

AR ROUNDUP

June 2024

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Last Day of School Tradition

Brian, Chet (grade 5) and Paige Delaney (grade 11) of Alexander continue the tradition of riding to school on the last day.
(Photo by Robyn Heck)



Farm & ranch monthly magazine published by The Roundup
PO Box 1207 • Sidney, MT 59270 | 406-433-3306 | info@roundupweb.com

Fairview FFA Presents Awards During Banquet



Receiving honorary Fairview FFA degrees were (from left) Shaun and Michelle Jensen, Sheila and Mark Neu and Vicky Cayko. (Photo by Bill Vander Weele)

By Bill Vander Weele

The Fairview FFA Chapter awarded five area adults with honorary chapter degrees for their contribution to the program during its awards banquet April 29.

Honored were Mark and Sheila Neu, Shaun and Michelle Jensen and Vicky Cayko.

Officials said that the Neus have been strong supporters of the Fairview FFA chapter for many years. They have provided a lot of behind-the-scenes help because of their love for FFA. Mark was even an FFA officer himself.

The Jensens, parents of 2023-2024 Fairview FFA president Allison Jensen, have supported her throughout her FFA career especially this year. They have assisted with the assembling of Christmas memorial boxes and wreaths, and were chaperones during the National FFA Convention trip.

Cayko stepped in and served as FFA's long-term substitute teacher this fall. In a time of unknowns, she became a constant in the lives of agriculture education students. She encouraged FFA members in contests and fundraisers.

Allison Jensen was presented the DEKALB Agricultural Accomplishment Award, which is given to the chapter's outstanding senior or junior with a superior record of scholarship, leadership and agricultural work experience.

Foreign exchange students Reycheil Guyata and Uree Munkh-Erdene received Blue and Gold awards.

Graduating seniors from the chapter were Abigail Berry, Allison Jensen, Grace McPherson, Hannah Hurley, Jerron Rau, Kallee Hopes, Matthew Mager and Reycheil Guyata.

New officers elected were Lauren Cozzens, president; Brady Selting, vice president; Jaden Murphy, secretary; Landon Tveit, treasurer; Ava Gullikson, reporter; Lander Monson, sentinel; and Kyle Skogas as an at-large officer.

McPherson and Jensen received state degrees. McPherson was elected at the Montana FFA State Convention to serve as the Montana FFA Association



Allison Jensen received the DEKALB Agricultural Accomplishment Award. (Photo by Bill Vander Weele)



Foreign exchange students Uree Munkh-Erdene (left) and Reycheil Guyata won Blue and Gold awards. (Photo by Bill Vander Weele)

2024-2025 state parliamentarian.

Recipients of chapter degrees were Gullikson, Murphy, Jake Rau, Tveit, Macy Tjelde and Mager. Gullikson earned the star chapter member award.

Receiving greenhand degrees were Skogas, Monson, Guyata, Trey Watson, Ty Poulson and Munkh-Erdene. Monson won the star greenhand award.

Junior high students earning discovery degrees were Addison Swaney, Cam-bree Hansen, Emily Spurlin, Hunter Wood, Kenley Prewitt, Kyra Buckley, Landen Emly and Rylan Watts.

MonDak Area Stockgrowers Association Spring Meeting June 13

By Dianne Swanson

Join the MonDak Area Stockgrowers Association for an evening of family fun as it hosts its Spring Meeting on Thursday, June 13 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Sidney Livestock Market Center.

Dinner and Goat Roping are on the agenda. Meat will be provided by the Stockgrowers; those whose last name start with A-K, please bring a salad and those whose last name starts with L-Z, please bring dessert.

Goat Roping should provide some excitement for contestants and spectators alike. The contest will be divided into two age groups; 10 and under and 11 and up. Cost to Pick one/Draw one is \$10. The event will also feature a community "Celebrity Goat Roping".

On the agenda for the evening are the scholarship presentation; MSGA and NDSA updates; Cattlemen's Ball Donation update; and a Steer Scholarship report.

Please RSVP to either MonDak Area Stockgrowers Facebook event; call/text 406-654-7228; or email mondakareastockgrowers@outlook.com.

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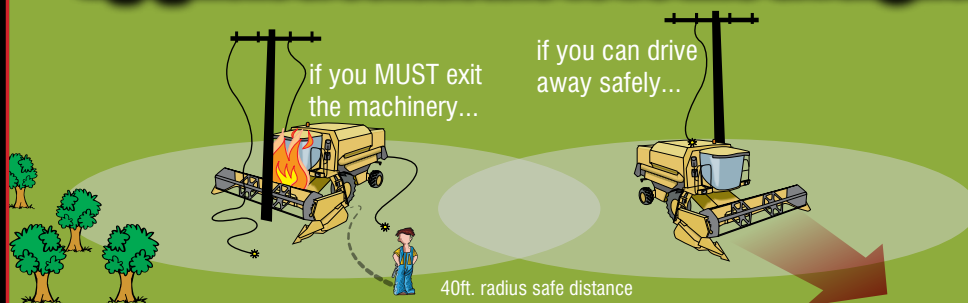
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Sidney Sugars Plans Auction Of Assets



File photo.

Sidney Sugars Inc. discontinued operations at its sugarbeet processing facility in Sidney in April 2023. As a result of the closure, the sugar and agricultural products processing, packaging, shipping and warehouse facility on 325.47 acres will sell via sealed bid auction. Sealed bids are due by Monday, July 8, at 4 p.m. MDT. The 270 acres of surplus farm, hunting and recreational land, and processing/support equipment and vehicles will be sold via a timed online auction ending Monday, July 15, at 4 p.m. MDT. There will be no live auction at the site.

Located on the edge of the Bakken Oil Formation, the facility has rail loading/unloading on BNSF rail line; exterior tank capacity of 8,704,000 gallons; silo capacity of 1,900,000 CWT; pellet storage of 8,000 tons; 2,000,000 tons of lime onsite; BMA tower diffuser/cossette mixer; 4MW power generation plant; pulp pelletizing system by California Pellet Mill; fenced site with rail/truck scales; millions of dollars worth of pumps/motors/parts inventory, scrap stainless steel/copper, vehicles, excavating equipment, and 42-person modular housing unit (see Equipment Catalog at www.sidneysugarsauction.com for a complete listing of property being sold).

