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the PULSE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE NORTHERN PULSE GROWERS ASSOCIATION

May 2023 | E-News Edition

Midwest Pulse Planting Report

Spring planting is well underway, and even wrapping up in parts of Montana & North Dakota. Here are the latest Crop Progress Reports we've received from USDA NASS for the Midwest as of May 21, 2023.

North Dakota - Dry edible peas planted was 53%, well ahead of 25% last year, but behind 61% average. Emerged was 16%, ahead of 7% last year, but near 20% average.

Montana - Dry edible peas (includes chickpeas) planted was 70%, slightly behind of 90% last year, but well ahead of the 59% average. Emerged was 32%, behind 48% last year, but slightly ahead of the 45% average.

Lentils planted was reported at 62%, behind 82% last year - also behind the 77% average. Emergence was reported at 29%, right on par with 28% last year, and ahead of the 20% average.

USDA NASS reports for **South Dakota** & **Nebraska** didn't report specifics for pulse crops in their weekly reports, but appear to be right on track with their 5-year average.

We've enjoyed seeing your pulse emergence photos on social media! Please tag us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram so we can follow along with your crop progress. Cheers to Plant '23!



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Weekly NDSU Crop & Pest Report

Stay up-to-date with the latest information on crop production & pest management by subscribing to the NDSU Crop & Pest Report! [Click Here](#) to view recent reports and to have the reports e-mailed to you weekly!



What We've Been Up To!

Below is a brief highlight of some of the NPGA programs, activities and representation around the region this month:

- Virtually Presented at the Pulse 101 Workshop with Clemson University
- Sponsor of the Family Wellness Food & Fitness Fun-Raiser on May 18
- Kicked-off our "Pulse Growers Spotlight" campaign with Red River Farm Network
- Participated in all USADPLC Committee Meetings.



Montana Pulse Crop Committee Seeking Applications

The Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA) is currently seeking a public representative who is or was actively engaged in agriculture to apply for an open position on the Montana Pulse Crop Committee.

The [Montana Pulse Crop Committee](#) aims to stimulate and expand Montana's pulse crop industry through research, promotion, and market development of pulse crops grown in Montana.

Those interested in serving on the Montana Pulse Crop Committee are encouraged to submit an application by **May 31, 2023**. To view the current opening, please click [HERE](#). To apply directly, please visit https://governor.mt.gov/boards_appointments/applynow.

The Montana Pulse Crop Committee's mission is to invest in and deliver support for marketing, research, education, and policy development programming that improves return on investment for the pulse producers of Montana. Learn more at agr.mt.gov.

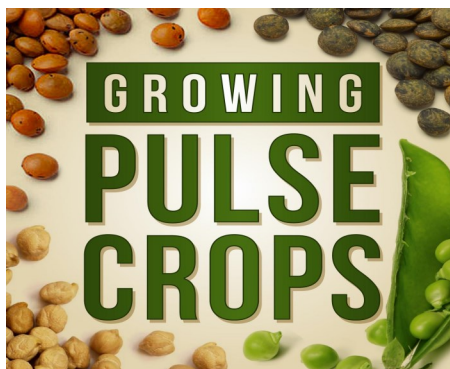
The Montana Department of Agriculture is serving Montana Agriculture and growing prosperity under the Big Sky. For more information on department programs and services, visit agr.mt.gov.



Growing Pulse Crops Podcast Feature Episode: Disease Management in Pulses

Season 1 | Episode 3 (Published April 14, 2020)

Partial show notes by: Tim Hammerich



In this podcast we discuss soil-borne and seed-borne diseases in pulse crops. We are joined by Chris Westergard a farmer in Montana, who gives us insight into what his operation looks like and how he manages these risks to his pulse crops. Then Dr. Michael Wunsch, a Plant Pathologist at the NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center, shares some of the ongoing research and recommendations for combating these obstacles.

[Click Here to Listen!](#)



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Field Days Scheduled in Montana & North Dakota

Mark your calendars for the following Field Days events organized by MSU & NDSU Extension offices.

Montana

Southern Agricultural Research Center (*Huntley*)

June 14 at 11:30 a.m.

