

# 2026 South Dakota Governor's Ag Summit

## Thursday, June 25

**7:30 AM Registration | Breakfast**

**8:30 AM Welcome Address**

Secretary Hunter Roberts, South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR)

**8:35 AM Governor Policy Update & Ag Ambassador Award**

South Dakota Governor Larry Rhoden

**9:15 AM Working Lands Conservation: What Tools are in the Toolbox**

Secretary Hunter Roberts, DANR, Moderator

Secretary Kevin Robling, South Dakota Game, Fish, & Parks (GFP)

Paul Lorenzen, Program Administrator, DANR

Tate Lantz, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, USDA Natural Resources

Conservation Service (NRCS)

Angela Ehlers, Executive Director, South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts

**10:15 AM Networking Break**

**10:40 AM Lobbyist Panel: Representing Agriculture in the Capitol**

Deputy Secretary Brian Walsh, DANR, Moderator

Matthew Bogue, State Public Policy Director, South Dakota Farm Bureau

Brenda Forman, Executive Director, SD Association of Cooperatives

**11:30 AM Lunch**

**12:30 PM The Ag Economy in 2026: How We Got Here & What's Ahead**

David Widmar, Ag Economic Insights (AEI.ag)

**1:30 PM Remarks from Secretary Roberts**

Secretary Hunter Roberts, DANR

**1:45 PM Networking Break**

**2:05 PM Keeping SD Competitive: Why Companies Choose to Invest in SD Agriculture**

Commissioner Bill Even, South Dakota Governor's Office of Economic Development, Moderator

Tom Kersting, CEO, South Dakota Soybean Processors and High Plains Processing

Jim Monroe, Vice President of Corporate Affairs, Smithfield Foods

Jake Anderson, Project Director, Bel Brands USA

**3:05 PM Two Fields, One Playbook: What Farming Taught Me About Football**

Grey Zabel, 2026 Super Bowl champion and Seattle Seahawks rookie offensive guard

**4:05 PM Closing Remarks**

**4:10 PM Social Hour**

## Tours Friday June 26

**7:30 AM Registration | Breakfast**

**8:10 AM Load Busses**

**8:35 AM Dakota Lakes Research Farm**

**11:00 AM PURIS - Harrold Pea Processing Facility**

**12:00 PM Lunch**

**1:00 PM Dare 2 Dream Equine Conditioning**

**2:00 PM Conclusion of 2026 Governor's Ag Summit**

\*Tours will be conducted on a rolling schedule

Larkspur Landing Event Center | 1908 N Garfield Ave, Pierre, SD 57501