Maas Companies Inc., a company specializing in selling food processing and

power generation assets in Rochester, MN., will oversee the sale. The sealed bid auction will include Tract 1: Parcels 1-2, Parcel 1: 325.47± acres main plant site and designated equipment, Parcel 2: 104± acres land. The online auction will include Tract 2: Parcels 4-5, Parcel 4: 30.529± acres land, Parcel 5: 240± acres farmland and 41 piecemeal equipment lots. Bidders must submit sealed bids by Monday, July 8, at 4 pm MDT, and online bidding ends Monday, July 15 with lots starting to close at 4 p.m. MDT via Proxibid.com.

Potential buyers are encouraged to schedule an appointment to attend the open houses:

Tuesday, June 4 between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday, June 18, between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Other times by request.

Contact the auction company directly at 507-285-1444 for a package detailing the bidding process. A drone video and virtual tour are also available at www.maascompanies.com.

Noxious Weed Management Advisory Council Recruits For Open Positions

Applications and nominations due June 31, 2024

HELENA – The Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA) is currently recruiting for open positions on its Noxious Weed Management Advisory Council ([NWMAC](#)). The following council terms expire June 30, 2024:

- Recreationist / Wildlife Group Representative
- Noxious Weed Free Materials Representative
- Montana Weed Control Association Representative
- Eastern County Weed District Representative
- At-Large Member
- Herbicide Dealer or Applicator Representative

The advisory council is appointed by the Montana Department of Agriculture Director and provides guidance to the department and the Noxious Weed Programs, which assists Montana counties, local and tribal communities, researchers, and educators in efforts to combat noxious weeds. MDA's noxious weed programs include the Noxious Weed Trust Fund, Noxious Weed Materials program, Early Detection, Rapid Response program, and State Noxious Weed Coordination. Service terms are two years and members are required to attend three meetings per year: spring grant hearings, a summer tour, and a winter business meeting.

Those interested in serving on the [NWMAC](#) are encouraged to submit a letter of interest and application to MDA by June 31, 2024. More information and applications are available on the [NWMAC homepage](#). Nominations can be submitted to: Montana Department of Agriculture, PO Box 2002014, Helena, MT 59620-0201.

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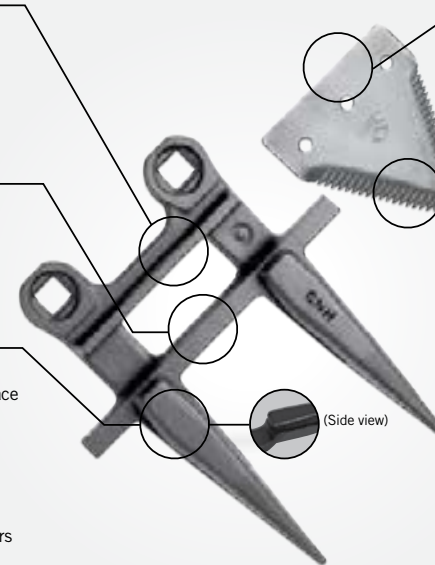
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MRC

It's a "Tropical Fairadise" at the McKenzie County Fair June 12 – 15



Photo submitted

By Dianne Swanson

Organizers of the McKenzie County Fair in Watford City have planned four days of fun and excitement just for you Wednesday, June 12, through Saturday, June 15. Gates open at 5 p.m. Wednesday evening and 8 a.m. Thursday through Saturday. Admission to the grounds is free. All times are Central Daylight Time.

Start the weekend at 7 p.m. Wednesday evening with the Olaf Leiseth Memorial Draft Horse Show. This free event showcases the hard-working draft horses and their drivers as they navigate an obstacle course, do log sledding, compete in a swamper race and cultivate corn.

Thursday night is Extreme Sports night with Knights and Bikes featuring BMX riders performing aerobatics while jumping up to 75 feet in the air, and Knights of Mayhem performing North Dakota jousting, where riders use sticks to knock each other off their horses. "You won't see this anywhere else," fair board member Christopher Kubal stated. The events run consecutively beginning at 6 p.m.

Then enjoy the music of Chancey Williams in the outdoor arena in front of the grandstand.

Drivers from three different states will converge on the fairgrounds to test their skills in the Demolition Derby, which starts at 7 p.m. on Friday. The Ag Expo will also be selling raffle tickets for a chance to drive a car in the derby. NDRA Rodeo will be the highlight Saturday night starting at 7 p.m. and fireworks will light up the sky at dusk. Professional Rodeo Clown Houston Stuart will be entertaining the crowd all three nights.

4-H and FFA livestock events will take place Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings, with the Livestock Sale scheduled for 1 p.m. on Friday. Their static exhibits will also be on display throughout the fair.

North Star Amusements is providing the thrills and chills of the carnival this year and be sure to catch the magic of Adam the Great as he strolls the grounds. A hypnotist and escape artist will also be performing on stage throughout the day. Test your rodeo skills on the mechanical bull and enjoy live music each night.

Children of all ages will love the Kids Zone featuring a petting zoo, grain pit, bubble tower, laser tag and more.

Montana State Hosts Inaugural Agritourism Conference

By Reagan Cotton, MSU News Service

The Montana State University hosted the inaugural Montana Agritourism Conference on Friday, May 3, the culmination of an 18-month program that connected agricultural producers with knowledge and resources to expand their offerings into the realm of tourism.

The event drew more than 130 attendees, including the 2024 class of Montana Agritourism Fellows. The fellows, made up of agricultural producers from across Montana, are part of the larger Montana Agritourism program, which is supported by the Montana Department of Agriculture and Western SARE, a regional research and education program focused on sustainable agriculture, for which MSU serves as the host institution.

"Montana provides an ideal location for agritourism by offering an unlimited selection of experiences that showcase the beauty of our rural life," said Shannon Arnold, a professor in MSU's Department of Agricultural and Technology Education who served as the conference organizer and led the Montana Agritourism Fellows program. "Today, we have the opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations, exchange ideas and learn from each other's experiences."

Friday's event included a trade show and breakout sessions on topics such as starting an agritourism business and marketing and communications strategies. It featured keynote speakers who addressed topics relevant to the intersection of agriculture and tourism in the state.

One of those keynotes, by Glenna Brown and Elena Bigart from the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, provided an overview of agritourism's past in Montana. The ITRR, which is the research arm for Montana's tourism and recreation industry, has for more than two decades conducted cross-state surveys on various aspects of tourism to help support planning and policymaking.

