

AGRICULTURAL LAND LEASE AGREEMENT

THIS LEASE AGREEMENT (the “Lease” or “Agreement”) dated this ___ day of _____, _____, by and between the **CITY OF WILLMAR**, a Minnesota municipal corporation, (the “Landlord”), and _____, (the “Tenant”), (collectively the “Parties”).

In consideration of the terms and conditions of this Lease, Landlord and Tenant agree as follows:

ARTICLE ONE
Definitions and Terms

As used in this Lease, the following terms shall have the specific meanings set forth below:

1.1 “Landlord” means the City of Willmar, having as its address for notice purposes 333 6th Street Southwest; Attention: City Administrator.

1.2 “Tenant” means _____, having as its address for notice purposes _____.

1.3 “Commencement Date” means _____.

1.4 “Expiration Date” means _____.

1.5 “Premises” means the real property owned by Landlord located in Sections 17 and 18, Township 119N, Range 35W, which contains ___ acres more or less, that are tillable, described as follows:

[Insert legal description of leased premises

]

and shown on **Exhibit A** attached hereto.

ARTICLE TWO
Demising Clause

2.1 Landlord leases to Tenant and Tenant leases from Landlord the Premises on the terms and conditions contained in this Lease.

2.2 Tenant shall have the nonexclusive right to use the Premises for agricultural purposes as provided herein.

ARTICLE THREE
Term and Possession

3.1 Term. This Lease shall be for a term of ___ years, beginning on the Commencement Date and ending on the Expiration Date, unless terminated prior to the Expiration Date. Except as otherwise provided in this Lease, termination of the Lease prior to the Expiration Date requires mutual agreement by the Landlord and Tenant. Tenant shall be entitled to possession on the Commencement Date and shall give up possession on the Expiration Date.

3.2 Early Termination by Landlord. In the event that Landlord shall sell any of the Premises, or in the event that any of the Premises shall be converted for other governmental use, Landlord is entitled to terminate this Lease with respect to the portion of the Premises sold or converted to governmental use upon written notice to Tenant, and the rents payable by Tenant shall be reduced on a pro rata basis. Landlord's liability upon such early termination shall be limited to the damages for the loss of any crop growing on the Premises at the time of such early termination.

ARTICLE FOUR
Rent

4.1 Tenant shall, for the entire Lease Term, pay to Landlord without demand, annual rent in the amount of \$_____ (the "Rent"). The annual rent amount shall be paid in two installments with the first payment due on or before July 1, and the second payment due on or before December 1, 2014 at the address specified for Landlord herein.

4.2 A late penalty of 5% of the payment due will be assessed on all late payments. Tenant agrees and acknowledges that the late penalty is necessary to compensate Landlord for lost interest, the opportunity cost of renting the property, and any legal fees or expenses incurred in enforcing its rights pursuant to this Agreement.

ARTICLE FIVE
Taxes and Payments

5.1 Tenant shall pay all taxes, assessments and governmental charges (collectively referred to as "Taxes") that accrue against the Premises during the Lease Term.

5.2 Tenant shall be liable for all taxes levied or assessed against any personal property or fixtures placed on the Premises, whether levied or assessed against Landlord or Tenant.

5.3 In the event there are any government payments through any agricultural programs made during the term of this Lease, said payments shall be the property of Tenant.

ARTICLE SIX
Permitted Use

6.1 Tenant shall use the Premises for agricultural purposes only and all activities incidental thereto, including:

- a. To till all of the tillable land in a husband-like manner.
- b. To harvest and remove all crops in due season.
- c. To keep all ditches cleaned of weeds and debris.
- d. To mow roadsides and fence rows.
- e. To destroy all noxious weeds and grasses and nuisances on the leased portion, in compliance with State Law.

6.2 Tenant shall not cause, maintain or permit any nuisance in, on or about the Premises. More specifically, Tenant shall not use or store any noxious chemicals on the Premises. Tenant shall not commit or allow to be committed any waste in or upon the Premises.

6.3 Tenant shall provide Landlord with full and complete information concerning all chemicals applied to the Premises, or any portion thereof, including brand and strength of chemical applied and poundage per acre.

