TURNING POINT® SURVEY OF SUGARBEET INSECT PEST PROBLEMS AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN MINNESOTA AND EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA IN 2025

Mark A. Boetel[1], Eric A. Branch[2], Thomas J. Peters[3], and Peter C. Hakk[4]

[1]Professor and Sugarbeet Extension Entomologist, School of Natural Resource Sciences, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND; [2]Assistant Professor and Sugarbeet Extension Specialist, Pathology Department, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND; [3]Associate Professor and Sugarbeet Extension Specialist, Plant Sciences Department, North Dakota State University & University of Minnesota, Fargo, ND; and [4]Research Specialist, School of Natural Resource Sciences, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND

Attendees of the 2026 Winter Sugarbeet Grower Seminars that were held at Fargo, Grand Forks, and Wahpeton, ND, as well as Willmar, MN were asked about their 2025 insect pest issues and associated management practices in a live polling session by using Turning Point®, an interactive personal response system that displays response data in real time while the poll is being conducted. Unfortunately, technical issues with the survey system prevented administration of the survey at the Grafton seminar.

Initial questioning involved identifying the county in which grower respondents produced the majority of their sugarbeet crop in 2025. Those results are presented in Tables 1-4. The majority (41%) of Fargo seminar attendees indicated that the majority of their sugarbeet crop was grown in Clay County, MN, however, an additional 27% of the attendees reported growing the majority of their sugarbeet crop in Norman or Mahnomen counties in Minnesota (Table 1). Producers who grew sugarbeet in Cass and Traill counties of North Dakota and Becker County, MN were all tied at 9% of the Fargo seminar audience. One attendee of the Fargo seminar indicated producing the majority of their sugarbeet crop in Barnes County, ND.

Table 1. 2025 Fargo Grower Seminar – county in which sugarbeet was grown in 2025

County	Number of responses	Percent of responses
Barnes	1	5
Becker	2	9
Cass	2	9
Clay	9	41
Norman/Mahnomen	6	27
Traill	2	9
Totals	22	100

The largest portion (57%) of Grand Forks grower seminar attendees indicated that the majority of their sugarbeet production occurred in Polk County, MN (Table 2). An additional 17% of grower attendees at Grand Forks responded that most of their sugarbeet was grown in Grand Forks County, ND. About 11% of Grand Forks seminar attendees grew most of their sugarbeet crop in Walsh County, ND, and 9% of attendees represented Traill County, ND. Additionally, Marshall County, MN was represented by 3% of grower respondents at the Grand Forks seminar, as was the combination of Pennington and Red Lake counties of Minnesota. The same proportion (3%) of Grand Forks grower attendees reported that they grew the majority of their beet crops in counties that were not represented as a choice for this question.

Table 2. 2025 Grand Forks Grower Seminar – county in which sugarbeet was grown in 2025

County	Number of responses	Percent of responses
Grand Forks	6	17
Marshall	1	3
Pennington/Red Lake	1	3
Polk	20	57
Traill	2	6
Walsh	4	11
Other	1	3
Totals	35	100

Responses to this question at the Wahpeton winter sugarbeet grower seminar indicated that 41% of the attending producers grew the majority of their sugarbeet crop in Wilkin County, MN, with another 20% of grower attendees reporting that most of their crop was produced in Richland County, ND (Table 3). An additional 15 and 13% of respondents at the Wahpeton seminar indicated that most of their sugarbeet production occurred in Clay and Grant counties of Minnesota, with the remainder of respondents responding that they produced the majority of their beet crop in Cass and Traverse County, ND (4% each), Roberts County, SD (2%), and Stevens County, MN (2%) in 2025.

