

Dakota Digest

Iverson heads South Dakota soybean group

David Iverson of Astoria, S.D., was recently elected chairman of the South Dakota Soybean Research and Promotion Council. Doug Hanson, Elk Point, S.D., was elected to the position of vice chairman, and Monica McCranie, Claremont, S.D., will serve as the secretary-treasurer. Other new board members include Stan Hanson, Garretson, S.D.; Marc Reiner, Tripp, S.D.; and Robert Metz, West Browns Valley, S.D.

Feige elected president of soybean council

Dan Feige, a soybean farmer from Wentworth, S.D., was elected president of the South Dakota Soybean Association. Feige formerly served as first vice president of SDSA. Also elected were Kevin Scott, Valley Springs, S.D., as first vice president; Ervin Krutzfeldt, Wolsey, S.D., as second vice president; Dave Poppens, Lennox, S.D., as treasurer; and Darrell Davis, Ipswich, S.D., as secretary. Former President Craig Johnson, Vermillion, S.D., became chairman.

Gray named chairman of national pesticide panel

The Association of American Pesticide Control Officials has appointed Jim Gray, pesticide, feed and fertilizer team leader in the North Dakota Department of Agriculture, as chairman of the Working Committee on Pesticide Operations and Management of the State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group. FIFRA is the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, the nation's principal law governing pesticides.

SDSU announces lamb show performance results

South Dakota State University has announced performance results from the 2007 National Lamb Show. In the Junior Division of the Central Test, the first-place through fourth-place winners were, respectively, Kylie Hanisch, Humboldt, S.D.; Wes Kaufman, Dysart, Iowa; and (taking both third and fourth places) Tiffany Hanisch, Humboldt. Ken Hykes, Adele, Iowa, exhibited the Open Class Champion Pen of three lambs, and Vernon Meinberg, Hampton, Iowa, exhibited Reserve Champion. Hanisch, Humboldt, and Kaufman, Dysart, exhibited both the Junior Division Champion and Reserve Champion pens of three lambs.

Buchanan heads NDSU Animal Science Department

David Buchanan is the new head of North Dakota State University's Animal Science Department. He graduated from NDSU with a bachelor of science degree in 1975 and completed master's and doctorate degrees at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He came to NDSU from Oklahoma State University.

Bethany Prairie Farm transitions to organic



BERRY TALK: Patti Patrie, of Patrie's Raspberries on the Prairie, discusses raspberry production at a summer tour.

BETHANY Prairie Farm, Wimbeldon, N.D., is one of the new farms in the Dakotas that is transitioning to organic production.

Founded in 1978 as a small agrarian Christian community, the 400-acre farm produces grass-fed beef, pasture-raised poultry, wheat, millet, oil sunflower and corn.

Beef from Bethany Prairie Farm is sold locally under the Prairie Highland Beef label.

Bethany Prairie is the home of the Central North Dakota Pastured Poultry Institute, an organization that teaches pastured-poultry production and provides the tools for organic feeding and processing of the birds. Hens and broilers are housed in portable chicken runs, or tractors, that are moved on a daily basis, providing fresh grass for the birds and fertilizer for the soil.

Three guesthouses on the farm are used for a bed-and-breakfast operation to provide additional income, although guests are not charged a set rate for their stay. Instead guests are asked to donate to the ministry.

Dick and Linda Grotberg, and Dick Lovstrand manage the farm. They started transitioning to organic two years ago.

Bright future

Bethany Prairie hosted the recent Northern Plains Sustainable Ag Society's summer tour and symposium.

Symposium sessions included information on agritourism, berry pro-

Key Points

- Sustainable agriculture is gaining ground in the Dakotas.
- Bethany Prairie Farm is a new farm that is transitioning to organic production.
- The farm produces five crops, and grass-fed and pasture-raised poultry.

duction and marketing, organic and grass-fed beef management, organic potato production, and tips on how to make the transition from conventional to organic production.

The future of sustainable agriculture is bright, says Brad Brummond, North Dakota State University Extension specialist, Park River, N.D., who spoke at the meeting. He is one of the NDSU specialists who concentrate on sustainable agriculture and organic production.

There are more sustainable farms; demand for food from sustainable farms is rising; and support from institutions such as NDSU is growing, Brummond says.

Source: Northern Plains Sustainable Ag Society.

Volume 125 No. 9

■ Around Dakota Ag	1
■ Morning Mail	12
■ Crops	18
■ Farm and Ranch Management	30
■ Midwest Form	MX1
■ Marketplace/Classified	M1
■ Dakota Rural Living	31
■ What's New	36
■ Livestock Production	42
■ Marketing	54

Contact us:

Editor: Lon Tonneson
 ltonneson@farmprogress.com
 6258 90th Ave. N. Glyndon, MN 56547
 Phone 701-361-1105. Fax 218-236-1134

Contributing Editors: Ann Toner, Rod Swoboda, Jennifer Vincent, John Otte, Arlan Suderman, Alan Newport and Tom J. Bechman

Executive Editor: Frank Holdmeyer

Corporate Editorial Director: Willie Vogt, 651-454-6994, wvogt@farmprogress.com

Sales: Scott Harrison, 651-451-9693

Subscription Questions:
 800-441-1410



Keep up on ag news in the region; check out www.DakotaFarmer.com. We feature updates on a wide range of topics, marketing data and weather information you can put to work in your operation.

POSTMASTER: Please send address corrections to *Dakota Farmer*, 191 S. Gary Ave., Carol Stream, IL 60188.