

Lake Region Round Up Production Ag Seminar

The Situation

Tough economic times have producers searching for ways to increase efficiency in order to pay for the cost of production. In 2016, the North Dakota State University (NDSU) Farm Management Planning Guide projected crop budget losses for many of the crops grown in the lake region. The strong U.S. dollar has made it a challenge for farmers to compete in the world marketplace and has given an advantage to other agriculture producing nations. Bumper crops over the last several years have created an oversupply of several commodities, which continues to place downward pressure on prices received by growers.

Extension Response

To assist producers in making wise decisions NDSU Extension agents in the Northeast district planned and coordinated the 37th annual Lake Region Round Up. This is a two-day production agriculture seminar that is hosted in the Lake Region. Fifty presentations were offered by NDSU Extension specialists, county Extension agents and research specialists. A total of 39 presenters provided information at this year's event.

To be sure the content of the program is what our audience wants we solicit producers for their input. A few of this year's seminars included:

- New Fertility Recommendations
- Weed resistance strategies
- Future farm bill payments
- Upcoming market outlook
- Soybean production research
- Cattle market updates
- County wheat midge forecast

NDSU Extension also collaborates with private industry and the event included 57 private and public entities. These vendor's showcase some of the latest in technology and give producer's a chance to learn about what they have to offer.

Impacts

Over the past 10 years, there has been daily attendance of 350-400 producers. Some producers travel long distances to attend this event. In 2017, we had producers attend from North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana and the Canadian province of Manitoba.

Surveys indicated that:

- 79% of attending producers are highly likely to utilize the presented information on their farm the following growing season.

- 89% of attending producers had increased their knowledge of the agriculture topics presented at Lake Region Round Up.

Producer Feedback

- *Very informative*
- *Excellent program*
- *Best ag seminar I attend bar none*
- *Well worth the travel*
- *Great variety of topics*
- *Valuable information-great way to start of the new growing season*

Public Value Statement

Large agriculture events provide economic stimulation to North Dakotan cities. Additionally, up-to-date technology and research is shared to advance area and statewide farming and ranching practices benefiting the statewide, national and world markets.

Contact

Scott Knoke
Extension agent/ Benson County
311 b Avenue South
701-473-5363
scott.knoke@ndsu.edu

Collaborators

Northeast district extension agents
Ramsey and Benson County administrative assistants
Area agronomists
NDSU Research Staff
NDSU Extension specialists
Private industry personnel

