

Beet Crop Looking Very Good

Early Harvest Starts September 10

By Dianne Swanson

The sugar beet leaves are starting to turn yellow as the plants mature and growers and Sidney Sugars gear up for this year's harvest.

Early harvest will start September 10 at the Sugar Valley (Fairview) station followed by the factory district on the 11th, Savage the 17th, Culbertson the 19th, Pleasant View the 24th and Powder River October 1st. Acres and tons will initially be limited as crews make sure pilers are operating correctly. The factory will begin slicing on September 12, four days ahead of last year.

Sidney Sugars has been working closely with Montana DOT and Transystems to make sure supply to the factory is uninterrupted during construction on Hwy 200. "They've been excellent to work with," Sidney Sugars agricultural manager Duane Peters stated. Peters also mentioned the LYIP court victory saying, "We all should be happy we have water. We're very thankful the court sided with us."

For Sidney Sugars general manager Dave Garland, this is an exciting time, getting ready for harvest and campaign. Water testing began the week of August 13, making sure that everything is working as it should.

This year's crop looks very good with tremendous growth seen from the first root samples to the second and sugar content the highest ever seen in the second root samples. Third and final root samples were pulled last week showing an estimated 32 to 32.5 ton total crop average with good sugars.

The spring of 2018 was kind to growers, starting off with good soil moisture and moderate weather resulting in better stands than last year. Only 800 acres of beets had to be replanted which was very good.

"Everything is going good, with the farmers doing a tremendous job of irrigating. They're what makes this valley go," Peters said. "The crop was never stressed. We have good looking fields with good color. The plants are yellowing which is a sign that they're maturing. We should have very good tonnage and sugar."

Cercospora has been a challenge this year. Growers and Sidney Sugars personnel have been closely monitoring the crop and walking the fields looking for signs



Leaf covered with Cercospora Spores. (Photo submitted)

of the disease. Sidney and Sugar Valley have sprayed once while Savage has had to spray twice so far. "The growers have been very progressive about spraying," Peters said.

Agriculturalist Kathryn Cayko, who insists that she has the greatest group of growers, said Sugar Valley has a good crop this year with 90% of the fields looking really good. The area has experienced a couple of weed problems including confirmed glyphosate resistance in kochia. However, she said that can be nipped in the bud with rotation crops. Minor disease has been seen with 75% of growers having to spray once for cercospora but the cool mornings are slowing down infection. Growers are getting ready for harvest and hoping for a long, cool season.

Storage at Sugar Valley was very good last year and they hope to repeat that with lots of updates to the pile grounds. Substantially more forced air ventilation has been added which will improve beet storage during the campaign.

Hail was spotty this year but Buford growers saw significant damage on July 21st. However, Cayko said those beets are definitely recovering.

The southern grower district, which includes Savage, Glendive and Terry, saw a late start this spring due to lots of rain, making planting tough. However, agriculturalist James Johnson says those beets made a good stand and are looking really good, probably a bit ahead of last year. The area saw some weed issues including marestail, kochia and lambs quarter. Some volunteer corn was also seen but that can be easily taken care of Johnson said.

The crop has seen heavy pressure from cercospora with most growers having to spray twice. The first root sample was behind the other areas but the second had caught up and growers are looking forward to a very good crop.

Culbertson beets are coming along nicely even though the same 400 acres were hit by hail four times this summer. Sidney are a missed most of the bad weather and beets look good. Growers in both areas had to spray for cercospora and continue to closely monitor fields. Agriculturalist Vanessa Pooch said she and the growers are pleasantly surprised that they don't have the heavy overall disease pressure

seen in the past, suggesting maybe the cooler nights this summer have made a difference. Growers in her area are keeping up on irrigating as well as other field work, and she has had some inquiries about spent lime for fall field work. Now that the various yard foremen have arrived, moving pilers and getting everything ready, Pooch is looking forward to prepile September 11 in Sidney and September 19 in Culbertson.

