutrition... It's Worth Tooting Our Horn About!" brochure was revised with a full color update. A new folate brochure "Beanefits for Healthy Living, Don't Forget Your Folate!" has great new bean recipes and the latest information about the daily folate needs of women of child bearing age.

The Bean Cookbook was expanded to 191 pages; it began in the early '90's with less than 100 pages. The Bean Cookery Curriculum CD was also reorganized and updated. Northarvest continues to use production, health and fine dining DVD's, many posters and varied teaching materi-

als in teaching kits that are requested by educators across the U.S.

ABOUT THE PROMOTION COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Promotion Committee is to develop and implement long and short term domestic promotion programs and budgets, to promote dry beans to consumers and to promote Minnesota and North Dakota as bean sources. In order to develop a coordinated Northarvest national and regional program, committee members also work with the U.S. Dry Bean Council Promotion Health committee members to review the USDBC promotion program and budget. Committee members include: **Dan Webster** (Chair), Penn, ND; **Alan Juliuson**, Hope, ND; **Tom Kennelly**, Grafton, ND; **Jim Sletten**, Northwood, ND; **Nick Kitsch**, Webster, ND; **Robert Landgren**, Wilton, ND; **Jason Mewes**, Colgate, ND; **Don Stueve**, Dumont, MN; **Mark Dombeck**, Perham, MN; and **Paul Johanning**, Park Rapids, MN.



The Culinary Institute of America's Flavor, Quality and American Menus in Napa Valley featured chefs from across the nation cooking with dry beans and other healthy ingredients.



Northarvest Home Economist, Lynne Bigwood, distributed ideas for utilizing beans at the Minnesota School Food Service Association meeting. Activities such as these help influence consumers to eat more beans.

EXPANSION OF GROWER COMMUNICATIONS EFFORTS

Northarvest expanded its communications program this year and now contracts with the respected farm journalism team at the Red River Farm Network for its grower communications needs.

In addition to editing the *BeanGrower* magazine, RRFN has implemented an expanded weekly email news report, regular website updates on www.northarvestbean.org, and a new weekly, in-season radio report called the "Dry Bean Scene" which is broadcast throughout the Northarvest region on the RRFN's radio network and on Northarvest's website.

Future communications plans include the launch of a new website that will feature an improved focus on grower informational needs.

Growers wishing to receive

Northarvest's weekly email news report can sign up by sending an email message to news@northarvestbean.org.

ABOUT THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Communications Committee is to develop and implement member communication programs. The committee determines what members need to receive from Northarvest and the Councils and how to best meet those needs. The Committee reviews current programs and recommends and develops new programs as appropriate. The Committee also develops and recommends an annual communications budget. Members of the committee include: **Alan Juliuson** (Chair), Hope, ND; **Scott Mund**, Milnor, ND; **Tim Smith**, Walhalla, ND; **Mark Dombeck**, Perham, MN; and **Gary Paur**, Gilby, ND.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Legislative Committee members remained active testifying at hearings and meeting with the North Dakota and Minnesota Congressional delegations. Their efforts successfully presented Northarvest's position on retention of non-program crops status for dry beans. The Committee was also actively involved in crop insurance reform, specialty crops grants, and support for vegetable and fruits programs involving nutrition research and schools.

The purpose of the Legislative Committee is to educate state and national lawmakers and agency administrators on the needs and interests of dry bean farmers in Minnesota and North Dakota. Committee members meet with state and national leg-

islators and agency administrators to become familiar with the people who make laws and rules that may affect the dry bean industry. The Committee also recommends policy positions to be considered by the Minnesota and North Dakota Councils and the Northarvest board of directors. The Committee works closely with Northarvest's U.S. Dry Bean Council delegate(s) in forming Northarvest positions on USDBC issues. Committee members include **Don Streifel** (Chair), Washburn, ND; **Paul Johanning**, Park Rapids, MN; **Robert Landgren**, Wilton, ND; **Tim Smith**, Walhalla, ND; **Todd Sorenson**, Fisher, MN; **Dan Webster**, Penn, ND; and **James Zenk**, Danube, MN.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At least three months prior to the spring Northarvest annual meeting, the President appoints a Nominating Committee composed of five members, including the Immediate Past President, when possible. The Committee must include a representative from the North Dakota Dry Bean Council and one from the Minnesota Dry Bean Research and Promotion

Council. The Committee is responsible for nominating a full slate of officers: President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and two candidates for each open district director position. Committee members include: **Gary Paur**, (Chair) Gilby, ND; **Tom Kennelly**, Grafton, ND; **Brian Love**, Euclid, MN; **Tim Smith**, Walhalla, ND; and **Mark Streed**, Milan, MN.



