2025 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2020

DEPARTMENT 627- UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE 2025-27 BASE-LEVEL BUDGET

Base Budget - Summary

	Base Level
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516
Total all funds	$24,807,516
Less other funds	19,581,141
Total general fund	$5,226,375
Full-time equivalent (FTE) positions	43.88

Selected Base Budget Information

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Includes funding for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, primarily related to salaries and wages for 43.88 FTE positions ($13,395,541), subcontractors and subrecipients ($6,277,312), and grants ($3,701,739)	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516

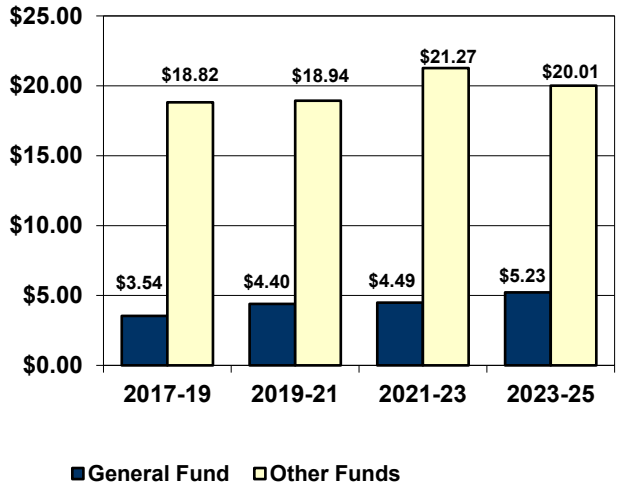
Continuing Appropriations

There are no continuing appropriations for this agency.

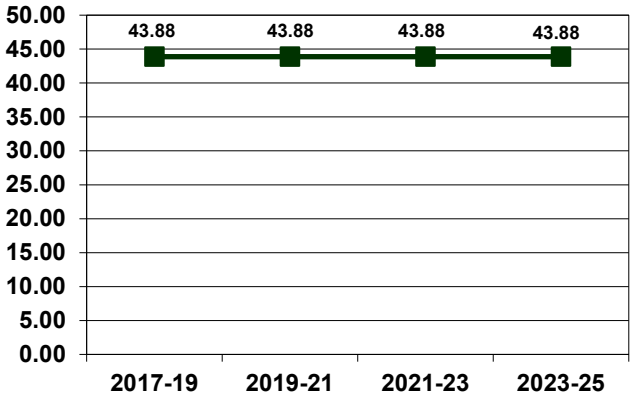
Historical Appropriations Information

Agency Appropriations and FTE Positions

Agency Funding (Millions)



FTE Positions



Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
Ongoing general fund appropriations	$3,900,791	$3,443,174	$4,396,329	$4,485,607	$5,226,375
Increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	($457,617)	$953,155	$89,278	$740,768
Percentage increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	(11.7%)	27.7%	2.0%	16.5%
Cumulative percentage increase (decrease) from 2015-17 biennium	N/A	(11.7%)	12.7%	15.0%	34.0%

Major Increases (Decreases) in Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

1. Removed 1.3 FTE positions and reduced funding for salaries and operating expenses	($213,402)
2. Reduced general fund appropriations by 3 percent	($106,917)
3. Adjusted funding sources	($200,000)

2019-21 Biennium

1. Reduced funding for miscellaneous expenses	($70,863)
2. Added funding for a road and bridge study	$875,000

2021-23 Biennium

None	$0

2023-25 Biennium

1. Added funding for freight transportation and logistics surveys	$408,000

One-Time General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
One-time general fund appropriations	$628,823	$100,000	$0	$0	$0

Major One-Time General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

1. Added funding for a road and bridge asset management system $100,000

2019-21 Biennium

None $0

2021-23 Biennium

None $0

2023-25 Biennium

None $0

DEPARTMENT 628 - BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS
2025-27 BASE-LEVEL BUDGET

Base Budget - Summary

	Base Level
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270
Hettinger research center	5,381,248
Langdon research center	3,195,869
North Central research center	5,355,217
Williston research center	5,527,125
Carrington research center	10,191,002
Total all funds	$40,648,569
Less other funds	20,964,971
Total general fund	$19,683,598
Full-time equivalent (FTE) positions	111.81

Selected Base Budget Information

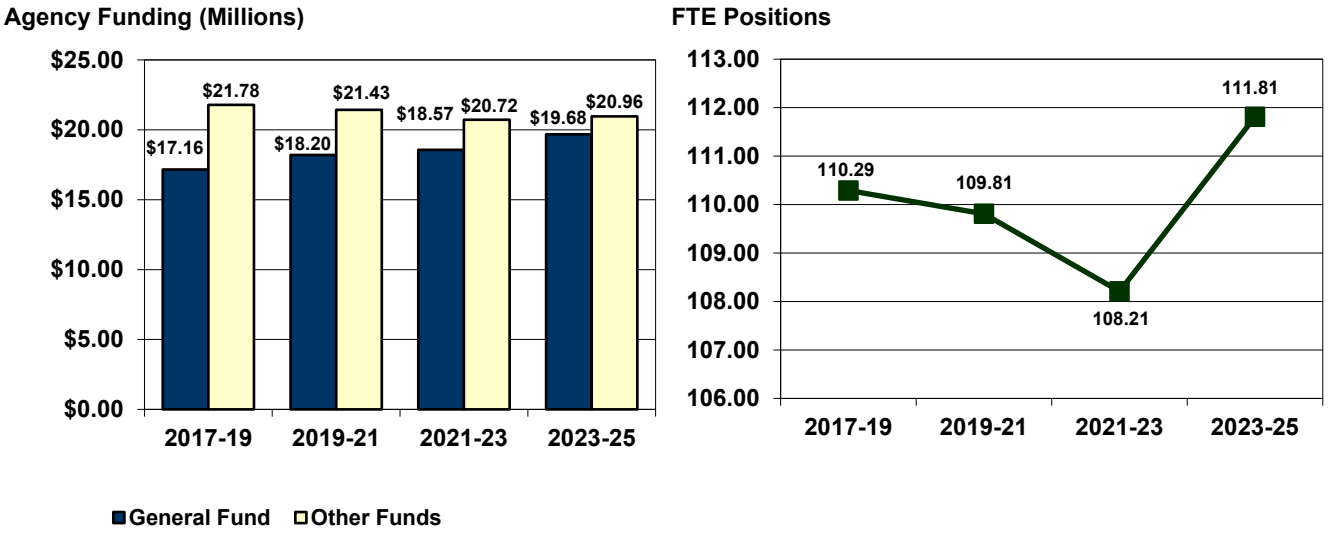
		General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1.	Includes funding for the Dickinson research center, primarily related to salaries and wages for 14.20 FTE positions ($2,854,642), miscellaneous supplies ($1,507,296), and equipment over $5,000 ($1,295,000)	$3,893,104	$3,486,734	$7,379,838
2.	Includes funding for the Central grasslands research center, primarily related to salaries and wages for 11.00 FTE positions ($1,486,924), miscellaneous supplies ($888,603), and temporary wages ($200,000)	$2,180,257	$1,438,013	$3,618,270
3.	Includes funding for the Hettinger research center, primarily related to salaries and wages for 14.70 FTE positions ($2,637,346), miscellaneous supplies ($833,336), and equipment over $5,000 ($605,000)	$2,494,357	$2,886,891	$5,381,248
4.	Includes funding for the Langdon research center, primarily related to salaries and wages for 9.45 FTE positions ($1,868,518) and equipment over $5,000 ($765,000)	$1,775,617	$1,420,252	$3,195,869
5.	Includes funding for the North Central research center, primarily related to salaries and wages for 15.01 FTE positions ($2,536,051), miscellaneous supplies ($1,443,684), and equipment over $5,000 ($360,000)	$2,173,813	$3,181,404	$5,355,217
6.	Includes funding for the Williston research center, primarily related to salaries and wages for 14.70 FTE positions ($3,589,102), equipment over $5,000 ($786,000), and repairs ($180,882)	$3,072,343	$2,454,782	$5,527,125
7.	Includes funding for the Carrington research center, primarily related to salaries and wages for 32.75 FTE positions ($6,251,079), miscellaneous supplies ($482,255), equipment over $5,000 ($1,272,000), and temporary wages ($500,000)	$4,094,107	$6,096,895	$10,191,002

Continuing Appropriations

There are no continuing appropriations for this agency.

Historical Appropriations Information

Agency Appropriations and FTE Positions



Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
Ongoing general fund appropriations	$18,483,636	$17,155,257	$18,201,026	$18,569,483	$19,683,598
Increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	($1,328,379)	$1,045,769	$368,457	$1,114,115
Percentage increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	(7.2%)	6.1%	2.0%	6.0%
Cumulative percentage increase (decrease) from 2015-17 biennium	N/A	(7.2%)	(1.5%)	0.5%	6.5%

Major Increases (Decreases) in Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

1. Removed 3.65 FTE positions ($642,408)
2. Adjusted funding sources and made additional unspecified general fund reductions ($1,086,573)

2019-21 Biennium

1. Added funding for salaries and wages at the Dickinson and North Central Research Centers $125,000
2. Added funding for the Oakes irrigation site $200,000

2021-23 Biennium

None $0

2023-25 Biennium

1. Added funding for 2 new FTE positions at the Dickinson and Langdon Research Centers $426,000

One-Time General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
One-time general fund appropriations	$275,000	$0	$0	$0	$0

Major One-Time General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium	
None	$0
2019-21 Biennium	
None	$0
2021-23 Biennium	
None	$0
2023-25 Biennium	
None	$0

DEPARTMENT 630 - NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE
2025-27 BASE-LEVEL BUDGET

Base Budget - Summary

	Base Level
Extension service	$59,478,945
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465
Less other funds	29,049,776
Total general fund	$31,790,689
Full-time equivalent (FTE) positions	252.70

Selected Base Budget Information

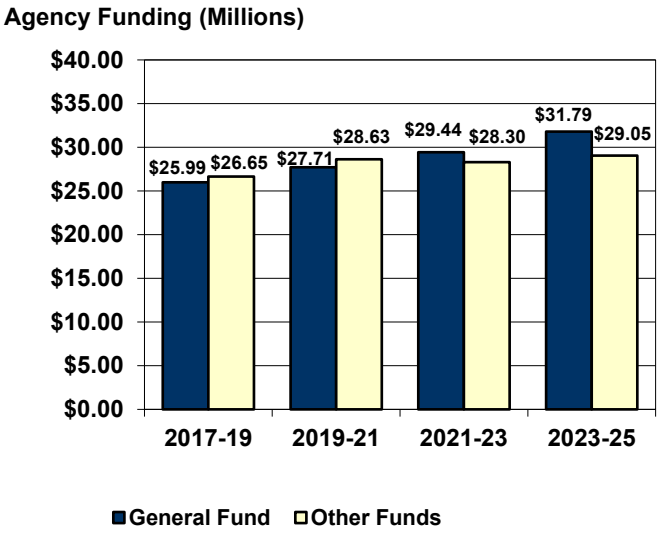
	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1. Includes funding for the North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension Service, primarily related to salaries and wages for 252.70 FTE positions ($53,853,511), temporary salaries ($973,129), and travel ($700,000)	$30,429,169	$29,049,776	$59,478,945
2. Includes funding for soil conservation districts	$1,361,520	$0	$1,361,520

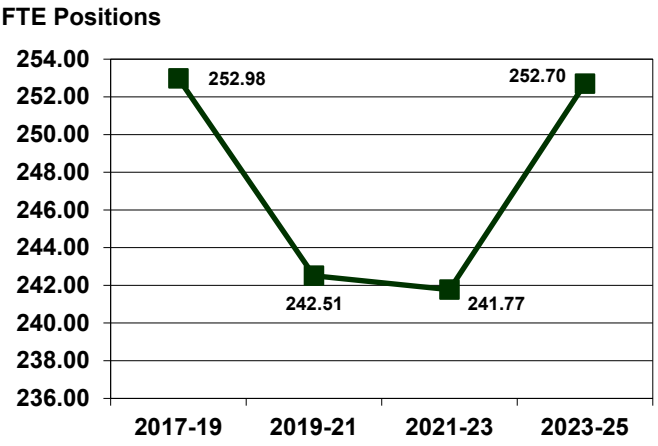
Continuing Appropriations

There are no continuing appropriations for this agency.

Historical Appropriations Information

Agency Appropriations and FTE Positions





Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
Ongoing general fund appropriations	$27,824,562	$25,633,320	$27,709,666	$29,437,823	$31,790,689
Increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	($2,191,242)	$2,076,346	$1,728,157	$2,352,866
Percentage increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	(7.9%)	8.1%	6.2%	8.0%
Cumulative percentage increase (decrease) from 2015-17 biennium	N/A	(7.9%)	(0.4%)	5.8%	14.3%

Major Increases (Decreases) in Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

1. Reduced funding for salaries, including removal of 10.93 FTE positions	($1,619,206)
2. Adjusted funding for operating expenses	$175,557
3. Reduced funding for equipment	($300,000)
4. Additional unspecified general fund reduction	($1,096,343)

2019-21 Biennium

1. Reduced funding for salaries and wages	($125,000)
2. Added funding to provide additional state funds for the costs of county extension agents	$870,000
3. Added funding for miscellaneous expenses	$100,000

2021-23 Biennium

1. Added 1 FTE position and related funding for a big data initiative	$280,000
2. Added 2 FTE positions and related funding for a livestock initiative	$500,000
3. Added funding for the agricultural safety initiative	$240,000
4. Increased funding for soil conservation districts to provide a total of $1,211,520	$120,000

2023-25 Biennium

1. Added 1 FTE position and related funding for a cropping system initiative	$240,000
2. Added 1 FTE position and related funding for a livestock development initiative	$250,000
3. Added funding for NDSU Extension Service operating support	$220,000
4. Added funding for the soil conservation districts to provide a total of $1,361,520	$150,000

One-Time General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
One-time general fund appropriations	$12,500	$360,000	$0	$0	$0

Major One-Time General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

Added one-time funding for website and digital upgrades	$345,000

2019-21 Biennium

None	$0

2021-23 Biennium

None	$0

2023-25 Biennium

None	$0

DEPARTMENT 638 - NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE
2025-27 BASE-LEVEL BUDGET

Base Budget - Summary

	Base Level
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771
Total all funds	$5,724,771
Less other funds	3,541,116
Total general fund	$2,183,655
Full-time equivalent (FTE) positions	18.15

Selected Base Budget Information

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Includes funding for the Northern Crops Institute, primarily related to salaries and wages for 18.15 FTE positions ($4,216,876)	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771

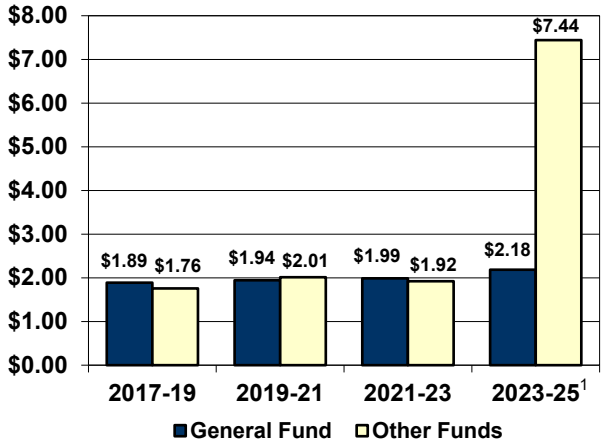
Continuing Appropriations

There are no continuing appropriations for this agency.

Historical Appropriations Information

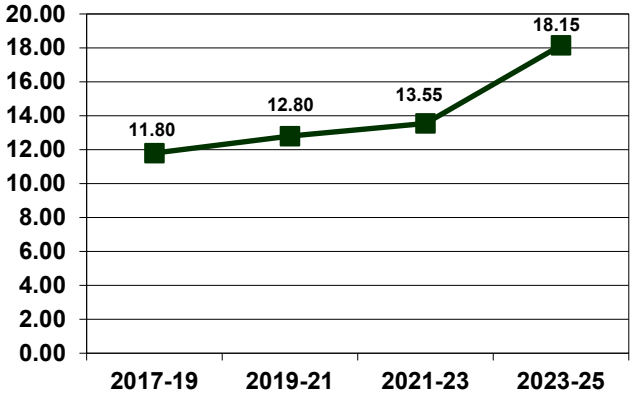
Agency Appropriations and FTE Positions

Agency Funding (Millions)



[1]Includes a $3.9 million of one-time special funds appropriation for the Northern Crops Institute feed production center facility upgrade and pellet mill.

FTE Positions



Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
Ongoing general fund appropriations	$1,964,467	$1,886,891	$1,943,810	$1,987,142	$2,183,655
Increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	($77,576)	$56,919	$43,332	$196,513
Percentage increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	(3.9%)	3.0%	2.2%	9.9%
Cumulative percentage increase (decrease) from 2015-17 biennium	N/A	(3.9%)	(1.1%)	1.2%	11.2%

Major Increases (Decreases) in Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

1. Reduced funding for equipment	($200,000)
2. Restored funding for operating expenses	$137,691

2019-21 Biennium

1. Reduced funding for miscellaneous expenses	($37,738)

2021-23 Biennium

None	$0

2023-25 Biennium

None	$0

One-Time General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
One-time general fund appropriations	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

Major One-Time General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

None	$0

2019-21 Biennium

None	$0

2021-23 Biennium

None	$0

2023-25 Biennium

None	$0

DEPARTMENT 640 - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER
2025-27 BASE-LEVEL BUDGET

Base Budget - Summary

	Base Level
Main research center	$116,148,130
Total all funds	$116,148,130
Less other funds	58,022,465
Total general fund	$58,125,665
Full-time equivalent (FTE) positions	358.47

Selected Base Budget Information

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Includes funding for the Main Research Center, primarily related to salaries and wages for 358.47 FTE positions ($84,791,323), temporary salaries ($4,115,000), supplies ($7,371,138), and equipment over $5,000 ($4,600,000)	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130

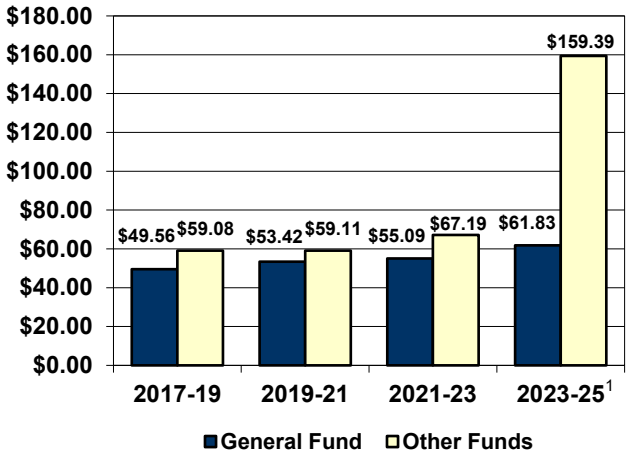
Continuing Appropriations

There are no continuing appropriations for this agency.

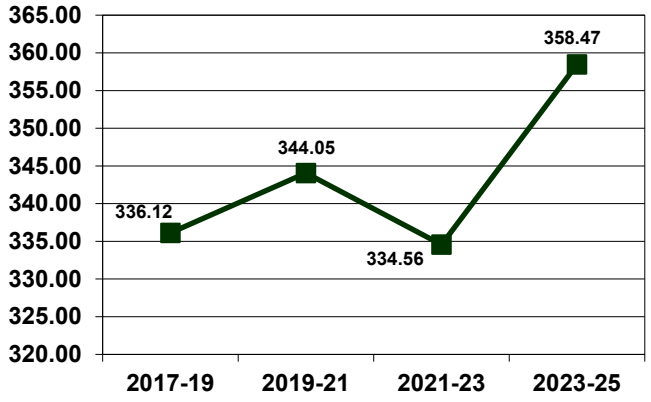
Historical Appropriations Information

Agency Appropriations and FTE Positions

Agency Funding (Millions)



FTE Positions



[1]Includes a $97 million special funds appropriation for the Waldron Hall replacement project.

Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
Ongoing general fund appropriations	$53,581,255	$49,557,415	$52,667,326	$54,588,232	$58,125,665
Increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	($4,023,840)	$3,109,911	$1,920,906	$3,537,433
Percentage increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	(7.5%)	6.3%	3.6%	6.5%
Cumulative percentage increase (decrease) from 2015-17 biennium	N/A	(7.5%)	(1.7%)	1.9%	8.5%

Major Increases (Decreases) in Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

1. Reduced funding for salaries and wages, including removal of 17.73 FTE positions	($1,946,615)
2. Reduced funding for operating expenses	($355,589)
3. Restored funding for equipment	$260,000
4. Additional budget reductions and funding adjustments	($3,239,879)

2019-21 Biennium

1. Added funding and 4 FTE positions for an agribiome initiative, including $450,000 for operating expenses	$1,160,000

2021-23 Biennium

1. Added funding and 3 FTE positions for the big data initiative	$835,000

2023-25 Biennium

1. Added funding and 1 FTE position for the big data initiative	$300,000
2. Added funding for Oakes Irrigation Research Site operating support	$400,000

One-Time General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
One-time general fund appropriations	$1,617,428	$0	$750,000	$500,000	$3,708,230

Major One-Time General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

None	$0

2019-21 Biennium

1. Added funding for a seed cleaning plant at the Williston Research Center	$750,000

2021-23 Biennium

1. Added funding for deferred maintenance	$500,000

2023-25 Biennium

1. Added funding for the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site project	$1,700,000
2. Added funding for branch research centers capital project inflation	$2,008,230

DEPARTMENT 649 - AGRONOMY SEED FARM
2025-27 BASE-LEVEL BUDGET

Base Budget - Summary

	Base Level
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722
Total special funds	$1,632,722
Full-time equivalent (FTE) positions	3.00

Selected Base Budget Information

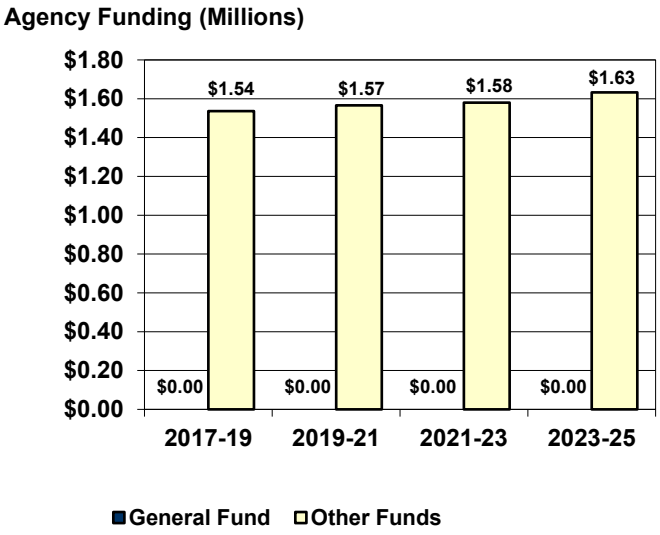
	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Includes funding for the Agronomy Seed Farm, primarily related to salaries and wages for 3 FTE positions ($634,679), miscellaneous supplies ($276,140), repairs ($151,191), and equipment over $5,000 ($300,000)	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722

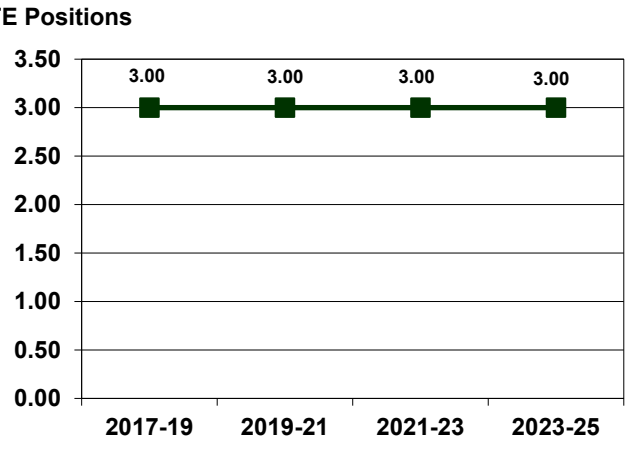
Continuing Appropriations

There are no continuing appropriations for this agency.

Historical Appropriations Information

Agency Appropriations and FTE Positions





Ongoing Other Funds Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
Ongoing other funds appropriations	$1,521,007	$1,536,129	$1,565,975	$1,579,655	$1,632,722
Increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	$15,122	$29,846	$13,680	$53,067
Percentage increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	1.0%	1.9%	0.9%	3.4%
Cumulative percentage increase (decrease) from 2015-17 biennium	N/A	1.0%	3.0%	3.9%	7.3%

Major Increases (Decreases) in Ongoing Other Funds Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

None $0

2019-21 Biennium

None $0

2021-23 Biennium

None $0

2023-25 Biennium

None $0

One-Time Other Funds Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
One-time other funds appropriations	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

Major One-Time Other Funds Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

None $0

2019-21 Biennium

None $0

2021-23 Biennium

None $0

2023-25 Biennium

None $0

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
Department No. 627
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Executive budget recommendation	43.88	$6,355,982	$20,408,038	$26,764,020
Base level	43.88	5,226,375	19,581,141	24,807,516
Increase (decrease)	0.00	$1,129,607	$826,897	$1,956,504
Percentage increase (decrease)	0.0%	21.6%	4.2%	7.9%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

A copy of the draft appropriations bill reflecting the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix B.

Selected Highlights

- Adds $563,926, of which $172,537 is from the general fund and $391,389 is from other funds, for salary increases of up to 4 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026
- Adds $270,237, of which $71,675 is from the general fund and $198,562 is from other funds, for a health insurance increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $339,241, of which $102,295 is from the general fund and $236,946 is from other funds, to replace the 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool
- Adds $375,000 from the general fund for artificial intelligence in surface transportation
- Adds **one-time funding** of $408,100 from the general fund for a carbon dioxide transportation network study

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Salary increase		$172,537	$391,389	$563,926
Health insurance increase		71,675	198,562	270,237
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		102,295	236,946	339,241
Adds funding for artificial intelligence in surface transportation		375,000		375,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$721,507**	**$826,897**	**$1,548,404**
One-Time Funding Items				
Carbon dioxide transportation network study		$408,100		$408,100
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$408,100**	**$0**	**$408,100**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$1,129,607**	**$826,897**	**$1,956,504**
2025-27 Total Funding	**43.88**	**$6,355,982**	**$20,408,038**	**$26,764,020**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$13,106,737*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*13.8%*	*4.2%*	*6.2%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*21.6%*	*4.2%*	*7.9%*

Other Sections in Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627

Section Description	Executive Budget
Additional income appropriation	Section 3 would provide that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.
FTE position adjustments	Section 7 would allow the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute to increase or decrease authorized FTE positions as needed, subject to the availability of funds.
Exemption	Section 8 would authorize the continuation of unexpended appropriation authority received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2020
(Governor's Recommendation)

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

(At the request of the Governor)

A bill for an act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a transfer; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$6,652,893	$66,131,838
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$6,652,893	$67,493,358
Less estimated income	29,049,776	3,209,996	32,259,772
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$3,442,897	$35,233,586
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	3.74	256.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Less estimated income	3,541,116	1,088,490	4,629,606
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$495,302	$2,678,957
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Less estimated income	19,581,141	826,897	20,408,038
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$1,129,607	$6,355,982
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Less estimated income	58,022,465	8,465,758	66,488,223
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$5,988,729	$64,114,394
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	12.06	370.53

Subdivision 5.

RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$619,653	$7,999,491
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	234,215	3,852,485
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	399,454	5,780,702
Langdon research center	3,195,869	473,562	3,669,431
North central research center	5,355,217	356,028	5,711,245
Williston research center	5,527,125	495,984	6,023,109
Carrington research center	10,191,002	833,502	11,024,504
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$3,412,398	$44,060,967
Less estimated income	20,964,971	1,031,141	21,996,112
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$2,381,257	$22,064,855
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

BILL TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$13,437,792	$130,447,774
Grand total other funds	132,792,191	14,678,081	147,470,272
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$28,115,873	$277,918,046

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly for the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act:

One-Time Funding Description	2023-25	2025-27
Deferred maintenance	$500,000	$1,000,000
Storage sheds	1,900,000	0
Transportation data intelligence center	432,600	0
Northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade	3,250,000	0
Pellet mill	650,000	0
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project	1,700,000	0
Hettinger research extension center land purchase	1,038,000	0
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation	2,933,230	0
Waldron hall replacement project	97,000,000	0
Carbon dioxide transportation network study	0	408,100
Protein extraction/air classification system	0	350,000
Oakes irrigation research site building completion	0	620,000
Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000
Total all funds	$109,403,830	$4,978,100
Total other funds	105,695,600	4,570,000
Total general fund	$3,708,230	$408,100

SECTION 3. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amount included in the grand total special funds appropriation line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the main research center may transfer appropriation authority within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act. Any amounts

transferred must be reported to the director of the office of management and budget.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS. The state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. The board shall report any adjustments to the office of management and budget pursuant to this section.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS PROJECTS. The amounts appropriated from other funds for Williston research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2019 Session Laws, Carrington research center capital projects, central grasslands research center capital projects, and Langdon research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 48 of the 2021 Session Laws, and Williston research center capital projects and Waldron Hall replacement in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE. The amounts appropriated from other funds for the northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade and pellet mill in subdivision 2 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 11. ESTIMATED INCOME - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The estimated income line in subdivision 2 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $350,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the northern crops institute for a protein extraction/air classification system. The estimated income line in subdivision 4 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $4,220,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant, the Oakes irrigation research site building completion and deferred maintenance.

Branch Research Centers
Department No. 628
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Executive budget recommendation	107.16	$22,064,855	$21,996,112	$44,060,967
Base level	111.81	19,683,598	20,964,971	40,648,569
Increase (decrease)	(4.65)	$2,381,257	$1,031,141	$3,412,398
Percentage increase (decrease)	(4.2%)	12.1%	4.9%	8.4%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

A copy of the draft appropriations bill reflecting the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix B.

Selected Highlights

- Adds $995,910, of which $765,493 is from the general fund and $230,417 is from special funds, for salary increases of up to 4 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026
- Adds $642,565, of which $461,078 is from the general fund and $181,487 is from special funds, for a health insurance premium increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $1,519,131, of which $1,199,319 is from the general fund and $319,812 from special funds, to replace the 2023-25 biennium new FTE pool ($386,000) and 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool ($1,133,131)
- Adds $280,000 from special funds for operating expenses to provide $40,000 for each of the seven branch research stations

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

Branch research centers - Budget No. 628
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	**General Fund**	**Other Funds**	**Total**
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Decreases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	(4.65)			$0
Salary increase		$765,493	$230,417	995,910
Health insurance increase		461,078	181,487	642,565
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		386,000		386,000
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		813,319	319,812	1,133,131
Adds funding for IT rate increases		19,095	19,425	38,520
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(63,728)		(63,728)
Adds funding for operating expenses			280,000	280,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**(4.65)**	**$2,381,257**	**$1,031,141**	**$3,412,398**
One-Time Funding Items				
No one-time funding items				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(4.65)**	**$2,381,257**	**$1,031,141**	**$3,412,398**
2025-27 Total Funding	**107.16**	**$22,064,855**	**$21,996,112**	**$44,060,967**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*12.1%*	*4.9%*	*8.4%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*12.1%*	*4.9%*	*8.4%*

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Executive Budget
Additional income appropriation	Section 3 would provide that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the branch research centers, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.
Dickinson Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income	Section 4 would authorize the Dickinson Research Extension Center to spend up to $755,000 of revenue received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the 2025-27 biennium.
Williston Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income	Section 5 would direct the Williston Research Extension Center to report to the 70th Legislative Assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 biennium.
Transfer authority	Section 6 would authorize the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Executive Budget
FTE position adjustments	Section 7 would allow the branch research centers to increase or decrease authorized FTE positions as needed, subject to the availability of funds.
Exemption	Section 8 would authorize the continuation of unexpended appropriation authority received by the branch research centers into the 2027-29 biennium.
Exemption	Section 9 would authorize the continuation of unexpended other funds appropriation authority relating to the Williston Research Center projects appropriated in Section 1 of Chapter 20 of the 2019 Session Laws, Carrington Research Center, Central Grasslands Research Center, and Langdon Research Center projects appropriated in Section 1 of Chapter 48 of the 2021 Session Laws, and Williston Research Center projects appropriated in Section 1 of Chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2020
(Governor's Recommendation)

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

(At the request of the Governor)

A bill for an act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a transfer; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$6,652,893	$66,131,838
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$6,652,893	$67,493,358
Less estimated income	29,049,776	3,209,996	32,259,772
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$3,442,897	$35,233,586
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	3.74	256.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Less estimated income	3,541,116	1,088,490	4,629,606
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$495,302	$2,678,957
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Less estimated income	19,581,141	826,897	20,408,038
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$1,129,607	$6,355,982
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Less estimated income	58,022,465	8,465,758	66,488,223
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$5,988,729	$64,114,394
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	12.06	370.53

Subdivision 5.

RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$619,653	$7,999,491
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	234,215	3,852,485
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	399,454	5,780,702
Langdon research center	3,195,869	473,562	3,669,431
North central research center	5,355,217	356,028	5,711,245
Williston research center	5,527,125	495,984	6,023,109
Carrington research center	10,191,002	833,502	11,024,504
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$3,412,398	$44,060,967
Less estimated income	20,964,971	1,031,141	21,996,112
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$2,381,257	$22,064,855
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

BILL TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$13,437,792	$130,447,774
Grand total other funds	132,792,191	14,678,081	147,470,272
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$28,115,873	$277,918,046

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly for the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act:

One-Time Funding Description	2023-25	2025-27
Deferred maintenance	$500,000	$1,000,000
Storage sheds	1,900,000	0
Transportation data intelligence center	432,600	0
Northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade	3,250,000	0
Pellet mill	650,000	0
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project	1,700,000	0
Hettinger research extension center land purchase	1,038,000	0
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation	2,933,230	0
Waldron hall replacement project	97,000,000	0
Carbon dioxide transportation network study	0	408,100
Protein extraction/air classification system	0	350,000
Oakes irrigation research site building completion	0	620,000
Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000
Total all funds	$109,403,830	$4,978,100
Total other funds	105,695,600	4,570,000
Total general fund	$3,708,230	$408,100

SECTION 3. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amount included in the grand total special funds appropriation line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the main research center may transfer appropriation authority within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act. Any amounts

transferred must be reported to the director of the office of management and budget.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS. The state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. The board shall report any adjustments to the office of management and budget pursuant to this section.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS PROJECTS. The amounts appropriated from other funds for Williston research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2019 Session Laws, Carrington research center capital projects, central grasslands research center capital projects, and Langdon research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 48 of the 2021 Session Laws, and Williston research center capital projects and Waldron Hall replacement in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE. The amounts appropriated from other funds for the northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade and pellet mill in subdivision 2 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 11. ESTIMATED INCOME - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The estimated income line in subdivision 2 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $350,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the northern crops institute for a protein extraction/air classification system. The estimated income line in subdivision 4 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $4,220,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant, the Oakes irrigation research site building completion and deferred maintenance.

NDSU Extension Service
Department No. 630
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Executive budget recommendation	256.44	$35,233,586	$32,259,772	$67,493,358
Base level	252.70	31,790,689	29,049,776	60,840,465
Increase (decrease)	3.74	$3,442,897	$3,209,996	$6,652,893
Percentage increase (decrease)	1.5%	10.8%	11.0%	10.9%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

A copy of the draft appropriations bill reflecting the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix B.

Selected Highlights

- Adds $2,515,270, of which $1,336,016 is from the general fund and $1,179,254 is from other funds, for salary increases of up to 4 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026
- Adds $1,458,863, of which $720,767 is from the general fund and $738,096 is from other funds, for a health insurance premium increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $3,854,545, of which $2,091,347 is from the general fund and $1,763,198 is from other funds, to replace the 2023-25 biennium new FTE pool ($410,000) and 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool ($3,444,545)
- Adds $275,000 from the general fund for a new FTE extension carbon specialist position
- Adds $449,207 for supplies, operating expenses, and temporary salaries

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	**General Fund**	**Other Funds**	**Total**
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Base payroll changes		($1,599,854)	($450,138)	($2,049,992)
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	2.74			0
Salary increase		1,336,016	1,179,254	2,515,270
Health insurance increase		720,767	738,096	1,458,863
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		410,000		410,000
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545
Adds funding for an FTE extension carbon specialist	1.00	275,000		275,000
Adds funding for operating support			150,000	150,000
Adjusts funding for supplies, operating expenses, and temporary salaries		619,621	(170,414)	449,207
Total ongoing funding changes	**3.74**	**$3,442,897**	**$3,209,996**	**$6,652,893**
One-Time Funding Items				
No one-time funding items				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**3.74**	**$3,442,897**	**$3,209,996**	**$6,652,893**
2025-27 Total Funding	**256.44**	**$35,233,586**	**$32,259,772**	**$67,493,358**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$10,137,967*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.5%*	*10.8%*	*11.0%*	*10.9%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.5%*	*10.8%*	*11.0%*	*10.9%*

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Executive Budget
Additional income appropriation	Section 3 would provide that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by NDSU Extension Service, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.
Transfer authority	Section 6 would authorize the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.
FTE position adjustments	Section 7 would allow NDSU Extension Service to increase or decrease authorized FTE positions as needed, subject to the availability of funds.
Exemption	Section 8 would authorize the continuation of unexpended appropriation authority received by NDSU Extension Service into the 2027-29 biennium.

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2020
(Governor's Recommendation)

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

(At the request of the Governor)

A bill for an act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a transfer; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$6,652,893	$66,131,838
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$6,652,893	$67,493,358
Less estimated income	29,049,776	3,209,996	32,259,772
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$3,442,897	$35,233,586
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	3.74	256.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Less estimated income	3,541,116	1,088,490	4,629,606
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$495,302	$2,678,957
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Less estimated income	19,581,141	826,897	20,408,038
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$1,129,607	$6,355,982
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Less estimated income	58,022,465	8,465,758	66,488,223
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$5,988,729	$64,114,394
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	12.06	370.53

Subdivision 5.

RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$619,653	$7,999,491
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	234,215	3,852,485
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	399,454	5,780,702
Langdon research center	3,195,869	473,562	3,669,431
North central research center	5,355,217	356,028	5,711,245
Williston research center	5,527,125	495,984	6,023,109
Carrington research center	10,191,002	833,502	11,024,504
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$3,412,398	$44,060,967
Less estimated income	20,964,971	1,031,141	21,996,112
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$2,381,257	$22,064,855
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

BILL TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$13,437,792	$130,447,774
Grand total other funds	132,792,191	14,678,081	147,470,272
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$28,115,873	$277,918,046

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly for the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act:

One-Time Funding Description	2023-25	2025-27
Deferred maintenance	$500,000	$1,000,000
Storage sheds	1,900,000	0
Transportation data intelligence center	432,600	0
Northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade	3,250,000	0
Pellet mill	650,000	0
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project	1,700,000	0
Hettinger research extension center land purchase	1,038,000	0
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation	2,933,230	0
Waldron hall replacement project	97,000,000	0
Carbon dioxide transportation network study	0	408,100
Protein extraction/air classification system	0	350,000
Oakes irrigation research site building completion	0	620,000
Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000
Total all funds	$109,403,830	$4,978,100
Total other funds	105,695,600	4,570,000
Total general fund	$3,708,230	$408,100

SECTION 3. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amount included in the grand total special funds appropriation line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the main research center may transfer appropriation authority within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act. Any amounts

transferred must be reported to the director of the office of management and budget.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS. The state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. The board shall report any adjustments to the office of management and budget pursuant to this section.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS PROJECTS. The amounts appropriated from other funds for Williston research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2019 Session Laws, Carrington research center capital projects, central grasslands research center capital projects, and Langdon research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 48 of the 2021 Session Laws, and Williston research center capital projects and Waldron Hall replacement in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE. The amounts appropriated from other funds for the northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade and pellet mill in subdivision 2 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 11. ESTIMATED INCOME - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The estimated income line in subdivision 2 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $350,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the northern crops institute for a protein extraction/air classification system. The estimated income line in subdivision 4 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $4,220,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant, the Oakes irrigation research site building completion and deferred maintenance.

Northern Crops Institute
Department No. 638
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Executive budget recommendation	18.35	$2,678,957	$4,629,606	$7,308,563
Base level	18.15	2,183,655	3,541,116	5,724,771
Increase (decrease)	0.20	$495,302	$1,088,490	$1,583,792
Percentage increase (decrease)	1.1%	22.7%	30.7%	27.7%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

A copy of the draft appropriations bill reflecting the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix B.

Selected Highlights

- Adds $211,975, of which $94,050 is from the general fund and $117,925 is from special funds, for salary increases of up to 4 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026
- Adds $114,100, of which $43,015 is from the general fund and $71,085 is from special funds, for a health insurance premium increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $119,317, of which $58,637 is from the general fund and $60,680 is from special funds, to replace the 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool
- Adds $788,400, of which $299,600 is from the general fund and $488,800 is from other funds, for operating expenses
- Adds **one-time funding** of $350,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) for a protein extraction and air classification system

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	0.20			$0
Salary increase		$94,050	$117,925	211,975
Health insurance increase		43,015	71,085	114,100
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		58,637	60,680	119,317
Adds funding for operating expenses		299,600	488,800	788,400
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.20**	**$495,302**	**$738,490**	**$1,233,792**
One-Time Funding Items				
Adds funding for a protein extraction and air classification system			$350,000	$350,000
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.20**	**$495,302**	**$1,088,490**	**$1,583,792**
2025-27 Total Funding	**18.35**	**$2,678,957**	**$4,629,606**	**$7,308,563**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*22.7%*	*20.9%*	*21.6%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*22.7%*	*30.7%*	*27.7%*

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Executive Budget
Additional income appropriation	Section 3 would provide that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Northern Crops Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.
Transfer authority	Section 6 would authorize the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.
FTE position adjustments	Section 7 would allow the Northern Crops Institute to increase or decrease authorized FTE positions as needed, subject to the availability of funds.
Exemption	Sections 8 would authorize the continuation of unexpended appropriation authority received by the Northern Crops Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.
Exemption	Section 10 would authorize the continuation of unexpended other funds appropriation authority relating to the feed production center facility upgrade and pellet mill appropriated in Section 1 of Chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.
SIIF	Section 11 would identify $350,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for a protein extraction and air classification system.

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2020
(Governor's Recommendation)

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

(At the request of the Governor)

A bill for an act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a transfer; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$6,652,893	$66,131,838
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$6,652,893	$67,493,358
Less estimated income	29,049,776	3,209,996	32,259,772
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$3,442,897	$35,233,586
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	3.74	256.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Less estimated income	3,541,116	1,088,490	4,629,606
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$495,302	$2,678,957
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Less estimated income	19,581,141	826,897	20,408,038
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$1,129,607	$6,355,982
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Less estimated income	58,022,465	8,465,758	66,488,223
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$5,988,729	$64,114,394
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	12.06	370.53

Subdivision 5.

RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$619,653	$7,999,491
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	234,215	3,852,485
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	399,454	5,780,702
Langdon research center	3,195,869	473,562	3,669,431
North central research center	5,355,217	356,028	5,711,245
Williston research center	5,527,125	495,984	6,023,109
Carrington research center	10,191,002	833,502	11,024,504
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$3,412,398	$44,060,967
Less estimated income	20,964,971	1,031,141	21,996,112
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$2,381,257	$22,064,855
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

BILL TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$13,437,792	$130,447,774
Grand total other funds	132,792,191	14,678,081	147,470,272
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$28,115,873	$277,918,046

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly for the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act:

One-Time Funding Description	2023-25	2025-27
Deferred maintenance	$500,000	$1,000,000
Storage sheds	1,900,000	0
Transportation data intelligence center	432,600	0
Northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade	3,250,000	0
Pellet mill	650,000	0
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project	1,700,000	0
Hettinger research extension center land purchase	1,038,000	0
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation	2,933,230	0
Waldron hall replacement project	97,000,000	0
Carbon dioxide transportation network study	0	408,100
Protein extraction/air classification system	0	350,000
Oakes irrigation research site building completion	0	620,000
Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000
Total all funds	$109,403,830	$4,978,100
Total other funds	105,695,600	4,570,000
Total general fund	$3,708,230	$408,100

SECTION 3. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amount included in the grand total special funds appropriation line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the main research center may transfer appropriation authority within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act. Any amounts

transferred must be reported to the director of the office of management and budget.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS. The state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. The board shall report any adjustments to the office of management and budget pursuant to this section.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS PROJECTS. The amounts appropriated from other funds for Williston research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2019 Session Laws, Carrington research center capital projects, central grasslands research center capital projects, and Langdon research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 48 of the 2021 Session Laws, and Williston research center capital projects and Waldron Hall replacement in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE. The amounts appropriated from other funds for the northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade and pellet mill in subdivision 2 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 11. ESTIMATED INCOME - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The estimated income line in subdivision 2 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $350,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the northern crops institute for a protein extraction/air classification system. The estimated income line in subdivision 4 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $4,220,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant, the Oakes irrigation research site building completion and deferred maintenance.

NDSU Main Research Center
Department No. 640
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Executive budget recommendation	370.53	$64,114,394	$66,488,223	$130,602,617
Base level	358.47	58,125,665	58,022,465	116,148,130
Increase (decrease)	12.06	$5,988,729	$8,465,758	$14,454,487
Percentage increase (decrease)	3.4%	10.3%	14.6%	12.4%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

A copy of the draft appropriations bill reflecting the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix B.

