

ND Agricultural Experiment Station

Update of NDAES Initiatives Funded in 2011-2013 Budget

Fully-Funded initiatives:

▪ **SBARE #1 Ranked: Greenhouse utilities**

Situation: Phase II of the greenhouse is under construction. Upon completion, the NDAES is expected to pay for utility costs associated with the complex.

Need: An increase in the general fund appropriation for utility costs is needed for the final phase of the greenhouse to be operational – \$173,622

Update: Funding of \$173,622 was received and added to previous biennium funding.

▪ **SBARE #2 Ranked Enhancing Soil Productivity and Land**

Management for Future North Dakotans:

Situation: Saline and sodic soils affect 25 percent (12.6 million acres) of North Dakota agricultural land. Research to reduce soil issues, identify ways to better manage lands for improved crop and livestock productivity, and determine methods to better utilize lands for recreation and wildlife would enhance the profitability of landowners in the state and protect this important resource for future generations.

Need: Additional Experiment Station personnel and operating at NDSU, HREC, CREC, WREC and CGREC –\$1,410,000

Update: Funding of \$1,410,000 received for the following:

- 6.0 FTE Research specialists (2 Main Station, HREC, CREC, WREC and CGREC); 2 hired, 2 recruitment process
- 3.0 FTE Research scientists (Main Station, HREC, CREC) + operating; 2 hired, 1 offered

▪ **SBARE #3 Infrastructure:**

Situation: Research costs continue to escalate throughout the AES. This increased cost hampers the ability of scientists to carry out their research mission, reduces their ability to hire students, and limits their ability to purchase and utilize the necessary equipment that will allow them to carry out their research for the benefit of North Dakota. Reduced office support staff requires that scientists handle routine paperwork, reducing their overall efficiency.

Need: Additional funding for the Revolving Equipment Funds (Main Station and REC), additional operating funds at Main Station, and office support staff – \$1,880,000

Update: Funding of \$1, 880,000 received for the following:

- Revolving Equipment Funds (Main Station and REC) \$200,000; allocated
- Main Station operating funds allocation per SY \$410,000; added to previous funding and allocated
- Graduate research stipends \$720,000; FY12 allocated
- 5.0 FTE Office support staff (Main Station) \$550,000; 1 hired, 1 offered, 1 recruitment process

<u>Partially-Funded initiatives:</u>

▪ **SBARE #4 Improving the State's Economy by Enhancing Crop Development Efforts: (Authorization received for the canola portion of the initiative (\$210,000 General Fund and \$280,000 Other Funds))**

Situation: North Dakota leads the nation in the production of canola, with over 90% of the canola acreage, more than one million acres, found in this state. Canola is an excellent source of omega-3 oil, which has been shown to reduce cholesterol when consumed regularly. Canola oil also has been identified as an excellent source for bio-diesel production. The canola industry in North Dakota has a need for an improvement program focusing on high yield potential, reduced shattering, improved disease resistance, high percent oil, and high oil/acre to meet the demands of both the human food industry and the bio-energy sector.

Update: Funding of \$210,000 received for 1.0 FTE Scientist-canola breeding/genetics (Main Station); position description being developed

- **SBARE #5 Improving Animal Productivity and Livestock Stewardship for Increased Profitability in the North Dakota Livestock Industry: (Authorization received for 2.0 FTE Technical support at the Main Station)**

Situation: Livestock production throughout the U.S. is under increasing scrutiny, and producers face many challenges in rising production costs, increased accountability on animal welfare issues, and environmental challenges. Finding ways to expand beef cattle finishing in the state while improving environmental sustainability and enhanced animal care and husbandry will enhance the state's economy and allow our livestock producers to remain a vital component of agriculture.

Update: \$240,000 received; 2.0 FTE Research specialists-livestock positions hired

Other Items

- **Costs to continue FY2011 salary increases:**
Update: \$1,079,647 received and allocated July 1, 2011
- **Special assessment (12th Ave. N biennial payment)**
Update: \$82,402 received and FY12 paid
- **Director-Williston REC**
Update: \$210,000 received; hired
- **Permanent oil tax trust fund (Dickinson REC)**
Update: \$800,000 received and FY12 allocated

Capital Projects

- **Research Greenhouse Complex- Final phase:**
Situation: The NDAES greenhouse complex needs secure greenhouse space to carry out research on crops that meet consumer and customer demands. Completion of this facility will provide conventional, BL-2 and BL-3 facilities desperately needed for 21st century research agendas.
Update: \$6,991,650 received; final phase under construction

NDSU Extension Service

Update of Extension Initiatives Funded in 2011-2013 Budget

<u>Fully-Funded initiatives:</u>

- **SBARE #1 Infrastructure- Technical Support:**

Situation: Extension specialists are one deep, work with multiple crops and programs, and undertake significant applied research activities. Programs can be expanded efficiently with additional technical support.

Need: Technical support in Plant Sciences, Plant Pathology, Entomology and Nutrition –\$450,000

Update: 3 Technicians hired

- **SBARE #2a. Soil Health and Land Management:**

Situation: Saline and sodic soils affect 25 percent (12.6 million acres) of North Dakota agricultural land. Many land managers are considering expensive land modifications, such as tiling, to deal with this issue or nonconventional cover crops as a means to improve soil health.

Need: Additional Extension soils and land management staff (3.0 FTE) at NDSU, LREC and NCREC –\$690,000

Update: 3.0 FTE Hired

- **SBARE #2b. Livestock Stewardship:**

Situation: Livestock production is under increasing scrutiny, and producers face many challenges. Animal welfare and humane animal handling are increasingly important to consumers and the livestock industry. Several states are passing laws intended to define the proper care and treatment of animals.

Need: Additional staffing in Animal Sciences (1.0 FTE) – \$250,000

Update: recruitment in process

Other Items

- **Costs to continue FY2011 salary increases:**

\$508,356 received and allocated July 1, 2011

- **ND Soil Conservation Committee for technical assistance grants to Soil Conservation Districts**

Situation: Additional funding received to fund grants to Soil Conservation Districts as well as help landowners reduce soil erosion; improve water quality; and enhance tree plantings, grazing lands and wildlife habitat.

Update: \$150,000 received and added to previous funding; allocated