6.4 Tenant shall not plant crops within, till or otherwise alter any land within 16½ feet of the edge of any county ditch. Tenant shall be responsible for restoring, at Tenant's sole cost and expense, any such areas that may be disturbed during the term of this Lease upon demand by Landlord. If Tenant does not do so, Landlord may (but need not) restore such areas to their preexisting condition, and Tenant shall pay the cost of such work upon being billed by Landlord.

6.5 Tenant shall not plant sugar beets on the Premises.

ARTICLE SEVEN
Utilities

7.1 There are no utilities (electricity, fuel oil, gas services, telephone, trash collection, snow plowing, lawn mowing, water, sewer service, cable or satellite television reception, internet connection fees) serving the property, and for which the tenant is to be responsible.

ARTICLE EIGHT
Subletting and Assignment

8.1 Tenant shall not assign its interest in this Lease and shall not sublet any portion of the Premises, or any right or privilege provided under the Lease or use of the Premises, or suffer any other person to occupy or use any portion of the Premises, without the prior written approval of Landlord.

ARTICLE NINE
Quiet Possession and Subordination

9.1 Landlord covenants that Tenant, upon paying the Rent and performing the covenants under this Lease, shall peaceably and quietly have, hold and enjoy the leased Premises for the term of the Lease.

9.2 This Lease is subject and subordinate to all present or future financial encumbrances on the Premises, and is further subject to all present and future easements, conditions and encumbrances of record, and to all applicable laws, ordinances and governmental rules and regulations. Such subordination shall be self-executing without further act on the part of Landlord or Tenant; provided, however, that Tenant shall at any time hereafter, at the request of Landlord or any lien holder, or any purchaser of the Premises, execute any instruments that may be required, and Tenant hereby irrevocably authorizes Landlord to execute and deliver in the name of Tenant any such instrument if Tenant fails to do so.

ARTICLE TEN
Landlord's Reserved Rights

Landlord reserves the following rights: (a) to take any and all measures necessary or desirable for the operation, safety, protection or preservation of the Premises, including repairs, alterations, decorations, additions or improvements, whether structural or otherwise, in and about the Premises or any part thereof; and (b) to enter to verify use of the Premises. Landlord may enter upon the Premises and may exercise any or all of the foregoing rights without being deemed guilty of an eviction (actual or constructive) or disturbance of Tenant's use or possession and without being liable in any manner to Tenant and without abatement of Rent or affecting Tenant's obligations hereunder.

ARTICLE ELEVEN
Alterations and Improvements

11.1 Landlord has made no promise to alter, remodel, repair or improve the Premises and has made no representation of the condition of the Premises or the suitability of the Premises for the purpose stated herein other than what is contained in this Lease.

11.2 Tenant shall not make material alterations or improvements to the Premises without the written consent of Landlord. Consent shall be obtained by submitting a written description to Landlord of the proposed improvement, including its location, size, proposed use, and whether the improvement is to be severed from the property at the termination of the Lease or is to be left on the property, and any other information that may be required by the Landlord. Landlord may approve, disapprove, require more information, or require certain modifications to the proposed improvement in its sole judgment and discretion. Tenant's final written proposal including a clear indication of Landlord's assent and signed by Landlord shall constitute written consent of Landlord. Unless otherwise agreed by both parties, approved improvements shall be at the sole expense of Tenant.

11.3 Tenant shall allow no mechanic's liens to be incurred or filed against the Premises. Tenant shall promptly pay for all alterations and improvements, which it may make under this Lease that are approved by Landlord, and shall save and hold harmless Landlord from any and all losses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by reason of mechanic's liens or other claims for skill, labor or material furnished or performed, or claimed to have been furnished or performed, on account of any such alteration or improvement made by Tenant hereunder. Tenant may contest any such mechanic's liens and prosecute all proceedings for the purpose of such contest pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 514.01, et seq. Tenant shall indemnify Landlord against any loss or liability by reason of such contest.

11.3. Tenant shall not place or maintain any signs on the Premises, without authorization by Landlord.

ARTICLE TWELVE
Repairs and Maintenance

12.1 Tenant, at its expense, shall keep the Premises in a safe and tenantable condition based on the purpose of this Lease. If Tenant does not do so, Landlord may (but need not) restore the Premises to a safe and tenantable condition, and Tenant shall pay the cost upon being billed by Landlord. This Article shall not apply to damage or destruction otherwise provided for in this Lease.