Selected Highlights

- Adds $4,013,016, of which $2,552,760 is from the general fund and $1,460,256 is from other funds, for salary increases of up to 4 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026
- Adds $2,108,033, of which $1,254,414 is from the general fund and $853,619 is from other funds, for a health insurance premium increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $5,559,202, of which $3,714,807 is from the general fund and $1,844,395 is from other funds, to replace the 2023-25 biennium new FTE pool ($220,000) and 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool ($5,339,202)
- Adds $495,000 from the general fund for an FTE scientist position and an FTE research specialist position
- Removes $1,823,942, of which $320,198 is from the general fund and $1,503,744 is from other funds for supplies, repairs, travel, and temporary salaries
- Adds $1 million from other funds for research equipment
- Adds **one-time funding** of $2.6 million from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) for a seed conditioning plant at the Langdon Research Center
- Adds **one-time funding** of $1 million from SIIF for deferred maintenance
- Adds **one-time funding** of $620,000 from SIIF to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	**General Fund**	**Other Funds**	**Total**
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Base payroll changes		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	10.06			0
Salary increase		2,552,760	1,460,256	4,013,016
Health insurance increase		1,254,414	853,619	2,108,033
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		220,000		220,000
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(178,477)		(178,477)
Adds funding for an FTE scientist and an FTE research specialist	2.00	495,000		495,000
Adjusts funding for supplies, operating expenses, repairs, and travel		(320,198)	(1,074,146)	(1,394,344)
Adds funding for research equipment			1,000,000	1,000,000
Adjusts base level funding for temporary salaries			(429,598)	(429,598)
Adjusts the funding source for graduate assistant salaries		(300,000)	300,000	0
Total ongoing funding changes	**12.06**	**$5,988,729**	**$4,245,758**	**$10,234,487**
One-Time Funding Items				
Adds funding to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site			$620,000	$620,000
Adds funding for a seed conditioning plant at the Langdon Research Center			2,600,000	2,600,000
Adds funding for deferred maintenance			1,000,000	1,000,000
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$4,220,000**	**$4,220,000**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**12.06**	**$5,988,729**	**$8,465,758**	**$14,454,487**
2025-27 Total Funding	**370.53**	**$64,114,394**	**$66,488,223**	**$130,602,617**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$9,018,641*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*3.4%*	*10.3%*	*7.3%*	*8.8%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*3.4%*	*10.3%*	*14.6%*	*12.4%*

Other Sections in NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640

Section Description	Executive Budget
Additional income appropriation	Section 3 would provide that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Main Research Center, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.
Transfer authority	Section 6 would authorize the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.
FTE position adjustments	Section 7 would allow the Main Research Center to increase or decrease authorized FTE positions as needed, subject to the availability of funds.

Other Sections in NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640

Section Description	Executive Budget
Exemption	Section 8 would authorize the continuation of unexpended appropriation authority received by the Main Research Center into the 2027-29 biennium.
Exemption	Section 9 would authorize the continuation of unexpended other funds appropriation authority relating to the Waldron Hall replacement appropriated in Section 1 of Chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.
SIIF	Section 11 would identify $4,220,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for the Langdon Research Center seed conditioning plant, the Oakes irrigation research site, and deferred maintenance.

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2020
(Governor's Recommendation)

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

(At the request of the Governor)

A bill for an act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a transfer; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$6,652,893	$66,131,838
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$6,652,893	$67,493,358
Less estimated income	29,049,776	3,209,996	32,259,772
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$3,442,897	$35,233,586
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	3.74	256.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Less estimated income	3,541,116	1,088,490	4,629,606
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$495,302	$2,678,957
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Less estimated income	19,581,141	826,897	20,408,038
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$1,129,607	$6,355,982
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Less estimated income	58,022,465	8,465,758	66,488,223
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$5,988,729	$64,114,394
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	12.06	370.53

Subdivision 5.

RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$619,653	$7,999,491
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	234,215	3,852,485
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	399,454	5,780,702
Langdon research center	3,195,869	473,562	3,669,431
North central research center	5,355,217	356,028	5,711,245
Williston research center	5,527,125	495,984	6,023,109
Carrington research center	10,191,002	833,502	11,024,504
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$3,412,398	$44,060,967
Less estimated income	20,964,971	1,031,141	21,996,112
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$2,381,257	$22,064,855
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

BILL TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$13,437,792	$130,447,774
Grand total other funds	132,792,191	14,678,081	147,470,272
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$28,115,873	$277,918,046

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly for the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act:

One-Time Funding Description	2023-25	2025-27
Deferred maintenance	$500,000	$1,000,000
Storage sheds	1,900,000	0
Transportation data intelligence center	432,600	0
Northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade	3,250,000	0
Pellet mill	650,000	0
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project	1,700,000	0
Hettinger research extension center land purchase	1,038,000	0
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation	2,933,230	0
Waldron hall replacement project	97,000,000	0
Carbon dioxide transportation network study	0	408,100
Protein extraction/air classification system	0	350,000
Oakes irrigation research site building completion	0	620,000
Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000
Total all funds	$109,403,830	$4,978,100
Total other funds	105,695,600	4,570,000
Total general fund	$3,708,230	$408,100

SECTION 3. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amount included in the grand total special funds appropriation line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the main research center may transfer appropriation authority within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act. Any amounts

transferred must be reported to the director of the office of management and budget.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS. The state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. The board shall report any adjustments to the office of management and budget pursuant to this section.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS PROJECTS. The amounts appropriated from other funds for Williston research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2019 Session Laws, Carrington research center capital projects, central grasslands research center capital projects, and Langdon research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 48 of the 2021 Session Laws, and Williston research center capital projects and Waldron Hall replacement in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE. The amounts appropriated from other funds for the northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade and pellet mill in subdivision 2 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 11. ESTIMATED INCOME - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The estimated income line in subdivision 2 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $350,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the northern crops institute for a protein extraction/air classification system. The estimated income line in subdivision 4 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $4,220,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant, the Oakes irrigation research site building completion and deferred maintenance.

Agronomy Seed Farm
Department No. 649
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Executive budget recommendation	3.00	$0	$1,688,521	$1,688,521
Base level	3.00	0	1,632,722	1,632,722
Increase (decrease)	0.00	$0	$55,799	$55,799
Percentage increase (decrease)	0.0%	N/A	3.4%	3.4%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

A copy of the draft appropriations bill reflecting the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix B.

Selected Highlights

- Adds $29,471 from other funds for salary increases of up to 4 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026
- Adds $18,016 from other funds for a health insurance premium increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $8,312 from other funds to replace the 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	**General Fund**	**Other Funds**	**Total**
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Salary increase			$29,471	$29,471
Health insurance increase			18,016	18,016
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool			8,312	8,312
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$55,799**	**$55,799**
One-Time Funding Items				
No one-time funding items				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$0**	**$55,799**	**$55,799**
2025-27 Total Funding	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,688,521**	**$1,688,521**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.4%*	*3.4%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.4%*	*3.4%*

Other Sections in Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649

Section Description	Executive Budget
Additional income appropriation	Section 3 would provide that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Agronomy Seed Farm, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.
FTE position adjustments	Section 7 would allow the Agronomy Seed Farm to increase or decrease authorized FTE positions as needed, subject to the availability of funds.
Exemption	Section 8 would authorize the continuation of unexpended appropriation authority received by the Agronomy Seed Farm into the 2027-29 biennium.

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2020
(Governor's Recommendation)

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

(At the request of the Governor)

A bill for an act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a transfer; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$6,652,893	$66,131,838
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$6,652,893	$67,493,358
Less estimated income	29,049,776	3,209,996	32,259,772
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$3,442,897	$35,233,586
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	3.74	256.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,583,792	$7,308,563
Less estimated income	3,541,116	1,088,490	4,629,606
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$495,302	$2,678,957
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$1,956,504	$26,764,020
Less estimated income	19,581,141	826,897	20,408,038
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$1,129,607	$6,355,982
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$14,454,487	$130,602,617
Less estimated income	58,022,465	8,465,758	66,488,223
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$5,988,729	$64,114,394
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	12.06	370.53

Subdivision 5.

RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$619,653	$7,999,491
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	234,215	3,852,485
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	399,454	5,780,702
Langdon research center	3,195,869	473,562	3,669,431
North central research center	5,355,217	356,028	5,711,245
Williston research center	5,527,125	495,984	6,023,109
Carrington research center	10,191,002	833,502	11,024,504
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$3,412,398	$44,060,967
Less estimated income	20,964,971	1,031,141	21,996,112
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$2,381,257	$22,064,855
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$55,799	$1,688,521
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

BILL TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$13,437,792	$130,447,774
Grand total other funds	132,792,191	14,678,081	147,470,272
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$28,115,873	$277,918,046

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly for the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act:

One-Time Funding Description	2023-25	2025-27
Deferred maintenance	$500,000	$1,000,000
Storage sheds	1,900,000	0
Transportation data intelligence center	432,600	0
Northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade	3,250,000	0
Pellet mill	650,000	0
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project	1,700,000	0
Hettinger research extension center land purchase	1,038,000	0
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation	2,933,230	0
Waldron hall replacement project	97,000,000	0
Carbon dioxide transportation network study	0	408,100
Protein extraction/air classification system	0	350,000
Oakes irrigation research site building completion	0	620,000
Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000
Total all funds	$109,403,830	$4,978,100
Total other funds	105,695,600	4,570,000
Total general fund	$3,708,230	$408,100

SECTION 3. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amount included in the grand total special funds appropriation line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the main research center may transfer appropriation authority within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act. Any amounts

transferred must be reported to the director of the office of management and budget.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS. The state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. The board shall report any adjustments to the office of management and budget pursuant to this section.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS PROJECTS. The amounts appropriated from other funds for Williston research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2019 Session Laws, Carrington research center capital projects, central grasslands research center capital projects, and Langdon research center capital projects in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 48 of the 2021 Session Laws, and Williston research center capital projects and Waldron Hall replacement in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE. The amounts appropriated from other funds for the northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade and pellet mill in subdivision 2 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws, are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or related revenues are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 11. ESTIMATED INCOME - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND – NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The estimated income line in subdivision 2 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $350,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the northern crops institute for a protein extraction/air classification system. The estimated income line in subdivision 4 of section 1 of this Act includes the sum of $4,220,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the Langdon research extension center seed conditioning plant, the Oakes irrigation research site building completion and deferred maintenance.

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
Department No. 627
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

REVISED EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Burgum executive budget recommendation	43.88	$6,355,982	$20,408,038	$26,764,020
Revisions - Increase (decrease)	0.00	(31,498)	(71,450)	(102,948)
Armstrong executive budget recommendation	**43.88**	**$6,324,484**	**$20,336,588**	**$26,661,072**
Base level	43.88	5,226,375	19,581,141	24,807,516
Increase (decrease)	0.00	$1,098,109	$755,447	$1,853,556
Percentage increase (decrease)	0.0%	21.0%	3.9%	7.5%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the revised executive budget recommendation is attached as an appendix.

Selected Highlights

- ***Adds $460,978, of which $141,039 is from the general fund and $319,939 is from other funds, for salary increases of up to 3 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026***
- Adds $270,237, of which $71,675 is from the general fund and $198,562 is from other funds, for a health insurance increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $339,241, of which $102,295 is from the general fund and $236,946 is from other funds, to replace the 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool
- Adds $375,000 from the general fund for artificial intelligence in surface transportation
- Adds one-time funding of $408,100 from the general fund for a carbon dioxide transportation network study

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	**General Fund**	**Other Funds**	**Total**
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Salary increase		$141,039	$319,939	$460,978
Health insurance increase		71,675	198,562	270,237
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		102,295	236,946	339,241
Adds funding for artificial intelligence in surface transportation		375,000		375,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$690,009**	**$755,447**	**$1,445,456**
One-Time Funding Items				
Carbon dioxide transportation network study		$408,100		$408,100
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$408,100**	**$0**	**$408,100**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$1,098,109**	**$755,447**	**$1,853,556**
2025-27 Total Funding	**43.88**	**$6,324,484**	**$20,336,588**	**$26,661,072**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$13,059,451*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*13.2%*	*3.9%*	*5.8%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*21.0%*	*3.9%*	*7.5%*

Branch Research Centers
Department No. 628
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

REVISED EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Burgum executive budget recommendation	107.16	$22,064,855	$21,996,112	$44,060,967
Revisions - Increase (decrease)	0.00	(139,725)	(42,060)	(181,785)
Armstrong executive budget recommendation	**107.16**	**$21,925,130**	**$21,954,052**	**$43,879,182**
Base level	111.81	19,683,598	20,964,971	40,648,569
Increase (decrease)	(4.65)	$2,241,532	$989,081	$3,230,613
Percentage increase (decrease)	(4.2%)	11.4%	4.7%	7.9%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the revised executive budget recommendation is attached as an appendix.

Selected Highlights

- ***Adds $814,125, of which $625,768 is from the general fund and $188,357 is from special funds, for salary increases of up to 3 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026***
- Adds $642,565, of which $461,078 is from the general fund and $181,487 is from special funds, for a health insurance premium increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $1,519,131, of which $1,199,319 is from the general fund and $319,812 from special funds, to replace the 2023-25 biennium new FTE pool ($386,000) and 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool ($1,133,131)
- Adds $280,000 from special funds for operating expenses to provide $40,000 for each of the seven branch research stations

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

Branch research centers - Budget No. 628
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	**General Fund**	**Other Funds**	**Total**
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Decreases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	(4.65)			$0
Salary increase		$625,768	$188,357	814,125
Health insurance increase		461,078	181,487	642,565
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		386,000		386,000
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		813,319	319,812	1,133,131
Adds funding for IT rate increases		19,095	19,425	38,520
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(63,728)		(63,728)
Adds funding for operating expenses			280,000	280,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**(4.65)**	**$2,241,532**	**$989,081**	**$3,230,613**
One-Time Funding Items				
No one-time funding items				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(4.65)**	**$2,241,532**	**$989,081**	**$3,230,613**
2025-27 Total Funding	**107.16**	**$21,925,130**	**$21,954,052**	**$43,879,182**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*11.4%*	*4.7%*	*7.9%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*11.4%*	*4.7%*	*7.9%*

NDSU Extension Service
Department No. 630
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

REVISED EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Burgum executive budget recommendation	256.44	$35,233,586	$32,259,772	$67,493,358
Revisions - Increase (decrease)	(1.00)	(241,584)	(215,235)	(456,819)
Armstrong executive budget recommendation	**255.44**	**$34,992,002**	**$32,044,537**	**$67,036,539**
Base level	252.70	31,790,689	29,049,776	60,840,465
Increase (decrease)	2.74	$3,201,313	$2,994,761	$6,196,074
Percentage increase (decrease)	1.1%	10.1%	10.3%	10.2%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the revised executive budget recommendation is attached as an appendix.

Selected Highlights

- ***Adds $2,058,451, of which $1,094,432 is from the general fund and $964,019 is from other funds, for salary increases of up to 3 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026***
- Adds $1,458,863, of which $720,767 is from the general fund and $738,096 is from other funds, for a health insurance premium increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $3,854,545, of which $2,091,347 is from the general fund and $1,763,198 is from other funds, to replace the 2023-25 biennium new FTE pool ($410,000) and 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool ($3,444,545)
- ***Adds $290,000 from the general fund for an extension carbon specialist position, but does not include FTE authorization for the position***
- Adds $449,207 for supplies, operating expenses, and temporary salaries

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	**General Fund**	**Other Funds**	**Total**
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Base payroll changes		($1,614,854)	($450,138)	($2,064,992)
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	2.74			0
Salary increase		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451
Health insurance increase		720,767	738,096	1,458,863
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		410,000		410,000
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545
Adds funding for an FTE extension carbon specialist		290,000		290,000
Adds funding for operating support			150,000	150,000
Adjusts funding for supplies, operating expenses, and temporary salaries		619,621	(170,414)	449,207
Total ongoing funding changes	**2.74**	**$3,201,313**	**$2,994,761**	**$6,196,074**
One-Time Funding Items				
No one-time funding items				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**2.74**	**$3,201,313**	**$2,994,761**	**$6,196,074**
2025-27 Total Funding	**255.44**	**$34,992,002**	**$32,044,537**	**$67,036,539**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$10,057,689*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*10.1%*	*10.3%*	*10.2%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*10.1%*	*10.3%*	*10.2%*

Legislative Council

Northern Crops Institute
Department No. 638
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

REVISED EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Burgum executive budget recommendation	18.35	$2,678,957	$4,629,606	$7,308,563
Revisions - Increase (decrease)	0.00	(17,167)	(21,521)	(38,688)
Armstrong executive budget recommendation	**18.35**	**$2,661,790**	**$4,608,085**	**$7,269,875**
Base level	18.15	2,183,655	3,541,116	5,724,771
Increase (decrease)	0.20	$478,135	$1,066,969	$1,545,104
Percentage increase (decrease)	1.1%	21.9%	30.1%	27.0%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the revised executive budget recommendation is attached as an appendix.

Selected Highlights

- ***Adds $173,287, of which $76,883 is from the general fund and $96,404 is from special funds, for salary increases of up to 3 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026***
- Adds $114,100, of which $43,015 is from the general fund and $71,085 is from special funds, for a health insurance premium increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $119,317, of which $58,637 is from the general fund and $60,680 is from special funds, to replace the 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool
- Adds $788,400, of which $299,600 is from the general fund and $488,800 is from special funds, for operating expenses
- Adds one-time funding of $350,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) for a protein extraction and air classification system

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	**General Fund**	**Other Funds**	**Total**
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	0.20			$0
Salary increase		$76,883	$96,404	173,287
Health insurance increase		43,015	71,085	114,100
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		58,637	60,680	119,317
Adds funding for operating expenses		299,600	488,800	788,400
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.20**	**$478,135**	**$716,969**	**$1,195,104**
One-Time Funding Items				
Adds funding for a protein extraction and air classification system			$350,000	$350,000
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.20**	**$478,135**	**$1,066,969**	**$1,545,104**
2025-27 Total Funding	**18.35**	**$2,661,790**	**$4,608,085**	**$7,269,875**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*21.9%*	*20.2%*	*20.9%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*21.9%*	*30.1%*	*27.0%*

NDSU Main Research Center
Department No. 640
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

REVISED EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Burgum executive budget recommendation	370.53	$64,114,394	$66,488,223	$130,602,617
Revisions - Increase (decrease)	(2.00)	(463,716)	(2,366,551)	(2,830,267)
Armstrong executive budget recommendation	**368.53**	**$63,650,678**	**$64,121,672**	**$127,772,350**
Base level	358.47	58,125,665	58,022,465	116,148,130
Increase (decrease)	10.06	$5,525,013	$6,099,207	$11,624,220
Percentage increase (decrease)	2.8%	9.5%	10.5%	10.0%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the revised executive budget recommendation is attached as an appendix.

Selected Highlights

- ***Adds $3,282,749, of which $2,089,044 is from the general fund and $1,193,705 is from other funds, for salary increases of up to 3 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026***
- Adds $2,108,033, of which $1,254,414 is from the general fund and $853,619 is from other funds, for a health insurance premium increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $5,559,202, of which $3,714,807 is from the general fund and $1,844,395 is from other funds, to replace the 2023-25 biennium new FTE pool ($220,000) and 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool ($5,339,202)
- ***Adds $495,000 from the general fund for a scientist position and a research specialist position, but does not include FTE authorization for the positions***
- Removes $1,823,942, of which $320,198 is from the general fund and $1,503,744 is from other funds for supplies, repairs, travel, and temporary salaries
- Adds $1 million from other funds for research equipment
- ***Adds one-time funding of $1.5 million from SIIF for deferred maintenance***
- Adds one-time funding of $620,000 from SIIF to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	**General Fund**	**Other Funds**	**Total**
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Base payroll changes		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	10.06			0
Salary increase		2,089,044	1,193,705	3,282,749
Health insurance increase		1,254,414	853,619	2,108,033
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		220,000		220,000
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(178,477)		(178,477)
Adds funding for an FTE scientist and an FTE research specialist		495,000		495,000
Adjusts funding for supplies, operating expenses, repairs, and travel		(320,198)	(1,074,146)	(1,394,344)
Adds funding for research equipment			1,000,000	1,000,000
Adjusts base level funding for temporary salaries			(429,598)	(429,598)
Adjusts the funding source for graduate assistant salaries		(300,000)	300,000	0
Total ongoing funding changes	**10.06**	**$5,525,013**	**$3,979,207**	**$9,504,220**
One-Time Funding Items				
Adds funding to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site			$620,000	$620,000
Adds funding for deferred maintenance			1,500,000	1,500,000
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$2,120,000**	**$2,120,000**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**10.06**	**$5,525,013**	**$6,099,207**	**$11,624,220**
2025-27 Total Funding	**368.53**	**$63,650,678**	**$64,121,672**	**$127,772,350**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$8,943,534*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*2.8%*	*9.5%*	*6.9%*	*8.2%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*2.8%*	*9.5%*	*10.5%*	*10.0%*

Agronomy Seed Farm
Department No. 649
2025 Senate Bill No. 2020

REVISED EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Burgum executive budget recommendation	3.00	$0	$1,688,521	$1,688,521
Revisions - Increase (decrease)	0.00	0	(5,378)	(5,378)
Armstrong executive budget recommendation	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,683,143**	**$1,683,143**
Base level	3.00	0	1,632,722	1,632,722
Increase (decrease)	0.00	$0	$50,421	$50,421
Percentage increase (decrease)	0.0%	N/A	3.1%	3.1%

NOTE:
More detailed information on the revised executive budget recommendation is attached as an appendix.

Selected Highlights

- ***Adds $24,093 from other funds for salary increases of up to 3 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026***
- Adds $18,016 from other funds for a health insurance premium increase of $250 per month (15.2 percent), from $1,643 to $1,893, per employee
- Adds $8,312 from other funds to replace the 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

As of the date of this report, there is no major related legislation for this agency.

NOTE:
Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.

Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	**General Fund**	**Other Funds**	**Total**
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Salary increase			$24,093	$24,093
Health insurance increase			18,016	18,016
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool			8,312	8,312
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$50,421**	**$50,421**
One-Time Funding Items				
No one-time funding items				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$0**	**$50,421**	**$50,421**
2025-27 Total Funding	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,683,143**	**$1,683,143**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.1%*	*3.1%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.1%*	*3.1%*

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
1/16/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

9:00 a.m. Chairman Wanzek opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Wanzek, Vice-Chair Dwyer, Senator Burckhard, Senator Erbele, and Senator Sickler.

Discussion Topics:

- State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE) overview
- 4H
- Research investments
- Six SBARE needs
- Capital improvement needs
- Governor Armstrong budget recommendations
- Impacts of research
- Soybean/dry bean research
- Grassland research
- Food systems research
- Foundation seedstocks
- Herbicide research
- Land reclamation
- Building costs
- Smart feedlot construction
- Research technicians
- Sheep research
- New variety seed production
- Importance of science-based research
- Prairie Dog Bill
- Staff retention
- ND-MT research synergy
- Agricultural trade policy
- Carbon management
- Broadband service
- Cattle production priorities
- Risk management
- NDSU/private business collaboration

- Biofuels
- Cover crops/crop rotation
- Carbon markets
- Production efficiencies
- Trade studies
- Webinars

9:01 a.m. Sarah Hall Lovas, Chair, State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE), testified in favor and submitted testimony #29290.

9:13 a.m. Greg Lardy, Director of ND Agricultural Experiment Stations (NDAES) and NDSU Extension, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29105 and #32982.

9:41 a.m. Mike Ostlie, Director, Carrington Research Extension Center(REC), testified in favor and submitted testimony #29058.

9:45 a.m. Kevin Sedivic, Interim Director of Central Grasslands REC, testified in favor.

9:48 a.m. Chris Augustin, Director, Dickinson REC, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29067.

9:53 a.m. Randy Melhoff, Director, Langdon REC, testified in favor and submitted testimony #28377.

9:58 a.m. Shana Forster, Director North Central REC, testified in favor and submitted testimony #28677.

10:02 a.m. Samuel Funk, Director of Williston REC testified in favor and submitted testimony #29038.

10:14 a.m. Christopher Schauer, Director Hettinger REC, testified in favor and submitted testimony #28995.

10:20 a.m. Brian Otteson, Director of Agronomy Seed Farm, testified in favor and submitted testimony #28943.

10:25 a.m. Eric Broten, Advisory Board Member, Carrington REC , testified in favor.

10:29 a.m. Karlee Rauschenburger, Advisory Board Member of North Central NDREC , testified in favor and submitted testimony #29091.

10:34 a.m. Tom Wheeler, Board Member of Williston REC, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29477.

10:48 a.m. Recessed

11:02 a.m. Reconvened

11:04 a.m. Matt Perdue, Government Relations Director, ND Farmers, Union testified in favor and submitted testimony #29465.

11:09 a.m. Travis Zablotney, Regional Chair of ND GOP, testified in favor.

11:18 a.m. Seth Arndorfer, CEO of Dakota Carrier Network, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29313.

11:21 a.m. Julie Ellingson, Executive VP, ND Stockmen's Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29425.

11:27 a.m. Ryan Pederson, executive committee member of Clean Fuels Alliance America (CFAA), testified in favor and submitted testimony #29188.

11:38 a.m. Drew Courtney, Board Member, ND Corn Growers Association , testified in favor and submitted testimony #29454.

11:42 a.m. Ryan Ellis, President of the ND Grain Growers Assn. (NDGGA), testified in favor and submitted testimony #29181.

11:47 a.m. Jim Bahm, Chairman, ND Agriculture Coalition, testified in favor and provided testimony #28772.

11:54 a.m. Dani Quissell, Executive Director of ND Irrigation Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29398.

Additional written testimony:

Luke Anderson, Owner, Anderson Seed Farms, submitted testimony #28648 in favor.

Kendon Faul submitted testimony #28690 in favor.

Robert Grosz, President, Winery Association of ND, submitted testimony #28938 in favor.

Ed Cuskelly, Chair of the NDSU Dickinson Research Extension Center Advisory Board, submitted testimony # 29065 in favor.

Ann Kvande, Executive Officer of Western Region Economic Development, submitted testimony #29171 in favor.

Greg Goodman, REC Advisory Board Member for Langdon Research Center, submitted testimony #29182 in favor.

Shannon Doer, Executive Director of Cavalier County Job Development Authority, submitted testimony #29283 in favor.

Steve Perdue, President of US Durum Growers Association, submitted testimony #29378 in favor.

Geoff Simon, lobbyist for Western Energy Association, submitted testimony #29395 in favor.

Mark Seastrand submitted testimony #29407 in favor.

11:57 a.m. Chairman Wanzek closed the hearing.

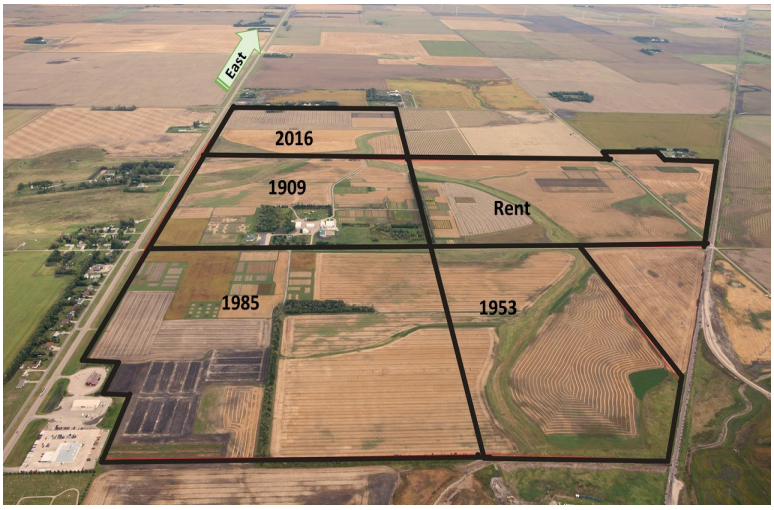
Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk



NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center
Senate Appropriations Committee Report
Government Operations Division - January 16, 2025

Langdon REC 2023/25 Legislative Update

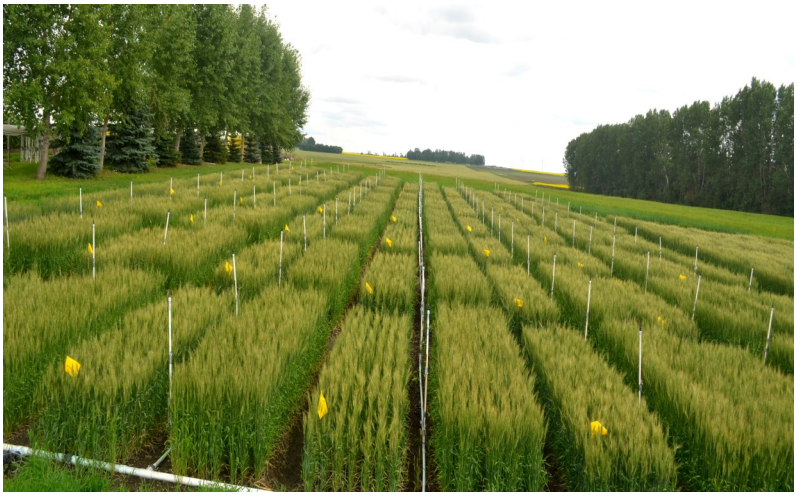
- August 2023 Larissa Jennings began working as a canola clubroot research specialist I.
- Construction of the greenhouse addition is complete within legislative budget.
- Storage shed (70 feet by 194 feet) has been constructed.



Langdon REC AES Research Programs

- Since 1983, Bryan Hanson, research agronomist, has been conducting agronomy research programming on all crops grown in our region with an emphasis on canola. He has built a very solid and trustworthy agronomy research program at Langdon.
- Plant Pathology research program focuses on diseases of crops in North Dakota. Our climate is the epicenter of crop disease incidence making Langdon an ideal disease research site.
- Foundation Seed production provides growers and seed companies with superior publicly owned upper midwest crop varieties.
- Support Fargo main station crop breeders and others researching the development of new ND crop varieties and other technologies.





Langdon REC Extension Program

- Cropping systems specialist prioritizing agent training, grower questions and IPM surveys.
- Soil Health specialist continues to prioritize extension agent/grower soil health education through on field testing and remediation.



NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center
Senate Appropriations Committee Report
Government Operations Division - January 16, 2025

NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center 2025/27 Programmatic Priorities

1. Request that the committee honor the hard work conducted by SBARE and fund the priorities they have identified in Both Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station.

NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center Capital Projects Priorities

1. An updated foundation seed conditioning system to support ND growers and seed companies with highest quality seed available.









- 62 years old.
- Workforce safety hazard.
- Inefficient at 15 bu/hr.
- In the past 10 years have sold foundation grade seed to 135 customers.
- NDPSC mandates a semi sized scale by end of 2026.
- LREC averages $224,171.80 of FSS program income per year (last five years).
- We currently condition HRSW, soybeans, flax, barley. Pulses, grasses, and other specialty crops unable to clean.

Anderson Seed Farms Inc.
Forman, ND

Chairman Wanzek and members of the Senate Appropriations, Government Operations Division

My name is Luke Anderson, I am part owner and operator Anderson Seed Farms Inc. in Forman, ND. I also am a representative on the advisory council for the Agronomy Seed farm in the SE District. Since 1958 we have produced, conditioned, and sold Certified Seed. We have raised many crops throughout our history and the origin of many of these varieties have come from the Agronomy Seed Farm in Casselton, ND. We have relied on the research and expertise of NDSU, NDSU Extension, ND Ag Experiment Station, and the Agronomy Seed Farm, to provide us with quality foundation seed varieties that have played a major role in our success as seed operation and the success of our farmer growers who have relied on the seed we produce.

The economic benefits that the Agronomy Seed Farm provides for seed producers in the state of North Dakota and surrounding region are greater than most realize. I can attest to this personally as a seed producer and farmer. Without the Agronomy Seed Farm's work in research trials and foundation seed production, area growers would not have the access to the scientific data and quality seed needed to grow NDSU seed varieties. This contribution creates an economic benefit to not only the state of North Dakota and NDSU, but also to the farmers of North Dakota and the surrounding region.

As a member of the Advisory council, I can also say that everyone at the Agronomy Seed Farm operates in the upmost professional manner. They are meticulous at not only producing clean and pure seed for farmers but also manage many research trials that provide seed growers and researchers important data on seed varieties.

In closing, I am asking for the approval of the Agronomy Seed Farm's budget. The Agronomy Seed Farm is self-supported and does not require any general fund appropriations which supports how efficient and successful the Agronomy Seed Farm has been for the people of the great state of North Dakota.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

Luke Anderson
President, Anderson Seed Farms Inc.
Southeast District Representative, Agronomy Seed Farm Advisory Council.

P.O. Box 261
Forman, ND 58032
(701)-724-3601
www.andersonseedfarms.com

NDSU | NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

North Central Research Extension Center

Testimony to North Dakota Senate Appropriations Committee: SB 2020
North Dakota State University
North Central Research Extension Center, Minot, ND
January 2025

Chairman Wanzek and Members of the Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to address you today and share some of the significant research and extension impacts of the North Central Research Extension Center (NCREC) that directly benefit North Dakota farmers and ranchers. For the record, I am Shana Forster, director of the NCREC in Minot, ND.

At the NCREC, are mission areas include agronomy research, pulse crop breeding, Extension education in livestock management, forage production, and soil health, foundation seed production, weed science, and winter-hardy grape research. We provide unbiased, science-based information to support farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses in the region.

I would like to update you on some of our current accomplishments, but first, I want to thank you for the state-appropriated project from the previous session. This funding supported the construction of a new 70' x 110' steel-framed machine storage shed at the NCREC. This facility will shelter valuable research equipment, extending its life and ensuring it continues to support our work. We also thank you for the generous compensation and benefits package, in addition to the equity adjustments, provided in the previous session.



A FEW OF THE NCREC MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Research Updates

Weed Science

Dr. Brian Jenks has been conducting research on herbicide resistance, particularly in yellow and green foxtail, and more recently in kochia. This research helps farmers make better decisions on herbicide use and crop rotations. For example, after reports of ineffective kochia control in 2022, Dr. Jenks discovered that some kochia populations in western ND have developed resistance to commonly used preplant burndown herbicides. This finding is crucial for farmers as it significantly impacts their herbicide options.

Agronomy Research

Dr. Leandro Bortolon, joined the NCREC as a research agronomist in September 2023, and has significantly expanded our agronomy research efforts. His expertise in agronomy and soils-based research will allow us to address critical issues like nutrient efficiency, soil acidity, biological inputs, cover crops, and crop management. These are key issues for local farmers, and his work will include on-farm research to provide more relevant, regional data.

I would bring to your attention SBARE priorities ranked for the ND Agricultural Experiment Station, specifically the request for research specialists. I cannot stress how vital the hard-working and knowledgeable research specialists are to our research programs. The NCREC agronomy research program has been without a state-supported research specialist for many years. In addition, the NCREC grape research program has been supported by primarily soft funds since its inception.

Funding Requests

Research Specialist for Agronomy Research

The NCREC agronomy program has been without a state-supported research specialist for years. As our research efforts grow to meet the needs of farmers, it is essential to have additional technical support. We ask for your support in funding a state-supported research specialist to help manage the expanded agronomy research program.

Research Specialist for Grapes/Vineyards

The NCREC grape program has yielded valuable data, resulting in the release of two grape varieties suited to North Dakota's climate. We have had a research technician supporting the program, but we need state funding for a full-time position to continue this critical work. The NCREC grape vineyard in Minot has been instrumental in evaluating winter-hardiness, but this program requires state-funded support in order to continue.

Thank you for your continued support of the NDSU REC network and SBARE initiatives. The success of our programs depends on your ongoing investment in agricultural research and extension, which directly benefits North Dakota's farmers and ranchers. I appreciate your time and consideration.

Shana M. Forster, PhD
Director, North Central Research Extension Center
5400 Hwy 83 S, Minot, ND 58701
701-857-7677
shana.forster@ndsu.edu

Ladies and Gentleman of SBARE:

I am coming before you today to ask for your support of a state-funded Agronomy research specialist to enhance the research capabilities of the NDSU North Central Research Extension Center. For the record, my name is Kendon Faul. I currently farm in Sheridan County. For 23 years, I held the position of Agronomy manager for the McClusky Co-op Elevator. I also serve on the NCREC Board of Visitors. My current family farming operation consists of growing wheat, soybeans, barley, canola, hay barley and corn silage. We took over my in-law's farm in 2001. I have passion for ND agriculture. I dedicated my life to being a successful farmer alongside my wife and children.

One might think that NDSU would be my competition in my role as the agronomy manager, however, this is far from true. Where else could I go to get unbiased, scientific research data? I used the research data from the NC Research Extension Center for making educated decisions for my customers. It has proven to be a very important source over the past 23 years. Now that I strictly farm, my past customers still call me for advice on my farming practices.

I am always looking at the publications or websites from the NDSU Research Extension Centers. I need to stay at the top of my game for my producers, who rely on me for information, and for my family farm. The success of the growers is crucial to maintaining food for not only ND, but the entire world. I start by comparing varieties of wheat (or any of the other crops we grow) and their yield potentials. By looking at the trials that the NC Research Extension Center puts out, I can safely point a grower to a product that will work (or produce) on their fields. I also look at where the trial was done at and determine if a particular variety is better on drier (light/sandy) soils then another.

It goes beyond variety trials. Many chemical companies have the best herbicide or fungicide for all situations. This is where I rely on the expertise of the Research Extension Center. I am in constant contact with Brian Jenks on which herbicide would work best. I even call Dr. Jenks to determine why a product failed, what I should have done differently, or is this a situation that nothing else could have been done. Looking at results from the NC Research Extension Center has allowed me to gain the confidence I need in my growers and my personal farm.

Over the past 23 years, I have had failures and successes in what I do. There are variables that we cannot predict, like weather, wind and tomorrow. Having the resources that the NC Research Extension Center has provided has allowed me to have many more success stories on my farm and the farms of all of my growers. They have relied on my advice to provide a return on investment to their farms. Saving the grower money today and providing a ROI means that they will be around tomorrow to do business with the Co-op and be a successful farmer.

With a state-funded Agronomy research specialist, the NCREC research agronomy program will be able to expand their current research capabilities without spending countless hours trying to find funding to help the staff, which is already stretched thin. . Agronomy research

will generate additional research that I can utilize on my own farm. I will be comfortable sharing and encouraging farmers in my Co-op to utilize this data as well.

Please continue funding to allow for this unbiased information for people who give advice to farmers and farmers alike. Farming is the backbone of our communities and we want it to remain this way in the future for our kids and grandkids.

Thank you

Kendon Faul
Farmer, Sheridan County

1605 E Capitol Ave., Suite 204
Bismarck, ND 58501
701-425-0095

Senate Appropriations Committee – Government Operations Division

Hearing for SB 2020

January 16, 2025

Testimony of Jim Bahm, North Dakota Ag Coalition

Chairman Wanzek and members of the committee, my name is Jim Bahm. I am here today as the Chairman of the North Dakota Ag Coalition. The Ag Coalition has provided a unified voice for North Dakota agricultural interests for more than 40 years. Today, we represent 49 statewide organizations and associations that represent specific commodities or have a direct interest in agriculture. Our members seek to enhance North Dakota's agriculture industry through membership in the Ag Coalition.

The Ag Coalition considers policy action items, brought forward by our members, seriously. It takes a policy position on a limited number of issues every session and only on those that have a significant impact on North Dakota's agriculture industry. The Ag Coalition is a diverse group that addresses all facets of agriculture that depend on NDSU Research and Education. As such, the North Dakota Ag Coalition supports the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE) 2025-2027 priorities, including its priorities for the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension and its capital improvement/one-time requests.

Innovation and technology in agriculture are continually challenging North Dakota's commodity producers to make decisions that produce the highest quality, most economically feasible product. Ag research and extension are essential to ensuring our producers are equipped to mitigate struggles and problem solve issues facing rural North Dakota. The Ag Coalition has five appointees on SBARE; it is pleased to be a voice in support of these priorities to advance and enhance agriculture in North Dakota.

Thank you for your past support of agricultural initiatives. We urge your continued support of research and extension as these programs provide valuable information, education, and tools for the state's producers. These producers have been – and will continue to be – the driving force in the future of North Dakota's number one industry and the state's economy.

The North Dakota Ag Coalition encourages your support of SB 2020. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Date: January 14, 2025

From: Winery Association of North Dakota (WAND)
- Robert Grosz, (dakotavineswinery@gmail.com), President WAND and Co-Owner Dakota Vines Vineyard and Winery
- Randy Albrecht (ralbre@live.com), Treasure WAND and Owner Wolf Creek Winery
- Lisa Cook (4ewinery@gmail.com), Secretary WAND and Co-Owner 4e Winery

Subject: Support for the Research Priorities for the North Central Research Extension Center in Minot, ND

The Winery Association of North Dakota (WAND) is pleased to voice our support for the research priorities for the North Central Research Extension Center (NCREC) in Minot, ND.

North Dakota's grape and wine industry represents a unique opportunity to combine our state's agricultural strengths with tourism and value-added production. Since its inception, the North Dakota Grape and Wine Program has partnered with NDSU to address critical challenges such as grape cold hardiness and quality winemaking. This research is essential for the industry's continued growth and ability to compete nationally.

The NCREC in Minot has played a pivotal role in this effort, offering first rate facilities, expert research teams, and ideal conditions to test and develop cold-hardy grape varieties. Their dedication to advancing this program has been crucial in fostering the growth of a robust and sustainable industry. However, this progress relies on sustained funding and support.

The Winery Association of North Dakota endorses the NCREC's funding priorities and their commitment to driving innovation and excellence in grape and wine research. We believe this investment will not only benefit our industry but also contribute to the broader agricultural success of our state.

Thank you for considering this vital initiative and for your ongoing support of agriculture and innovation in North Dakota.

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY – NDSU AGRONOMY SEED FARM

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Testimony by: Brian Otteson, Director

SB 2020; Budget No. 649

January 16th, 2025

Good morning, Chairman Wanzek, members of the Government Operations Committee. My name is Brian Otteson, I am the Director of the Agronomy Seed Farm at Casselton ND. We are part of the NDSU Agricultural Experiment Station. Today, I would like to give you a brief update on the Agronomy Seed Farm and our activities over the past two years.

First, I'd like to thank you for your past support with our budget, especially the salary compensation package last biennium. The salary adjustments have been very important for retaining high quality employees. Speaking of employees, my role as Director has changed this past year. I have taken on a new role as Director of the Foundation Seedstocks project on campus at NDSU so there is an ongoing search for my replacement. I will remain in this role and continue to carry out many of the Director duties until a replacement is found.

The Agronomy Seed Farm began operating in 1950 and will celebrate its 75th anniversary this year. The seed farm produces high quality, pure Foundation seeds of newly released public varieties by the ND Agricultural Experiment Station. The seed farm provides seed producers and farmers across the state with direct access to these new varieties each year. The seed farm produces Foundation seeds of winter wheat, spring wheat, barley, oat, field pea and soybean. On average, we produce 25 varieties for seed each year and distribute 33,000 bushels of seed each year. Our land base includes approximately 1400 acres across three locations at Casselton, Prosper and Fargo. The seed farm utilizes about 1100 of these acres for seed production while the remaining 300 acres are dedicated to the research plots and breeding nurseries for the main station scientists.

In addition to producing Foundation Seed, we also provide support to the main station scientists at NDSU. Our support primarily consists of land management and providing uniform rotational land for the research plots at the Casselton, Prosper and Fargo sites. In addition, we work closely with plant breeding projects on new variety development and assist with initial breeders' seed increases at Casselton. We also collaborate with the ND Crop Improvement and Seed Association and the NDSU Foundation Seedstocks project on distribution of newly released varieties each year.

The seed farm has just three FTE's and one part time seasonal student employee. Our budget remains mostly unchanged from year to year, with only small increases for salary adjustments and health care premium increases. When the seed farm began operations in 1950, the intention was for it to be 100% self-supportive with no state general funds included in this budget. This has always been the case for the past 75 years that the seed farm has been in operation and continues today. We continue to operate well within our current budget.

Finally, I'd also like to encourage support for the Langdon seed plant that is #2 on the SBARE capital improvement projects list. There is a need to update the facilities at the Langdon REC which will benefit seed producers and farmers in the northeast part of state.

Today, I am not asking for any general fund appropriations since we are 100% self-supported, but rather, I am just asking for your support in approving our budget so we can continue to operate as we have in the past. Thank you for your time today and I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Testimony for the NDSU Hettinger Research Extension Center, Christopher Schauer, Director
Senate Appropriations Hearing – SB2020
January 16, 2025

Thank you Chairman and members of the Senate Appropriations Government Operations Committee. For the Record, my name is Christopher Schauer and I am the Director of the Hettinger Research Extension Center.

The research and Extension at the HREC continues to focus on Agronomy, Weed Science, Wildlife and Range Science, and Animal Science. My testimony today is going to largely be a bunch of "Thank You" comments. 1st, thanks to the 68th Legislative Assembly for the employee compensation package and equity funding salary package. Our employees are our lifeblood, and keeping salaries competitive is necessary to keep the excellent staff we have. 2nd, you provided funding for a 610 acre land purchase of land that has been rented by us for close to 20 years. The land has been transferred to the NDSU Hettinger REC and the transaction has been completed. Previous to this purchase, the HREC only owned 28% of the land upon which we conducted research – we now own 42%, giving our scientists a larger consistent land base upon which to plan research. In order for REC's to conduct research at the scale of producers, we need to have land at their scale. The last item of Thanks goes back to the $3.4 million in capital project funding for livestock facilities we were given during the Special Session. This capital project was the largest infusion of funds at the HREC in 115 years. With these funds we were able to complete a new Livestock Handling Facility and a new Smart Feedlot. These state of the art facilities now make the HREC, and NDSU, a destination facility for research and extension not only for producers, but for collaborating scientists across the University, and the university system across the country. This project also gave us the ability to merge the new and the old with the renovation of the 115 year old Dairy Barn in conjunction with the Smart Feedlot Construction. When you drive into Hettinger from the west, that barn has been the 1st thing you see for 115 years. In keeping that landmark, we now have a facility that hopefully can last another 100 years while being structurally sound and capable of utilizing technology. If you haven't had a chance to tour the facilities and check out the pneumatic sheep handling system, the smart feedbunks, and the feeder capable of capturing gas emissions for the evaluation of feed efficiency, I encourage you make the trip to Hettinger. You truly have breathed fresh air into one of the historic facilities in the nation, and the industry is aware of your commitment to livestock agriculture.

The Hettinger REC and our Advisory Board stand in support of the SBARE priority list. We do not have any items directly on the Capital, Ag Experiment Station, or Extension list, but have benefited from some of the items in the past. Completing the Equipment Storage Shed priority for the rest of the Research Centers is needed to protect valuable equipment, especially in the age of precision agriculture farm equipment. Deferred maintenance for all us is a priority. The HREC currently has $1.5 million in deferred maintenance priorities. Right now we are waiting on the next biennium's funding just to replace a HVAC system due to lack of funds. Funding for Research Technicians and Operating Funds is the HREC's #1 priority. We currently have 1.5 Research Technicians for 5 scientists. It is difficult to plan for future research with lack of technician support funds to provide the labor needed to conduct research. Grant funding comes in waves, but employees need a salary every day. Any additional funding for Research Technicians would be appreciated. Additionally, operating support for day-to-day operations has hit a crisis point. Inflation has hit the RECs the same way it hits producers. As we have shifted programs to precision agriculture, new costs have arisen. For example, the new precision ag equipment in the Smart Feedlot costs 10% of acquisition costs annually just to turn on. In this case, that is over $15,000/year, just to use the equipment. Grants can supplement those costs, but similar to technicians, the equipment needs to run daily and annually, not just periodically.