Table 3. 2025 Wahpeton Grower Seminar – county in which sugarbeet was grown in 2025

County	Number of responses	Percent of responses
Cass	2	4
Clay	8	15
Grant	7	13
Richland	11	20
Roberts	1	2
Stevens	1	2
Traverse	2	4
Wilkin	22	41
Totals	54	100

The highest proportion (38%) of Willmar grower seminar attendees reported that most of their sugarbeet production acreage in 2025 was grown in Chippewa County, MN (Table 4). A sizable amount (29%) of attendees reported growing most of their sugarbeet crop in Renville County. An additional 10, 8, and 5% of grower respondents at the Willmar seminar grew most of their beets in Swift, Kandyohi, and Redwood counties of Minnesota, respectively, with the remainder of respondents responding as either producing the majority of their sugarbeet crop in the Minnesota counties of Pope or Yellow Medicine (about 1% each), or in a county not listed as a choice for this question (5% of grower respondents) in 2025.

Table 4. 2025 Willmar Grower Seminar – county in which sugarbeet was grown in 2025

County	Number of responses	Percent of responses
Chippewa	30	38
Kandyohi	6	8
Pope	1	1
Redwood	2	3
Renville	23	29
Yellow Medicine	1	1
Stevens	4	5
Swift	8	10
Other	4	5
Totals	79	100

This report is based on grower responses about their production activities on an estimated 126,450 acres of sugarbeet grown in 2025 by 168 grower respondents that attended the 2025 Fargo, Grand Forks, Wahpeton, and Willmar Winter Sugarbeet Grower seminars (Table 5). Across all seminar surveys, the majority (41%) of respondents reported growing sugarbeet on between 400 and 799 acres during the 2025 production season. That represents a 7.9% increase of production in this acreage-per-grower category compared to that recorded from the 2024 growing season. An additional 21% from across all grower seminars produced beets on between 800 and 1,500 acres. A total of 11% of respondents reported growing sugarbeet on 1,500 acres or more in 2025, whereas just 17% of respondents overall produced sugarbeet on 299 or fewer acres.

Table 5. Ranges of sugarbeet production acreage in 2025 by Winter Sugarbeet Grower Seminar Respondents

Location	Number of responses	Acres of sugarbeet									
		<99	100-199	200-299	300-399	400-599	600-799	800-999	1000-1499	1500-1999	2000+
		% of responses									
Fargo	20	0	5	0	5	20	25	10	20	10	5
Grand Forks	34	0	9	6	3	21	24	6	18	12	3
Wahpeton	51	4	8	6	8	25	16	14	16	4	0
Willmar	63	6	5	10	17	22	14	10	2	6	8
Totals	168	3	7	7	10	23	18	10	11	7	4

From a combined total of 132 respondents at the Fargo, Grafton, Grand Forks, and Wahpeton seminars, 31% identified the sugarbeet root maggot (SBRM) as their worst insect pest problem in 2025 (Table 6). That was a 24% decrease compared to the responses recorded during the previous survey regarding the 2025 growing season. Additionally, about 21% of all seminar location respondents viewed springtails as their worst insect pest problem during the 2025 growing season. Grasshoppers were rated as the worst insect pest during 2025 by 16% of all seminar location respondents. Other insect groups identified by grower respondents across all four seminar locations as causing problems in 2025 included cutworms, wireworms, and white grubs, (11, 5, and 3%, of respondents, respectively).

At the Fargo seminar, 22% of grower respondents identified springtails as their worst insect pest problem in 2025, whereas an even split (17% each) of respondents at the Fargo grower seminar indicated that either cutworms or sugarbeet root maggot was their worst insect pest. An additional 11% of Fargo respondents listed armyworms as their worst insect pest problem. No other insect pests were identified as being a major problem by Fargo attendees.

The majority (62%) of respondents at the Grand Forks seminar identified the sugarbeet root maggot as their worst insect pest problem. That reflected a 55% increase over that reported for the 2024 growing season by Grand Forks grower seminar attendees. Springtails were reported by 22% of Grand Forks attendees as being their worst insect pest problem. Grasshoppers were reported as being the most important insect pest problem by 8% of Grand Forks respondents, and an additional 8% at that location reported that another insect pest not listed as a choice was their worst insect problem.