NORTHARVEST BEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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JIM KARLEY
Johnstown, ND
Grand Forks County



STEVE FRITEL
Barton, North Dakota,
Pierce County



How did your harvest go this year? Fortunately, we got done with everything just prior to the rains starting. We got done on my farm the 29th of September and it started raining about the 1st of October and it seemed like it rained every other day for whole month. All the growers that hauled beans into the bean company were pretty much delayed the entire month of October.

What classes of beans do you grow and why? We raise about 1,500 acres of pintos and we have some irrigated black beans. This year, we had about 600 acres.

What type of harvest equipment do you use on your farm? In our beans, we run two John Deere 9500

How did your harvest go this year? All things considered, it went pretty well. We had roughly 85 percent of the beans off when the rain started. Of the remaining acreage, very little of it was on the ground and we were able to harvest the remaining beans direct. They still had good quality.

What classes of beans do you grow and why? I raise pintos and blacks. This is the first year for the blacks. I guess I am always open to the challenge of raising something new on our farm. Blacks seem to favor direct harvest which is the direction I am trying to go with my bean acres.

Pulse profiles continue on next page

CERTIFIED ZORRO **BLACK BEAN SEED**

ZORRO Black Bean is a new high yielding, bacterial blight tolerant black bean released by MSU. Zorro is a type-II short vine with moderate resistance to lodging allowing for direct cutting. Zorro has good white mold scores while maturing about one day earlier than Condor. Zorro has acceptable canning and quality characteristics. Certified Zorro black bean seed will be available for 2010 spring planting.

**Ask your seed dealer for Certified
ZORRO BLACK BEANS**



For a list of Producers or more information,
please contact MCIA or visit
the MCIA website.
Michigan Crop Improvement Association
Web Site: www.michcrop.com
Phone: (517) 332-3546

What type of harvest equipment do you use on your farm?

I do have a Pickett, but did take some beans direct this year with my 9600 JD combine. I am upgrading to a 9770 JD next year and my goal is to take more beans by direct harvest.



What's the best tractor you ever owned? Why?

I would have to say this would be the first tractor I bought when I started farming in 1975, a 4010 JD. I have put more hours then I care to remember on this tractor! Today it is more of a utility tractor with a loader on and it very seldom leaves the yard. It has proven to be a reliable versatile tractor over the years.

What's the best part of your job?

When all the planning from field selection, fertility, seed variety, weed control, come together and a good yield is achieved in the fall is what I find rewarding.

What is your biggest challenge as a farmer?

Risk management. Basically, the weather has presented the biggest challenge this year. It started this spring with delayed planting. There was a time in August I wasn't so sure the beans were going to make it before a frost. The entire package of farming practices from getting the seed out of the ground as quickly as possible, seed maturity and crop insurance go hand-in-hand when dealing with risk management issues when raising beans.

What's your favorite tool? Our wire feed welder. This has been a great tool in our shop. Whether the

use is for repairs or fabricating it is a great asset.

Winter is approaching. What do you like to do in your free time during the winter months?

I guess my passion after my family and our farm would have to be cars. In the winter months, more times than not, I seem to have a car project in the shop that I am working on. Last winter, I finished restoring a 1955 Chevrolet 2 door post which I was under pressure to complete to use in our son's wedding in June. (Which I did accomplish) Our son has gotten involved with racing so I assume we will be doing some work on his car this winter getting it ready for next season's racing at Geographical Center Speedway in Rugby.

Tell us about your farm? My wife Barb and I live on the farm that my parents established and now our son Brad has become part of the operation as well. There is a good feeling knowing that there is interest with the next generation to be directly involved with agriculture. Our farm consists of 4,000 acres of which there is a mix of CRP, winter wheat, spring wheat, malting barley, pinto beans, soybeans and confection sunflowers.

combines with flow-down kits in them and screened up pretty good.

What's the best tractor you ever owned? Why?

I just bought a new Cat MT855. It's a beautiful tractor with lots of power and decent fuel economy.



What's the best part of your job?

I like mornings around here. I consider myself to be a morning person. As I get older, I find myself running out of gas later in the day.

What is your biggest challenge as a farmer?

There's just no room for error. I remember 30 years ago when I started farming with my father-in-law, a guy could make a mistake and live through it. Nowadays, the finances are a lot tighter. It seems everything is more expensive. If you make a mistake, it really hurts.

What's your favorite tool? My vice-grip.

Winter is approaching. What do you like to do in your free time during the winter months?

I restore old Chevilles and work on cars, in general. That's my hobby.

