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Inside This Edition:

Kernza Performance In Western North Dakota

Details on Page 2

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Williston Research Extension Center Seeks to Analyze Kernza Performance in Western North Dakota

By Anna Dragseth

After four decades of breeding and testing, The Land Institute, Salina, KS, has introduced its first commercial grain, a trademarked variety called Kernza. Kernza is in the early stages of commercialization and has been bred intensively for increased seed yield and size for the past 15 years.

Dr. Clair Keene, NDSU Williston Research Extension Center Area Extension Specialist/Cropping System, has been conducting research on Kernza for the past two years. "I currently have a variety trial at the Williston Research Extension Center looking at Kernza lines from the Land Institute and the University of Minnesota. I want to learn how the lines do in the North Dakota environment," said Keene.

Kernza originates from forage grass, called intermediate wheatgrass (*Thinopyrum intermedium*). Kernza currently produces seeds that are only about a quarter the size of conventional wheat. So the Land Institute is aiming to develop Kernza varieties that produce larger seeds.

Kernza roots can extend over 10 feet beneath the soil surface, which is more than twice the depth of an annual wheat root. Kernza's deep roots hold soil in place, reducing erosion, and allowing exploration farther down in the soil profile.

Kernza grain is known to grow best in cooler northern latitudes. "Being a perennial crop means it will keep soil protected against erosion for multiple years. It has very deep roots so it can help cycle nutrients that have leached below the rooting depth of some of our annual crops and build soil organic matter (carbon) at depth. It may be a good fit for some of our marginally saline soils to help manage the water table, too, but we haven't done that research yet," explained Keene.

Keene particularly likes Kernza because it is a perennial crop, "You can plant it and harvest grain for two or three years (possibly a fourth year in some environments), and then you can also use it as a forage. Here in North Dakota, the residue (straw) should be baled after harvest and could be used as bedding or a low-quality feed if needed," said Keene.

Keene explained that Kernza seems to stay green fairly late into the fall. "I saw some green leaves in November on it last year. I plan to do forage quality analysis on this next year to see what it would be like as a late fall grazing option."



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Montana FSA Makes Changes to Farm Loan, Disaster, Conservation & Safety Net Programs to Make it Easier for Customers to Conduct Business

FSA Services Available by Phone Appointment Only

Bozeman – USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices are open in Montana by phone appointment only until further notice, and FSA staff are available to continue helping agricultural producers with program signups, loan servicing and other important actions. Additionally, FSA is relaxing the loan-making process and adding flexibilities for servicing direct and guaranteed loans to provide credit to producers in need.

FSA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only. While our program delivery staff will continue to come into to the office, they will be working with our agricultural producers by phone and using email and online tools whenever possible.

"FSA programs and loans are critical to Montana farmers and ranchers, and we want to continue our work with customers while taking precautionary measures to help prevent the spread of coronavirus," FSA State Executive Director Mike Foster said. "We recognize that farm loans are critical for annual operating and family living expenses, emergency needs and cash flow through times like this. FSA is working to find and use every option and flexibility to provide producers with credit options and other program benefits."

FSA is delivering programs and services, including:

- Farm loans;
- Commodity loans;
- Farm Storage Facility Loan program;
- Disaster assistance programs, including signup for the Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program Plus (this includes producers now eligible because of losses due to drought and excess moisture in 2018 and 2019);
- Safety net programs, including 2020 signup for the Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage programs;
- Conservation programs; and
- Acreage reports.

Relaxing the Farm Loan-Making Process

FSA is relaxing the loan-making process, including:

- Extending the deadline for applicants to complete farm loan applications;
- Preparing Direct Loans documents even if FSA is unable to complete lien and record searches because of closed government buildings. Once those searches are complete, FSA would close the loan; and

- Closing loans if the required lien position on the primary security is perfected, even for loans that require additional security and those lien searches, filings and recordings cannot be obtained because of closed government buildings.