Brown and Bigart shared data and trends related to agritourism, including what draws visitors to Montana, the field's economic impact in the state and what offerings visitors and business owners alike find most viable. In 2022, they noted, 638 agritourism businesses in Montana generated \$1.26 billion in sales, up from \$949 million in 2017. The biggest draws, they said, included farm tours, farm stands and wildlife watching.

Members of the agritourism fellows group attested that incorporating agritourism elements into their businesses – from farm tours or lodging to experiences such as hiking and hunting – were helping them to make their operations more sustainable for future generations.

"If we're reaching one person at a time to make them ag-friendly, we are helping our industry stay alive so that we can keep doing what we do best," said Tana Canen, a fifth-generation farmer and rancher in eastern Montana and member of the fellows cohort. "It's also economic because it's tough surviving in agriculture. We are practicing resilient transformation."

Brown and Bigart cited a 1997 study in which producers identified the need for workshops that could help them plan and implement agritourism activities with guidance from experts and fellow producers who had successfully done so. Friday's event was designed to fill that very need.

"The Montana Agritourism Fellows was established to develop agritourism in the state, educate others about sustainable agritourism and serve as advocates for our agritourism industry," said Arnold. "Whether it's touring a working farm, sampling value-added products or experiencing the thrill of a cattle drive, agritourism allows us to connect with the land, the people and the culture of Montana."

In addition to Western SARE and the Montana Department of Agriculture, the Montana Agritourism Conference was supported by MSU Extension, the Montana Department of Commerce, the Montana Farm Bureau Federation, LandTrust, the Montana Food and Agriculture Development Network and Prospera.

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**KNIGHTS
& BIKES**

Thurs, June 13 • 6pm



DEMOLITION DERBY

Fri, June 14 • 7pm

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Power Wheels Derby During Intermission

NDRA RODEO

Sat, June 15 • 7pm



North Star Amusements & Houston
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McKenzie County Ag Expo

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For more info, call 701-444-9090

RICHLAND COUNTY & CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024 • 10:00 A.M.



GUNS ***SOLD FIRST***

- Mossberg 30-06 bolt, Simmons 3x9 Scope
- Remington 7mm bolt, 3x9 Scope
- Remington 30-06 bolt, 6x18 Scope
- Remington 243 bolt, 3x9 Scope
- Savage 25-06 bolt, Nikon 3x9 Scope
- Marlin 22 mag bolt, 3x9 Scope & Bipod
- Savage 17 cal bolt, 3x9 Scope
- Remington 12-gauge Pump Shotgun, model 870
- Glenfield 12-gauge Pump Shotgun
- 410 Shotgun bolt
- (2) Taurus 45 ACP Handguns
- Taurus 9mm Handgun
- Cannon 24-Gun Safe
- Crossbow
- Compound Bows
- Climbing Tree Stand
- Bo-flex Exerciser

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RICHLAND COUNTY - (Duane 406-480-4156)

- 2001 Mercury Sable, 3.0L engine, 96,251 miles
- 2009 Ford Explorer, 4.0L engine, 77,770 mile
- 2001 Ford F350 Flatbed Pickup, 4x4, 5.4L engine, 154,610 miles
- 2010 Ford 550 Service Truck, 6.4L diesel, 128,800 miles, onboard Air Compressor & Crane
- DCT 16' Tilt Bed plus 6' Stationary Deck Trailer, 7,000 # axles

FARM MACHINERY (Dennis 406-489-8338)

- Case 25' Mulcher
- Triple K 20' Cultivator w/harrows
- Hyben 10' Gyro Mower
- 8x41' Grain Auger, PTO
- 3 pt. Post Hole Digger & 2-bits
- 1 1/4, 1 1/2, 2" & 3" Syphon Tubes
- Hydraulic Cylinders (various sizes)
- (2) 20" Cattle Guards
- 4x15' Culvert (New)
- 3 pt Double Bale Carrier
- (6) Cut-out Tires



TRACTOR, CAMPER, SIDE-BY-SIDE, ATV, SEA DOO'S (Vic 406-939-3396)

- JD 5085E diesel Tractor, power shift, front weights, PTO, 3 pt., 1 match Hitch, Loader brackets & Joystick, 204 hours, like new (no loader)
- 2008 Cyclone 39' Triple Axle 5th wheel Toy Hauler Camper, 3-slide-outs, central air, duct heat, central vac, fueling station, sleeps 10, NICE
- JD MX15 Batwing Mower, like new
- Razor DOHC 900, 4-seater Side-by-Side, 2385 miles
- Honda Rincon ATV, auto transmission, power winch & (4) Stock Tires w/chains, 3700 miles
- (2) Sea Doo's, 75 hours (1-GTI 155 Limited, 1- GTI SF130) nearly new
- Double Trailer to Haul Sea Doo's

TRUCK, TRAILERS, & ATV (McCone Electric, Clay 406-974-3065)

- 2007 Intl. 7300 DT466 Digger Truck, Intl. D225 motor, Allison auto, 99,200 miles, Digger Derrick All Tec DM47TR, good tires
- 2017 Redi Haul 24' Tilt Deck Plus 8' Stationary Deck Tandem Dually Trailer, 10,000# axles, Pintle Hitch & Heavy-Duty Electric Jack
- Road King 12' Low Profile Tandem Axle Trailer, Pintle Hitch (has 1-broken axle)
- 2009 Kawasaki Brute Force KVF650F ATV, 4x4, auto & Snowplow
- Ford & Chevy Pickup Bumpers (NEW)
- Onan Generators
- Large Warn Winches
- Chain Saws
- 100-gallon Poly Tank on Frame

TRAILERS & CAR

- Titan Classic 24' Gooseneck Stock Trailer w/floor mats, nice (Rick 406-939-1632)
- Load Trail 34' Gooseneck Flatbed Trailer w/beavertail, fold over ramps (Rick 406-939-1632)
- Load Trail Bumper-pull Car Trailer, 5200# axles, slide-out ramps, new (Rick 406-939-1632)
- Load Trail 12' bumper-pull Utility Trailer w/fold-up ramp, new (Rick 406-939-1632)
- 2007 Ford Fusion Car, 4-cylinder, 5-speed, 120,000 miles (Lee 406-489-1631)

SNOW BLOWER, PICKUP & MISC. (Greg 406-480-5658)

