

Richland County Extension
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CROPPING SYSTEMS

Dale L. Siebert, Extension Agent

MARKET CLUBS

The Lidgerwood and Mooreton market clubs met during December. While high market prices are welcome, the uncertainties in the markets at the present time pose a dilemma for producers on when and how much they should sell. I encouraged the members to have a plan in place, know their cost of production and to take advantage of higher prices as they are available. Another unknown for both groups is when do they lock in fuel and fertilizer prices for spring. It looks like another volatile year ahead in the grain markets. Attendance continues to be good at both clubs and both plan to meet in early January after the holidays.

HORIZONS PROGRAM

On December 7 I attended a training program for the Horizons Community Leadership program over the IVN interactive video network. The community of Lidgerwood has applied for and been accepted into the program. The workshop on December 7 highlighted what needs to be done next and the steps the community has to take to complete the program. We are excited to have Lidgerwood be a part of the program and look forward to working with them in the future.

DISTRICT CROP IMPROVEMENT MEETING

On December 11, Neal Goerger, Richland County Crop Improvement Association President and I attended the District Crop Improvement Association meeting held in

Casselton. The most controversial topic for discussion was the proposal to form a Seed Promotion Association to promote and maintain the quality of some of the minor varieties released by NDSU that are not part of the plant variety protection program. Examples used most often were oat and flax varieties. This association would maintain the purity of the varieties and promote them as a class of certified seed. Some in attendance felt this would weaken the current system and the county crop improvement associations. This proposal will be voted on at the annual Crop Improvement Association meeting in February in Bismarck.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEW

On December 12 I participated in a review of the 21st Century After School Program with Dale Patrick, State Coordinator, with the State Department of Education in Bismarck. Current program accomplishments and plans were reviewed by Adrian Biewer, Project Coordinator. Funding for the future was addressed by Collins and local school superintendents that participate in the program had an opportunity to ask questions as well. The program is funded through a continuation grant for another year and future funding will depend on appropriations and eligibility status of the local schools beyond that.

NUTRITION, FOOD SAFETY & HEALTH/4-H

Colleen M. Svingen, Extension Agent



STITCHIN' TIME

It can be seen by the pictures that our Stitchin' Time is an enjoyable time for the after-school students and it is equally enjoyable for Deb and me. We are interacting in the after-school programs for two to three hours for three evenings in each site. This gives the students time learn: basic sewing terms, parts of the machines, use of sewing equipment, to use the sewing machines, some cooperative learning and to complete a successful project. In educational terms we refer to this accomplishment as transformable learning. Basically it is when a student has acquired a skill that they can transfer to other areas of their lives.



As a veteran educator I do hope to model some teaching methods and classroom management skills that the para-professionals will find useful in their daily interaction with the ASP students. This project has been expanded to the ECI program in Wahpeton this year as well as our county 4-Her's who are welcome to join the ASP sites when we teach in perspective schools. Please feel free to stop in and observe the fun, but beware you probably won't be an observer long . . . Everyone present gets engaged in the fun!

BRAIN STORMING!!

This is the second year Extension Director Duane Hauck has called a leadership group meeting in December on campus. It has been fun to be a part of discussions related to personnel and organizational development of the NDSU Extension Service. I am looking forward to the report of the generated ideas brought forward by Extension employees.

FNP

Pamela Leino-Mills, Extension Agent



BANKING ON STRONG BONES

The last session of *Banking on Strong Bones* was conducted for the 5th grade class at Circle of Nations School (CNS) and the After School programs at Fairmount, Lidgerwood, and Hankinson. I began food preparation classes at the After School programs at the three public schools, and will do the same at CNS during February. I also conducted a class for Head Start parents this month.

21st CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

Adrian Biewer, Extension Agent,
Project Director



Check out next month's report.

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