As always, it's been a busy season for Sidney Sugars agriculturalists. They, along with seed company representatives and the seed committee from the grower board attended a coded trial tour the week of August 13th. One coded trial in each of the Savage, Sugar Valley and factory districts were viewed as well as two Fusarium trials. Fusarium is only controlled by seed selection, with the goal of developing a resistant variety. A couple of grower strip trials were also viewed.

"They all looked good," Peters said. "We really appreciate our cooperators who take part in these trials." Results from the trials are used to make decisions for next year's seed selection.

In a constant effort to provide growers with the latest and most accurate information, Peters, Pooch, Johnson and Steve Skaalure, MT and WY sales manager for Beta Seed, traveled to Minnesota in mid-August to view fusarium trials located outside of Moorhead. They looked at two trials which were fused with Sidney Sugars' varieties, then toured Beta Seed's official proprietary trials as well as their facility. The group then viewed cercospora trials which included Sidney Sugars' varieties In Randolph, MN. They also viewed an aphanomyces trial and toured the Beta Seed facility in Shakopee, MN. The entire group valued the information they were able to glean on the trip.

Sidney Sugars and the growers urge everyone to "Think Safety" this harvest season. Please watch for trucks and be patient as harvest gets underway.



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The Walstrom Farms: Young Farmers Continue on the Farming Tradition





Cameron, Reese and Porter in the combine.

By Anna Dragseth

Located seven miles north of Alexander, North Dakota sits The Wahlstrom Farm. The 4,000-acre farm consists of mainly spring wheat, barley, flax, lentils, soybeans, and durum. The farm is operated by Cameron and his dad Craig Wahlstrom. Cameron is a fourth generation farmer. "Farming has always been in the family. My great grandfather Axel Wahlstrom homesteaded near Alexander in the late 1800s and started farming. After Axel, my grandpa John took over the farm and later passed the farm on to my dad Craig and now myself," explained Wahlstrom. He currently lives on the family farm with his wife, Lacy, five-year-old daughter Reese, and two-year-old son Porter.

After graduating from NDSU with a Crop and Weed Science degree, Wahlstrom returned home in 2010 to help his dad farm. Since he has returned to the farm, he has incorporated broadleaf and irrigated crops.

Wahlstrom works as the Crop Research Specialist at the North Dakota State University (NDSU) Williston Research Extension Center (WREC), where he assists with all phases of research projects and farming activities and projects.

This year Wahlstrom is excited about his durum crop. "I am feeling confident in my durum crop this year," said Wahlstrom. He also noted that NDSU's soybeans have also been very successful. Despite successful durum and soybean crop, some of his other crops suffered from hail damage. Wahlstrom added, "Unfortunately 1,800 acres were affected by hail damage this year."

Wahlstrom enjoys farming, "I like having the freedom of making my own decisions, I can experiment on my own so if I fail or succeed I can use that experience and apply it to future plans." His goals for next year include improving marketing aspects, accomplishing a productive farming year, producing high yielding crops, and making farming as price efficient as possible.



Cameron's daughter Reese in the grain truck.

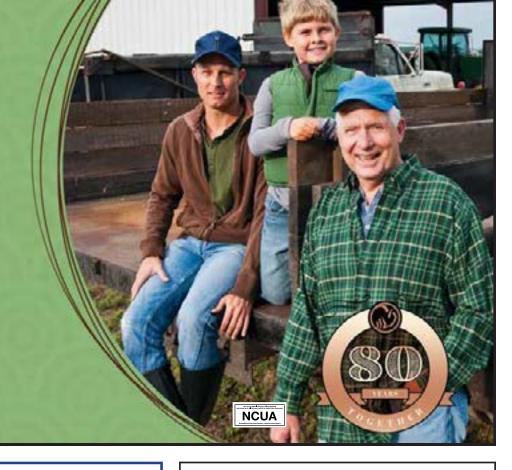
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New Pebble Lime System Will Improve **Purification Process During Campaign**

By David Garland

This past Inter-Campaign (Summer) has been busy shipping our sugar across the U.S. to our customers. As we do each year, we end campaign with our sixteen storage bins completely full of sugar. Now, as we approach the end of summer and a new campaign, our bins are nearly empty and we are ready for new sugar.

