

TOPIC 3 – FARMING

Topic Overview

Topic 3 highlights farming and includes primary sources that will help you understand how agriculture became the foundation of North Dakota's economy and population growth.

Topic Objectives

- As a result of the study of Topic 3, you will be able to
 - Analyze and interpret primary documents.
 - Demonstrate understanding of how agriculture became the foundation of North Dakota's economy and population growth.
 - Recognize the impact of bonanza farms and railroads in the growth of North Dakota.
 - Recognize the importance of hard red spring wheat and the challenge of wheat rust.

ND Content Standards

- 8.1.1
- 8.1.2
- 8.2.11
- 8.3.2
- 8.5.3

Common Core Standards

- RH 2
- RH 5
- RH 7
- WHST 2

Topic Activities

- Learning from Historical Documents
- Reading a Map
- Organizing Data 1
- Organizing Data 2
- Debate/Discussion



Learning from Historical Documents

To access a photo/document/map, refer to the topic reading assignment or use the SEARCH feature to enter its name or number.

Using the links below, closely observe each photograph of homestead houses, and form an overall impression for each of them. Then, for each photograph, examine individual items within the photograph. Next, divide the photograph into quadrants, and examine each section to see what new details become more visible to you.

0032-BI-08-09 Harry Rue's OU Ranch House and Homestead Shack on Government Creek Northwest of Fryburg ND 1915 <http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/u/?uw-ndshs,7314>

C3490 Sod House Homestead Morton County ND 1906
<http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/u/?uw-ndshs,10979>

0008-032 Interior of A L Cody's Homestead Shack
<http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/u/?uw-ndshs,10982>

A7182 Two women in homestead shack Turtle Lake ND 1908
<http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/u/?uw-ndshs,10953>

1. Make a list of all the details you noticed. Categorize your list (e.g., tools, animals, etc.)
2. Based on what you observed, what might you infer from the contents and structures relating to the lives of homesteaders?
3. Make a list of the top 10 items you think you would need for your family to survive on a homestead. Justify your list.

Reading a Map

To access a photo/document/map, refer to the topic reading assignment or use the SEARCH feature to enter its name or number.

Look at **Figure 22** (*Average annual production of wheat in the United States from 1869 to 1878*) (wheat prod US 1878 from Carleton 001.jpg) and **Figure 23** (*Average annual production of wheat in the United States from 1899 to 1908*) (wheat growing areas Carleton1908 001.jpg).

During the 10-year period from 1869 to 1878, annual wheat production in North Dakota (the area that became North Dakota in 1889) was less than 293 million bushels. Use the key in Figure 23 to figure out how many bushels of wheat were produced annually in North Dakota from 1899 to 1908.

What accounted for this dramatic increase in North Dakota's annual wheat production? Explain.

Organizing Data 1

Stem wheat rust, a disease destructive to certain types of wheat, is spread from the Barberry Bush. Read the articles *Barberry Situation – Past, Present, Future* <http://www.ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm?docid=9749> and *Rust in the bread basket*, <http://www.economist.com/node/16481593> and study the poster entitled *Fight Wheat Rust*.

After reading the articles and studying the poster on wheat rust, create a flow chart; or write/illustrate a step-by-step progression on how barberry bushes spread stem rust to wheat.

Organizing Data 2

Listed below are links to historic photographs depicting two types of wheat farming practices discussed in this lesson:

Bonanza Farming Photographs

- **A5833** Harvesting Dalrymple Farm 1877

<http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/u/?uw-ndshs,10971>

- **A5811-0001** Plowing on Dalrymple Farm Haynes Stereo

<http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/u/?uw-ndshs,1269>

Homestead Farming Photographs

- **10120-285** Family in field <http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/u/?uw-ndshs,10974>

- **0032-BA-15-11** Potato harvest on Christ Hanson farm 10-1912

<http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/u/?uw-ndshs,10973>

Examine each photograph. Complete a compare and contrast chart below of the two farming practices (i.e., Bonanza and Homestead). Using your completed chart, write an essay showing the similarities and differences between these two wheat farming practices.

COMPARE/CONTRAST

Bonanza

Homestead

How Alike?

-
-
-
-

How Different?

-
-
-
-

Essay:

Debate/Discussion

Choose three topics from the following list and write discussion points explaining how each impacted the economy and population growth of North Dakota. Discuss with a partner or small group.

- Bonanza farms
- Railroads
- Hard red spring wheat
- Homestead farms
- Small towns
- Women in farming

