



were in the 1980s, Henderson says. New hybrids offer more resistance to insects than old ones. Midge, for example, hasn't been a problem in recent years, thanks largely to the use of new hybrids that can withstand midge feeding.

Marsh elder used to be a serious weed problem in Henderson's sunflowers. But this year he planted an

Express-resistant hybrid and sprayed Express herbicide over the top of the sunflowers, killing a large number of broadleaf weeds, including marsh elder, without hurting the sunflowers.

"There have been a lot of improvements in sunflowers," Henderson says.

Maybe the Dakotas' Cinderella crop is here to stay.

Anderson of Glenburn to an eighth two-year term on the North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission. Anderson farms near Glenburn.

Myers appointed new NDSU Food Systems director

Deland J. Myers, professor of food science and human nutrition at Iowa State University, Ames, has been appointed director of the new School of Food Systems in North Dakota State University's College of Agriculture, Food Systems and Natural Resources. Myers also will serve as director of the Great Plains Institute of Food Safety.

Platte youth named ambassador
Suzanne Swett, Platte, has been named as the new South Dakota Beef

Ambassador. She is the daughter of Richard and Barbara Swett and is a sophomore at Dakota State University, majoring in business marketing and graphic design. Jessica Osterman, Conde, and Andy Jensen, Wakonda, took second and third places, respectively, in the contest. The junior contest winner was Bailey Hurlbert, Raymond. Kaley Nolz, Mitchell, took first place in the junior contest.

Johnson names inspectors

North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson has appointed Holly Dalen, Dickinson, and Shaun Quissell, Bismarck, as inspectors in the North Dakota State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program.



NEW LINES: The map shows the tracks owned by Canadian Pacific Railway and by the Dakota, Minnesota and Eastern and its affiliated companies.

SD farm groups cheer DM&E sale

By LON TONNESON

THE South Dakota Corn Growers Association and South Dakota Farmer Bureau are cheering the pending purchase of the Dakota, Minnesota and Eastern rail line by Canadian Pacific Railway

"It's good news for South Dakota agriculture. The agreement helps place DM&E in a more advantageous position to secure the capital needed to upgrade and expand its line," says Scott VanderWal, South Dakota Farm Bureau Federation president.

"We're elated," says Lisa Richardson, South Dakota Corn Growers Association executive director. "Look at where we will be able to go."

The DM&E and its affiliated companies, including the Iowa, Chicago & Eastern Railroad, will become part of the overall Canadian Pacific rail network.

"The ethanol industry will be able to reach all the big population centers in the Northeast, and South Dakota farmers will have another route to Pacific Northwest ports," she says.

Revives hope

For the past 10 years, the DM&E has been trying to win approval for and raise the \$6 billion needed to upgrade its line and expand its tracks into Wyoming's Powder River Basin coal mines. The company planned to haul coal from the mines to power plants

Key Points

- The sale of DM&E to Canadian Pacific Railway could result in upgrade of its line.
- Improvement would increase rail access to markets for growers.
- South Dakota would be served by two Class I railroads.

near Chicago and to move wheat, corn and ethanol from South Dakota to Eastern markets.

In 2006, the federal government turned down DM&E's application for a \$2.3 billion loan. The agency that regulates railroads said the regional DM&E was too small.

The sale of DM&E to the larger Canadian Pacific Railway, a national Class I railroad, revives hopes that the project will go forward without federal money.

Canadian Pacific's purchase doesn't include a guarantee that the DM&E line will be expanded, however.

"It will depend on market demand, construction costs and all the factors that we have always faced," says Kevin Schieffer, DM&E president, in comments provided by the company. "But based on my experience with CP through the years, and especially these past months, I feel very good about where we stand today."

The sale is subject to the approval of the Surface Transportation Board.

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