- Schulte Snow Blower, 3 pt.
- 14' Rig Bed w/2' Step-on Back
- Bradford Flatbed, fits Dually Long Bed, came off Dodge Pickup
- 1991 Chevy 1/2 ton Pickup, 4x4, auto, 350 engine
- Centileder L-shaped Heavy-Duty Shelving (NEW)



HAYING & LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT

- JD 569 Mega wide Big Round Bale, nice shape (Butch 406-939-7467)
- JD 530 Big Round Baler, always shedded (Steve 406-525-3472)
- Swather Trailer (Steve 406-525-3472)
- +/- (50) 24' Free Standing Corral Panels, NEW (Rick 406-939-1632)
- (4) 24' Free Standing Corral Panels w/10' Gates. NEW (Rick 406-939-1632)
- (20) 20' Feeder Panels (Keith 406-489-1994)
- (27) 24' Feeder Panels (Keith 406-489-1994)

SIDE-BY-SIDES & ATV'S (Matt 406-951-2560)

- 2017 Kawasaki Mule-Pro FX EPS Side-by-Side, 9530 miles (green/black)
- 2019 Yamaha Kodiak 700 EPS, 6900 miles (green)
- 2019 Yamaha Grizzly 700 EPS, 5535 miles (white)
- 2016 Yamaha Grizzly 700, power steering, 5813 miles (blue)
- 2014 Yamaha Grizzly 550, power steering, 7700 miles (camo)

PAYLOADER, TRACTORS, SPRAYER, SKID STEERS, FORKLIFT, SCRAPER, AIR COMPRESSOR, CAMPER, PICKUP, SIDE-BY-SIDE, & BOAT

- JD 444H Payloader, Quick Attach, auto shift, 3rd valve hydraulics, 90% rubber, 12,000 hours (Jeremy 406-989-1740)
- NH TV140 Bi-directional Tractor w/Loader, bucket & grapple 3996 hours (Felix 406-783-7735)
- Versatile 150 Bi-directional Tractor w/Loader, bucket & grapple (Jeff 406-480-5497)
- JD 4430 Tractor, PTO, Quad-range, Front Suitcase Weights, tires good, 9700 hours (Rick 406-939-1632)
- JD 1530 Tractor, 3-cylinder diesel, 3 pt., PTO & JD 195 Front-end Loader, NEW bucket (Russell 406-489-3484)
- Melroe Spray Coupe 220 Sprayer, 920 hours (Jeff 406-480-5497)
- JD 320 diesel Skid Steer, 271 hours, like new (Rick 406-939-1632)
- Bobcat 573 Skid Steer w/bucket, 2240 hours & Forks (Mike 406-433-2226)
- Hyster Fork Lift, new tires, 436 hours (Mike 406-433-2226)
- 4-yard Pull-type Scraper (Rick 406-939-1632)
- Ingersoll Rand P185 Portable Air Compressor, JD diesel engine, 185 CFM, 456 hours (Jeremy 406-989-1740)
- 2013 Forest River Hemisphere 356 BBQ 5th Wheel Camper, 4-Slide-outs, NICE (Felix 406-783-7735)
- 1995 Ford F250 XL Supercab Pickup, 4x4, 460 engine, 5-speed, 157,000 miles (Felix 406-783-7735)
- Polaris XP1000 Side-by-Side, Hard Cab, 7125 miles (Felix 406-783-7735)
- 2013 Glastron Boat w/Volvo Penta 225 hp V8 Inboard motor, 154 hours, like new & Trailer (John 406-489-2896)



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AUCTIONEER'S NOTE:
 There is a wide variety of items from several Consignor's at this auction. Some of the machinery has very low hours and are "like new". There may be more larger items added to this auction by sale day; please go to **r-kauction.com** for more information. Hope to see you on June 15th! ~Rick

All information is from sources deemed reliable, but is not guaranteed by the Sellers or the Auctioneers. Offering is subject to error, omission, and approval of purchase by owner. We urge independent verification of each and every item submitted to the satisfaction of any prospective buyer. It is every potential bidder/purchaser's sole responsibility to accomplish his or her due diligence in whatever manner he or she deems advisable. Announcements made sale day take precedence over any printed materials. The items sell "As is-Where is." R-K Statewide Auction Service and its auctioneers are acting solely as auctioneers for the Sellers.
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NDSU Research Extension Center Field Days Set

This year's events will feature the latest research on issues that impact agriculture in North Dakota.



Farmers, crop advisers and others attend NDSU's North Central Research Extension Center Field Day. (NDSU photo)

By NDSU Agriculture Communication

The North Dakota State University Research Extension Centers' annual field days are set. The events take place at the Research Extension Center sites across the state and feature speakers, tours and field demonstrations for farmers, ranchers, crop advisers, landowners, horticulturalists and local stakeholders.

"The agricultural research conducted at our NDSU Research Extension Centers provides research-based solutions that advance agricultural production systems in a variety of areas, including agronomy and crop production, livestock and rangeland management, precision agriculture, and value-added activities," says Greg Lardy, the Joe and Norma Peltier Vice President for NDSU Agriculture. "During the NDSU Field Days, our researchers showcase the work they've invested in developing timely, practical solutions for agriculture in North Dakota and across the region."

The dates and locations for the field days are:

- July 8 – Central Grasslands Research Extension Center – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. CDT
- July 9 – Dickinson Research Extension Center – 8 a.m. to noon MDT (agron-

omy tour)

- July 9 – Hettinger Research Extension Center – 3 to 7 p.m. MDT
 - July 10 – Dickinson Research Extension Center – 8 a.m. to noon MDT (livestock tour)
 - July 10 – Williston Research Extension Center – 4 to 8 p.m. CDT (agronomy and horticulture tours)
 - July 11 – Williston Research Extension Center – 8:30 to noon CDT (irrigation tour at Nesson Valley Irrigated Site)
 - July 15 – Agronomy Seed Farm – 5 to 8 p.m. CDT
 - July 16 – Carrington Research Extension Center – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. CDT (livestock, agronomy, organic and sustainable agriculture, and horticulture tours)
 - July 17 – North Central Research Extension Center – 8:30 a.m. to noon CDT
 - July 18 – Langdon Research Extension Center – 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. CDT
- NDSU is an R1 research institution as defined by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

MSU Schedules Upcoming Field Days

BOZEMAN — The Montana State University College of Agriculture and Montana Agricultural Experiment Station will once again host a series of field days this summer at six of the university's research centers around the state, plus two additional events at campus farms in Bozeman.