Summer is also a busy time for the factory as we perform regular maintenance and complete special projects and Capital improvements. One of the projects we have completed is our new Pebbled Lime System whose towering structure has changed the skyline of the factory.

Sugar Beets, like most living organisms, are made up of Water (75%), Sugar (15 to 21%), the cell walls or Pulp (3 to 5%), and Soluble Impurities or Non-Sugars (1 to 3%). The sugar beet process consists of separating these four components of the sugar beet. The process is broken into four major steps: Extraction, Purification, Evaporation and Crystallization. In simple terms, the pulp is separated during Extraction. The non-sugars are removed during Purification and the water removed during Evaporation and Crystallization.

New Pebble Lime System: Purification

In sugar beet processing, calcium oxide (Lime) is used in the Non-Sugar removal process. Lime is commonly produced in the lime kiln where limerock (CaCO3) is burned transforming the rock into lime (CaO) and carbon dioxide (CO2). Water is added to the lime to make a lime slurry. The lime slurry is added to the juice purification system after which the CO2 is reintroduced, capturing non-sugars, and settles out as a solid. When processing fresh beets in the fall, less lime is needed to produce a high quality juice, however as beets begin to deteriorate in storage, additional lime is needed to counteract the deterioration of the beet. Currently the factory is limited to the amount of lime it can produce. With the new Pebbled Lime System, additional lime will be available to maintain a steady slice rate and reduce sugar losses throughout the campaign.



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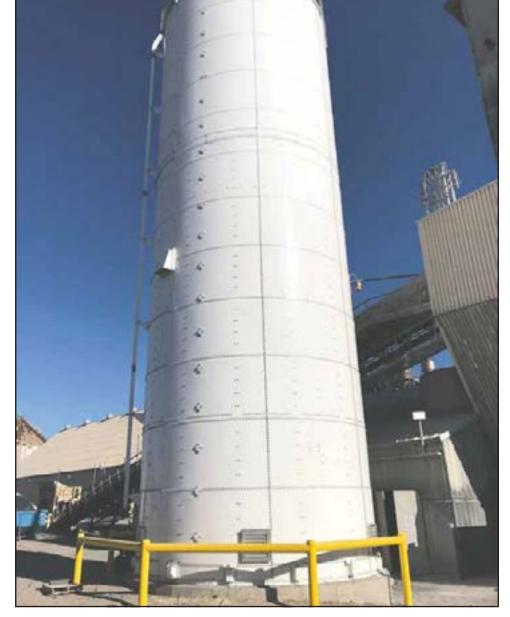




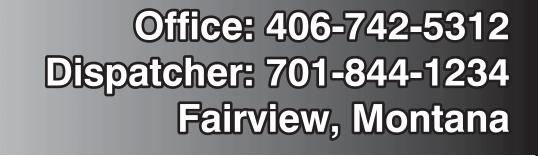


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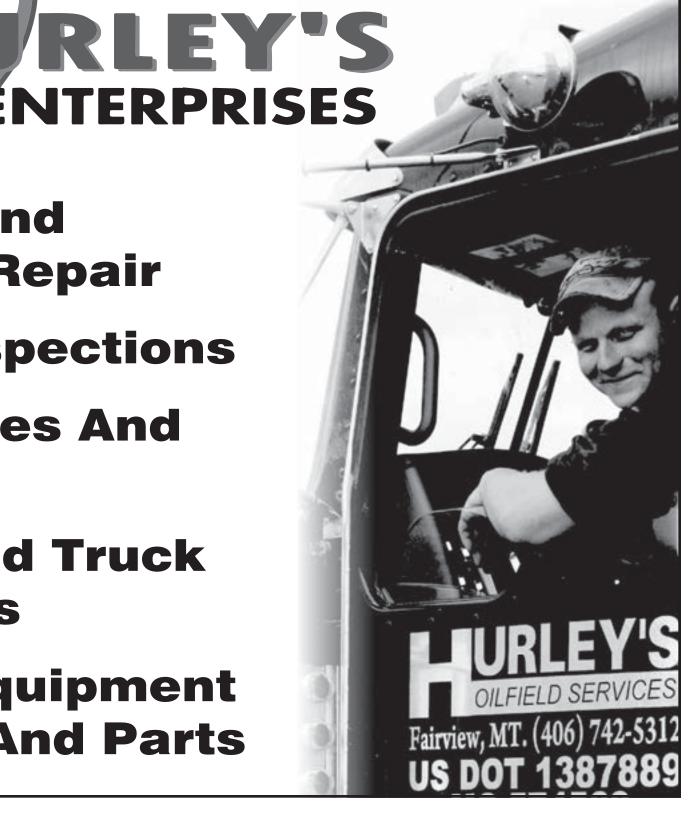


