

Strategic Farming – Planting the 2026 crop for investment returns

Economics are top of many farmers' minds as the 2026 planting season is upon us. Dr. Jeff Coulter, UMN Extension Corn Agronomist, and Dr. Seth Naeve, UMN Extension Soybean Agronomist, joined moderator Matt Pfarr, UMN Extension Educator in Crops, to discuss optimizing returns on the latest Strategic Farming: Let's Talk Crops program.

One point to consider is the effect of crop rotation. Researchers who studied 750,000 USDA Risk Management Agency yield records from across the nation for the impact of rotation on corn yield (2007-2012) found there was an average of a 4.3% yield penalty for planting corn continuously. This yield penalty was more se-

vere in areas where both soil moisture and yields were low. The yield penalty increased when corn was grown for two years prior compared to just one year prior, but it did not grow larger with additional years of corn. If you need to plant corn on corn, consider doing this on your best fields only. Another strategy would be to try to not grow corn more than two years in a row.

Planting date can also significantly impact returns. Results from 26 trials across Minnesota (2009 – 2016) show that planting corn when soils are fit in the sweet spot between April 25 to May 12 should set you up for optimal yields (99 to 100% of maximum).

Planting into uniform

soil conditions that are not too wet or dry, where you can get adequate seed to soil contact, is ideal and should lead to uniform emergence. When fields are worked too wet, this can lead to clods, crusting and compaction, poor seed to soil contact, and ultimately stand issues and yield loss. Check the forecast when deciding when to plant. If a cold front with rain or snow is in the forecast, it may pay to hold off on planting until it passes, but it all depends on the season.

For corn, a planting depth of two inches should be targeted, although when conditions are very dry, a depth of 2.5 inches may help when trying to plant into a more uniform soil moisture.

Planting at a rate of 34,000 to 36,000 seeds/ac should result in stands of 32,000 to 34,000 plants/ac. Higher seeding rates are not expected to result in higher yields.

For soybean, there is not much of a yield response due to planting date up until May 30. Soybean planted from mid to late April into early May will likely emerge at the same time and result in nominal yield differences at the end of the season. In contrast, long-term research from the Southwest Research and Outreach Center in Lamberton shows that soybean yield tends to drop by about 1% per day or more as planting is delayed after May 30.

There has been much in-

terest in planting soybeans as early as possible. While very early planting dates may not necessarily help increase yield potential, early planting dates have the best chance to pay off in high-productivity areas. Fields with lower yield potential may even benefit from a more normal planting date versus a very early planting date. Note that shorter maturity varieties respond less to very early planting dates than longer maturity varieties.

Although inputs like herbicides can have a huge return on investment (ROI), Naeve reports he has not come across a product marketed as a yield enhancer that has worked. Prophylactic applications of fun-

gicides and insecticides typically do not pay either and they can cause other issues like the selection for resistance to the pesticide and other environmental concerns. Scouting, checking to make sure we have the conditions for a pest to be a problem, being familiar with the most recent research results, and monitoring pest networks can assist in helping determine if a pesticide application is needed and when it should be applied.

Check out the UMN Extension Crops webpage for more planting tips at z.umn.edu/crops. A full recording of this program is available on the Strategic Farming website at: z.umn.edu/strategicfarming.

Lloyd D. Sporre, as Trustee of the Sporre Living Trust dated Feb. 9, 1988, hereby conveys to DML Investments LLC, The E 900' of Govt Lot 3, Section 4, Twp 137, Rg 34.

Janet M. Heinz, unmarried, hereby conveys to Scott Wallace, The NE1/4 SE1/4, less the Railroad ROW; and a part of the NW1/4 SE1/4 described as follows: commencing at a point on the E line of said Forty, 465' S of the NE corner of said Forty; thence S 465' to the N line of RR ROW; thence NWtly, in N line of said ROW, 1,023.60'; thence due N 393'; thence SEtly to the point of be-

ginning; all in Section 35 Twp 134, Rg 34. Less tract of land referred to Prcl 234 on MNDOT ROW Plat No. 80-10; and less that part of said NE1/4 SE1/4 described as follows: beginning at the NE corner of said Forty; thence Stly along the E line 1120.01' to the ROW boundary corner B1016 on MNDOT ROW Plat No. 80-10; thence NWtly on an azimuth of 284 deg 19 min 56 sec, along the boundary of said plat, 450.92' to ROW Boundary corner B15; thence deflect to the left, along the boundary of said plat, on a tangential curve having a radius of 11549.16' and a delta angle of one deg



Property Transfer

11 min 23 sec, 239.79'; thence run NEtly on an azimuth of 32 deg 13 min 52 sec, 1125.50' to the N line of said Forty; thence Efly on an azimuth of 90 deg 28 min 34 sec along said N line, 76.13' to the point of beginning; and

less that part of said NW1/4 SE1/4 which lies of a line 330' E of, and parallel with, the W line of said NW1/4 SE1/4.

Michael T. Snyder and Leanne S. Snyder, as Trustees of the Michael T. Snyder and Leanne S. Snyder Living Trust dated July 30, 2019, hereby convey to Kevin J. Perius and Yvonne M. Perius, as jt ten, Lots 8, 9 and 10, Block 1, East Haven.

Russell D. Avelsgard and Karen L. Avelsgard, a married couple, hereby convey to Aaron Christopher Davis and Kristin Fay Davis, as jt ten, Lot 1, Block 1, Forest Haven.

Wade Marjamaa and Linda Marjamaa, married to each other, hereby convey to Michael Haataja and Karen Haataja, as jt ten, Lot 2, Block 2, M.D.C. 5th Addition.

