FARM OPERATIONS REPORT

INTERNAL USE ONLY

STRATEGIC OVERVIEW OF THE DECISIONS, ACTIVITIES, PARTNERSHIPS & OUTCOMES SHAPING LFCE AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS DURING THE SPRING 2026 GROWING SEASON

BY: Paula Anderson



Spring 2026

by the numbers

Metric	Result
Total Acres Seeded	1,946
Canola Acres	1,335
Grazing Acres	419
Hay Acres	150
Research Oat Acres	42

Strategic Actions	Result
Canola Contracted	340 MT
Hay Secured	1,200 Bales
Silage Secured	2,500 MT
Feed Barley Secured	30,000 Bu
Straw Secured	1,000 Bales

Key Highlights

DESPITE A COMPRESSED PLANNING TIMELINE & CONTRACTOR SCHEDULING CONSTRAINTS - 100% OF PLANNED ACRES SUCCESSFULLY SEEDED

ENHANCED AGRONOMIC OVERSIGHT THROUGH WESTERN AG & NORTHLAND AGRONOMY

FORAGE CONVERSION WAS DEFERRED FOLLOWING SOIL TESTING THAT IDENTIFIED EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH RESIDUAL NITROGEN LEVELS, SUPPORTING A MORE STRATEGIC CANOLA PRODUCTION OPPORTUNITY

A PROACTIVE FEED PROCUREMENT STRATEGY SECURED KEY FEED INVENTORIES AHEAD OF POTENTIAL WEATHER, MOISTURE, SUPPLY & MARKET UNCERTAINTIES, STRENGTHENING LFCE'S FEED SECURITY POSITION FOR 2026/27

CANOLA MARKETING PLAN INITIATED W/APPROX 72% OF EXPECTED PRODUCTION REMAINING UNPRICED

EXPANDED FORAGE PRODUCTION PORTFOLIO THROUGH THE ADDITION OF GRAZING & HAY ACRES TO SUPPORT FEED SECURITY, OPERATIONAL FLEXIBILITY & LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION OBJECTIVES

External Partnernships *& Vendors*

Partner	Strategic Contribution
Heuchert Farms Inc.	Primary seeding contractor supporting timely crop establishment
Western Ag	Soil sampling, CropCaster analysis, fertility planning & nutrient management recommendations
Northland Agronomy	Crop scouting, emergence assessments, weed & insect monitoring along with ongoing agronomic support
Michael Layton Custom Seeding	Small plot grazing & perennial stand establishment
East Edge Equestrian	Land leveling to improve & support future forage productivity
Blackstone Farms	Complete irrigated silage solution incl production, harvesting & delivery
Drennan Farms	Irrigated hay production supporting feed security, reduced winter feeding costs & improved forage quality
Neighbouring Producers	Additional land access supporting forage production capacity & operational flexibility
Neil McLeod	Forage seed supply & practical industry expertise supporting long-term grazing, forage productivity objectives
Cargill	Canola marketing, grain contracting & risk management support
Neighbouring Producers	Additional land access supporting forage production capacity & operational flexibility

Agronomic Update

CROP ESTABLISHMENT

- CANOLA EMERGENCE COUNTS RANGED FROM APPROX 75-91 PLANTS/M^2 ACROSS SURVEYED FIELDS
- CROP STAGING GENERALLY RANGES FROM COTYLEDON TO EARLY 1-2 LEAF STAGE
- PLANT POPULATIONS ARE CONSIDERED STRONG & CONSISTENT ACROSS THE MAJORITY OF ACRES
- OVERALL STAND ESTABLISHMENT IS CONSIDERED GOOD TO EXCELLENT

WEED PRESSURE

- OVERALL WEED PRESSURE REMAINS LOW ACROSS THE FARM
- MOST FIELDS REMAIN BELOW TREATMENT THRESHOLDS & DO NOT CURRENTLY REQUIRE FIRST-PASS HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS
- FCC HALF & DUGGAN'S EXHIBITED THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF WEED PRESSURE OBSERVED DURING SCOUTING ACTIVITIES, WITH TARGETED APPLICATIONS IDENTIFIED WHERE REQ'D

