



PRO CO-OP AG CENTER



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Is it Time for a Fungicide?

After weeks of much-needed rain across eastern Montana, many growers are seeing improved yield potential. While the moisture is certainly welcome, it also creates favorable conditions for foliar diseases.

Now is the time to get out and scout. Fungicide decisions should be based on disease presence, crop growth stage, weather conditions, and the overall yield potential of each field. Protecting the flag leaf and applying fungicides at the proper timing—particularly around heading and flowering when warranted—can help preserve yield and grain quality.

It's important to remember that fungicides work best as a preventative tool. Once disease is well established, control becomes more difficult and the return on investment may decrease. Every field is different, so evaluating each one individually is the best approach.

With improved moisture increasing the value of this year's crop, a timely fungicide application may be a worthwhile investment on your highest-potential acres. If you have questions about disease risk or determining the right product and application timing, contact your local PRO Co-op agronomist. They can help you make the most informed decision for your operation.

**Cover More Acres,
Faster.**

**AERIAL FUNGICIDE
AVAILABLE**

**Contact your local PRO Co-op
agronomist:**

Call 406-487-2472

Scobey • Flaxville • Peerless • Richland • Opheim • Four Buttes • Antelope
487-2741 474-2231 893-4398 724-3353 762-3231 783-5519 286-5262

Plan Ahead for Desiccation and Post-Harvest Weed Control

Harvest will be here before we know it, making now the perfect time to start planning your desiccation and post-harvest weed control. If you have pulse crops, remember that paraquat products are only labeled for desiccation in peas, lentils and chickpeas. Following labeled crop restrictions and application timing is essential for achieving the best results. In pulse crops, paraquat is not helpful for desiccating field bindweed or buckwheat. There are other options for those weeds that may be necessary.

Many wheat fields were missed with in-crop herbicide due to timing and crop staging. If you need to manage weeds in order to harvest, the Pro Co-op agronomy team can help you choose a safe and effective option. Flax harvest is also challenging if weeds are present, and we can help with that too!

Post-harvest is an excellent opportunity to target tough annual weeds, including herbicide resistant kochia, before they produce seed. There will be fields that need a later fall spray for hawksbeard, mare's tail, or Canada thistle, but the annual weeds like kochia, russian thistle and late emerging pigeongrass is best managed right after harvest.

Equipment for Sale

- 2005 Freightliner Columbia Truck
 - \$40,000
- 2016 Case IH Titan 4540 Spreader
 - \$120,000
- 1988 International 9300
 - \$7,500

Call Tanner at 406-487-2612 for more information.



Your Project Starts Here

Whether you're tackling a project around the farm, working in the shop, or checking off a few items on your to-do list, we've got many of the everyday supplies you need to keep things running smoothly. From extension cords and hardware to tools and seasonal items, our shelves are stocked with products that make life a little easier.

Stop by PRO Co-op and see what we have in stock. Our friendly team is always happy to help you find what you're looking for, and you might be surprised at the variety of products available right here in your local community. Shop local, save yourself a trip, and let PRO Co-op help you get the job done.

Mid-Season Fertility: Is Additional Nitrogen Needed?

Recent rains have improved yield potential in many fields, which may also increase crop nutrient demand. NDSU Extension recommends evaluating spring wheat fields for nitrogen needs based on crop stage, rainfall received, and realistic yield goals. In some situations, a timely top-dress nitrogen application can help support improved yield potential, but the decision should be made field by field. Conditions vary widely this season, making scouting and local agronomic recommendations especially important.

For growers considering additional fertility applications, now is a good time to review field conditions and discuss options with your PRO Co-op agronomist.



Scouting Today Can Protect Tomorrow's Yield

As crops continue to develop, regular field scouting is one of the most valuable management tools available. Recent rainfall has improved growing conditions, but it has also created an environment where issues can develop quickly.

Take time to walk every field—not just the ones that look the best from the road. Look closely for signs of foliar disease, insect activity, nutrient deficiencies, and herbicide performance. Early detection allows you to address problems before they have a significant impact on yield or crop quality.

Scouting also provides an opportunity to evaluate overall crop health and determine whether additional management practices, such as a fungicide application, are warranted. As temperatures warm and crops move through key growth stages, conditions can change rapidly.

A few hours spent in the field today can help prevent costly surprises later in the season. If you have questions about what you're seeing, your PRO Co-op agronomy team is here to help evaluate field conditions and develop the best management plan for your fields.



New Chore Boots Have Arrived!

Whether you're headed to the barn, checking cattle, or tackling chores after another round of rain, a dependable pair of boots makes all the difference. PRO Co-op has a selection of chore boots in stock for both adults and kids, built to keep your feet comfortable, dry, and ready for whatever the day brings.

Stop by the retail store to check out the latest styles and sizes. Whether you're replacing a worn-out pair or outfitting the whole family, we've got boots ready to handle life on the farm, ranch, and everything in between.



Wheat Disease Losses Highlight the Importance of Scouting

The latest Wheat Disease Loss Estimates report from the Crop Protection Network highlights the significant impact diseases continue to have on wheat production across the U.S. and Canada. In 2025, plant diseases were estimated to reduce wheat production by more than 205 million bushels, with losses valued at over \$531 million (USD). Disease pressure varied by region, emphasizing the importance of local weather conditions, crop susceptibility, and timely management decisions.

For growers in the Northern Plains, diseases such as Fusarium head blight, tan spot, Septoria, and bacterial leaf streak remain important concerns. Regular scouting and timely fungicide applications, when warranted, are key to protecting yield potential and grain quality.

