

## 2007/2008 SCD Achievement Award

Winners

### Mark & Sandy Wagner

The Stutsman County Soil Conservation District is proud to announce the 2007/2008 achievement winner. Mark and Sandy Wagner have been farming in Stutsman County for 33 years. Recently their son Tony has joined them, making this a 4<sup>th</sup> generation farm. The Wagner's were chosen for this award because of



the animal waste systems they have installed to protect the Pipestem Creek, and their farming practices of no-till and conservation crop rotation. They continue to work closely with the Soil Conservation District and the NRCS to make their farming and ranching operation as productive as possible. As the winners of this year's award, Mark, Sandy and Tony will be invited to the annual Association of Conservation Districts annual convention in November to receive their award. The Stutsman County Soil Conservation District congratulates them on their achievements.

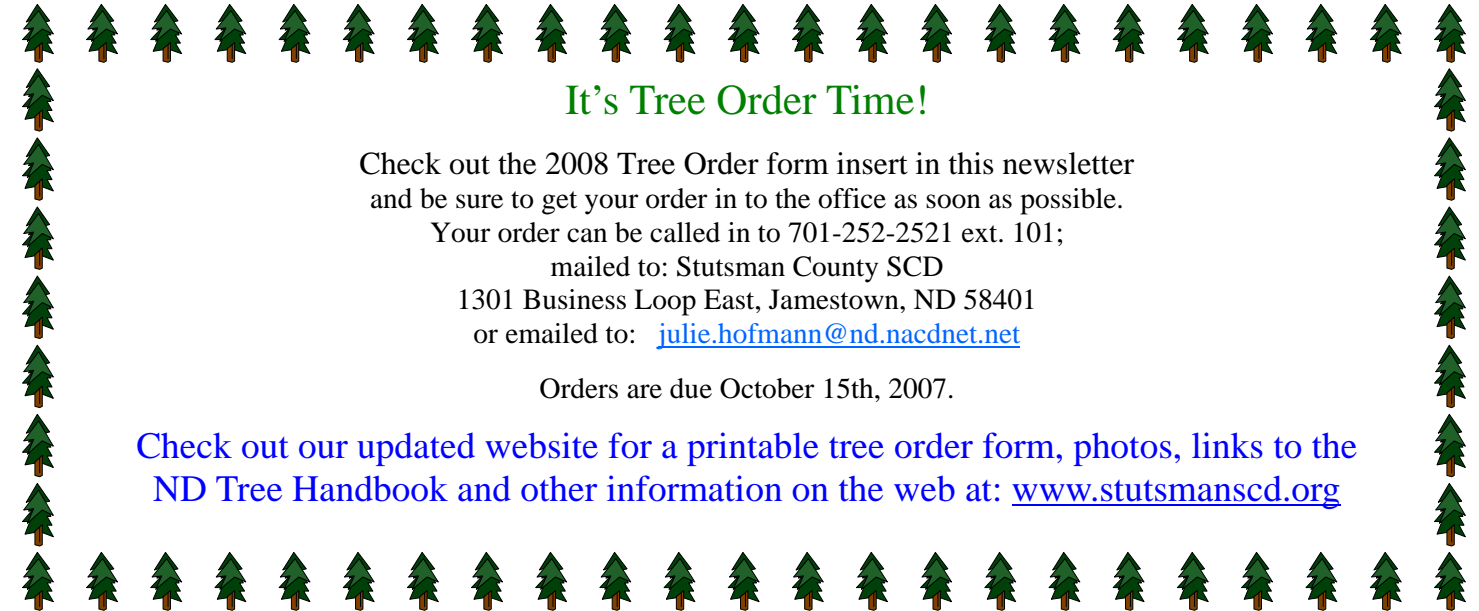


Aerial View of Wagner's east feedlot updated in 2005



# Stutsman County Soil Conservation District

September 2007



## It's Tree Order Time!

Check out the 2008 Tree Order form insert in this newsletter and be sure to get your order in to the office as soon as possible.

Your order can be called in to 701-252-2521 ext. 101;

mailed to: Stutsman County SCD

1301 Business Loop East, Jamestown, ND 58401

or emailed to: [julie.hofmann@nd.nacdnet.net](mailto:julie.hofmann@nd.nacdnet.net)

Orders are due October 15th, 2007.