12.2 Tenant shall be responsible for all major and minor maintenance, repairs, or replacement of any and all alterations or improvements to the Premises made under Article 11. Improvements made under Article 11 that are capable of severance may be removed by Tenant at any time or within 30 days after termination of the Lease even though they may be fixtures, provided that Tenant leaves in good condition that part of the Premises from which such improvements are removed.

12.3 Improvements not capable of severance shall become the property of Landlord at termination of the Lease without compensation to the Tenant.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN
Destruction or Damage

13.1 Tenant agrees:

- a. That it will obtain all necessary state and local permits for its operations as necessary.
- b. That it will operate in accordance with all federal, state and local regulations.
- c. That it will be solely responsible for security of the Premises, including crops and equipment, and for any loss, damage, or destruction thereof.
- d. That it will keep the Premises in such repair as at the commencement of the said term or may be put in during continuance thereof, reasonable wear and tear and damage by fire or extended peril coverage perils only excepted.
- e. That it will not injure, overload or suffer to be injured or overloaded the Premises or any part thereof.
- f. That it will not make or suffer any unlawful, improper or offensive use of the Premises or any use thereof contrary to any law of the State or any ordinance of the City now or

hereafter made, or which shall be injurious to any person or property or which shall be liable to endanger or affect any insurance on the said Property.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN
Hold Harmless

14.1 Tenant shall defend, indemnify and hold Landlord harmless from any liability, loss, cost, and obligations, including reasonable attorneys' fees, arising out of the use of the Premises by Tenant, Tenant's employees, officers, agents, clients and invitees. Landlord shall defend, indemnify and hold Tenant harmless from any liability, loss, cost, and obligations, including reasonable attorneys' fees, arising out of negligent or willful acts by Landlord, its employees, officers, agents, clients and invitees in meeting Landlord's obligations under this Lease.

14.2 Tenant knows, understands and acknowledges the risks and hazards associated with using the Premises and hereby assumes any and all risks and hazards associated therewith. Tenant hereby irrevocably waives any and all claims against the Landlord or any of its officials, employees or agents for any bodily injury (including death), loss or property damage incurred by Tenant as a result of using the Premises and hereby irrevocably releases and discharges the Landlord and any of its officials, employees or agents from any and all claims of liability.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN
Holding Over

15.1 If Tenant without the consent of Landlord retains possession of the Premises or any part thereof after termination of the Term, then Landlord can elect to recover possession of the Premises by pursuing its rights under this Lease or at law. In such event Landlord shall further be able to recover in damages for the period Tenant holds over an amount equal to 150 percent of the Rent payable for the month immediately preceding the commencement of said holding over computed on a daily basis until Landlord receives possession of the Premises and in addition thereto, Tenant shall pay Landlord all direct damages sustained by reason of Tenant's retention of possession. Alternatively, Landlord can elect to retain Tenant on a month to month tenancy, terminable in accordance with law, at a Rent equal to 150 percent of the rate payable hereunder, commencing the month immediately preceding the commencement of said holding over and computed on a per month basis for each month or part thereof that Tenant remains in possession.

15.2 Landlord shall exercise its election of one of the above described alternatives by delivering a written notice thereof to Tenant within thirty (30) days after the first day of Tenant's retention of possession beyond the Term. In the event that Landlord fails to exercise its election as provided above, then Landlord shall be conclusively presumed to have elected to retain Tenant on a month to month tenancy, terminable in accordance with law at a Rent as provided in this Article.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN
Surrender of Possession

16.1 Upon the termination of the Lease Term, Tenant shall immediately surrender the Premises (together with any alterations and improvements that are not severable) to Landlord in good order, repair and condition, ordinary wear and fire or casualty losses for which Tenant is not responsible excepted, and shall remove all equipment, trade fixtures and other items of Tenant's property from the Premises. Tenant shall pay Landlord upon demand the cost of repairing any damage to the Premises caused by such removal. Tenant shall plow back the land and leave the Premises in its pre-Lease condition, reasonable wear and tear excepted. Tenant shall pay Landlord a sum of \$18.00 per acre for each acre of the Premises that is not plowed back and restored to its pre-Lease condition. If Tenant fails or refuses to remove Tenant's property from the Premises, Tenant shall be presumed to have abandoned the property and Landlord may dispose of the property without incurring liability, at Tenant's expense.

