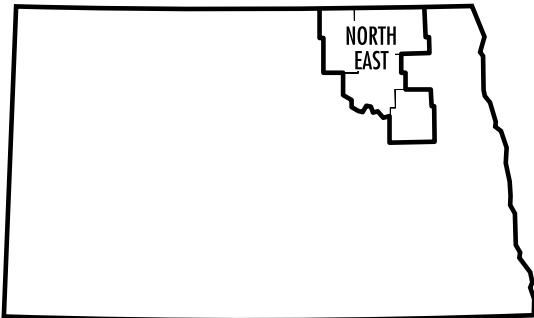




FARM MANAGEMENT PLANNING GUIDE

February 2026

Projected 2026 Crop Budgets



North East North Dakota

Ron Haugen, Farm Management Specialist

Note: This region consists of four counties:
Cavalier, Nelson, Ramsey and Towner.

The 2026 crop budgets provide an estimate of revenues and costs for selected crops. Each set of budgets are developed for a multi-county region. There is considerable variation in soil type and productivity, weather conditions, as well as management and production practices within each region. Therefore, **THESE BUDGETS ARE ONLY INTENDED TO BE USED AS A GUIDE. EVERY INDIVIDUAL IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN BUDGETS!**

The profitability budget accounts for full economic opportunity costs for land and machinery investment, regardless of farm operator equity position. The bottom line is the return to labor and management. This is the expected “payment” to the producer for the labor and managerial efforts required by the crop enterprise. Each individual must make the decision whether it is sufficient.

The budget can be changed to conform to the more common definition of accounting profit (return to unpaid labor and management and the owner equity)

by replacing the machinery investment and land charge cost items with your per acre interest and rental expense of machinery and land, and real estate tax if land is owned.

The budget can be used for long run decisions if the revenues and costs are realistic for several years. (Crop prices, direct costs, and the land charge are best estimates for only the 2026 crop year, but crop yields are historic averages and machinery ownership costs are an average for the total length of ownership). If the budget shows a high return to labor and management, and is representative for several years, increased acreage and corresponding investment should be considered. However, if long-run returns to labor and management are unsatisfactory, the best decision may be to exit the crop enterprise and employ the machinery and land investment, and labor and management, in a different enterprise or investment.

For short-run planning decisions you can omit the indirect costs if the land and machinery required to produce the different enterprises are in place. Simply compare the crop enterprises by calculating return over direct costs. Labor requirements and risk should also be considered. Insurance is not available for some crops.

NDSU

EXTENSION

The budget can be used to estimate cashflow by making a few modifications. Machinery depreciation should be omitted and the machinery investment number replaced with your per acre principal and interest payment on machinery debt. For owned land, the land charge should be replaced with your per acre real estate tax and principal and interest payment on land debt.

The current farm program continues the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) support programs. PLC and ARC payments have been omitted from the budgets because those payments, if any, are tied to historic farm program base acres, not to current crop selection or production.

Primary Assumptions:

Crops are planted on dryland recrop ground. Costs of moving crop to local market/storage are included.

Market Price: Best estimates of NDSU Extension economists. The greater of projected market price and marketing loan rate is used.

Market Yields: Average yield for the 7-year period 2018-2024, after the low and high yield years are removed. Yields for safflower, yellow mustard, buckwheat, millet, rye and chickpea are from NDSU Extension agronomists and industry sources.

Fertilizer: Cost of fertilizer applied, based on soil test, to meet yield goal. N fertilizer can be reduced if previous crop was soybean, dry bean, field pea or lentil.

Fertilizer Prices:

Nitrogen	- .58/lb
Phosphorus	- .68/lb
Potassium	- .38/lb

Seed Prices:

Spring Wheat	13.00/bu
Durum	15.00/bu
Barley	10.00/bu
Corn GM	3.00/thou.kern.
Soybean GM	.34/thou.kern.
Dry Bean	1.00/thou.kern.
Oil Sunflower	1.70/thou.kern.
Conf. Sunflower	3.00/thou.kern.
Canola	15.00/lb
Flax	22.00/bu
Field Pea	18.00/bu
Oat	8.00/bu
Mustard	.98/lb
Buckwheat	.52/lb
Millet	.60/lb
Winter Wheat	11.00/bu

Fuel Prices:

Diesel	2.55/gal
Gasoline	2.50/gal

Lubrication Charge: 15% of fuel cost

Crop Insurance: Revenue Protection used for all wheat, barley, soybean, corn, canola, sunflower, field pea, dry bean and lentil with a 75% coverage level and enterprise units. APH insurance was used for other crops for which 70% coverage and optional units were assumed.