Central Agricultural Research Center (*Moccasin*)

June 28 at 8:15 a.m.

Northern Agricultural Research Center (*Havre*)

June 29 at 3:00 p.m.

Western Triangle Ag. Research Center (*Conrad*)

July 6 at 10:00 a.m.

Eastern Agricultural Research Center (*Sidney*)

July 11 at 8:00 a.m.

Northwestern Agricultural Research Center (*Creston*)

July 13 at 11:00 a.m.

Post Farm (*Bozeman*)

July 19 at 8:00 a.m.

Western Agricultural Research Center (*Corvallis*)

July 27 at 4:30 p.m.

North Dakota

Central Grasslands Research Center

July 10 (10 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

Hettinger Research Extension Center

July 11 (5-7 p.m. followed by supper)

Dickinson Research Extension Center

July 13 (1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.)

Williston Research Extension Center

July 12 - Dryland Tour (4-8 p.m.)

July 13 - Irrigated Tour (8:30 a.m. - Noon)

Agronomy Seed Farm (*Casselton*)

July 17 (5-7 p.m. followed by supper)

Carrington Research Center

July 18 (9:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.)

North Central Research Extension Center (*Minot*)

July 19 (8:30 a.m. - Noon)

Langdon Research Extension Center

July 20 (8:45am - Noon)

Membership Matters - YOU Matter.

As the NPGA is finalizing their final membership drive for 2023, we wanted to thank you for your continued support! The core of the Northern Pulse Growers Association is our membership—producers and agribusiness partners working together with a common goal of improving the profitability of North Dakota & Montana pulse growers. Membership with the NPGA gives YOU a voice on issues that affect your operations.

The NPGA works on your behalf by **advocating** the regions pulse and industry representatives through our Congressional reps, agency officials, and other government entities; **investing in research** to help combat obstacles encountered during the growing season; providing **producer education** resources on managing agronomic issues, technology tools, and updates on markets; **promoting** the health benefits to industry stakeholders and consumers; and **collaborating** with our neighbors in the agriculture industry to promote positive messaging. It is more important than ever that as an agriculture industry we work together to ensure success for future generations.

As you can see, YOUR membership matters and helps drive our initiatives. If you have a questions on your membership status, please contact Erin at Becker@northernpulse.com or call (701) 222-0128.

Message from the Montana Pulse Crop Committee

Executive Director: Liz Edmundson



In April, I took a trip West to the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council (USADPLC), in Moscow, Idaho. I am new to the pulse industry and as the first Montana Pulse Crop Committee (MPCC) executive director it is important to me to learn about our national council and meet the great people who work to promote Montana Farmers and Montana Pulse Crops! This was an invaluable trip, and I am so glad I made the time. I am still digesting and learning about what the council is currently working on, but it is safe to say this is an organization that has you, the Montana producer, in mind. I am thankful for their support as I take on a new role and I look forward to fostering our relationship as we move forward in the pulse industry.

History of the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council

Now let's take a deeper look into the history of the USADPLC and what spearheaded its creation. In 1912, Spokane restaurant owner, Joe Zeb purchased ten bags of Canadian field peas and planted them near Fairfield, WA. By 1916, farmer J.J Wagner planted, the first lentil crop in Farmington, Washington. It was not until the beginning of 1939 when demand for dry peas skyrocket at the onset of World War II. The U.S. Military and its Allies needed, portable, nutrient-dense, and cost-effective protein to feed the troops. The U.S. Government sent out a notice to farmers asking them to increase acreage of dry peas to the "Feed our Boys", program. The following table shows the acreage production and prices just prior to and at the end of World War II.

As the acres of pulse crops (mainly peas) grew, so did the need for industry support and advancement. By 1961 both Idaho and Washington farmers had formed a grower organization. Members of the organizations worked to establish a checkoff program and to be a voice for WA/ID producers in government policy. In 1965 both Idaho and Washington growers voted a checkoff program into place and began collecting assessments on the sales of pulses. The first boards of the Idaho Pea & Lentil Commission and the Washington Dry Pea & Lentil Commissions hired Harold Blain as the first joint Administrator in 1965. That year the ID/ WA Pea and Pulse Commissions generated a combined \$96,100 in assessment revenue (WA = \$51,000; ID = \$45,000).