Check out our updated website for a printable tree order form, photos, links to the ND Tree Handbook and other information on the web at: [www.stutsmanscd.org](http://www.stutsmanscd.org)

### District Office Staff

- Julie Hofmann  
District Manager
- Tex Weatherly  
District Technician
- John Mazur  
District Program Technician
- Ryan Odenbach  
Watershed Coordinator
- Sally Domke  
Watershed Technician

### NRCS Office Staff

- Codie Lacina  
District Conservationist
- Tyler Uran  
Soil Conservationist
- Sheryl Smith  
Soil Conservation Technician

### District Board

- Gloria Jones  
Chairperson
- Donald Hofmann
- Bernard Wanzek
- Alvin Exner
- Raymond Heupel

Stutsman Co. SCD  
1301 Business Loop East  
Jamestown, ND 58401



## Plantskydd® Deer Repellent

Plantskydd is available at the Stutsman County SCD office. For more information call 701-252-2521 ext. 3 or email Julie at: [julie.hofmann@nd.nacdnet.net](mailto:julie.hofmann@nd.nacdnet.net)

Plantskydd Deer Repellent is considered the most cost-effective and environmentally safe animal repellent available. Plantskydd Deer Repellent is made in the USA, is a 100% natural, environmentally friendly product. It's long-term effectiveness is attributable to the tenacity of its 100% natural, vegetable oil binder in sticking to plants, even under severe snow/rainfall conditions: up to 6 months over winter, 3-4 months in summer. Plantskydd Deer Repellent works by emitting an odor that animals associate with predator activity, repelling the animal before it nibbles on plants. Plantskydd stimulates a fear-based response which will have deer, elk, moose and rabbits looking to dine somewhere other than your garden or trees.

|             |                   |         |
|-------------|-------------------|---------|
| <b>New!</b> | 1 lb granular     | \$14.95 |
|             | 1 qt. premixed    | \$21.95 |
|             | 1 lb box          | \$24.95 |
|             | 2 lb box          | \$39.95 |
| <b>New!</b> | 1.32 Gal premixed | \$54.95 |

## Wetlands Reserve Program

WRP is a voluntary program for people who want to restore, enhance, or create wetlands and develop or improve wildlife habitat on private lands. The program offers long-term easements (30 years) or restoration agreements (10 years). It provides both technical assistance and cost-share payments to help restore wetland and upland habitats.

**The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) sign-up period is open, and the current statewide batching period for new WRP contracts will run until September 21, 2007.**

To be eligible for WRP, the landowner must have owned the land for 12 months before submitting an application. Applications that meet WRP minimum eligibility requirements will be ranked along with all other applications received in the State. Eligible applicants will be notified of their ranking by November 1, 2007. The applications will be funded based on their ranking and the State's 2008 WRP funding allocation.

## Salinity Management



Struggling with problem areas like these? The amount of acres in Stutsman County that have been affected by salinity is on the rise. However, these areas can be managed. A variety of options exist for treatment.

Continuous CRP is one option. Eligible acres can be enrolled and seeded to permanent vegetation. A yearly payment is made based on the soils in the enrolled areas.

EQIP is another option which may be utilized. The EQIP program offers several incentive payments which may be used exclusively or in a combination to treat the field or the "hot" spots.

Please contact NRCS for more information regarding the best treatment options for your situation.

## Why Use Cover Crops?

- ✓ To improve soil health by increasing organic matter.
- ✓ To utilize water in the soil profile after a crop is taken off. Salts are carried in the soil by water. Utilizing the water can take salts deeper in the soil profile.
- ✓ To capture Nitrogen and make it available for the next springs crop.
- ✓ For additional forage.
- ✓ To control erosion.

Interested in learning more? Ask us about **incentives** that are available for using cover crops! Contact NRCS today!

## Farewell to Cody



I have accepted a position with NRCS in Grant County in the Carson Field Office as of Sept. 17, 2007. The two years I spent in Stutsman County was an amazing time with producers, landowners, SCD Board members and the Service Center Staff. Together we accomplished and implemented many conservation practices on the ground to make the land productive and improve the environment.

Thank you,

Cody J. Hatzenbuehler

## Welcome Tyler!



Soil Conservationist Tyler Uran will be joining us from the Lisbon Field Office. Tyler grew up on a farm/ranch north of New Town. He graduated from Stanley High school and then attended Williston State College for 2 years & graduated with an Agri-Business degree. After Williston he attended DSU for another 2 years graduating with a Natural Resource degree. He still has a couple of cows back on the ranch so he usually travels home when he can.

Tyler enjoys hunting and chasing steers in his free time. He says he's looking forward to meeting and working with the producers in Stutsman County.