In closing, Thank You for your past support and am looking forward to another productive biennium. I will entertain any questions.

Testimony to the North Dakota Senate

North Dakota State University

Williston Research Extension Center, Williston, ND

January 2025

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Government Operations Division of the Senate Appropriations Committee, thank you for the opportunity to address this group on behalf of the Williston Research Extension Center, a branch station of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station with staff also addressing NDSU Extension duties. For the record, I am Sam Funk, director of the NDSU Williston Research Extension Center located in Williston, North Dakota.

The Williston REC provides research and outreach on diverse agricultural cropping systems and crops, soils, and includes dryland and irrigated research within the Center activities and properties. We also address land reclamation given our geographic relationship to the expansive oil and gas economic climate in the Bakken region and Williston Basin.

Funding during the 2023-25 biennium included encouraging items to support REC staff such as a compensation package. Also included were appropriations for new construction at the WREC. However, the Williston Basin or Bakken “Premium” is a part of the reality for the region which includes a higher cost of living and more expensive material and labor costs around Williston due to competition for scarce resources and labor with competition in the oil fields, supporting industries and enterprises. The North Dakota Legislature was generous in providing $1.7 million in funding for a structure at the WREC Irrigated Research Site, commonly referred to as the WREC Nesson Valley location. The hope was for construction which included a meeting center, heated shop space, and offices.

At multiple times when estimates of costs to build the new facility at Nesson were provided – including at the bid opening – the construction, even for an unfinished building with minimal internal structure, was quoted to be well in excess of the $1.7 million or the even lower available funds to build when fees for required architect services were subtracted.

This brings us to the request from SBARE to build a structure for the WREC Irrigated Research site that focuses on the immediate and most pressing needs of a heated shop, restrooms, and an employee break room to facilitate important irrigated and high-value agricultural research and outreach at this site. This change in scope for the structure, special fund authority to raise an additional $1.3 million, and no new request for state dollars for this building beyond carryover of the $1.7 million in general funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly are intended to account for additional

costs that may occur in building a structure with expected reinvigorated investment in the oil and gas sector in the Williston Basin.

The North Dakota Legislature also generously provided for $475,000 for the construction of multiple storage sheds around the AES REC network in the state. When the WREC requested an estimate for a shed similar to our fellow REC in Minot, we found an estimate that was significantly higher per square foot than what was underway to be built at a location just hours to the east of Williston. In order to accommodate for the Williston Basin or Bakken “Premium” a request with SBARE is to carryover the $475,000 in funding from the 2023-25 biennium with no new state dollars, but with special fund authority to spend an additional $325,000 as needed to complete the shed, and a continued exemption from the requirement to have an architect participate in this building project to protect high value farm and research equipment under roof.

The challenges we face are ones which we can meet and successfully accomplish our intermediate and longer-term goals. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Samuel Funk, Director
NDSU Williston Research Extension Center
14120 Highway 2 (701) 774-4315
Williston, ND 58801 samuel.funk@ndsu.edu

Testimony to North Dakota Senate Appropriations Committee
Jan 16, 2025
North Dakota State University Carrington Research Extension Center
NDSU Agriculture Experiment Station & Research Extension Centers

Good morning, Chairman Wanzek and Senate Appropriations Committee members. My name is Mike Ostlie, Director of the Carrington Research Extension Center. Thank you for the opportunity to address your committee.

The Carrington Center staff are proud to be a part of the network of RECs, main campus researchers and Extension specialists working with crop and livestock producers to address today's agricultural needs. Recently, our Plant Pathology program completed multi-site, multi-department research to improve fungicide efficacy in soybean and dry bean. This research led to the rapid adoption of low or no cost changes to application strategies, resulting in better disease control for producers at similar or reduced costs. We request additional technical support for this program under SBARE AES Priority #6. This research directly benefits producers by maximizing efficiency of existing practices.

We sincerely thank you for your past support of capital projects to enhance our livestock research capabilities. These projects are crucial for North Dakota's livestock industry, particularly the utilization of feedstuffs from the growing biofuels industry and the promotion of livestock production in the state. As construction of these capital projects is at or near completion, our researchers are evaluating the increased inclusion of canola meal or hybrid rye in rations which appears to be a promising way to use more commodities locally.

Thank you for securing the long-term future of the Oakes Irrigation Research Site. This site provides valuable data for high-yielding corn and soybean acres, including variety performance, water use efficiency, microbial inputs, and plant disease mitigation. Your support enabled the partial construction of a modern shop, lab, and office complex, with the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District funding the exterior and shop before donating the shell and land to NDSU. The local community and collaborative support throughout this endeavor has been rewarding to witness. This site wouldn't exist without everyone working together to realize this shared vision, almost 20 years in the making. The last phase of this project is completing the interior of this building, which is SBARE Capital Improvement Priority #1.

Our agronomic research and Foundation Seedstocks programs have expanded over the past decade, resulting in inadequate storage for research and field equipment. We request your support for the storage shed capital improvement project to protect our equipment from the elements and rodent exposure to maintain the longevity of expensive equipment.

Operational costs continue to rise, affecting all of agriculture. At the CREC, many of these costs are paid with grants, but grant opportunities are not increasing, and many operating costs are not allowed by grant sponsors. SBARE priority #4 would provide much-needed updates to equipment and ensure annual operational security for all teams at CREC.

Finally, thank you for the generous compensation package last biennium. Compensation is a crucial part of retaining our current staff. Thank you for your time today.

Mike Ostlie (701) 652-2951 Mike.Ostlie@ndsu.edu
Director - CREC

To: Senate Appropriates – Government Operations
Attention Chairman Wonzek

From: Ed Cuskelly
211 Haugen Drive
Killdeer, ND 58640

cuskellye@ndsupernet.com

Subject: Support of Senate Bill 2020 on Behalf of the Dickinson Research Extension Center

Date: January 13, 2025

Dear Chairman, Wonzek and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

I am Ed Cuskelly, the chair of the NDSU Dickinson Research Extension Center Advisory Board. I am retired from the agricultural industry as a sales representative, and I am presently ranching in southwestern North Dakota.

The Dickinson Research Extension Center (DREC) has been conducting impactful agricultural research and education for farmers and ranchers in southwest North Dakota. I have personally seen and experienced the vast improvements of agriculture because of the Dickinson Research Extension Center's efforts.

Field and plot research equipment is costly and requires maintenance. Sheds provide protection from the elements and prolong equipment longevity. Funding sheds as prioritized by SBARE for the Dickinson, Central Grasslands, and Carrington Research Extension Centers is a long-term investment that will prolong the life of REC equipment. I have visited the DREC ranch near Manning several times and have noticed that there is a lack of storage for tractors and other pieces of equipment.

Building those sheds for the DREC and others will save us money in the future. However, I have seen that costs have risen greatly over the past years. Increasing state support and operating budgets will ensure that agriculture remains prosperous in North Dakota.

Thank you for your time and support. The Dickinson Research Extension Center and other REC's are a tremendous asset to farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Ed Cuskelly

Good morning, Chairman Wonzek and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee. For the record I am Chris Augustin and serve as director of the Dickinson Research Extension Center. I am a farm kid from Pembina County, the product of 4-H, and have tried to make the best better my entire life. The "best" being North Dakota! Thank you for this opportunity to communicate to you the value of the Dickinson Research Extension Center.

The Dickinson Research Extension Center (DREC) conducts agricultural research and outreach that empowers people. We perpetuate agriculture through research and education. The DREC improves food systems and natural resources for today and tomorrow.

Thank you for your past support. We are all grateful for last session's salary exercise. I am pleased to report that the lab/shop funded by the special legislative session in 2021 is nearly complete. We have a temporary certificate of occupancy and are using the facilities. I anticipate us acquiring a permanent certificate this spring. Senator Rich Wardner has been a champion for North Dakota agriculture. I am thrilled to inform you that the State Board of Higher Education approved to honor Senator Wardner and name the new building the Wardner Agricultural Laboratory! I am excited to invite you to our annual agronomy field day this coming July where we will have a ribbon cutting ceremony and barbeque.

Dr. Krishna Katuwal our research agronomist whose position was funded during the 2023 legislative session is making progress addressing the needs of southwest North Dakota farmers. I am thankful of the hard work and perseverance of our team. They are all dedicated, hardworking, and live the land-grant mission.

I support the SBARE priority list for the Ag experiment station, capital improvements, and NDSU Extension. The Extension Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health

Initiative would empower ranchers to utilize technologies like virtual fencing or drones to identify sick animals. The Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies would build bridges that our farmers and ranchers could use to better market North Dakota products. That could have a positive direct impact on their livelihood and our tax base.

Enhancing our operating budget is crucial to fulfill our charge. During my five years of serving at the DREC, I have seen our operating costs increase immensely. Fuel, motor pool, and seed/feed/fertilizer/herbicides costs alone has risen 41, 9, and 18% respectively (Figure 1).

The SBARE capital improvement request to construct Equipment Storage Sheds is needed. Storing the equipment in sheds is vital to maximize the investment for the equipment by prolonging their life. Our combines may only have a five-foot header, whereas a farmer's combine has a 30 foot or larger header. However, despite this size difference, the two pieces of equipment share a similar price.

Thank you for your time and support. I am proud of the Dickinson Research Extension Center team and look forward to future impacts for the people we serve.

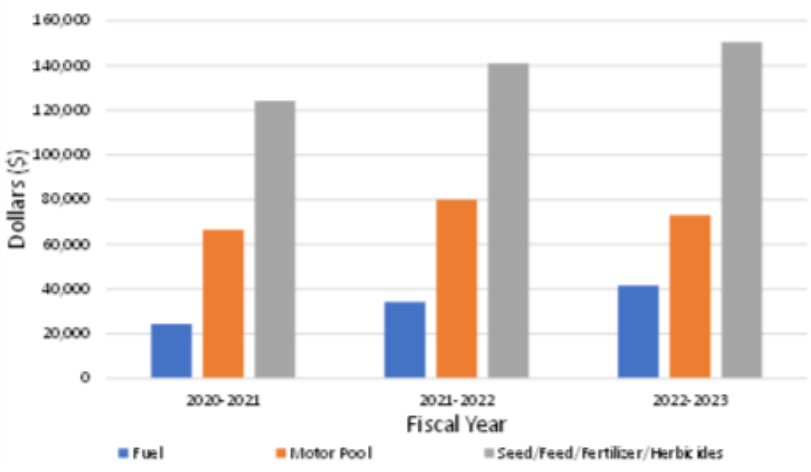


Figure 1. Comparison of costs for various categories at the Dickinson Research Extension Center.

Testimony on SB 2020
Karlee Rauschenberger, Farmer
NCREC Board of Visitors Member
Minot, North Dakota

Chairman Wanzek and members of the committee:

My name is Karlee Rauschenberger, I am a farmer from south of Minot. I am here to ask for your support for the North Dakota State University Agriculture Research Extension Centers, specifically the North Central Research Center in Minot.

I grew up on a 3rd generation family farm. My two brothers went on to farm out of college and I became a teacher. When the oil boom came to western North Dakota my family was having trouble finding help on the farm so my husband and I both started running equipment and working on the farm.

Two years ago my husband, Gabe, and I rented land from a family member and started our own fourth generation family farm. Since Gabe is also a school principal many of the decisions and day to day farm operations fell to me. Farming is very complex and learning to farm at age 42 was an especially daunting task.

This is when the NDSU Research Extension Centers became imperative to our farm's success. I began listening to the online ag market updates, attending in-person training events and reading online research and resources. What I love most about the research extension centers is that the people conducting the research are specialized, highly educated and their focus is on helping farmers and the agriculture industry in North Dakota succeed.

I can read research online regarding when to spread fertilizer, how to deal with specific weeds or how to market my crops. Then I can pick up the phone and call the person who conducted the research and receive valuable input on the best way to manage our farm operation.

This is so valuable to ag producers in the state regardless of age or years of farming experience. The ag industry is dynamic and ongoing research and learning is necessary for the success of agriculture in ND. The NDSU Research Extension Centers serve as lifelines for many family farming operations.

This year is my first year on the Board of Visitors at the North Central Research Extension Center. Serving on the board has allowed me to see first hand how much the center is doing to support and enhance agriculture in the state. A primary need for this center is an increase in operating funds. As costs on the farm are increasing, their costs are increasing as well and it is important to be able to both operate and maintain the research facility in Minot.

Funding for an Agronomy Research Specialist is also very important. Soil types, weed issues, weather and crops grown vary across the state. It is imperative to have local research to help growers make informed decisions that work for the area they are farming in.

Thank you so much for your time and what you are doing to ensure the success of family farms for future generations.

Senate Bill 2020 Testimony

January 16, 2025

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Greg Lardy, Director

Good morning, Chairman Wanzek and members of the Government Operations Division of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

My name is Greg Lardy, and I have the privilege of serving as the director of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.

The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station is the research and development agency of North Dakota agriculture. Our scientists generate solutions to meet the short- and long-term challenges faced by our state's agriculture. Through innovative and creative partnerships with a variety of entities, we develop technologies that help our farmers and ranchers adjust to changing market conditions, consumer preferences, disease threats, and a changing landscape of production scenarios. We develop more cost-effective feeding and grazing strategies for livestock, release plant varieties that are specifically suited to our unique growing conditions, and provide research-based solutions for a myriad of technological challenges faced by our farmers and ranchers. Our scientists help identify new uses for agricultural commodities, enhance marketing opportunities, and bring local solutions to the state through our network of operations on the main campus of North Dakota State University and our seven Research Extension Centers that are located strategically throughout the state.

I want to take a moment to thank the members of the 68th Legislative Assembly for their support of critical infrastructure and programmatic needs that were funded in the 2023 session. You will hear more about several of those projects and programs throughout the day today, but specifically, I wanted to thank you for the support of the employee compensation package, the agricultural field laboratory, and the positions included in our budget last biennium. Specifically, I will mention the field laboratory building which was funded in the 2023 session. We have begun construction on this project and expect it to be completed in mid-2026. It will spur additional growth in the ag economy by providing more timely research-based solutions to the industry in the years to come. These efforts will have a lasting positive impact on our agency and could not have been completed without your support.

The impact of agriculture on the state's economy is significant. Agriculture contributes over $30 billion annually to the state's economy. One in five jobs is directly tied to agriculture.

This morning, in addition to my testimony, you will hear firsthand from several grassroots users of our research programs. They will share how our research is making a difference in their daily

operations and contributing to a brighter future for their families, their communities, and the state.

Agriculture touches every corner of North Dakota. The impact is felt by businesses across the state, whether it is a specialty crop buyer in Beach, a soybean processor in Spiritwood, a dairy in Carrington, a pasta plant in Casselton, or a precision agriculture software company in Fargo.

As Chairwoman Lovas mentioned, SBARE has listened carefully to the needs of the state's citizens through a series of listening sessions and dialogue regarding the programmatic priorities for the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.

SBARE's responsibilities in Century Code include setting the programmatic and budgetary priorities for the agency. They have identified several critical needs including:

Agency Needs

1. Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS): Research into the effects of national and international policies and trade on North Dakota's agriculture is essential. Export markets for agricultural products have become increasingly more complex, leading to higher levels of risk for farmers and agribusinesses. North Dakota's economy, heavily dependent on agriculture and trade, faces vulnerabilities due to tensions in international relations and trade dynamics, impacting food security and global trade patterns. The prosperity of North Dakota's agricultural sector is closely tied to the success of its farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses. Unique challenges confront the state, including the fact that its location requires rail transport to export markets. Research is crucial to understand the impact of changes in agricultural policies and global market trends on North Dakota's agricultural community. Request: Three FTEs total. Positions are: (1) Agricultural policy analyst – $275,000, (2) Market and trade analyst – $275,000 and (3) Economic impact/contributions specialist – $275,000. $150,000 in operating. Total: $975,000
2. Digital Transformation of Agriculture: Digital agriculture, precision farming and ranching, and related technologies are advancing rapidly, driven by breakthroughs in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). NDAES scientists are leveraging these technologies to transform food production. Investing in new technologies, staff and infrastructure will equip scientists with the necessary resources to accelerate research in sensor technology, plant breeding, precision livestock farming and other digital initiatives. This effort is key to enhancing global food security through innovations in North Dakota agriculture. Such funding is crucial for improving infrastructure and capabilities in agricultural data analysis and precision agriculture. Request: Six FTEs total. Positions in prioritized order are: (1) AI/ML engineer – $280,000, (2) Database

architect – $430,000, (3) Data manager – $280,000, (4) Data scientist – $280,000, (5) GIS specialist – $230,000 and (6) Unmanned Aircraft Systems chief pilot – $230,000. Operating request of $904,000 for software subscriptions for cloud server access, network servers, high-speed computers for AI computations, data archiving, storage architecture specialized for AI and ML, and software licenses. Total: $2,634,000

3. Livestock Animal Health: North Dakota faces a significant risk of having no veterinary toxicologist available. To address this critical need, funding is requested for a toxicology resident position. A toxicologist plays a vital role in supporting the state's livestock industry by developing assays for the detection of mycotoxins, ergot, blister beetle toxin, bromethalin in feed and other challenges that affect the industry. Request: One FTE total. Veterinary toxicology resident to support critical needs in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory – $275,000. $50,000 in operating. Total: $325,000
4. Operating, Equipment and Graduate Research Assistantships: Enhanced operating budgets are essential for sustaining growth and achieving ongoing success. The operational costs associated with the NDAES research mission have escalated. Expenses for fuel, equipment maintenance, repairs, feed, fertilizer and more limit the ability of scientists to be responsive to critical research needs. Additionally, operating funds are crucial for fostering the early career development of scientists, enabling them to acquire necessary start-up equipment and supplies and to support graduate student salaries. Sufficient start-up and operating funds are vital for establishing successful research programs. Modern research equipment is essential for conducting accurate experiments and advancing new methods to improve North Dakota's livestock and cropping systems. Funding is requested to ensure laboratories and agricultural field operations are equipped with modern equipment needed to generate world-class results. Graduate research assistants play an indispensable role in the successful completion of every NDAES agricultural research project. They are deeply involved in conducting experiments, analyzing data and applying research findings to solve real-world agricultural problems. Graduate students also share their advancements with the wider community through the dissemination of research through publications and presentations. Additionally, their research prepares them as the next generation of leaders, equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to address challenges facing North Dakota agriculture. This initiative requests an increase in the number of assistantships to support the research activities by attracting talent to NDSU. Request: Equipment and graduate research assistantship funding. $1,190,000 in operating ($560,000 for seven branch stations + $630,000 for main station units), $1,000,000 in equipment and $900,000 for graduate research assistants Total: $3,090,000
5. Biofuels and Carbon Management: As a consequence of the national and international agricultural customer base, North Dakota farmers can achieve economic gains through the adoption of carbon and climate-smart farming strategies. This is key to reducing carbon intensity scores to more effectively participate in markets for renewable fuels. There is a significant need for research to develop advanced farming techniques tailored

to North Dakota's unique agricultural conditions. This research will focus on practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping and efficient nutrient management aimed to both reduce carbon intensity and enhance the production of biofuel feedstocks. This supports efforts to improve sustainability and profitability in farmers' operations. Request: Two FTEs total. Positions are: (1) Scientist – $275,000 and (2) Research specialist – $200,000. $50,000 in operating. Total: $525,000

6. Research Specialists: Technical support staff are critical in assisting agricultural scientists to achieve their research goals. They provide essential expertise in the operation and maintenance of sophisticated laboratory and field equipment that ensures experiments are conducted efficiently and accurately. Staff contribute to the collection and analysis of data, which is fundamental for validating research findings and advancing scientific knowledge in agriculture. By providing logistical and administrative support, they enable scientists to focus on their core research activities, thereby accelerating the progress and impact of agricultural research. Request: Five FTEs total. Positions are technical support in needed areas: (1) Grapes/vineyards – $200,000, (2) Agronomy – $200,000, (3) Plant pathology – $200,000, (4) Soybean breeding – $200,000 and (5) Biosystems engineering – $200,000. 8/30/2024 Total: $1,000,

We are grateful to the 68th Legislative Assembly for their support of capital improvement projects at the Main Station and the branch centers in 2023.

SBARE also ranks the capital improvement project needs for the ND Agricultural Experiment Station. A summary of these capital improvement project requests is included in your budget book on Pages 11 (SBARE ranked projects) and 13 (special fund authorization projects) in your budget book.

1. Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS) Building Completion: Since 1975, the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (GDCD) has collaborated with the NDAES to promote irrigation research in North Dakota. The Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) is taking possession of a building at the Oakes site that will serve as the headquarters for NDAES irrigation research. Requested funding is for the completion of the OIRS headquarters interior. Total: $620,000
2. Langdon REC Seed Conditioning Plant: A modern seed cleaning facility is essential for providing North Dakota foundation crop varieties bred to grow in the state's unique environment. The current facility was built in the 1960s and is incapable of conditioning the full production capacity grown on NDAES land at the Langdon Research Extension Center. Total: $2,600,000
3. NDAES Equipment Storage Sheds: Purchasing and/or leasing expensive field equipment is an investment that the NDAES needs to protect. Storing expensive research plot equipment such as tractors, planters and combines outdoors reduces the life of the equipment and can compromise the sophisticated electronics typically used on such

equipment. Sheds are needed at the Dickinson REC, Central Grasslands REC and Carrington REC. Total: $1,567,500

One-time Requests

Deferred Maintenance Request: $1,500,000

Williston Research Extension Center Capital Projects: The NDAES was unable to obtain any successful bids for the Nesson Valley facility or the storage shed at the Williston Research Extension Center in the 2023-2025 biennium.

Nesson Valley Request: 1. A change in scope to build a structure with a heated shop, restrooms and an employee break room (removing a planned conference room), 2. Special fund authority to raise an additional $1.3 million and 3. Carryover of $1.7 million in general funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly.

Storage Shed Request: 1. Carryover of $475,000 in strategic investment and improvements funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly, 2. Special fund authority to spend an additional $325,000 as needed to complete the shed and 3. Continuation of Section 14 Exemption in H.B. 1020 relating to the construction of the storage sheds.

On page 25 in the budget book, you will find a financial schedule that details our base budget and the governor's executive budget recommendation. At this time, I will walk through what he has included in his budget recommendation for our agency.

The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station works to provide timely solutions to the wide variety of challenges faced by the state's farmers and ranchers. These solutions are an investment in the future of North Dakota and provide a return on investment through improved yields, enhanced productivity, better milling characteristics in grains that lead to enhanced consumer acceptance and market opportunities, improved livestock performance, and more cost-effective input solutions. Most importantly, these solutions provide a means to enhance the state's economy and improve the economic condition of our communities, large and small, across the state. In short, when we provide research-based solutions, farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses are more profitable, and they reinvest those dollars locally.

Here are just a few examples of our impacts:

- Innovative solutions for livestock health and productivity enhance disease detection, optimize livestock management and improve nutritional strategies.
    - The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory played a crucial role in safeguarding animal and public health by conducting essential tests for diseases like rabies, anthrax and avian flu.
    - NDAES scientists demonstrated the effectiveness of virtual fencing technology in improving grazing management, calf performance and forage efficiency, making precision farming more accessible and cost-effective.

- Leveraging cutting-edge technologies like AI and data analytics accelerates crop improvements and promotes sustainable farming practices.
    - The Agricultural Data Analytics team is combining genetic data with field tests to develop models that improve crop varieties faster and more efficiently for North Dakota producers.
    - Scientists are integrating AI-driven weed identification with autonomous systems, reducing herbicide use and fostering more environmentally sustainable agriculture.
- New crop varieties and farming practices improve yield, quality and sustainability, while also reducing input costs for farmers.
    - Research on innovative nitrogen application methods and extensive variety testing have led to higher yields and better quality in crops like durum wheat, providing North Dakota farmers with seeds specifically suited to local conditions.
    - Newly released pulse crop, winter wheat and oat varieties will increase farm income, expand market opportunities and improve farm sustainability while reducing input costs and boosting resilience against environmental challenges.

Thank you for your support of our agency. At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

WESTERN REGION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Connecting Divide, McKenzie, Mountrail & Williams Counties, North Dakota

January 15, 2025

Honorable Senator Bekkedahl
Senate Appropriations – Government Ops Division
North Dakota Legislative Council
State Capitol
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0360

Dear Senate Appropriations – Government Ops Division, Senator Bekkedahl, Chairman:

Western Region Economic Development (WRED), representing Divide, McKenzie, Mountrail, and Williams Counties of North Dakota, **supports SB2020** with the inclusion specifically of the SBARE priority of capital improvement projects for the Nesson Valley facility and storage shed of the NDSU Williston Research Extension Center to carryover the $1.7 million for Nesson Valley and the $475,000 for the storage shed in general funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly. WRED supports to enact the special fund authority for both projects but **does not agree to the funding caps**. WRED requests that instead these caps be raised to ensure that the projects can be completed given that NDAES was unable to get any successful bids for the projects in the 2023-2025 biennium.

The Nesson Valley Irrigation Research and Development Project is located 27 miles from Williston and the irrigation staff currently utilize a small office and bathroom in a chemical storage building.

A Research and Technology Transfer and Research facility to include a heated shop, restrooms, and an employee break room as well as office and lab space and a conference room for irrigation conferences and grower meetings is needed to support the expansion of irrigation and food processing industries in western North Dakota.

Expanded agricultural economic development in western North Dakota will be driven mostly by expanded irrigation research and development as the catalyst to promote new and expanded production of high value crops and irrigated agricultural processing capability. The MonDak Irrigation Frontier has the potential to expand to 500,000 acres.

WRED strongly encourages this committee to approve the carryover of $1,700,000 for the Nesson Valley Facility, $475,000 for the storage shed, and **enact the special fund authority as needed to complete these projects** along with providing **full funding** of the budget request for the NDSU Williston Research Extension.

Sincerely,

Ann Kvande

Ann Kvande
Executive Officer

PO Box 1306, Williston, ND 58802-1306 Telephone: 701-577-8110 www.wrednd.com

North Dakota Grain Growers Association
Testimony in Favor of SB 2020
Senate Appropriations
Government Operations Committee
January 16, 2025

Chairman Wanzek, members of the Senate Appropriations Government Operations Division, for the record my name is Ryan Ellis. I am a family farmer and rancher from Williston, North Dakota and I am also the President of the North Dakota Grain Growers Association. I appear before you today in both capacities in support of SB 2020.

First of all, I would like to thank this Committee as well as the entire North Dakota Legislature for its tremendous past support of North Dakota agriculture and North Dakota research and extension. It is this support that continues to allow North Dakota farmers and ranchers lead the world in food production. No one does it better, and the North Dakota Legislature is a major reason for this effort.

Secondly, NDGGA strongly supports the State Board of Research and Education and their prioritization efforts regarding Ag research and extension. There are 49 other states in this nation that wish they had what North Dakota has enjoyed since Jack Dalrymple initiated the push to have stakeholder input regarding the needs of North Dakota agriculture.

The following are some reasons NDGGA is supportive of SB 2020:

Core Research and Infrastructure Support

The bill provides substantial funding across critical agricultural institutions:

- $59.4M for NDSU Extension Service
- $116.1M for Main Research Center
- $40.6M for Branch Research Centers
- $5.7M for Northern Crops Institute
- $24.8M for Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
- $1.6M for Agronomy Seed Farm

Direct Benefits to Agriculture
The funding supports essential services that directly benefit NDGGA members through:
- Development of innovative farming practices
- Soil conservation research and techniques
- Grain-specific technological advancements
- Extension services providing direct education and support to farmers
- Transportation and marketing research crucial for grain distribution

Strategic Research Network
The bill maintains a network of research centers across different growing regions:
- Dickinson Research Center
- Central Grasslands Research Center
- Hettinger Research Center
- Langdon Research Center
- North Central Research Center
- Williston Research Center
- Carrington Research Center

This geographic distribution ensures research addresses region-specific challenges and growing conditions throughout North Dakota.

Financial Stability and Operational Flexibility
The legislation provides important operational advantages:
- Maintains base level funding across institutions
- Allows centers to use mineral royalties for operational expenses
- Permits unexpended funds to carry over between bienniums
- Enables acceptance of additional funding from federal and private sources
- Includes mechanisms for oversight through agricultural research and education boards

Economic Impact
The bill strengthens the agricultural economy by:
- Supporting rural economic development
- Helping farmers adopt modern techniques
- Enhancing crop yields and market competitiveness
- Developing new markets for northern-grown crops
- Improving transportation and distribution systems

CAPTS
The bill has, as SBARE's number one priority, funding for the Center for Ag Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS) at NDSU.
-CAPTS provides policy analysis and advocacy support which is critical in providing decision-makers on the state and federal levels with the necessary research on agricultural policies and trade issues that directly impact North Dakota grain producers.

-CAPTS specializes in studying the economic effects of agricultural policies and practices on the regional economy which greatly aids decision-makers and stakeholders in analyzing how specific policies could impact the region's farmers and ranchers.
-CAPTS is able to work with agricultural groups in customizing research and collaboration.
-CAPTS strengthens the agricultural sector by helping to drive innovation and well-informed decision making at all levels of agriculture.

In closing SB 2020 allows NDSU Research and Extension to advance agricultural innovation, sustainability, and economic growth in North Dakota. The bill's focus on research, education, and infrastructure development provides both immediate and long-term benefits to the agricultural community. Therefore the North Dakota Grain Growers Association strongly urges the Senate Appropriations Government Operations Division to give SB 2020 a do pass and would urge the full Senate Appropriations Committee and the full Senate to concur.

Testimony for S.B. 2020 – Senate Appropriations Government Operations Division – 2025/27 session

Good morning.

My name is Greg Goodman, REC Advisory Board member for the Langdon Research Center. I am currently a 5th generation farmer, crop insurance agent, and a Cavalier County Commissioner. Thank you for taking the time this morning to listen to testimony on H.B. 2020. I would also like to thank you for the past support for the Langdon Research Center regarding the new greenhouse and storage building that have recently been added to our facility.

The State Board of Ag Research (SBARE) has outlined a priority in their 2025 plan to fund a new seed conditioning plant at the Langdon Research Center. This plant has been an integral piece of agriculture for our region over the past 62 years. Farmers, seed companies, and County Crop Improvement Associations have financially and agronomically benefitted from this plant during this time period. However, the aging facility has come to the end of its useful life, and operation of the plant is in question every day due to lack of available parts, a scale that no longer meets state standards, and the safety of our workers.

The Langdon Research Center's footprint in northeast North Dakota yields a wide variety of crops that are produced in the area. Many of these crops, most notably dry peas, continue to increase in acreage, and the standards set to clean these crops are challenging. A new seed conditioning plant will allow the Langdon Research Center to meet the demands of these growing specialty crops, in addition to supporting the very important Foundation Seed Programs.

I would ask you to support the efforts to put in a new seed cleaning plant at the Langdon Research Center.

Thank you for your time,

Greg Goodman
1205 11th St.
Langdon, ND 58249
(701) 370-7997

SENATE BILL NO. 2020
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS DIVISION
TERRY WANZEK, CHAIR
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2020

Chairman Wanzek and member of the Senate Appropriations Government Operations Division, my name is Ryan Pederson. I am part of a diversified grain farm in north central ND started by my grandfather in 1959. My grandfather had an 8th grade education but became a self-educated plant and soil scientist through a close working relationship with NDSU extension and research. I have tried to continue that legacy of continuing education by participating in field trials, federal conservation programs, and most recently Farmers Union's pilot Climate Smart Program.

Over the years I have represented North Dakota farmers on various commodity organizations including the U.S. Canola Association, Northern Canola Growers and North Dakota Soybean Growers Association. I currently represent the North Dakota soybean industry as an executive committee member on the Clean Fuels Alliance America board. CFAA is the industry trade organization representing Biodiesel, Renewable Diesel and Sustainable Aviation Fuel.

I commend SBARE in their work in developing the six experiment station priorities put forward today, and recognize how each plays a role in strengthening North Dakota agriculture. Given my background, I would like to speak to three of the priorities presented.

First, the Biofuels and Carbon Management request.

I have been in the renewable fuels space, namely biomass-based diesel for over 15 years. During this time the industry has grown from 200 million gallons to over 5 billion gallons annually. In each of the last eight months, over 1 billion pounds of soybean oil has been going into biomass-based diesel. That is roughly equivalent to 87 million bushels per month. For reference, in 2024 ND produced 245 million bushels.

This demand has arguably led to the construction of two soybean crushing plants and the conversion of a diesel toping plant into a renewable diesel plant in the past few years. This complements the existing three oilseed crush plants and biodiesel plant in our state. However, the renewable fuels market is going through a fundamental change that will bring challenges to crop-based feedstocks moving forward.

This change has to do with evaluating each feedstock based on its carbon intensity or CI, score. Simply put, the CI score is how much carbon is released into the atmosphere based on which feedstock is used to produce the fuel. These models are already being developed at other land grant universities and my concern is that North Dakota produced crops may be disadvantaged based on how these models score various cropping systems.

For example, cover crops. While I understand the benefits cover crops have on farmland in much of the country, North Dakota is different. I have been required to plant cover crops after small grain harvest for different conservation programs and have yet to see robust growth given the early frost dates we have. I once had an area Natural Resources Conservation Service conservationist say to me, "it seems the most consistent cover crop we can plant is what grows behind the combine".

Planting after a soybean crop is nearly certain to provide no measurable growth. Also, the western part of the state is typically trying to conserve moisture through the use of no-till.

What we do have in North Dakota is a strong crop rotation system with many farmers having four or more crops in a rotation. We also have a shorter growing season so the percentage of time we have living roots in the unfrozen soil with our primary crop is significantly different then many other regions of the country.

In order to make sure that the commodities North Dakota farmers produce for the liquid fuels market don't get unjustly discounted, we need research in this area that focuses on quantifying the positive aspects of what we are already doing and identifying areas where we can continue to improve. This will help to insure continued market access of our bulk commodities at equitable rates.

The other aspect of carbon markets is direct payments to producers who practice certain farming methods in exchange for a payment. There is no shortage of programs being developed both through governmental agencies and private industry. As mentioned, our farm was part of a pilot program run in partnership by Virginia Tech and NDFU last year and we hope to continue this year. This experience demonstrated to me the complexity of these programs. NDFU put together a great staff and strong outreach mechanisms and still the project was more difficult to navigate than expected. As private industry continues to develop carbon markets, I expect these difficulties to grow to a point where many producers won't want to participate. Having access to extension personal who have clear understanding of the different programs available will run parallel to having access to extension weed scientist when producers have questions regarding weed control issues.

The next priority I would like to address is that of research specialists. As stated, I have participated in many university and private on-farm research projects and appreciate all of the hands-on work that is involved in the projects beyond the core research activities.

Recently I was told a story about the assistant soybean breeder operating the plot combine because no research specialist was available. Not only is this taking substantial time away from the breeder's core priorities, but these machines can be complex to operate and a trained specialist is less likely to have operational difficulties.

Lastly, the Center for Agricultral Policy and Trade Studies.

As I discussed earlier, commodity values can be heavily influenced by national and international polies such as those focused on carbon intensities. It is important that as our policy makers work on developing policies in this and countless other areas that they understand the impact to North Dakota agriculture. Often, these policies can have unexpected consequences that need to be understood during the policy making process.

And while North Dakota continues to develop value-added opportunities for our bulk commodities, its important to remember that we still export a large percentage of our production. Global trade patterns have always been dynamic, and it is important to have the ability to quickly quantify how different trade opportunities and barriers will affect the profitability of North Dakota farmers and ranchers.

In closing, NDSU has a rich history of supporting North Dakota's farmers and ranchers to the benefit of the entire state's economy. The priorities put forward by SBARE will continue to strengthen that legacy.

Thank you for your time and I would be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Cavalier County Job Development Authority

901 3rd Street Suite 5 ∞ Langdon, ND 58249 ∞ Phone: 701-256-3475 ∞ Fax: 701-256-3536 ∞ E-mail: shannon@utma.com

Chair Senator Wanzek and members of the Senate Appropriations - Government Operations Division,

My name is Shannon Duerr, and I serve as the Executive Director of the Cavalier County Job Development Authority (JDA). I also sit on the advisory council for the Langdon Research Extension Center. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of Senate Bill 2020. This bill is vital to maintaining and enhancing North Dakota's agricultural infrastructure and supporting the long-term success of our growers, seed companies, and our rural communities.

The Cavalier County JDA oversees our county's strategic plan, which includes seven key benchmarks to guide development. One of these benchmarks is agriculture, a reflection of its critical importance to our local economy and community. SB 2020's funding for a seed cleaning plant at the Langdon station aligns with this priority by addressing several key areas that directly impact the agricultural sector:

1. **Providing growers with the highest quality seed available** High-quality seed is the foundation of successful crop production. SB 2020 ensures growers have access to superior foundation seed, which leads to better yields, improved crop quality, and enhanced profitability. For North Dakota farmers, this is not just an advantage but a necessity to remain competitive in a global market.

2. **Supporting ND seed companies through foundation seed** SB 2020 provides seed companies with the foundation seed necessary to produce registered seed in the second year and certified seed in the third year. This cycle not only ensures a steady supply of high-quality seed for producers but also sustains the operations of seed companies—a vital component of our state's agricultural economy.

3. **Providing funding for county crop improvement associations** By supporting crop improvement associations, this bill enables these organizations to fund critical agricultural programs such as 4-H initiatives and agricultural scholarships. These programs play a pivotal role in educating the next generation of farmers and agricultural leaders, securing the future of this essential industry.

4. **Ensuring workplace safety for seedsmen** SB 2020 includes provisions to address safety hazards identified during annual inspections at seed stations. Eliminating these dangers is essential to providing a safe working environment for our seedsmen, who are indispensable to the success of North Dakota agriculture. No one should have to risk their safety to perform the critical work of seed production.

Agriculture is the backbone of North Dakota's economy and communities, particularly in counties like Cavalier, where it remains a cornerstone of our strategic vision for growth and development. By investing in the safety, quality, and sustainability of our agricultural infrastructure, SB 2020 will strengthen our rural communities and ensure the continued success of this vital industry.

I urge you to support SB 2020 and its critical investments in North Dakota agriculture. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Shannon Duerr, Executive Director
Cavalier County Job Development Authority

Cavalier County JDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

SB2020

Government Operations Division of the House Appropriations Committee

1/16/25

Sarah Hall Lovas, SBARE Chair

Chairman Wanzek and members of the Government Operations Division of the Senate Appropriations Committee. My name is Sarah Hall Lovas and I am an agronomist from Hillsboro, ND. I currently have the opportunity to serve as the Chair for the State Board of Ag Research and Education (SBARE). Thank you for this opportunity to come before you and share some information regarding the research conducted by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES), NDSU Extension (Extension), and SBARE.

First, thank you for your past support of the Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension. The investments that the Legislature has made into the Agricultural Experiment Station research and Extension education have resulted in significant and positive impacts for North Dakota agriculture and will last for future generations. Thank you.

SBARE within the policies of the State Board of Higher Education, is responsible for the budgeting and policy making associated with the Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension. Our role applies equally to both. I won't go through all the duties of SBARE, but they can be found in North Dakota Century Code and are also outlined on page 1 in your budget book. As required by the ND Century Code, SBARE develops the biennial budget report by receiving grassroots information from individual producers, commodity groups, organizations,

stakeholders, constituents, and agribusinesses across the state. Through this process, SBARE creates three priority lists, which include: 1) The programmatic education request list for Extension; 2) programmatic research request list for the Agricultural Experiment Station; and 3) the Capital request list for the Agricultural Experiment Station.

SBARE takes the process of receiving stakeholder input and creating these priority lists very seriously. This biennium, we began receiving stakeholder input on September 14, 2023 and concluded receiving input on January 3rd, 2024. Stakeholder input was received via three in-person input receiving sessions held in Minot, Dickinson, and Fargo as well as by mail submissions and electronic submissions. Once input was received, the prioritization process started on January 10, 2024 and concluded on February 21, 2024, and it took a total of three SBARE meetings over four days to develop these priority lists. The SBARE members worked very hard digesting the stakeholder input it received and formulating the priority lists you see before you. SBARE has a goal to develop priorities that are sound investments for the future of North Dakota's agriculture industry and address agriculture issues in a state with an extremely diverse agriculture industry. Vice-President Lardy will explain the priority lists in detail during his testimony.

North Dakota's agriculture industry has a significant economic impact to North Dakota's economy! In 2023, a study was released that showed that Agriculture has a $30.8 billion dollar contribution to North Dakota's economy! Agriculture accounts for about 19% of all North Dakota's employment and 20% of all labor income. If you have a dollar in your pocket, twenty

cents of that dollar would be attributed to North Dakota's agriculture industry. Please note, since this study was released in 2023, North Dakota has had two additional soybean crush facilities built along with additional investments proposed in livestock operations and other agricultural processing endeavors. The recent announcements of new dairy operations and a new potato facility coming to the Grand Forks area highlight North Dakota's continued prominence as an agricultural leader. Further, these new developments are indications that North Dakota's agriculture industry continues to expand its' economic impact. While the agriculture industry has a great impact to North Dakota's economy, agriculture research has an ROI of 25%. This is very good return on investment! Simply put, there is no better investment for a state dollar than into agricultural research and extension!

Those are the impacts in dollars and cents. However, there is more to this story than just the numbers. There is the "People of North Dakota" aspect to consider as well. I would like to share a bit about how the research of the Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension has impacted me as well as the state of North Dakota.

When I was a youth, I was involved in 4-H. I know there are some 4-H youth here and I will let their testimony speak for itself. However, I do want this committee to know, that among other skills learned through 4-H, I learned leadership skills. This includes how to work with people and run a meeting with parliamentary procedure. It is because of 4-H that I am able to serve effectively on SBARE as well as many other boards and committees.

It is important to highlight the work the Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension does to support the specialty crop production in North Dakota. Crops like dry beans and pulse crops are important to North Dakota farmers. According to recent research released in 2023, dry beans and pulse crops contribute $875 million and $405 million, respectively to North Dakota's economy. However, nationally, there are not many acres of these crops. This lack of acres reduces private industry interest to invest into breeding new varieties for these crops or conduct other research related to the production of these crops. Therefore, the programs developed by NDAES and Extension such as plant breeding programs and disease management are even more important to producers of specialty crops.

At the beginning of my agronomy career, Extension provided crop scouting schools which provided practical education for a beginning agronomist. Since then, I continue to seek information from Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station. The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station provides research that is relevant to North Dakota farming operations and Extension presents this information in manner that we can use and apply in real-world field and farming applications. NDSU Extension and the research of the Agricultural Experiment Station provides unbiased information regarding various agronomic practices including soil and soil fertility management, managing weeds, diseases, and insects in various crops. Like other agronomists in North Dakota, I know the Agricultural Experiment Station researchers and Extension Educators well and call them and visit with them to learn from them and stay up to date on these practices. I also continue to attend their educational events to remain a relevant agronomist. This information is the basis for a large proportion of my agronomic recommendations to farmers.

Keep in mind that my career has focused on crop production and so I have had few interactions with livestock research and education within Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station. However, I have had the opportunity to tour the Hettinger Research Extension Center (REC), Streeter REC, Dickinson REC, and Carrington REC and visit with their livestock faculty and staff. I was impressed with the number of livestock producers in attendance, and I learned a lot from those presentations. Further, I believe I will be interacting with these researchers more into the near future. There is a proposed dairy coming to my town of Hillsboro, ND and having access to livestock researchers and educators will be critical as I learn how to help my local farmers implement livestock production into our area cropping systems.

Looking into the future, I know that the research provided by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and educational information from Extension will continue to be important to me and my family. My son wants to farm or be an agronomist when he grows up. I can't wait to see all of his 4-H projects. I know as farming and agronomy changes in North Dakota, my career will continue to utilize the Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension.

Thank you for your time today. Thank you for your support of the NDAES and Extension. I would be happy to entertain any questions you may have.

Request: Please support the SBARE Priority List.

DCN
Dakota Carrier
NETWORK

Senate Bill 2020
Senate Appropriations – Government Operations Division
January 16, 2025

Chairman Wanzek and members of the Senate Appropriations – Government Operations Division Committee

For the record, my name is Seth Arndorfer and I am the chief executive officer of Dakota Carrier Network, a statewide fiber optic network. Most in the state know us simply as "DCN." DCN is a limited liability corporation formed by the 13 independent rural broadband service providers that deliver internet, television, and other technology solutions to North Dakotans in nearly every community in our state. In partnership with our Owners, DCN provides internet and Ethernet connectivity to the majority of North Dakota's anchor institutions, including higher education facilities, over 160 bank locations, all 54 hospitals in the state, and many other commercial entities. Through competitive contracts, DCN was chosen by the State of North Dakota to provide internet connectivity for all public K-12 schools, state colleges and universities, county and state government buildings, National Guard armories, and 911 public safety answering points. DCN has delivered these services to the state since 2000. On a personal note, I am also a farm and ranch kid from Adams County.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, Dakota Carrier Network asks you to give Senate Bill 2020 a "Do Pass" recommendation and support the Senate's adoption of it.

DCN has been fortunate to work very closely with NDSU and the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station in a public-private partnership on a precision agriculture pilot project. At its core, precision agriculture allows producers to decrease expenses and increase profit by using technology to do things like manage crop and livestock production and improve efficiency and effectiveness. Implementing precision agriculture and its associated research is highly data-intensive, necessitating a transformation of agricultural systems to enable robust data collection, secure transfer and storage, and advanced, high-performance analytics. This digital transformation is essential for maintaining North Dakota's position as a national leader in agriculture.

This is high-stakes research and DCN has worked with sites ranging from the NDSU campus to the Hettinger Research Extension Center to deploy technologies like a private 5G network so researchers can be confident their data is secure. These teams are doing research that is crucial to the future of agriculture – and particularly precision agriculture – and helping North Dakota ag producers succeed.

The benefits of their research extend beyond the farm – it is laying a strong foundation to help bring new, innovative organizations and well-established international companies to our state. But producers can't make these breakthroughs on their own; they need the research and knowledge provided by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station so that North Dakota can continue to be a leader in feeding and fueling the world.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your time and consideration on this important legislation. DCN encourages a Do Pass for SB2020 which will support critical research in precision agriculture. I would be pleased to answer any questions.

