



NELSON COUNTY NEWS

Nelson County Soil Conservation District

Summer 2019

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CONSERVATION CONVERSATION BY DEANN GALDE, DC

I hope you are all enjoying the warm sunshine we have been receiving this summer! Harvest will be here before you know it and school will be starting in a few weeks. Our office is busy with contracting of water bank applications. If you have inundated land that you would like to enroll in water bank, stop in and visit with us or give us a call. Water bank is not part of the farm program, so we never know if we will have funding each year but we keep an active list of landowners interested and will contact you if a sign up is announced. August 2nd, marks the opening date for CRP managed haying and contract management. The land aerator that the SCD owns is available as a management option. Contact the SCD for more information. Our new farm bill specialist, Kimberly Brown is on her second week here in Nelson county. She has been completing contract reviews and learning about our programs. Stop in to introduce yourself and meet her. She will be working with landowners and operators on CRP and the Water Bank Program, as well as our other Farm Bill programs. Congratulations to the Jorde family on being selected as the 2019 Nelson County Conservation Achievement winner! Conservation has a long history in Nelson County, dating back to the 1940's. The picture below was taken in early July of 1951 on the Galde farm. My grandfather, Osborne Galde, planted the 8 row field windbreak in 1948. Written on the back of the picture: "1 - mile windbreak shown in background runs east and west. Rows consist of honeysuckle, green ash, boxelder, cottonwood, American elm, sand cherry and plum. Trees have had very good care and have been kept clean tilled. This farmer has planted 41 acres of trees on his land that have been planted by the Soil Conservation District."

Osborne believed in conservation, especially the planting of trees. He was known for saying, "There's nothing like trees to protect the soil." Well said, Grandpa, well said. May you all have a safe and bountiful harvest this coming fall.



SCD Meetings:

August 7

October 2

November 6

December 4

USDA Building
Lakota ND 8:00am

701-247-2514
ext. 3



CRP Mid-Contract Management

CRP contracts require a mid-contract management activity be completed by the end of year 6 on a 10-year contract and by the end of year 9 on a 15-year contract. Management activities are to be completed outside the primary nesting period which is between August 2nd and September 1st. Management activities include heavy harrow, aerator and light disking. Letters were sent to CRP participants with contracts that are due for management activity. Contact the FSA office at 247-2455 with any questions.

NEW FARM BILL SPECIALIST

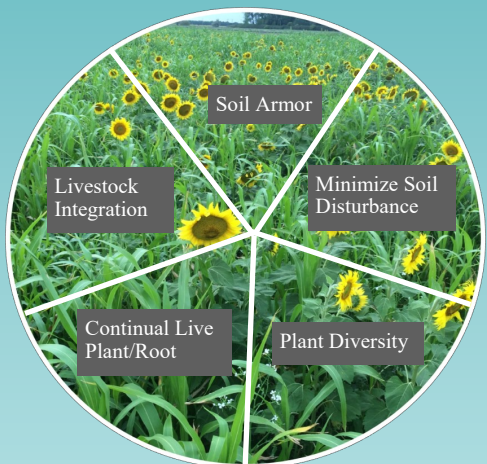


My name is Kimberly Brown and I am the Farm Bill Specialist serving the counties of Benson, Towner, Ramsey, Nelson, and Grand Forks. I started this position in July 2019 and am looking forward to assisting producers with conservation practices while expanding my knowledge of agriculture. I am passionate about using holistic approaches to resource management and eager to help with conservation planning on your farm or ranch.

I grew up outside of Omaha, Nebraska where my love of natural resources was first cultivated. Early on, I discovered my calling to protect and enhance our natural resources and in 2017, I graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a Bachelor of Science in Fisheries and Wildlife. I have since worn many different hats, working as an intern at an apple orchard, maintaining a tree farm on Nebraska Forest Service land, and assisting with research on big river fish populations. Before coming to work for the NDACSD, I spent a year in Oklahoma working as a research assistant. I enjoyed conducting research but found that I was missing out on the applied aspect of natural resource management that I had enjoyed so much.

My hobbies include hunting, fishing, and cooking. I enjoy experimenting with new wild game recipes and love getting to share these creations with friends and family. As an avid waterfowler, I am ecstatic to be in the heart of Prairie Pothole country and proud to work in a state that values our fish and wildlife resources.

SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES



Soil health is the continued capacity of soil to function as a vital living ecosystem that sustains plants, animals and humans.

The soil health foundation consists of five principles:

- 1) Soil Armor
- 2) Minimizing Soil Disturbance
- 3) Plant Diversity
- 4) Continual Live Plant/Root
- 5) Livestock Integration

The principles are intended to be applied in a systems approach, maximizing the soil building impact.

Work cited: Jay Fuhrer, NRCS Soil Health Specialist

Grass Seeding

**1590 No-Till
John Deere Grass Drill**



LADIES AG NIGHT

November 1, 2019
Tolna Business & Event Center

★ *Deuces Wild!* ★
Dueling Pianos



1 lb Concentrate Powder
\$27.00 + tax

7 lb Granular Shaker Bag
\$36.00 + tax

Land Aerator For Rent

\$8/acre with your tractor or \$18/acre with fuel, tractor and driver provided by SCD. For use on: CRP, Pasture, Hay and for Seedbed Preparation. Knocks Down Brush and Small Trees. Shreds Corn Stubble, Smooths Rough Fields, Improves Water Infiltration, and Loosens Compacted Soil.



All programs and services of the Nelson County Soil Conservation District are offered on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or handicap. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audioteape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR PALMER AMARANTH

Joe Ikley, Extension Weed Specialist (June 2019)

In the last week, I have gone on field visits to Benson and Nelson counties to look at potential Palmer amaranth infestations. In one field in each county, we were able to find Palmer amaranth growing in dense populations as localized patches in the headland rows, with a few scattered plants nearby. The density in these patches indicates that at least one or more mature plants went through a combine last year. Luckily, these infestations were caught early enough to control the plants before they will go to seed. One population was detected at a small enough stage to control with herbicides, while the other population was already 16" tall and had overtaken some corn rows by the time I visited.

At this time, we do not know how these plants were introduced, only that the introduction was likely last year.

Until recent rains, these counties have been relatively dry, which is good conditions for Palmer growth. The upcoming warmer temperatures will favor rapid growth of any Palmer amaranth plants that are currently growing in the state. Early detection is the key for keeping Palmer amaranth populations at manageable levels. With many acres being sprayed this week, these findings serve as a good reminder to scout after an herbicide application is made in order to look for weed escapes or herbicide resistant weeds in general, not just Palmer amaranth.



2019 Nelson County Achievement Award



Todd, Lisa, Jordan and Trey Jorde



Todd and Lisa Jorde, along with their sons, Jordan and Trey, operate a 3,700 acre farm near Tolna, ND. The Jordes raise small grains, soybeans and corn and operate a 220 cow/calf operation of commercial beef cattle. The Jordes utilize variable rate technology, rotational grazing and no till on highly erodible cropland. Todd says the implementation of variable rate nutrient application has enabled the farm to cut fertilizer costs while maintaining their crop yield goals.

The Jorde family will be recognized at the North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts Annual Convention in Bismarck on November 25, 2019.



In 1957, Todd's grandfather, E. D. Beckman received the Nelson County Soil Conservation District Achievement Award. The Beckman Hereford Ranch was well known for raising superior cattle. Today, Todd is carrying on the conservation tradition on the same farm his grandfather homesteaded.

Nelson County Soil Conservation District
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