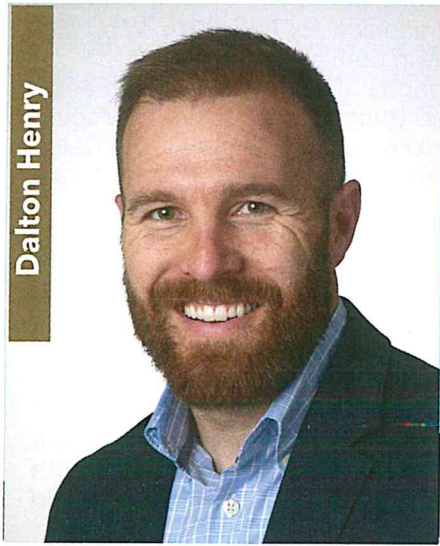


# AG HORIZONS CONFERENCE

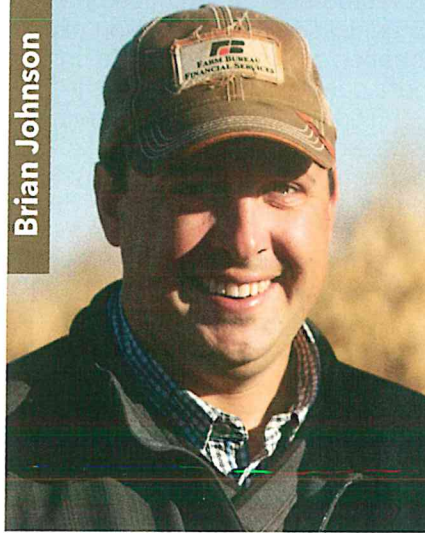
## Keynote Speakers

Dalton Henry



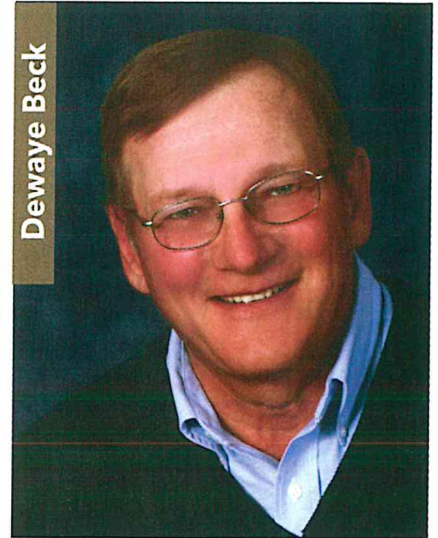
*Wild Swings: Wheat Trades,  
World Markets and Trade Policies*

Brian Johnson



*Green Up Your Soil and Wallet:  
How Diversity Pays... And Makes  
the Wife Happy*

Dewayne Beck



*Are We Doing the Right Thing  
or Just Doing the Wrong Thing  
Better?*

Tregg Cronin



*2021: The Return of Volatility  
and Uncertainty*

### **GENERAL SESSIONS & BREAKOUT TOPICS:**

**Marketing Concepts**  
**Soil & Water Quality**  
**Weed Management**  
**Disease & Insect Control**  
**Farm Management Practices**  
**Economic Update**  
**Crop Management**  
**Estate Planning**  
**Exhibitors**  
**Association Annual Meetings**  
**(22 CEU's Applied For)**

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**November 30 & December 1, 2021**





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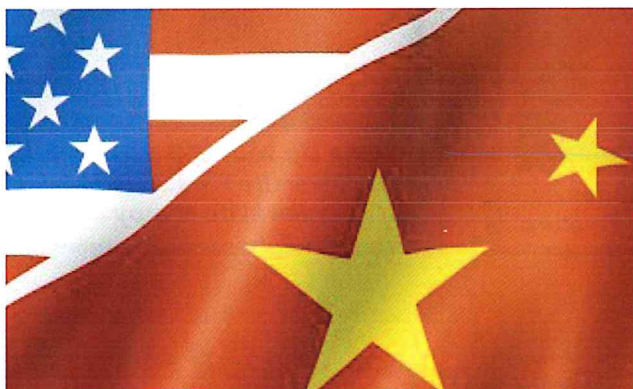
*By Ben Conner, Partner, DTB AgriTrade*

## Chinese Government Grain Policy TRQ Dispute Moving Ahead

Over the last several years, U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) and other industry groups have demonstrated how the policies of a few advanced developing countries are distorting world wheat trade and hurting farmers in the United States and other wheat exporting countries. Chinese government grain policy attracted special attention, leading to two dispute cases at the World Trade Organization (WTO), one on excessive subsidies and one on China's administration of a tariff rate quota on wheat, corn, and rice. By April 2018, WTO dispute panels had sided with the United States in both cases.