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program which offers farmers and ranchers a tool to address their natural resource concerns. Eligibility for the program is limited to persons who are engaged in livestock or agricultural production. Beginning farmers/ranchers and Limited Resource producers may be eligible for an additional cost share.

EQIP provides cost share and incentive payments for a variety of conservation practices such as No-Till, Nutrient Management, Tree Plantings, Fencing, Wells, Pipelines, Tanks, and Pasture & Hayland grass seedings, just to name a few. Please contact the office for a complete list of eligible conservation practices and cost share/incentive rates.

**To be considered for FY 2008 funding, applicants must have a signed EQIP application on file by October 15, 2007.**



For more information on any of these programs, please contact:

**NRCS**  
**Jamestown Field Office**  
**1301 Business Loop East**  
**Jamestown, ND 58401**  
**(701) 252-2521 ext 3**

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, and marital or family status.

## Lower Pipestem Creek Watershed Project Update

The Pipestem Creek Watershed Project cost-share funding has been extended until the year 2010. This extension will help to fund projects such as grazing systems, feedlot updates and grass plantings as well as many other cost-shared items.

In July the Watershed Project along with NRCS and NDSU Extension hosted a no-till tour to the Dakota Lakes Research Farm near Pierre, SD. This tour was attended by 50 area producers. The tour stopped at Redfield, SD and toured the Max Williams farm with SD NRCS Soil Scientist Jim Miller. Much was learned about no-till corn rotations and management.



Tour participants at Max Williams farm in Redfield, SD.

## Watershed Based Assistance Pilot

In an effort to improve efficiency, customer service, program delivery, and technical assistance, the James River Watershed Based Assistance Pilot was formed earlier this year.



This includes the counties of Eddy, Foster, Wells, Stutsman, LaMoure, and Dickey. The purpose of the Pilot is to determine how NRCS in ND could deliver our Technical Assistance and Programs more efficiently based on a watershed approach while retaining current office locations and retaining our current staff without relocations.

In July a Local Work Group meeting was held in Jamestown. The LWG determined the major resource concerns in the Pilot area and then utilized that information to select eligible practices and determine priorities for FY 2008 EQIP funds. In FY 2008, the six county Pilot area will receive a funding pool of EQIP dollars.

So what does this mean for you, the Producer? We will become more efficient to better serve you through better utilization of existing staff. In short, during times of peak/high priority workload a county may ask for help from other counties within the Pilot area. This additional assistance along with better communication and streamlined efforts will get our people where they are most beneficial - in the field!



## Tex's Tree Planting Tidbits

By Tex Weatherly



Fall is here and there are some things to be looking at in our tree plantings.

In new plantings the first thing is to check for death loss and get replants ordered. The next thing is getting control of weeds between the rows. It is probably too late for this year, but any weeds sap moisture that could have been used by trees. They also create an oven effect in the tree planting. The best option is to plant a warm season native grass such as Blue Grama and Sideoats Grama if weed barrier fabric is used, and to mow to control weeds until grass is established. Help with seeding rates may be obtained from NRCS or Stutsman Co. SCD. Another problem that may pop up with deep snow in plantings is rodent damage. Mice and voles like to burrow in the snow and chew on small trees. If the bark is removed deeply and all around the tree, it will die. Older trees also need to be checked for replants. Big gaps in rows can create a funnel effect on the wind and may cause snow to lie where it is not wanted. Also if fabric has been laid on older trees, they need to be checked to see that trees are not growing into the fabric and creating a girdling effect. If this is happening, the fabric needs to be cut back from the tree trunk. If it is not cut back it can cause a weak point in the tree trunk and our "gentle ND breezes" can topple it at that point. In planning a new tree planting, try to work as many varieties into the tree planting as possible. This is especially helpful if a disease or insect problem occurs. Most diseases and insects only attack one species, thus leaving the rest viable. Even in a single row more than one species can be planted by alternating varieties in the row.

### Ground Preparation

Ground preparation is very important and should be started early in the year prior to planting. It is especially important if trees are to be planted in what is now grassland. Get the old growth off and worked up and then an application of Roundup on re-growth along with working up and applying a second Roundup application in the spring.



*It is the policy of the Stutsman Co. SCD that the ground be properly prepared before planting will be done.*

***"The best time to plant a tree is yesterday."***

## Reminder!

Now is the perfect time to seal wells that are no longer in use. The Stutsman County Water Resources Board is willing to pay \$200 or 50% cost share (which ever is greater) per well if that well is sealed following the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Standards and Specifications. Bentonite is available through the SCD for \$9.00 per bag.

Contact the office for more information at 252-2521 ext. 3.