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN
Compliance with Laws, Ordinances and Regulations

17.1 Throughout the Term of this Lease, Tenant, at its sole cost and expense, shall promptly comply with all present and future laws, ordinances, orders, rules, opinions, directives, regulations and requirements of all federal, state, city and other local governments. Throughout the Term of this Lease, Landlord shall comply with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations with respect to its management and operation of the Premises.

17.2 Tenant guarantees to Landlord that Tenant is an Equal Opportunity Employer and that he/she meets all United States and State of Minnesota Equal Opportunity Employment requirements or that Tenant is exempt from these provisions.

17. Tenant shall likewise observe and comply with, or shall cause to be observed and complied with, all the requirements of all policies of comprehensive general liability, fire and other insurance at any time in force with respect to the Premises.

ARTICLE EIGHTEEN
Insurance

18.1 In addition to the following, Tenant shall maintain, at Tenant's expense, insurance on Tenant's property located in and upon the Premises, and shall assume the risk of loss to such property on the Premises.

18.2 Required Insurance. Tenant agrees to maintain, at Tenant's expense, a comprehensive general liability insurance policy in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and general aggregate, or as indicated in the certificate(s) of insurance attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, whichever amounts are greater. Tenant also agrees to maintain worker's compensation and employer's liability insurance as and in such minimum amounts as required by law, and comprehensive automobile liability insurance in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 combined single limit for each accident

(shall include coverage for all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles) or as indicated in the certificate(s) of insurance attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, whichever amount is greater. All policies listed above shall be written on an "occurrence" form ("claims made" and "modified occurrence" forms are not acceptable). With the exception of the Worker's Compensation policies, all policies listed above shall insure the defense and indemnity obligations assumed by Tenant under this Lease, and shall name the Landlord as an additional insured under the policy. All policies listed above shall contain a provision that coverages afforded thereunder shall not be canceled or non-renewed, nor shall coverage limits be reduced by endorsement, without 30 days prior written notice to CITY.

ARTICLE NINETEEN

Default and Remedies

19.1 If Tenant shall default in the payment of any installment of the Rent or in the payment of any other sum required to be paid by Tenant under this Lease and such default shall continue for 15 days after written notice to Tenant, or if Tenant shall default in the observance or performance of any of the other covenants or conditions in this Lease, which Tenant is required to observe or perform, and such default shall continue for 30 days after written notice to Tenant, or if a default involves a hazardous condition and is not cured by Tenant immediately upon written notice to Tenant, or if the interest of Tenant in this Lease shall be levied upon under execution or other legal process, or if any voluntary petition in bankruptcy or for corporate reorganization or any similar relief shall be filed by Tenant, or if any involuntary petition in bankruptcy shall be filed against Tenant under any federal or state bankruptcy or insolvency act and shall not have been dismissed within 30 days following the filing thereof, or if a receiver shall be appointed for Tenant or any of the property of Tenant by any court and such receiver shall not be dismissed within 30 days from the date of appointment, or if Tenant shall make an assignment for the benefit of creditors, or if Tenant shall abandon or vacate the Premises, then Landlord may treat the occurrence of any one or more of the foregoing events as a breach of this Lease and thereupon at its option may, without notice or demand of any kind to Tenant or any other person, terminate this Lease and immediately repossess the Premises, in addition to all other rights and remedies provided at law or in equity. The provisions of this section shall survive any termination of this Lease.

19.2 In the event the Lease is terminated due to the default of Tenant:

- a. All obligations of Landlord under this Agreement shall cease. Landlord shall take reasonable measures to lease the Premises to another tenant for a comparable term and rent.
- b. Until Landlord enters into a new lease Tenant shall continue to pay the applicable rent until the end of the Lease Term.
- c. Rental payments received by Landlord from a new tenant will reduce the amount for which Tenant is liable to Landlord.
- d. Upon termination, Tenant agrees to yield possession of the Premises within 90 days of the date of notice of default, reserving the right to re-enter the Premises solely to harvest any crops that are the personal property of Tenant and are growing at the time of default.

19.3 In the event the Lease is terminated due to the default of Landlord:

- a. All obligations undertaken by Tenant under this Agreement including the obligation to pay rent shall cease.
- b. Upon termination, Tenant shall yield possession of the Premises in a timely manner, reserving the right to re-enter the Premises solely to harvest any crops that are the personal property of Tenant and are growing at the time of default. Landlord's liability to Tenant shall be limited to damages for loss of any crop growing at the time of default.