For this question at the Wahpeton seminar, 29% of respondents indicated that grasshoppers were their worst insect pest problem, and 20% ranked cutworms as their worst insect pest problem. An additional 9% of Wahpeton respondents viewed sugarbeet root maggot as being their most significant insect pest, which was a considerable increase from just 3% of respondents in relation to the 2024 crop year. Springtails and armyworms were each ranked as the top insect pest for 7% of Wahpeton grower seminar respondents. Similarly, white grubs and wireworms were each viewed as the worst insect pest problem by 4% of respondents at Wahpeton. Finally, just 2% of Wahpeton respondents ranked Lygus bugs as their worst insect pest during the 2025 growing season.

In contrast to responses from the three Red River Valley grower seminars, results from the Willmar seminar indicated that 47% of respondents viewed cutworms as their worst insect pest problem in sugarbeet, and an additional 44% listed Lygus bugs as their key insect pest during the 2025 growing season. The only other insects that were reported as being growers' worst insect pest problem were armyworms and grasshoppers, at 3% of Willmar respondents each.

Table 6. Worst insect pest problem in sugarbeet in 2025

Location	No. of responses	Army-worms	Cut-worms	Grass-hoppers	Lygus Bugs	Root maggot	Spring-tails	White Grubs	Wire-worms	Other
		% of responses								
Fargo	18	11	17	0	0	17	22	0	0	33
Grand Forks	37	0	0	8	0	62	22	0	0	8
Wahpeton	45	7	20	29	2	9	7	4	4	18
Willmar	32	3	47	3	44	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	132	5	20	13	11	23	11	2	2	13

A combined total of 78% of all grower respondents across the three surveyed winter grower seminars indicated that they used some form of planting-time insecticide protection to manage insect pests in 2025 (Table 7). Although that was slightly lower than the two previous years (i.e., 84 and 82% for 2023 and 2024, respectively), no major trend can be determined because, due to a technical issue at the Grafton seminar, no data was collected for the 2025 crop year. The majority (40%) of respondents from all grower seminar locations reported that they planted seed treated with Poncho Beta insecticidal seed treatment in 2025, which was comparable to the overall use rate of Poncho Beta-treated seed during the 2023 and 2024 growing seasons (36 and 38%, respectively). An average of 16% of grower respondents across all seminar locations reported using Counter 20G for at-plant protection from insect pests, and the remaining producers indicated that they applied either Midac FC (11%) or Mustang Maxx (6%), or they used either Cruiser (1%) or NipsIt Inside (4%) seed treatment, all of which were very similar to the usage rates of those products in 2023 and 2024. The majority of planting-time insecticide use in 2025 was carried out by growers that attended the Fargo and Grand Forks seminars, at which 92 and 97% of respondents, respectively, reported using some form of planting-time insecticide protection in 2025. Substantially lower numbers (i.e., 48% overall) of Wahpeton seminar respondents responded as having used an insecticide at planting.

Table 7. *Planting-time* insecticide use for sugarbeet insect pest management in 2025

Location	Number of responses	Counter 20G	Midac FC	Mustang Maxx	Poncho Beta	Cruiser	NipsIt Inside	Other	None
		% of responses							
Fargo	24	17	4	4	58	0	4	4	8
Grand Forks	66	18	20	3	48	2	6	0	3
Wahpeton	52	13	2	12	21	0	0	0	52
Totals	142	16	11	6	40	1	4	1	22

At the Fargo seminar, 58% of producers reported using Poncho Beta insecticidal seed treatment for at-plant protection from insect pests in 2025, which was a 13.6% increase compared to the previous year and a continued upward trend of increased Poncho Beta usage, because there had been a 33% increase in reported use of that product between 2023 and 2024. An additional 17% of Fargo attendees applied Counter 20G for at-plant protection from insect pests, which amounted to a 45% decrease in use of Counter 20G for those producers when compared to that reported for 2024. Other reported at-plant insecticide usage by Fargo attendees in 2025 included Mustang Maxx, Midac FC, and NipsIt Inside insecticidal seed treatment, which were each reported as being used by 4% of Fargo).