Miscellaneous: Soil testing, machinery rent and custom work.

Operating Interest: Direct costs charged 7.0% interest for 6-month period.

Misc. Overhead: Machinery housing and insurance at .5% and .85%, respectively, of average machinery investment (also, liability insurance and license fees of trucks). In addition, \$5.00 per acre is assumed for general farm utilities, farm publications, meetings, dues, income tax preparation, legal fees, etc.

Land Charge: Average cash rent.

Machinery Investment: 4.0% real interest rate, over the years of machine ownership, is charged on average machinery investment. The real, or inflation adjusted, rate is the commercial rate minus the inflation rate. Ave. mach. investment = $(\text{Purchase price} + \text{Disposal price})/2$

Depreciation: $(\text{Purchase price} - \text{disposal price}) / \text{years ownership}$

Spring Wheat

Durum

	Per Acre	Your Figures	Per Acre	Your Figures
Market Yield	59	_____	56	_____
Market Price	5.78	_____	6.77*	_____
MARKET REVENUE	341.02	_____	379.12	_____
DIRECT COSTS				
-Seed	22.75	_____	30.00	_____
-Herbicides	23.90	_____	23.90	_____
-Fungicides**	18.50	_____	18.50	_____
-Insecticides***	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Fertilizer	119.61	_____	112.46	_____
-Crop Insurance	7.90	_____	9.50	_____
-Fuel & Lubrication	17.64	_____	17.48	_____
-Repairs	25.69	_____	25.59	_____
-Drying	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Miscellaneous	2.00	_____	2.00	_____
-Operating Interest	8.33	_____	8.38	_____
	=====	=====	=====	=====
SUM OF LISTED DIRECT COSTS	246.32	_____	247.81	_____
INDIRECT (FIXED) COSTS				
-Misc. Overhead	10.88	_____	10.82	_____
-Machinery Depreciation	30.52	_____	30.30	_____
-Machinery Investment	15.59	_____	15.50	_____
-Land Charge	64.00	_____	64.00	_____
	=====	=====	=====	=====
SUM OF LISTED INDIRECT COSTS	120.99	_____	120.62	_____
SUM OF ALL LISTED COSTS	367.31	_____	368.43	_____
RETURN TO LABOR & MANAGEMENT	(26.29)	_____	10.69	_____
LISTED COSTS PER BUDGET UNIT	(bu) :		(bu) :	
-Direct Costs	4.17	_____	4.43	_____
-Indirect Costs	2.05	_____	2.15	_____
-Total Costs	6.23	_____	6.58	_____

Wheat notes:

*Durum price is for milling quality. There is high risk of lower quality and lower price.

**Includes seed treatment, an early season foliar fungicide, and a late season fungicide which is recommended when conditions are favorable for fusarium head blight (scab).

***Cereal grain aphid insecticide would cost about \$4. Wheat midge insecticide would cost about \$6.

Malting Barley

Corn Grain

	Per Acre	Your Figures	Per Acre	Your Figures
Market Yield	75	_____	121	_____
Market Price	4.92*	_____	3.75	_____
MARKET REVENUE	369.00	_____	453.75	_____
DIRECT COSTS				
-Seed	20.00	_____	91.50*	_____
-Herbicides	22.70	_____	35.50	_____
-Fungicides	18.50	_____	0.00	_____
-Insecticides	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Fertilizer	91.60	_____	129.23	_____
-Crop Insurance	4.40	_____	13.70	_____
-Fuel & Lubrication	18.40	_____	25.43	_____
-Repairs	25.89	_____	33.79	_____
-Drying	0.00	_____	24.20	_____
-Miscellaneous	2.00	_____	2.00	_____
-Operating Interest	7.12	_____	12.44	_____
	=====	=====	=====	=====
SUM OF LISTED DIRECT COSTS	210.61	_____	367.79	_____
INDIRECT (FIXED) COSTS				
-Misc. Overhead	11.15	_____	14.63	_____
-Machinery Depreciation	31.43	_____	50.36	_____
-Machinery Investment	15.90	_____	25.00	_____
-Land Charge	64.00	_____	64.00	_____
	=====	=====	=====	=====
SUM OF LISTED INDIRECT COSTS	122.48	_____	153.99	_____
SUM OF ALL LISTED COSTS	333.09	_____	521.78	_____
RETURN TO LABOR & MANAGEMENT	35.91	_____	(68.03)	_____
LISTED COSTS PER BUDGET UNIT	(bu) :		(bu) :	
-Direct Costs	2.81	_____	3.04	_____
-Indirect Costs	1.63	_____	1.27	_____
-Total Costs	4.44	_____	4.31	_____