U.S. Dry Pea Acreage, Price (\$/CWT)		
Year	Acreage Harvested	Grower Price (\$/CWT)
1938	165,000	\$ 1.85
1939	169,000	\$ 2.52
1940	247,000	\$ 3.15
1941	291,000	\$ 3.47
1942	493,000	\$ 4.48
1943	795,000	\$ 4.91
1944	719,000	\$ 4.98
1945	518,000	\$ 4.20

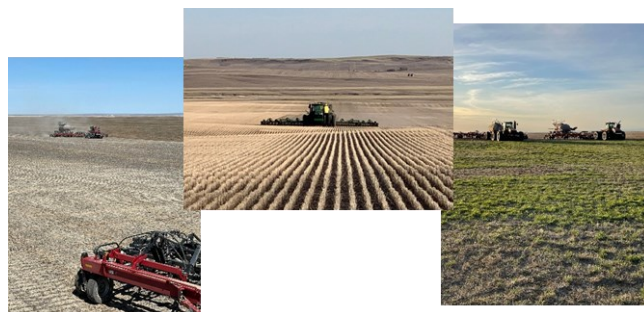
These two events, hiring Harold Blaine to manage both grower organizations and establishing a grower checkoff, were key in establishing the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council in 1966. Although committee members have changed throughout the years, CEOs and marketing managers have been replaced, and pulse-growing farms have been handed down to future generations, the USADPLC has held steady to its four pillars of industry advancement: Information/Government, International Marketing, Domestic Marketing, and Research/ Education.

Next month I will dive into the history of the Montana Pulse Crop Committee when the producers voted a checkoff into place and what your 1% assessment has and is doing for you. In the meantime, please reach out if I or the Montana Pulse Crop Committee can assist in any way.

Liz Edmundson

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Montana Pulse Crop Committee Strives to, Invest in and deliver support for marketing, research, education, and policy development programming that improves return on investment for the pulse producers of Montana.



AN EVENT OF THE WILLISTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE AND THE WILLIAMS COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3RD ANNUAL *Farm to Table*

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2023
STARTS AT 5:30PM**



**CALLI THORNE
KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

- > ENJOY A FARM TO TABLE MEAL WITH
LOCALLY SOURCED FOOD + BEVERAGES.
- > HEAR FROM CALLI THORNE, A 4TH GENERATION
FARMER/RANCHER, TRIANGLE M RANCH & FEEDLOT
- > SEE A DEMONSTRATION FROM TRAINND-NW
ON HOW DRONES ARE USED IN THE
AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY



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NON CHAMBER MEMBER: \$55



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FOUNDATION**
WILLISTON AREA CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION



SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

WWW.WILLISTONCHAMBER.COM/FARM-TO-TABLE
WILLIAMS COUNTY SCD TREE SHED
14120 HWY 2 WILLISTON
701-774-2319

Pulse Crop Resources Available!



Did you know the NPGA office has a wide variety of producer resources available for **FREE**? Pictured to the left are a few of the most requested publications. [CLICK HERE](#) to request one (or all!) of the resources pictured, and we'll mail them to you for free along with some NPGA swag!

Pictured Above - Publications available to producers:

Montana Cool Season Pulse Production Guide | Pulse Crop Production Guide for North Dakota | Lentil Disease Diagnostic Series | Chickpea Disease Diagnostic Series | Pea Disease Diagnostic Series | Pulse Crop Insect Diagnostic Series

Follow NPGA on Social Media

Did you know the NPGA is on Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram and Twitter? We would love to expand our audience, so please give us a follow and invite fellow producers and friends to follow as well. We strive to share a variety of information on each platform that is pertinent to our producers, and who knows, maybe there will be a few giveaways! Don't miss out on the latest updates from the NPGA, follow today!



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Penny For Your Thoughts...?

Your voice and opinions matter to us! Please take 2-3 minutes to take part in our annual member survey. This will give us insight into what YOU would like to see from the NPGA, and will also help tremendously when planning future events. Scan the QR code above, OR type this address into your web browser to take part:



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F3KG9NR>