Seth Arndorfer, CEO
Dakota Carrier Network
3901 Great Plains Drive S, Fargo, ND
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sarndorfer@dakotacarrier.com

U.S. Durum Growers Association
PROMOTING THE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF DURUM AND SEMOLINA
P.O. Box 1091 • Bismarck, ND 58502 • (701) 214-3203
office@durumgrowers.com • www.durumgrowers.com

Testimony of Steve Perdue
President
SB 2020
January 16, 2025

Chairman Wanzek and members of the Senate Appropriations- Government Operations Division Committee, my name is Steve Perdue, and I'm a farmer from Ray and serve as the president of the U.S. Durum Growers Association (USDGA). On behalf of the USDGA, we support SB 2020 as agriculture research, extension and education is essential to the future of maintaining a sustainable agriculture economy within the state.

USDGA has served to promote the production and marketing of durum wheat and semolina since 1978. The association represents grower and industry members from 10 states. We have many members from North Dakota as the acres produced in the state account for just over half of the country's durum production.

USDGA supports the efforts of the State Board of Agriculture and Education (SBARE) in prioritizing the needs of the state's ag community. USDGA participated in the SBARE information gathering process, as did dozens of other ag organizations, and would urge the Committee's favorable consideration of its priorities.

Ag research and extension has provided high value to producers across the state. With research into ag trade and policy as well as new and upcoming technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), will help our producers to continue to provide the most high-quality products to the world.

We also encourage continued support of the Northern Crops Institute (NCI). NCI is vital to expanding markets of northern grown crops and the education and technical programs offered are essential to not only maintaining but expanding domestic and international markets for northern-grown crops, including durum. NCI's education and training also provide support and growth to the agriculture industry.

Agriculture is vital to North Dakota's economy and USDGA believes the priorities given by SBARE will support the current and future landscape of agriculture research, extension and education. USDGA appreciates your past support and urges you to continue supporting SBARE priorities.

WESTERN DAKOTA ENERGY ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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John Phillips
Coal Conversion Counties

Trudy Ruland
Mountrail County

January 15, 2025

Testimony of:
Geoff Simon, Lobbyist #144
in support of HB 2020 – Budgets of UGPTI and NDAWN
Senate Appropriations Committee

Chairman Wanzek and members of the Government Operations Division:

On behalf of the city, county and school district members of the Western Dakota Energy Association (WDEA), we wish to express our strong support for the appropriations requests of the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute (UGPTI) and the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) found in Senate Bill 2020.

WDEA has a longstanding working relationship with UGPTI's Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP), and the training and education it provides to our members. Counties in western North Dakota receive tremendous benefit from the Geographic Roadway Inventory Tool, as well as the information found in UGPTI's local road and bridge needs study. UGPTI and NDAWN have also been active partners in WDEA's development of the Wise Roads project (www.wiseroadsnd.com), which is aimed at minimizing weather-related disruptions to heavy oilfield truck traffic.

LTAP staff have worked closely with county road superintendents to maximize the value of data collected through the Wise Roads network of weather stations. We engaged with LTAP in a research project which involved placing moisture and temperature sensors in gravel roads to better determine when frost or load weight restrictions need to be placed on roads, and when those restrictions can be lifted. NDAWN has provided the technical expertise to help WDEA launch the Wise Roads project, and continues to work closely with us to maximize the value of the huge volume of weather data we collect. WDEA has completed the project with installation of 50 additional weather stations in western North Dakota, but we continue to work with NDAWN for ongoing maintenance and repair of the stations.

Both UGPTI and NDAWN are delivering valuable services to our agriculture and energy sectors, and are also engaged in cutting-edge research, aimed at supporting the state's major industries through innovation and development of better management tools to improve productivity and move commerce more efficiently. UGPTI's addition of a western liaison position, in cooperation with the ND Department of Transportation, has brought additional benefits to county, township and tribal governments in western North Dakota.

As always, we appreciate the opportunity to offer testimony and would be happy to provide additional details upon request.

Thank you for your consideration.

Western Dakota Energy Association
1661 Capitol Way, Bismarck ND 58501
www.ndenergy.org • 701-527-1832

North Dakota Irrigation Association

P.O. Box 2254
Bismarck, ND 58502
701-223-4615
701-223-4645 (fax)

Dedicated to strengthening and expanding irrigation to build and diversify our economy

Senate Appropriations Committee Government Operations Division
Senate Bill 2020
Testimony of Dani Quissell, Executive Director of North Dakota Irrigation Association
January 16, 2025

Chairman Wanzek and Members of the Senate Appropriations Government Operations Division:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony on Senate Bill 2020.

Today, North Dakota irrigates about 300,000 acres to produce a variety of crops including corn and soybeans, livestock forage, and high value crops such as potatoes, sugar beets, and onions. Irrigation provides strong economic return, with an acre of irrigated land producing four times that of dryland in regular conditions and as much as six times in times of drought.

Irrigation provides the opportunity to grow higher value crops where top yields and exceptional quality are necessary. High quality coupled with substantial yielding potatoes have made the French fry industry, located in Grand Forks and Jamestown, successful in the state. The acreage of onions in the state is smaller than the other crops, but this crop may have an important role in the future as markets are developed. Other fruit and vegetable crops can be produced and processed in the state and the development of the markets for these crops is needed. Irrigation does and can diversify and strengthen the agricultural economy of the state.

North Dakota has a substantial potential of increasing irrigation. A key part of irrigation development is continued research on irrigation practices and irrigated crops. This is especially effective when the research is done at centers close to producers that could benefit from their research.

The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE) priorities included in SB 2020 contain a request for capital project improvements for the Nesson Valley Irrigation site near Williston. We would request that the division consider not just the dollar amount contained in the SBARE priorities, but the full amount needed to provide for the space requested in the 2023 session. Unfortunately, bids for the full building were higher than the amount approved in the 2023 session. Instead of scaling the building down, we would request that additional funding be provided for the building requested in 2023. This facility would support ongoing educational efforts for irrigators as well as meetings to support expansion of irrigation in western North Dakota.

Thank you for your past support of irrigation research and for your consideration of this request.

Testimony for S.B. 2020 Senate Appropriations Government Operations Division-2025 session

My name is Mark Seastrand and I am a fourth
generation farmer from Sheyenne North Dakota.
I am also the vice president of the North Dakota Crop Improvement and Seed Association and a former employee of the North Dakota State Seed Department. It is with these experiences that I ask you for your support of a new seed conditioning plant at the Landon Research Center.

The State Board of Ag Research (SBARE) has selected this project as it's #2 priority. The current seed cleaning facility is well past it's use by date and in fact will have its equipment placed in a museum when it is replaced. The Langdon Research Center supplies not only relevant ag research to farmers of North Dakota but also new seed genetics which are developed at NDSU. Having proper seed conditioning equipment is important to the future of agriculture in Langdon and the entire NE area of the state. An example of this is the increase in pulse crops grown in the area. Currently crops like peas cannot be conditioned at the center because of improper equipment.

I am asking for your support to build a new seed conditioning plant at the Langdon Research Center to help secure the future of agriculture in the state of North Dakota.

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Seastrand

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North Dakota Stockmen's Association
SB 2020 – Experiment Stations
Senate Appropriations Government Operations Committee
Red River Room
Jan. 16, 2025

Good morning, Chairman Wanzek and members of the Senate Appropriations' Government Operations Committee. My name is Julie Ellingson, and I represent the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, a 95-year-old beef cattle trade organization comprised of approximately 3,100 members across the state.

I am not sure how the legislative bill numbering system came about, but, as you know, every other legislative session, the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE) budget is deemed SB 2020. Usually when we hear 20/20, we think of it as a reference to perfect vision – a measure of visual acuity and clarity. And I cannot help but think how perfect that is for the bill before you this morning – a forward-looking, visionary budget identifying critical investments with proven returns for our no. 1 industry, agriculture, and the state's overall economy. We join with our agricultural colleagues in enthusiastic support of the bill, as it represents programs and projects prioritized by SBARE through its comprehensive process.

As you look through the Experiment Station's priority list, there are a lot of things for a cattle producer to like. That's one of the reasons the bill was endorsed by our members at our annual convention. This morning, I will highlight just a few:

In fact, priority 1, the Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies initiative, was also the NDSA's no. 1 priority when we shared our thoughts in the last SBARE listening rounds.

No question, cattle ranching is big business, and research into the effects of national and international policies and trade on our industry is needed in order to be competitive on the global stage. To put that into dollars and cents for a North Dakota cattleman or cattlewoman, international beef sales add somewhere in the neighborhood of $400 in value per fed animal in the United States. That's real money, and so it's important we have the information we need at our disposal to make informed, evidence-based decisions.

Our industry also has real corresponding financial risk. Analysis and resources to help farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses navigate market complexities and guard against risk associated with international relations, trade dynamics and other factors are crucial for us to survive. The ag policy analyst, market and trade analyst and economic impact specialist included in this initiative will help in these regards. We think these professionals can also help producers in our industry adopt and better understand risk management tools, such as the Livestock Risk Protection product that has become increasingly popular with some recent enhancements or likely upcoming tools like the Weaned Calf Revenue Program being piloted in neighboring South Dakota, and can help us stabilize our positions and do long-term financial planning.

The Livestock/Animal Health initiative, as you would guess, is also important to us, and would add a needed resident veterinary toxicologist to the very capable team at the NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, bearing the name of our dear friend, the late former Sen. Bill Bowman who, for years, sat in these very chairs and helped shepherd this budget. The toxicologist will play a vital role in supporting the state's livestock industry by developing assays for the detection of things like mycotoxin, blister beetle toxin and other challenges that can be catastrophic for those in animal agriculture.

Finally, we are fortunate to have some of the best scientists in the world working on the NDSU team, but, without adequate operating budgets, equipment and support, their ability to deliver to their potential is limited. Therefore, even though initiative no. 4 might not seem as flashy or exciting as some of the others on the list, to us, it is a necessity, as it is foundational to the outcomes and success of the overall Experiment Station system.

Thank you for the consideration of these priorities and for all the support you have provided to help keep agriculture strong.

I would be happy to take any questions you have.

In Support of SB 2020
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station
Senate Appropriations – Government Operations Division
Testimony of Drew Courtney
January 16, 2025

Chairman Wanzek and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity for the North Dakota Corn Growers Association to share our support of Senate Bill 2020.

For the record, my name is Drew Courtney. I farm near Oakes with my cousin, wife, and kids. I also serve on my township board. I am here today as a board member of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association, which is the voice of North Dakota corn producers, representing more than 13,000 growers across the state.

The National Corn Growers Association reports that between 1980 and 2015, our nation's corn farmers decreased the land required to produce a bushel of corn by 41 percent; reduced soil loss per acre by 58 percent; improved energy efficiency per bushel by 41 percent; reduced greenhouse gas emissions per bushel by 31 percent; and reduced per bushel irrigation water usage by 46 percent. But corn growers haven't made these sustainability gains on our own. We rely on partners in agribusiness, technology, and higher education to help us to achieve these efficiencies.

SBARE's Biofuels and Carbon Management priority for the Ag Experiment Station will further improve the sustainability and profitability of our operations. North Dakota-based research on practices like crop rotation, cover cropping, and efficient nutrient

management will help growers to reduce their carbon intensity. This is critical to participate in emerging renewable fuels markets, such as sustainable aviation fuel.

We also support the Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies, which will help us better understand how national and international policies and markets impact North Dakota's agricultural sector.

Our mission statement is "growing a healthy, profitable business climate for northern corn," and research from the Ag Experiment Station is critical to help us meet that mission. We urge your support for SB 2020.

I will stand in response to any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration.

Contact:
Matt Perdue, Lobbyist
mperdue@ndfu.org I 701.641.3303

Testimony of
Matt Perdue
North Dakota Farmers Union
Before the
Senate Appropriations Committee – Government Operations Division
January 16, 2025

Chairman Wanzek and members of the division,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2020. My name is Matt Perdue, and I am testifying on behalf of North Dakota Farmers Union's (NDFU) members.

I first want to thank this committee for your strong commitment to NDSU and the Agricultural Experiment Station (AES). The new Peltier Complex and the Bolley Agricultural Laboratory will bolster NDSU's ability to provide cutting edge research and improve farmers' and ranchers' access to markets. Our members deeply appreciate your support for these critical projects.

NDFU supports the complete list of SBARE priorities, which were developed with robust stakeholder input. I specifically want to highlight the requests for the Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies, Biofuels and Carbon Management, and operating support.

Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies

North Dakota agriculture plays a unique role in U.S. and global agricultural markets. We lead the country in production of 13 commodities. We are ranked in the top five in eight more commodities.[1] We are also land-locked and highly dependent on rail transportation and trans-Pacific trade. Because of this, we are uniquely impacted by domestic and international trade policy.

Investing in the CAPTS center will provide analysis that more accurately reflects the unique impacts domestic and trade policy on North Dakota farmers and ranchers. It will also help North Dakota agriculture navigate the growing complexities of the global trade environment. We strongly encourage this committee to invest in the three requested positions:

1. An Agricultural Policy Analyst to inform policymakers, agribusinesses, farmers, and ranchers about the impact of policy changes and market conditions;
2. A markets and Trade Analyst to enhance the competitiveness of North Dakota agriculture through comprehensive agricultural trade and policy analysis; and

[1] Jantzi, D., Rangel, L., and Krupich, B. (2024, August). *North Dakota Agriculture.* USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Services. Ag Statistics No. 93. Retrieved from https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/North_Dakota/Publications/Annual_Statistical_Bulletin/2024/ND-Annual-Bulletin24.pdf.

3. An Economic Impact/Contribution Specialist to provide transparent analyses that facilitates systematic and thoughtful debates on public policy issues.

Biofuels and Carbon Management

Pressures to reduce carbon emissions are impacting food, agriculture and fuel markets right now and will continue to do so. Those impacts are most pronounced in renewable fuels markets, where a combination of policy and market forces are transforming the economics of renewable fuels production. This shift could create new opportunities for producers.

However, it is clear producers need more objective, science-based information to guide their decision-making. In a 2024 study by Bushel, only 19% of farmers reported participating in a carbon program. The primary barriers for producers were "lack of information" and "too much uncertainty."[2]

We encourage the committee to invest in Biofuels and Carbon Management priority and the Extension Biofuels and Carbon Initiative. Together, these two proposals will help provide the research and education farmers and ranchers need to take advantage of new opportunities and navigate new challenges.

Operational Support

I want to thank this committee for your strong commitment to NDSU and the Agricultural Experiment Station (AES). The new Peltier Complex and the Bolley Agricultural Laboratory will bolster NDSU's ability to provide cutting edge research and improve farmers' and ranchers' access to markets. Our members deeply appreciate your support for these critical projects.

We encourage the committee to invest in the operating support requested in SBARE's priorities. The investments the legislature has made in facilities at NDSU and the AES create major opportunities for North Dakota agriculture. To capitalize on those opportunities, NDSU needs adequate operating resources.

Conclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. I will stand for any questions.

[2] Bushel. (2024). *State of the Farm, 2024 Report.* Retrieved from https://1557649.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/1557649/Bushel%202024%20State%20of%20the%20Farm%20Report%20-%20Final.pdf.

January 13, 2025

To: Senate Appropriations Committee

RE: Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Project

Senate Appropriation Committee,

I am Tom Wheeler, Chairman of the Joint Advisory Committee of Williston Research Extension Center and Eastern Agricultural Research Center. Our advisory board stresses the need for an irrigation research and technology transfer facility at our Nesson Valley Irrigation Project, 27 miles east of Williston to provide an office, lab, meeting room and heated shop. The irrigation staff currently utilizes a small office space in a chemical storage/chemical handling facility. This facility has been on the NDAES master plan needs for WREC since 2012 and is a high priority as ranked by SBARE.

There is an urgent need for ongoing and expanded irrigated research and education to aid producers in increasing crop diversity, adapt best management and irrigated practices and how to best integrate irrigated livestock grazing systems into their farming/livestock operations. The need for expanded irrigation in our region has never been more evident than the past years because of extreme drought conditions and the loss of the sugarbeet factory and sugarbeet production in our area.

Expanded agricultural economic development in western ND will be driven mostly by expanded irrigation research and development as the catalyst to promote new and expanded production of high value crops and increased agricultural processing capability. The MonDak Irrigation Frontier has the potential to expand to 500,000 acres.

This much needed facility will also be a great help in the recruitment and retention of WREC staff.

We respectfully ask for your consideration in supporting this budget request as a vital component in the mission of WREC.

Thank you,

Tom Wheeler

Thomas Wheeler








North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

NDSU Extension

Northern Crops Institute

2025-2027 Biennial Budget Request

Senate Bill 2020
Government Operations Division
Senator Terry Wanzek, Chairman
January 16, 2025

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station
- Main Station - Budget No. 640
- Branch Research Extension Centers - Budget No. 628
- Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649

NDSU Extension - Budget No. 630

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

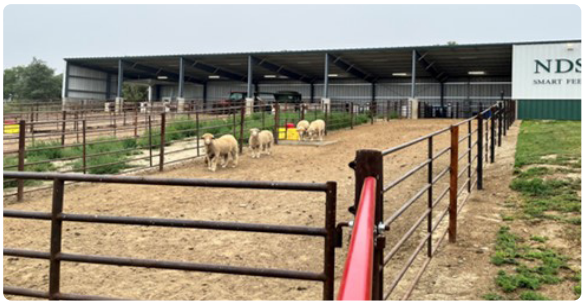
David Cook
President, North Dakota State University

Sarah Lovas
Chair, State Board of Agricultural Research and Education

Greg Lardy
Joe and Norma Peltier Vice President for Agriculture
Director, ND Agricultural Experiment Station
Director, NDSU Extension

www.ndsu.edu/agforlegislators

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY






SBARE

State Board of Agricultural Research and Education

Who we are and what we do

History

The State Board of Agricultural Research (SBAR) was established by legislative decree in 1997. It was responsible for budgeting and policy-making associated with the supervision of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.

The law was changed during the 1999 legislative session to include responsibility for the North Dakota State University Extension Service. SBAR became the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE).

Membership

The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education consists of:

- NDSU President or the President's designee
- NDSU Vice President for Agriculture*
- North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station Director*
- NDSU Extension Director*
- Five people appointed by Ag Coalition
- Five people appointed in the geographic areas represented by NDSU Extension's multicounty program units
- North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner*
- Two members of the legislative assembly appointed by the chair of Legislative Council

** serve in ex-officio, nonvoting capacity*

Duties

SBARE, within the policies of the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE), is responsible for budgeting and policy-making associated with the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and North Dakota State University Extension.

SBARE responsibilities are to:

- Determine the causes of any adverse economic impacts on crops and livestock produced in the state;
- Develop ongoing strategies for the provision of research solutions and resources to negate adverse economic impacts on crops and livestock produced in this state;
- Develop proactive strategies for NDSU Extension to fulfill the mission of improving the lives and livelihood of the citizens of North Dakota by providing research-based education;
- Implement the strategies developed under bullets 2 and 3, subject to approval by the SBHE;
- Develop, with the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension, an annual budget for the operations of these entities;
- Develop a biennial budget request based on its prioritized needs list and submit that request to the president of NDSU and the SBHE, and forward its prioritized needs list and request without modification to the Office of Management and Budget and the appropriations committees of the legislative assembly;
- Maximize the use of existing financial resources, equipment, and facilities to generate the greatest economic benefit from research and extension efforts and to promote efficiency;
- Annually evaluate the results of research and extension activities and expenditures, and report the findings to the Legislative Council and the SBHE;
- Advise the President of NDSU regarding the recruitment, selection and performance of the Vice President for Agriculture, the NDSU Extension Director and the Station Director; and
- Provide a status report to the budget section of the Legislative Council.

Communicate with board: *ndsu.sbare@ndsu.edu*

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www.ndsu.edu/vpag/sbare

7/1/2024

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Agency Statutory Authority

ND Constitution Article XIX; North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15-12.1

Agency Description

Situated on the campus of North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Science, the Main Research Station serves as the administrative hub for the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES). It conducts and coordinates all research activities, focusing on developing and disseminating technology crucial for producing and utilizing food, feed, fiber, and fuel from crop and livestock enterprises. This research contributes to economic development, enhances the quality of life, ensures sustainable production, and protects the environment. The Main Research Station meticulously documents all activities and publishes valuable information for the state's residents. Our research is an important component of agriculture's $30.8 billion contribution to the State's economy.

Agency Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide premier research solutions that empower our people and communities to thrive in a dynamic world. The NDAES is dedicated to transforming agriculture by embracing digital advancements, pioneering technological innovations, and prioritizing the conservation of our most precious natural resource, the land. Our goal is to become a global leader in research related to the production of food, fuel, and fiber.

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS)

Research into the effects of national and international policies and trade on North Dakota's agriculture is needed. Export markets for agricultural products have become increasingly more complex, resulting in increasing levels of risk for farmers and agribusinesses in the state. North Dakota's economy, heavily dependent on agriculture and trade, faces vulnerabilities due to tensions in international relations and trade dynamics, impacting food security and global trade patterns. The prosperity of North Dakota's agricultural sector is intricately linked to the success of its farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses. Unique challenges confront the state, including the fact that its location requires rail transport to export markets. Research is crucial to comprehend the repercussions of changes in agricultural policies and global market trends on North Dakota's agricultural community.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Digital Transformation of Agriculture
Digital agriculture, precision farming and ranching, and related technologies are advancing rapidly, driven by breakthroughs in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). NDAES scientists are leveraging these technologies to transform food production. Investing in new technologies, staff and infrastructure will equip scientists with the necessary resources to accelerate research in sensor technology, plant breeding, precision livestock farming and other digital initiatives. This effort is key to enhancing global food security through innovations in North Dakota agriculture. Such funding is crucial for improving infrastructure and capabilities in agricultural data analysis and precision agriculture.

Livestock Animal Health
North Dakota faces a significant risk of having no veterinary toxicologist available. To address this critical need, a position is requested to fund a toxicology resident. A toxicologist plays a vital role in supporting the state's livestock industry by developing assays for the detection of mycotoxins, ergot, blister beetle toxin, bromethalin in feed and other challenges that affect the industry.

Operating, Equipment and Graduate Research Assistantships
Enhanced operating budgets are essential for sustaining growth and achieving ongoing success. The operational costs associated with the NDAES research mission have escalated. Expenses for fuel, equipment maintenance, repairs, feed, fertilizer and more limits the ability of scientists to be responsive to critical research needs. Additionally, operating funds are crucial for fostering the early career development of scientists, enabling them to acquire necessary start-up equipment and supplies, and to support graduate student salaries. Sufficient start-up and operating funds are vital for establishing successful research programs.

Modern research equipment is essential for conducting accurate experiments and advancing new methods to improve North Dakota's livestock and cropping systems. Funding is requested to ensure laboratories and agricultural field operations are equipped with modern equipment needed to generate world-class results.

Graduate research assistants play an indispensable role in the successful completion of every NDAES agricultural research project. They are deeply involved in conducting experiments, analyzing data and applying research findings to solve real-world agricultural problems. Graduate students also share their advancements to the wider community by the dissemination of research through publications and presentations. Additionally, their research prepares them as the next generation of leaders, equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to address challenges facing North Dakota agriculture. This initiative requests an increase in the number of assistantships to support the research activities by attracting talent to NDSU.

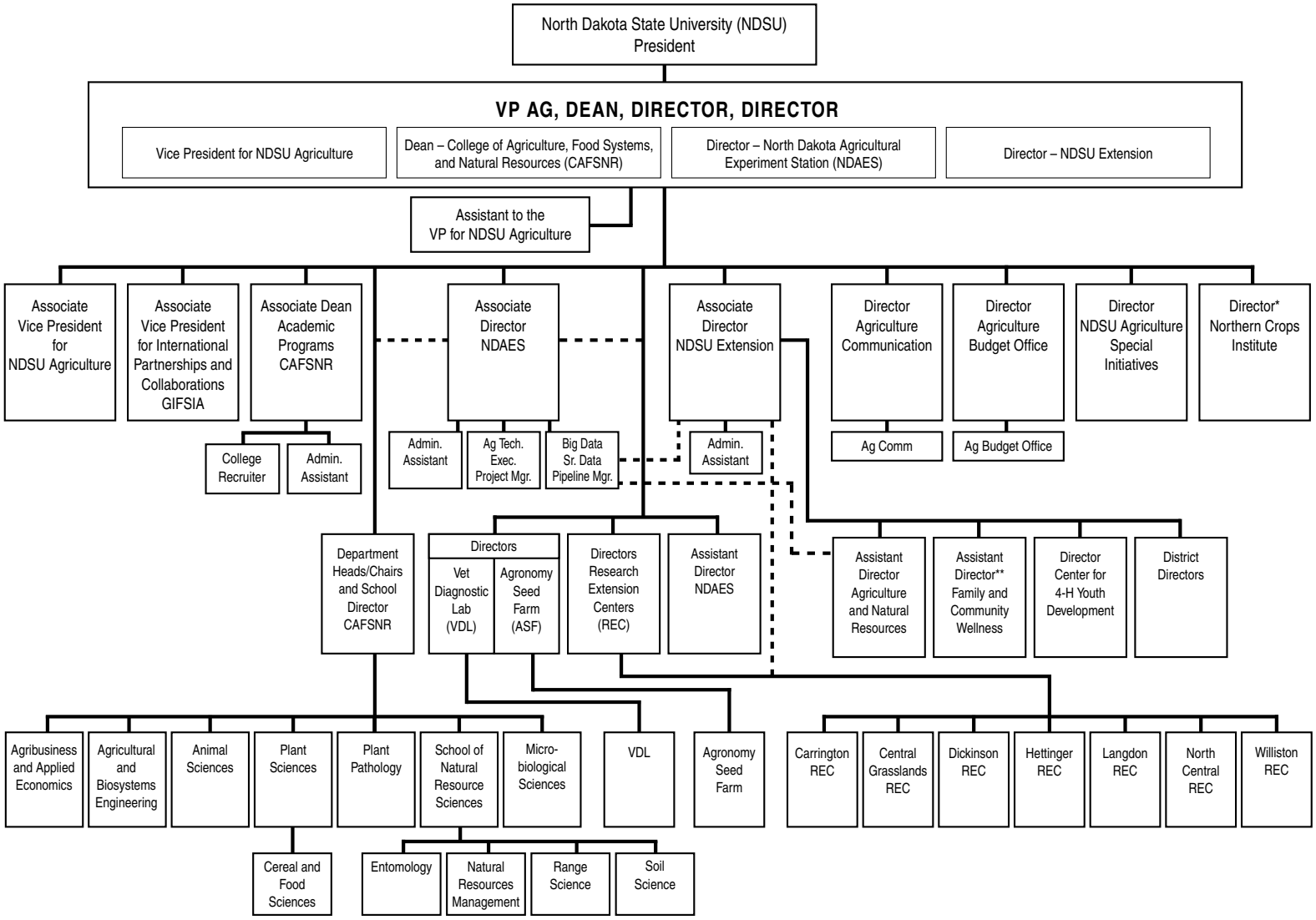
Biofuels and Carbon Management
As a consequence of national and international agricultural customer base, North Dakota farmers can achieve economic gains through the adoption of carbon and climate-smart farming strategies. This is key to reduce carbon intensity scores to more effectively participate in markets for renewable fuels. There is a significant need for research to develop advanced farming techniques tailored to North Dakota's unique agricultural conditions. This research will focus on practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping and efficient nutrient management aimed to both reduce carbon intensity and enhance the production of biofuel feedstocks. This supports efforts in improving sustainability and profitability in farmers' operations.

Research Specialists
Technical support staff are critical in assisting agricultural scientists to achieve their research goals. They provide essential expertise in the operation and maintenance of sophisticated laboratory and field equipment that ensures experiments are conducted efficiently and accurately. Staff contribute to the collection and analysis of data, which is fundamental for validating research findings and advancing scientific knowledge in agriculture. By providing logistical and administrative support, they enable scientists to focus on their core research activities, thereby accelerating the progress and impact of agricultural research.

Organizational Chart

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



*Director reports to Northern Crops Council. NDSU administrative reporting only.

**Extension faculty and staff in the Department of Human Development and Family Science and the Department of Health, Nutrition and Exercise Sciences (not shown on this chart) report to their respective department head/chair and are co-supervised by the Assistant Director for Family and Community Wellness.

4/1/24

2023-2025 North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station impacts

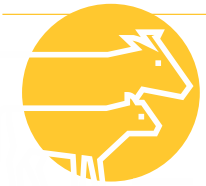
The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES) advances technology for the production and utilization of food, feed, fiber and fuel from crop and livestock enterprises.

- **Stakeholder-Driven:** NDAES research is guided by stakeholder needs, and solutions are communicated directly to thousands of stakeholders annually, ensuring that research outcomes are effectively implemented across the state.
- **Innovative Solutions:** Dedicated scientists deliver innovative research solutions that empower communities and drive agricultural transformation through digital advancements and pioneering technologies, all while conserving our natural resources.
- **Statewide Research:** NDAES research is conducted at eight branch stations across the state and on the main campus of North Dakota State University. Scientists address the critical issues unique to the diverse agriculture, food systems and natural resources in each region.
- **Economic Growth:** NDAES research supports economic development, enhances quality of life, ensures sustainable production and protects the environment, contributing directly to agriculture's $30.8 billion impact on North Dakota's economy.



Stakeholder-Driven Statewide Research

Major Accomplishments



Innovative solutions for livestock health and productivity enhance disease detection, optimize livestock management and improve nutritional strategies.

- The Bill Bowman Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) played a crucial role in safeguarding animal and public health by conducting essential tests for diseases like rabies, anthrax and avian flu.
- NDAES scientists demonstrated the effectiveness of virtual fencing technology in improving grazing management, calf performance and forage efficiency, making precision livestock management more accessible and cost-effective.
- Scientists developed and implemented advanced tests for detecting harmful toxins, ensuring the safety of livestock and protecting the agricultural supply chain.



Optimizing state investments positions North Dakota as a national leader in ag tech research and innovation.

- NDSU secured one of only 10 National Science Foundation Regional Engines grants, working with four partners to establish North Dakota as a key hub for agricultural technologies. NDAES scientists will play a key role in the grant by working collaboratively to develop technologies that provide solutions to problems across agricultural production systems.



Leveraging cutting-edge technologies like AI and data analytics accelerate crop improvements and promote sustainable farming practices.

- The Agricultural Data Analytics team is combining genetic data with field tests to develop models that improve crop varieties faster and more efficiently for North Dakota producers.
- Scientists are integrating AI-driven weed identification with autonomous systems, reducing herbicide use and fostering more environmentally sustainable agriculture.



Protecting and restoring natural resources by advancing sustainable practices enhances soil health, supports biodiversity and promotes climate resilience.

- Newly developed strategies to improve soil health, plant growth, and grassland quality for livestock and wildlife habitats following energy development.
- NDAES scientists pioneered sustainable farming techniques like rotational grazing and diverse crop rotations, which boost soil health, enhance carbon storage and increase agricultural resilience.



New crop varieties and farming practices improve yield, quality and sustainability, while also reducing input costs for farmers.

- Research on innovative nitrogen application methods and extensive variety testing have led to greater yields and better quality in crops like durum wheat, providing North Dakota farmers with varieties specifically suited to local conditions.
- Newly released pulse crop, winter wheat and oat varieties will increase farm income, expand market opportunities and improve farm sustainability while reducing input costs and boosting resilience against environmental challenges.



NDAES research protects North Dakota crops by monitoring and managing diseases, safeguarding productivity and preventing significant economic losses.

- Disease-monitoring programs detect threats like wheat rust and Sudden Death Syndrome in soybeans, enabling farmers to take early action and avoid potentially millions of dollars in losses.
- NDAES scientists developed effective management strategies for diseases such as canola clubroot and scab, ensuring crop protection, and maintaining farm productivity across the region.
- Innovative microbial solutions can boost crop yields and combat challenges like root rot and drought, enhancing the health and productivity of key crops such as soybeans, pulse crops and barley.

NDSU | NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

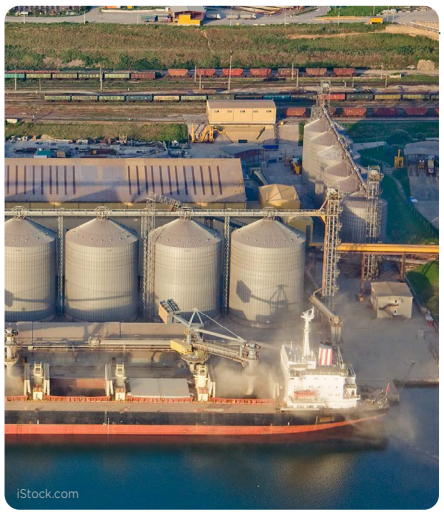
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SBARE Priorities for the

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION


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1 Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS)

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Request: Three FTEs total. Positions are: (1) Agricultural policy analyst–$275,000, (2) Market and trade analyst–$275,000 and (3) Economic impact/contributions specialist–$275,000. $150,000 in operating.

Total: $975,000


(NDSU photo)

2 Digital Transformation of Agriculture

Digital agriculture, precision farming and ranching, and related technologies are advancing rapidly, driven by breakthroughs in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). NDAES scientists are leveraging these technologies to transform food production. Investing in new technologies, staff and infrastructure will equip scientists with the necessary resources to accelerate research in sensor technology, plant breeding, precision livestock farming and other digital initiatives. This effort is key to enhancing global food security through innovations in North Dakota agriculture. Such funding is crucial for improving infrastructure and capabilities in agricultural data analysis and precision agriculture.

Request: Six FTEs total. Positions in prioritized order are: (1) AI/ML engineer–$280,000, (2) Database architect–$430,000, (3) Data manager–$280,000, (4) Data scientist–$280,000, (5) GIS specialist–$230,000 and (6) Unmanned Aircraft Systems chief pilot–$230,000. Operating request of $904,000 for software subscriptions for cloud server access, network servers, high-speed computers for AI computations, data archiving, storage architecture specialized for AI and ML, and software licenses.

Total: $2,634,000


(NDSU photo)

3 Livestock: Animal Health

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Request: One FTE total. Veterinary toxicology resident to support critical needs in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory–$275,000. $50,000 in operating.

Total: $325,000

SBARE Priorities for the
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024



4 Operating, Equipment and Graduate Research Assistantships

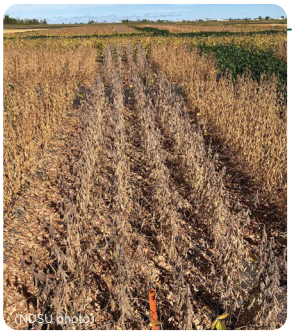
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Request: Equipment and graduate research assistantships funding. $1,190,000 in operating ($560,000 for seven branch stations + $630,000 for main station units), $1,000,000 in equipment and $900,000 for graduate research assistants

Total: $3,090,000

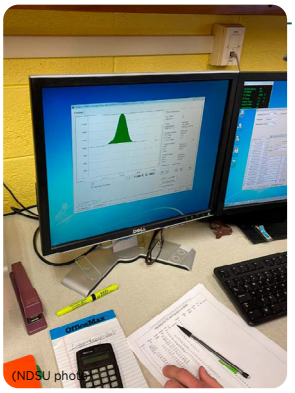


5 Biofuels and Carbon Management

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Request: Two FTEs total. Positions are: (1) Scientist – $275,000 and (2) Research specialist – $200,000. $50,000 in operating.

Total: $525,000



6 Research Specialists

Technical support staff are critical in assisting agricultural scientists to achieve their research goals. They provide essential expertise in the operation and maintenance of sophisticated laboratory and field equipment that ensures experiments are conducted efficiently and accurately. Staff contribute to the collection and analysis of data, which is fundamental for validating research findings and advancing scientific knowledge in agriculture. By providing logistical and administrative support, they enable scientists to focus on their core research activities, thereby accelerating the progress and impact of agricultural research.

Request: Five FTEs total. Positions are technical support in needed areas: (1) Grapes/vineyards – $200,000, (2) Agronomy – $200,000, (3) Plant pathology – $200,000, (4) Soybean breeding – $200,000 and (5) Biosystems engineering – $200,000.

Total: $1,000,000

8/30/2024

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Capital Improvement and One-time Requests
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Final Ranking by SBARE – November 13, 2024

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

One-time Requests

Deferred Maintenance

Request: $1,500,000

Williston Research Extension Center Capital Projects

The NDAES was unable to get any successful bids for the Nesson Valley facility or the storage shed at the Williston Research Extension Center in the 2023-2025 biennium.

Nesson Valley Request: 1. A change in scope to build a structure with a heated shop, restrooms and an employee break room (removing a planned conference room), 2. Special fund authority to raise an additional $1.3 million and 3. Carryover of $1.7 million in general funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly.

Storage Shed Request: 1. Carryover of $475,000 in strategic investment and improvements funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly, 2. Special fund authority to spend an additional $325,000 as needed to complete the shed and 3. Continuation of Section 14 Exemption in H.B. 1020 relating to the construction of the storage sheds.

Capital Improvement Requests


(NDSU photo)

1. Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS) Building Completion

Since 1975, the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (GDCD) has collaborated with the NDAES to promote irrigation research in North Dakota. The Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) is taking possession of a building at the Oakes site that will serve as the headquarters for NDAES irrigation research. Requested funding is for completion of the OIRS headquarters interior.

Total: $620,000


(NDSU photo)

2. Langdon REC Seed Conditioning Plant

A modern seed cleaning facility is essential for providing North Dakota foundation crop varieties bred to grow in the state's unique environment. The current facility was built in the 1960s and is incapable of conditioning the full production capacity grown on NDAES land at the Langdon Research Extension Center.

Total: $2,600,000


(NDSU photo)

3. NDAES Equipment Storage Sheds

Purchasing and/or leasing expensive field equipment is an investment that the NDAES needs to protect. Storing expensive research plot equipment such as tractors, planters and combines outdoors reduces the life of the equipment and can compromise the sophisticated electronics typically used on such equipment. Sheds are needed at the Dickinson REC, Central Grasslands REC and Carrington REC.

Total: $1,567,500

12/16/2024

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Request for Authorization
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Swine Facility Renovation

Total Project: $6,000,000
Special Funds: $6,000,000
Based on Percentage of Cost as per NDSU Master Plan Section 3: PED: 100%


(NDSU photo)

Master Plan Alignment

This project will enhance our ability to conduct research that directly addresses the needs of North Dakota's swine industry. Benefactors are eager to support the modernization of NDSU's swine unit, which was constructed several decades ago and is now in critical need of renovation. These updates will enable advanced research to support the growth of the livestock industry in the state, fostering economic opportunities (diversification) for farmers who produce feed grains and creating new market alternatives for widely grown crops such as soybeans and corn.

A modern swine facility will allow NDSU researchers to develop innovative feeding strategies using soybean meal, corn, and corn by-products, ensuring the industry remains competitive and efficient. Additionally, this enhanced facility will strengthen NDSU's capacity to conduct cutting-edge research, supporting rural communities by driving economic growth and job creation tied to the swine and feed industries.

Jack Dalrymple Agricultural Research Complex Addition

Total Project: $3,250,000
Special Funds: $3,250,000
Based on Percentage of Cost as per NDSU Master Plan Section 3: PED: 100%



Master Plan Alignment

This project will enhance our capacity to conduct research that directly addresses the needs of North Dakota's agricultural industry while fostering new opportunities with industry. As a recognized leader in the production of a diverse range of crops, North Dakota will benefit from the additional greenhouse space that enables our scientists to tackle critical challenges in crop production.

Potential benefactors are interested in supporting this expansion, as it will allow them to access needed space and technical expertise. The additional capacity will enable advanced research to support the growth of the agricultural industry in the state, provide research-based solutions to combat crop disease, and improve economic outcomes for farmers. The additional space will also allow scientists to collaborate with industry, accelerate commercialization of solutions, and enhance opportunities to train the next generation of plant scientists.

By strengthening NDSU's research infrastructure, this project enables cutting-edge research, that can drive the economic growth and job creation in rural communities.

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1/7/2025

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Business Unit number: **640**

Business Unit name: **Agricultural Experiment Station - Main Station**

Reporting Period **7/1/23-12/31/24**

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	287,812	287,812	287,812	287,812	287,812	287,812	5,691,984
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts	3,270	86,293	8,720	10,503	16,804	21,639	17,430	4,316	29,068	3,569		30,293	24,687	14,693	47,393	8,528	11,166	16,548	354,920
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay	-	-	7,758	10,150	-	19,625	3,000	-	3,000	2,427		5,000	10,042	10,769	-	11,375	10,000	3,000	96,146
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding	108,064	280,850	151,648	144,956	146,127	131,903	103,447	144,244	115,313	136,727	174,757	460,345	-	186,047	39,970	55,847	34,686	4,272	2,419,203
Extra Overtime Funding	9,765	28,096	19,282	20,026	15,322	9,277	5,039	3,421	7,269	3,819		37,856	-	15,687	9,559	8,629	-	-	193,047
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Salaries	-	178,314	209,367	238,230	246,315	228,979	216,009	289,404	263,582	262,284	258,517	525,051	29,525	293,619	324,781	357,906	324,199	325,421	4,571,503
																			-
Total	209,327	(243,127)	(66,349)	(93,439)	(94,142)	(80,997)	(14,499)	(110,959)	(87,806)	(78,400)	(102,848)	(728,119)	223,558	(233,003)	(133,891)	(154,473)	(92,239)	(61,429)	(1,942,835)
Vacant Positions:	66	64	64	64	56	59	60	60	59	55	54	52	54	54	55	58	48	42	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

2023-25 New Positions Approved

Position Title	Hire Date	OMB Pool Transfers	Budget Request	Estimated Salary Expenses 2023-25	Estimated Salary Expenses 2025-27
NDAWN Programmer	3/25/2024	$135,625	$153,868	$135,625	$208,064

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

640-Main Station

HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($3,714,807)*

OMB FTE Pool

Approved Transfers	*$1,874,809*
Anticipated Transfers	*$769,556*

Budget deficiency	***($1,070,442)***

Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

2023-25 Legislation that Included Reporting Requirements to 2025 Appropriation Committees

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

HB1020 (NDSU Research & Extension, Agronomy Seed Farm and Northern Crops Institute)

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO THE SIXTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly for the 2021-23 biennium and the 2023-25 biennium one-time funding items included in section 1 of this Act:

One-Time Funding Description

Deferred maintenance - $500,000
Equipment storage sheds (4 sheds) - $1,900,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project - $1,700,000
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation - $2,933,230
Hettinger research extension center land purchase - $1,038,000
Waldron hall replacement project - $97,000,000
Northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade - $3,250,000
Northern crops institute pellet mill - $650,000

The 2023-25 one-time funding amounts are not a part of the entity's base budget for the 2025-27 biennium. The main and branch research center shall report to the appropriations committees of the sixty-ninth legislative assembly on the use of this one-time funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

	General Fund	Special Fund	Status
Deferred maintenance	**500,000**		Projects underway and will be completed by 6/30/25
Equipment Storage Sheds	**1,900,000**		
Main Station	475,000		Completed fall 2024
Langdon REC	475,000		Completed fall 2025
North Central REC	475,000		Expected completion January 2025
Williston REC	475,000		Unsuccessful bid; refer to 2025-27 WREC capital projects request
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project	**1,700,000**		Unsuccessful bid; refer to 2025-27 WREC capital projects request
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation	**2,008,230**	**925,000**	
CREC Feedlot Research Support Facility	640,000		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
CREC Feedlot Pen Expansion	559,400		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
CREC Bulk Feed Commodity Storage Structure	157,400		Substantial completion October 2024
CGREC Livestock Facility	400,000		Substantial completion January 2025
LREC Greenhouse	251,430		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
CGREC Residence		175,000	Expected substantial completion 2nd qtr 2025
WREC Greenhouse		750,000	Project in fundraising stage
Hettinger research extension center land purchase	**1,038,000**		Land purchase closed March 2024
Waldron hall replacement project	**87,000,000**	**10,000,000**	The Bolley Agricultural Laboratory is estimated to be completed summer 2026.
Northern crops institute feed production center facility	**3,250,000**		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
Northern crops institute pellet mill	**650,000**		Pellet mill has been replaced

SECTION 3. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2023-25 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Status: Oil revenue received July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024 - $105,141

SECTION 4. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Williston research extension center shall report to the sixty-ninth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Status:

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023 - Amounts received $784,363; Amounts spent $218,853
July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024 - Amounts received $52,576; Amounts spent $212,991

SECTION 13. EXEMPTION - BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS PROJECTS-FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND. The amounts appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund for one-time projects at the Carrington research center, central grasslands research center, Dickinson research center, and Hettinger research center in section 6 of chapter 550 of the 2021 Special Session Session Laws are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Status:

All funds appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund have been expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

	2021 Special Session Funding	Unexpended
Carrington Research Extension Center	$ 446,000	$ -
Central Grasslands Research Extension Center	1,963,000	-
Dickinson Research Extension Center	2,200,000	-
Hettinger Research Extension Center	3,420,000	-
	8,029,000	-

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

		640 Main Station
Salaries	$	89,801,398
Operating		20,406,667
Equipment		4,600,000
Deferred Maintenance		1,340,065
Total Budget	$	116,148,130
Funding:		
Federal Fund*	$	8,918,293
General Fund		58,125,665
Special Fund*		49,104,172
Total Funding	$	116,148,130

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	358.47
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	370.53

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	2025-27 NDAES Request			2025-27 Executive Recommendation		
	FTE	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	FTE	Executive Recommendation	Executive Recommendation
		General Fund	Special Fund		General Fund	Special Fund
SBARE #1: Center for Trade and Policy Studies (CAPTS)	3.0	$975,000	-	-	-	-
Agriculture policy analyst	1.0	275,000				
Market and trade analyst	1.0	275,000				
Economic impact/contributions specialist	1.0	275,000				
Operating		150,000				
SBARE #2: Digital Transformation of Agriculture	6.0	$2,634,000	-	-	-	-
AI/ML Engineer	1.0	280,000				
Database Architect	1.0	430,000				
Data Manager	1.0	280,000				
Data Scientist	1.0	280,000				
GIS Specialist	1.0	230,000				
UAS Chief Pilot	1.0	230,000				
Operating		904,000				
SBARE #3: Livestock: Animal Health	1.0	$325,000	-	-	-	-
Veterinary toxicology resident	1.0	275,000				
Operating		50,000				
SBARE #4: Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships	-	$3,090,000	-	-	-	$1,910,000
Operating main station		630,000				630,000
Operating RECs		560,000				280,000
Equipment		1,000,000				1,000,000
Graduate research assistantships		900,000				
SBARE #5: Biofuels & Carbon Management	2.0	$525,000	-	2.0	$495,000	-
Scientist	1.0	275,000		1.0	275,000	
Research specialist	1.0	200,000		1.0	200,000	
Operating		50,000			20,000	
SBARE #6: Research Specialists	5.0	$1,000,000	-	-	-	-
Research specialist (grapes/vineyards)	1.0	200,000				
Research specialist (agronomy)	1.0	200,000				
Research specialist (plant pathology)	1.0	200,000				
Research specialist (soybean breeding)	1.0	200,000				
Research specialist (biosystems engineering)	1.0	200,000				
Unranked						
Restore 2023-25 new and vacant FTE funding pool,General fund					4,900,000	2,200,000
SBARE - Base Increase - Main Research Station	**17.0**	**$8,549,000**	**-**	**2.0**	**$5,395,000**	**$4,110,000**
ONE-TIME & CAPITAL FUNDING						
Deferred maintenance		1,500,000			1,000,000 SIIF	
Capital:						
SBARE #1 Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS) building completion		620,000			620,000 SIIF	
SBARE #2 Seed conditioning plant - Langdon		2,600,000			2,600,000 SIIF	
SBARE #3 Equipment storage sheds (3) DREC, CGREC, CREC		1,567,500				
Unranked						
Nesson Valley facility carryover 2023-25 SBARE #3		1,700,000				
Nesson Valley additional SF authority request			1,300,000.0			
Swine facility			6,000,000.0			
WREC carryover equipment storage shed 2023-25		475,000				
WREC additional SF authority equipment storage shed			800,000.0			
Total One-time & capital funding-North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station		**$8,462,500**	**8,100,000**		**$4,220,000**	**$0**

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$56,309,959**	**$58,013,314**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	1,782,012	
Employer Retirement Contribution	33,694	9,151
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	3,714,807	1,844,395
Remove Bond Payments	(178,477)	
3% Budget Reduction	(1,849,860)	(1,542,512)
Center for Trade and Policy Studies (CAPTS) (3 FTE)	975,000	
Digital Transportation of Agriculture (6 FTE)	2,634,000	
Livestock: Animal Health (1 FTE)	325,000	
Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships	2,530,000	
Biofuels & Carbon Management (2 FTE)	525,000	
Research Specialists (5 FTE)	1,000,000	
2023-25 Adjusted Appropriation, Less Base Adjustments- (2025-27 Base Budget Request)	**67,801,135**	**58,324,348**
2025-27 Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	2,552,768	1,460,154
Health Insurance increase	1,254,491	853,721
Center for Trade and Policy Studies (CAPTS) (3 FTE)	(975,000)	
Digital Transportation of Agriculture (6 FTE)	(2,634,000)	
Livestock: Animal Health (1 FTE)	(325,000)	
Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships	(2,530,000)	1,630,000
Biofuels & Carbon Management (2 FTE)	(30,000)	
Research Specialists (5 FTE)	(1,000,000)	
2025-27 Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**(3,686,741)**	**3,943,875**
2025-27 Total Executive Recommended	**64,114,394**	**62,268,223**

Agency Overview

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Agency Statutory Authority

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15-12.1

Agency Description

The North Dakota State University (NDSU) Research Extension Centers (RECs) are dedicated to enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability across various regions of North Dakota. Each center focuses on the unique needs and opportunities of its area, contributing to the state's agricultural development through research, education, and community engagement. Together, these centers play a vital role in advancing North Dakota's agricultural sector, leveraging research and innovation to meet the evolving needs of producers and communities across the state.