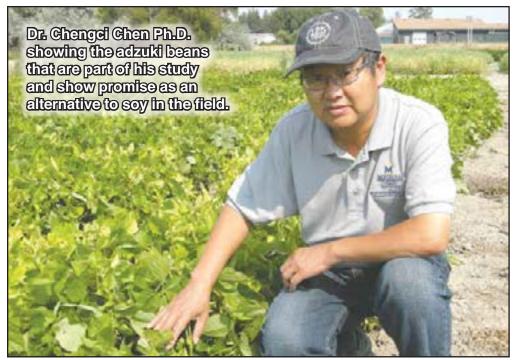




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Adzuki and Mung Beans May Open Opportunities For Growers

By Jaymi Loobey

Soy here, soy there, soy seems to be everywhere. It is in our food, in the food of our pets and livestock, it can be in biofuel, candles, lubricant and even ink. Soy is needed for many products and, since it grows well here in America, farmers are eager to meet the demand. However, this may not be ideal. Chengci Chen, the superintendent of the Eastern Agricultural Research Center of Montana State University just north of Sidney said, "With the popularity of one crop you get market saturation and the price goes down. We don't want to flood the market." Chengci also mentioned that alternating crops keeps the soil healthy and reduces production risk. He is looking into adzuki bean and mung bean as alternative crops. He said, "In Asia, they are very important pulse crops."

The study is still in the early stages. It began last fall in the greenhouse to produce seed. Now they have plants in the field and they are flowered and producing pods. Chengci took me out to see the plants. The adzuki beans were showing some yellowing leaves. Dr. Chen said they think it is from a nutritional deficiency in the soil. The mung beans were all green and appeared healthy. They are expecting both the adzuki and mung beans to be ready for harvest around the same time for soy, early September. Chengci said the study is still in the early research stages but both beans seem promising.

According to Chengci soy, adzuki, and mung bean are all native to Asia but adzuki bean and mung bean fetch a higher price at market than soy. They are high protein, rich in amino acids and not currently being genetically modified.

Chengci Chen Ph.D., while being superintendent of the Research Center, is also a professor of Agronomy. He had been working on pea, lentil, and chickpea, the major pulse crops in Montana, for 13 years at the Central Agricultural Research Center, near Moccasin, MT, before coming to the Eastern Agricultural Research Center in Sidney. He has been working there for 3 years.

A Wild West Weekend 2018 NDRA Championship Finals Rodeo, September 28 & 29

Witness top rodeo cowboys and cowgirls vie for North Dakota State Championship Titles at the 65th Annual North Dakota Rodeo Association State Finals in Watford City on September 28 and 29.

The rodeo is hosted by the McKenzie County Cowboys Association, and will also feature the top rodeo horses and bulls from each of the stock contractors, so the night is sure to be full of excitement!

The two-day event begins on Friday, September 28 at 7 p.m. Central Time at the McKenzie County Fairgrounds Multipurpose Building indoor arena in Watford City. Saturday afternoon will feature a local contestant Ranch Rodeo. For more information contact Chris Kubal at 701-307-0516.