At the Grand Forks seminar location, 48% of respondents reported that they used Poncho Beta-treated seed for at-plant insect control, and NipsIt Inside-treated seed was used by 6% of respondents. Counter 20G was reported as being used at planting by 18% of grower respondents at Grand Forks, which was very similar to the reported use of Counter by Grand Forks respondents in 2023 and 2024, but lower than the use of that insecticide in 2022. Midac FC was reported as being used at planting by 20% of Grand Forks respondents in 2025, which was comparable to the reported use of Midac in 2023 (17%) and 2024 (19%). Use of Mustang Maxx in 2025, as reported by Grand Forks respondents, was at 3%, which was identical to reported use of Mustang Maxx in 2024.

At the Wahpeton seminar location, 12% of respondents indicated that they had applied Mustang Maxx for planting-time protection from insect pests in 2025, which was a 50% increase from reported Mustang usage in 2024, but about the same as was reported for the 2023 growing season. Just 13% of Wahpeton attendees reported using a planting-time application of Counter 20G for insecticide protection in 2025, which was nearly identical to the reported usage of the insecticide in 2024. An additional 21% of Wahpeton attendees reported that they used Poncho Beta-treated seed for insect pest management in 2025, which was a 33% increase from reported use of that seed treatment insecticide in 2024. Only 2 percent of Wahpeton respondents reported using Midac FC for a planting-time insecticide in 2025, which was comparable to the reported use in the area during the previous two growing seasons.

Averaged across the Fargo, Grafton, Grand Forks, and Wahpeton seminar locations, the moderate (7.5 lb product/ac) rate of Counter 20G was used more frequently (13% of respondents) than any other granular insecticide rate for insect management in 2025 (Table 8). That usage rate was identical to the reported rate in 2024. Thimet 20G was used by just 4% of grower respondents, as averaged across all seminar locations. The majority of Fargo (76%), Grand Forks (73%), and Wahpeton (77%) respondents reported no use of a granular insecticide in 2025, which reflected a general reduction (i.e., a 7% decrease) in at-plant insecticide usage throughout the production area.

About 58% of the Fargo respondents that did use a granular insecticide applied Counter 20G at the 7.5-lb application rate and about 21% used the 7.5-lb rate; but no Fargo seminar respondents reported applying Counter 20G at its high (8.9 lb product/ac) labeled rate in 2025.

Table 8. Application rates of *granular* insecticides used for sugarbeet insect pest management in 2025

Location	Number of responses	Counter 20G			Thimet 20G		Other	None
		8.9 lb	7.5 lb	5.25 lb	7 lb	4.5 lb		
		----------% of responses----------						
Fargo	21	0	14	5	0	0	5	76
Grand Forks	41	10	10	5	0	0	2	73
Wahpeton	48	0	8	8	0	2	4	77
Totals	110	1	13	5	2	2	4	75

At the Grand Forks grower seminar, 27% of respondents reported using a granular insecticide at planting in 2025, which down slightly from 33% as reported by Grand Forks respondents in 2024. Of the Grand Forks attendees that used a granular insecticide at planting in 2025, Counter 20G was used by the same proportion (i.e., 37% each) at the 7.5- and 8.9-lb rates, whereas, just 5 of 27 total (i.e., 18.5%) reported users of a granular insecticide applied Counter 20G at the low labeled rate of 5.25 lb product per acre.

Use of granular insecticides by Wahpeton seminar attendees (23% of respondents, as compared to 20% of Wahpeton respondents in 2024) was low in comparison to responses at the other seminar locations. Most of the Wahpeton seminar respondents who reported using a granular insecticide at planting in 2025 used Counter 20G at either 7.5 or 5.25 lb product per acre (i.e., 34.8% of respondents for each rate).