"We look forward to our field days every year because of the opportunities they create to interact and share research results with agricultural producers and friends around Montana," said Sreekala Bajwa, director of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station and the college's dean. "Getting to share and receive feedback on research projects helps us to tailor our work to the needs of our state and to foster relationships with our many partners."

The Montana Agricultural Experiment Station comprises the main station at Bozeman; the Department of Research Centers facilities at Conrad, Corvallis, Creston, Havre, Huntley, Moccasin and Sidney; and the USDA's Fort Keogh Livestock and Range Research Laboratory in Miles City. At the events, visitors can meet faculty, learn about ongoing and future research projects, offer feedback, share a meal and tour facilities. Discussion topics will include plant breeding and variety

testing, livestock management and production, precision agriculture, irrigation and input management, and more.

2024 Field Day Schedule

- Northern Agricultural Research Center, Havre: June 20, 3 p.m.
- Central Agricultural Research Center, Moccasin: June 26, 8:30 a.m.
- Eastern Agricultural Research Center, Sidney: June 27, 8 a.m.
- Western Triangle Agricultural Research Center, Conrad: July 10, 10 a.m.
- Northwestern Agricultural Research Center, Creston: July 11, 11 a.m.
- Post Agronomy Farm, Bozeman: July 17, 8 a.m.
- Bozeman Agricultural Research and Teaching (BART) Farm and MSU Horticulture Farm, Bozeman: Aug. 29, 5 p.m.
- Western Agricultural Research Center, Corvallis: Sept. 12, 4:30 p.m.

All field days are free and open to the public. More information can be found at agresearch.montana.edu/fielddays.html or by calling the College of Agriculture dean's office at 406-994-3681.

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CowTown USA invites visitors of all ages to experience the charm of rural life with a petting zoo open all day. From cuddly farm animals to interactive exhibits, there's plenty to delight animal lovers and there's even pony rides! Plus, don't miss Rollo strolling around and Leapin' Louie's captivating performances, featuring three shows a day filled with laughter, thrills, and stunts that will leave audiences of all ages in awe.

Take a leisurely stroll through our new building and marvel at the county's best exhibits, showcasing the creativity, craftsmanship, and agricultural heritage of Richland County. From antique tractors to handcrafted quilts, each display offers a glimpse into the rich tapestry of rural life. Admire the skill and dedication of local artisans and farmers as you explore the diverse array of exhibits on offer.

Indulge in the finest fare the region has to offer as you explore a culinary paradise of flavors and aromas. From classic fair favorites like funnel cakes and corn dogs to gourmet treats and local specialties, there's something to tempt every palate. Sample your way through the food vendors scattered throughout the fairgrounds and discover why Richland County is renowned for its gastronomic delights.

The heart-pounding action of PRCA rodeos takes center stage with two exhilarating nights of competition. Cowboys and cowgirls will test their skills in thrilling events such as bull riding, barrel racing, and team roping, all while vying for top honors and prize money. Prepare to be on the edge of your seat as the

arena comes alive with the spirit of the West. Don't forget to wear pink on Friday for "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" night. Every pink shirt in the stands donates \$4 to the Foundation for Community Care.

On Aug. 3, the fairgrounds will resonate with the sounds of country music as Rodney Atkins with special guest Jerrod Niemann take the stage for a live concert. From chart-topping hits to soulful ballads, these acclaimed artists promise an evening of unforgettable music and memories. Gather your friends and family, and get ready to sing along to your favorite tunes under the big Montana sky.

Don't miss your chance to experience the magic of the Richland County Fair & Rodeo, where the spirit of the countryside comes alive in a celebration of community, culture, and tradition. Join us for four days of fun, friendship, and unforgettable memories that will make this summer one to remember.





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Montana State Extension Specialist Receives Funding To Study Grasshoppers' Impact On Pulse Crops

By Reagan Cotton, MSU News Service

BOZEMAN – Through new funding from the USDA and the Montana Department of Agriculture, a Montana State University scientist will study the impact of grasshoppers, an increasingly common pest in Montana, on pulse crops and forages.

Hayes Goosey, assistant professor in the Department of Animal and Range Sciences in the College of Agriculture and an MSU Extension specialist, received roughly \$330,000 through the USDA's Specialty Crop Block Program, which supports research into the viability of crops such as fruits, vegetables, tree nuts and pulses. By examining the dietary preferences of grasshoppers, Goosey said, specialists will be able to make more precise and effective management prescriptions for growers.

"There are a lot of people who are trying to venture out into growing different types of forage," he said. "So, this doubles up with a need to look at grasshopper feeding preferences on different crops. The interest in pulse crops as forages creates the opportunity to look into that question."

Grasshopper populations follow drought, said Goosey, meaning that recent drought years in 2021 and 2022 have made the insects more of an issue in Montana, particularly east of the Continental Divide. Grasshoppers are highly attracted to spring and winter wheat, and there are three primary species that pose a threat in Montana: the migratory, clear-winged and two-striped grasshoppers. When droughts are particularly severe and rangeland acreage becomes dry, they will often migrate toward irrigated crop fields.

Goosey recommends scouting fields to estimate grasshopper prevalence. As grasshoppers mature, they progress through five instars, or stages, each of which requires the shedding and regrowing of an exoskeleton. Adults then lay eggs that can overwinter in the ground until the following spring.

Scouting in the spring, when grasshoppers are smaller and younger, allows for more effective management, said Goosey.

"Crops can tolerate a lot more of the smaller first and second instars," said Goosey. "Around August is when they migrate, so July to August is when you're looking to scout adult populations. If you've got adults in the later part of the year, that's where they're going to lay eggs and where you'll have a higher population in the spring."

Goosey said the most effective and commonly recommended management tool for grasshoppers in Montana is a product called Dimilin. Because it targets chitin, which makes up grasshoppers' exoskeletons, Dimilin has little impact on non-target species including rangeland pollinators. And because grasshoppers

are so transitory, treating strips or sections of cropland means they will likely pass through, eliminating the need to treat an entire field.

In his new research, Goosey will explore grasshopper feeding preferences among pulse crops, such as lentils and peas, as well as other forage crops. In identifying plants that are particularly attractive to the insects, Goosey said those can then be used as "trap crops," drawing pests away from main crop fields and further narrowing the acreage that may need to be treated with deterrents.