Servicing Direct Loans

FSA is extending deadlines for producers to respond to loan servicing actions, including loan deferral consideration for financially distressed and delinquent borrowers.

FSA will temporarily suspend loan accelerations, non-judicial foreclosures, and referring foreclosures to the Department of Justice. The U.S. Attorney's Office will make the determination whether to stop foreclosures and evictions on accounts under its jurisdiction.

Servicing Guaranteed Loans

Guarantee lenders can self-certify, providing their borrowers with:

- Subsequent-year operating loan advances on lines of credit;
- Emergency advances on lines of credit.

FSA will consider guaranteed lender requests for:

- Temporary payment deferral consideration when borrowers do not have a feasible plan reflecting that family living expenses, operating expenses and debt can be repaid; and
- Temporary forbearance consideration for borrowers on loan liquidation and foreclosure actions.

Contacting FSA

FSA will be accepting additional forms and applications by facsimile or electronic signature. Some services are also available online to customers with an eAuth account, which provides access to the farmers.gov portal where producers can view USDA farm loan information and payments and view and track certain USDA program applications and payments. Customers can track payments, report completed practices, request conservation assistance and electronically sign documents. Customers who do not already have an eAuth account can enroll at farmers.gov/sign-in.

FSA encourages producers to contact their county office to discuss these programs and temporary changes to farm loan deadlines and the loan servicing options available. For Service Center contact information, visit farmers.gov/coronavirus.

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Coronavirus Concerns Prompt Ag Organizations To Urge Preventative Measures

Submitted by Rebecca Colnar, Ag NewsWire

A statement from Montana Farm Bureau and the Montana Agribusiness Association

For the next two weeks and likely longer, steps are being taken throughout Montana to minimize the spread of the Coronavirus. Schools, government offices, and businesses have closed or reduced hours of operation. Meetings and events have been cancelled or limited in size of attendance. People are encouraged to minimize outside interaction (“social distancing”) as much as possible

Agricultural operations are no different. While many are secluded, other people come to farms and ranches regularly, and we frequently travel off the farm or ranch. For example, essential services like milk pickup, livestock pickup and delivery as well as the shipping of commodities and delivery of agricultural inputs occur on a regular basis. We want to take all steps reasonably prudent to prevent agricultural producers from contracting or spreading the Coronavirus.

Currently there is no vaccine or medicine for Coronavirus. Once infected, an individual should quarantine themselves away from other individuals for 14 days and get rest and take fluids. Hopefully, like other flu illnesses, it will run its course by then. However, there are measures recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to prevent obtaining the virus or spreading it once obtained. Although we are not experts on the spread of the virus below are some common sense practices recommended by the CDC.

- Clean your hands often. Routinely wash your hands often with soap and

water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands with the sanitizer and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

- Avoid close contact. Do not travel to town or gatherings, unless absolutely necessary. When possible, put distance between yourself and other people - 6 feet is recommended. Do not shake hands. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting sick, namely, older adults or people who have serious medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes, or lung disease. Stay at home if you are sick, except to get medical care.

- Cover coughs and sneezes. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or handkerchief when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash and regularly wash your handkerchief. Immediately wash or sanitize your hands.

- Clean and disinfect. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, keys, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks. Most common household disinfectants will work. Otherwise, use a diluted bleach or alcohol solution. If surfaces are dirty, clean them first with detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

Now is not the time to panic. Now is the time to use safe practices.

MSU Research On Pest-Fighting Fungi Granted Patent For Biocontrol

Reagan Colyer, MSU News Service

BOZEMAN – Research conducted at one of Montana State University’s agricultural research centers was patented in January after the discovery of a group of unique fungi that may lead to strides in combating wheat stem sawfly and Hessian fly, two of the most prominent wheat-targeting pests in the U.S.

