



NORTH DAKOTA FARM CREDIT COUNCIL

The North Dakota Farm Credit Council (NDFCC) is comprised of three independently farmer-owned cooperatives that provide credit and financial services to farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses of every size and income range.

The three cooperatives that make up the North Dakota Farm Credit Council are:

- AgCountry Farm Credit Services (headquartered in Fargo)
- Farm Credit Services of Mandan
- Farm Credit Services of North Dakota (headquartered in Minot)

Our Mission:

Farm Credit supports rural communities and agriculture with reliable, consistent credit and financial services, today and tomorrow.

Loan funds are obtained through bonds and discount notes sold in the national securities market, thereby enabling the three North Dakota-based Farm Credit cooperatives to infuse capital from outside sources into rural North Dakota.

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

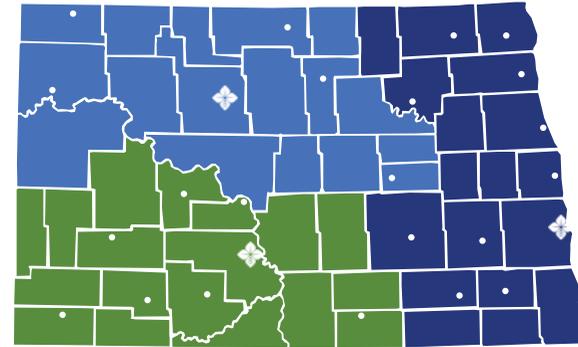
North Dakota Farm Credit associations provide:

- \$14.6 billion in loans to farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses.
- Financial services to approximately 26,000 customers.
- More than 9,000 loans to young farmers and more than 11,500 loans to small farmers.

We have been meeting the needs of agricultural producers for more than 100 years with a full spectrum of products and services, including:

- Real estate loans
- Operating loans
- Equipment and facility loans
- Facility, vehicle and equipment leases
- Agribusiness loans and services
- Equity stock financing
- Tax planning and preparation
- Record keeping services and software
- Multi-peril crop insurance
- Crop hail insurance
- Life and disability insurance
- Producer education
- Farm cash management
- Electronic commerce
- Young and beginning farmer support
- Business succession/transition services

OFFICE LOCATIONS



Corporate Offices Branch Offices



AgCountry Farm Credit Services

1900 44th Street South
Fargo, ND 58108
701-282-9494 or 800-450-8933
www.agcountry.com



Farm Credit Services of Mandan

1600 Old Red Trail
Mandan, ND 58554
701-663-6487 or 800-660-6487
www.farmcreditmandan.com



Farm Credit Services of North Dakota

1400 31st Avenue SW
Minot, ND 58702
701-852-1265 or 800-264-1265
www.farmcreditnd.com



NORTH DAKOTA FARM CREDIT COUNCIL

*AgCountry Farm Credit Services
Farm Credit Services of Mandan
Farm Credit Services of North Dakota*

2021 LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS



AGRICULTURAL LENDING

The financial sector of the United States economy is very integrated and highly competitive, therefore:

- This results in the most efficient delivery of financial services to our business and consumers.
- Anything that limits competition ultimately reduces the services available or increases the cost to consumers.
- Agriculture must compete with all other sectors of the economy for capital and loan funds.
- Financial regulations that make agriculture less competitive in credit markets ultimately hurt farmers through higher costs and reduced availability of credit.
- Legislation that delays collection or promotes only partial repayment of loans results in additional costs that are passed on to other farmer borrowers.

In order to ensure agriculture's ability to compete for credit and financial services, we believe legislative actions are appropriate when the efforts modernizes current law and improves the ability to provide service and reduce costs to the consumer yet protects the financial stability of the lending institution.

As such, NDFCC supports:

- Having all Uniform Commercial Code liens and statutory liens receive priority by the time of filing.
- Advancing electronic lending options and modernizing the title assurance process for all lending transactions to improve security and service and reduce costs.
- Dedicating the user fees paid to the North Dakota central notice system to maintain and improve the system.



2021 LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS

The **North Dakota Farm Credit Council** supports legislative action that: **enhances** the success of farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses by allowing greater access to credit; **strengthens** the well-being of rural North Dakota; and **protects** the safety of our food supply.

ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

Agriculture is the most important sector of North Dakota's economy and diversification of the agricultural economy benefits the overall economy. Public partnering with private industry should encourage and promote diversification, including:

- New or specialized crops
- Expansion of animal agriculture
- Value added in-state processing of ag commodities
- Alternative energy production

As such, NDFCC supports:

- Expanding new or specialized crop research.
- Creating storage and transportation facilities to allow more identity-preserved production and marketing.
- Enacting practical statewide environmental regulations that expand animal agriculture.
- Providing a stable source of funding to the Ag Products Utilization Commission to encourage diversification.
- Providing loan guarantee programs to leverage state resources in encouraging the development of agricultural processing.
- Maintaining a vibrant livestock sector and consumer confidence in the nation's food supply, and creating initiatives for livestock and poultry care based on sound information, science and economic feasibility.

LANDOWNER CONCERNS

Agricultural producers in North Dakota understand and support regulations for:

- Clean air and water
- Soil erosion reduction
- Wildlife protection
- The beauty of the landscape

As such, NDFCC supports:

- Considering the economic impact on landowners when developing regulations that deal with the above issues:
 - Environmental regulations that limit the landowner's ability to convert property to its highest and best economic use also limit the property owner's ability to make a living from the property and to repay debt.
 - When environmental regulations limit the economic value of farmland, the owner should be compensated.
- Basing farm real estate taxes on the land's production value for agricultural purposes to keep non-agricultural uses from raising taxes beyond what agriculture can support.
- Continuing favorable tax treatment for real estate improvements used for agriculture production.
- Ensuring the interests of landowners are protected in connection with energy development.
- Continuing the farm-residence tax exemption.

ENERGY

Agriculture supports and benefits from a diversified energy sector.

As such, NDFCC supports:

- Expanding production and consumption of ethanol, bio-diesel and wind energy to supplement traditional energy sources. This would benefit farmers and the state's economy.
- Organizing and promoting these new energy sources, as well as providing tax incentives and loan guarantees.
- Continuing to support a rural electric cooperative's ability to generate and deliver electricity to its existing service areas at reasonable prices.

AG EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

Agriculture is North Dakota's most important industry.

As such, NDFCC supports:

- Including agriculture in the statewide curriculum for all phases of our educational system.
- Providing grassroots direction through an organization, such as the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension, to help set priorities for agricultural extension.
- Engaging general farm and agricultural commodity organizations and check-off groups in important educational and promotional activities for agriculture.