The project will fill an identified knowledge gap around how grasshoppers interact with pulse crops, said Goosey. The USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service estimates that more than 1.1 million acres of pulse crops were planted in Montana in 2023.

"This will be a way to protect pulse crops and to expand knowledge about grasshopper feeding on pulses and non-pulses," he said. "Right now, we're educating on what we know, what the options are and what programs are available."

One of those programs comes from the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, or APHIS, which often helps to cover the cost of grasshopper control on federal, state or private land. Goosey said combining new research into the best practices for Montana with public education to ensure producers know what resources are available will help to ensure the most effective response to grasshoppers and other pests.

"At the end of the project, we'll be able to rework recommendations with feeding preferences, plant seeding rates, chemical products and different control options, and update what we know here in Montana with what we've learned with this project," he said.

For more about MSU Extension Animal and Range Sciences, visit the MSU Extension website.



Chickpeas in a field near Havre. MSU (Photo by Adrian Sanchez-Gonzalez)

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Controlling Flies On Cattle Requires Proper Timing

Integrated pest management involves using the right type of control at the right time for the right duration to control pests effectively.

By NDSU Agriculture Communication

Face flies, horn flies and stable flies are the most common and most treated pests on North Dakota livestock operations. Left uncontrolled, these pests can cause significant loss in livestock production.

Fortunately, North Dakota State University Extension specialists say that the proper pest management strategy can provide effective control.

While integrated pest management is commonplace for controlling crop pests, similar concepts can apply to controlling livestock pests, according to Extension veterinarian and livestock stewardship specialist, Dr. Gerald Stokka.

“Integrated pest management involves using the right type of control at the right time for the right duration to control pests effectively,” Dr. Stokka says. “For example, in beef cow-calf operations, applying pest control for lice and flies prior to pasture turnout will not be effective and will waste resources related to pest control.”

Timing and type of pest control depends on the species of flies. Horn and face flies typically are not present at pasture turnout and do not reach economic thresholds for applying control until midsummer.

Horn flies are gray and look like small houseflies. Horn flies bite and spend most of their time clustered around the head, shoulders and back of cattle. These blood-sucking flies feed up to 20 to 30 times per day. This constant biting causes cattle pain and stress, and can reduce the cattle’s weight gains by as much as 20 pounds, according to Dr. Stokka.

Face flies look like large, dark house flies. They are nonbiting flies that feed on animal secretions, plant nectar and manure liquids. Face flies may transmit pathogens responsible for infecting the eye and causing pinkeye in cattle. The life cycle of a face fly is approximately 21 days. Populations tend to peak in late summer.

Stable flies are similar in size to house flies, but have circular markings that distinguish them from horn flies. In addition, these flies bite on the abdomen and legs, feed on blood, and are very disruptive to cattle grazing. They breed on organic matter and are very difficult to control with topical pour-on and injectable products.

Pest density is another factor in determining timing of control strategy, according to Colin Tobin, animal scientist at the NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center.

“When fly counts reach 200 flies per animal, the economic threshold has been reached and animals will have significant weight loss,” Tobin says. “The economic threshold is the pest density at which producers should take action to manage the pest.”

Tobin says that the first step in determining when to apply control is to properly scout pastures and cattle to determine fly type and fly populations. Horn flies typically rest on cattle throughout the day, whereas face flies land on the face of cattle for a meal and then retreat to nearby structures (forages, fences, etc.).

Ear tags contain insecticides that are released slowly into the animal’s hair by movement, so ear tags should not be applied until fly populations are nearing the economic thresholds (typically from mid-June to July). Tobin advises reading insecticide labels carefully because recommendations can vary for the number of



The species of flies is a major factor in the timing and type of pest control that will be most effective. (NDSU photo)

tags to apply (one or two), the age of cattle that can be tagged, and the chemical class of active ingredient (pyrethroid, organophosphate or a combination).

NDSU Extension specialists recommend rotating the class of insecticide each year and removing tags when they no longer provide effective fly control to help prevent flies from becoming resistant to the insecticides.

“To achieve proper fly control, pour-on and sprays must be applied every two to three weeks throughout the fly season,” Tobin says. “Applying these products before pasture turnout likely will not be an effective fly control method. Additionally, all avermectin pour-ons and injectables impact internal parasites and are not labeled for fly control.”

Feed additive insecticides can be included in mineral formulations for the cattle. The additives pass through the animals’ digestive system and destroy the developing horn fly maggots in the manure. These additives are effective in killing 80% to 90% of the developing fly larvae in animals that have consumed the product.

Extension livestock specialist Karl Hoppe advises ranchers to offer feed additives at least 30 days prior to fly emergence in late June or early July. Continuous use of these products may speed up resistance in the fly populations, he warns.

Back rubbers, dusters and other means of delivering insecticides, as well as nonchemical fly traps and reliance on natural fly defense mechanisms (dung beetle control of larvae), also are available. As with the other control methods, Hoppe advises watching for economic thresholds and considering what control measure will work best.

“When applying any type of pest control, be sure to carefully read the label prior to application,” Hoppe says. “It is important to monitor populations to see if the product is achieving the desired level of control.”

If a product is not effective, the fly population may have developed a resistance to that type of insecticide, which may require another method or product.

“Pest control can be costly,” Hoppe says. “Producers can reduce costs by following principles of integrated pest management and applying the appropriate products at the appropriate time for the appropriate control of pest populations.”

