

Message from your Chair

Derek Dewar

Many years ago, in reference to producing wheat, an old neighbor of mine often said "don't worry about selling it just worry about growing it"

That statement was made in S.W. Saskatchewan when crop rotations were half wheat and half summerfallow. At that time, fertilizer recommendations were well under a 100 lbs. per acre. "Crop care," as it is called today, was confined to 3 or 4 choices of 2,4-D formulations and some wild oat control products. All of these including the former transportation and marketing structures have all been relegated to history.

Within 2-3 years even younger farmers are seeing vast and rapid changes. For instance, the current supply situation brought on by the recent drought. For many years abundant production has been a factor in the long-term narrow price fluctuation for all crops. The new experience of a sudden supply crisis has resulted in the current overdue price improvement, most notably mustard.

If you haven't seeded mustard for the last few years and you find the price outlook to be promising; it is worth reminding readers to check the mustard website for information in regard to varieties, agronomics, a list of bonded buyers as well as other points of interest. A lot of work has gone into keeping the website current.

Otherwise, your Commission has been either present or represented at several meetings since the new year. Represented at the annual Mustard Researchers meeting and the Prairie Grain Development Committee Meetings. Present for two regular meetings, the last of which focussed on updating the policies and Procedures Manual and The Strategic Plan.

After last year's restrictions due to covid, plans are underway to hold a plot demonstration day at The Swift Current Research Station in July. This will be the third and final year for the current mustard variety, fertilizer, and seeding rate trial demonstrations. Planning is underway for a revised demonstration program scheduled to start in 2023.

As your Chairman I wish everyone a successful farming season and most of all the best of health.



Derek Dewar