Barley notes:

*There is risk of not making malting barley quality. Use \$3.00 for feed barley.

**Includes seed treatment, an early season foliar fungicide, and a late season fungicide which is recommended when conditions are favorable for fusarium head blight (scab).

Corn notes:

*GM corn with herbicide tolerance and above ground insect control traits.

Soybean

Drybean

	Per Acre	Your Figures	Per Acre	Your Figures
Market Yield	32	_____	1550	_____
Market Price	9.70	_____	0.27	_____
MARKET REVENUE	310.40	_____	418.50	_____
DIRECT COSTS				
-Seed	65.80*	_____	82.50	_____
-Herbicides	35.40	_____	54.70*	_____
-Fungicides	0.00	_____	20.00**	_____
-Insecticides	4.00**	_____	0.00	_____
-Fertilizer	19.31	_____	47.61	_____
-Crop Insurance	8.30	_____	18.90	_____
-Fuel & Lubrication	17.12	_____	19.30	_____
-Repairs	26.39	_____	29.47	_____
-Drying	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Miscellaneous	5.50	_____	15.50	_____
-Operating Interest	6.36	_____	10.08	_____
	=====	=====	=====	=====
SUM OF LISTED DIRECT COSTS	188.18	_____	298.06	_____
INDIRECT (FIXED) COSTS				
-Misc. Overhead	10.85	_____	11.58	_____
-Machinery Depreciation	31.38	_____	35.96	_____
-Machinery Investment	16.35	_____	18.68	_____
-Land Charge	64.00	_____	64.00	_____
	=====	=====	=====	=====
SUM OF LISTED INDIRECT COSTS	122.58	_____	130.22	_____
SUM OF ALL LISTED COSTS	310.76	_____	428.28	_____
RETURN TO LABOR & MANAGEMENT	(0.36)	_____	(9.78)	_____
LISTED COSTS PER BUDGET UNIT	(bu) :		(lb) :	
-Direct Costs	5.88	_____	0.192	_____
-Indirect Costs	3.83	_____	0.084	_____
-Total Costs	9.71	_____	0.276	_____

Soybean notes:

*GM soybeans with herbicide tolerance. The cost includes \$8 for inculant and fungicide treatment in addition to seed expense.

**Insecticide for soybean aphid, spider mite, or foliage-feeding caterpillars.

Drybean notes:

*Includes dessicant prior to straight cutting.

**Fungicide for white mold. A second treatment may be necessary. Fungicide for rust at \$4-\$12 plus application maybe necessary.

Oil Sunflower

Confectionery Sunflower

	Per Acre	Your Figures	Per Acre	Your Figures
Market Yield	2080	_____	1620	_____
Market Price	0.211	_____	0.282	_____
MARKET REVENUE	438.88	_____	456.84	_____
DIRECT COSTS				
-Seed	37.40	_____	57.00	_____
-Herbicides	28.60	_____	31.60	_____
-Fungicides	0.00*	_____	0.00*	_____
-Insecticides	5.00**	_____	10.00**	_____
-Fertilizer	79.45	_____	57.26	_____
-Crop Insurance	15.00	_____	23.80	_____
-Fuel & Lubrication	18.81	_____	18.00	_____
-Repairs	26.22	_____	25.74	_____
-Drying	8.32	_____	6.48	_____
-Miscellaneous	12.00	_____	22.00	_____
-Operating Interest	8.08	_____	8.82	_____
SUM OF LISTED DIRECT COSTS	238.88	=====	260.70	=====
INDIRECT (FIXED) COSTS				
-Misc. Overhead	11.81	_____	11.51	_____
-Machinery Depreciation	33.96	_____	32.88	_____
-Machinery Investment	18.17	_____	17.73	_____
-Land Charge	64.00	_____	64.00	_____
SUM OF LISTED INDIRECT COSTS	127.94	=====	126.12	=====
SUM OF ALL LISTED COSTS	366.82	=====	386.82	=====
RETURN TO LABOR & MANAGEMENT	72.06	=====	70.02	=====
LISTED COSTS PER BUDGET UNIT	(lb) :		(lb) :	
-Direct Costs	0.115	_____	0.161	_____
-Indirect Costs	0.062	_____	0.078	_____
-Total Costs	0.176	_____	0.239	_____