INSECTS

- FLEA BEETLE ACTIVITY HAS BEEN OBSERVED AT LOW LEVELS IN SEVERAL CANOLA FIELDS
- DAMAGE REMAINS BELOW ECONOMIC THRESHOLDS
- NO INSECTICIDE APPLICATIONS ARE CURRENTLY RECOMMENDED

GOPHER ACTIVITY

- GOPHER ACTIVITY REMAINS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT AGRONOMIC CONCERN IDENTIFIED TO DATE
- BAKER ROAD HALF HAS EXPERIENCED LOCALIZED FEEDING DAMAGE & STAND LOSSES IN SPECIFIC AREAS
- INITIAL CONTROL EFFORTS HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED; HOWEVER - ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES ARE CURRENTLY UNDERWAY
- LFCE IS ACTIVELY PURSUING FURTHER CONTROL EFFORTS & WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR BOTH GOPHER POPULATIONS & CROP IMPACTS THROUGHOUT THE GROWING SEASON
- WHILE LOCALIZED STAND LOSSES HAVE OCCURRED, HEALTHY PLANT POPULATIONS REMAIN THROUGHOUT THE MAJORITY OF THE FIELD & NO MATERIAL IMPACT TO OVERALL FIELD PRODUCTIVITY IS ANTICIPATED YET

Strategic Initiatives

Decision	Why It Was Done	Intended Benefit
Deferred planned forage conversion on "FCC Half" to maximize existing soil fertility	Soil testing identified exceptionally high residual nitrogen levels creating a significant opportunity to capture existing fertility through a cash crop rather than establishing perennial forage	*Improved nutrient utilization, increased revenue potential, reduced nutrient loss risk & demonstrated data-driven stewardship*
Drill fertilized newly seeded grazing acres	Increase establishment success, root development & early forage productivity	*Protect establishment investment, improve stand vigor & maximize long-term forage productivity*
Did not roll newly seeded forage acres	Avoid potential emergence restrictions, crusting & stand establishment issues	*Improve likelihood of successful stand establishment*
Expanded agronomic support through Western Ag & Northland Ag	Increase data-driven approach to crop production & input utilization	*Stewardship, early detection, fertility management & crop monitoring*
Secured irrigated silage, feed barley & straw from Blackstone Farms	Reduce feed production risk, secure critical feed inventories, reduce operational complexity & limit exposure to weather-related uncertainty	*Improve feed security, reduce production & operational risk, increase planning certainty & strengthen long-term financial sustainability*
Secured irrigated hay from Drennan Farms	Secure access to reliable, high-quality irrigated forage production	*Support lower-cost feeding strategies & reduce feed risk while increasing quality*
Included researchers in farm planning discussions	Better align farm operations with research needs & land use coordination	*Improved alignment between agricultural operations, research requirements, teaching activities & long-term land-use planning*
Utilized Italian ryegrass in lieu of a traditional cover crop on newly seeded grazing acres	Following consultation with Neil McLeod, Italian ryegrass was selected to provide early-season forage production while supporting perennial stand establishment	*Improved first-year grazing potential, reduced competition with establishing forage species, enhanced feed production opportunities & improved return on establishment investments*
Expanded grazing & hay acreage portfolio	Strengthen feed security & operational flexibility	*Increased forage production capacity & reduced future feed risk*

Operational & Strategic Outcomes

WHY THEY MATTER

THE DECISIONS MADE THROUGHOUT THE SPRING 2026 GROWING SEASON WERE INTENDED TO STRENGTHEN FEED SECURITY, IMPROVE STEWARDSHIP OF UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, SUPPORT RESEARCH & LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS & POSITION LFCE FOR LONG-TERM FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