The Dickinson Research Extension Center (DREC) serves a 13-county region in southwest North Dakota, focusing on agronomy, beef management, and sustainable agricultural practices. With over 6,500 acres of land, DREC supports economic development while ensuring the sustainability of natural resources for future generations.

The Central Grasslands Research Extension Center (CGREC) concentrates on managing grasslands in central North Dakota, aiming to improve soil health, support beef production, and enhance the resilience of grasslands to varying weather conditions. The center's research promotes economic value while preserving the region's natural resources.

The Hettinger Research Extension Center (HREC) in southwest North Dakota focuses on agronomy and animal research, particularly in sheep and livestock feeding. Situated in a semi-arid region, HREC collaborates with various organizations to improve the productivity of livestock, grazing, and cropping systems, contributing to the region's economic development.

The Langdon Research Extension Center (LREC) supports a nine-county region in northeast North Dakota, where it addresses the unique challenges of crop production in a climate characterized by high precipitation and cooler temperatures. LREC's research focuses on disease management and providing growers with strategies to maximize returns on their crops.

The North Central Research Extension Center (NCREC), located near Minot, focuses on increasing agricultural productivity in the north central region of North Dakota. NCREC's research includes crop variety evaluation, pest management, and soil fertility, all aimed at supporting local agriculture and enhancing crop production.

The Williston Research Extension Center (WREC) in northwest North Dakota conducts research on crop variety evaluation, soil and water conservation, and irrigation development. WREC's work supports crop diversification and profitability, helping local farmers adapt to changing conditions and improve their livelihoods.

The Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) in central North Dakota focuses on enhancing agricultural productivity and diversity through research in agronomy, plant pathology, soil science, and precision agriculture. CREC's work supports both dryland and irrigated farming systems, contributing to the sustainability and competitiveness of agriculture in the region.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Agency Mission Statement

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station researchers at the Research Extension Centers throughout the state develop and share premier research solutions and technology to enhance the quality of life, sustain food, feed, fiber and fuel production, and protect our heritage - the great land and resources of North Dakota.

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

Research Continuity and Expansion
Ongoing research in soil health, agronomy, livestock production, and range management needs continued support, with an emphasis on maintaining and expanding these programs.

Deferred Maintenance and Facility Upgrades
Many facilities are outdated, unsafe, or in need of repairs, impacting both safety and the ability to conduct research. Specific needs include facility upgrades, equipment replacement, and completion of unfinished projects.

Funding and Operational Support
There is a need for increased base funding to support research and extension activities. Rising operational and labor costs, along with inflation, are straining budgets, making it difficult to maintain current programs and staff.

Land Ownership and Security
The need for secure land ownership is critical, particularly for research programs relying on rented land. The potential sale of land currently used for livestock and wildlife research adds uncertainty to future operations.

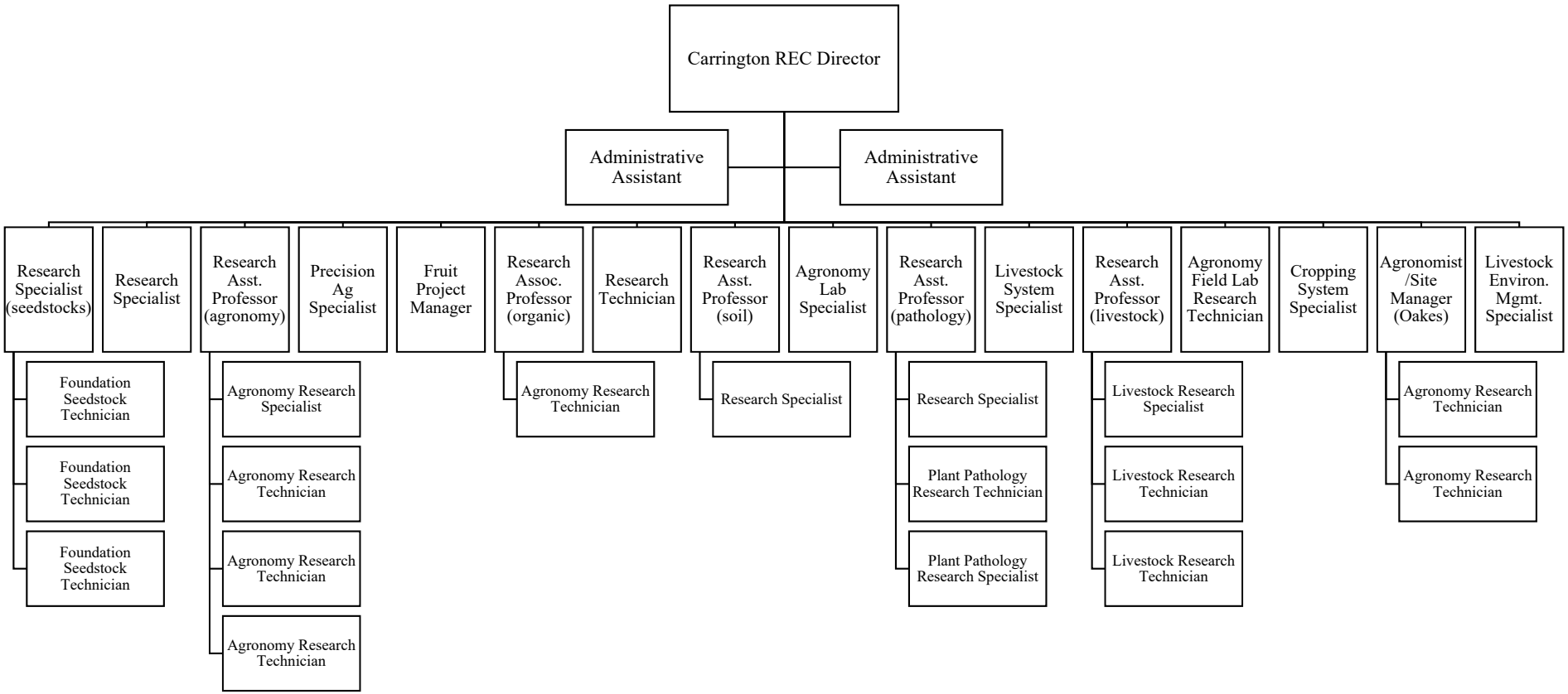
Programmatic and Staffing Requirements
There is a demand for additional technical support and research specialists to handle the growing needs of various research programs, as well as increased salary packages to retain and attract qualified staff.

External Funding and Grants
With appropriated funds declining, there is a greater dependence on grant opportunities and private funding to support research initiatives and maintain the quality and scope of the centers' work.

Organizational Chart

Carrington Research Extension Center

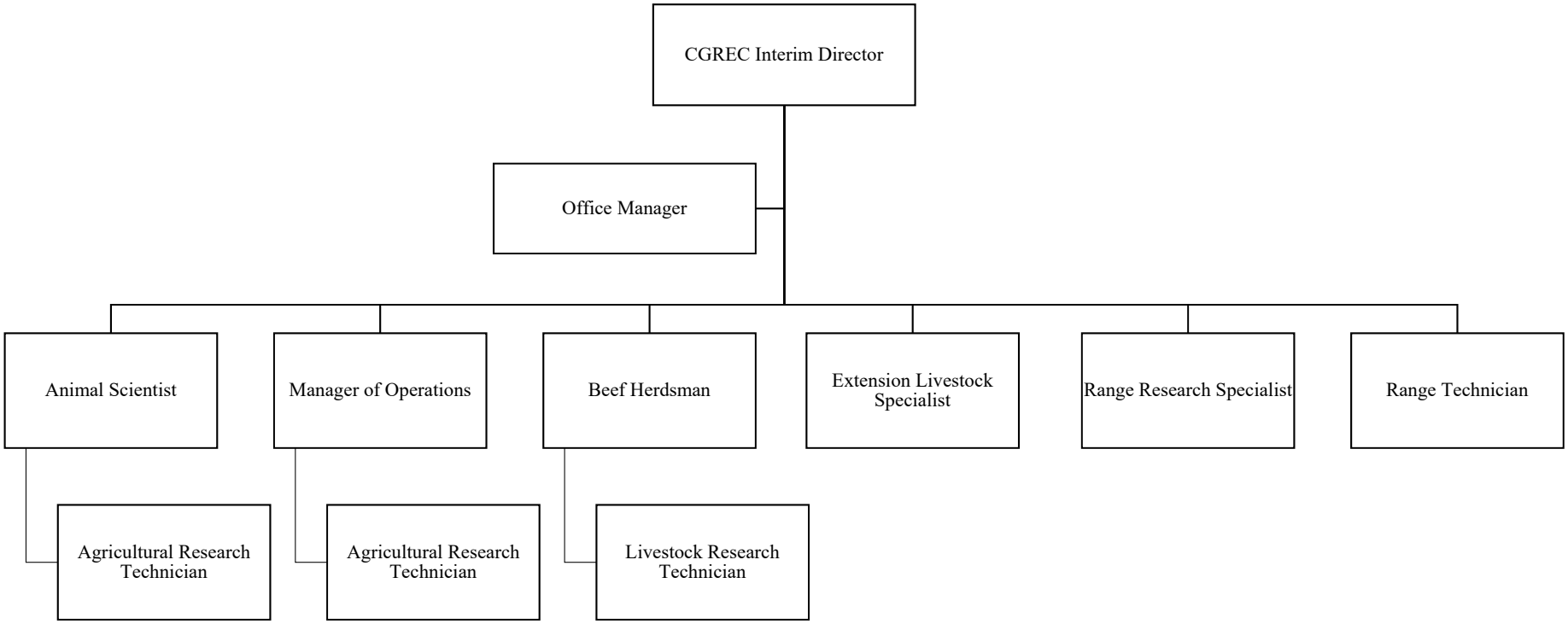
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Central Grasslands Research Extension Center

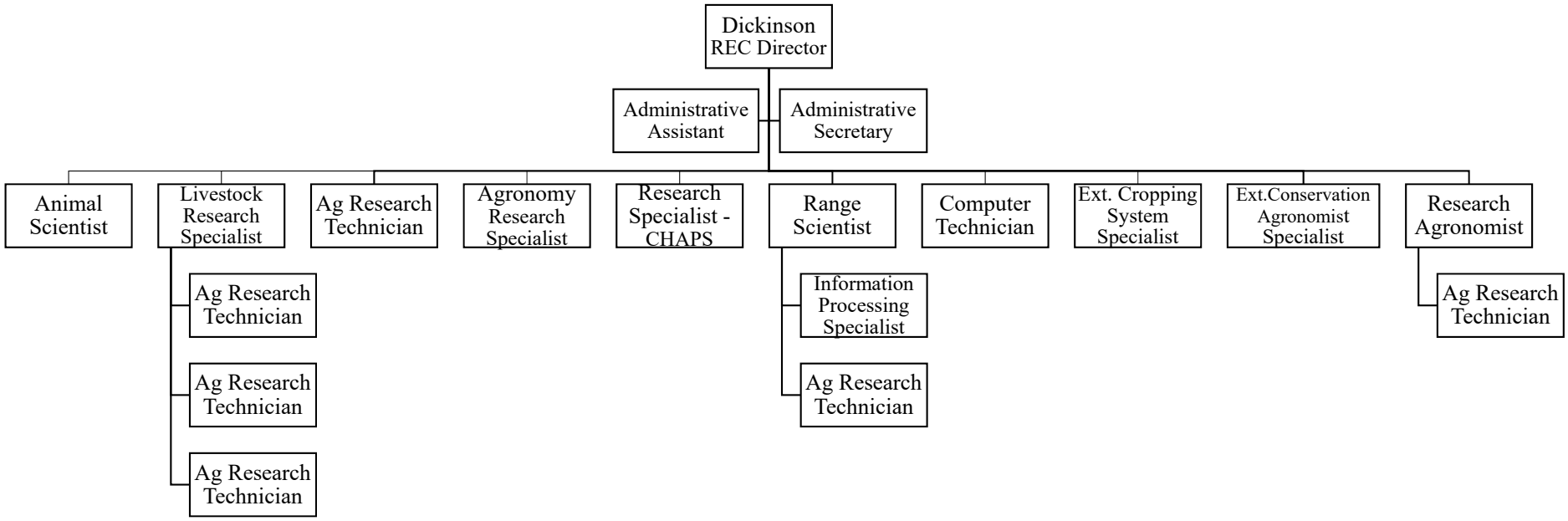
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Dickinson Research Extension Center

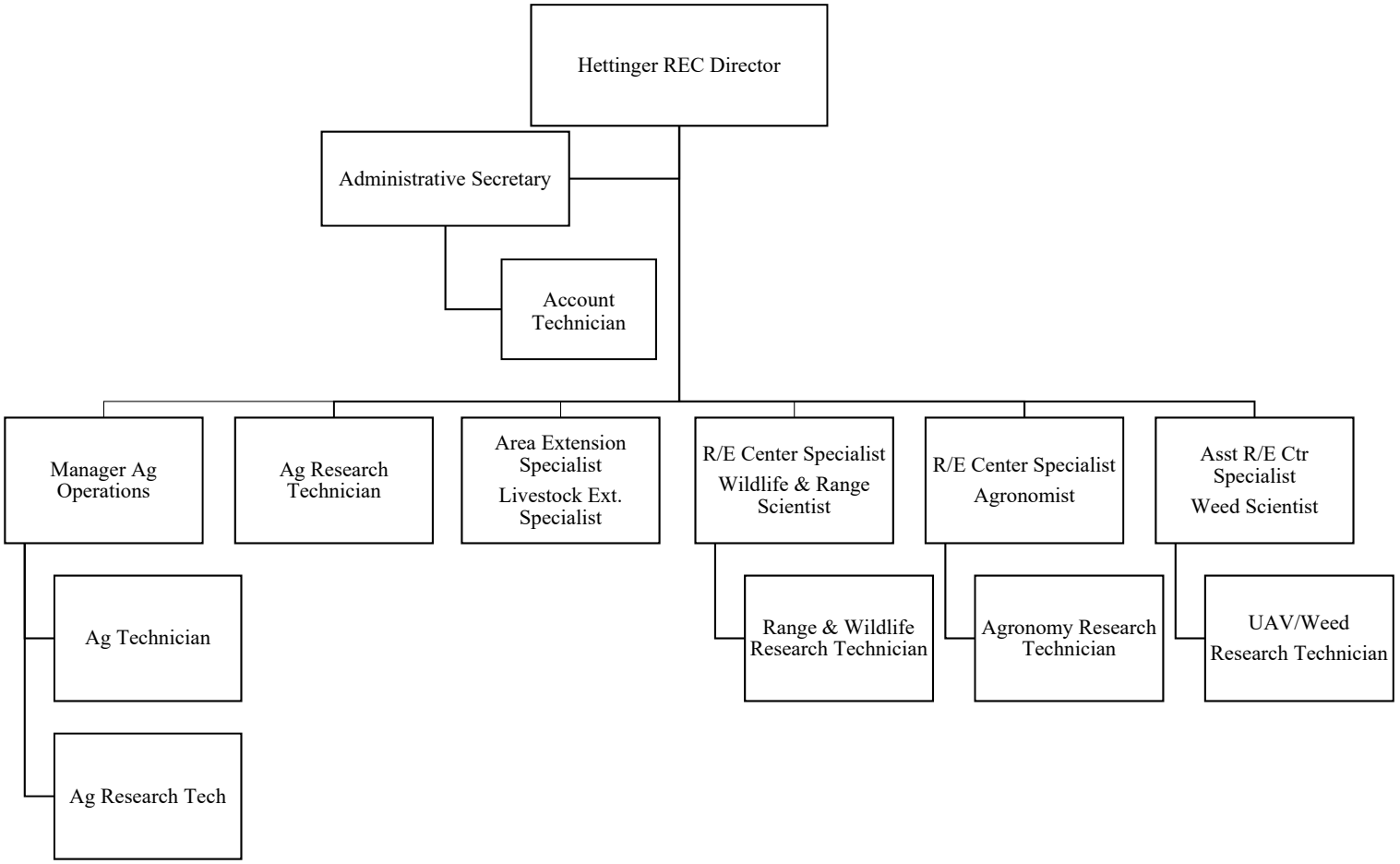
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Hettinger Research Extension Center

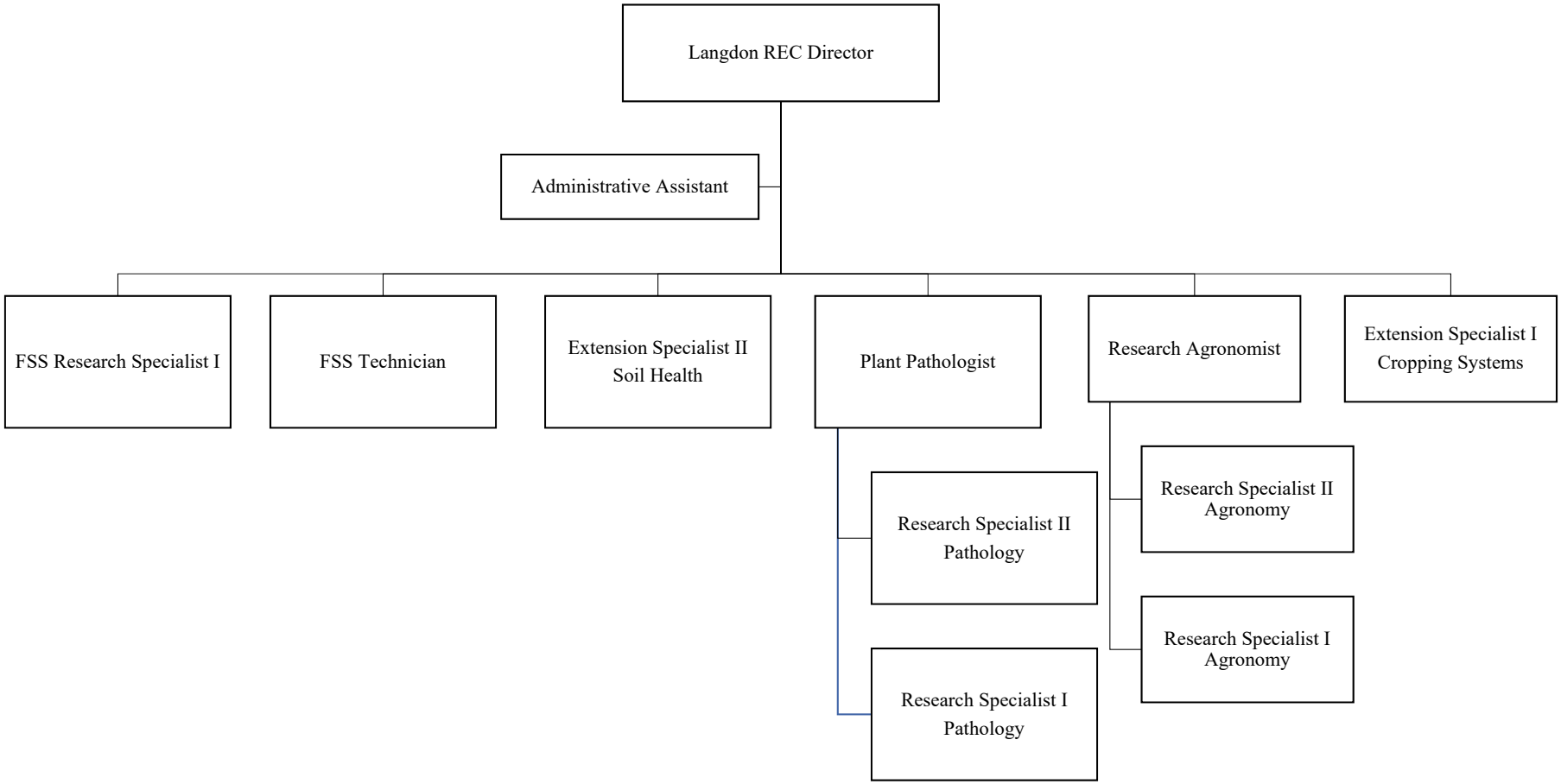
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Langdon Research Extension Center

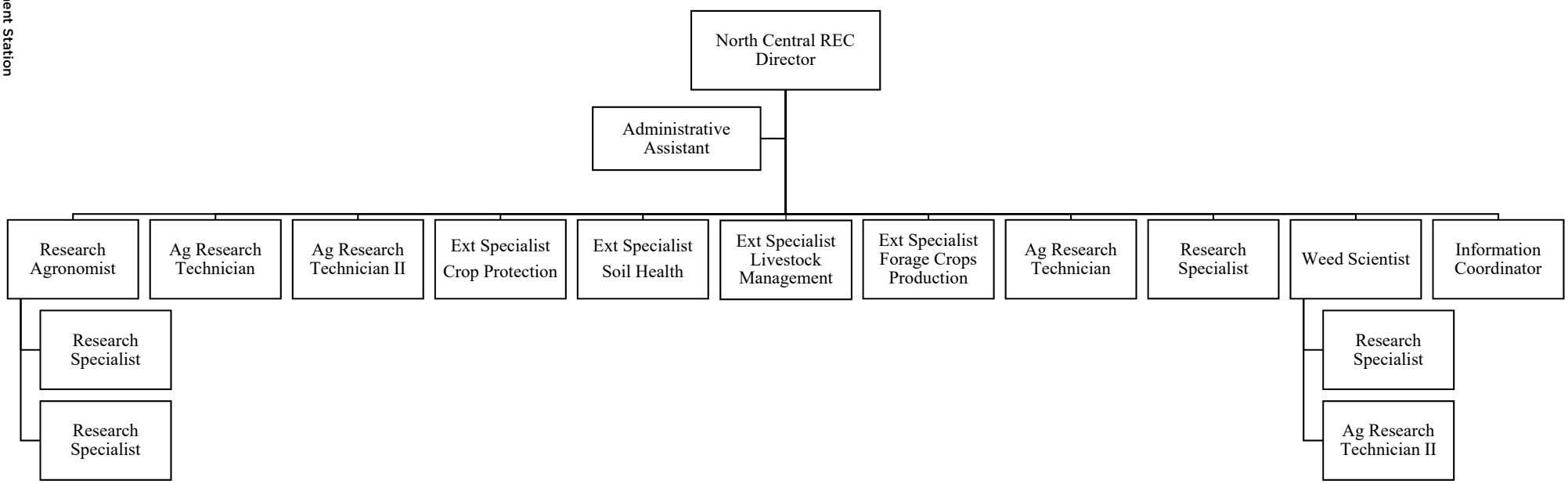
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

North Central Research Extension Center

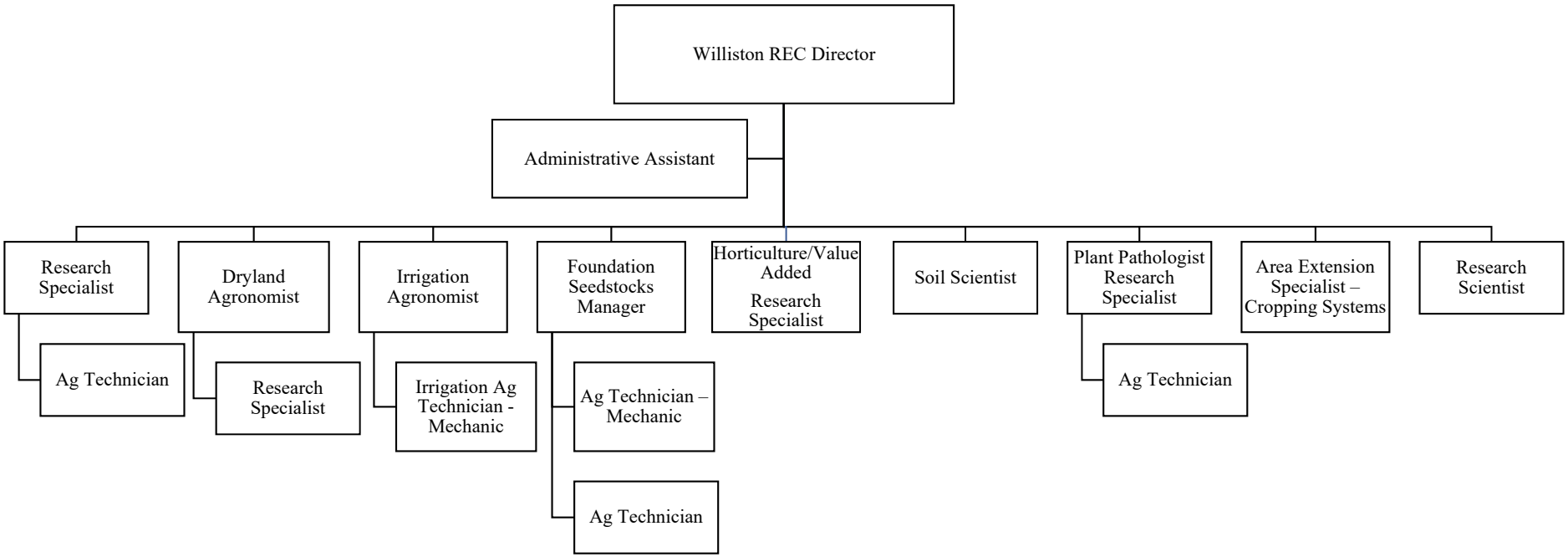
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Williston Research Extension Center

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Business Unit number: 628

Business Unit name: Branch Research Centers

Reporting Period 7/1/23-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	55,697	1,644,925
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts		113		1,433		2,604	12,249	7,172	9,429		4,629						1,963		39,592
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay		1,093		2,000			15,486	3,000		2,000	4,000	7,750				2,500			37,829
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding	21,821	111,202	14,850	12,425	13,775	11,225	6,275	4,950	4,950	4,325	-	190,001	36,764	118,267	10,289	6,800	11,700	3,500	583,119
Extra Overtime Funding	1,628	14,103	18,084	9,678	5,168	-	-	-	-	3,208	21,240	59,736	-	24,295	26,484	3,300	12,984	8,662	208,570
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Funding	0	2,284	5,764	6,542	-	6,542	6,542	7,254	8,920	8,630	7,299	12,082	-	6,162	3,889	3,889	14,446	16,056	116,301
																			-
Total	70,035	(35,311)	54,786	61,406	74,541	73,113	52,932	71,108	70,185	75,321	51,533	(176,085)	56,720	(55,240)	52,822	76,995	52,391	27,479	654,731
Vacant Positions:	21	21	20	19	17	18	22	23	22	20	18	18	18	17	15	16	18	13	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

2023-25 New Positions Approved

Position Title	Hire Date	OMB Pool Transfers	Budget Request	Estimated Salary Expenses 2023-25	Estimated Salary Expenses 2025-27
LREC Technician	8/21/2023	$157,183	$176,000	$157,183	$171,744
DREC Agronomist	2/1/2024	$155,135	$210,000	$155,135	$225,498

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

	641-Dickinson	642-Central Grasslands	643-Hettinger	644-Langdon	645-North Central	646-Williston	647-Carrington
HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($349,802)*	*($79,532)*	*($116,589)*	*($248,245)*	*($86,364)*	*($158,357)*	*($160,430)*
OMB Pool:							
Approved Transfers	*$155,135*	*$55,672*	*$81,612*	*$157,183*	*$60,455*	*$110,850*	*$112,301*
Anticipated Transfers	*$131,726*	*$0*	*$0*	*$51,789*	*$0*	*$0*	*$0*
Budget deficiency	***($62,941)***	***($23,860)***	***($34,977)***	***($39,273)***	***($25,909)***	***($47,507)***	***($48,129)***

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	641 Dickinson	642 Central Grasslands	643 Hettinger	644 Langdon	645 North Central	646 Williston	647 Carrington	Total
Salaries	$ 2,954,642	$ 1,686,924	$ 2,737,346	$ 1,898,518	$ 2,606,051	$ 3,634,511	$ 6,751,079	$ 22,269,071
Operating	3,130,196	1,756,346	2,038,902	532,351	2,389,166	1,106,614	2,167,923	$ 13,121,498
Equipment	1,295,000	175,000	605,000	765,000	360,000	786,000	1,272,000	$ 5,258,000
Total Budget	$ 7,379,838	$ 3,618,270	$ 5,381,248	$ 3,195,869	$ 5,355,217	$ 5,527,125	$ 10,191,002	$ 40,648,569
Funding:								
Federal Fund*	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
General Fund	3,893,104	2,180,257	2,494,357	1,775,617	2,173,813	3,072,343	4,094,107	$ 19,683,598
Special Fund*	3,486,734	1,438,013	2,886,891	1,420,252	3,181,404	2,454,782	6,096,895	20,964,971
Total Funding	$ 7,379,838	$ 3,618,270	$ 5,381,248	$ 3,195,869	$ 5,355,217	$ 5,527,125	$ 10,191,002	$ 40,648,569
FTE positions 2023-25	14.25	10.00	13.75	9.45	14.26	17.75	32.35	111.81
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	14.20	9.00	12.70	9.45	14.01	15.65	32.15	107.16

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$19,165,340**	**$20,950,865**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	497,119	
Employer Retirement Contribution	21,139	14,106
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	1,199,319	319,812
Remove Bond Payments	(63,728)	
NDIT Rate Adjustment	19,095	19,425
Operating RECs	560,000	
2023-25 Adjusted Appropriation, Less Base Adjustments- (2025-27 Base Budget Request)	**21,398,284**	**21,304,208**
2025-27 Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	765,443	230,408
Health Insurance increase	461,128	181,496
Operating RECs	(560,000)	280,000
2025-27 Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**666,571**	**691,904**
2025-27 Total Executive Recommended	**22,064,855**	**21,996,112**

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Agency Statutory Authority

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15-12.1

Agency Description

The Agronomy Seed Farm (ASF) is a 590 acre farm located near Casselton, which has been a part of the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station (NDAES) since it was gifted to the state in 1950. It was the result of a fund drive conducted by the North Dakota Crop Improvement Association, which solicited farmers, seed companies and many others throughout the state to help establish a farm whose main purpose is to increase seed of new varieties as they are developed by the plant breeding and supporting departments of the NDAES. The ASF also propagates seed of older but still desirable varieties for the seedsmen of the area.

Agency Mission Statement

To produce an adequate supply of foundation-grade seed for the seedsmen of the state and area at a reasonable price and to support the varietal development research of the NDAES.

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

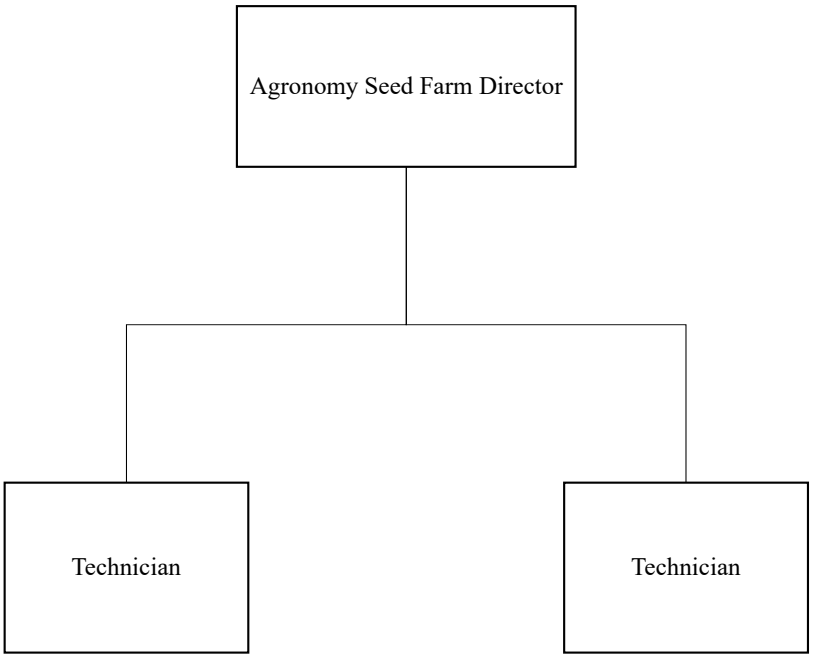
The critical issues facing the ASF are a continued demand for foundation-grade seed, favorable weather for growing seed and a good supply of varieties that are in demand by the seed industry. If these three conditions are present and good commodity prices accompany them, the future of the ASF is secure.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Organizational Chart

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Business Unit number: 649

Business Unit name: Agronomy Seed Farm

Reporting Period 7/1/23-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings												8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	62,510
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts																			-
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay																			-
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding												2,780	2,000	1,036	3,267	1,677	2,000	2,000	14,761
Extra Overtime Funding												2,392	5,057	9,140	4,866	1,549	3,463	1,459	27,926
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Funding																			-
																			-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,758	1,873	(1,246)	797	5,704	3,467	5,471	19,823
Vacant Positions:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	649 Agronomy Seed Farm
Salaries	$ 648,918
Operating	683,804
Equipment	300,000
Total Budget	$ 1,632,722
Funding:	
Federal Fund*	$ -
General Fund	-
Special Fund*	1,632,722
Total Funding	$ 1,632,722

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	3.00
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	3.00

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$1,629,764**
Employer Retirement Contribution	2,958
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	8,312
2025-27 Adjusted Other Fund Appropriation (Base Budget Request)	**$1,641,034**
2025-27 Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):	
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	29,468
Health Insurance increase	18,019
2025-27 Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**47,487**
2025-27 Total Executive Recommended	**$1,688,521**

Agency Overview

NDSU Extension

Agency Statutory Authority

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 11-38

Agency Description

North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension is part of a nationwide, university-based educational system that provides research-based educational programs to advance the lives and livelihoods of citizens in all 53 counties and four American Indian reservations in North Dakota. Programs focus on addressing current needs and issues affecting the state's agriculture, youth, families, communities and natural resources. In an effort to provide extensive reach and share knowledge and resources across North Dakota, NDSU Extension staff are located at state, area and local/county offices. NDSU Extension combines funding from federal, state, county and grant sources to specifically address local concerns and make a positive impact on our land and our people.

Agency Mission Statement

Empower North Dakotans to improve their lives and communities through science-based education.
NDSU Extension believes:

- In lifelong learning through transformational education
- That all people belong and deserve respect
- In stakeholder input to guide program development
- In science-based, locally relevant information
- In the value of partners and collaboration

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

Biofuels and Carbon

Given the growing demand in multiple markets for agricultural products with low carbon intensity (CI), particularly in ethanol and biodiesel production, it's important for farmers in the region to adapt to meet these market preferences. This shift necessitates a comprehensive understanding of climate-smart practices and the intricacies of carbon contracts. These contracts often entail long-term commitments from farmers and ranchers to implement practices that enhance carbon sequestration in soils, thereby mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. However, navigating the complexities of carbon capture practices and associated contracts can be daunting for producers.

Education plays a pivotal role in empowering farmers to navigate the complex landscape of carbon management effectively. A carbon specialist would serve as a vital conduit between farmers, ranchers and various stakeholders, including government agencies and carbon offset markets. By staying informed about the latest developments in carbon management policies, market trends, and technological advancements, the specialist will provide farmers with up-to-date information and valuable insights.

Through workshops, training sessions, and personalized consultations, they will educate farmers on the intricacies of carbon contracts, sustainable practices, and the potential benefits of participating in carbon markets. This educational support equips farmers with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions, maximize their participation in carbon offset programs, and ultimately contribute to climate change mitigation efforts while enhancing the sustainability and profitability of their operations.

Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support

Request for increased operating funds is crucial for the continued success of NDSU Extension's mission. These funds are essential in empowering extension specialists and agents to adapt and innovate; ensuring they can effectively address emerging needs and devise novel strategies to engage with local communities. However, the cost of operating has risen, including equipment and assistantships, placing strain on our ability to fulfill our mission effectively.

One area where increased operating support is particularly impactful is in the advancement of North Dakota's future through 4-H youth development and leadership programs. These programs nurture the next generation of leaders by providing them with positive experiences, fostering club involvement, enriching school environments, and equipping youth with essential workforce readiness skills.

In addition, allocating operating support to the State Soil Conservation Committee provides an increase in direct assistance funding to be distributed to local Soil Conservation Districts for technical assistance and conservation planning support.

Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health

The landscape of animal agriculture is experiencing a transformative evolution, driven by the integration of data related to a myriad of production variables. This integration serves a multifaceted purpose, overseeing crucial aspects such as health, nutrition, reproduction, and overall well-being of the animals. Through the utilization of cutting-edge technology, livestock management is undergoing significant enhancement, leading to improved efficiency across livestock enterprises. This shift toward digitization marks a pivotal moment in the industry, promising better outcomes for animals and farmers alike.

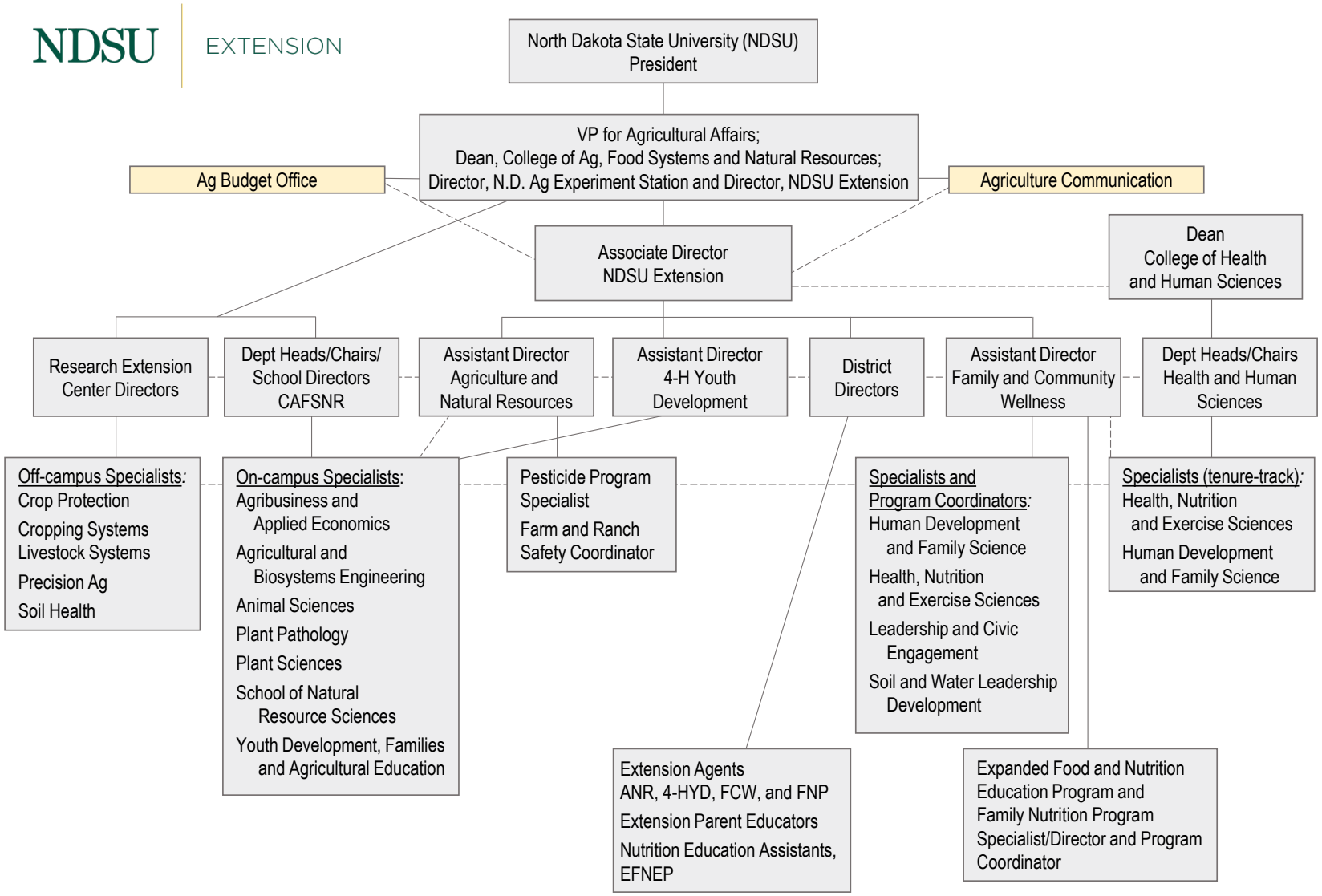
NDSU plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of animal agriculture. With an understanding of the interconnectedness between animal health, technology and economic prosperity, NDSU Extension serves as a technical resource and focuses on safeguarding livestock health in the state. Central to this mission is the elevation of monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases, which pose a threat to both animal and human populations. By actively engaging in this endeavor, NDSU Extension significantly contributes to the overall well-being of the community and the continued prosperity of the livestock industry.

Agribiome

As NDSU's agribiome research progresses toward solutions that can positively impact North Dakota crop and livestock operations, the involvement of an Extension specialist becomes pivotal in translating scientific advancements into practical applications. Extension education plays a crucial role in assisting producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. Presently, there are over 1,200 companies producing various biostimulants, inoculants, biofertilizers, biopesticides, probiotics and other biologicals aimed at enhancing crop and livestock production. Extension education is vital to provide the necessary guidance to empower producers with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions in this complex landscape.

Organizational Chart

NDSU Extension



Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

2024 Extension impacts

NDSU EXTENSION

Extending Knowledge. Changing Lives.

North Dakota State University Extension plays a crucial role in supporting agricultural sustainability, enhancing farm and ranch operations and fostering community well-being. Through its programs, NDSU Extension helps North Dakota's agricultural producers stay financially resilient, improve crop and livestock health, protect natural resources and prepare for natural disasters. Additionally, NDSU Extension's community wellness and 4-H youth development programs empower individuals and families with the knowledge and tools to improve their quality of life.

Pesticide and Fungicide Management

Ensuring environmental sustainability and healthy crops is at the heart of NDSU Extension's agricultural programs.

- **Safe Pesticide Use:** The Pesticide Safety Program trained 7,208 people on proper pesticide use, reducing environmental risks and supporting food security.
- **Fungicide Use in Wheat:** NDSU Extension's guidance on managing Fusarium head blight saved wheat producers between $500,000 to $2 million in input costs, and contributed to a new average yield record of 56.9 bushel/acre for all wheat in North Dakota.

Livestock Health and Beef Quality

Improving livestock health and quality is central to maintaining a sustainable livestock industry in North Dakota.

- **Animal Disease Preparedness:** A total of 65 professionals were trained on responding to animal disease outbreaks. As a result, 96% of those participants plan to implement changes to improve preparedness and response strategies.
- **Beef Quality Assurance:** Over 300 producers participated in beef quality assurance training, improving cattle handling practices and quality. This improvement resulted in an estimated $1.5 million in added value — or $100 per animal — to 15,000 cattle.

Agricultural Support and Financial Guidance

NDSU Extension is committed to providing resources that support agricultural producers in managing their operations and navigating financial challenges.

- **Ag Finance Program:** In 2024, the Ag Finance program helped landowners and operators navigate $1.3 billion in annual land rents across 22 million acres in North Dakota. This crucial information assists both financially constrained farmers and fixed-income landowners with better decision-making and forecasting.
- **Livestock Risk Protection Insurance:** Educating producers about USDA Livestock Risk Protection insurance led to 169,398 head of feeder cattle being insured in 2024 with over $4.5 million in indemnity payments. This program helps farmers manage risks related to price fluctuations and market volatility.

