



DURUM KERNEL

U.S. Durum Growers Association

Fall 2017

NEMETZ AND TAYLOR FEATURED SPEAKERS AT NOVEMBER EVENT

The 2017 Crop Outlook & International Durum Forum will feature two well-known keynotes, Russell Nemetz and Ryan Taylor. The event will be held on Nov. 6-7 at the Grand Hotel in Minot, N.D., and is hosted by the N.D. Wheat Commission and USDGA.

The event will kick off with the banquet on Nov. 6 with Russell Nemetz, agricultural broadcaster from Billings, Mont. Ryan Taylor, author, producer and politician from Towner, N.D., will close out the program with his 'Cowboy Logic' during the luncheon on Nov. 7.

Russell Nemetz is an award-winning National Association of Farm Broadcasting farm broadcaster, who takes great pride in being one of agriculture's biggest advocates. Raised along the Milk River near Chinook, Mont., production agriculture has always been part of his life. His family continues to run a cow/calf operation there. Russell earned his bachelor's degree in communications from Montana State University-Billings. As a member of the Northern Ag Network Farm broadcast team, his radio broadcasts are heard across Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota and South Dakota, and his television broadcasts are seen statewide on CBS affiliates in Montana and NBC affiliates in Wyoming. He also makes regular appearances on national television broadcasts like *Cattlemen to Cattlemen* and *This Week in Agribusiness* on RFD-TV.



Russell Nemetz

He's had the opportunity to report on agriculture from across the region and the U.S., and has been on trade missions to Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Russia and Taiwan.

Ryan Taylor is a storyteller, rope spinner and lifelong practitioner of the art of cowboy logic. He wrote hundreds of stories in his 'Cowboy Logic' column that ran for 21 years in agricultural newspapers with more than 200,000 readers across the western U.S. and Canada. Taylor most recently motivated a team of 44 employees with 'Cowboy Logic' management and engaged rural communities with his stories across the state as the appointed state director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development agency in the Obama Administration. Educated in ag economics and mass communications at North Dakota State University, he served in the state senate from 2002 to 2012. He finished his senate service as the senate minority leader before launching a 2012 campaign to be governor of North Dakota. Currently, he continues to operate his family's fourth generation cattle ranch near Towner, N.D., with his wife, Nikki, and their three young children.



Ryan Taylor

To view the complete agenda, register or find information on reserving a hotel room, visit the USDGA website at www.durumgrowers.com. We look forward to seeing you in November!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Greetings from the U.S. Durum Growers Association!

As another harvest ends for durum growers, drought conditions in western North Dakota and eastern Montana have

brought below average yields making this year another challenging one for part of the region. However, northcentral and eastern North Dakota have seen a good crop and much better quality than in the past several years. Many hoped for a better 2017, but as we say in farming, there is always next year!

USDGA continues to work with the N.D. Wheat Commission (NDWC) and the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) to address producer and grain handler concerns regarding consistency of testing for numerous quality factors affecting durum and spring wheat. A series of workshops were held in July in coordination with the NDWC, N.D. Grain Growers Association and

N.D. Grain Dealers Association on testing protocols and standards. The workshops were well received and there is talk of holding them regularly in the future.

USDGA was active during the 2017 North Dakota legislative session as the public policy committee met frequently during the four-month session. USDGA monitored issues to ensure profitable production, favorable market conditions and innovative research for durum producers. We continue to be active as the Interim Agriculture Committee takes up a study on consistency in grain sample testing.

A survey open to USDGA membership in early 2017 indicated producer's top priority for the 2018 Farm Bill is maintaining crop insurance and premiums at current levels. Board members and staff attended the NDSU Farm Bill Conference in April, as well as recent Farm Bill Roundtable meetings with Sens. Hoeven and Heitkamp. We will continue to monitor this closely.

Last, but certainly not least, we have been busy creating an agenda full of educational and entertaining speakers for the 2017 Crop Outlook & International Durum Forum on Nov. 6-7 at the Grand Hotel in Minot, N.D. We hope to see you there!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Martinson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mark Martinson
President

ND WHEAT QUALITY PROTOCOLS AND GRADING WORKSHOPS HELD

The N.D. Grain Dealers Association teamed up with the N.D. Wheat Commission, USDGA and N.D. Grain Growers Association to offer two Wheat Quality Protocols and Grading Workshops on July 18 in Minot, N.D., and July 19 in Bismarck. The purpose of the workshops was to bring together elevators, test providers, federal lab representatives and producers to discuss wheat quality testing and grading standards, and review protocols to ensure more consistent results.