FINANCIAL & OPERATIONAL STEWARDSHIP

- ✔ FORWARD CONTRACTED 340MT OF CANOLA AT HISTORICALLY STRONG PRICING
- ✔ UTILIZED SOIL TESTING TO IMPROVE FERTILIZER EFFICIENCY & LAND-USE DECISIONS
- ✔ REDUCED SILAGE PRODUCTION RISK THROUGH IRRIGATED FEED SOURCING
- ✔ EXPANDED FORAGE PRODUCTION CAPACITY & FEED SECURITY
- ✔ LEVERAGED STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS TO REDUCE OPERATIONAL RISK & IMPROVE FLEXIBILITY
- ✔ CONTINUED ALIGNMENT OF FARM OPERATIONS WITH RESEARCH, TEACHING & LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION OBJECTIVES
- ✔ FEED SECURITY MILESTONE: 2500MT SILAGE, 1200 HAY BALES, 30000BU FEED BARLEY & 1000 STRAW BALES SECURED

SUPPORTING THE LFCE MISSION

EVERY MAJOR AGRICULTURAL DECISION CONTINUES TO BE EVALUATED THROUGH THE LENS OF:

RESEARCH | EDUCATION | AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION | STEWARDSHIP | FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Current Opportunities *& watch items*

CROP & AGRONOMIC FOCUS

- GOPHER ACTIVITY ON BAKER ROAD HALF
- MOISTURE CONDITIONS THROUGHOUT THE GROWING SEASON
- FORAGE ESTABLISHMENT SUCCESS
- FERTILIZATION REQUIREMENTS ON NEWLY SEEDED FORAGE ACRES
- EVALUATION OF SLURRY APPLICATION OPPORTUNITIES ON PASTURELAND
- EVALUATE F0R FUTURE SLURRY UTILIZATION OPPORTUNITIES ON CEREAL CROP ACRES

FEED SECURITY & PRODUCTION

- SILAGE PRODUCTION PROGRESS THROUGH BLACKSTONE FARMS
- HAY QUALITY TEST RESULTS FROM DRENNAN FARMS
- HAYLAND LEASE OPPORTUNITIES & RENEWALS
- FEED INVENTORY PLANNING FOR WINTER 2026/27
- CONTINUED TRANSITION TOWARD LOWER-COST HAY-BASED COW FEEDING STRATEGIES
- MONITORING PERFORMANCE OF EXTERNALLY SOURCED IRRIGATED FEED PROGRAMS

STRATEGIC & FINANCIAL FOCUS

- ADDITIONAL CANOLA MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES
- FUTURE EQUIPMENT OWNERSHIP STRATEGY REVIEW
- EVALUATION OF LONG-TERM FARMING MODEL
- CONTRACTOR UTILIZATION & LONG-TERM FARMING PARTNERSHIPS
- CONTINUED FOCUS ON OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY & COST MANAGEMENT
- MANAGING THE FINANCIAL REPORTING IMPACTS OF BOTH 2026 & 2027 FARM INPUT EXPENDITURES OCCURRING WITHIN FY2026

FOCUS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2026 WILL BE MAXIMIZING CROP PERFORMANCE, SECURING FEED INVENTORIES, EVALUATING STRATEGIC CAPITAL INVESTMENTS, & IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE LONG-TERM OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Looking Ahead

THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS, ENHANCED AGRONOMIC OVERSIGHT, PROACTIVE FEED SECURITY PLANNING & DISCIPLINED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, LFCE CONTINUES TO STRENGTHEN ITS ABILITY TO SUPPORT AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION, RESEARCH, EDUCATION, OUTREACH & LONG-TERM STEWARDSHIP OF UNIVERSITY RESOURCES.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence

LFCE.USASK.CA

Positioning LFCE to strengthen feed security, support research & teaching activities, enhance stewardship of University resources & enhance long-term operational sustainability.



Thank you

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO VIEW THIS PRESENTATION.
I APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST AND CONSIDERATION, AND I'M EXCITED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF WORKING TOGETHER.
LET'S CREATE SOMETHING MEANINGFUL, IMPACTFUL, AND BEAUTIFULLY ALIGNED.



Looking forward to connecting soon!

PREPARED BY:
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