Read the full report for regional disease rankings, yield loss estimates, and additional insights at the link below.

[Crop Protection Network](#)

Every Bushel Starts with Strong Grain Marketing

Crop conditions can change quickly throughout the growing season, but having a grain marketing plan can help take some of the uncertainty out of harvest. As yield potential improves with recent moisture, it's a good time to review your marketing strategy and consider opportunities to lock in favorable prices when they arise.

The PRO Co-op grain team is here to help you navigate changing markets, understand your marketing options, and develop a plan that fits your operation. Whether you're looking at old crop, new crop, or simply want to discuss current market trends, we're ready to help you make informed decisions throughout the season.

Stop by or give our grain department a call to learn more about the marketing tools and services available through PRO Co-op.

Agronomist's Corner: Mid-Season Field Observations

This growing season continues to keep us on our toes. Timely rains have helped crops move quickly, but they've also created ideal conditions for weeds to thrive. Here are a few things we're seeing across northeast Montana.

Canada Thistle is Back

If your fields have a history of Canada thistle, you've probably noticed it's making a strong comeback this year. Last summer's late-season moisture, combined with changes to many fall herbicide programs, likely contributed to heavier pressure. While the best long-term control is still a fall herbicide application after frost, there are effective in-crop options for wheat, canola, and flax. In pulse crops with severe infestations, spot spraying can help prevent flowering this season while preserving your best opportunity for fall control.

Winter Annual Weeds Are Showing Up

Hawksbeard, marestail, western salsify, and prickly lettuce have also taken advantage of last year's moisture. Some pre-seed herbicide programs haven't provided the control we'd hoped for, particularly on marestail. Take note of the fields with the highest pressure—these weeds respond well to fall herbicide applications, making them easier to manage next season.

Canola is Looking Excellent

Recent moisture has canola looking excellent across the region, with many fields developing a strong canopy and good yield potential. As the crop moves through flowering, now is the time to scout for insect pressure and continue monitoring fields regularly. If your field has a history of white mold (*Sclerotinia*) in lentils, consider a fungicide application during early flowering. White mold in lentils and *Sclerotinia* stem rot in canola are caused by the same disease, so fields with previous lentil infections may be at greater risk. A well-timed fungicide application can help protect yield when disease-favorable conditions are present. If you have questions about disease risk or fungicide timing, contact your PRO Co-op agronomist. We're happy to help you determine the best management strategy for your fields.

Looking Ahead

One encouraging observation this season has been the strong performance of several pre-emergent herbicides on some of our toughest weeds despite challenging spring conditions. It's a reminder that a solid residual herbicide program can pay dividends and is worth considering as you begin planning for next year's crop.

As always, if you have questions about crop staging, weed control, fungicide timing, or in-season management decisions, stop by PRO Co-op or give our agronomy team a call. We're here to help you make the best decisions for your operation.



Walk fields regularly during flowering and grain fill. Catching insects, disease, or nutrient deficiencies early can help protect yield and improve harvest results.

45th Swank Tour Returns July 14

Mark your calendars for the 45th Annual Swank Tour on Tuesday, July 14, at the Swank Farm north of Poplar. This long-standing field tour brings together producers, researchers, and industry professionals for an evening of learning, networking, and discussion centered on current agricultural topics affecting Northeast Montana.

The event begins at 5:00 p.m. with guided variety plot tours featuring leading researchers from Montana State University and the Eastern Agricultural Research Center. Attendees will hear updates on the latest wheat genetics, cereal quality, and spring wheat breeding research from Dr. Chengci Chen, Dr. Mike Giroux, and Dr. Jason Cook.

Following the field tour, guests are invited to enjoy a steak supper while hearing presentations from Inga Hawbaker, MSU Extension Agent, on Baby's Breath, and Wendy Becker, MSU Extension Agent, on the emerging threat of the New World Screwworm.

Participants will also receive one Pest Control Credit.

Whether you're looking to compare crop varieties, learn about emerging pest concerns, or visit with fellow producers, the Swank Tour offers valuable information and a great opportunity to connect with others in the agricultural community.

For directions and additional information, contact the MSU Extension Office at 406-787-5312. We look forward to seeing you there!

45th Swank Tour

July 14, 2026

Location

The Swank Farm is located north of Poplar at 5106 Road 2041. From Hwy 2 (mile marker 617), go north on Hwy 251 (RY) for 20.5 miles, then 3 miles west on Road 2041. OR, from Froid, go 20 miles west on Hwy 344, 3 miles north on Road 1041, then 10 miles west on 2041.

5:00 PM

Variety Plot Tours

- Dr. Chengci Chen, Eastern Ag Research Center
- Dr. Mike Giroux MSU Wheat Genetics & Cereal Quality
- Dr. Jason Cook, MSU Spring Wheat Breeder

Steak Supper and Speaker

- Inga Hawbaker MSU Extension Agent: Baby's Breath
- Wendy Becker MSU Extension Agent: New World Screwworm

Sponsors

- Culbertson Chamber of Commerce
- Swank Family and Neighbors
- Independence Bank, Poplar
- Arne Sutton Insurance, Circle
- MSU-Extension Roosevelt County
- MSU Extension-Fort Peck
- United Grain Culbertson
- C & B Operations LLC, Culbertson



1 Pest Control Credit
Dealer
Private
Agricultural Plant

Questions?

Call:
MSU-Extension
Office
406-787-5312