Today, the official settlement process for one of those cases has entered the next phase. On July 26, 2021, the United States asked the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) for authorization to raise tariffs on imports from China due to its failure to comply with the DSB recommendations on its tariff-rate quota (TRQ) administration. China blocked the request, which puts the matter before an arbitration panel. Simultaneously, China made its own request for another panel to review whether it has brought its policies into compliance.

Very close observers of WTO processes might experience déjà vu because this is exactly what happened with the case on China's subsidies for the same commodities last summer.



The next step is for the WTO to form two panels to review the requests of both China and the United States. The compliance panel will look at whether China's TRQ administration is now functioning on a "transparent, predictable, and fair basis — using clearly specified administrative procedures," as required by the DSB recommendations. An arbitration panel will review the U.S. request to raise tariffs and decide whether its methodology is appropriate.

Two Reasons for the Challenge

### Two Reasons for the Challenge

Why is the U.S. government taking this step forward on this case? After all, China has been importing record amounts of wheat and corn since the signing of the Phase One deal (rice is notably lagging) that included implementation of the WTO recommendations on TRQs and subsidies. There are two main reasons.

Procedurally, the U.S. government had to continue extending the window for China to comply (they had already agreed to seven extensions), allow that window to expire with no further action and forfeit its right to suspend concessions, or request that right within 20 days after the window expired. It chose the third option.

Even though China has allowed higher imports, there is still little clarity on how TRQ shares are allocated and reallocated.

If the process remains opaque and unpredictable, China will not be in compliance with its TRQ obligations, which could prevent imported wheat with qualities supplementing Chinese domestic wheat from reaching the Chinese wheat millers who could use it most effectively. It is encouraging that the U.S. and Chinese governments are continuing this case as it will help resolve disagreements over whether China is in compliance with its TRQ commitments and exert pressure to fix problems with Chinese government grain policy permanently.





## **National Association of Wheat Growers Update**

Dear NAWG Board of Directors, State Staff, and Staff,

A lot has happened at NAWG since my last letter to you and I know we have all been busy! Here on our farm in Michigan we have been active planting winter wheat and hope to finish in a few days.

Among the activities NAWG has been involved in, the most exciting and honorable was testifying before the House Agriculture Committee's hearing on Voluntary Carbon Markets in Agriculture and Forestry. I advocated on behalf of wheat growers regarding voluntary carbon markets and agricultural carbon sequestration and emphasized programs should be science-based, flexible, and recognize regional, geographic, or preferential differences in farming practices. We know very clearly that one specific approach won't work for all the producers across the US, so flexibility in addressing the diverse cropping systems will be essential. In my testimony, I stressed that since the carbon credit will be generated on the farm, the farmer needs to have an equitable return as the carbon credit increases in value. NAWG supports voluntary, market-based programs and policies that provide economic opportunities for farmers and that recognize the achievements of growers in protecting and restoring the environment by rewarding early adopters and adding new practices.

While we focused on voluntary carbon markets, we must acknowledge wheat producers already implement several environmentally friendly practices to their farming techniques, are having a positive impact on the environment, and have increased resource-efficient practices in land, water, and energy use. Wheat has a great story, and I am thrilled it is being told.

Being able to participate in this hearing did not happen by chance. I want to acknowledge and thank CEO Chandler Goule and NAWG staff for working so hard to provide this opportunity. I also want to thank the Special Climate and Sustainability Committee for helping pave the way as we continue to finalize our climate-related policies. We launched the committee to enhance NAWG's ability to have an effective seat at the table as Congress and USDA consider options for farmers playing a role in addressing climate change and to ensure wheat growers' interests are reflected; and now, we have officially taken our first major step. Wheat growers' concerns were heard during this hearing, especially as I was the only farmer testifying. In case you missed it, you can watch the hearing here. I am pleased to say with our NAWG team and their strong influence in DC, our work is just getting started.

There has also been a lot of activity in DC with infrastructure, reconciliation, and appropriations. We continue to watch all these issues closely as they relate to the agriculture community. NAWG continues to advocate for farmers' needs on taxes, trade, ag research, and disaster aid programs, especially as we see the drought challenges our farmers in the PNW have been facing.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in Kansas City for our Fall Conference. Speaking of watching issues closely, one of the best ways to have direction, is to meet and talk in person about issues at hand. Attending the board meetings makes a difference and helps strengthen and unify our voice. Don't forget to register for the event and hotel on the NAWG website. Safe travels to our fall meeting, and if we miss you in November, I hope to see you in the new year at our winter and annual meetings.