Attendees heard from speakers representing the national wheat and commercial grain industry, as well as grading and testing experts from the Federal Grain Inspection Service and the

NDSU Wheat Quality Lab. Attendees also had the opportunity to review official testing procedures for DON, vitreous kernel and falling numbers.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Applications are now being accepted for one \$1,000 Monroe Scheflo scholarship and one \$1,000 USDGA scholarship. The application is available at www.durumgrowers.com and the submission deadline is **Sunday, Oct. 15.**

Monroe Scheflo Scholarship

To qualify, an applicant must be from North Dakota and be a fulltime college student pursuing a degree in agriculture. The scholarship fund is in memory of Monroe Scheflo, who served as the USDGA president from 1982-1984.

USDGA Scholarship

To qualify, an applicant must be from a durum-producing state, be a fulltime college student pursuing a degree in agriculture, and have an affiliation with the durum industry.



The two scholarship recipients will be recognized on Nov. 6 during the evening banquet of the 2017 Crop Outlook and International Durum Forum, hosted by the N.D. Wheat Commission and USDGA, in Minot, N.D.

Questions regarding the scholarship can be directed to JaCee at 701-214-3203 or office@durumgrowers.com.

The 2017 Crop Outlook and International Durum Forum, hosted by the N.D. Wheat Commission (NDWC) and USDGA, is free to all producers, but advanced registration is appreciated. To register, visit www.durumgrowers.com and click on the 'Register Now' button or call 701-214-3203.

Registration closes Thursday, Nov. 2.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Monday, Nov. 6

- 5:30 p.m. **Social**
Sponsored by TreeHouse Foods
- 6:00 p.m. **Banquet Keynote: Agriculture Thru a Viewfinder**
Sponsored by Minot Milling
- Russell Nemetz, President, Nemetz Communications Inc. *For more than 20 years, Nemetz has reported on agriculture in the United States and around the world. With every generation getting further removed from rural America, he challenges farmers and ranchers to become communication experts. He'll also share memorable interviews and trips as a farm broadcaster.*
- 7:00 p.m. **USDGA Awards and Scholarship Recognition**

Tuesday, Nov. 7

- 7:30 a.m. **Registration and Breakfast***
- 8:00 a.m. **Welcome**
- David Clough, Chairman, NDWC
 - Mark Martinson, President, USDGA
- 8:15 a.m. **2017 Hard Red Spring Wheat & Durum Crop Overviews**
- Jim Peterson, Policy and Marketing Director, NDWC
Information will be provided on 2017 production, quality and demand.

- 8:45 a.m. **What Did We Learn in 2017?**
- Joel Ransom, Extension Agronomist, NDSU
 - Other researcher TBD
Presenters discuss the challenges and opportunities of the 2017 harvest as well as key production practices for sustainability.
- 9:30 a.m. **National Pasta Trends**
Sponsored by the National Pasta Association
- Presenter TBA
- 10:00 a.m. **Break***
- 10:30 a.m. **Panel: Impact of Policy and Regulation on the Durum Industry**
Sponsored by Birdsall Grain and Seed
- Ryan Caffrey, Grain Merchandiser, CHS
 - David Hahn, Director of R&D and Quality Assurance, Dakota Growers Pasta Company
 - Jim Meyer, President, Italgrani USA
 - Producer TBA
Panel will discuss the impact of federal policy and regulations on the durum industry, including the 2018 Farm Bill (crop insurance), trade, and food and environmental regulations.

NATIONAL DURUM FORUM



THANK YOU
2017 SPONSORS!

- 11:45 a.m. **Predicting the Unpredictable**
- John Pulasky, Weathercaster, Northern Ag Network
2017 was a perfect example of how weather can make or break a cropping year. Pulasky will provide insight into his predictions for 2018 and beyond.

