

NDSU | EXTENSION

AG NOTES

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Buzzworthy Facts

The school year has come to a close for many schools and colleges, including my own grad class. This semester, my grad class was “Intro to Entomology”. It sounded interesting, and I get a few random questions on insects every year, so I figured it would be helpful. I had no idea how complicated the world of insects is. Each module had an average of 600 PowerPoint slides! And I don’t even like insects, so it was quite the interesting class. Needless to say, I’m not sure how I actually learned and remembered, but I did learn some super cool things about insects. This week’s article will focus on the wild and crazy world of insects.

1 in 4 animals in the entire world is a beetle.

Fireflies produce light in special organs in their abdomens by combining a chemical called luciferin, enzymes called luciferases, oxygen, and the fuel for cellular work, called ATP.

Contrary to popular belief, mosquitoes are actually the world’s deadliest animal. No, it’s not a shark or lion or even a bear. Mosquitoes are harbingers of several deadly diseases and kill an average of 725,000 people per year. Mosquitoes vector diseases such as malaria, Zika virus, dengue fever, West Nile, and yellow fever, to name a few.

“The Plague,” better known as the black plague that raged through Europe in the 13th century, is still present today. The plague is caused by the bacteria *Yersinia pestis*, that is transmitted by the bite of a specific species of flea. The primary host of this flea is sewer rats. This disease is still endemic in parts of the world, like Africa and Central Asia. Throughout history, the plague has caused 3 world pandemics in 541, 1347, and 1894. The ‘Black Death’ of Europe in 1347 to 1352 – notably the most famous. The plague arrived from Central Asia and quickly traveled on merchant vessels carrying grain and furs from the Italian Black Sea colonies. In its wake, it is estimated that the Black Death killed 25 million people, or about a third Europe’s population at the time. Because of poor sanitation and overcrowded cities, the plague spread rapidly. The Third Pandemic of 1894 – The third pandemic waxed and waned throughout the world for the next five decades and did not end until 1959, in that time plague had caused over 15 million deaths.

Bt corn is genetically modified corn engineered to express proteins from the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt), making it resistant to certain insect pests, reducing the need for chemical insecticides.

The beetle family Scarabaeidae, commonly called dung eaters or scarab, was an important symbol in ancient Egyptian culture. Many pharaohs’ tombs, including King Tut’s, feature these insects. Scarabs were connected to the sun god Khepri and symbolized rebirth and protection in the afterlife as well as good luck and fortune.

The Bombardier Beetle’s Explosive Defense: When threatened, the bombardier beetle can spray a hot, irritating chemical mixture from its abdomen with surprising accuracy. This “explosion” is created by mixing and heating two chemical compounds stored in separate glands. The temperature can reach nearly 212°F.

The Honeybee’s Waggle Dance: Honeybees use a complex “waggle dance” to communicate the location and distance of food sources to their hive mates. The angle of the waggle relative to the sun indicates direction, and the duration of the waggle indicates distance

Termites have a complex social structure and unique behaviors. Termites are eusocial, meaning they live in colonies with overlapping generations, cooperative brood care, and a division of labor into different castes. They have three main castes: workers, soldiers, and reproductive. Cathedral termites native to Australia build “cathedral” mounds that can reach 26ft tall.

MINUTES FROM
7 MAY, 2025 MEETING,
ROBINSON LIONS

Bob called meeting to order. Pledge of allegiance.

Present: Ray Munson, Bob Bowerman, Bill Bender, Dustin Peterson, Susanna Ongstad, Dan Giroux. Special Guests: District Governor Kirk Tingum and wife, Janice.

Old Business: Continued planning for our 50th Anniversary. Nothing new on investigation into insulation of our building.

Treasurer’s Report: Paid District 5NE Dues. Bids on building HVAC still in progress. Paid previously approved donations: to KC school for After Prom Party; to KC Angels; to St. Jude; to Mayo Clinic; and to Ronald McDonald House.

New business: District Governor Tingum Spoke, highlighting that we do an excellent job for a small club. He handed out pins for Fifty Years of Service for Art Trautmann and Burdette Morrison, Jr., both charter members. He provided us with contacts for fixing recurring problems with our membership roster. He also emphasized that though we are a small club, we need to do more in publicizing what we do, both for and in the community.

Truck Pull planning coming together. Bob is finalizing poster. Raffle will be all money to prevent hassle with gun registration.