The Saturday evening rodeo begins at 6 p.m. Central Time at the Fairgrounds. Both rodeos feature men's and women's events, including bareback, bull riding, bullfighters, ladies barrel racing and breakaway, saddle bronc, steer wrestling, team roping, and tie down. Participants will be competing for the state title as well as a cash prize, saddle, buckle, or other prizes.

There will be a wide variety of vendors under the big top. A party and dance will follow the rodeo each night, featuring Pistol Grip from Killdeer, ND.

LYIP Victory Celebration

A parade and community picnic were held in Sidney on August 25 to celebrate the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project's court victory over environmental groups Defenders of Wildlife and the **Natural Resources** Defense. Right: One of the LYIP floats in the parade had a sign reading "You supported the bypass, you saved the farmers, the businesses and the vallev." Go to roundupweb. com and see The

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2018 Heritage Day to Include American Legion Centennial Recognition



Threshing machine demonstration at the 2017 McKenzie County Heritage Day.

The McKenzie County Heritage Association is joining with the American Legion ND Post 29, Watford City and ND Post 94, Alexander, to celebrate the WWI 100th Anniversary in conjunction with the annual McKenzie County Heritage Day on Sept. 15; 11 am - 5 pm at the McKenzie County Heritage Park. Heritage Park is located at 950 2nd Ave. SW. Watford City.

Enjoy an all around patriotic day beginning at 11 am with a Flag Raising and Flag Folding Ceremony conducted by the American Legion. The ceremony will include recognition of veterans and family recognition of relatives that served in WWI. The ceremony will also include recognition of the county leaders and first responders.

Special guest Glenn Wahus, American Legion Department Commander of North Dakota, will be speaking at noon with lunch provided by the Community Foundation. Also commemorating the American Legion Centennial will be a WWI exhibit in the train depot building all day and WWI period dress costume contest for all ages starting at 2 pm.

Visitors are encouraged to explore the historic buildings and antique tractors in Heritage Park that have been donated from all around McKenzie County. Watch the sawmill & shingle mill in action and view the historic pioneer school starting at 1 pm. The old time threshing begins at 2 pm with a coin toss in straw to follow. At 3 pm there will be a stationary baler and horsepower demonstration.

The Long X Arts Foundation will be displaying photography and artwork from local artists throughout the buildings. They will also have crafts for children to take part in throughout the day. Lane Sandstrom will be providing music for the day. There will be food vendors including snow cones available as well. Other events for young and old will be the cupcake walk at 1:30 pm, the pie eating contest at 2:30 pm and the sack race at 4 pm.

Admission for the day is a free will donation. Volunteers will be needed to help with the event. Contact Sandy Rieker at 701-444-5804 for more information.

Everyone is welcome to bring the family and enjoy a patriotic and historic day at the 20th annual McKenzie County Heritage Day!



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Low-Interest Loans Available for North Dakota Ag Producers Impacted by Natural Disasters

FARGO, N.D, - North Dakota agricultural producers who lost property due to recent natural disasters may be eligible for U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) physical loss loans. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers these low-interest loans for losses caused by two separate disaster events. Approval is limited to applicants who suffered severe physical losses, including the loss of buildings and livestock.

"North Dakota's hardworking ag producers feed our neighbors, the nation and the world," said State Executive Director Brad Thykeson. "When they suffer losses because of extreme weather, helping them get back on their feet is important. So, we're giving affected county producers until March 17, 2019, to apply for these emergency loans."

High Winds:

Physical loss loans are available to eligible agricultural producers in Emmons County in North Dakota, who incurred losses due to high winds that occurred on June 1, 2018.

Producers in the contiguous counties of Burleigh, Kidder, Logan, McIntosh, Morton and Sioux in North Dakota and Campbell and Corson counties in South

Dakota, are also eligible to apply for emergency loans.

High Winds and Hail:

Physical loss loans are available to eligible agricultural producers in McKenzie County, North Dakota, who incurred losses due to high winds and hail that occurred on July 10, 2018.