Lisa M. Olson, fka Lisa M. Jenkins, and Darin Ol-

son, spouses married to each other, hereby convey to Jennifer M. Germann, single person, Lot 5, Block 3, First Addition to High View Estates.

Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity Inc hereby conveys to MJJR Properties LLC, Lot 10 and part of Lot 9, Ebner's Addition to Wadena, described as follows: Beginning at the NWtly corner of said Lot 9 in Ebner's Addition to Wadena; thence Stly 2' in the Wtly line; thence Efly to the NE corner of said Lot 9; thence Wtly in the Ntly line of said Lot 9 to the point of beginning.



Marriage Licenses

Enos L. Borntreger, Bertha and Anna R. Schrock, Wadena. Halbert Olin Barrett, Jr, Staples, and Caitlin Jeanette Bernu, Wadena. Ethan Ray Hendrickx, New York Mills and Madison Mae Meech, New

York Mills. Joshua John Phillips, Sebeka, and Rachel Rae Sumner, Sebeka. Gregory Scott Oakland, Wadena, and Sherri Lynn Kaufman, Wadena.



Auction

ANNUAL SPRING EQUIPMENT CONSIGNMENT AUCTION, SATURDAY, MAY 16, 9 A.M., SEBEKA!
Located: 202 Sebeka Industrial Park Rd., Sebeka, Minn. 56477.

Onsite Check-in: Friday, May 8 to Wednesday, May 13, every day (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) Accepting: Full or partial line of equipment, tractors, skid steers, farm, construction, landscaping and logging

equipment, cars, trucks and trailers, ATVs, snowmobiles, hay, straw and farm misc.

Didn't make the sale bill? No worries, additional consignments accepted thru check-in!

To consign: Call Tony at (218) 330-7115 or visit www.fischersales.com for complete sale listing and information.

Whether buying or selling, plan on attending another live auction conducted by Fischer Sales LLC. 4-22,29;5-6,13c

Retention/Destruction of Special Education Records

According to Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, (34C.F.R.300.573), school districts must notify parents when the information contained in their child's special education records is no longer needed to provide public educational services to the child. This is public notification to parents (or students of the legal age of 18) of the district's intent to destroy all special education records dated prior to graduation 2020. You have the right to request a copy of these records, at a reasonable copying fee.

Please contact Superintendent Mr. David Kerkvliet, at Sebeka School, by May 15, 2026 if you wish to arrange for a copy. 4-15,22c

WADENA COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS:
CLOSE 2:00 PM MAY 12TH, 2026
WADENA, MINNESOTA

WADENA COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS for the APPLICATION OF LIQUID CALCIUM or MAGNESIUM CHLORIDE
Bids Close: CP 080-002-026 - 2:00 PM - May 12th, 2026:

Sealed bids will be accepted until 2:00 P.M., May 12th, 2026 for CP 080-002-026 by Anthony Maule, Wadena County Engineer, on behalf of the Wadena County Board of Commissioners, at the Wadena County Engineer's Office, Wadena County Highway Department; 221 Harry Rich Drive, Wadena, Minnesota 56482 for the following projects:

C.P. 080-002-026; Application of Liquid Calcium or Magnesium Chloride on Various Roads in Wadena County.

Location: Various Roads in Wadena County.

Major Items: Application of 79,728 Gallons of Calcium Chloride, or 95,673 Gallons of Magnesium Chloride.

Proposal and specifications may be examined and obtained at the Office of the Wadena County Highway Engineer, 221 Harry Rich Drive, Wadena, MN 56482. Proposal and Specifications are also available to download for free from the Wadena County One Office site.

The complete Bid Proposal must be returned in a sealed envelope marked as a bid for this project. Bids must be accompanied by a certified check or corporate surety bond made in favor of the Wadena County Treasurer for at least 5% of the total amount bid in the proposal.

The County of Wadena hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement minority and disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of religion, sex, race, color or national origin in consideration for an award.

Arrangements will be made to accommodate the handicapped upon advance notice to the Wadena County Engineer's Office, telephone (218) 631-7636.

The Wadena County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities therein, and further reserves the right to award the contract to serve the best interests of Wadena County. No FAXED or EMAILED BIDS will be accepted.

Anthony Maule
County Engineer 4-15,22,29c

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE - AARON L CROWELL, SHANTAL L CROWELL

Our File No.: 26-0157-FC01

Date: March 21, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 15, 2024

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$162,800.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Shantal L. Crowell and Aaron L. Crowell, married to each other

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a nominee for Plaza Home Mortgage Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on March 12, 2024 as Document Number 266596 in the Office of the County Recorder of Wadena County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded on March 9, 2026 as Document Number 271905 in the Office of the County Recorder of Wadena County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots Ten (10) and Eleven (11) of Block Four (4) of Whitney and Murray's Addition to Sebeka, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for the County of Wadena and the State of Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 310 2ND ST SE, SEBEKA, MN 56477

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Wadena County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$179,004.86

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Plaza Home Mortgage Inc.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Freedom Mortgage Corporation

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 19-350-0600

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100109838240104530

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein

has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: May 14, 2026 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Wadena County Sheriff's Office, 415 Jefferson Street South, Wadena, MN 56482.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on November 16, 2026.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTH-

ER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: March 18, 2026

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION

Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/

N. Kibogni Fondungallah, Esq.

Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.

Alexa Marsh, Esq.

Attorneys for Mortgagee

25 Dale Street North

St. Paul, MN 55102

(651) 209-9760

(26-0157-FC01)

Federal law may require reporting to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network for certain purchases of residential property by entities or trusts. A successful third party bidder may be required to provide ownership and identifying information as a condition to completing the transfer.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Review Messenger
3-25;4-1,8,15,22,29c