GRAND OPENING of new café, the FOX HOLE, will be Saturday, June 14. We will celebrate our 50 Year anniversary in conjunction. Bob is going through box of historical items he has and will be working with Bill to organize a program.

Motion to pay for front of building improvement. Approved, no opposed. Motion to donate to LCIF. Approved, no opposed.

Motion to adjourn. Approved, no opposed.

Cornbread Beef and Bean Casserole

Yield: 6 -8 servings
Prep Time: 30minutes mins
Cook Time: 45minutes mins

Ingredients
Beef Mixture:
1 ½ to 2 pounds ground beef or ground turkey
½ cup diced yellow onion
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon black pepper
1 cup frozen corn kernels
1 ½ cups salsa, store bought or homemade
1 (15-ounce) can black, pinto, or white beans, rinsed and drained
1 to 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
Cornbread Topping:
½ cup (85 g) cornmeal
1 ½ cups (213 g) flour
⅓ cup (71 g) granulated sugar
1 tablespoon baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
⅓ cup oil
2 large eggs
1 ¼ cup milk

Instructions
1. Preheat the oven to 375.

Lightly grease a 9X13-inch pan and set aside.
2. In a large 12-inch skillet set over medium heat, cook the ground beef, onion, salt and pepper, until the meat is fully cooked.
3. Drain the grease from the pan.
4. Stir in the corn, salsa, and beans.
5. Spread the beef mixture evenly in the prepared pan and set aside.
6. For the cornbread, whisk together the cornmeal, flour, sugar, baking powder and salt in a medium bowl. Make a well in the center and add the oil, eggs and milk. Whisk together until just combined (don’t over mix).
7. Sprinkle the cheese over the beef mixture. Pour the cornbread batter over the top and spread evenly all the way to the edges.
8. Bake for 40-45 minutes until the cornbread is baked through. A toothpick inserted in the center should come out clean and the top should spring back lightly to the touch. Let the casserole rest for 5-10 minutes before serving.

“And when it rains on your parade, look up rather than down. Without the rain, there would be no rainbow.”
~ Gilbert K. Chesterton

5 Party
Rummage Sale

Jerry Schultz Farm -
1 Mile East of the School
Saturday, May 24th
Sunday, May 25th
9:00am - 5:00pm

Sibley Township

Monthly meetings to begin in June

3rd Monday of the Month

6:00pm

Dawson City Hall

NEWSPAPER



Only \$69
for
Hard Copy & On-line!!

Help Wanted

The Kidder County School District is accepting applications for a full time, year around janitor.
Very competitive salary and benefits.

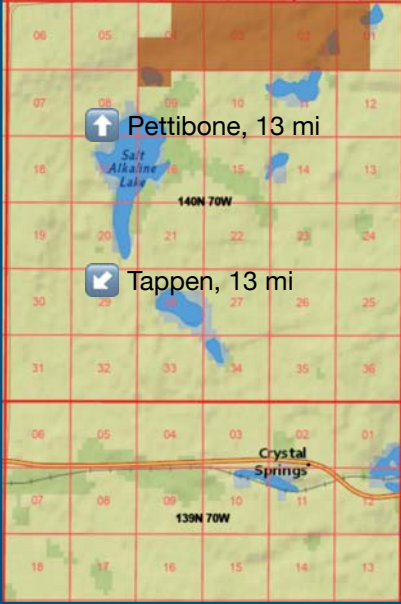
If interested, please send a letter of application to:
Superintendent Rick Diegel
Kidder County School District
PO Box 380
Steele, ND 58482



Position closes when a suitable applicant is hired and a background check will be required.

2025-2029 (5-Year) Haylands Lease Available

Kidder County, Williams Township
Township 140 N, Range 70 W
3055 45th Ave SE, Tappen ND



Haylands

Approximately
270 Acres
& Ditches

Mixed-Grass Prairie

April 1 Yearly Payment
(July 1 for 2025)

Owned by Michael Krous
& Vernetta Erickson

Bids Due
June 7

Must Include:
• Name(s)
• Address(es)
• Phone Number(s)
• Email Address(es)
• Bid Amount, \$ per acre

Message/Email Bids to:
• (701) 391-6555
• jeremykrous@icloud.com

Lessors may accept or reject any bid at their discretion. If no bids have met lessors’ reserve amount or multiple equal bids have been received, the top 3 or equal bidders will be allowed to increase their bids.
Written lease is viewable by request.
For more information,
message/email the contact above or go to...
https://www.bismanonline.com/user_jeremy_krous