Gadi V.P. Reddy, who was the superintendent of MSU’s Western Triangle Agricultural Research Center in Conrad and is now a research leader for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Southern Insect Management Research Unit in Mississippi, helped to isolate novel strains of five fungi from samples in Montana wheat fields. The fungi — *Beauveria pseudobassiana*, *B. amorpha*, *B. bassiana*, *Metarhizium pempighi* and *M. anisopliae* — occur naturally in certain wheat plants and are lethal to both wheat stem sawflies and Hessian flies.

Wheat stem sawfly and Hessian fly cause millions of dollars in damage to wheat crops throughout Montana and the Rocky Mountain region each year, said Reddy. They pose a particularly challenging threat because they can’t be combated by spray pesticides. Sawfly lay their eggs inside wheat stems, so the plant provides protection to the very pest that ultimately kills it. Once the egg hatches, the larvae eat the inside of the stem and burrow downward for winter hibernation, which weakens the stem and causes lodging.

“We don’t have any reliable control methods for sawfly right now,” said Reddy. “Even if you spray chemicals, it doesn’t go inside the plant and kill the larvae. The flies have few natural enemies, and those are established and effective in only a few places.”

The patent, entitled “Compositions and Methods to Reduce the Population of Wheat-Stem Sawfly and Hessian Fly,” was issued to MSU and the USDA Jan. 14 after a research and field-testing process that began in 2013. The patent will

facilitate the production of commercial products that growers can apply to fields in an effort to accomplish what many adaptive management efforts haven’t yet been able to.

The most effective management method for Hessian fly and wheat stem sawfly in recent years has been the development of solid-stemmed wheat varieties. MSU breeders have released nine solid-stemmed varieties since 1995, including 2013’s Warhorse, the leading variety in Montana that year, and 2019’s Bobcat.

However, said Reddy, solid-stemmed wheat often shows lower yield and lower protein content than traditional hollow-stemmed varieties, which can make it less attractive for farmers to plant. The advent of no-till agriculture has also benefited the pests, which hibernate in the stubble left behind after wheat is harvested, waiting until the next spring to emerge.

After the initial discovery of the fungi in 2013, Reddy’s team sent them to co-inventor Stefan Jaronski at USDA’s Northern Plains Agricultural Research Laboratory in Sidney, which frequently conducts research with the MSU College of Agriculture and Montana Agricultural Experiment Station. Once the fungi were isolated from the wheat samples and laboratory and field tests were completed, MSU and the USDA applied for the patent in 2017.

“We found out that based on the experimental results, these fungi were specific to sawfly and Hessian fly,” said Reddy. “When spores end up on the insects themselves, they can germinate and release enzymes and substances that are toxic to the flies but are safe to both human beings and the wheat plant itself.”

Through a licensing process with MSU’s Technology Transfer Office, agricultural companies will be able to manufacture sprays or other products containing the fungi and eventually make them available to farmers.

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Farm Bureau Highlights Immediate Challenges Facing Agriculture Sector

Submitted by Rebecca Colnar, Ag NewsWire

American Farm Bureau has released its first assessment of the impact on farmers and ranchers in the wake of the national mitigation efforts to combat COVID-19.

In a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue, AFBF President Zippy Duvall pledged that "America's farmers and ranchers will be with you every step of the way, doing all that we can to help you win this fight and to ensure the health, safety and prosperity of all America." USDA invited Farm Bureau to convey agricultural issues or concerns arising as the pandemic mitigation efforts and impact advance. Duvall said labor, supply chain issues and possible price manipulation topped the list of immediate issues farmers are raising with the national organization.

The letter, which will be updated as new issues materialize, outlines concerns from Farm Bureau members across the country as national and local leaders take action to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and protect public health.

H-2A: With the State Department's announcement to suspend all processing of new, non-emergency visa applications in Mexico, U.S. farms and ranches could face a serious labor shortage at a critical time for planting and harvesting crops essential to the domestic food supply. U.S. agriculture depends on more than a quarter-million H-2A workers every year, and Farm Bureau is calling on the Administration to find a safe measure to ensure these skilled workers can come to our farms and ranches. AFBF along with members of the Agriculture Workforce Coalition also sent a letter to Secretary of State Pompeo to address these concerns.