Averaged across the Fargo, Grand Forks, and Wahpeton survey locations, 25% of respondents reported using a postemergence insecticide to manage the sugarbeet root maggot (SBRM) in 2025 (Table 9). That usage rate reflected a 32 to 34% reduction in reported usage for this purpose from those reported for the 2023 and 2024 growing seasons. At the Fargo seminar site, 10% of respondents reported that they had applied Mustang Maxx for postemergence root maggot control in 2025, which was a significant reduction in usage from 33% of respondents for the 2023 crop year and 25% of reporting growers for the 2024 crop year. That decline was likely influenced by the reinstatement of chlorpyrifos registration for use in sugarbeet that began in 2024. This is supported by the fact that 10% of Fargo respondents reported using a chlorpyrifos-containing postemergence insecticide for SBRM management in 2025. Interestingly, 5% of Fargo attendees reported using Counter 20G for root maggot management in 2025. No other postemergence insecticide use was reported by Fargo seminar attendees for the 2025 growing season.

A total of 37% of Grand Forks seminar attendees reported using a postemergence insecticide for root maggot management in 2025, which was similar to the reported use for this purpose during the 2023 and 2024 growing seasons (40 and 41% usage, respectively). About 65% of the producer respondents at Grand Forks that did apply an insecticide for postemergence SBRM control indicated that they used a chlorpyrifos-based insecticide, whereas just 5% used Mustang Maxx, and an additional 5% each used either Counter 20G or Thimet 20G for this purpose in 2025. About 16% of the Wahpeton seminar attendees reported using a postemergence-applied insecticide for SBRM control in 2025, which was an increase from 9% of Wahpeton respondents for the 2024 crop year. Of the Wahpeton respondents that used a postemergence insecticide for SBRM control, 25% reported using a chlorpyrifos insecticide product, 25% indicated that they had used Mustang Maxx, 13% responded as having applied Thimet 20G, and the remaining 38% reported applying a product that was not included as a choice for this question.

Table 9. *Postemergence* insecticide use for *sugarbeet root maggot* management in 2025

Location	Number of responses	Asana XL	Chlorpyrifos	Mustang Maxx	Counter 20G	Thimet 20G	Other	None
		----------% of responses----------						
Fargo	22	0	10	10	5	0	0	75
Grand Forks	40	2	24	2	2	2	2	63
Wahpeton	50	0	4	4	0	2	6	84
Totals	112	1	13	5	2	2	4	75

Averaged across the Fargo, Grafton, Grand Forks, and Wahpeton seminar locations, 84% of respondents rated their satisfaction with the insecticide applications they made for root maggot control in 2025 as good to excellent (Table 10). An average of 6% of growers that attended the 2025 seminars rated the SBRM control performance of their insecticide program as being fair, and none of respondents across locations viewed their insecticide performance as poor for this purpose. An additional 13% of attendees across all grower seminar locations responded as being unsure of the success of their control programs for SBRM control.

Table 10. *Satisfaction* with insecticide treatments for sugarbeet root maggot management in 2025

Location	Number of responses	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure
		% of responses				
Fargo	22	50	38	0	0	13
Grand Forks	40	13	73	7	0	7
Wahpeton	50	20	40	10	0	30
Totals	112	21	60	6	0	13

Individually, grower satisfaction with insecticide performance for root maggot control in 2025 was rated as good to excellent by 88, 86, and 60% of Fargo, Grand Forks, and Wahpeton respondents, respectively. Satisfaction with insecticide performance for SBRM control was rated as fair by 0, 7, and 10% of respective respondents at the Fargo, Grand Forks, and Wahpeton seminar locations. There were no reports of poor insecticide performance for SBRM control during the 2025 growing season at any of the grower seminar locations.

