



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.

Cost of Production-As you complete your planting for 2017, please contact us by phone or email to update your cost of production sheets. We can update acres, seed costs as well as crop insurance. This will help with your marketing plan and completing your 2017 analysis.

- Please put “**safety**” at the top of your to-do list every day. As long as you, your family members and your employees go home every night safely, everything else can be dealt with.

Website of Interest: www.Finbin.umn.edu: This database summarizes thousands of agricultural producers who use Finpack, which is supported by the Center for Farm Financial Management at the University of Minnesota. FBM groups included are: U of M FBM Associations, Minnesota State FBM and North Dakota FBM. **Farm Bill Flaws**-Agriculture Committee Chairman Michael Conaway wants to bring the farm bill to the full House in the first week of May, emphasizing the need to get the bill done on a timely basis. During Wednesday's hearing, Ranking Member Collin Peterson called it a “flawed bill,” with most of the criticism centered on the proposed changes to the food stamp program. Peterson also made the case for increased funding in Title I to help offset low commodity prices. “If there is extra money, I'd like to suggest the money be put into the farm bill on a permanent basis to improve the

safety net, in case we get into a continuing low price situation.” President Trump has promised support for farmers if U.S. agriculture is hurt by a trade war.

Peterson said a long-term program makes more sense than ad-hoc assistance. “This is a self-inflicted wound we don't need. If we get into this situation, we don't need a one-time bailout.” Peterson said decent yields have been the only thing saving farmers in his district after three years of low prices.

Multiple Bills Tackle Nitrogen Fertilizer Rule — Bills intended to stop the Minnesota Department of Agriculture from implementing the nitrogen fertilizer rule are moving on a few different paths. AgriGrowth lobbyist Cory Bennett says a stand-alone bill has passed in the House and is on its way to the Senate floor. “It is also attached to the omnibus ag policy bill that is in the House and Senate right now and it is also attached to the supplemental budgets in both bodies for the ag finance bill. We've heard loud and clear the Governor's thoughts on the fertilizer rule that if he gets to his desk he intends to veto that language. We are doing everything we can for our members to get it passed and the governor is free to exercise his authority and powers after that.”

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

May 22nd or 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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