

**June 18, 2026**

**Drayton Yard Growers,**

Earlier this year, we shared information regarding changes to the DTN prepile groups and related procedures for the 2026 prepile. With all acres now planted and entered in the system, we have completed a full review and reorganized the prepile groups to better meet the objectives we outlined.

For those growers with 75% or more of their acres contracted to the DTN yard, they had the option to be in 1 or 2 prepile groups. Those who wanted to be split were split based on their preference of back-to-back groups or spaced-out groups.

We also structured the groups to ensure a balanced mix of growers farming north, south, east, and west of the factory, giving each group a broader geographic footprint. In addition, we distributed grower tendencies across groups to improve the likelihood that each group can consistently deliver the weekly quota required to keep the factory slicing.

On the second page of this notice, you will find the updated prepile groups and your assigned group. These groups are based on a seven-week prepile period and the estimated tonnage needed for each week. Once the prepile start date is finalized and the schedule is confirmed, some adjustments may still occur. If you are listed near the top or bottom of a group, it is possible you may shift up or down depending on factory needs. Final adjustments will be communicated to you when we have a finalized date and prepile schedule in late July or early August.

The third page includes the procedures previously shared earlier this year. We recognize that this is our first step in improving a system that has not been functioning as well as needed, and additional refinements will be likely be necessary. After this season, we will meet with the DTN Truckhaul Committee to review results and discuss any changes needed going forward.

If you have any questions, please contact us.

Thank you,

**Chad Wardner** – 701-520-0212

**Alysia Boen** – 701-520-2621

**Holly Kowalski** – 701-265-2648



## Drayton Yard Prepile Procedure

- DTN Yard growers will be split up into groups based on the number of weeks of prepile we are planning for. For example, if we expect 6 weeks of prepile, we will have 6 groups of growers. Each prepile group will be given 8 hours per ton of prepile quota they are to deliver. For example, for a 4 TPA quota, we plan to be open for 32 hours for that group to deliver. For a 6 TPA quota, we plan to be open for 48 hours during the week. These hours may be adjusted for inclement weather.
- Pre-pile quota must be delivered on the harvest units' scheduled dates. If the quota is not delivered on the dates scheduled, the harvest unit will lose its quota. The scheduled dates are subject to change. Weather and actual factory slice rates will affect actual dates.
- If the harvest unit is scheduled to deliver to an outside receiving station at the same time as the DTN Yard, let the DTN Yard management know and deliver to the outside receiving station first. Arrangements will be made for you to deliver your DTN Yard quota.
- Harvest units may use ½ of their allocated 12-hour trucks.
- If more than 75% of a harvest unit's acres are contracted to the DTN Yard, the harvest unit will have the option to be in 1 prepile group or 2 prepile groups.
- If the harvest unit is split into 2 prepile groups, the harvest unit's acres to the Drayton Yard will be split in half, and the quota will be calculated by the number of acres in each prepile group.
- There will be no transferring of quota between prepile groups unless 100% of a harvest unit's quota is transferred to another harvest unit. The harvest unit that gets the quota may use the number of trucks as the original harvest unit is allowed. The partial transfer quotas will be allowed within a prepile group. For example:
  - Harvest Unit (HU) 1 has 1,000 tons of quota for prepile group 1 and does not want to deliver. HU 2, who is in prepile group 2, can take all of HU 1's quota and deliver that quota during the scheduled time for prepile group 1, with the number of trucks that HU 1 is allowed.
  - HU 1 has 1,000 tons of quota in prepile group 1 and only wants to deliver 500 tons of that quota. HU 3 is also in group 1; HU 1 can transfer the 500 tons of quota to HU 3 and deliver it in group 1. From the previous example, HU 2 cannot have this quota transferred to them since it is a partial transfer, and HU 2 is not in the same group as HU 1.