Producers in the contiguous counties of Billings, Dunn, Golden Valley, Mountrail and Williams in North Dakota and Richland, Roosevelt and Wibaux counties in Montana are also eligible to apply for emergency loans.

Physical loss loans can help producers repair or replace damaged or destroyed physical property essential to the success of the agricultural operation, including livestock losses. Examples of property commonly affected include essential farm buildings, fixtures to real estate, equipment, livestock, perennial crops, fruit and nut bearing trees, and harvested or stored crops and hay.

For more information on FSA disaster assistance programs or to find your local USDA service center visit https://www.farmers.gov/.

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USDA Launches Program for Farmers Affected by Trade Disputes

A \$12 billion aid package intends to provide relief for the 2018 crop marketing year.

By NDSU Agriculture Communication

U.S. agricultural producers, including those from North Dakota being impacted by ongoing trade disputes, will get some relief. The Trump administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) have announced a program to aid those farmers.

The USDA's Market Assistance Program is a \$12 billion aid package intended to provide relief for the 2018 crop marketing year.

The Market Assistance Program will include the Market Facilitation Program (MFP), using the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide direct payments to corn, cotton, soybean, sorghum, wheat, dairy and pork producers. The MFP, affecting many North Dakota producers, will be administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA).

Also included is a Food Purchase and Distribution Program that allows the USDA to purchase some of the commodities that were not exported due to the trade disputes, such as beef and selected pulse crops. In addition, the Market Assistance Program includes a trade promotion component intended to identify and establish new trading partners for U.S. agricultural commodities.

"The payments are intended to be paid to producers harvesting 2018 crops that have been impacted by the ongoing trade dispute, as well as hogs and dairy products," says Bryon Parman, North Dakota State University Extension agricultural finance specialist. "The USDA has stated that the payment rates are dependent upon the estimated severity of impact to specific commodities and based upon actual 2018 production numbers."

Producers may apply only after the harvest is complete so that it can be certified, and no earlier than Sept. 4, 2018. The application period for the first round of payments closes on January 15, 2019.

The USDA is reporting that the MFP will have two phases. An initial payment will be calculated by multiplying 50 percent of the actual 2018 production by the MFP rate designated for that commodity.

Eligibility requires an ownership interest in the commodity, active engagement in farming and an average adjusted gross income for 2014 to 2016 of less than \$900,000. Payments will be capped at \$125,000 per person, or entity, for the combined production of corn, cotton, sorghum, soybeans and wheat. The program also has a \$125,000 dollar combined cap for hogs and dairy. However, payments made under the MFP will not count against the cap for payments under the 2014 farm bill.

For hogs, the payment will be determined by the number of live hogs owned on Aug. 1, 2018. For dairy, payments will be based on the highest production year from 2011 to 2013 using production from the Margin Protection Program.



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"The USDA will announce a decision on the second phase regarding the remaining 50 percent of a producer's 2018 production on or about December 3, 2018," Parman says. "However, a second payment is not assured at this time. Further, the rates given for the initial payment may be subject to change. Determination of a second payment likely will be based upon the timeliness of trade resolutions."

The initial MFP payment will cost approximately \$4.7 billion. The other two programs, including the Agricultural Marketing Service, vice Ag Trade Promotion Program, (NDSU Photo) will cost \$1.2 billion and \$200 mil-

Program Payment Rates		
Commodity	Initial Payment Rate	
Soybeans	\$1.65/bu.	
Wheat	\$0.14/bu.	
Corn	\$0.01/bu.	
Sorghum	\$0.86/bu.	
Pork (Hogs)	\$8.00/head	
Cotton	\$0.06/lb.	
Dairy (milk)	\$0.12/cwt.	

and the Foreign Agricultural Ser- Market Facilitation Program Payment Rates

lion, respectively. Thus, based upon current estimates, the initial rollout of the Market Assistance Program will cost \$6.1 billion of the authorized \$12 billion.