Supply Chain: "As companies adopt social distancing policies in keeping

with health directives, this mode of work could have a significant impact on the processing plants that drive America's supply chain," Duvall wrote. Meat packing plants, dairy processors, ethanol plants and other processing facilities all play vital roles in delivering the food and fuel Americans will continue to depend on in the long days ahead. Additional impacts could include access to seed, fertilizer and crop protection tools farmers need to grow a healthy crop. In addition to calling for close monitoring of potential shutdowns or reduced hours at these facilities, Farm Bureau is also requesting that the current FMCSA Emergency Declaration waiver to hours of service for food transportation be expanded to address the full agricultural supply chain.

Market Concerns: Maintaining stable and fair markets is especially critical at times like these. Duvall noted concerns from livestock producers regarding market manipulation and urged USDA to monitor the situation to protect ranchers and consumers alike from price manipulation. In the fresh produce market, growers have expressed concerns regarding possible dumping of products from other countries. "USDA should work with the appropriate Federal agencies in ensuring U.S. farmers are not unfairly disadvantaged during this unique period," Duvall wrote.

Duvall also noted USDA's unique role in urging rural America to take all the prescribed measures to "flatten the curve" and reduce the spread of COVID-19, and thanked Secretary Perdue for his leadership in addressing the crisis facing agriculture and rural America. "We applaud your leadership and commitment and stand ready to work with you as our nation meets this unique challenge."

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MSU, Partners To Launch Website To Share Resources And Solutions For Farmers And Ranchers Under Stress

By Anne Cantrell, MSU News Service

BOZEMAN — A group of individuals and organizations from across Montana, led by Montana State University Extension, are collaborating to provide resources and solutions for farmers and ranchers under stress.

“We know from various research that there is a high level of stress in life, specifically among farmers and ranchers in rural areas like Montana,” said Michelle Grocke, MSU Extension health and wellness specialist and MSU Department of Health and Human Development assistant professor. A range of issues can cause stress, she said, from commodity prices, weather and crop yield to debt load, passing a farm or ranch to the next generation, family issues, and injuries or illness. She added that it could lead to mental illness, increased risk of suicide and other health issues.

Now, a team of Montanans known as the Montana Farm/Ranch Stress Prevention Advisory Council is working to create a new website that will host resources to help farmers, ranchers and other community members better understand the causes of stress — as well as how to manage it. The website is expected to launch this summer.

“Ultimately, we hope these resources will lessen the risk of mental illness and suicide among Montana’s farming and ranching communities,” Grocke said.

The website is a direct response to a need MSU Extension staff continue to hear about from people across the state, said Suzanne Stluka, associate director of MSU Extension.

“MSU Extension staff began to share tough stories of how chronic stress was impacting agriculture producers,” she said. “We knew we needed to do something.”

The team working on the website is composed of more than 20 members representing agricultural, health, tribal, veteran, local government and MSU communities. Project leaders are Grocke, Stluka and Alison Brennan, MSU Extension mental health specialist and Department of Health and Human Development assistant professor. In addition to the MSU Department of Health and Human Development and MSU Extension, partner organizations include Montana Farm Bureau, Custer County Commission, Garfield County Commission, Montana USDA Farm Service Agency, MSU Extension Local Government Center and the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services.

Grocke noted that an important component of the project is its accessibility: Individuals can access the resources anywhere there is an internet connection, whether it’s the library

(continued on page 14)

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Farmers And Ranchers Under Stress...



An MSU employee moves cattle at the Fort Ellis research station near Bozeman. (MSU photo by Kelly Gorham)

(continued from page 12)

or their own homes.

The project is funded by a \$32,737 grant from the Montana Healthcare Foundation.

