



NORTHLAND
COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Farm Business Management Program

Moorhead, Minnesota

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BREAKFAST MEETING

We will not be having breakfast meetings during the summer. Our annual reorganizational meeting will be scheduled in July with guest speakers, where your new 3-ring binders will be distributed at that time. The breakfast meetings will resume in the fall after harvest.

Weekly updates will be available on our website under the “updates” tab from the home page.

• **Local Averages:**

We would like to meet with each of you after you have received your data. The meeting usually takes about a half hour to an hour. Please contact us to set up a meeting time

Topics covered:

1. Individual financial history trend.
2. Compare the crop data of your farm to the local averages.
3. Understand the Cost of Production worksheet that has been calculated for each of you, to determine the break-evens for your various crops.

Remember that Ron and I are available throughout the year to assist you with your farm management questions and needs. We are more than willing to update cash flow projections and cost of production data throughout the year as you narrow down acres and costs.

"Wins" for Agriculture — The omnibus bill is being widely praised within the farm community. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue thanked congressional leaders for the agricultural provisions in the bill. In particular, Perdue said "fixing Section 199A was a fundamental issue of fairness." While it was often called "the grain glitch," Section 199A impacted sugar, dairy and numerous other parts of ag industry. The new language equalizes federal tax treatment for cooperatives and independent companies. North Dakota Senator Heidi Heitkamp said the delay in implementation of electronic

logging devices for livestock haulers was great news for agriculture. "I'll continue to push the Department of Transportation to provide clear guidance for those farmers who are concerned about the impact of the ELD mandate," said Heitkamp.

MN Lawmakers in "Hurry Up Mode" — State Representative Dan Fabian says the Minnesota Legislature is in hurry-up mode. The first committee deadline passed Thursday, with another deadline this week. The Roseau Republican is concerned about the proposed nitrogen fertilizer rule. "The governor has decided to release the proposed rule after the session is over. This wouldn't allow the Legislature to have input. Then, it would be implemented after the public hearing period and before he leaves office. These are issues that need to be vetted by the House Agriculture Committee." As an option, Fabian says lawmakers may ban the Minnesota Department of Agriculture from implementing the new rule. There are additional issues impacting agriculture, which could be addressed after Easter break. "The Highway Patrol is ticketing trucks hauling sugarbeets. During certain times of the year, the condensation and water can get on the highway. We want to exempt that from being a violation. The beginning farmer tax credit and B20 mandate need changes as well."

Ron's Scheduled Work Days in Moorhead for the month of April 2018:

By appointment only

The best way to contact Ron is by e-mail or at his cell phone# (218) 686-5448.



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