Here's to just getting started!

Sincerely,

Dave Milligan

President, National Association of Wheat Growers



***Ramkota RiverCentre, Pierre • November 30th & December 1st, 2021***

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SD Seed Trade Association • SD Soil Health Coalition • SD Wheat, Inc.  
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**Do you have any dietary (including food allergies) or special accommodation needs we should be aware of?**

**Return form and check to: Ag Horizons Conference • PO Box 667 • Pierre, SD 57501**

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# 2021 Ag Horizons Agenda

## Tuesday, November 30

- 7:30 – 8:00 Lobby — Breakfast
- 8:00 – 8:05 **Amphitheater II** — Welcome — SD Secretary Roberts, DANR
- 8:05 – 9:00 Sunflower Market Update — Guy Christianson, ADM
- 9:00 – 9:50 Breakout Sessions
- PD **Gallery G**  
Financial Double Take — Greg Cargin, Gardner & Company
- CM **Gallery F**  
Weed control in Wheat it is not just 2,4-D — Paul Johnson, SDSU
- PD **Gallery D-E**  
U.S. Drought Monitor & Drought Impacts in South Dakota — Dr. Deb Bathke, US Drought Monitor & Dr. Jon Kleinjan, SDSU
- 10:00 – 10:50 Breakout Sessions
- PD **Amphitheater II**  
Tools for Transitioning the Farm — Quentin Riggins, Gunderson & Palmer
- CM **Gallery G**  
Why Oats Should Be In Your Rotation — Melanie Caffé-Tremblé, SDSU
- CM **Gallery D-E**  
Fungicides against Phomopsis/Sunflower — Febina Mathew, SDSU
- 11:00 – 11:50 **SW Amphitheater II**  
Green Up Your Soil and Wallet — Brian & Jamie Johnson, Soil Health Coalition
- 12:00 Noon PD Wild Swings: Wheat Trade, World Markets & Trade Policies — Dalton Henry USW
- 1:30 – 2:20 PD **Amphitheater II** — 2021: The Return of Volatility and Uncertainty — Tregg Cronin, Contributing Analyst for DTN
- 2:30 – 3:20 **SW Amphitheater II** — Are we doing it right? — Dwayne Beck, SDSU
- 3:30 – 4:00 Cookie Break — Sponsored by Farm Credit Services of America
- 4:00 – 4:50 Breakout Sessions
- CM — **Gallery G**  
SD Wheat Inc Annual Meeting VOTE
- SW — **Gallery D-E**  
Annual meeting
- PD — **Gallery F**  
Annual meeting
- 5:00 – 7:00 Exhibitor & Attendee Social in lobby  
Night on the town

## Wednesday, December 1

- 7:30 – 8:50 Breakfast
- 8:00 – 8:50 PD **Amphitheater II**  
‘#farming’ — Nicholas Uilk, SDSU Presession Ag
- 9:00 – 9:50 PD **Amphitheater II**  
Understanding Current Economic & Financial Climate — Dillon Kjerstad, ICBSD
- 10:00 – 10:50 Breakout Sessions
- CM **Amphitheater II**  
Financial Footing of Record Keeping – Erin Yost, Mitchell Tech
- SW **Gallery G**  
Pulse Crop Marketing Panel, SDPCC
- PD **Gallery D-E**  
TBD
- 11:00 – 11:50 Breakout Sessions
- PD **Gallery D-E** — TBD
- SW **Gallery G**  
What is Climate Smart Ag? — Jeff Vander Wilt, NRCS
- PD **Amphitheater**
- 12:00 Noon Luncheon

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for the Certified Crop Advisor Program are tentative.



# 2021 South Dakota Winter Wheat Performance Trial Highlights

There isn't much more stress that could have been thrown at the 2020-2021 winter wheat crop in South Dakota. Very dry conditions in the fall of 2020 resulted in delayed emergence until after October precipitation in many parts of the winter wheat production areas, which in turn resulted in very little fall growth. An open winter with an extremely cold snap in February raised concerns of winterkill. A late frost event in early May further raised concerns about the survival of the crop. Finally, severe drought conditions plagued most of the state throughout the 2021 growing season. On the upside, the dry conditions led to essentially no disease issues in 2021. Several acres of winter wheat were harvested for hay in western growing regions but in areas where grain harvest did occur, it progressed rapidly and produced yields that generally ranged from 20 – 80 bushel/acre.

Meridian Seeds was the sole new participant in the South Dakota State University (SDSU) Crop Performance Testing (CPT) winter wheat trials for 2020-2021. Several new CoAXium™ varieties were tested from four separate companies/public programs. These varieties have a natural mutation that confers tolerance to Aggressor™ herbicide, providing a new grass control option for wheat producers.