As presented in Table 11, a combined average of 55% of grower respondents at the Fargo, Grand Forks, and Wahpeton grower seminar locations used an insecticide for planting-time protection against springtails in 2025, which was about the same as reported for this use in 2023 (60%) and 2024 (58%). The majority (58%) of respondents that applied an insecticide for this purpose in 2025, as averaged across all seminar locations, planted seed treated with Poncho Beta insecticide. An additional 22% of the growers that used a planting-time insecticide for springtail control in 2025 used Counter 20G, which was very similar to the use rates of that product for springtail control in 2023 and 2024 (20% of respondents for both previous years). An additional 15% of producers that deployed insecticidal protection for springtail management applied Midac FC for this purpose, which was about that same as the usage rate for Midac in 2024 (17%), and about double the use rate reported for the 2023 growing season.

Table 11. Insecticide use for *springtail* management in 2025

Location	Number of responses	Poncho Beta	Cruiser	NipsIt Inside	Midac FC	Mustang Maxx	Counter 20G	Other	None
		% of responses							
Fargo	21	43	0	0	0	0	24	0	33
Grand Forks	53	43	2	6	17	2	13	0	17
Wahpeton	56	16	0	0	2	2	5	0	75
Totals	130	32	1	2	8	2	12	0	45

A relatively small portion (5%) of total respondents, as reported across all seminar locations, used Mustang Maxx for springtail control, and 55% of growers across all locations reported no insecticide use for springtail control, which was a slight increase in producers opting to forgo a springtail control product in 2023 and 2024.

At the Fargo seminar, Poncho Beta and Counter 20G were reported as being used for springtail control by 43 and 24% of respondents, respectively. There was no other reported insecticide use for springtail management by Fargo grower seminar respondents.

Grand Forks seminar respondents reported the highest incidence of insecticide use for springtail management, with 83% reporting use of some form of insecticidal protection in their sugarbeet crop. A large majority (23 of 44 individuals; 52%) of Grand Forks grower respondents who used an insecticide for springtail control indicated that they used Poncho Beta insecticide-treated seed for this purpose during the 2025 growing season. That figure was very similar to the usage rates reported by Grand Forks attendees for the 2023 and 2024 growing seasons (i.e., 52 and 54%, respectively). Most of the remaining reported insecticide applications for

springtail control by Grand Forks respondents who used an insecticide for this purpose involved applications of either Midac FC (22% of total respondents) or Counter 20G (13% of respondents), and those patterns were also similar to those reported for 2024.

Results from the Wahpeton seminar survey indicated that 25% of respondents used some form of insecticide protection at planting time for springtail in 2025, which was an increase from 2024 when 16% of respondents reported using an insecticide at planting for this purpose. Of those respondents, 64% (9 of 14 respondents) indicated that they used Poncho Beta, 21% used Counter 20G, and Midac FC and Mustang Maxx were reported as being used by 7% of respondents each for this purpose in 2025.

As shown in Table 12, an overall average of 68% of grower respondents surveyed at the Fargo, Grand Forks, and Wahpeton grower seminars rated their insecticide performance for springtail management in 2025 as good to excellent, and only 2% of respondents across all seminar locations viewed their insecticide performance for this purpose as poor. The majority (77%) of Fargo seminar attendees rated their insecticide performance for springtail control as good to excellent, which was a significant increase over responses in the previous report on the 2024 growing season. An additional 15% viewed the performance of their springtail management practice in 2025 as fair, but that was down considerably from 25% of respondents assessing their 2024 springtail control success as fair. No Fargo respondents viewed their springtail management success as poor in 2025, but 18% of them indicated that they were not sure about the effectiveness of their insecticide product for this purpose.