2024 MSU-EARC FIELD DAY

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

8:00-8:30am	..... Coffee and Donuts	10:35-10:50am	..... Genetic Resistance and Fungicide Application for Fusarium Head Blight Disease
8:30-8:35am	..... Welcome and Introduction <i>Dr. Chengci Chen, EARC Superintendent</i>		<i>Dr. Frankie Crutcher, Associate Professor of Plant Pathology, MSU-EARC</i>
8:35-8:50am	..... Welcome and Update of Research Centers Department <i>Dr. Jessica Torrion, Research Centers Department Head</i>	10:55-11:10am	..... Corn-based Cropping System for Sugarbeet Replacement <i>Dr. Bart Stevens, USDA-ARS, NPARL</i>
8:50-9:00am	..... Boarding Trailer and Travel to Field	11:25-11:40am	..... Spring Wheat Breeding and New Cultivars <i>Dr. Jason Cook, Assistant Professor and Spring Wheat Breeder, MSU-PSPP</i>
9:00-9:15am	..... Camelina as Bioenergy Crop (Cultivar Selection, Agronomic Practices, and Weed Control) <i>Dr. Chengci Chen, Professor of Agronomy, MSU-EARC</i>	11:45-12:00pm	..... Plant Breeding and Genetics for Pulse Crop Protein and Other Qualities <i>Drs. Clare Coyne and Rebecca McGee, USDA-ARS, PGPL</i>
9:20-9:35am	..... White Mold Disease in Soybean and Management Strategies <i>Dr. Frankie Crutcher, Associate Professor of Plant Pathology, MSU-EARC</i>	12:05-12:20pm	..... Intercropping for Ascochyta Disease Management in Chickpea <i>Ms. Marie Dorval, Ph.D. Student, MSU-EARC.</i>
9:35-9:50am	..... Dry Bean and Soybean Variety and Fertility Studies <i>Dr. William Franck, Research Scientist, MSU-EARC</i>	12:30pm	..... Lunch at the Conference Room
9:55-10:15am	..... Essential Oil for Pulse Crop Disease Management <i>Dr. Nisha Patwa, Research Associate, MSU-EARC</i>	1:00pm	..... Adjourn
10:15-10:30am Barley Breeding and New Varieties <i>Dr. Jamie Sherman, Professor and Barley Breeder, MSU-PSPP</i>		



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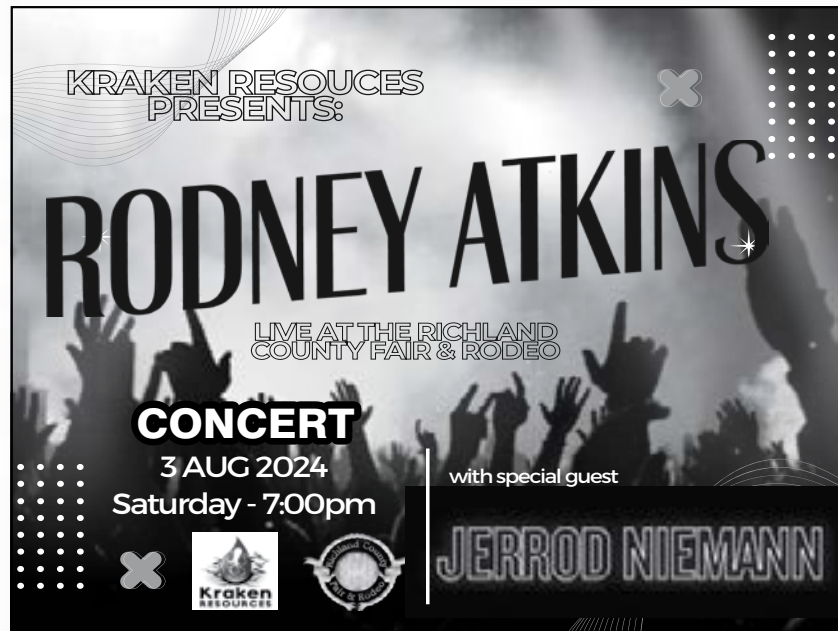
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Williston Research Extension Center Field Day Features Something For Everyone

It just might save a life!

July 10, 2024 residents in the MonDak area may find a way to save a life in a special addition to the Williston Research Extension Center Field Day with STOP THE BLEED® training. The Williston REC is known for its long history of collaborative research as part of NDSU Agriculture. The crop research taking place at the WREC has brought new varieties and cropping system advancements into the MonDak region. The information from the WREC has been used in fields to enhance profitability with pest control and assisted with recommendations for protecting crops. The July 10 WREC Field Day may protect the people of the region in a broad-reaching way with Stop the Bleed.

It can take valuable minutes for an emergency first responder to reach the site of someone who has experienced a life-threatening situation due to bleeding. Many people would benefit from having someone closer by who can help to stop or minimize this bleeding within a key three-to-five minutes after the incident occurred. Collaborating with Stop the Bleed trainers joining the WREC Field Day from NDSU Extension, a training will be offered for those in attendance at the July 10 event to help them be prepared to save a life if the need arises.

Sam Funk, WREC director, said "We have always cared about the producers and stakeholders in the region. That includes caring about them as people. This offering allows us to demonstrate part of the outreach NDSU has brought forward to care for the communities we serve each day. Everyone is important and we want to help encourage health and safety in our rural and more densely populated communities."

While agronomy and horticulture topics will continue to be offered on July 10 in Williston at the WREC, Funk highlighted the driving need for the Stop the Bleed training. He said, "Many of our producers and rural citizens are far enough from first responder points of origin that having someone close who can utilize Stop the Bleed training could make a significant difference to save a life."

Anyone can register for the Williston, event at the WREC. The content dealing with stopping life-threatening bleeding may be unsettling for some; but it may also save a life. It definitely has a purpose for anyone in the region who desires to participate.

An advance registration for the Stop the Bleed training at the July 10 WREC Field Day is requested. If you would be interested in a Stop the Bleed kit that includes materials to utilize following the training if you needed to help someone suffering from a severe bleeding incident, those kits will be available at their cost of \$20 if ordered in advance with the registration.

This training will not be scheduled for the July 11 WREC Irrigated Site Field Day. That day will feature the irrigated agronomy research taking place in the Ray, fields.

Advance Registration for the Stop the Bleed training at the July 10 WREC Field Day is available at: <https://forms.gle/1YsZE1VDgP7cz6px6>

Information on the Williston REC Field Days is available online at: <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/WillistonREC/> More Information is available by calling the WREC office at 701-774-4315.

Montana State University Eastern Agricultural Research Center Field Day June 27

By Marley Voll, MSU Richland County Extension

The Montana State University Eastern Agricultural Research Center (MSU EARC) is preparing to host their annual Field Day on Thursday, June 27 at the center, located north of Sidney, 1501 N Central Ave. The day will include information on variety selection, cropping systems, fertility, disease management, weed management, and more, all of which will be beneficial for producers in the region.

Plan to come from 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. for coffee and donuts before the field day begins at 8:30 a.m. During the field tours, Dr. Chengci Chen, EARC superintendent and professor of agronomy, will discuss camelina as a bio-energy crop, including variety selection, planting, and weed management of camelina.