Oil Sunflower notes:

*Fungicide for rust would cost \$4 plus application.

**One spraying for head feeding insects (red seed weevil, lygus bug and banded moths). Custom application cost of \$8 is under "Miscellaneous."

Confectionery Sunflower notes:

*Fungicide for rust would cost \$4 plus application.

**Two sprayings for head feeding insects (red seed weevil, lygus bug and banded moths) at about \$5 per application. Each custom application cost of \$8 is under "Miscellaneous."

Canola

Flax

	Per Acre	Your Figures	Per Acre	Your Figures
Market Yield	1980	_____	25	_____
Market Price	0.20	_____	13.59	_____
MARKET REVENUE	396.00	_____	339.75	_____
DIRECT COSTS				
-Seed	75.00	_____	22.00	_____
-Herbicides	15.60	_____	27.10	_____
-Fungicides	0.00*	_____	0.00*	_____
-Insecticides	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Fertilizer	119.60	_____	49.05	_____
-Crop Insurance	10.70	_____	14.60	_____
-Fuel & Lubrication	17.04	_____	16.76	_____
-Repairs	25.29	_____	26.26	_____
-Drying	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Miscellaneous	2.00	_____	2.00	_____
-Operating Interest	9.28	_____	5.52	_____
	=====	=====	=====	=====
SUM OF LISTED DIRECT COSTS	274.51	_____	163.29	_____
INDIRECT (FIXED) COSTS				
-Misc. Overhead	10.60	_____	10.69	_____
-Machinery Depreciation	30.77	_____	30.84	_____
-Machinery Investment	15.43	_____	16.08	_____
-Land Charge	64.00	_____	64.00	_____
	=====	=====	=====	=====
SUM OF LISTED INDIRECT COSTS	120.80	_____	121.61	_____
SUM OF ALL LISTED COSTS	395.31	_____	284.90	_____
RETURN TO LABOR & MANAGEMENT	0.69	_____	54.85	_____
LISTED COSTS PER BUDGET UNIT	(lb) :		(bu) :	
-Direct Costs	0.139	_____	6.53	_____
-Indirect Costs	0.061	_____	4.86	_____
-Total Costs	0.200	_____	11.40	_____

Canola notes:

*Fungicide for white mold would cost about \$18 plus application.

Flax notes:

*Fungicide treatment for pasmo has shown good yield response.

Field Pea

Oat

	Per Acre	Your Figures	Per Acre	Your Figures
Market Yield	48.9729	_____	93	_____
Market Price	7.00	_____	2.50	_____
MARKET REVENUE	342.81	_____	232.50	_____
DIRECT COSTS				
-Seed	54.00	_____	16.00	_____
-Herbicides	34.90	_____	6.20	_____
-Fungicides	3.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Insecticides	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Fertilizer	26.15	_____	98.23	_____
-Crop Insurance	9.20	_____	12.70	_____
-Fuel & Lubrication	17.91	_____	21.12	_____
-Repairs	27.20	_____	28.10	_____
-Drying	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Miscellaneous	10.00	_____	2.00	_____
-Operating Interest	6.38	_____	6.45	_____
SUM OF LISTED DIRECT COSTS	188.74	_____	190.80	_____
INDIRECT (FIXED) COSTS				
-Misc. Overhead	11.11	_____	12.13	_____
-Machinery Depreciation	32.98	_____	35.68	_____
-Machinery Investment	16.59	_____	18.24	_____
-Land Charge	64.00	_____	64.00	_____
SUM OF LISTED INDIRECT COSTS	124.68	_____	130.05	_____
SUM OF ALL LISTED COSTS	313.42	_____	320.85	_____
RETURN TO LABOR & MANAGEMENT	29.39	_____	(88.35)	_____
LISTED COSTS PER BUDGET UNIT	(bu) :		(bu) :	
-Direct Costs	3.85	_____	2.05	_____
-Indirect Costs	2.55	_____	1.40	_____
-Total Costs	6.40	_____	3.45	_____