"We feel really grateful and excited that they felt this was of value for them to support," Grocke said. "A lot of the projects this foundation supports are collaborative in nature, innovative and forward-looking. We were thrilled to have them think this is a project deserving of their funding."

The advisory council hopes the resources and materials will spark discussions about the causes and effects of stress — and, in the process, remove stigma associated with the topic, according to Brennan. They also hope it will equip community members with evidence-based farm stress and mental wellness resources to assist them in managing their stress.

"There is, in fact, quite a lot of stigma still surrounding discussions about mental health, mental illness, mental disorders and suicide," Brennan said. "My hope is that by providing a centralized location for relevant information running the gamut of topics, from plant diseases, weather and financial management, to stress management techniques, to suicide prevention best practices, we can start some crucial conversations about mental health in rural Montana, reduce stigma and save lives."

Darla Tyler-McSherry, member Montana Farm/Ranch Stress Prevention Advisory Council and Montana State University Billings student health director, said goals for the website include bringing attention to the issue of suicide in Montana's farm and ranch communities and giving people practical, easy-to-incorporate strategies to improve their mental health.

"Additionally, I want to communicate the message that if you or a loved one is struggling with thoughts of suicide, you are not alone and effective help is available," Tyler-McSherry said. "Lastly, I want this project to help confirm the notion that seeking help is not a sign of weakness, but rather, a sign of incredible strength."

More information is available at montana.edu/wellness_extn/stress-management/mt_farm_stress_clearing_house/project_page.html. To learn more or to offer feedback on the website, contact Grocke at 406-994-4711 or michelle.grocke@montana.edu.



Farmer Style

The Peterson Farm Brothers entertained Central Elementary students in Sidney March 13. Popular social media stars and farmers Greg & Kendal Peterson performed some of their parodies of pop chart hits. Pictured right: Kendal Peterson dances to "Farmer Style" with the students. "Farmer Style" is a farm themed parody of the song "Gangnam Style." The brothers later spoke at the MonDak Ag Days Banquet later in the evening.



Co-operator Of The Year

Marlin (left) & Aurilla (middle) Marlin Johnson received the 2019 Richland County Conservation District Co-operator Of The Year award at the MonDak Ag Days banquet at the Richland County Events Center on March 13. Pictured above is Wade Whiteman presenting the award. For more photos from Ag Days go to roundupweb.com.

USDA Announces More Than 3.4 Million Acres Selected for General Signup Conservation Reserve Program

Bozeman – Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue has announced the acceptance of more than 3.4 million acres in the general Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) signup recently completed, the first general signup enrollments since 2016. County offices will begin notifying producers with accepted offers no later than April 3.

Through CRP, farmers and ranchers receive an annual rental payment for establishing long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. Farmers and ranchers who participate in CRP help provide numerous benefits to the nation's environment and economy.

"The Conservation Reserve Program is one of our nation's largest conservation endeavors and is critical in helping producers better manage their operations while conserving valuable natural resources," State Executive Director Mike Foster said. "The program marked its 35th anniversary this year, and we were quite pleased to see one of our largest signups in many years."

Over these 35 years, CRP has addressed multiple concerns while ensuring the most competitive offers are selected by protecting fragile and environmentally sensitive lands, improving water quality, enhancing wildlife populations, providing pollinator forage habitat, sequestering carbon in soil and enhancing soil productivity. Seventy percent of the nation's land is owned and tended privately, and America's farmers, ranchers and landowners have willingly stepped up to protect the environment and natural resources.

This general signup included offers for State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE), which allows producers to install practices that benefit high-priority, locally developed wildlife conservation objectives using targeted restoration of vital habitat. Over 95% of SAFE offers submitted were accepted under this general signup representing more than 487,500 acres. This acceptance level highlights the commitment to SAFE as an important part of CRP.

The 2018 Farm Bill established a nationwide acreage limit for CRP, with the total number of acres that may be enrolled capped at 24.5 million acres in 2020 and growing to 27 million by 2023.

