



George Meggison, Goodlands, Manitoba

George grew up on a grain and red angus beef farm and has been interested in agriculture from a young age. While growing up he helped feed cows in the winter and maintained equipment and structures around the farm. In high school he began to operate machinery for spraying, bailing and harvest. George enjoyed working on the farm with cows and crops, so he decided to pursue a Diploma in Agriculture at the University of Manitoba (UM) to learn more about operating a farm. After graduating from the agriculture diploma program last year, he enrolled in the Agribusiness degree program at the UM to gain a stronger understanding of how to manage the business side of the farm. Once he completes his education, George hopes to go back to the farm to work with his dad on implementing more sustainable practices so they can continue to produce food while doing their part to maintain and improve their land.



Jada Ricard, Baldur, Manitoba

Jada was raised on a dairy and grain farm and joined her local 4-H club when she was eight. She has been involved in agriculture since she was young but it wasn't until the pandemic restrictions forced her to complete her final year of high school from home, where she chose the Diploma in Agriculture program on a whim, that she knew she wanted to work in agriculture. The decision changed the course of her life. She will graduate with her Diploma in Agriculture from the UM in October 2022, and hopes to continue her learning in a Bachelor of Science (Agribusiness) with advanced entry to the UM in Fall 2022. After she completes her education, Jada hopes to return to her family farm with new knowledge of farm business and poultry management to start a new enterprise and investigate starting a layer facility in their old dairy barn.



Joelle Little, McConnell, Manitoba

Joelle grew up on her family's grain farm where she earned her allowance cleaning bins and doing chores around the farm. As she got older, she began running equipment and accompanying her mom scouting the fields. This is when she developed her interest in crop development. Joelle is a third-year student at the UM majoring in Plant Biotechnology. After experiencing the 2021 drought working as a summer student, Joelle saw first-hand how hot, dry summers can be disastrous for crops yields. She hopes to be a part of a solution for this in the future. Once she completes her degree, she plans to pursue a career in crop development research, ideally focusing on genetics-based drought and heat tolerance.



Nicole Jonk, Bruxelles, Manitoba

Raised on her family's potato and grain farm near Bruxelles, Manitoba, Nicole is a third-year agronomy student at the UM. From a young age Nicole knew she wanted to pursue a career in crop production. A major focus for her family farm has always been soil and environment conservation. Witnessing the diverse range of crop management practices, growing seasons, soil and crop care for different crop species peaked her interest in agronomy. After she completes her degree, Nicole hopes to work as an agronomist and encourage farmers to incorporate sustainable practices within their farm management plans. She hopes to make an impact not only in crop production practices, but also on the health and sustainability of soil and our environment.



Simon Hodson, Lenore, Manitoba

Simon's passion for agriculture began at a young age growing up on his family's cattle and grain farm. He spent his summers working on the farm learning all about cattle and crop production, where calving became one of his favourite seasons. Working with a variety of field crops including corn, canola, soybean, wheat, barley and rye, made Simon curious about crop production. Simon is in his second year of his Agronomy Degree at the UM. His passion for sustainable agriculture is his motivation for researching innovative solutions that benefit the agriculture industry. Upon completing his degree, Simon intends to pursue a career in agronomy and work with farmers to help them achieve high yielding crops that are quality products year after year.



Taylor Mutch, Crystal City, Manitoba

Agriculture has always been a part of Taylors life. Some of her earliest memories are of riding in the combine with her father or grandparents on her family's grain farm where she was raised. After school and in the summers, she helped her dad on the farm, which is where she learnt her appreciation for the hard work and dedication it takes to be a farmer. Taylor is in her third year at the UM studying Agronomy. She was drawn into agronomy because she wanted to study agriculture on a scientific level to better understand how crops grow and how the decisions made by farmers impact the growth of their crops. After graduating Taylor hopes to take on an agronomic advising role, working in fields assessing crops and advising farmers on the best course of action to get the most out of their land and crops.