"It is important to note that the Market Facilitation Program and Food Purchase and Distribution Program are not intended to overcome all additional financial hardship resulting from the trade dispute," Parman adds. "The stated intent is to provide short-term relief for affected farmers, allowing time for a resolution to ongoing negotiations. As such, the Market Facilitation Program and the Food Purchase and Distribution Program are one-time assistance packages, and not multiyear programs."

The need for the Market Assistance Program is due to the U.S. implementation of import tariffs on select products last spring. Countries who exported those products implemented retaliatory tariffs on goods imported to them from the U.S.

Many of the products affected by the tariffs are U.S. agricultural exports, including those eligible to receive MFP payments, as well as dried distillers grains, beef and poultry, among others.

For North Dakota farmers and ranchers, one of the most impactful retaliations has been the 25 percent tariff China enacted on July 6, affecting \$34 billion in U.S. exports. These tariffs most notably effected soybeans and pork, because China is a major importer of those commodities.

Because China is the largest outlet for North Dakota-produced soybeans, cash prices in North Dakota are especially sensitive to changes in the flow of soybeans destined for China. Additionally, since July 5, Mexico has imposed a 25 percent tariff on \$3 billion of goods imported from the U.S., including selected pork products and potatoes.

Further retaliation by the U.S. and certain trade partners, including the European Union and Mexico, have been muted. On Aug. 27, the Trump administration announced that a new trade deal had been reached with Mexico, and negotiations with Canada appear to be ongoing. However, no progress has been announced regarding the dispute between the U.S. and China.

For more information on the USDA's Market Facilitation Program, visit https:// www.farmers.gov/mfp, or contact the FSA office in your area.

Neal Hermanson Memorial Ranch Rodeo Sept. 7

By Dianne Swanson

The Neal Hermanson Memorial Ranch Rodeo and Calcutta will take place on Friday, September 7 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Richland County Fairgrounds in Sidney. Admission is only \$5 with children 5 and under admitted free.

The four events of the rodeo, including team trailering, team doctoring, team mugging and saddle bronc riding, promise great action and fun as the cowboys show off their skills.

Little buckaroos can get in on the action too, by participating in mutton bustin' and stick horse races.

The rodeo has been held each year since 2009 in memory of Neal Hermanson who died in a tragic accident in 2008.

100% of the proceeds from the rodeo go towards The Empty Saddle Memorial Foundation. With "Mend them, Teach them" as the foundation's motto, the goal is to honor the lost horsemen of the area. This year, Gene Koch will be inducted into the foundation during the rodeo.

Their stories will continue to be told with the goal of inspiring youth to work toward developing positive relationships with their horses, improving their horsemanship skills and exemplifying what it means to be a true horseman and individual. In the past nine years, the foundation has worked to honor these inductees by helping out with the educational and the medical needs of our area youth.

This spring 16 scholarships were given to area graduates, as well as medical aid to one individual. If you would like to help preserve this heritage, please help by giving to the Empty Saddle Memorial Foundation.



Participants honor Neal Hermanson during the 2017 ranch rodeo.

Plan now for an eventful Friday night watching real ranch competition at the Neal Hermanson Ranch Rodeo.



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Grasshopper 718 w/72" deck...... \$1,500

New Tractors In Stock

Case IH 130A Farmall • Case IH 120A Farmall

- Lease Returns Available
- Maxxum 125 Magnum 310CVT
- Farmall 130A & 120A Puma 165 & 185

Used Tractors In Stock

New Skidsteer Loaders

Case SV280 Cab, air, heat

New Skid Steer Attachments In Stock

Danuser Palet Forks - 48", 4000lb
Danuser Hydraulic Post Hole Digger & Augers
Danuser T3 Hydraulic Post Drivers
Snowblowers, Snow Buckets

Used Seeding, Tillage, Sprayers

Concord 4710 air drill, 3400 Tow behind cart... \$28,000 Brandt 5B4000 suspended boom sprayer, 90' booms... \$19,900 John Deere 2100 inline ripper \$3,500

Miscellaneous Used Equipment

New Grabtech Skidsteer Grapple Buckets In Stock!







CASE IH PUMA 155



TRI-COUNTY IMPLEMENT, INC.

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