- 12:15 p.m. **Luncheon**
Sponsored by Mayco Export

- 12:45 p.m. **Luncheon Keynote: Cowboy Logic Live**
Sponsored by JLG Grain
- Ryan Taylor, North Dakota Producer, Author and Politician
Led by writer, rope twirler, recovering politician and renaissance cowboy, Ryan Taylor, will give an after-lunch dose of 'Cowboy Logic' that will help you realize that things could be worse. Using short cotton ropes and appropriate amounts of dry humor, Taylor uses real stories from the top soil free border country of Smokey Lake and Gorman Townships to emphasize the importance of good neighbors and being neighborly; putting your pants on one leg at a time and one foot in front of the other; and appreciating who you are by knowing where you're from and what you've already survived.

- 1:30 p.m. **USDGA Annual Meeting**

**Breakfast and break sponsored by BNSF Railway, CHS SunPrairie, Dakota Growers Pasta Company, Farm Credit Services of Mandan, New Century Ag, Ray Farmers Union Elevator, Scranton Equity Exchange, United Agronomy*



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TreeHouse



IMAGINE THE “PASTABILITIES” DURING OCTOBER PASTA MONTH

When you think of pasta, you probably think of traditional dishes such as macaroni and cheese, spaghetti and meatballs, or lasagna. Pasta shapes like fusilli, cappelletti, and orecchiette are likely not part of your pantry. During October Pasta Month, the N.D. Wheat Commission (NDWC) encourages you to imagine the “pastabilities” and explore new shapes, sauces, and food accompaniments for pasta dishes. There are plenty of pasta shapes to choose from, more than 600 to be exact, and adding different combinations of sauces, meats and vegetables only expands your library of pasta recipes.

Pasta dishes are not only tasty and diverse, but are also nutritious meals when prepared right. Pasta is low in sodium and cholesterol and provides complex carbohydrates for sustained energy. Enriched pasta is a great source of folic acid. Pairing it with nutrient dense foods like vegetables, beans, protein packed lean meats

and cheese, fish, and antioxidant rich tomato sauce adds to the nutritional power.

Pasta is a popular food in the U.S., with annual per capita pasta consumption at 20 pounds, ranking the nation's seventh in the world. While this seems like a lot, consider that Italy consumes two and half times as much at 50 pounds per year! The U.S. is the second largest pasta producing nation, however, producing 4.4 billion pounds of pasta annually. A lot of that pasta begins right here in North Dakota. The state is the largest producer of durum wheat, the type used to make premium pasta products. While durum producers have faced production challenges in recent years, they still have produced 40-50 million bushels of durum each year – enough for almost 15 billion servings of pasta!

Some of North Dakota's durum is milled and processed in state, but the majority is exported out of state and out of the country. The largest export markets for the state's durum include Italy, Algeria and Nigeria. In-state facilities that mill durum or produce pasta include: Minot Milling, a division of Philadelphia Macaroni located in Minot; Dakota Growers Pasta Company, a subsidiary of Post Holdings located in Carrington; and the North Dakota Mill in Grand Forks.

The N.D. Wheat Commission celebrates Pasta Month every October to recognize the state's durum producers and pasta processors. You can celebrate, too, by exploring the “pastabilities” and trying out a new pasta dish. You can also listen to your local radio station and read your local newspaper for opportunities to win pasta prize packages sponsored by the NDWC, USDGA, Dakota Growers Pasta and Philadelphia Macaroni throughout the month of October.



CARRINGTON PASTA DAYS

25 YEARS OF DAKOTA GROWERS PASTA CELEBRATED

Carrington, N.D., celebrated 25 years of Dakota Growers Pasta in its community with a “Pasta Days” celebration July 10-15. The N.D. Wheat Commission (NDWC) and USDGA sponsored the color run held on July 13. T-shirts with NDWC and USDGA logos were provided for the more than 200 runners. David Clough, NDWC chairman,

participated in the run and welcomed participants at the start of the race. JaCee Aaseth, USDGA assistant executive director, also participated.



Congratulations Carrington
on 25 Years of Dakota Growers Pasta





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USDGA's mission is to increase the profitability of durum production through effective market development and promotion and coordinated communication and educational outreach.

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