While the deadline for general CRP signup was Feb. 28, 2020, signups for continuous CRP, Conserva-

tion Reserve Enhancement Program, CRP Grasslands and the Soil Health and Income Protection Program (SHIPP) are ongoing. The CRP Grasslands deadline is May 15, and the SHIPP signup begins March 30, 2020, and ends Aug. 21, 2020.

Continuous and Grasslands enrollments are available nationwide. All counties located within the Prairie Pothole region states of Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota are eligible for SHIPP.

This spring, FSA will roll out a new pilot conservation program, the Clean Lakes, Estuaries, and Rivers 30 (CLEAR 30).

USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While our program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with our producers by phone, and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

For state-by-state information on general signup results, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/crp.

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Ler Family Continues More Than A Century Of Farming In Richland County



The Lers' first homestead house, (L to R) Lars Gaare, Ingeborg Ler and Even Ler, and their children, Arnie, Eva and Harold. Harold's sons, Matt and David Ler, farm the area that Even first homesteaded. (Submitted photo)

By Stephanie Ler

Even Ler homesteaded in what is now rural Savage in 1910 marking the beginning of more than a century of family farming, carried on now by grandsons, Matt and David Ler.

Born and raised in Norway, Even Ler chased adventure to America in 1907, and made his way toward Montana. Enticed by free land to be had under Homestead Act, Even was granted a certificate of register for the south half of Section 10, Township 20, north of Range 57, on June 22, 1910. The deed was later finalized in 1916.

Shortly after arriving in Montana, Even set up a homestead shack near Dunlap Creek, and sent for his wife, Ingeborg. According to a family history penned by Sandy (Twyla) Ler, "money was short and work was abundant. Breaking sod with team and plow was grueling work for man as well as beast," making reference to the Ler's first farming efforts. Unfortunately, by 1928, Even and Ingeborg determined that "they just weren't going to be able to hang on to the homestead. This arid prairie could never produce enough on a quarter section to make a go of it, no matter how good it was farmed nor how hard you worked," the family history reads. In April 1929, the Lers purchased a half section northeast of the original homestead for \$30 an acre.

At the new place, the Lers farmed and raised turkeys, a common practice for this area in that time. The turkeys were packed in barrels and shipped by rail. The Lers made about 45¢ per pound, including the head, feet and innards, averaging about \$9 a piece.

Some time in the 1920's, "grain prices were low, grasshoppers thrived and crops were poor so the Lers let the land go back to Phillips [from whom they had purchased it] and just rented it for a while." Many farmers made ends meet by working on the roads for the WPA.

In that time, harvest required "lots of hands," being done by threshing crews one farm at a time. "First, the crop was cut with a binder, then shocked...at threshing time bundle haulers took a team and a wagon, pitching bundles into the wagon where another arranged the bundles. Next they were hauled to the threshing machine." When headers finally came around, things became easier. "The header cut the grain and piled it up in a big stack...They'd line two stacks up...and pull the threshing machine between the stacks and two guys could feed the grain into the thresher. Lots of noise, chaff and work. The grain haulers had to haul the grain off and with scoop shovels, shovel it up and in to granaries." The story concludes, "No wonder they needed a lot of help, today's farmers feed many more people with much less work."

According to Matt and David Ler, two of Even's grandsons, that statement is true, though the farming lifestyle is never short on work. The brothers run Dunlap Creek Ranch, a commercial cow/calf operation and farm both dryland and irrigated cropland, raising winter wheat and spring wheat, alternating with safflower, peas and lentils.

Matt and David took over the farming operation in the 1980s, following their father Harold's retirement. Advances in equipment, technology, and chemicals allow

(continued on next page)

Ler Family Farming In Richland County...



Even Ler prior to homesteading in the Dunlap Creek area. (Submitted photo)

(continued from previous page)

them to successfully farm the same fields that their family once gave up. "You can cover ground much faster now, with bigger equipment," David said.