Table 12. *Satisfaction* with insecticide treatments for springtail management in 2025

Location	Number of responses	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure
		----------% of responses----------				
Fargo	19	23	54	15	0	8
Grand Forks	43	35	32	12	3	18
Wahpeton	52	25	33	0	0	42
Totals	114	31	37	10	2	20

At the Grand Forks seminar, 67% of respondents viewed their springtail control in 2025 as being good to excellent, which was an increase from 61% for the 2024 growing season. About 12% of Grand Forks respondents rated their satisfaction with springtail management as fair, and an additional 3% viewed it as poor.

Survey results from the Wahpeton seminar location indicated that 58% of grower respondents viewed their springtail control as being either good or excellent, which was down from 66% for the 2024 crop year. Interestingly, 42% of Wahpeton respondents were unsure of the level of springtail control success they had achieved in 2025, which was a substantial increase from 19% of Wahpeton respondents being uncertain about their springtail control success for the 2024 growing season.

Lygus bugs were not a major production problem for Red River Valley producers in 2025. This was evidenced by our observation that about 97% of grower respondents, averaged across the Fargo, Grand Forks, and Wahpeton grower seminars, indicated that they did not employ an insecticide for Lygus bug control (Table 13). Survey results from the Fargo and Wahpeton winter grower seminars indicated that only 5 and 2% of respondents, respectively used an insecticide for Lygus bug control in 2025, and 100% of that usage involved Mustang Maxx applications. Similarly, just 3% of Grand Forks respondents reported using an insecticide for Lygus bug control, and 100% of those applications were made with Asana XL. In contrast, however, 39% of producers representing the Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative growing area at the Willmar seminar indicated that they had used an insecticide for Lygus bug control in 2024. Twenty-one percent of Willmar respondents overall, which was 58% of the growers who indicated using an insecticide for Lygus bug management at that seminar, reported using Asana XL for this purpose. An additional 12% of Willmar respondents, or about 31% of growers that chose to use an insecticide, selected Mustang Maxx for their Lygus bug control in 2025

Table 13. Insecticide use for Lygus *bug* management in 2025

Location	Number of responses	Asana XL	Dibrom	Movento	Mustang Maxx	Transform	Other	None
		% of responses						
Fargo	20	0	0	0	5	0	0	95
Grand Forks	39	3	0	0	0	0	0	97
Wahpeton	48	0	0	0	2	0	0	98
Willmar	66	21	0	0	12	0	4	61
Totals	173	9	0	0	6	0	2	83

Survey results on satisfaction with insecticide performance for Lygus bug control are presented in Table 14. As was the case in previous reports, these results should be interpreted with discretion because the exceptionally low frequency of insecticide use for that purpose resulted in a very small sample size. Averaged across all seminar locations, 69% of respondents viewed the performance of their insecticide for Lygus bug control in 2025 as good to excellent; however, 24% of them were unsure.

There was only one response to this question at the Fargo seminar, and just two responses at Grand Forks; however, all of those respondents rated their Lygus control as good to excellent. Only two responses were received for this question at the Wahpeton seminar, but both indicated that the respondents were unsure of the success of their Lygus bug control efforts. At the Willmar grower seminar, 71% of grower respondents assessed the performance of the insecticide they applied for Lygus bug control as good to excellent. About 4% of the grower respondents at the Willmar seminar assessed their Lygus control as fair, and an equal proportion viewed it as poor. The remaining 24% of Willmar respondents were unsure of the effectiveness of their Lygus bug control.

Table 14. *Satisfaction* with insecticide treatments for Lygus *bug* management in 2025

Location	Number of responses	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure
		% of responses				
Fargo	19	100	0	0	0	0
Grand Forks	38	50	50	0	0	0
Wahpeton	49	0	0	0	0	100
Willmar	68	29	42	4	4	21
Totals	174	31	38	3	3	24