ARTICLE TWENTY

Notices

20.1 All notices required under the terms of this Lease shall be deemed to have been properly served or given three days after their deposit in the United States mail if sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or two days after deposit in a nationally recognized overnight courier service, addressed to Landlord or Tenant at the addresses identified in Article One or to such other address within the continental limits of the United States and to the attention of such party as the parties may from time to time designate by written notice to the other.

ARTICLE TWENTY-ONE

Miscellaneous

21.1 **Voluntary and Knowing Action.** The parties, by executing this Lease, state that they have carefully read this Lease and understand fully the contents thereof; that in executing this Lease they voluntarily accept all terms described in this Lease without duress, coercion, undue influence, or otherwise, and that they intend to be legally bound thereby.

21.2 **Authorized Signatories.** The parties each represent and warrant to the other that (1) the persons signing this Lease are authorized signatories for the entities represented, and (2) no further approvals, actions or ratifications are needed for the full enforceability of this Lease against it; each party indemnifies and holds the other harmless against any breach of the foregoing representation and warranty.

21.3 **No Partnership, Joint Venture, or Fiduciary Relationship.** Nothing contained in this Lease shall be interpreted as creating a partnership, joint venture, or relationship of principal and agent between the parties, it being understood that the sole relationship created hereby is one of landlord and tenant. No third party is entitled in any way to rely upon any provision in this Lease. This Lease is intended solely for the benefit of Landlord and Tenant and no third party shall have any rights or interest in any provision of this Lease, or as a result of any action or inaction of the Landlord in connection therewith.

21.4 **Records—Availability and Retention.** Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16C.05, subd. 5, the Tenant agrees that the Landlord, the State Auditor, or any of their duly authorized representatives at any time during normal business hours and as often as they may reasonably deem necessary, shall have

access to and the right to examine, audit, excerpt, and transcribe any books, documents, papers, records, etc., which are pertinent to the accounting practices and procedures of the Tenant and involve transactions relating to this Lease. The Tenant agrees to maintain these records for a period of six years from the date of termination of this Lease.

21.5 **Governing Law.** This Lease shall be deemed to have been made and accepted in Kandiyohi County, Minnesota, and the laws of the State of Minnesota shall govern any interpretations or constructions of the Lease without regard to its choice of law or conflict of laws principles.

21.6 **Data Practices.** The parties acknowledge that this Lease is subject to the requirements of Minnesota's Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, Section 13.01 *et seq.*

21.7 **No Waiver.** Any party's failure in any one or more instances to insist upon strict performance of any of the terms and conditions of this Lease or to exercise any right herein conferred shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of that right or of that party's right to assert or rely upon the terms and conditions of this Lease. Any express waiver of a term of this Lease shall not be binding and effective unless made in writing and properly executed by the waiving party.

21.8 **Severability.** The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Lease shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision. Any invalid or unenforceable provision shall be deemed severed from this Lease to the extent of its invalidity or unenforceability, and this Lease shall be construed and enforced as if the Lease did not contain that particular provision to the extent of its invalidity or unenforceability.

21.9 **Headings and Captions.** Headings and captions contained in this Lease are for convenience only and are not intended to alter any of the provisions of this Lease and shall not be used for the interpretation of the validity of the agreement or any provision hereof.

21.10 **Survivability.** All covenants, indemnities, guarantees, releases, representations and warranties by any party or parties, and any undischarged obligations of Landlord and the Tenant arising prior to the expiration of this Lease (whether by completion or earlier termination), shall survive such expiration.

21.11 **Exhibits.** The exhibits attached to this Lease are considered an integral part of it as if fully set forth within it.

21.12 **Entire Agreement.** All prior understandings, letters of intent, discussions and agreements are merged in the governing terms of this Lease, which is a complete and final written expression of the intent of the parties.

21.13 **Modification/Amendment.** Any alterations, variations, modifications, amendments or waivers of the provisions of this Lease shall only be valid when they have been reduced to writing, and signed by authorized representative of the Landlord and the Tenant.

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EXHIBIT A
Depiction of Premises
(Attached Map)

Exhibit B
(Certificate of Insurance)