Horticulture and Food Security

Supporting local food production and increasing food security is a key focus of NDSU Extension's horticulture programs.

- **Vegetable Growers:** At 400 locations, growers evaluated 80 varieties of vegetables, which contributed to better yields, as well as healthier diets and improved physical activity among children involved in the program.
- **Master Gardeners:** Since 2014, NDSU Extension Master Gardeners donated 178,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to food pantries while also educating communities on sustainable gardening practices and pollinator conservation.

Family and Community Wellness: Promoting Healthy Lifestyles and Strengthening Communities

NDSU Extension is committed to enhancing community health, wellness and resilience through educational programs and resources that reach people of all ages.

Field to Fork:

- In 2024, 1,756 participants attended live webinars and 4,192 recorded views were made available to a wider audience.
- Of those who participated, 86% reported adjusting their practices, with 77% focusing on attracting more pollinators, 57% growing new vegetables and 47% increasing their intake of fruits and vegetables.

Aging in Community:

- In 2024, 4,270 community members were reached, with 85% of them reported feeling more connected to resources in their community and 84% gaining valuable knowledge.
- A reported 80% of clients noted improvements in their quality of life and 86% felt more confident living independently at home. For every $1 spent in 2024, the state of North Dakota potentially saved $308 in Medicaid costs by assisting individuals to remain in their homes.

Childcare and Education:

- In 2024, 692 childcare providers and school personnel received 3,480 hours of continuing education, ensuring high-quality care for children across the state.
- The Beginner's Guide to Grant Writing Workshop helped 62 participants learn how to secure funding for community projects. As a result, $75,000 was awarded to the Langdon Ambulance Service to support local emergency services.

4-H Youth Programs: Preparing the Next Generation for Success

NDSU Extension's 4-H program equips youth with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in agriculture, leadership and STEM fields.

4-H Livestock-in-a-Box Program:

- The Livestock-in-a-Box program allowed youth in grades 2-6 to explore livestock care from home. With 200 boxes purchased in 30 counties, this program reached youth across multiple states, expanding their agricultural knowledge and engagement.

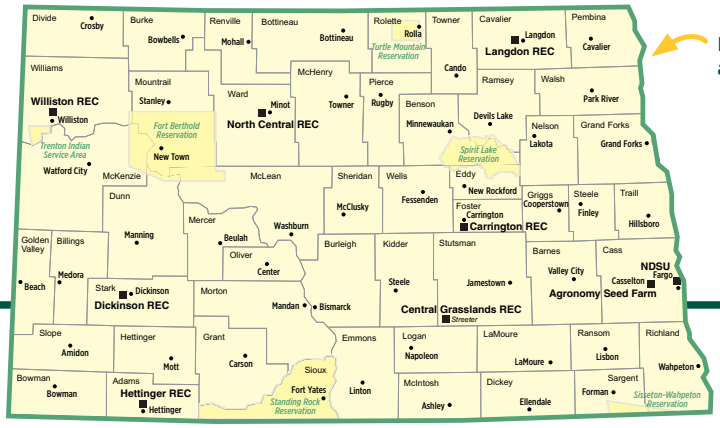
STEM Education and Recreation:

- In 2024, 439 youth participated in 19 unique 4-H camps, which included programs in livestock, archery, STEM exploration and outdoor skills. Parents reported high satisfaction, with 85% of campers showing increased independence and 94% discovering something new about themselves.

Volunteer Impact

NDSU Extension volunteers play a key role in shaping North Dakota's future, with over 1,540 volunteers dedicating nine hours per month to supporting 4-H youth programs. This commitment equates to a $5.5 million annual investment in North Dakota's youth.

- 97% of volunteers say their work helps youth build leadership skills.
- 100% of volunteers believe their efforts make communities stronger, better connected and healthier.



NDSU Extension network of county offices and research extension centers

For more information:

Lynette Flage, Associate Director,
NDSU Extension
lynette.flage@ndsu.edu 701-231-7782

ndsu.edu/extension

County commissions, North Dakota State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to Vice Provost, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 100, 701-231-7708, ndsu.eoaa@ndsu.edu. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, 701-231-7881. December 2024

NDSU Extension Program Initiatives

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024

NDSU EXTENSION



1 Biofuels and Carbon Initiative

Given the growing demand in multiple markets for agricultural products with low carbon intensity (CI), particularly in ethanol and biodiesel production, it's important for farmers in the region to adapt to meet these market preferences. This shift necessitates a comprehensive understanding of climate-smart practices and the intricacies of carbon contracts. These contracts often entail long-term commitments from farmers and ranchers to implement practices that enhance carbon sequestration in soils, thereby mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. However, navigating the complexities of carbon capture practices and associated contracts can be daunting for producers.

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Request: One FTE specialist position – Extension Carbon Specialist – $275,000. Will provide education on climate-smart practices related to carbon contracts farmers and ranchers have the opportunity to implement. $50,000 in operating support for the specialist.

Total: $325,000



2 Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support

Request for increased operating funds is crucial for the continued success of NDSU Extension's mission. These funds are essential in empowering extension specialists and agents to adapt and innovate, ensuring they can effectively address emerging needs and devise novel strategies to engage with local communities. However, the cost of operating has risen, including equipment and assistantships, placing strain on our ability to fulfill our mission effectively.

One area where increased operating support is particularly impactful is in the advancement of North Dakota's future through 4-H youth development and leadership programs. These programs nurture the next generation of leaders by providing them with positive experiences, fostering club involvement, enriching school environments, and equipping youth with essential workforce readiness skills.

In addition, allocating operating support to the State Soil Conservation Committee provides an increase in direct assistance funding to be distributed to local Soil Conservation Districts for technical assistance and conservation planning support.

Request: Extension operating support – $600,000 and State Soil Conservation operating support – $150,000 for total request of $750,000.

Total: $750,000

Continued on page 2

NDSU Extension Program Initiatives

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024





3 Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative

The landscape of animal agriculture is experiencing a transformative evolution, driven by the integration of data related to a myriad of production variables. This integration serves a multifaceted purpose, overseeing crucial aspects such as health, nutrition, reproduction, and overall well-being of the animals. Through the utilization of cutting-edge technology, livestock management is undergoing significant enhancement, leading to improved efficiency across livestock enterprises. This shift toward digitization marks a pivotal moment in the industry, promising better outcomes for animals and farmers alike.

NDSU plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of animal agriculture. With an understanding of the interconnectedness between animal health, technology and economic prosperity, NDSU Extension serves as a technical resource and focuses on safeguarding livestock health in the state. Central to this mission is the elevation of monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases, which pose a threat to both animal and human populations. By actively engaging in this endeavor, NDSU Extension significantly contributes to the overall well-being of the community and the continued prosperity of the livestock industry.

Request: Two FTE specialist positions – (1) Extension Precision Agriculture Specialist - $275,000. Will provide education around key technological advancements in livestock technologies such as sensors, transponders, livestock collars and artificial intelligence. (2) Extension Veterinary Epidemiologist - $440,000. Efforts will focus on safeguarding the health of North Dakotans and their livestock by elevating the monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases shared between animals and humans. $100,000 for operating support for two specialists.

Total: $815,000



4 Agribiome Initiative

As NDSU's agribiome research progresses toward solutions that can positively impact North Dakota crop and livestock operations, the involvement of an Extension specialist becomes pivotal in translating scientific advancements into practical applications. Extension education plays a crucial role in assisting producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. Presently, there are over 1,200 companies producing various biostimulants, inoculants, biofertilizers, biopesticides, probiotics and other biologicals aimed at enhancing crop and livestock production. Extension education is vital to provide the necessary guidance to empower producers with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions in this complex landscape.

Request: One FTE specialist position – Extension Agribiome Specialist – $275,000. Will assist producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. $50,000 for operating support for the Extension agribiome specialist.

Total: $325,000

NDSU | EXTENSION

NDSU Extension

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Business Unit number: 630

Business Unit name: NDSU Extension

Reporting Period 7/1/23-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	2,131,992
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts	17,424	3,135	17,710	953	14,267	5,613	7,168	17,490	4,511	25,670	53,835	64,947	22,996	30,818	1,630	7,289	55,190	6,029	356,675
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay					9,333	11,925		9,800			20,853	33,959	-	6,451	25,427	6,045	6,045	6,045	135,883
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding	52,557	133,646	75,728	51,892	55,452	45,721	45,071	54,842	46,282	46,497	12,885	18,202	15,818	23,062	85,683	23,940	17,811	15,242	820,331
Extra Overtime Funding		729										1,955		5,933					8,617
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Salaries													4,503	8,433	7,154	7,853	11,490	9,234	48,667
																			-
Total	48,463	(19,066)	25,006	65,599	39,392	55,185	66,205	36,312	67,651	46,277	30,871	(619)	75,127	43,747	(1,450)	73,317	27,908	81,894	761,819
Vacant Positions:	31	28	31	29	27	33	35	34	37	37	36	35	29	27	25	28	25	25	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

New and Vacant FTE

NDSU Extension

2023-25 New Positions Approved

Position Title	Hire Date	OMB Pool Transfers	Budget Request	Estimated Salary Expenses 2023-25	Estimated Salary Expenses 2025-27
Soybean pathologist	11/1/2023	$0	$200,000	$200,321	$244,836
Swine specialist	6/14/2024	$0	$200,000	$118,125	$226,398

*Pool depleted with other filled vacancies

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

630-NDSU Extension

HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($2,091,347)*

OMB FTE Pool

Approved Transfers	*$1,545,943*
Anticipated Transfers	*$0*
Budget deficiency	***($545,404)***

Major Components of Current Base Level

NDSU Extension

		630 Extension
Salaries	$	53,482,772
Operating		5,996,173
Soil conservation committee operating		1,361,520
Total Budget	$	60,840,465
Funding:		
Federal Fund*	$	8,824,965
General Fund		31,790,689
Special Fund*		20,224,811
Total Funding	$	60,840,465

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	252.70
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	259.44

NDSU Extension

	2025-27 Extension Request			2025-27 Executive Recommendation		
	FTE	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	FTE	Executive Recommendation	Executive Recommendation
		General Fund	Special Fund		General Fund	Special Fund
SBARE #1 Biofuels and Carbon Initiative	1.0	$325,000	-	1.0	$290,000	-
Extension Carbon Specialist	1.0	275,000		1.0	275,000	
Operating		50,000			15,000	
SBARE #2 Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support	-	$750,000	-	-	-	$150,000
Extension operating support		600,000				$150,000
State soil conservation committee operating support		150,000				
SBARE #3 Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative	2.0	$815,000	-	-	-	-
Extension Precision Agriculture Specialist	1.0	$275,000				
Extension Veterinary Epidemiologist	1.0	$440,000				
Operating		100,000				
SBARE #4 Agribiome Initiative	1.0	$325,000	-	-	-	-
Extension Agribiome Specialist	1.0	275,000				
Operating		50,000				
Unranked						
Restore 2023-25 new and vacant FTE funding pool,General fund					2,100,000	1,800,000
SBARE - Base Increase - NDSU Extension Service	**4.0**	**$2,215,000**	**-**	**1.0**	**$2,390,000**	**$1,950,000**

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

NDSU Extension

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$30,908,214**	**$28,986,143**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	859,731	46,548
Employer Retirement Contribution	22,744	17,085
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	2,091,347	1,763,198
3% Budget Reduction	(1,017,114)	(641,074)
NDIT Rate Adjustment	21,755	20,401
Biofuels and Carbon Initiative	325,000	
Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support	750,000	
Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative (2 FTE)	815,000	
Agribiome Initiative (1 FTE)	325,000	
2023-25 Adjusted Appropriation, Less Base Adjustments- (2025-27 Base Budget Request)	**35,101,677**	**30,192,301**
2025-27 Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	1,336,017	1,179,254
Health Insurance increase	720,893	738,217
Biofuels and Carbon Initiative	(35,000)	
Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support	(750,000)	150,000
Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative (2 FTE)	(815,000)	
Agribiome Initiative (1 FTE)	(325,000)	
2025-27 Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**131,910**	**2,067,471**
2025-27 Total Executive Recommended	**35,233,587**	**32,259,772**

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

An international center for meeting and learning about northern grown crops of the United States.

Agency: 63800 - Northern Crops Institute

AGENCY NARRATIVES

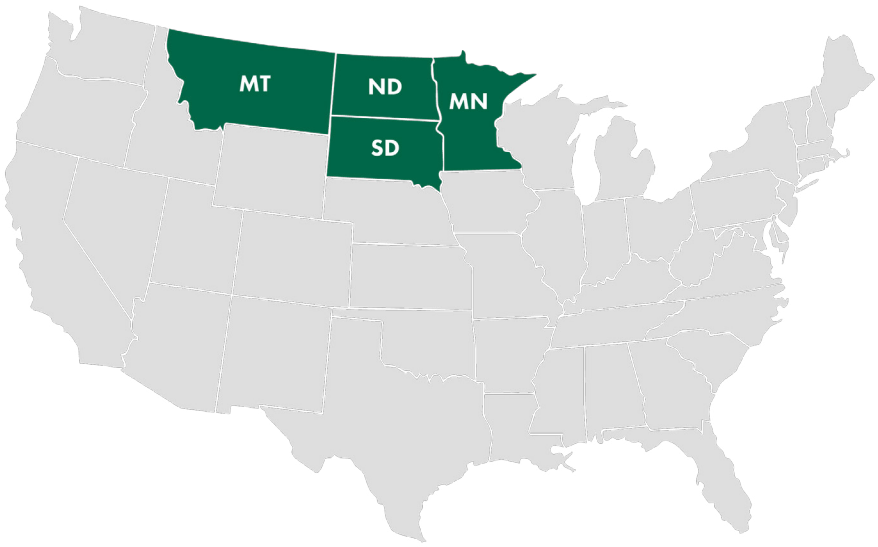
Agency Statutory: North Dakota Century Code Chapter 4.1-15

Agency Description: The Northern Crops Institute (NCI) is a collaborative effort between North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, and South Dakota to promote, develop, and market crops grown in the four-state region, and value-added agriculture, both internationally and domestically. NCI is an international meeting and learning center that brings together customers, commodity traders, technical experts, agricultural producers, and food and industrial processors for education, discussion, and technical services. NCI provides technical and marketing assistance through specialized training programs and technical services that facilitate domestic and international market development and expand the sale of northern grown crops. Representatives from more than 155 countries have visited NCI since its inception in 1979. Representatives from 81 countries participated in NCI's educational programs in 2022 and 2023.

Agency Mission Statement: NCI's mission is to support regional agriculture and value-added processing by conducting educational and technical programs that expand and maintain domestic and international markets for northern grown crops.

NCI AUDIT

Per ND state law, the NCI financial audit was conducted as a part of NDSU. The audit did not identify any areas of concern.

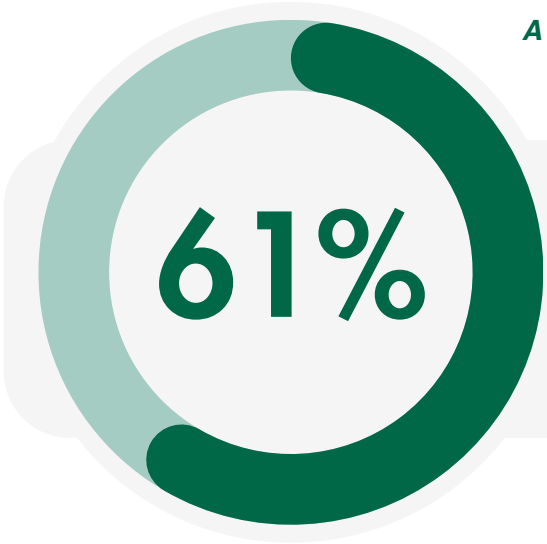


2025 NCI Impact Analysis

The **Northern Crops Institute (NCI)** meets its mission with services that lead to actual increased commodity purchases and regional investments. NCI actively contributes to adding value for products created by the region's farmers and processors.

Program Impact

The Northern Crops Institute offers a variety of short courses and webinars that unite customers, commodity traders, technical experts, and professors for discussion and education. During our courses, participants refresh their expertise and are exposed to technology, participate in lectures, case histories, laboratory demonstrations, and tours.



A 5% increase over 2022!

of attendees have increased the volume of US commodities as a result of NCI courses.



have *better understanding of* US crop quality as a result of NCI courses.



have *greater confidence* in the US supply chain as a result of NCI courses.

Global Impact



Individuals from 81 countries participated in NCI's educational programs from 2022 to 2023, expanding our global reach and connecting customers to the region!

> ***Knowledgeable staff, excellent facility, good engagement throughout sessions, up to date information, relevant content.***

WWW.NORTHERN-CROPS.COM

CONNECTING IN THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE

Technical Services Impact

As a result of your experience with NCI...

Technical service clients have increased their purchase activity of commodities and ingredients by 38%.



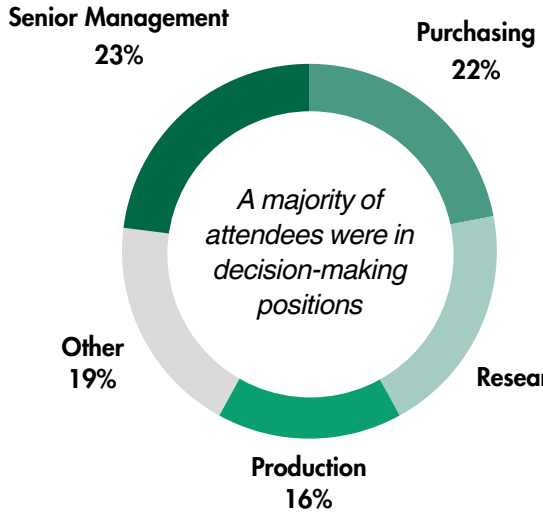
A 14% increase over 2022!

"NCI provides useful, industry-focused information to our partners as part of our work developing value-added uses for new and emerging crops."

"NCI has a long history of serving the 4-state area with professionalism, the people, and relationships with staff gives me confidence."

"NCI's work helped provide more clarity on the potential uses for the crops, including valuable data on product formulation and processing methods."

Course Attendee Roles



Net Promoter Score

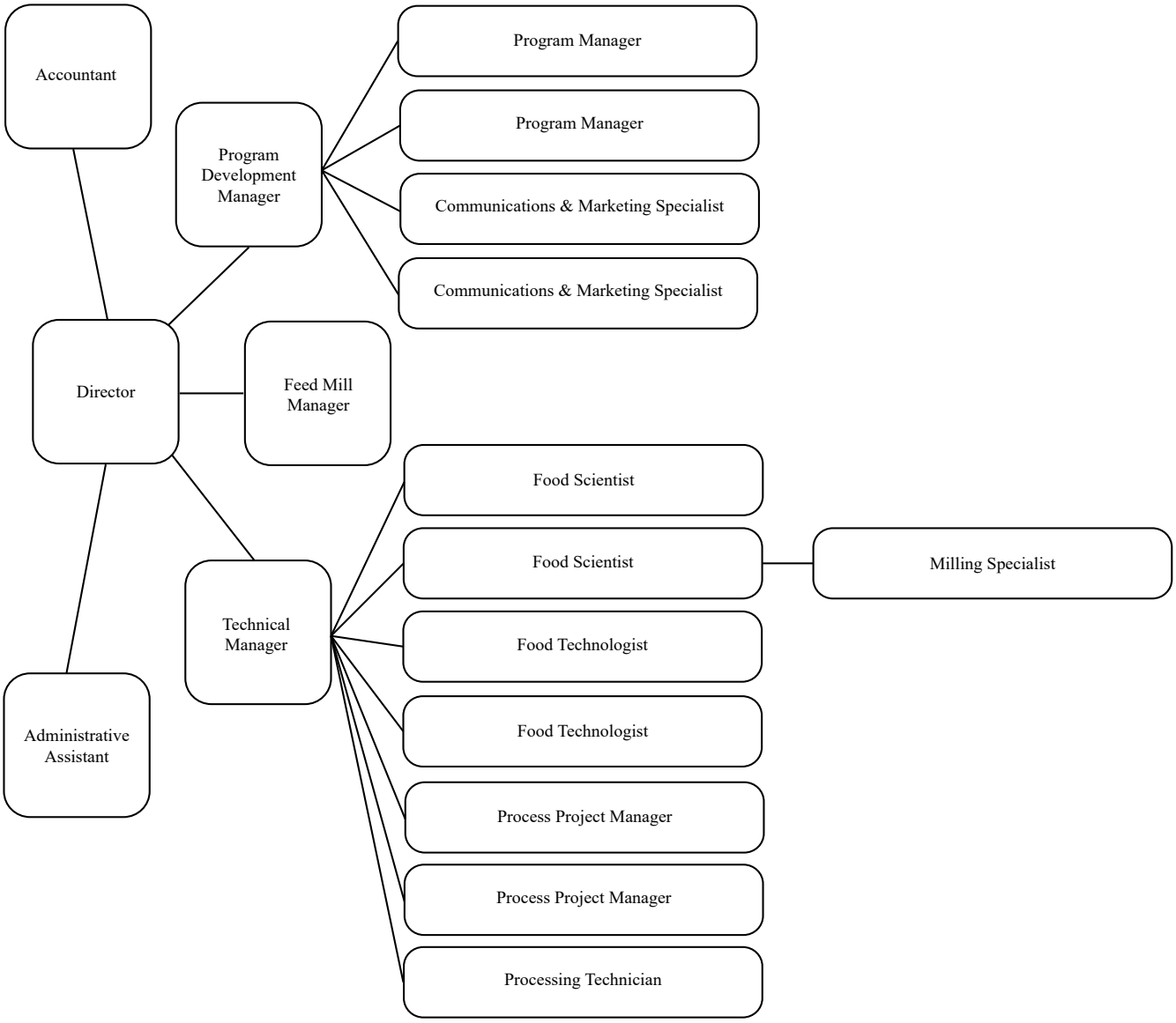
79 NPS rating for likeliness to recommend attending an NCI course.

75 NPS rating for likeliness to recommend NCI for technical services.

An increase of 24 points for courses and 15 points for technical services over 2022!

*Surveys conducted by **Prime46**, a third-party research and consulting organization. The surveys were sent to 381 course participants and 66 technical clients from the '22 and '23 calendar years.*

CURRENT NCI ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



CURRENT BIENNIUM MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. NCI successfully completed a physical relocation to the newly opened Peltier Complex.
2. Completed a third Impact Analysis survey to quantify and economic benefit of NCI programing and services. The new 2022-23 survey reported an 61% increase in US commodity purchases, and a 38% increase in ingredient purchases after participating in NCI programming and tech services, respectively.
3. NCI has delivered a 20% increase in technical service projects in the last biennium. This has helped to grow markets for crops grown in North Dakota and the surrounding states, but also assisted in growing value-added agriculture in the region.
4. Improvements to the NCI Feed Production Center have positioned NCI well to provide training and consultation to North Dakota livestock and feed producers as the livestock industry begins to expand in the state.
5. NCI Collaborated with US Grains Council on a study designed to show the performance value of U.S. corn compared to crops from other countries.
6. NCI has successfully navigated a significant budget shortfall through strong financial management and staffing changes, leading to a positive FY24 year-end balance and a projection for healthy reserves in FY25. This is coupled with improved financial accounting practices and transparency.
7. Defined a new 5-Year Strategy with engagement from the Northern Crops Council, NCI Advisory Board, NCI Staff, and other key stakeholders, which will provide focus and key objectives for NCI to meet its mission and expand impact.
8. NCI has implemented several new programs designed to increase opportunities for farmers growing specialty crops and small businesses utilizing those goods in North Dakota and within the U.S, such as stone milling courses and kitchen to consumer programs.
9. Strengthened relationships and maintained service with our state and national commodity partners while navigating budget and staffing changes.

NCI 2023 LEGISLATIVE CAPITAL PROJECTS

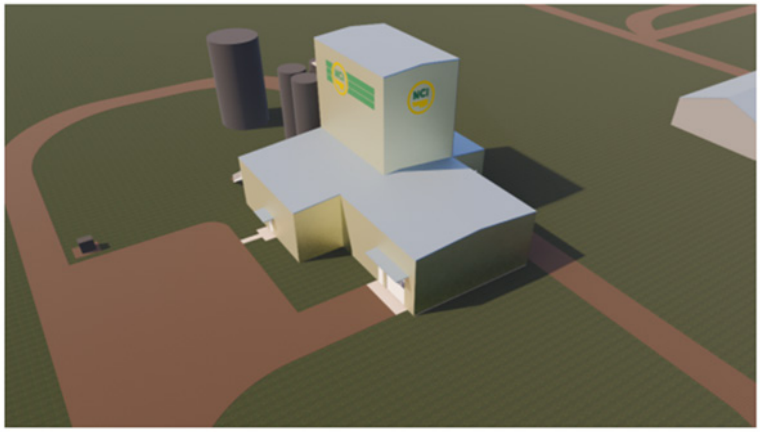
NCI Feed Production Center

- $3.9M from the 68th Legislative Assembly, HB1020
- Replaced aged pellet mill and grain bins
- Added spaces for lab, meeting room, classroom, and storage
- Expected completion in March 2025

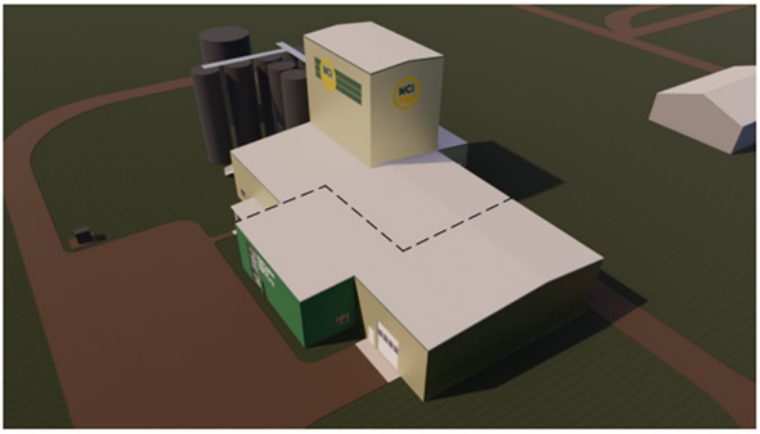




NCI Feed Mill Orgininal Renderings



FEED MILL EXISTING



FEED MILL ADDITION

CURRENT BIENNIUM CRITICAL ISSUES

1. NCI has become increasingly dependent on earned income and sponsorships to sustain current services and consider growth. The volatility of markets, grants, and commodity group partner income make that earned income uncertain. NCI needs to focus on sustainable income sources and growth to continue expanding its impact on the economy of North Dakota and the region.
2. NCI will have additional operating expenses for energy, maintenance, and consumable supplies in the new building and laboratories. The NCI cannot rely on grant funds to cover these costs. To meet its' mission NCI needs a sustainable source of operating funds to cover these increased costs.
3. Growth in crops being utilized for biofuels, new crops, and increased demands for information on sustainability, traceability, and artificial intelligence is creating a need for NCI to develop further areas of expertise. More staffing may be needed to manage growing needs in these areas.
4. In the first quarter of 2024, NCI entered a leadership transition, a budget transition, and a facility transition. NCI needs time to focus on stabilization, continuing to provide service at a high level, and planning for financial sustainability, while sharpening its vision and implementing a new 5-year strategy.

DESCRIPTION OF AGENCY CHARGES AND FEE COLLECTIONS

The NCI has a special fund authority of $3,541,116. Funds are raised through NCI courses, technical services, sponsorships and grants.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL OPERATING EXPENSES ($788,400 BIENNIUM)

Peltier Complex Utility Costs: Upon moving into the Peltier Complex, it was determined that NCI would assume responsibility for utilities and consumable costs. These expenses are currently estimated at $738,000 per biennium, which represents 80% of our planned annual income for FY25. This creates considerable pressure on our already tight budget and limits our ability to enhance our impact.

Global Crop Quality Surveys: NCI has increased our ability to access samples of US and foreign commodities. We have the potential to provide invaluable crop quality information to our state and national commodity group partners. Per ND Century Code 4.1-15-03, the NCI is directed to conduct annual surveys to monitor the quality and condition of commodities in the market channel. NCI can quickly provide additional, valuable quality information to partners with additional funds to procure samples from a supplier.

Part-Time and Student Labor: NCI proposes to hire flexible staffing to meet the needs of its currently reduced workforce. Current staffing numbers limit our ability to provide the exceptional service we desire. NCI staff roles have been shifted and efforts prioritized to meet minimum needs. Temporary staffing flexibility allows us to respond to opportunities and needs as they arise.

ND Start-Up and Registration Scholarships: The NCI has the potential to assist ND start-ups and educate various stakeholders throughout the supply chain. As we have begun offering training and services focused on specialty crops, we commonly find individuals that are not able to afford NCI services but have excellent business or product ideas to develop. Increasing our assistance to ND producers and entrepreneurs will lead to greater investment and activity in ND.

NCI Marketing Efforts: NCI and our services are not widely known across ND and regional agriculture. We will target the regional and domestic food industry, feed industry and ag marketing groups to increase awareness and participation in our services. We have also been asked to increase our engagement in national commodity group meetings with foreign customers and don't have the funds available to meet this opportunity.

ONE-TIME REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT

NCI has added a protein extraction lab in the Peltier Complex. This special request would be used to purchase a piece of equipment to maximize the productivity of this new lab. Pilot-scale air classification systems can separate protein, starch, and fiber from various flours for further food development or research. This capability allows NCI to expand our client services and promote protein, starch, and fiber in the cereal grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops grown in our region. Interest is rapidly growing in using plant proteins in foods and beverages in the U.S. with the current market value reaching $7 billion. Also reported was a compound annual growth rate of 37% for plant-based food and beverages globally. A significant share of recent NCI client work has involved protein fortification and food development, yet we either outsource the protein or starch isolation, or buy these ingredients from the marketplace. This equipment is not available in the region and our request has support from NDSU, UMN, and SDSU researchers who would access industrial-quality protein, starch, and fiber for other research projects. This equipment would be a key piece to the Peltier Complex protein lab, distinguishing NCI's capabilities to the food industry, and have a short return on investment.







NCI NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Northern Crops Institute

Business Unit number: 638

Business Unit name: NCI

Reporting Period 7/1/24-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,018	21,170	29,986	25,396	25,396	25,396	25,396	29,982	20,746	20,746	20,746	255,978
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts								15,662	42,414	16,137					5,548				79,761
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay																			-
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding								3,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	24,000
Extra Overtime Funding																			-
Other (identify)																			-
																			-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(7,644)	(24,244)	10,849	23,396	23,396	24,396	23,396	22,434	18,746	18,746	18,746	152,217
Vacant Positions:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Northern Crops Institute

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

638-NCI

HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($58,637)*

OMB FTE Pool

Approved Transfers	*$0*
Anticipated Transfers	*$41,046*
Budget deficiency	***($17,591)***

**NCI had no vacancies on 7/1/23*

Northern Crops Institute

	639 Northern Crops Institute
Salaries	$ 4,539,569
Operating	1,185,202
Equipment	-
Total Budget	$ 5,724,771
Funding:	
Federal Fund*	$ -
General Fund	2,183,655
Special Fund*	3,541,116
Total Funding	$ 5,724,771

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	18.15
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	18.35

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Northern Crops Institute

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$2,110,256**	**$3,540,445**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	72,602	
Employer Retirement Contribution	797	671
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	58,637	60,680
Operating Request	788,400	
2023-25 Adjusted Appropriation, Less Base Adjustments- (2025-27 Base Budget Request)	**3,030,692**	**3,601,796**
2025-27 Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	94,041	117,920
Health Insurance increase	43,024	71,090
Operating Request	(488,800)	488,800
2025-27 Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**(351,735)**	**677,810**
2025-27 Total Executive Recommended	**2,678,957**	**4,279,606**

25.0187.01000

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$0	$59,478,945
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$0	$60,840,465
Less other funds	29,049,776	0	29,049,776

Total general fund	$31,790,689	$0	$31,790,689
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	0.00	252.70

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Less other funds	3,541,116	0	3,541,116
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$0	$2,183,655
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.00	18.15

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Less other funds	19,581,141	0	19,581,141
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$0	$5,226,375
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Less other funds	58,022,465	0	58,022,465
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$0	$58,125,665
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	0.00	358.47

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$0	$7,379,838
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	0	3,618,270
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	0	5,381,248
Langdon research center	3,195,869	0	3,195,869
North Central research center	5,355,217	0	5,355,217
Williston research center	5,527,125	0	5,527,125
Carrington research center	10,191,002	0	10,191,002
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$0	$40,648,569
Less other funds	20,964,971	0	20,964,971
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$0	$19,683,598
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	0.00	111.81

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$0	$1,632,722
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$0	$1,632,722
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$0	$249,802,173
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	0	132,792,191
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$0	$117,009,982
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	0.00	788.01

SECTION 2. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues

received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 3. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 4. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 6. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be

expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

NDSU Extension Service

Northern Crops Institute

2025-2027
Biennial Budget Request

Senate Bill 2020

Government Operations Division
Senator Terry Wanzek, Chairman
January 16, 2025

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to Vice Provost, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 100, 701-231-7708, ndsu.eoaa@ndsu.edu. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, 701-231-7881.

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
1/16/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

2:23 p.m. Chairman Wanzek opened the hearing.

Members present were Chairman Wanzek, Vice-Chair Dwyer, Senator Burckhard, Senator Erbele, and Senator Sickler.

Discussion Topics:

- Biofuels and Carbon initiative
- Soil conservation
- Livestock precision management
- Animal health
- Governors' Budgets
- NDSU Extension impacts on ag industry
- Workforce needs
- Technological management tools
- Operating support
- Family/community well
- Conservation and agricultural literacy programs
- Soil testing
- Corn exports
- Trade initiatives
- Soil conservation districts
- Urban conservation
- Staff turnover
- Livestock watering systems
- Educational tours
- Value-added process
- Legislative capital projects
- Northern Crop Institute (NCI) budget requests
- Pilot-scale air-classification system
- Effects of processing upon quality

- Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute (UGPTI) overview
- Biennial Road and Bridge Needs Assessment
- Online asset management tool
- Freight data and analysis
- Regional Tribal outreach
- Lead regional university status
- Transportation data AI lab
- Funding sources
- Autonomous surface transportation
- Workforce development
- National multi-modal CO2 network model
- Future of drone use
- Road maintenance cost / reduction of service life

2:24 p.m. Greg Lardy, Director of ND Ag Extension Service and NDSU Extension, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29106.

2:39 p.m. Julie Ellingson, Executive Vice-President, ND Stockmen's Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29426.

2:44 p.m. Drew Courtney, Board Member, ND Corn Growers Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29455.

2:48 p.m. Parrell Grossman, Legislative Director, ND Soybean Growers Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29104.

2:54 p.m. Bob Martin, Chair, ND Soil Conservation Committee, testified in favor and submitted testimony #28395.

2:58 p.m. Madlyn Meckle, Burleigh County 4-H Member, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29381.

3:03 p.m. Carson Klosterman, Chairman of Corn Growers Association, testified in favor.

3:08 p.m. Rhonda Kelch, Executive Director of ND Association of Soil Conservation Districts, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29452.

3:19 p.m. David Boehm, Director of Northern Crops Institute, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29324.

3:37 p.m. Justin Sherlock, President of ND Soybean Producers, testified in favor.

3:43 p.m. Denver Tolliver, Director of Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29628.

4:20 p.m. Scott Zainhofsky, Director of Planning/Asset Management Division for ND Department of Transportation testified in favor and submitted testimony #29484.

Additional written testimony:
David Cook, President, North Dakota State University, submitted testimony #29230 in favor.

4:26 p.m. Chairman Wanzek closed the meeting.

Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk

Honorable Chairman Wanzek and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee - Government Operations Division,

My name is Bob Martin from Jamestown, ND, and I serve as Chair of the State Soil Conservation Committee (SSCC). In this role, I witness the immense value that NDSU Extension programs and Soil Conservation Districts (SCDs) bring to communities across North Dakota. Today, I am writing to express my support for SB 2020.

The funds allocated to the SSCC through SB 2020 are a lifeline for SCDs across the state. These funds enable districts to provide vital technical assistance and conservation planning directly to residents, creating tangible, locally-led conservation impacts in every corner of North Dakota. Moreover, many SCDs effectively leverage these state funds as matching dollars for federal grants, multiplying their impact and ensuring a robust return on investment.

The conservation work carried out by SCDs is transformative for North Dakota. Using the District Activity Reporting Tool (DART), we have documented remarkable achievements. In the first three quarters of 2024 alone SCDs:

- Delivered conservation and agricultural literacy educational programs to over 16,000 K-12 students and almost 100 college students, fostering a new generation of environmentally conscious leaders.
- Seeded more than 2,800 acres of cover crops and over 4,000 acres of grasslands, enhancing soil health, livestock forage, and wildlife habitats.
- Installed more than 600 miles of weed barriers and planting nearly 37,000 trees by hand, contributing to erosion control and ecological stability.
- Hosted workshops, programs, and field days that engaged over 5,400 participants, promoting sustainable agricultural practices.
- Conducted more than 250 hours of soil testing and over 350 hours of soil mapping to empower agricultural producers with actionable insights.
- Provided 335 field visits and dedicated more than 3,100 hours to delivering conservation technical assistance directly to producers.

These achievements are just a snapshot of the critical work SCDs accomplish to preserve our state's most valuable natural resources: our soil and water. With your support for an enhanced operating budget, SCDs can expand these impactful programs and address the growing conservation needs of our state.

I urge you to recognize the invaluable role SCDs play in sustaining North Dakota's natural and agricultural resources. Your investment in SB 2020 is an investment in the future resilience and prosperity of our communities.

Thank you for your dedication to our great state and for considering this important legislation.

Bob Martin
North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee Chair
Jamestown, ND
701-320-7485
whoabob@hotmail.com

SENATE BILL NO. 2020
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS DIVISION
TERRY WANZEK, CHAIR
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2020

Chairman Wanzek and members of the Senate Appropriations Government Operations Division. My name is Parrell Grossman and it is my privilege to be the Legislative Director for the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association. I appear in support of Senate Bill 2020.

The Association advocates for more than 8,900 operations that raise soybeans in North Dakota. In 2024, North Dakota soybean farmers planted 6,600,000 acres of soybeans, producing over 245 million bushels of soybeans.

Not everyone immediately realizes the agricultural economic impact in North Dakota. According to a 2022 North Dakota Agriculture Industry Economic Contribution Analysis conducted by the NDSU Department of Agriculture, the economic contribution to North Dakota is $30.8 billion, including $18.8 billion from direct output and $12 billion from secondary output. We encourage this legislature to continue to significantly invest in agriculture in North Dakota.

North Dakota's farmers, like Ryan Pederson from this morning and others mentioned throughout the hearings, are hardworking individuals carrying on multi-generational family farms. In addition to the constant risks of weather, disease, and low prices, they now face challenges in ever-changing market conditions or regulatory environments. Now, issues of low carbon intensity and carbon management in crop planting are a new and serious challenge.

Sometimes, farmers must be thinking, "can't we just get a little help here?" Well, we know NDSU and Dr. Lardy's team are the perfect ones to do so.

The funding request for the Biofuels and Carbon Initiative position is critical for North Dakota. You will recall the testimony or comments this morning of soybean

farmer, Ryan Pederson, from the Rollette area. Ryan farms approximately 2,200 acres of soybeans. He clearly has substantial experience and expertise with soybean crops. Ryan has an impressive resume with state and national agricultural associations. Among the other organizations he outlined, he currently represents the North Dakota Soybean Council on the Clean Fuels Alliance America Board, the industry trade association representing Biodiesel, Renewable Diesel and Sustainable Aviation fuel.

Ryan spoke about his experience of participating in many university and private farm research projects. He detailed his experience with a pilot program with Virginia Tech and North Dakota Farmers Union. While he praised that program, he noted that experience demonstrated the complexities of these programs. While Ryan did not mention it, he earned a Master's Degree in Agriculture Economics from Purdue University. So, when Ryan talks about the complexities of these farming programs or practices, we should take notice.

Once we do the research requested in the Experiment Station section, it is critical to provide the conclusions to our producers. Demand for information related to carbon management is exceeding current staff capacity.

In the biomass based diesel segment, there is demand for ever lower carbon index scores. Learning more about successful carbon lowering practices will help support our efforts to lower the soybean carbon index score.

In addition, industry is moving quickly with numerous carbon management offerings in response to changing carbon management policies. Tracking all the offerings can become a full-time job. Not everyone is staffed to do an analysis of which of the many offerings would make the most economic impact on a given operation.

Those farmers in states that adapt to meet the market preferences and demands for low carbon intensity, including in biodiesel and ethanol production, definitely will have a huge advantage in future market successes. North Dakota must be one of those states, and the legislature could exponentially speed up that result with this position and funding. As some of the materials provided to this Committee note, this shift to markets with low carbon intensity (CI) "necessitates a comprehensive understanding of climate smart practices and the intricacies of carbon contracts."

Along with all of the SBARE priorities Dr. Lardy and his team have presented as part of this proposed legislation, we strongly encourage you to support the Biofuels and Carbon Initiative position for the reasons provided.

With that, Chairman Wanzek and members of the Government Operations Division, the Soybean Grower's Association supports the funding requests in Senate Bill 2020 and respectfully urges you to give Senate Bill 2020 a "Do Pass" recommendation.

Thank you and I would be happy to answer any questions.

Senate Bill 2020 Testimony

January 16, 2025

NDSU Extension

Greg Lardy, Director

Good morning Chairman Wanzek and members of the Government Operations Division of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

My name is Greg Lardy, and I have the privilege of serving as the director of NDSU Extension. I am a native of Sentinel Butte, North Dakota, where I grew up on a small grain farm and cattle ranch. I've had the privilege of serving the state of North Dakota and NDSU for 27 years.

As you know, NDSU Extension plays a direct and vital role in the lives of North Dakotans, and it is one of the agencies that help shape the future of North Dakota through our programming efforts in agriculture, community wellness, and youth development. Thank you for your support of our base budget and the SBARE initiatives in 2023. The mission of NDSU Extension is to empower North Dakotans to improve their lives and communities through science-based education. This is accomplished, in part, through a local presence in each of the state's 53 counties. We partner with local county governments to staff a local office in each of these locations and have specialists located at our main campus in Fargo as well as each of our seven research Extension centers. Through this network of trusted community members, NDSU Extension reaches people where they live to deliver tailored, innovative and accessible educational programs, resources and partnerships. This network provides the educational resources necessary to help our citizens make decisions that are informed by science. NDSU Extension plays a role in enhancing our state's economy by delivering information and educational programs to communities large and small across the state, and we do so by delivering that information and programming in a variety of ways including webinars, in-person programming, web-based resources, and by other delivery methods. Our educational programming places a special emphasis on strengthening agriculture and rural communities; developing the potential of youth and adults; and addressing challenges the state faces in a variety of areas. These educational programs are science-based and aim to help make our citizens more profitable, their businesses more sustainable, and our communities more livable.

I want to take a moment to thank the members of the 68th Legislative Assembly for their support of programmatic needs that were funded in the 2023 session. You will hear more about several of those programs throughout the afternoon, but specifically, I wanted to thank you for the support of the employee compensation package, the operating support, and the positions that were included in our budget last biennium. These efforts will have a lasting positive impact on our agency and could not have been completed without your support. Specifically, I will mention the swine extension position which was funded in 2023. We have filled that position

and that individual is working directly with our commodity groups, interested producers, and allied industry personnel to help grow the swine industry in North Dakota. It's a great example of how NDSU Extension can play a key role in helping grow the agricultural economy in the state.

Today, you will get a chance to hear from people who benefit firsthand from our programming. They will describe their experiences with our programs, and how the education provided by NDSU Extension addresses pressing problems in rural and urban North Dakota. This leads to a brighter future for all North Dakotans.

The programming conducted by NDSU Extension delivers a return on investment by working upstream from the major challenges facing agriculture and our communities. Our programs lead to greater levels of profitability and sustainability for farmers and ranchers; reduced healthcare costs related to long-term disease conditions and poor nutrition; and improved lives through leadership development, youth development, and increased civic engagement.

With our mission of empowering North Dakotans to improve their lives and communities through science-based education, NDSU Extension is an important component of agriculture's $30.8 billion economic contribution to North Dakota.

As Chairwoman Lovas mentioned, SBARE has listened carefully to the needs of the state's citizens through a series of listening sessions and dialogue regarding the programmatic priorities for NDSU Extension.