SDSU CPT winter wheat trials in eastern South Dakota locations (Brookings, Mount Vernon, Platte and South Shore) yielded an average of 67 bu/acre, ranging from 47 bu/acre at Platte to 87 bu/acre in Brookings. Varieties yielding in the top third of the eastern South Dakota trials over three years (2019-2021) were SD Andes, Ideal, Winner, Oahe and Redfield. Promising new varieties for eastern locations tested for the first time in 2021 include Whistler and AP Clair.

Yields in central South Dakota (Hayes, Onida, Pierre, Selby, Vivian and Winner) averaged 69 bu/acre, ranging from 48 bu/acre at Vivian to 107 bu/acre at Pierre (irrigated). Data from Selby was not available at the time of this publication. Varieties yielding in the top third of the central South Dakota trials for 2019-2021 were Winner, WB4462, SY Wolverine, Overland and Draper. Promising new varieties for central locations tested for the first time in 2021 include AP Clair, AP Bigfoot, LCS Steel AX and Whistler.

Western South Dakota trial locations (Faith, Sturgis and Wall) had a good year, averaging 61 bu/acre, ranging from 39 bu/acre at Martin to 75 bu/acre at Wall. Sturgis data was not compiled due to a planting error. Varieties yielding in the top third over three years in the western trial locations were Winner, WB4462, SD Andes, Oahe and Draper. New varieties did not perform as well as those in trials for two or three years in the western regions of South Dakota.

The protein content of the crop was very good statewide, averaging 13.1%, 14.2% and 13.4% in eastern, central and western South Dakota, respectively. Detailed trial results, including yield, test weight, protein content, height and lodging (where measured) for each location are available at: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/winter-wheat-variety-trial-results>.

Consider as much performance information as possible when selecting a variety, and give more weight to information from trials close to home, as some varieties may be better suited to certain geographic areas. Also pay close attention to relative performance over many locations. This type of performance is an indication of "yield stability." Good yield stability refers to the ability of a variety exhibit high yield potential at many locations over years. For example, a variety that ranks in the upper 40% at all locations exhibits better yield stability than a variety that is number one for yield at one location but ranks in the lower 40% at some other locations. Performance

over multiple years is also very important. Growing conditions in a single season may favor certain varieties, providing a poor representation of yield potential over time. For example, growing conditions in 2021 tended to favor later-maturing varieties and the absence of stripe rust allowed susceptible varieties to perform better than average. Varieties with a slow growth pattern in the fall also did not fare well in late-planted trial locations. A good rule of thumb is to plant 65%-75% of your acres to varieties with a proven track record (i.e. a good multi-year average) and plant the remaining 25%-35% to a promising new variety.

It is important to remember that varieties may differ by 5 bu/acre or even more and still be statistically similar. This is due to inherent variability in the environment and the yield testing process. Varieties that are statistically similar to the top performing variety at each location can be calculated by subtracting the least significant difference (LSD) value from the top performing variety. The LSD is a statistic used to determine if varieties are truly different from one another.

The coefficient of variation (CV) listed at the bottom of each data column, which is often expressed as a percentage of a given trait mean, is a relative measure of the amount of test variation for that trait. Generally, in yield trials, a CV of 15% is considered acceptable and a CV of 10% or less indicates good quality data. Higher variability (and thus higher CVs) can be caused by several environmental factors, such as stand loss due to winterkill or drought, and reduces the ability to detect true differences between varieties.

## Ag Horizons Conference

November 30 and December 1, 2021

Ramkota River Center

Pierre SD 57501

Keynote speakers -

Breakout sessions and Exhibitors

SD Wheat Inc Annual meeting

(Only members of the SDWI will be allowed to vote on a new name)

November 30th — Ramkota RiverCentre

Business Meeting — 4:00 pm

- Introduction of Directors and election
- Minutes of past meeting
- Executive Director's Report
- Vote on new name for organization
- South Dakota Association of Wheat Growers
- Wheat Growers Association of South Dakota
- SD Wheat Growers
- Good and Welfare of Association



# 2021 Fall and Early Winter Climate Outlook

Climate forecasters are pointing towards a warmer than average October, with odds leaning towards drier conditions for the last few months of the year.

The latest monthly and seasonal climate outlooks were released on Sept. 16, 2021 by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center. There is good consensus in the computer models and forecasters that October will be warmer than average in South Dakota. As for precipitation in the month ahead, there is much more uncertainty. Most of the state is designated as having equal chances of above, below or near-normal precipitation in October.