Grasshoppers were not a widespread issue for area sugarbeet producers in 2025, which was evidenced by the overall average of 86% of respondents across all seminar locations reporting that they did not use any insecticide for this purpose (Table 15). Although only 10% of Fargo seminar attendees indicated that they used an insecticide for grasshopper control in 2025, one half of those respondents reported using Mustang Maxx and one half of them used a chlorpyrifos-based insecticide product for that purpose in 2025. Slightly more insecticide use for grasshopper control was reported by Grand Forks seminar attendees (17% of respondents overall). The majority of insecticide use by Grand Forks attendees involved either a chlorpyrifos-containing insecticide product (7% of respondents) or Mustang Maxx (5% of respondents), although minor use of Asana XL and Vantacor (2% of respondents each) was also reported. Responses to this question at the Wahpeton seminar location indicated that about 14% of growers used an insecticide to manage grasshoppers in 2025. Mustang Maxx was reported as the most frequently used insecticide for grasshopper control by Wahpeton attendees, although only 10% of Wahpeton respondents overall used the insecticide for this purpose. An additional 4% of Wahpeton respondents indicated that they used a chlorpyrifos-based insecticide product for this purpose.

Table 15. Insecticide use for *grasshopper* management in 2025

Location	Number of responses	Asana XL	Chlor-pyrifos	Dibrom	Mustang Maxx	Vantacor	Other	None
		% of responses						
Fargo	12	5	5	0	0	0	0	90
Grand Forks	42	2	7	0	5	2	0	83
Wahpeton	51	0	4	0	10	0	0	86
Totals	114	2	5	0	6	1	0	86

Good to excellent grasshopper control in 2025 was reported by 92% of all respondents that attended the three winter grower seminar locations in 2026, and the remaining 8% indicated that they were unsure of their insecticide performance success (Table 16). At the Fargo winter grower seminar, 100% of respondents that used an insecticide for this purpose rated it as having provided excellent grasshopper control in 2025. Similarly, 50% of respondents at the Grand Forks grower seminar viewed their insecticide performance in managing grasshopper infestations as being excellent, and the remaining 50% of respondents rated their grasshopper control as good. Results from the Wahpeton grower seminar indicated that 84% of growers that used an insecticide for grasshopper control in 2025 viewed its performance as good to excellent, and 18% of respondents were unsure of the effectiveness of their insecticide for this purpose in 2025.

Table 16. *Satisfaction* with insecticide treatments for *grasshopper* management in 2025

Location	Number of responses	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure
		% of responses				
Fargo	19	100	0	0	0	0
Grand Forks	38	50	50	0	0	0
Wahpeton	50	17	67	0	0	17
Totals	107	42	50	0	0	8

As in past years, the 2025 winter sugarbeet grower seminar attendees were asked about how their insecticide use for insect pest management compared to previous years. Overall, 68% of respondents at all (Fargo, Grand Forks, Wahpeton, and Willmar) seminar locations combined reported that their insecticide usage in 2025 did not differ from that of the previous five years (Table 17). The most significant insecticide use change throughout the growing area, as observed with responses to this question, was that 13% of producers reported using less insecticide in 2025 than in the previous five years. Interestingly, 14% of Fargo respondents and 25% of Willmar respondents indicated that their insecticide use decreased in comparison to the past five years, whereas only 5% of Fargo and Grand Forks respondents indicated an increase in insecticide use during the 2025 growing season. Similarly, just 4% of Willmar survey respondents reported increased insecticide use in 2025.

Table 17. Insecticide use in sugarbeet during 2025 compared to the previous 5 years

Location	Number of responses	Increased	Decreased	No Change	No Insecticide Use
		% of responses			
Fargo	22	5	14	73	9
Grand Forks	42	5	2	90	2
Wahpeton	50	0	4	68	28
Willmar	72	4	25	53	18
Totals	186	3	13	68	16

Acknowledgements:

The authors greatly appreciate the valued and essential contributions of responses to this survey by the sugarbeet producers that attended and participated in the winter sugarbeet grower seminars. We are also grateful to the Sugarbeet Research and Education Board of Minnesota and North Dakota for providing significant funding to support this project.