SBARE's responsibilities in Century Code include setting the programmatic and budgetary priorities for the agency. They have identified several critical needs including:

1. Biofuels and Carbon Initiative: Given the growing demand in multiple markets for agricultural products with low carbon intensity (CI), particularly in ethanol and biodiesel production, it's important for farmers in the region to adapt to meet these market preferences. This shift necessitates a comprehensive understanding of climate-smart practices and the intricacies of carbon contracts. These contracts often entail long-term commitments from farmers and ranchers to implement practices that enhance carbon sequestration in soils, thereby mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. However, navigating the complexities of carbon capture practices and associated contracts can be daunting for producers. Education plays a pivotal role in empowering farmers to navigate the complex landscape of carbon management effectively. A carbon specialist would serve as a vital conduit between farmers, ranchers and various stakeholders, including government agencies and carbon offset markets. By staying informed about the latest developments in carbon management policies, market trends, and technological advancements, the specialist will provide farmers with up-to-date information and valuable insights. Through workshops, training sessions, and personalized consultations, they will educate farmers on the intricacies of carbon contracts, sustainable practices, and the

potential benefits of participating in carbon markets. This educational support equips farmers (NDSU photo) with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions, maximize their participation in carbon offset programs, and ultimately contribute to climate change mitigation efforts while enhancing the sustainability and profitability of their operations. Request: One FTE specialist position – Extension Carbon Specialist – $275,000. Will provide education on climate-smart practices related to carbon contracts that farmers and ranchers have the opportunity to implement. $50,000 in operating support for the specialist. Total: $325,000

2. Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support: The request for increased operating funds is crucial for the continued success of NDSU Extension's mission. These funds are essential in empowering extension specialists and agents to adapt and innovate, ensuring they can effectively address emerging needs and devise novel strategies to engage with local communities. However, the cost of operating has risen, including equipment and assistantships, placing strain on our ability to fulfill (NDSU photo) our mission effectively. One area where increased operating support is particularly impactful is in the advancement of North Dakota's future through 4-H youth development and leadership programs. These programs nurture the next generation of leaders by providing them with positive experiences, fostering club involvement, enriching school environments, and equipping youth with essential workforce readiness skills. In addition, allocating operating support to the State Soil Conservation Committee provides an increase in direct assistance funding to be distributed to local Soil Conservation Districts for technical assistance and conservation planning support. Request: Extension operating support – $600,000 and State Soil Conservation operating support – $150,000 for a total request of $750,000. Total: $750,000

3. Livestock Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative: The landscape of animal agriculture is experiencing a transformative evolution, driven by the integration of data related to a myriad of production variables. This integration serves a multifaceted purpose, overseeing crucial aspects such as health, nutrition, reproduction, and overall well-being of the animals. Through the utilization of cutting-edge technology, livestock management is undergoing significant enhancement, leading to improved efficiency across livestock (NDSU photo) (NDSU photo) enterprises. This shift toward digitization marks a pivotal moment in the industry, promising better outcomes for animals and farmers alike. NDSU plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of animal agriculture. With an understanding of the interconnectedness between animal health, technology and economic prosperity, NDSU Extension serves as a technical resource and focuses on safeguarding livestock health in the state. Central to this mission is the elevation of monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases, which pose a threat to both animal and human populations. By actively engaging in this endeavor, NDSU Extension significantly contributes to the overall well-being of the community and the continued prosperity of the livestock industry. Request: Two FTE specialist positions – (1) Extension Precision Agriculture Specialist - $275,000. Will provide education around key technological advancements in livestock technologies such as sensors, transponders, livestock collars and

artificial intelligence. (2) Extension Veterinary Epidemiologist - $440,000. Efforts will focus on safeguarding the health of North Dakotans and their livestock by elevating the monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases shared between animals and humans. $100,000 for operating support for two specialists. Total: $815,000

4. Agribiome Initiative: As NDSU's agribiome research progresses toward solutions that can positively impact North Dakota crop and livestock operations, the involvement of an Extension specialist becomes pivotal in translating scientific advancements into practical applications. Extension education plays a crucial role in assisting producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. Presently, there are over 1,200 companies producing various biostimulants, inoculants, biofertilizers, biopesticides, probiotics and other biologicals aimed at enhancing crop and livestock production. Extension education is vital to provide the necessary guidance to empower producers with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions in this complex landscape. Request: One FTE specialist position – Extension Agribiome Specialist – $275,000. Will assist producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. $50,000 for operating support for the Extension agribiome specialist. Total: $325,000

On Page 77 in the budget book you will find a financial schedule that details our base budget and the governor's executive budget recommendation. At this time, I will walk through what he has included in his budget recommendation for our agency.

A few NDSU Extension Impacts for 2024 can be found on the infographic in your book (Pages 67-68). We are proud of the facts that:

- Ensuring environmental sustainability and healthy crops is at the heart of NDSU Extension's agricultural programs.
    - Safe Pesticide Use: The Pesticide Safety Program trained 7,208 people on proper pesticide use, reducing environmental risks and supporting food security.
    - Fungicide Use in Wheat: NDSU Extension's guidance on managing Fusarium head blight saved wheat producers between $500,000 to $2 million in input costs, and contributed to a new average yield record of 56.9 bushel/acre for all wheat in North Dakota.
- NDSU Extension is committed to providing resources that support agricultural producers in managing their operations and navigating financial challenges.
    - Ag Finance Program: In 2024, the Ag Finance program helped landowners and operators navigate $1.3 billion in annual land rents across 22 million acres in North Dakota. This crucial information assists both financially constrained farmers and fixed-income landowners with better decision-making and forecasting.

    - Livestock Risk Protection Insurance: Educating producers about USDA Livestock Risk Protection insurance led to 169,398 head of feeder cattle being insured in 2024 with over $4.5 million in indemnity payments. This program helps farmers manage risks related to price fluctuations and market volatility.
- NDSU Extension's 4-H program equips youth with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in agriculture, leadership and STEM fields.
    - In 2024, 40,188 youth were involved in 4-H youth development programs provided by extension. That is 1 in 5 North Dakota youth reached through the 4-H program.
    - STEM Education and Recreation: In 2024, 439 youth participated in 19 unique 4-H camps, which included programs in livestock, archery, STEM exploration and outdoor skills. Parents reported high satisfaction, with 85% of campers showing increased independence and 94% discovering something new about themselves.

Thank you for your support of our agency. At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

North Dakota State University serves as the state's 1862 land grant institution as one of the role's of the land grant institution is to provide broad outreach efforts to benefit the state's citizenry. NDSU is proud of the work NDSU Extension does and its' local presence across the state. Coupled with the research efforts of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, the market development work of the Northern Crops Institute, and the important work related to transportation infrastructure conducted by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, my office is asking for your support for these agencies in SB2020.

Northern Crops Institute

Agency: 63800

NCI Testimony / Senate Government Operations Division / January 16, 2025

Chairman Senator Wanzek

Senators Burckhard, Dwyer, Erbele, and Sickler

Chairman Wanzek and members of the Government Operations Division of the Senate Appropriations Committee, my name is David Boehm and I have the pleasure of being the new Director of the Northern Crops Institute. My testimony is in support of SB2020, and administered within the North Dakota State University College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources. The NCI Agency update will be found in their book starting on page 81. I will not address all NCI pages, but the information exists for your review.

NCI INTRODUCTION: I want to start by giving just a brief overview of the NCI and answering the questions requested by this committee. The NCI is a state agency, started by North Dakota Century Code chapter 4.1-15. Beginning in 1979, the NCI's mission is to support regional agriculture and value-added processing by conducting educational and technical programs that expand and maintain domestic and international markets for northern grown crops. The NCI is governed by our Northern Crops Council, with permanent membership from ND Wheat Commission, Barley Council, Oilseeds Council, Soybean Council, NDSU, the ND Department of Agriculture, and the ND State Mill and Elevator. Remaining seats are rotated with additional commodity groups from the region, and related ag industries. We are administered as a separate state agency by North Dakota State University.

The NCI is a collaborative effort between North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, and South Dakota to promote, develop, and market crops grown in the region, both internationally and domestically. NCI is an international meeting and learning center that brings together customers, commodity traders, technical experts, agricultural producers, and food and industrial processors for education, discussion, and technical services. Representatives from more than 155 countries have visited NCI since its establishment in 1979. Representatives from 81 countries participated in NCI's educational programs in 2022 and 2023. Since we have moved into our new home in the Peltier Complex at NDSU in July 2024, we have already hosted participants from 44 countries.

NCI IMPACT ANALYSIS: Every 2 years, the NCI determines its impact to North Dakota agriculture by surveying past course participants and technical clients. Found on page 83 in your book, data from 2022-2023 continutes to validate an increasing positive impact. I will point out just a few highlights of importance to our mission. The most important result of NCI is whether we can influence global and domestic purchases of northern-grown crops. I am pleased to report that 61% of global attendees have increased the volume purchases of US commodities as a result of NCI courses. Our courses target the quality of our commodities, their utilization, and specifically how international buyers get those products back to their home countries. Found on the next page, our technical services have resulted in increased commodity and ingredient purchase activity by 38%. Our staff works directly with ingredient suppliers and food manufacturers on the utilization of our regional ingredients in pasta productions, snack food products, all breads and bakery products, oilseed extraction, and soy-foods. Furthermore, the participants in our programs are key decision makers, and 81% are in roles of Senior Management, Purchasing, Research and Development, and Production. We know that our impact is measured by more than the number countries attending, participants in our courses, webinars, or on-line programs, or the number of private food companies we support. So we are confident that verifying increased purchases of commodities and ingredients will show our true impact.

NCI CURRENT BIENNIUM MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Found on page 87 is a listing of some major accomplishments of the NCI in the current biennium. I will summarize a few of these now.

1. NCI successfully completed a physical relocation to the newly opened Peltier Complex. We are indebted to legislative and industry support to make this incredible facility a reality and welcome you for a tour anytime.
3. NCI has delivered a 20% increase in technical service projects in the last biennium. This has helped to grow markets for crops grown in North Dakota and the surrounding states, but also assisted in growing value-added agriculture in the region.

4. Improvements to the NCI Feed Production Center have positioned NCI well to provide training and consultation to global feed millers, feed buyers, and North Dakota livestock and feed producers as the livestock industry begins to expand in the state. You will see more information on the next page.

5. NCI collaborated with US Grains Council on a study designed to show the performance value of U.S. corn compared to corn from other countries, such as Brazil, Argentina, and Ukraine.

6. NCI has successfully navigated a significant budget shortfall through strong financial management and staffing changes, leading to a positive FY24 year-end balance and a projected reserve in FY25. This is coupled with improved financial accounting practices and transparency.

7. We have defined a new 5-Year Strategy with engagement from the Northern Crops Council, NCI Advisory Board, NCI Staff, and other key stakeholders, which will provide focus and key objectives for NCI to meet its mission and expand impact going forward.

9. NCI has strengthened relationships and maintained service with our state and national commodity partners while navigating budget and staffing changes.

NCI 2023 LEGISLATIVE CAPITAL PROJECTS:

Page 89 will show you highlights and a few recent photos of the NCI Feed Production Center. With gratitude to the 68th Legislative Assembly and under HB1020, $3.9M was approved for significant upgrades to our processing and educational capabilities. We have replaced an aged pellet mill that was regularly in need of repair, but so old that no parts were available, and have also replaced grain bins that were no longer suitable for storing high quality feed ingredients. With the expansion efforts, we have added spaces for a new lab, meeting room, classroom, and storage for ingredients and packaged feeds. Within the current biennium, we have increased our technical services and commodity group-funded projects. We also know that the demand for livestock feed development with coproducts from the biofuels industry, and the increased investment in animal agriculture will solidify the return on this investment. We are excited to show you when it is completed this spring.

CURRENT BIENNIUM CRITICAL ISSUES: Page 91 in your book will show some of our current biennium critical issues.

1. NCI has become increasingly dependent on earned income and sponsorships to sustain current services and consider growth. The volatility of ag markets, grants, and commodity group partner income make that earned income uncertain. NCI needs to focus on sustainable income sources and growth to continue expanding its impact on the economy of North Dakota and the region.
2. NCI will have additional operating expenses for energy, maintenance, and consumable supplies in the new building and laboratories. The NCI cannot rely on grant funds to cover these costs. To meet its' mission, NCI needs a sustainable source of operating funds to cover these increased costs. I will speak more to this during my budget request.

3. Growth in crops being utilized for biofuels, new crops, and increased demands for information on sustainability, traceability, and artificial intelligence is creating a need for NCI to develop further areas of expertise. More staffing may be needed to manage growing needs in these areas. To be clear, I will not be asking for additional FTE today, only suggesting that there are new and important changes to the ag industry that would align with NCIs mission, but we are not capable to fully deliver today.
4. In the first quarter of 2024, NCI entered a leadership transition, a budget transition, and a facility transition. NCI needs time to focus on stabilization, continuing to provide service at a high level, and planning for financial sustainability, while sharpening its vision and implementing a new 5-year strategy.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL OPERATING EXPENSES ($788,400 Biennium): I will now review the request for additional operating expenses, found on page 91.

1. Peltier Complex Utility Costs:

   The NCI is asking for an increase in appropriated funding of $788,400 per biennium as was presented to the OMB. A large majority of these funds will be used to cover increased utility and operating costs of the Peltier Complex. While everyone understands the rising cost of utilities and operating expenses, the NCI space within the Peltier Complex is a significant increase in footprint for processing labs, meeting rooms, auditoriums, and demonstration spaces. Actually, these costs will likely be more than presented earlier to the OMB, given updated budget estimates we have received.

   Chairman Wanzek and members of the committee, if funding is available, the next set of objectives could be key initiatives for the NCI.

2. Global Crop Quality Surveys: NCI has increased our ability to access samples of US and foreign commodities. We have the potential to provide invaluable crop quality information to our state and national commodity group partners. Per ND Century Code 4.1-15-03, the NCI is directed to conduct annual surveys to monitor the quality and condition of commodities in the market channel. NCI can quickly provide additional and valuable crop quality information to our partners

with available funds to procure samples. The work we did with US Grains Council is an example, and we are doing similar work with soybeans and soybean meal from the US and South America.

3. Part-Time and Student Labor: NCI proposes to hire flexible staffing to complement its' current workforce. The addition of part-time and student labor would allow flexibility and help us provide the exceptional service we desire, and deliver it in the most cost-effective manner. Temporary staffing also allows us to respond to opportunities and needs as they arise.
4. ND Start-Up and Registration Scholarships: The NCI has the potential to assist ND start-ups and educate various stakeholders throughout the supply chain. As we have begun offering training and services focused on specialty crops, we commonly find individuals that are not able to afford NCI services but have excellent business or product ideas to develop. Increasing our assistance to ND producers and entrepreneurs will lead to greater investment and activity in ND.
5. NCI Marketing Efforts: NCI and our services are not widely known across ND and regional food and agriculture. We will target the regional and domestic food industry, feed industry and ag marketing groups to increase awareness and participation in our services. We have also been asked to increase our engagement in national commodity group meetings with foreign customers and today unfortunately don't have the funds available to meet this opportunity.

ONE-TIME REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT ($350,000): Moving to page 93, I will now discuss our equipment funding request. The NCI is requesting one-time funding support of $350,000 for the purchase of a pilot-scale air-classification system. NCI has added a protein extraction lab in the Peltier Complex, and we regularly work with food companies utilizing the proteins from our commodities. This special request would be used to purchase a pilot-scale air classification systems which can separate protein, starch, and fiber from various flours for further food development or research. This capability allows NCI to expand our client services and promote protein, starch, and fiber in the cereal grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops grown in our region. Interest is rapidly growing in using plant proteins in foods and beverages in the U.S. A significant share of recent NCI client work has involved protein fortification and food development, yet we either outsource the protein or starch seperation, or we buy these ingredients from the marketplace. This equipment is not available in the region and our request has support from NDSU, UMN, and SDSU researchers who would access industrial-quality protein, starch, and fiber for other research projects. This equipment would be a key piece to the Peltier Complex protein lab, distinguishing NCI's capabilities to the food industry, and have a short return on investment. At current NCI daily rates, I estimate it will be paid for in less than 7 years and have a life expectancy of greater than 30 years.

CLOSING STATEMENT: The remaining tables address the questions asked of our agency. Chairmen Wanzek and members of the committee, the Northern Crops Institute is proud of the work we do to connect international and domestic customers to North Dakota farmers, commodity groups, and value-added processors. Our impact statement shows real economic return on the investment the ND legislature has made to our efforts. However, my staff is confident that there is more we can do to take advantage of our services, and our partnerships. We appreciate your consideration of our funding request, and I am happy to address any questions or comments that you might have. Thank you for your time.

Good Afternoon Chairman Wanzek, and committee members. My name is Madalyn Meckle and I am a member of the Clover Power and Burleigh County Bowmasters 4-H clubs in Burleigh County. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today about the 4-H program through NDSU Extension.

4-H Speech

When I was asked to write a speech about my 4-H experiences, I was hesitant to fully commit. Not because of the task itself, but because of how busy my life has become with school, finals, and all the other things that seem to pop up unexpectedly. But I agreed to write the speech and testify because 4-H has always been an important, special and constant part of my life. It has shaped who I am and brought me to where I stand today, before you testifying on behalf of NDSU Extension.

When I sat down to write my speech on Sunday, I struggled to put my thoughts into words. I wasn't sure how to capture what 4-H truly means to me. The people around me suggested I write about my experiences or what I had learned, and my mom kept reminding me to mention that "I am a 4th generation 4-H'er," but none of that advice seemed to help. To me, 4-H is more than just a list of activities or milestones. It's something much greater.

So I closed my laptop after writing just one sentence: "Through 4-H, I am involved in many activities, activities that have taught me something," then I headed to archery practice.

Archery is a huge part of my life and my 4-H journey. Every Sunday, I help coach the Burleigh County Bowmasters, a club my mom leads. We set up at 4:30 p.m. and tear down around 8:00 p.m., making archery our Sunday ritual. I coach for two hours and then practice for the last hour. Archery, through the shooting sports program, has taught me valuable skills,

including patience, perseverance, and leadership. These skills are not only important on the range but also in everyday life. As I practiced, I realized that these lessons—patience, perseverance, and leadership—are what I wanted to highlight in my speech. 4-H is not just about activities, it's about the personal growth and skills that we develop along the way. The skills I have learned in 4-H and use in archery are just one clear example of how 4-H has shaped me.

I have been part of many activities through 4-H, including Leadership Awareness Weekend, helping at 4-H camp, and attending countless other events. I have also taken on several leadership roles, serving as President of the Burleigh County Ambassadors and as President of my 4-H club. I'm proud to be an avid 4-H'er and a part of the program that does so much for youth.

But 4-H isn't just about the activities available—it's also about what I am learning. Through 4-H, I've gained essential skills like communication, leadership, responsibility, and teamwork – life lessons that will stay with me forever. 4-H has taught me the importance of working together as a team, the value of helping others, and the power of perseverance when facing challenges. These experiences have given me the confidence to step up as a leader and the ability to adapt to any situation. The lessons I've learned in 4-H have shaped me into the person I am today, and I know that they will continue to guide me in everything I do in the future.

Overall, 4-H has much more to offer youth than what is seen on the outside and can "Make the Best Better," just as the 4-H motto says. 4-H continues to help grow and shape youth into well-rounded individuals, equipping us with skills that extend far beyond the classroom or the club meeting. Through 4-H, we not only learn how to lead, communicate, and work together, but we also develop the confidence and resilience to face life's challenges head-on. The

experiences and lessons 4-H provides have played a significant role in shaping who I am today. It has prepared me for the future, given me the tools to make a positive impact in my community, and has shown me the importance of lifelong learning. I am certain of this, because without these important lessons I would not have the ability to explain why 4-H is so important to youth, and especially myself. I'm proud to be a 4-H'er, and I will carry the values of 4-H with me for the rest of my life, continuing to strive for excellence and to live out the 4-H motto. 4-H has not only given me the skills to lead and communicate but has shown me the importance of being a good person. As I move forward in life, I know that the values of 4-H will continue to guide me. I am forever grateful for this program and hope it continues to inspire and empower youth for generations to come.

North Dakota Stockmen's Association
SB 2020 – Extension Service
Senate Appropriations Government Operations Committee
Red River Room
Jan. 16, 2025

Good afternoon, Chairman Wanzek and members of the Senate Appropriations' Government Operations Committee. For the record, I am Julie Ellingson, and I represent the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, a 95-year-old beef cattle trade organization comprised of approximately 3,100 members across the state.

As I mentioned in the Experiment Station discussion this morning, members of the North Dakota Stockmen's Association endorsed the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education's priorities through a policy resolution at our recent convention. Our organization is a longstanding champion of Extension, and we are grateful for the legislature's support over the years.

As you know, your investments have resulted in an incredible return not only for North Dakota's ag industry, but the state's overall economy. SB 2020 includes a host of projects that will continue to bolster the state's primary economic driver; grow the next generation of rural and agricultural leaders; invigorate our communities; and generate more tax dollars as a result of agriculture's prosperity.

From a livestock industry perspective, the Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative encapsulates many of our industry's needs. Animal agriculture is in the midst of a transformational evolution, driven by the integration of data and a host of production

variables. Coupled with workforce shortages and labor issues across the agricultural spectrum, the need to do more with fewer bodies, less time and what seems to be a never-ending workload calls for innovation and creative problem-solving. The incorporation of cutting-edge precision management tools – ranging from virtual fence to water and health monitoring systems and from GPS tags to smart feeders – can help improve efficiency and profitability across livestock enterprises. NDSU Extension has already been a leader in the Precision Management space, and the incorporation of an Extension specialist in this area can help expand understanding and adoption of game-changing technologies.

The Stockmen's Association hosts a Cattlemen's Educational Series Workshop each year at our convention, and precision management was the theme of the multi-session workshop in 2024. The topic was received incredibly well by our members – so much that we packed the room with interested producers, including many first-time participants who were drawn by this emerging topic. That, I think, speaks to the grassroots interest in this area.

The addition of an Extension epidemiologist is also a part of this initiative and would play a pivotal role in shaping the future of animal ag in North Dakota and helping safeguard the health of the domestic herd. Domestic and foreign animal diseases pose risks to our livestock industry. Having this position in place and filled is added insurance for the industry, elevating the monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases.

The no. 2 priority is Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee operating support. Again, operating support may not be as glamourous as some of the other areas, but it truly

is where the rubber meets the road. It gives Extension agents, specialists and other staff the tools they need to tackle their collective mission to improve lives, increase efficiencies and build better communities.

Increased operating support is particularly impactful in the advancement of North Dakota's future through 4-H youth development and leadership programs. Some of the most valuable leadership lessons and skills-building experiences of my life came through my time as a Morton County Go-Getters 4-H Club member and a part of a Centennial 4-H family.

I learned how to run a meeting, speak in front of a crowd, set goals, make friends, judge livestock, bake cookies, win and lose. Few things have given me more joy than having watched my five children have these same experiences through their own 4-H careers. Investment in 4-H is an investment in the future of our agricultural industry, communities and state. It is part of the solution to ongoing workforce shortages. And it is the best way to tackle some of the biggest challenges that face our society today. 4-H makes the best better.

You too can make the best better through your support of these and the other Extension initiatives represented in SB 2020. Thank you for your consideration of these components and the support you have already provided.

NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
3310 University Drive ~ Bismarck, ND 58504
(701) 223-8518

Honorable Chairman Wanzek and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee
Government Operations Division – Support for SB 2020

My name is Rhonda Kelsch and I serve as the Executive Director to the North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts (NDASCD). A grass roots organization that represents the 54 Soil Conservation Districts in North Dakota. The objectives of the Association, is to further the widespread application of sound and practical soil and water conservation practices on North Dakota farms and ranches by promoting the welfare of conservation districts and the people therein.

NDASCD supports SB 2020. We strongly encourage the committee to consider funding the full request for the ND State Soil Conservation Committee.

The ND Soil Conservation Districts work in partnership with various local, state, and federal partners delivering, educating, and promoting sound conservation practices. Soil Conservation Districts are established within the ND Century Code 4.1-20. Within this chapter it provides for the conservation of the soil and soil resources of this state and for the control and prevention of soil erosion, and to preserve the state's natural resources, control floods, prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs, assist in maintaining the navigability of rivers, preserve wildlife, protect the tax base, protect public lands, protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of this state.

The funding structure for the North Dakota Soil Conservation Districts varies by county, services provided and staff capacity. Soil Conservation Districts have the ability to levy up to 2.5 mills yearly from property tax revenues in their counties. We do have several SCD Offices were the mill levy requested is a deficient for their operational needs. We are actively watching any proposed changes impacting property taxes during this legislative session. The funding request to the North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee doesn't meet the full request of financial demand and any reduction would have a substantial effect in the delivery of conservation programs and education.

Each SCD operates within their availability of operational funds, while some counties struggle to provide an adequate wage along with a benefit package to retain employees. The funds received through the legislative process are used for staff capacity linked to conservation deliverables and to provide administrative office support. District programs and services continue to evolve as the needs of customers change. We are working to address training needs through a statewide district employee training program and are adding resources including technical specialists at NDASCD to provide assistance and outreach on Urban Conservation practices. These efforts are being made to work towards better employee retention. This coupled with the continued state appropriated funds will help create a stronger local conservation delivery system.

The Soil Conservation Districts in North Dakota delivered these key activities in 2024 from the 54 counties reporting. I would like to highlight a few of these accomplishments.

- Administration Management for 27,000 hours
- Livestock Pipeline Watering Facilities for a total of 105,790 feet
- Grassland and Prairie Management Seeding on 12,449 acres
- School Education presented to K-12 students with 18,861 attendees
- Education and Agriculture sponsored tours and workshops with 9,321 adult participants

We would appreciate your full support in SB 2020 to the North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee for our county Soil Conservation Districts to continue the agricultural legacy in the great state of North Dakota.

Rhonda Kelsch
North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts – Executive Director
3310 University Drive
Bismarck, ND 58504
(701) 321-0627
Rhonda@LincolnOakes.com

In Support of SB 2020
NDSU Extension Program Initiatives
Senate Appropriations – Government Operations Division
Testimony of Drew Courtney
January 16, 2025

Chairman Wanzek and members of the Committee,

Again, thank you for the opportunity for the North Dakota Corn Growers Association to testify in support of Senate Bill 2020.

For the record, my name is Drew Courtney. I am a North Dakota Corn Growers Association state board member, a farmer-led membership organization that serves as the voice for the state's corn producers, representing more than 13,000 growers across the state.

As an ag producer near the Oakes area, my family and I see the value that Extension brings to North Dakota. In an existing extension program, for example, one initiative that is especially vital to our community is the Family and Community Wellness position. In our small agricultural community, where access to fresh, affordable food is limited, this role has been instrumental in working to establish a functioning and sustainable food pantry. The dedication and expertise of our Family and Community Wellness Extension Agent have been crucial in driving this project forward, addressing food insecurity, and ultimately enriching the well-being of our residents.

We support SBARE's Extension new initiatives that are before you, especially the Biofuels and Carbon proposal. This initiative will complement the Ag Experiment

Station's research with practical education for farmers as they navigate ever-changing carbon markets. The Extension Carbon Specialist position will provide producers with information and tools to make informed decisions about climate-smart practices and carbon contracts. The market is asking for such sustainable ag production changes, and the North Dakota producer must be able to pivot and adapt to capitalize on what the customer wants. Sustainable aviation fuel demand is projected to be more than twice what the current ethanol market is. For North Dakota farmers to be able to become a part of the supply process, there will be multiple new requirements and many of those are still evolving. It's complex, and the North Dakota grower needs this education and extension resource to rise to the occasion.

Similarly, the Agribiome Initiative will help producers understand microbial biologicals—another complex, rapidly developing market.

Expanding and strengthening animal agriculture in the state is a policy priority for North Dakota Corn Growers. We also support the Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative, which will protect the well-being of livestock and communities.

Our mission statement is "growing a healthy, profitable business climate for northern corn," and NDSU Extension is an essential partner to help us meet that charge. Once again, we urge your support for SB 2020.

Thank you for your time today, and I stand to respond to any questions you may have.

NORTH Dakota | Transportation
Be Legendary.

Senate Bill No. 2020

Senate Appropriations-Gov't Ops Committee
Red River Room | January 16, 2025
Scott Zainhofsky, Planning/Asset Management Division Engineer

Greetings, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. I'm Scott Zainhofsky, director of the Planning/Asset Management Division for the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT). This submitted testimony is in support of the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute's (UGPTI) section of Senate Bill 2020.

The NDDOT utilizes the expertise of UGPTI to assist in conducting research and special studies in areas such as traffic modeling, preparing needs analyses, determining economic impacts, and providing analysis on various transportation related topics. Additionally, using actual NDDOT design projects, UGPTI trains future transportation engineers with real-world experience to the benefit of NDDOT, our local government partners, and the private sector, alike. UGPTI also assists with training and outreach efforts for the whole transportation community. The services UGPTI provides are invaluable to the state's transportation system and its users.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my testimony. Thank you.

NDSU Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute: 2025-2027 Budget Requests

I. Legislative Directives and Purpose

N.D.C.C. 54-53-03	Establishment and missions
N.D.C.C. 54-53-02	Advisory Council
N.D.C.C. 54-53-01	Administration

II. UGPTI's Major Accomplishments in Current Biennium

A. Road and Bridge Investment Needs Study

Table 1. County, Township, & Tribal Road & Bridge Needs (Millions): Current Biennium

Unpaved Roads	Paved Roads	Bridges	Minor Structures	All
$707.88	$433.82	$178.94	$151.06	$1,471.70

B. Road and Bridge Asset Management Tools

a. Sign inventory layer
b. Development of AI tools

C. Freight Data and Analysis

a. Processors and manufacturers
b. Truck fleet and freight flows
c. Rail freight flows

D. Tribal Technical Assistance and Training

a. Northern TTAP Center
b. Road management and safety

E. Research and Technology Transfer

a. University Transportation Centers Program
b. UGPTI performance metrics: October 1, 2022, through Sept 30, 2024
    i. 179 peer-reviewed journal articles + 68 peer-reviewed research reports
    ii. 883 training, e-learning, and outreach events with 16,054 participants

III. One-Time Funding: Transportation Data Intelligence Lab

A. Advanced data analytics/AI solutions/Mentoring students in AI and automation
B. Status: on time, within budget

IV. UGPTI's Funding Sources

A. Special Funds: 28%

a. No revenues from fees; grants and contracts only
b. NDDOT primary funder
c. MPOs, state commissions, ag. associations, and industry

B. Federal Funds: 51%

a. USDOT (FHWA, FMCSA, FTA)
b. USDA, USACE, DOE

C. General Funds: 21%

a. Sustainable funding
b. Match for grants

V. UGPTI's Funding Requests

A. Multimodal Autonomous Surface Transportation Center

a. Benefits of autonomous trucks
b. Challenges to widespread deployment in North Dakota
c. Objectives of proposed center
d. Funding request (Base: $575,000, One-Time: $1.4 million)

B. AI for Surface Transportation

a. Potential for AI in surface transportation
b. Goals of proposed center/workforce development benefits
c. Funding request: $375,000 of base funding

C. CO2 Multimodal Transportation Network

a. State and industry needs (carbon credits, EOR, industrial uses)
b. Current network (regional, unconnected pipeline network)
c. Funding opportunities to buildout CO2 transport network
d. Multimodal network needed
e. Funding request: $408,100

Table 2. UGPTI's 2025-27 Budget Initiative Requests

	Funding Request		
Request	**Base**	**One Time**	**Total**
Autonomous Surface Transportation Center	$575,000	$1,400,000	$1,975,000
AI for Surface Transportation	$375,000	$0	$375,000
CO2 Multimodal Network	$0	$408,100	$408,100
Total	$950,000	$1,808,100	$2,758,100

Table 3. UGPTI Budget Requests Included in the 2025-27 Executive Recommendation

	Funding Request		
Request	**Base**	**One Time**	**Total**
Autonomous Surface Transportation Center	$0	$0	$0
AI for Surface Transportation	$375,000	$0	$375,000
CO2 Multimodal Network	$0	$408,100	$408,100
Total	$375,000	$408,100	$783,100

Table 4. Comparison of 2023-25 Base Funding to 2025-27 Base Funding Request

Funding Source	2023-25 Legislative Base	2025-27 Base Funding Request	Increase (Decrease)
General	$5,226,375	$6,176,375	$950,000
Federal	$12,572,811	$12,716,711	$143,900
Special	$7,008,330	$7,101,376	$93,046
Total	$24,739,473	$25,994,462	$1,186,946

Table 5. Comparison of Base Funding to Total Funding Request (Incl. One-Time Funding)

Funding Source	2023-25 Legislative Base	2023-25 Total Funding Request	Increase (Decrease)	Executive Recommendation
General	$5,328,670	$8,086,770	$2,860,395	$6,355,982
Federal	$12,309,427	$12,860,611	$287,800	$13,106,737
Special	$7,101,376	$7,194,412	$186,082	$7,301,301
Total	$24,739,473	$28,141,793	$3,334,277	$26,764,020

North Dakota State University
Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
Agency 627
Denver Tolliver, Director

2025—2027 Biennial Budget Request

Presented to:
The Senate Appropriations Committee
Government Operations Division

January 16, 2025

NDSU UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
Primary Programs, Centers, and Focus Areas

- Advanced Traffic Analysis
- ND Local Technical Assistance
- Western ND Transportation Liaison
- Transportation Mobility
- Road & Bridge Needs Assessment
- Advanced Sensors and Technologies
- DOT Support Center
- Tribal Technical Assistance
- Commercial Vehicle Safety
- Transportation Safety & Security
- Agricultural Freight
- Transportation Learning Network

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute Advisory Council

- ND Aeronautics Commission
- Associated General Contractors of ND
- ND Association of Counties
- Greater ND Chamber
- ND Corn Council
- ND Department of Agriculture
- ND Department of Commerce
- ND Department of Transportation
- ND Farmers Union
- ND Grain Dealers Association
- ND Grain Growers Association
- ND League of Cities
- Lignite Energy Council
- ND Motor Carriers Association
- ND Public Service Commission
- ND Wheat Commission
- Dakota Transit Association
- Representative of the manufacturing sector
- Representative of the railway industry

I. Background Agency Information

Legislative Directives and Purpose N.D.C.C 54-53-03

The Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute's purpose is to "conduct and supervise research in the field of transportation and logistics in order to facilitate acquisition of a wider knowledge and understanding of marketing factors associated with the geographical location of the state of North Dakota and the upper great plains in the field of transportation and their influence on the socioeconomic systems of the state, region, and country." UGPTI's research areas "must include the study of commodity and other freight movements into and out of the state in order to better know and understand the various factors affecting the marketing of area products and services (N.D.C.C 54-53-03)."

Advisory Council N.D.C.C 54-53-02

The Legislature established a transportation council to serve in an advisory capacity and "consult with the Institute in matters of policy affecting the administration of this chapter and in the development of transportation in the state of North Dakota." The council shall elect its own chairman and the Director of the Institute shall serve as the executive secretary of the council.

Administration N.D.C.C 54-53-01

The Institute must be administered by and in conjunction with the North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Science. The president and administration of the North Dakota State University are responsible for the selection of personnel for and the administration of the Institute.

II. Major Accomplishments in Current Biennium

Biennial Road & Bridge Needs Assessment

With its general fund appropriation, UGPTI conducted its biennial analysis of county, township, and tribal road investment needs in the state. The study included 71,808 miles of road, including 5,843 miles of paved county road and 56,656 miles of gravel road. UGPTI staff and student employees counted and classified vehicles at approximately 100 locations on county, township, and tribal roads throughout the state, recording the total number of vehicles per day at each site, as well as the number of trucks, by size category. When combined with NDDOT traffic counts on county roads, UGPTI's traffic data provide a comprehensive picture of traffic around the state. In addition to the traffic counts, UGPTI analyzed the surface conditions of more than 6,100 miles of paved county road, collecting ride quality data in a cost-effective manner using sensors and special smart phones apps to measure road roughness and video images to assess road conditions (e.g., cracking) and develop composite ride scores. A survey was administered to each county to determine blading and gaveling practices, the sources and costs of gravel, and other cost factors needed for the unpaved portion of the road analysis. All 53 counties responded to the survey. The current conditions of 2,079 bridges on county roads were assessed during the biennium. Analysis of minor structures was included in this study update including 2,095 structures with spans less than 20 feet. The results are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. County, Township, & Tribal Road & Bridge Needs (Millions)

Time Period	*Unpaved Roads*	*Paved Roads*	*Bridges*	*Minor Structures*	*All*
Twenty Years	$6,971.45	$3,496.17	$1,087.16	$805.00	$12,359.78
Current Biennium	$707.88	$433.82	$178.94	$151.06	$1,471.70
Avg. Biennial	$697.15	$349.62	$108.72	$80.50	$1,235.98

Road & Bridge Asset Management

With its general fund appropriation, UGPTI continues to maintain and improve the Geographic Roadway Inventory Tool (GRIT), which is an on-line resource for North Dakota's local and Tribal Governments to use for inventorying and efficiently managing their road and bridge infrastructure assets and maintenance activities. Information gathered within GRIT further provides a critical foundation for the North Dakota County and Local Needs Study conducted for the Legislature and state and local agencies each biennium. GRIT also includes tools for local governments to do performance-based construction and maintenance planning based on continually updated pavement condition and traffic data collected by UGPTI. GRIT also includes on-line reporting with web- based maps and dashboards which provide transparency and critical information for the public and decision makers. Capabilities recently added to GRIT include a sign inventory layer and the development of artificial intelligence tools to make the road inventory and evaluation process more efficient for short-staffed local governments.

Freight Data & Analysis

As part of its Biennial Freight Analysis, UGPTI is compiling data on shipment volumes, weights, and the values of commodities originating or terminating in North Dakota, including: (1) an inventory and analysis of the farm truck fleet, (2) commercial truck inventories and use patterns, (3) grain flows from farms to elevators and processing plants, and (4) goods movements within and through the state by truck. In addition, UGPTI developed a railroad freight analysis tool that summarizes rail freight shipments to, from, and within the state by commodity group. Moreover, a North Dakota Community Freight Survey has been implemented to assess existing and desired transportation services in North Dakota communities and their impacts on economic development.

Tribal Technical Assistance Program Center

UGPTI is the home of Federal Highway Administration's Northern Region Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) Center. Its vision is to enhance the quality of life in Tribal communities by building capacity for Tribes to administer and manage their transportation programs and systems. The mission is to "serve as a go-to local resource for Tribal transportation training, technical assistance, and technology transfer needs and opportunities."

Productivity and Results

For the latest two federal fiscal years (extending from October 1, 2022, through Sept 30, 2024), the UGPTI and the Mountain-Plains Consortium led by UGPTI have published 179 peer-reviewed journal articles and 68 peer-reviewed transportation research reports, which are available from our website. In addition, UGPTI has offered 883 training, e-learning, and outreach events, in which there were 16,054 participants. These measures are typical of UGPTI's outputs for a biennium.

III. Report on One-Time Funding

Funding Amount and Source

The 68th Legislative Assembly provided $432,600 of one-time funding to repurpose and equip a room in the Quentin Burdick Building at North Dakota State University to receive, process, archive, and analyze data from field sensors, vehicles, and many other sources. The Transportation Data Intelligence Lab will enable UGPTI to perform advanced data analytics, develop artificial intelligence solutions and tools, contribute timely transportation information to travelers and service providers, and train students in artificial intelligence and automation. The project is nearing completion. It is on schedule and within budget.

IV. UGPTI's Funding Sources

Special Funds

UGPTI does not operate facilities or assess fees that generate revenue on a continuous basis. Rather, UGPTI's special funds appropriation request represents the authority to collect grants and contracts from state and local agencies and private industries. Most of UGPTI's special funds originate from the North Dakota Department of Transportation under a strategic agency partnership that has benefited North Dakota for the last four decades. The ND Wheat Commission and several metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) also regularly provide grant funding. There is uncertainty in the levels of these grants and contracts that will be received during any biennium.

Federal Funds

The federal fund request represents a ceiling for UGPTI's federal grant collections. It is the agency's best projection of the authority needed to procure all grants that may become available during the biennium. The vast majority originates from the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT), including grants from the Office of the Secretary, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration. Some grants (such as the University Transportation Center grant) are provided directly to UGPTI by federal agencies. In other cases, the funds are "federal source funds" provided by third parties through the federal procurement process. Although federal funds are important to UGPTI's budget, they have pre-determined uses. Ultimately, UGPTI has limited discretion in determining which critical issues are researched with federal funds. Federal research funds (although very important) are not a substitute for state research dollars.

General Funds

Although state general funds comprise a minor portion of UGPTI's overall budget, they are essential to the agency's success and sustainability. State general funds are needed to match federal grants and provide continuity in times of delay or disruption in federal funding. Many of UGPTI's direct grants (such as the University Transportation Centers grant) require a 100% match of non-federal source funds. UGPTI's general funds are the only dependable source of match for these funds. Moreover, general funds are the only hard dollars in UGPTI's budget. Federal and special funds are provided at the discretion of intermediate agencies and third parties and are subject to the budget limits placed on these agencies.

V. Budget Initiative Requests for 2025-2027

1. Multimodal Autonomous Surface Transportation Center

Critical Driver Shortages

North Dakota's economy is dependent on efficient, reliable freight transportation services. However, the trucking industry is plagued by driver shortages and rapid turnover. The average turnover rate for truck drivers exceeds 90%, meaning that more than 90% of drivers leave the company after one year on the job. Driver shortages are hurting the agriculture and energy industries, which depend heavily on contract trucking. Additionally, 95% of all truck crashes involve human factors.

Benefits of Autonomous Trucks

Autonomous trucking is developing rapidly in the southwestern United States and spreading to other regions. Autonomous trucks have the potential to mitigate driver shortages, improve safety, increase freight transportation efficiency, maintain and improve freight services to rural communities, spur economic development, and create new and attractive jobs. The vehicles are not limited by hours-of-service regulations and do not need to stand idle while drivers take mandatory breaks. The number of operational hours per week is limited only by vehicle servicing requirements and constraints imposed by logistical operations (e.g., loading, unloading, queueing, and traffic delays). Autonomous trucks may be especially valuable to the agricultural industry (particularly during peak harvest periods) and in first- and last-mile deliveries.

Challenges to Autonomous Trucks in Rural North Dakota

Autonomous trucking is proliferating in Texas, California and other states under ideal weather conditions on interstate and well-designed highways. However, the spread of autonomous trucks to rural areas, where the vehicles must travel over two-lane rural roads under challenging conditions, could be considerably slower. Rural operations pose unique challenges related to (1) roadway conditions (e.g., edge markings and stripes, deteriorated or damaged traffic signs, narrower shoulders, and irregular roadway geometry); (2) sparsity of roadside landmarks; (3) snow, ice, and weather extremes; (4) near-zero visibility at times due to fog and drifting snow; and (5) numerous at-grade highway-railroad crossings with lower levels of protection. Currently, most autonomous driving systems (ADSs) rely on detailed and highly accurate digital maps enhanced by data from repeated runs of primary roads by instrument-equipped vehicles. However, sensing-based high-definition maps are not readily available for most rural areas. Localization (the process by which autonomous vehicles precisely identify their positions) is hampered by difficulty in finding distinct references or landmarks, such as the buildings and traffic signals commonly found in urban areas. Infrastructure improvements and advances in autonomous driving systems are needed before North Dakota can widely realize the benefits of autonomous trucks.

Long-Term Research Effort is Needed

As North Dakota makes the transition to autonomous freight transportation systems, research, technology transfer, and training are necessary to optimize emerging opportunities and make the transition as smooth as possible. UGPTI has a tentative program in autonomous trucking, primarily as a result of a federal grant that ends in 2025. However, reliable funding is needed to continue research and demonstrations and expand the research focus.

Goals of Proposed Center

If this request is funded, a Multimodal Autonomous Surface Transportation (MAST) Freight Center would be established at the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute. The center would focus on applied research and technology transfer rather than basic research. It is not UGPTI's goal to develop competing autonomous driving systems or autonomous vehicles that might be in competition with private sector proprietary systems, most of which are in the advanced stages of development. Rather, UGPTI's roles would be to: (1) propose new directions for ADS development to address challenges posed by rural and northern operations; (2) work with private-sector autonomous vehicle developers to better understand the markets, types of freight operations, and conditions most conducive to autonomous trucking operations (such as hub-to-hub, last- and first-mile, and short-haul intra-industry movements); (3) identify adjustments in government policies and regulations needed for autonomous trucks to operate effectively while complying with the safety oversight responsibilities of government; (4) analyze and evaluate highway infrastructure enhancements and investments that will support automated driving and allow autonomous trucks to penetrate edge markets such as rural communities; and (5) contribute to a collaborative strategic planning process that involves all stakeholders and increases the transparency of developments in the autonomous trucking industry.

Funding Requests

This request involves two types of funding requests: (1) $1,400,000 of one-time startup funding, and (2) $575,000 of base funding to sustain the effort. The startup funding is necessary to effectively launch the autonomous freight center with several timely deliveries during the 2025-2027 biennium and includes funds to temporally hire national experts in autonomous vehicles—people and organizations that can forge deep connections within the autonomous vehicle and automotive industries, assist the director in strategic planning, and position the new center for federal grants. In addition, the base funding will allow for the hiring of a full-time expert at UGPTI (by filling a vacant position), the hiring and mentoring of postdocs and students, and funding for research faculty. Moreover, the base funding is essential for leveraging federal grants, many of which require a 50% to 100% match in non-federal funds.

Planned Activities

If this request is funded, a technical advisory panel will be established to provide input to the MAST Freight Center. The panel will include representatives from the Departments of Transportation, Commerce, and Agriculture; the trucking and regional railroad industries; agricultural and energy industries; autonomous trucking companies; and national experts. Potential activities for the 2025-27 biennium include:

- Consultations with autonomous trucking companies, original equipment manufacturers, and other stakeholders that will result in long-term strategic partnerships in autonomous freights systems
- Analysis of transition strategies and timelines for the deployment of off-farm autonomous trucking as part of an autonomous agricultural production and supply chain
- Identification of other opportunities for autonomous freight transportation in first- and last-mile segments and short-haul intrastate movements

- Analysis of related industries needed to support and sustain autonomous trucking, the potential workforce opportunities resulting from these support industries, and potential curricula/training needed for new job creation in North Dakota
- Estimates of the benefits of autonomous truck operations at various levels of market penetration for specific types of operations
- The development of enhancements to optimize the routing of autonomous freight vehicles with considerations for energy efficiency, weather conditions, and dynamic traffic patterns
- Outreach events and a newsletter regarding developments in autonomous trucking in the state and region that will keep decision makers abreast of developments and emerging issues
- A strategic plan for the MAST center and the identification of federal and private funding opportunities

2. Artificial Intelligence in Surface Transportation

Potential for AI in Transportation

Artificial intelligence (AI) has the potential to alleviate many workforce shortages, improve worker safety, boost the consistency and reliability of data, and foster cost-effectiveness in transportation operations and asset management. Using data from smart sensors, high-resolution cameras, drones, and vehicles, AI can automate and improve the reliability of transportation infrastructure inspection and monitoring; traffic monitoring, control, and safety; and autonomous and connected vehicle operations. In addition to alleviating worker shortages, AI can reduce the exposure of employees to risks during inspections and increase worker productivity and job satisfaction.

Goals of Transportation AI Research Program

The 68th Legislative Assembly provided $432,600 of one-time funding for room renovation, equipment, and sensors to establish a Transportation Data and Intelligence Center, focused on advanced data analytics and artificial intelligence. The main goals of the Transportation Data and Intelligence Center are to: (1) conduct leading edge research in intelligent transportation solutions that benefit transportation planning and infrastructure/asset management; (2) develop new planning and forecasting models of freight and passenger transportation in a connected/automated vehicle environment; (3) provide advanced data analysis capabilities for the North Dakota DOT, MPOs, cities, Tribal nations, and other clients in the state and region; and (4) train and mentor future transportation specialists in machine learning, artificial intelligence, and agency operations in a highly automated environment. The focus of this effort would be restricted to transportation-related research and workforce development and the development of prototypes which could potentially be implemented by state and local agencies or commercialized by private industry with further development and integration.

Funding Request

This request (for $375,000 in base funding) will cover some senior researcher time and the hiring and mentoring of 1 to 2 postdocs and 3 to 4 students. Moreover, the base funding will be used to leverage federal grants, many of which require a 50% to 100% match in non-federal funds.