A look further ahead to October through December overall reveals that the warm signal in mid-autumn may not linger into

the winter. The chances of warmer than average temperatures dwindle by the end of the year, and the three-month outlook indicates equal chances of warmer, cooler or near-average temperatures for October through December.

For the last three months of the year, the odds of drier than average conditions increase. All of South Dakota, except for the northern-tier counties and far-eastern region, have slightly increased chances of drier than average conditions.

## Potential Impacts

When we think about the impacts of the potential of early warmth, and then later dry conditions, across the state, there are a few things to consider. First, is that a later than average frost or freeze is more likely than not. We are currently in the middle of our typical period for first frost, between Sept. 22 and Oct. 10 for most of South Dakota. The current forecast shows dry and warm weather for most of that time period. There are just a few isolated areas in the Black Hills that have already recorded sub-freezing temperatures this season. A widespread early frost or freeze is very unlikely this year.

A second impact of a potentially warm October, with lower chances of a very wet month, are the favorable conditions for dry-down of corn and soybeans in the field and for maintaining good field conditions for harvest of those crops. There is an opportunity for some cost savings in avoiding grain drying after harvest. Unsaturated field conditions also contribute to fewer equipment and traveling challenges in and around the fields.

A third impact could affect our 2022 growing season by way of soil moisture and surface water. At this time of year, rainfall in autumn can replenish our soil moisture and refill stock dams. The soils, in turn, can freeze and hold in place over the winter season, as there is little need for this moisture for growing plants, and cool temperatures minimize evaporation. Fall moisture can help our winter wheat, grasses, pastures and forages start off well in the spring as the soils await snowmelt or rain. This is a back-up plan to a spring-season drought, such as the one we experienced earlier this year. Without an abundance of precipitation this fall, there will be areas of the state that will carry a soil moisture

deficit into the winter and low stock dam water levels as well, particularly in the harder-hit drought areas.

Severe and extreme drought conditions have eased over much of central and eastern South Dakota in recent weeks. Warm temperatures in mid-September have helped to dry down summer crops, such as corn, soybeans and sunflowers, as fall harvest begins. At the same time, however, some western areas have degraded in drought conditions, as early fall rains have been missed in addition to warmer than average temperatures. There are now some good opportunities for planting winter wheat, however, with the hope of some timely rains to germinate the crop.

For horticulture and homeowners, keep in mind that the dry, drought conditions lingered for many areas this summer. Ensure that your trees are well-watered before winter sets in. Enjoy the longer growing season for your garden produce that is expected with a later than average frost or freeze. Use the pleasant days of fall to control weeds in your yard; there is no need to wait until a frost or freeze before using your fall herbicide.

Stay up to date with updates on the South Dakota State University (SDSU) Extension website and follow current weather, soil and climate conditions on the SD Mesonet website.

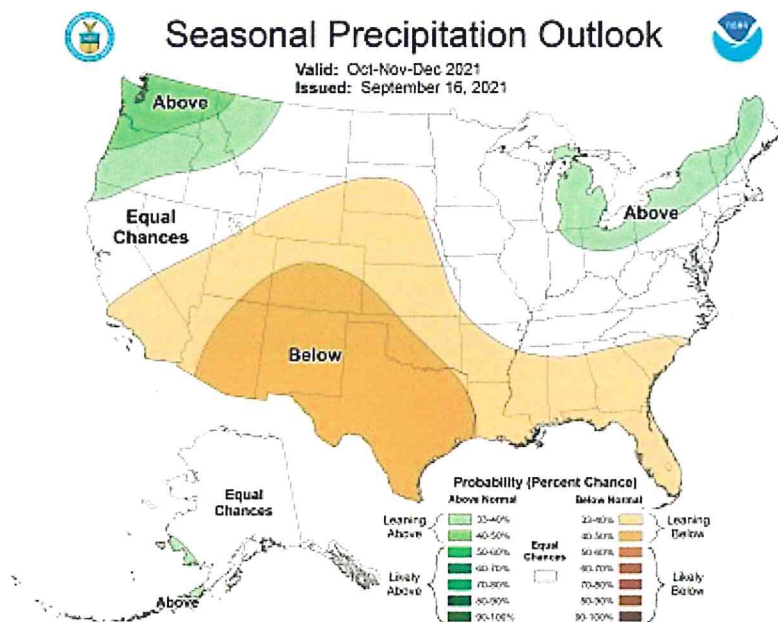


Figure 1. Precipitation outlook for October to December 2021. Odds are leaning towards drier than average conditions for most of South Dakota in the coming three months. Source: NOAA Climate Prediction Center.

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