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This new 2007 edition of *North Dakota Agricultural Statistics* is a portrait of North Dakota's dynamic, diverse and changing agricultural industry, the most important segment of our state's economy.

It is a portrait of 30,000 North Dakota producers who lead the nation in the production of major commodities and specialty crops, including spring wheat, durum wheat, barley, canola, pinto and navy beans, dry edible peas, flaxseed, all dry edible beans, oil and confectionary sunflowers, lentils and honey. North Dakota ranks second in sugarbeets and fourth in potatoes.

These statistics, however, are more than just bragging rights. Producers use this information to make planting and marketing decisions. Agribusinesses, investors and policymakers use these statistics to make the necessary decisions that help the entire agriculture industry more effectively meet future challenges and issues.

The North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service – administration, statisticians, technicians, enumerators and clerical staff – deserve the thanks of all North Dakotans for again providing a clear, detailed, accurate and compelling statistical portrait of our state's dominant industry.

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture is proud to be associated with the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service and to help bring you *North Dakota Agricultural Statistics 2007*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger Johnson".

Roger Johnson  
Agriculture Commissioner