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St. Joseph, Manitoba, Canada

Parent Seed Farms Ltd.

**Buyers, Processors, Exporters of
Beans, Peas,
Chickpeas**

**Email: parentseed@parentseed.com
Website: www.parentseed.com**

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Contact your local authorized dealer

www.pickettequipment.com

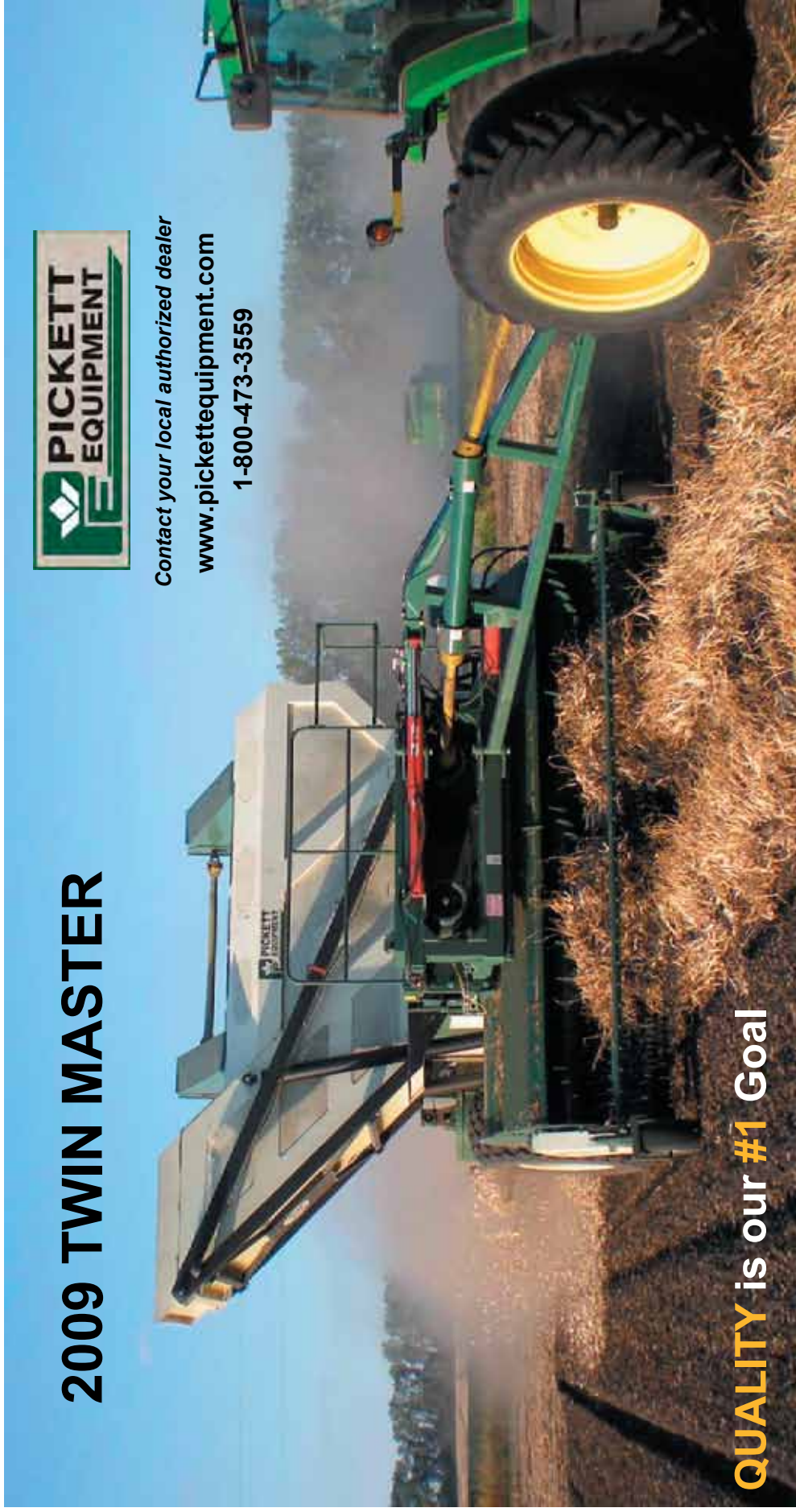
1-800-473-3559

QUALITY is our **#1** Goal

1222 ONE STEPS
working in tandem

LOW-IMPACT Threshing System

13 ½ ft.
Dump Bin
Height





Northharvest Bean Growers Association
50072 East Lake Seven Road, Frazee, MN 56544

Return Service Requested

**Non-Profit
Organization**
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