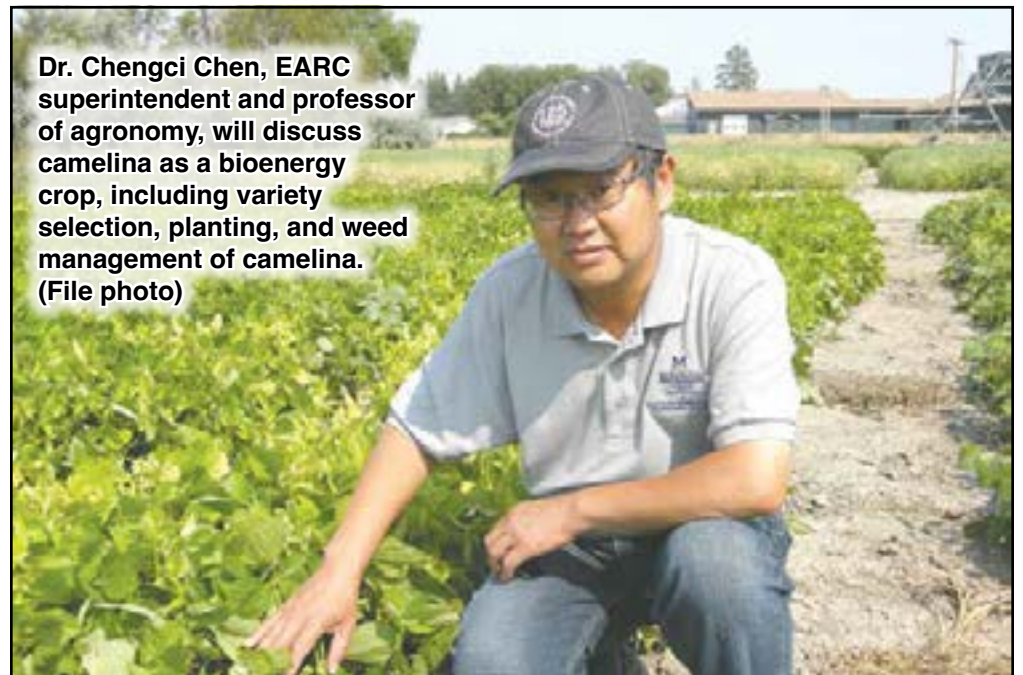
With an increase in soybean acres in the area, plant pathologist Dr. Frankie Crutcher will be discussing white mold diseases; how to identify it, and management strategies including variety selection, fungicide application, and crop rotation. Throughout the field day, Dr. Crutcher will also be discussing Fusarium head blight in spring wheat and durum including proper identification, resistant varieties, and the newest recommendations for a successful fungicide application.

Nisha Patwa, research associate, will discuss root rot identification and seed treatments for Fusarium root rot management, as well as preliminary data of a study evaluating essential oils for root rot management.


Marie Dorval, PhD student at EARC will be discussing Ascochyta disease management during the Field Day. Her research study focuses on the impact of fungicide applications in monocrop and intercropping systems on disease control and seed quality. Dorval will also be sharing some preliminary data.

Other topics during the day will include variety information on dry bean, soybean, barley, and spring wheat, as well as corn-based cropping system, and pulse crop protein breeding and genetics. Whether you are interested in learning more about pest and disease management, cropping systems, or new varieties, the MSU EARC Field Day will provide valuable research updates to assist area producers.

The day will also include a meal and will wrap up by 1 p.m. Pesticide points are pending.




Dr. Chengci Chen, EARC superintendent and professor of agronomy, will discuss camelina as a bioenergy crop, including variety selection, planting, and weed management of camelina. (File photo)



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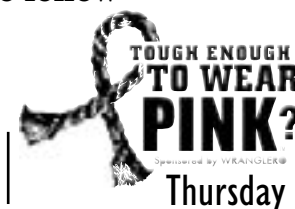
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North Dakota Youth Build Connections & Leadership Skills At National 4-H Conference

The delegates explored issues affecting youth & role youth can play in addressing those issues.

By NDSU Agriculture Communication

Attending the weeklong National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C., helped Burleigh County 4-H member Elizabeth Sikes feel more confident in her ability to lead.

“The National 4-H Conference was one of my favorite things I have done through 4-H and has helped me further develop my leadership skills,” Sikes says. “It was a wonderful experience, and I loved meeting people from all over the U.S. and from different territories.”

Sikes was one of four North Dakota 4-H’ers who attended the National 4-H Conference April 19-24. The other delegates were Aubrey Delaney, Cass County; Aubri Staloch, Williams County; and Nora Severance; Cass County.

More than 260 youth attended the conference to explore current issues affecting youth and the role that 4-H can play in addressing those issues. Delegates participated in roundtable groups that researched issues, developed presentations on their findings and then shared the findings with key decision makers at various federal agencies throughout the Washington, D.C., area.

For Sikes and Delaney, the roundtable groups and presentations were one of the most impactful parts of the conference. All the delegates said that another best part of the trip was making connections with other youth from across the U.S.

“I gained many new skills and made great memories with amazing people from around the U.S.,” Staloch adds. “It was a truly amazing experience that I will treasure forever.”

“National 4-H Conference was an amazing experience that I am so grateful to have been able to attend,” says Delaney. “I especially enjoyed getting to explore some of the National monuments and presenting to the federal partners.”

Chaperone Kelly Leo, a North Dakota State University Williams County Extension agent, enjoyed watching the young people evolve through their experiences.

“The maturity and responsiveness of the youth to their roundtable issues was impressive,” Leo says. “Their presentations would rival even the best adult presenters and truly impressed the federal agencies.”

Delegate Severance encourages other youth to apply.



The North Dakota delegates to the National 4-H Conference are Nora Severance, Cass County; Aubri Staloch, Williams County; Aubrey Delaney, Cass County; and Elizabeth Sikes, Burleigh County. (NDSU photo)

“Deciding to apply for the trip is one of the best decisions I have made, and I would recommend it to anyone,” she says.

Applications to serve as a 2025 delegate are due to the NDSU Extension Center for 4-H Youth Development by Aug. 1. For more information, contact [Rachelle Vettern](mailto:Rachelle.Vettern@ndsu.edu), NDSU professor and Extension leadership and volunteer development specialist, at 701-231-7541 or rachelle.vettern@ndsu.edu.

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