Advances even since the '80s have made farming more feasible, according to David. The Lers have expanded to pulse crops, like peas and lentils, following the burgeoning market. "Technology has changed a lot so it's easier to farm those crops," David said. Because of advances in chemical technologies, the Lers switched to continuous crop, and are less affected by moisture conditions. A drought in 1988 yielded little crop, but a similar drought in 2017 had much higher yields.

During their time, Matt and David have taken advantage of other farm technologies and advances to improve their operation. They've installed solar pumps on two of their stock wells, installed two pivots to help conserve water, and have planted cover crops to help take stress off of native pasture.

The Lers continue to farm and raise cattle around Dunlap Creek, on some of the same land claimed by their grandfather over 100 years ago. In 2017, Dunlap Creek Ranch was awarded the Richland County Conservation District's Co-operator of the year for their efforts to help preserve their farmland for future generations. Neither David nor Matt could imagine life outside of farming. "Thirty-five years went really fast," Matt said. "It's a good way of life," David echoed.

RANCH AUCTION

Sun, Apr 26 • 10am | Lunch Available

Owners Dale & Pat Feldman (406-795-2267) have sold their ranch & will auction their equipment and personal property at the ranch North from Wibaux on Highway 261, 15 miles then 2 miles East on Been Road then 1 mile South to ranch. Roads will be posted from Wibaux on Highway 261.

EQUIPMENT

1990 Case IH 7130 w/cab, PTO, 3 point, duals, & 3 remotes (6700 hours)—Ezee-On 2135 Loader w/8 ft. Bucket & Grapple Fork for above tractor—Farmall 806 w/cab, wide front & 7400 hours—Farmall F27 Loader & Grapple on above tractor—Farmall M w/narrow front, runs good—Dual Loader w/bucket & grapple—Farmall McCormick 400 w/wide front—1963 Chevy 60 2 ton Truck with Steel 16 ft. Box with Hoist—2015 ABU 32 ft. Tandem Dual Gooseneck Flatbed w/ramps—1995 Ford F250 460 Engine, 4 Speed Transmission w/hydra Bed Bale Feeder—1983 Ford F250 w/400 Engine, Long-box, Single Cab—JD 12 ft. Disc Grain Drill w/Fertilizer Box—IH Trail Mower w/7 ft. Bar—JD Side Delivery Rake—Ideal manure spreader (ground drive)—Mayrath 7 inch by 40 ft. Grain Auger w/Briggs Engine—M&W 12 ft. Hay Rack on Rubber—Cake Belt Auger, 20 ft.—Fire Fighter Sprayer w/240 gallon Tank, Honda Engine & Kappa Pump—(2) K&K 2 ton Portable Creep Feeders w/frame—Bumper Pull 14 ft. Flatbed Trailer—Cement Mixer—3 point Bale Unroller—2010 BUMPER TRAILER CAMPER- WILDWOOD BY FOREST RIVER WITH 1 SLIDE OUT & QUEEN SIZE BED (VERY NICE)

RANCH SUPPLIES

Pearson Large Cattle Chute w/Plap Cage—Sioux Maternity Pen—(40) Sioux 10 ft. Stock Panels—10 ft. Fiberglass Stock Tank—250 gallon Propane Tank—(2) 75 gallon Pickup Tanks w/Pumps—(2) 10 ft. Tarter Feed Bunks—Wooden Calf Warmer—Calf Sled—Branding Pot—(4) Propane Bottles—Popular Mechanics Large Tool Chest—Bulldog Arc Welder w/Leads—Forney Arc Welder w/Leads—(2) Duplex Pump Jacks—18.4x34 Tractor Chains—15 & 16 inch Pickup Chains—MAC Tool Chest—Remline Pro Series Tool Chest—Broyhill Propane Tank Heater—Honeywell 7000 Watt Portable Generator—Coleman Power mate 4000 Portable Generator—Small Air Compressor—Rigid Pipe Threaders—Cutters—Wrenches—3/8 Socket—1/2 /Socket—3/4 Socket Sets—Shovels—Forks—Bars—Hand Tools—Log Chains—& Boomers—(2) Stock Saddles—Saddle Blankets—Several Bridles & Bits—Spurs—Work Horse Harness—Several Collars—Lots of Horse Supplies—Several Horseshoes—Farrier Tools—Table—Chairs—Benches used for branding crew—Blacksmith Post Vice—Wall Hand Drill—Several Forging Tools—Neck Yokes—Old Tools—Animal traps—Box of Manuals—Plus More