Yellow Mustard

Buckwheat

	Per Acre	Your Figures	Per Acre	Your Figures
Market Yield	850	_____	950	_____
Market Price	0.300	_____	0.19	_____
MARKET REVENUE	255.00	_____	180.50	_____
DIRECT COSTS				
-Seed	13.72	_____	26.00	_____
-Herbicides	12.90	_____	13.60	_____
-Fungicides	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Insecticides	6.00*	_____	0.00	_____
-Fertilizer	35.65	_____	24.52	_____
-Crop Insurance	24.20	_____	0.00*	_____
-Fuel & Lubrication	15.95	_____	18.61	_____
-Repairs	25.09	_____	27.54	_____
-Drying	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Miscellaneous	2.00	_____	2.00	_____
-Operating Interest	4.74	_____	3.93	_____
SUM OF LISTED DIRECT COSTS	140.25	_____	116.20	_____
INDIRECT (FIXED) COSTS				
-Misc. Overhead	10.44	_____	11.06	_____
-Machinery Depreciation	29.46	_____	31.99	_____
-Machinery Investment	15.65	_____	17.30	_____
-Land Charge	64.00	_____	64.00	_____
SUM OF LISTED INDIRECT COSTS	119.55	_____	124.35	_____
SUM OF ALL LISTED COSTS	259.80	_____	240.55	_____
RETURN TO LABOR & MANAGEMENT	(4.80)	_____	(60.05)	_____
LISTED COSTS PER BUDGET UNIT	(lb) :		(lb) :	
-Direct Costs	0.165	_____	0.122	_____
-Indirect Costs	0.141	_____	0.131	_____
-Total Costs	0.306	_____	0.253	_____

Yellow Mustard notes:

*Insecticide seed treatment for flea beetles.

Buckwheat notes:

*Crop insurance is not available in this region.

Millet

Winter Wheat

	Per Acre	Your Figures	Per Acre	Your Figures
Market Yield	1600	_____	64*	_____
Market Price	0.11	_____	5.01	_____
MARKET INCOME	176.00	_____	320.64	_____
DIRECT COSTS				
-Seed	15.00	_____	13.20	_____
-Herbicides	3.90	_____	26.80	_____
-Fungicides	0.00	_____	10.00	_____
-Insecticides	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Fertilizer	34.00	_____	131.51	_____
-Crop Insurance	0.00	_____	7.90	_____
-Fuel & Lubrication	17.69	_____	14.10	_____
-Repairs	26.08	_____	22.29	_____
-Drying	0.00	_____	0.00	_____
-Miscellaneous	2.00	_____	10.00	_____
-Operating Interest	3.45	_____	8.25	_____
	=====	=====	=====	=====
SUM OF LISTED DIRECT COSTS	102.12	_____	244.05	_____
INDIRECT (FIXED) COSTS				
-Misc. Overhead	10.87	_____	9.99	_____
-Machinery Depreciation	31.21	_____	26.67	_____
-Machinery Investment	16.38	_____	12.81	_____
-Land Charge	64.00	_____	64.00	_____
	=====	=====	=====	=====
SUM OF LISTED INDIRECT COSTS	122.46	_____	113.47	_____
SUM OF ALL LISTED COSTS	224.58	_____	357.52	_____
RETURN TO LABOR & MANAGEMENT	(48.58)	_____	(36.88)	_____
LISTED COSTS PER BUDGET UNIT	(lb) :		(bu) :	
-Direct Costs	0.064	_____	3.81	_____
-Indirect Costs	0.077	_____	1.77	_____
-Total Costs	0.140	_____	5.59	_____

Winter Wheat notes:

*Yield is per harvested acre. There is some risk of acreage abandonment in spring.

NDSU Extension does not endorse commercial products or companies even though reference may be made to tradenames, trademarks or service names.

For more information on this and other topics, see www.ndsu.edu/extension

County commissions, North Dakota State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to Vice Provost, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 100, 701-231-7708, ndsu.eoaa@ndsu.edu. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, 701-231-7881.