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Murray Garden Tractor 18.5 HP Engine & 4 ft. Snow Plow attachment & 36" Roto Tiller w/Briggs Attachment & 4 ft. Mower Platform for Murray Garden Tractor—JARI 3 ft. Sickle Brush Cutter—1 1/2 Pallets of Deck Material 16 ft. (new)—Various amounts of lumber—JD 140- 48" Riding Lawn Mower—Rakes—Spades—Tools—Self Propelled Roto Tiller—Amana Washer & Dryer, works good—Gas Kitchen Range—Gas Water Heater—Double & Single Beds—Loveseat Couch—Recliner Chairs—(2) Large Metal Storage Cabinets—Curio Cabinets—Small Deep Freeze—Gun Cabinet—Humidifier—Storage Shelves—Several Canning Jars—Kitchen Appliances—Pots & Pans—Spoon Rack w/spoons—3 dressers, 2 with mirrors—Several Good Doors from remodel—Oak China Hutch with Leaded Glass Doors—PLUS MORE

Auctioneers Note: Pat & Dale sold the ranch & are moving to Wibaux, plan to be with us, as we auction their memories on Sunday the 26th!

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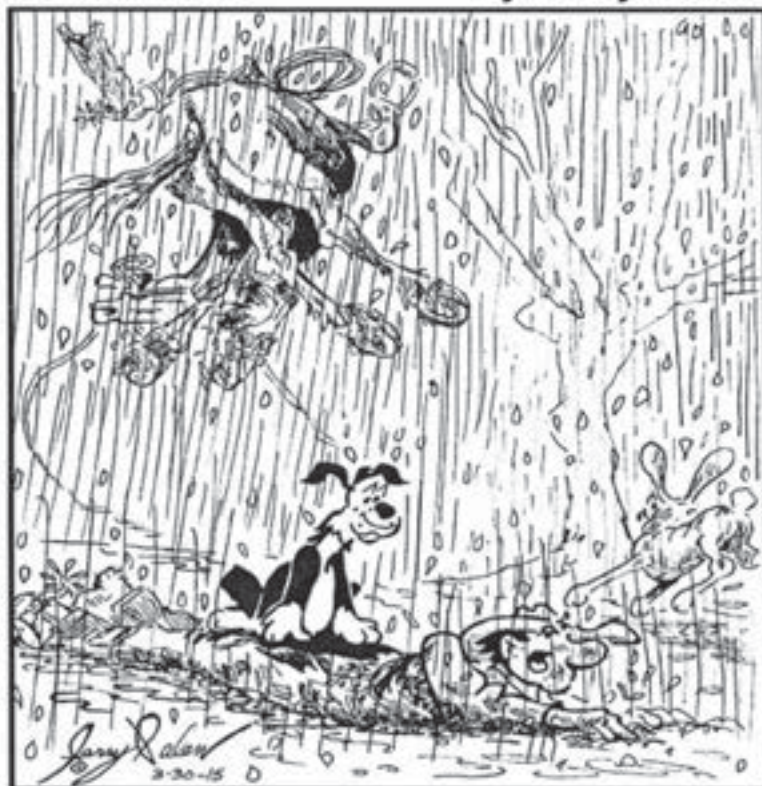


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