Planned Activities

Potential activities and topics that could be included in the 2025-2027 work plan include:

- AI tools and algorithms for predictive data modeling to support traffic management, route optimization, traffic safety management, and infrastructure management systems
- Tools such as advanced 3D graphical animation and generative AI that can facilitate seamless integrations of autonomous multimodal transport systems with existing physical and digital infrastructures
- AI models that leverage historical data and real-time inputs to predict future demands for goods movements across various sectors, improving the accuracy of logistics planning
- AI algorithms that dynamically optimize routes and schedules for freight transportations based on traffic conditions, weather, and delivery priorities
- Training and mentoring of students in writing AI algorithms and identifying potential AI solutions in transportation

3. Multimodal Transportation System for Captured Carbon Dioxide

Relevant State Goals and Policies

As stated in N.D.C.C. 38-22-1, "it is in the public interest [of North Dakota] to promote the geologic storage of carbon dioxide. Doing so will benefit the state and the global environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions." Governor Burgum provided a vision for North Dakota to lead the nation in carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) and achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. CO_2 has many industrial uses—including enhanced oil recovery—that could spur economic growth and productivity in the state. However, this CO_2 vision requires that captured carbon dioxide be transported from producing locations to utilization and sequestration sites. Although some regional CO_2 pipelines are in place (mostly in Texas and surrounding states), the transportation network needed to support these movements does not exist on a national scale and must be built to accommodate greatly increased future demands.

Federal Funding Opportunities

The Department of Energy (DOE) has introduced several programs to encourage the expansion and interconnection of a CO_2 transportation network, including the Front-End Engineering and Design (FEED) and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation (CIFIA) Future Growth Grants programs. The CIFIA program is intended to "support shared infrastructure projects, including pipelines, rail transport, ships and barges, and ground shipping, that connect anthropogenic sources of carbon dioxide with endpoints for its storage or utilization." These programs are intended to "finance projects that build shared transport infrastructure to move CO_2 from points of capture to utilization facilities and storage wells" and "help form a domestic interconnected carbon management ecosystem." However, a piecemeal approach to constructing CO_2 transportation infrastructure requires "close coordination and alignment in the development of each element of the CCUS value chain" to realize the nation's goals.

Funding Request

The purpose of this one-time funding request of $408,000 is to conduct a strategic study of multimodal CO2 transportation options and infrastructure needs to support

North Dakota's goals and position the state (including private industries and transportation modes) to develop proposals for federal funding. Having a CO2 transportation network plan in place could provide competitive advantages in seeking DOE infrastructure funds. Moreover, one-time funding is needed to match federal research grants. If funded, this one-time request could provide an initial boost to the state's CCUS aspirations and provide benefits for years to come.

Planned Activities

In this study, UGPTI will seek input from the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Transportation; the Oil and Gas Division; the Public Service Commission; the Energy and Environmental Research Center; biofuels and ethanol industries; national DOE labs; Class I and regional railroads; and other interested industries. The project will result in assessments of:

- An inventory of sources of potential CO_2 suppliers in the United States, including sources that are not connected to pipelines, but which have railroad service and could potentially ship CO_2 into the state without large-scale infrastructure investments
- The potential for a multimodal system to transport CO_2 into and within North Dakota that could serve key industries and allows access to sequestration sites
- The potential for transportation of CO_2 by rail and truck in complementary roles to pipelines in a comprehensive transportation system that includes service to potential CO_2 hubs and distribution centers
- The initial development of a multimodal GIS-based network model that could identify connecting links and hubs that would enhance the connectivity of the CO_2 network
- The need for intermodal connections and possible spur tracks within North Dakota, which would allow railroads to directly serve hubs and distributions centers where direct connections do not currently exist

VI. Budget Requests

As noted earlier, UGPTI's 2025-2027 request includes both base and one-time funding requests. The base funding requests are shown in Table 2. Only two of these requests are included in Governor Burgum's Executive Recommendation (Table 3). Comparisons of UGPTI's 2023-2025 base funding to UGPTI's 2025-2027 base funding request and to Govern Burgum's Executive Recommendation are shown in Table 4.

Table 2. UGPTI's 2025-27 Budget Initiative Requests

	Funding Request		
Request	**Base**	**One Time**	**Total**
Autonomous Surface Transp. Center	$575,000	$1,400,000	$1,975,000
AI for Surface Transportation	$375,000	$0	$375,000
CO2 Multimodal Network	$0	$408,100	$408,100
Total	$950,000	$1,808,100	$2,758,100

Table 3. UGPTI Budget Requests Included in the 2025-27 Executive Recommendation

	Funding Request		
Request	**Base**	**One Time**	**Total**
Autonomous Surface Transp. Center	$0	$0	$0
AI for Surface Transportation	$375,000	$0	$375,000
CO2 Multimodal Network	$0	$408,100	$408,100
Total	$375,000	$408,100	$783,100

Table 4. Comparison of 2023-25 Base Funding to 2025-27 Base Funding Request

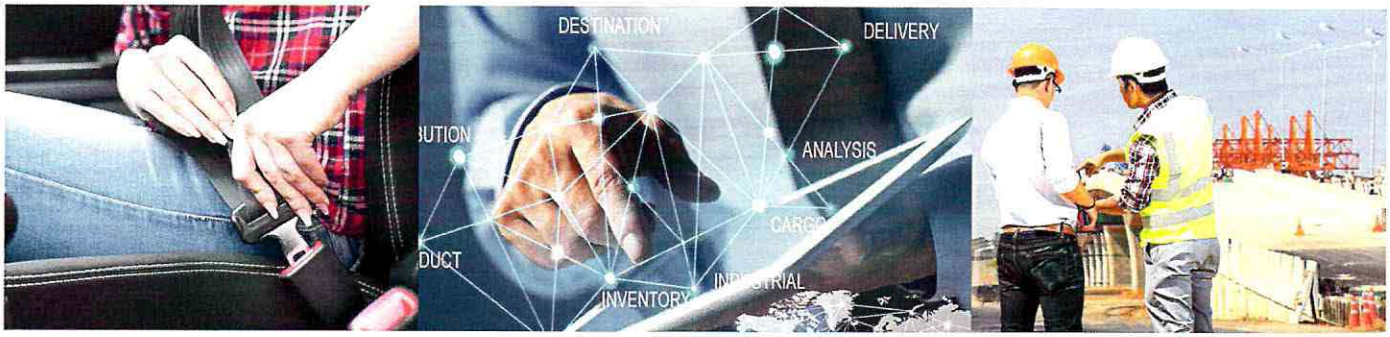
Funding Source	2023-25 Legislative Base	2025-27 Base Funding Request	Increase (Decrease)
General	$5,226,375	$6,176,375	$950,000
Federal	$12,572,811	$12,716,711	$143,900
Special	$7,008,330	$7,101,376	$93,046
Total	$24,739,473	$25,994,462	$1,186,946

Table 5. Comparison of 2023-25 Base Funding to Total 2025-27 Funding Request (Including One-Time Funding) and to the Executive Recommendation

Funding Source	2023-25 Legislative Base	2023-25 Total Funding Request	Increase (Decrease)	Executive Recommendation
General	$5,328,670	$8,086,770	$2,860,395	$6,355,982
Federal	$12,309,427	$12,860,611	$287,800	$13,106,737
Special	$7,101,376	$7,194,412	$186,082	$7,301,301
Total	$24,739,473	$28,141,793	$3,334,277	$26,764,020

Note the Executive Budget Recommendation provides $408,100 of one-time funding from the General Fund for the carbon dioxide transportation network study and $375,000 from the General Fund for artificial intelligence in surface transportation. In addition, it restores $339,241 that was removed from UGPTI's 2023-25 budget for the new and vacant FTE funding pool. Of this total, $102,295 is General Fund, $143,900 is federal funds, and $93,046 is special funds. In addition, the Executive Recommendation includes a compensation package.

The restoration funds described above are included in UGPTI's 2023-25 Total Funding Request shown in the third column of Table 5 above. However, the cost of the compensation package is not included in this column. We respectfully request that UGPTI's final budget be increased in accordance with the compensation package ultimately determined by the Legislature.



NDSU UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

UGPTI Transportation Data Intelligence Lab

Mission

Support data and information needs of transportation agencies for planning, design, construction, maintenance, operations, safety, and research in support of the safe and efficient movement of people and goods.

Objectives

- Develop and enhance a classroom Transportation Management and Traffic Operations Center Emulation Lab with interconnected transportation data feeds from all available State, County, City, and Tribal sensors.
- Provide workforce development to State and Local agencies by giving students hands-on experience with monitoring and analyzing real-time traffic, weather, and operations data along with the skills necessary to interpret and provide decision support to improve safety and operational efficiency.
- Develop advanced artificial intelligence models and technologies to collect and interpret real-time data feeds and provide decision support to transportation management center operators.
- With all data sources develop artificial intelligence models to support the ability to predict the future performance of assets, measure the cost-benefit and performance of maintenance and operations practices, communicate timely information to managers, operators, and the public, and support research to achieve safe and efficient highways.

Tools

Emerging technology and techniques will be used to collect, transmit, process, and analyze data for managing transportation systems and conducting research.

- Artificial intelligence / machine learning / deep learning will improve accuracy.
- Edge computing components will collect data, run algorithms, perform results, and communicate data at low cost.
- Internet of things components communicate data packets to online data server.
- Power components provide long-term power at low cost.
- Sensors include video, image Infrared, radar/ lidar, ultrasonic, vibration, and soil moisture and temperature sensors.
- Connected vehicles are equipped with vehicle-to-everything technologies and can capture geo-referenced data such as speed, trajectory information, acceleration and other data.

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
1/24/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

8:34 a.m. Chairman Wanzek opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Wanzek, Vice-Chair Dwyer, Senator Burckhard, Senator Erbele, and Senator Sickler.

Discussion Topics:

- Langdon Seed Conditioning Plant
- Deferred maintenance / critical needs
- Revenue generated by ND Agricultural Branch Stations
- Center for Agricultural and Trade Studies (CAPTS)
- Digital Transformation of Agriculture
- Global Market promotion and relationships
- Center for Trade Policy

8:36 a.m. Grant Gader, Fiscal Analyst, LC, testified neutral on budget information and submitted testimony #31773.

8:37 a.m. Stephanie Johnson, Budget Analyst, OMB, answered questions on budget information and referenced testimony #31773.

8:41 a.m. Greg Lardy, Director of ND Agricultural Experiment Stations (NDAES) and NDSU Extension, testified in favor and provided testimony #31774.

9:54 a.m. David Bahm, Director of Northern Crops Institute, testified in favor.

10:09 a.m. Chairman Wanzek closed the meeting.

Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk

January 22, 2025

Legislative Council

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Burgum Budget				Armstrong Budget				Armstrong Budget Compared to Burgum Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase		$172,537	$391,389	$563,926		$141,039	$319,939	$460,978		($31,498)	($71,450)	($102,948)
Health insurance increase		71,675	198,562	270,237		71,675	198,562	270,237				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		102,295	236,946	339,241		102,295	236,946	339,241				0
Adds funding for artificial intelligence in surface transportation		375,000		375,000		375,000		375,000				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$721,507**	**$826,897**	**$1,548,404**	**0.00**	**$690,009**	**$755,447**	**$1,445,456**	**0.00**	**($31,498)**	**($71,450)**	**($102,948)**
One-Time Funding Items												
Carbon dioxide transportation network study		$408,100		$408,100		$408,100		$408,100				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$408,100**	**$0**	**$408,100**	**0.00**	**$408,100**	**$0**	**$408,100**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$1,129,607**	**$826,897**	**$1,956,504**	**0.00**	**$1,098,109**	**$755,447**	**$1,853,556**	**0.00**	**($31,498)**	**($71,450)**	**($102,948)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**43.88**	**$6,355,982**	**$20,408,038**	**$26,764,020**	**43.88**	**$6,324,484**	**$20,336,588**	**$26,661,072**	**0.00**	**($31,498)**	**($71,450)**	**($102,948)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$13,106,737*				*$13,059,451*				*($47,286)*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*13.8%*	*4.2%*	*6.2%*	*0.0%*	*13.2%*	*3.9%*	*5.8%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*21.6%*	*4.2%*	*7.9%*	*0.0%*	*21.0%*	*3.9%*	*7.5%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Legislative Council

Branch Research Centers - Budget No. 628
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Burgum Budget				Armstrong Budget				Armstrong Budget Compared to Burgum Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Decreases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	(4.65)			$0	(4.65)			$0				$0
Salary increase		$765,493	$230,417	995,910		$625,768	$188,357	814,125		($139,725)	($42,060)	(181,785)
Health insurance increase		461,078	181,487	642,565		461,078	181,487	642,565				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		386,000		386,000		386,000		386,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		813,319	319,812	1,133,131		813,319	319,812	1,133,131				0
Adds funding for IT rate increases		19,095	19,425	38,520		19,095	19,425	38,520				0
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)				0
Adds funding for operating expenses			280,000	280,000			280,000	280,000				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**(4.65)**	**$2,381,257**	**$1,031,141**	**$3,412,398**	**(4.65)**	**$2,241,532**	**$989,081**	**$3,230,613**	**0.00**	**($139,725)**	**($42,060)**	**($181,785)**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(4.65)**	**$2,381,257**	**$1,031,141**	**$3,412,398**	**(4.65)**	**$2,241,532**	**$989,081**	**$3,230,613**	**0.00**	**($139,725)**	**($42,060)**	**($181,785)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**107.16**	**$22,064,855**	**$21,996,112**	**$44,060,967**	**107.16**	**$21,925,130**	**$21,954,052**	**$43,879,182**	**0.00**	**($139,725)**	**($42,060)**	**($181,785)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*12.1%*	*4.9%*	*8.4%*	*(4.2%)*	*11.4%*	*4.7%*	*7.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*12.1%*	*4.9%*	*8.4%*	*(4.2%)*	*11.4%*	*4.7%*	*7.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Legislative Council

NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Burgum Budget				Armstrong Budget				Armstrong Budget Compared to Burgum Budget			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,614,854)	($450,138)	($2,064,992)		($1,614,854)	($450,138)	($2,064,992)				$0
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	2.74			0	2.74			0				0
Salary increase		1,336,016	1,179,254	2,515,270		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451		($241,584)	($215,235)	(456,819)
Health insurance increase		720,767	738,096	1,458,863		720,767	738,096	1,458,863				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		410,000		410,000		410,000		410,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545				0
Adds funding for an FTE extension carbon specialist	1.00	290,000		290,000		290,000		290,000	(1.00)			0
Adds funding for operating support			150,000	150,000			150,000	150,000				0
Adjusts funding for supplies, operating expenses, and temporary salaries		619,621	(170,414)	449,207		619,621	(170,414)	449,207				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**3.74**	**$3,442,897**	**$3,209,996**	**$6,652,893**	**2.74**	**$3,201,313**	**$2,994,761**	**$6,196,074**	**(1.00)**	**($241,584)**	**($215,235)**	**($456,819)**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**3.74**	**$3,442,897**	**$3,209,996**	**$6,652,893**	**2.74**	**$3,201,313**	**$2,994,761**	**$6,196,074**	**(1.00)**	**($241,584)**	**($215,235)**	**($456,819)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**256.44**	**$35,233,586**	**$32,259,772**	**$67,493,358**	**255.44**	**$34,992,002**	**$32,044,537**	**$67,036,539**	**(1.00)**	**($241,584)**	**($215,235)**	**($456,819)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$10,137,967*				*$10,057,689*				*($80,278)*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.5%*	*10.8%*	*11.0%*	*10.9%*	*1.1%*	*10.1%*	*10.3%*	*10.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.5%*	*10.8%*	*11.0%*	*10.9%*	*1.1%*	*10.1%*	*10.3%*	*10.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Legislative Council

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Burgum Budget				Armstrong Budget				Armstrong Budget Compared to Burgum Budget			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	0.20			$0	0.20			$0				$0
Salary increase		$94,050	$117,925	211,975		$76,883	$96,404	173,287		($17,167)	($21,521)	(38,688)
Health insurance increase		43,015	71,085	114,100		43,015	71,085	114,100				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		58,637	60,680	119,317		58,637	60,680	119,317				0
Adds funding for operating expenses		299,600	488,800	788,400		299,600	488,800	788,400				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.20**	**$495,302**	**$738,490**	**$1,233,792**	**0.20**	**$478,135**	**$716,969**	**$1,195,104**	**0.00**	**($17,167)**	**($21,521)**	**($38,688)**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding for a protein extraction and air classification system			$350,000	$350,000			$350,000	$350,000				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.20**	**$495,302**	**$1,088,490**	**$1,583,792**	**0.20**	**$478,135**	**$1,066,969**	**$1,545,104**	**0.00**	**($17,167)**	**($21,521)**	**($38,688)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**18.35**	**$2,678,957**	**$4,629,606**	**$7,308,563**	**18.35**	**$2,661,790**	**$4,608,085**	**$7,269,875**	**0.00**	**($17,167)**	**($21,521)**	**($38,688)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*22.7%*	*20.9%*	*21.6%*	*1.1%*	*21.9%*	*20.2%*	*20.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*22.7%*	*30.7%*	*27.7%*	*1.1%*	*21.9%*	*30.1%*	*27.0%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Legislative Council

NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Burgum Budget				Armstrong Budget				Armstrong Budget Compared to Burgum Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)				$0
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	10.06			0	10.06			0				0
Salary increase		2,552,760	1,460,256	4,013,016		2,089,044	1,193,705	3,282,749		($463,716)	($266,551)	(730,267)
Health insurance increase		1,254,414	853,619	2,108,033		1,254,414	853,619	2,108,033				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		220,000		220,000		220,000		220,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202				0
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)				0
Adds funding for an FTE scientist and an FTE research specialist	2.00	495,000		495,000		495,000		495,000	(2.00)			0
Adjusts funding for supplies, operating expenses, repairs, and travel		(320,198)	(1,074,146)	(1,394,344)		(320,198)	(1,074,146)	(1,394,344)				0
Adds funding for research equipment			1,000,000	1,000,000			1,000,000	1,000,000				0
Adjusts base level funding for temporary salaries			(429,598)	(429,598)			(429,598)	(429,598)				0
Adjusts the funding source for graduate assistant salaries		(300,000)	300,000	0		(300,000)	300,000	0				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**12.06**	**$5,988,729**	**$4,245,758**	**$10,234,487**	**10.06**	**$5,525,013**	**$3,979,207**	**$9,504,220**	**(2.00)**	**($463,716)**	**($266,551)**	**($730,267)**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site			$620,000	$620,000			$620,000	$620,000				$0
Adds funding for a seed conditioning plant at the Langdon Research Center			2,600,000	2,600,000				0			($2,600,000)	(2,600,000)
Adds funding for deferred maintenance			1,000,000	1,000,000			1,500,000	1,500,000			500,000	500,000
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$4,220,000**	**$4,220,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$2,120,000**	**$2,120,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**($2,100,000)**	**($2,100,000)**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**12.06**	**$5,988,729**	**$8,465,758**	**$14,454,487**	**10.06**	**$5,525,013**	**$6,099,207**	**$11,624,220**	**(2.00)**	**($463,716)**	**($2,366,551)**	**($2,830,267)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**370.53**	**$64,114,394**	**$66,488,223**	**$130,602,617**	**368.53**	**$63,650,678**	**$64,121,672**	**$127,772,350**	**(2.00)**	**($463,716)**	**($2,366,551)**	**($2,830,267)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$9,018,641*				*$8,943,534*				*($75,107)*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*3.4%*	*10.3%*	*7.3%*	*8.8%*	*2.8%*	*9.5%*	*6.9%*	*8.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*3.4%*	*10.3%*	*14.6%*	*12.4%*	*2.8%*	*9.5%*	*10.5%*	*10.0%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Legislative Council

Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Burgum Budget				Armstrong Budget				Armstrong Budget Compared to Burgum Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase			$29,471	$29,471			$24,093	$24,093			($5,378)	($5,378)
Health insurance increase			18,016	18,016			18,016	18,016				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool			8,312	8,312			8,312	8,312				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$55,799**	**$55,799**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$50,421**	**$50,421**	**0.00**	**$0**	**($5,378)**	**($5,378)**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$0**	**$55,799**	**$55,799**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$50,421**	**$50,421**	**0.00**	**$0**	**($5,378)**	**($5,378)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,688,521**	**$1,688,521**	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,683,143**	**$1,683,143**	**0.00**	**$0**	**($5,378)**	**($5,378)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.4%*	*3.4%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.1%*	*3.1%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.4%*	*3.4%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.1%*	*3.1%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

SB2020: Responses to questions during the hearing held on January 16, 2025

1. Summary of seed cleaning plant capital projects

Location	Carrington REC	North Central REC	Williston REC
Authorization	64th Legislative Assembly	64th Legislative Assembly	66th Legislative Assembly
General Funds Appropriated	750,000	750,000	750,000
Other Funds Authorized	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Total Funds for Plants	2,250,000	2,250,000	2,250,000
Expenses			
General Funds	750,000	658,224*	750,000
Other Funds	795,915	1,318,250	2,107,315
Total Construction Cost	1,545,918	1,976,474	2,857,315

**Portion of project funds returned as part of the allotment process in August 2016*

2. NDSU REC Field Day events and Sen. Wardner building dedication in DREC

2025 NDSU Research Extension Center Annual Field Days

REC	Date	Time	Topic	Special Event
Central Grasslands	July 14			
Hettinger	July 15	Afternoon		
Dickinson	July 16		Ranch Tour	
Williston	July 16	Afternoon & Evening	Dryland	
Williston	July 17	Morning	Irrigated	
Dickinson	July 17	Evening	Agronomy and Horticulture	Sen. Wardner Building Dedication
Agronomy Seed Farm	July 21			
Carrington	July 22			
North Central	July 23			
Langdon	July 24			
Oakes	Aug. 7			

3. Nesson Valley facility:

Nesson Valley Project Costs	
Architect advertisement	110.70
Architect fees	103,440.37
Geotechnical Services	8,626.00
Total Project Costs to date	**112,177.07**

Q: Are there additional architectural fees to finish the project?

A: Yes, there will be additional costs to complete the project including bidding/negotiation and construction administration fees.

Q: Will an additional architect be needed for revised plans?

A: We do not anticipate the need to hire a new architect. Since our current firm already has the existing plans, any costs associated with revisions should be minimal. The majority of the design work has already been completed and paid.

Initial designs were created for a 7,200 sq. ft. plan, along with downsized alternatives (5,800 sq. ft.) to offer cost-saving options if bids exceed the budget.

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
1/29/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

2:36 p.m. Chairman Wanzek opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Wanzek, Vice-Chair Dwyer, Senator Erbele, and Senator Sickler. Member absent: Senator Burckhard.

Discussion Topics:

- Overview of main research center budget
- Langdon seed conditioning plant
- Langdon plant health and safety issues
- Storage sheds
- New and vacant full-time employee (FTE) pool
- Extension Service Program initiative priorities
- Protein extraction lab
- Allocation of earned income

2:38 p.m. Grant Gader, Fiscal Analyst, LC, testified neutral and referenced previous testimony #31773 from January 24,2025.

2:43 p.m. Stephanie Johnson, Analyst, OMB, answered questions on budget information and referenced previous testimony #31773.

2:44 p.m. Greg Lardy, Director of ND Ag Extension Service and NDSU Extension, testified in favor.

3:46 Chairman Wanzek closed the meeting.

Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
2/4/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

2:30 p.m. Chairman Wanzek opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Wanzek, Vice-Chair Dwyer, Senator Burckhard, Senator Erbele, and Senator Sickler.

Discussion Topics:

- Budget changes
- Langdon seed conditioning plant
- Storage sheds
- Main research center
- Senate changes to
- Swine Facility Renovation
- Jack Dalrymple Agricultural Research Complex Addition
- Autonomous truck center
- Carbon dioxide transportation study
- Vision Zero
- Grant application

2:34 p.m. Grant Gader, LC Fiscal Analyst, provided budget information and submitted testimony #34720 and #34805.

2:51 p.m. Stephanie Johnson, OMB Analyst, provided budget information and referenced testimony #34720.

2:56 p.m. Greg Lardy, Director of ND Ag Extension Service and NDSU Extension, testified in favor and referenced previous testimony #32982.

3:05 p.m. Denver Tolliver, Director of Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, testified in favor and referenced previous testimony #29628.

3:32 p.m. Senator Burckhard made a motion to amend Amendment 25.0187.01001 to add 500,000.00 for matching funds toward the autonomous trucking research.
Senator Dwyer seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y

Senator Michael Dwyer	N
Senator Robert Erbele	N
Senator Jonathan Sickler	N

Motion failed 2-3-0

3:42 p.m. David Boehm, Director of Northern Crops Institute, testified in favor.

3:44 p.m. Senator Erbele moved to Adopt the Amendments as discussed. Senator Sickler seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y

Motion passed 5-0-0

Senator Erbele will carry the bill.

3:49 p.m. Chairman Wanzek closed the meeting.

Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk

Legislative Council

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase		$141,039	$319,939	$460,978		$141,039	$314,606	$455,645			($5,333)	($5,333)
Health insurance increase		71,675	198,562	270,237		71,675	192,557	264,232			(6,005)	(6,005)
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		102,295	236,946	339,241		102,295	236,946	339,241				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)		($34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)
Removes vacant FTE position				0	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)
Adds funding for artificial intelligence in surface transportation		375,000		375,000				0		(375,000)		(375,000)
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$690,009**	**$755,447**	**$1,445,456**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**($409,125)**	**($248,357)**	**($657,482)**
One-Time Funding Items												
Carbon dioxide transportation network study		$408,100		$408,100				$0		($408,100)		($408,100)
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$408,100**	**$0**	**$408,100**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**($408,100)**	**$0**	**($408,100)**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$1,098,109**	**$755,447**	**$1,853,556**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**($817,225)**	**($248,357)**	**($1,065,582)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**43.88**	**$6,324,484**	**$20,336,588**	**$26,661,072**	**42.88**	**$5,507,259**	**$20,088,231**	**$25,595,490**	**(1.00)**	**($817,225)**	**($248,357)**	**($1,065,582)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$13,059,451*				*$13,006,610*				*($52,841)*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*13.2%*	*3.9%*	*5.8%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*21.0%*	*3.9%*	*7.5%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Branch research centers - Budget No. 628
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Decreases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	(4.65)			$0	(4.65)			$0				$0
Salary increase		$625,768	$188,357	814,125		$625,768	$188,357	814,125				0
Health insurance increase		461,078	181,487	642,565		461,078	181,487	642,565				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		386,000		386,000		386,000		386,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		813,319	319,812	1,133,131		813,319	319,812	1,133,131				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(324,563)	(103,869)	(428,432)		($324,563)	($103,869)	(428,432)
Adds funding for IT rate increases		19,095	19,425	38,520		19,095	19,425	38,520				0
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)				0
Adds funding for operating expenses			280,000	280,000				0			(280,000)	(280,000)
Total ongoing funding changes	**(4.65)**	**$2,241,532**	**$989,081**	**$3,230,613**	**(4.65)**	**$1,916,969**	**$605,212**	**$2,522,181**	**0.00**	**($324,563)**	**($383,869)**	**($708,432)**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(4.65)**	**$2,241,532**	**$989,081**	**$3,230,613**	**(4.65)**	**$1,916,969**	**$605,212**	**$2,522,181**	**0.00**	**($324,563)**	**($383,869)**	**($708,432)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**107.16**	**$21,925,130**	**$21,954,052**	**$43,879,182**	**107.16**	**$21,600,567**	**$21,570,183**	**$43,170,750**	**0.00**	**($324,563)**	**($383,869)**	**($708,432)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*11.4%*	*4.7%*	*7.9%*	*(4.2%)*	*9.7%*	*2.9%*	*6.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*11.4%*	*4.7%*	*7.9%*	*(4.2%)*	*9.7%*	*2.9%*	*6.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Dickinson Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income		Section 4 authorizes the Dickinson Research Extension Center to spend up to $755,000 of revenue received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Williston Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income		Section 5 directs the Williston Research Extension Center to report to the 70th Legislative Assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 biennium.	

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the branch research centers, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority		Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the branch research centers and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by the branch research centers into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,614,854)	($450,138)	($2,064,992)		($1,614,854)	($450,138)	($2,064,992)				$0
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	2.74			0	2.74			0				0
Salary increase		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451				0
Health insurance increase		720,767	738,096	1,458,863		720,767	738,096	1,458,863				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		410,000		410,000		410,000		410,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(682,950)	(625,819)	(1,308,769)		($682,950)	($625,819)	(1,308,769)
Adds funding for an FTE extension carbon specialist		290,000		290,000				0		(290,000)		(290,000)
Adds funding for operating support			150,000	150,000				0			(150,000)	(150,000)
Adjusts funding for supplies, operating expenses, and temporary salaries		619,621	(170,414)	449,207				0		(619,621)	170,414	(449,207)
Total ongoing funding changes	**2.74**	**$3,201,313**	**$2,994,761**	**$6,196,074**	**2.74**	**$1,608,742**	**$2,389,356**	**$3,998,098**	**0.00**	**($1,592,571)**	**($605,405)**	**($2,197,976)**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**2.74**	**$3,201,313**	**$2,994,761**	**$6,196,074**	**2.74**	**$1,608,742**	**$2,389,356**	**$3,998,098**	**0.00**	**($1,592,571)**	**($605,405)**	**($2,197,976)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**255.44**	**$34,992,002**	**$32,044,537**	**$67,036,539**	**255.44**	**$33,399,431**	**$31,439,132**	**$64,838,563**	**0.00**	**($1,592,571)**	**($605,405)**	**($2,197,976)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$10,057,689*				*$9,831,391*				*($226,298)*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*10.1%*	*10.3%*	*10.2%*	*1.1%*	*5.1%*	*8.2%*	*6.6%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*10.1%*	*10.3%*	*10.2%*	*1.1%*	*5.1%*	*8.2%*	*6.6%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by NDSU Extension Service, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority		Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the NDSU Extension Service and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by NDSU Extension Service into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	0.20			$0	0.20			$0				$0
Salary increase		$76,883	$96,404	173,287		$76,883	$96,404	173,287				0
Health insurance increase		43,015	71,085	114,100		43,015	71,085	114,100				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		58,637	60,680	119,317		58,637	60,680	119,317				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(18,871)	(24,841)	(43,712)		($18,871)	($24,841)	(43,712)
Adds funding for operating expenses		299,600	488,800	788,400		638,800	299,600	938,400		339,200	(189,200)	150,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.20**	**$478,135**	**$716,969**	**$1,195,104**	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$502,928**	**$1,301,392**	**0.00**	**$320,329**	**($214,041)**	**$106,288**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding for a protein extraction and air classification system			$350,000	$350,000			$350,000	$350,000				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.20**	**$478,135**	**$1,066,969**	**$1,545,104**	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$852,928**	**$1,651,392**	**0.00**	**$320,329**	**($214,041)**	**$106,288**
2025-27 Total Funding	**18.35**	**$2,661,790**	**$4,608,085**	**$7,269,875**	**18.35**	**$2,982,119**	**$4,394,044**	**$7,376,163**	**0.00**	**$320,329**	**($214,041)**	**$106,288**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*21.9%*	*20.2%*	*20.9%*	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*14.2%*	*22.7%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*21.9%*	*30.1%*	*27.0%*	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*24.1%*	*28.8%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Northern Crops Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
SIIF		Section 7 identifies $350,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for a protein extraction and air classification system.	
Transfer authority		Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Northern Crops Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
Exemption		Sections 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by the Northern Crops Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)				$0
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	10.06			0	10.06			0				0
Salary increase		2,089,044	1,193,705	3,282,749		2,067,139	1,191,857	3,258,996		($21,905)	($1,848)	(23,753)
Health insurance increase		1,254,414	853,619	2,108,033		1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008		(28,524)	(1,501)	(30,025)
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		220,000		220,000		220,000		220,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)				0
Adds funding for an FTE scientist and an FTE research specialist		495,000		495,000				0		(495,000)		(495,000)
Adds funding for an FTE veterinary toxicology resident position				0	1.00	275,000		275,000	1.00	275,000		275,000
Removes vacant FTE positions				0	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)
Adjusts funding for supplies, operating expenses, repairs, and travel		(320,198)	(1,074,146)	(1,394,344)		(320,198)	(1,074,146)	(1,394,344)				0
Adds funding for research equipment			1,000,000	1,000,000				0			(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)
Adjusts base level funding for temporary salaries			(429,598)	(429,598)			(429,598)	(429,598)				0
Adjusts the funding source for graduate assistant salaries		(300,000)	300,000	0		(300,000)	300,000	0				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**10.06**	**$5,525,013**	**$3,979,207**	**$9,504,220**	**6.08**	**$2,797,061**	**$2,152,229**	**$4,949,290**	**(3.98)**	**($2,727,952)**	**($1,826,978)**	**($4,554,930)**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site			$620,000	$620,000			$620,000	$620,000				$0
Adds funding for deferred maintenance			1,500,000	1,500,000				0			($1,500,000)	(1,500,000)
Langdon seed conditioning plant				0			2,600,000	2,600,000			2,600,000	2,600,000
Equipment storage sheds				0		$1,567,500		1,567,500		$1,567,500		1,567,500
Nesson Valley irrigation research site				0			2,300,000	2,300,000			2,300,000	2,300,000
Williston equipment storage shed				0			200,000	200,000			200,000	200,000
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$2,120,000**	**$2,120,000**	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$5,720,000**	**$7,287,500**	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$3,600,000**	**$5,167,500**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**10.06**	**$5,525,013**	**$6,099,207**	**$11,624,220**	**6.08**	**$4,364,561**	**$7,872,229**	**$12,236,790**	**(3.98)**	**($1,160,452)**	**$1,773,022**	**$612,570**
2025-27 Total Funding	**368.53**	**$63,650,678**	**$64,121,672**	**$127,772,350**	**364.55**	**$62,490,226**	**$65,894,694**	**$128,384,920**	**(3.98)**	**($1,160,452)**	**$1,773,022**	**$612,570**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$8,943,534*				*$8,742,305*				*($201,229)*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*2.8%*	*9.5%*	*6.9%*	*8.2%*	*1.7%*	*4.8%*	*3.7%*	*4.3%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*2.8%*	*9.5%*	*10.5%*	*10.0%*	*1.7%*	*7.5%*	*13.6%*	*10.5%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640

Other Sections in NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Main Research Center, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
SIIF		Section 7 identifies $1,970,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, Oakes irrigation research site, and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.	
Transfer authority		Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Main Research Center and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by Main Research Center into the 2027-29 biennium.	
Exemption		Subsection 1 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended SIIF appropriation authority relating to the branch research center storage sheds appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	
Exemption		Subsection 2 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority relating to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase			$24,093	$24,093			$24,093	$24,093				$0
Health insurance increase			18,016	18,016			18,016	18,016				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool			8,312	8,312			8,312	8,312				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0			(3,147)	(3,147)			($3,147)	(3,147)
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$50,421**	**$50,421**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**($3,147)**	**($3,147)**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$0**	**$50,421**	**$50,421**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**($3,147)**	**($3,147)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,683,143**	**$1,683,143**	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,679,996**	**$1,679,996**	**0.00**	**$0**	**($3,147)**	**($3,147)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.1%*	*3.1%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.1%*	*3.1%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Agronomy Seed Farm, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Agronomy Seed Farm and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by the Agronomy Seed Farm into the 2027-29 biennium.	

25.0187.01001
Title.
Fiscal No. 1

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Senate Appropriations - Government Operations Division Committee
February 3, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

~~NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE~~			
		~~Adjustments or~~	
	~~Base Level~~	~~Enhancements~~	~~Appropriation~~

Extension service	$59,478,945	$0	$59,478,945
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$0	$60,840,465
Less other funds	29,049,776	0	29,049,776
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$0	$31,790,689
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	0.00	252.70

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Less other funds	3,541,116	0	3,541,116
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$0	$2,183,655
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.00	18.15

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Less other funds	19,581,141	0	19,581,141
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$0	$5,226,375
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130

Less other funds	58,022,465	0	58,022,465
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$0	$58,125,665
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	0.00	358.47

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$0	$7,379,838
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	0	3,618,270
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	0	5,381,248
Langdon research center	3,195,869	0	3,195,869
North Central research center	5,355,217	0	5,355,217
Williston research center	5,527,125	0	5,527,125
Carrington research center	10,191,002	0	10,191,002
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$0	$40,648,569
Less other funds	20,964,971	0	20,964,971
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$0	$19,683,598
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	0.00	111.81

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$0	$1,632,722
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$0	$1,632,722
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$0	$249,802,173
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	0	132,792,191

~~Grand total general fund~~	~~$117,009,982~~	~~$0~~	~~$117,009,982~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~788.01~~	~~0.00~~	~~788.01~~

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$944,303	$60,423,248
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
New and vacant FTE pool	0	3,053,795	3,053,795
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less other funds	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	2.74	255.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,549,397	$7,274,168
New and vacant FTE pool	0	101,995	101,995
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less other funds	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	0	266,019	266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less other funds	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231

Total general fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$7,176,589	$123,324,719
New and vacant FTE pool	0	5,060,201	5,060,201
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$12,236,790	$128,384,920
Less other funds	58,022,465	7,872,229	65,894,694
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	6.08	364.55

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$355,827	$7,735,665
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	88,766	3,707,036
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	160,658	5,541,906
Langdon research center	3,195,869	280,058	3,475,927
North Central research center	5,355,217	122,311	5,477,528
Williston research center	5,527,125	186,785	5,713,910
Carrington research center	10,191,002	328,102	10,519,104
New and vacant FTE pool	0	999,674	999,674
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less other funds	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$39,931	$1,672,653
New and vacant FTE pool	0	7,343	7,343
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$21,243,709	$271,045,882
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	12,274,089	145,066,280
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$8,969,620	$125,979,602
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	3.37	791.38

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which each entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

One-Time Funding Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Northern crops institute			
Protein extraction and air classification system	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Total northern crops institute	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Main research center			
Equipment storage sheds	$1,567,500	$0	$1,567,500
Oakes irrigation research site interior	0	620,000	620,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000	2,600,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site	0	2,300,000	2,300,000
Williston research center storage shed	0	200,000	200,000
Total main research center	$1,567,500	$5,720,000	$7,287,500
Grand total	$1,567,500	$6,070,000	$7,637,500

SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST. The North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 7. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The other funds line item in subdivision 2 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of $350,000 from the strategic investment

and improvements fund for a protein extraction and air classification system. The other funds line item in subdivision 4 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of $1,970,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund, of which $950,000 is for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, $620,000 is for the Oakes irrigation research site, and $400,000 is for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority, except appropriation authority in the new and vacant FTE pool line items, within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

1. The sum of $475,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund for storage sheds in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws;
2. The sum of $1,700,000 appropriated from the general fund for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site project in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive

video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Summary of Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
Transportation Institute			
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less estimated income	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
General fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	(1.00)	42.88
Branch Research Centers			
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
FTE	111.81	(4.65)	107.16
NDSU Extension Service			
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less estimated income	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
FTE	252.70	2.74	255.44
Northern Crops Institute			
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	0.20	18.35
Main Research Center			
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$12,236,790	$128,384,920
Less estimated income	58,022,465	7,872,229	65,894,694
General fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
FTE	358.47	6.08	364.55
Agronomy Seed Farm			
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	47,274	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	0.00	3.00
Bill total			
Total all funds	$249,802,173	$21,243,709	$271,045,882
Less estimated income	132,792,191	12,274,089	145,066,280
General fund	$117,009,982	$8,969,620	$125,979,602
FTE	788.01	3.37	791.38

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Transportation Institute - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$266,019	$266,019
Upper Great Plains Trans. Institute	$24,807,516	521,955	25,329,471
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less estimated income	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
General fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Department 627 - Transportation Institute - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[1]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool[2]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Removes Vacant FTE Position[4]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool			$266,019		$266,019
Upper Great Plains Trans. Institute	$719,877	$339,241	(380,027)	($157,136)	521,955
Total all funds	$719,877	$339,241	($114,008)	($157,136)	$787,974
Less estimated income	507,163	236,946	(79,883)	(157,136)	507,090
General fund	$212,714	$102,295	($34,125)	$0	$280,884
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1.00)	(1.00)

[1] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$141,039	$314,606	$455,645
Health insurance increase	71,675	192,557	264,232
Total	$212,714	$507,163	$719,877

[2] Funding is added to replace 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool funding.

[3] Funding of $380,027 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $266,019 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Vacant FTE positions	($113,749)	($266,278)	($380,027)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	79,624	186,395	266,019
Net savings	($34,125)	($79,883)	($114,008)

[4] Removes a vacant FTE program assistant position.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Branch Research Centers - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$999,674	$999,674
Dickinson Research Center	$7,379,838	355,827	7,735,665
Central Grasslands Research Center	3,618,270	88,766	3,707,036
Hettinger Research Center	5,381,248	160,658	5,541,906
Langdon Research Center	3,195,869	280,058	3,475,927
North Central Research Center	5,355,217	122,311	5,477,528
Williston Research Center	5,527,125	186,785	5,713,910
Carrington Research Center	10,191,002	328,102	10,519,104
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
FTE	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Department 628 - Branch Research Centers - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts FTE Authorization[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Adds Funding for Information Technology Rate Increases[5]	Adjusts Funding for Bond Payments[6]
New and vacant FTE pool				$999,674		
Dickinson Research Center		$198,821	$349,802	(198,196)	$5,400	
Central Grasslands Research Center		99,702	101,756	(93,916)	5,520	($24,296)
Hettinger Research Center		178,703	152,764	(176,329)	5,520	
Langdon Research Center		137,780	272,910	(136,152)	5,520	
North Central Research Center		176,012	152,059	(171,848)	5,520	(39,432)
Williston Research Center		239,777	179,941	(238,453)	5,520	
Carrington Research Center		425,895	309,899	(413,212)	5,520	
Total all funds	$0	$1,456,690	$1,519,131	($428,432)	$38,520	($63,728)
Less estimated income	0	369,844	319,812	(103,869)	19,425	0
General fund	$0	$1,086,846	$1,199,319	($324,563)	$19,095	($63,728)
FTE	(4.65)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool	$999,674
Dickinson Research Center	355,827
Central Grasslands Research Center	88,766
Hettinger Research Center	160,658
Langdon Research Center	280,058
North Central Research Center	122,311
Williston Research Center	186,785
Carrington Research Center	328,102
Total all funds	$2,522,181
Less estimated income	605,212
General fund	$1,916,969
FTE	(4.65)

[1] FTE positions are adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$625,768	$188,357	$814,125
Health insurance increase	461,078	181,487	642,565
Total	$1,086,846	$369,844	$1,456,690

[3] Funding is added to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2023-25 new FTE pool	$386,000		$386,000
2023-25 vacant FTE pool	813,319	$319,812	$1,133,131
Total	$1,199,319	$319,812	$1,519,131

[4] Funding of $1,428,106 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $999,674 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Dickinson Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($198,196)		($198,196)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	138,737	$0	138,737
Net savings	($59,459)	$0	($59,459)
Central Grasslands Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($93,916)		($93,916)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	65,741	$0	65,741
Net savings	($28,175)	$0	($28,175)
Hettinger Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($137,151)	($39,178)	($176,329)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	96,006	27,425	123,431
Net savings	($41,145)	($11,753)	($52,898)
Langdon Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($112,055)	($24,097)	($136,152)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	78,439	16,868	95,307
Net savings	($33,616)	($7,229)	($40,845)
North Central Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($106,362)	($65,486)	($171,848)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	74,453	45,840	120,293
Net savings	($31,909)	($19,646)	($51,555)
Williston Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($196,836)	($41,617)	($238,453)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	137,785	29,132	166,917
Net savings	($59,051)	($12,485)	($71,536)
Carrington Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($237,360)	($175,852)	($413,212)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	166,152	123,096	289,248
Net savings	($71,208)	($52,756)	($123,964)
Branch Research Centers			
Vacant FTE positions	($1,081,876)	($346,230)	($1,428,106)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	757,313	242,361	999,674
Net savings	($324,563)	($103,869)	($428,432)

[5] Adds $19,095 from the general fund and $19,425 from special funds for information technology rate increases.

[6] Removes funding for bond payments at the Central Grasslands Research Center ($24,296) and the North Central Research Center ($39,432).

Senate Bill No. 2020 - NDSU Extension Service - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$3,053,795	$3,053,795
Extension Service	$59,478,945	944,303	60,423,248
Soil Conservation Committee	1,361,520		1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less estimated income	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
FTE	252.70	2.74	255.44

Department 630 - NDSU Extension Service - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts Funding for Base Payroll Changes[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool				$3,053,795	$3,053,795
Extension Service	($2,064,992)	$3,517,314	$3,854,545	(4,362,564)	944,303
Soil Conservation Committee					
Total all funds	($2,064,992)	$3,517,314	$3,854,545	($1,308,769)	$3,998,098
Less estimated income	(450,138)	1,702,115	1,763,198	(625,819)	2,389,356
General fund	($1,614,854)	$1,815,199	$2,091,347	($682,950)	$1,608,742
FTE	2.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.74

[1] Funding is adjusted for base payroll changes. FTE positions are also adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$1,094,432	$964,019	$2,058,451
Health insurance increase	720,767	738,096	1,458,863
Total	$1,815,199	$1,702,115	$3,517,314

[3] Funding is added to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2023-25 new FTE pool	$410,000		$410,000
2023-25 vacant FTE pool	1,681,347	$1,763,198	$3,444,545
Total	$2,091,347	$1,763,198	$3,854,545

[4] Funding of $4,362,564 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $3,053,795 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Vacant FTE positions	($2,276,499)	($2,086,065)	($4,362,564)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	1,593,549	1,460,246	3,053,795
Net savings	($682,950)	($625,819)	($1,308,769)

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Northern Crops Institute - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$101,995	$101,995
Northern Crops Institute	$5,724,771	1,549,397	7,274,168
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	0.20	18.35

Department 638 - Northern Crops Institute - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts FTE authorization[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[5]	Adds One-Time Funding for a Protein Extraction and Air Classification System[6]
New and vacant FTE pool				$101,995		
Northern Crops Institute		$287,387	$119,317	(145,707)	$938,400	$350,000
Total all funds	$0	$287,387	$119,317	($43,712)	$938,400	$350,000
Less estimated income	0	167,489	60,680	(24,841)	299,600	350,000
General fund	$0	$119,898	$58,637	($18,871)	$638,800	$0
FTE	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool	$101,995
Northern Crops Institute	1,549,397
Total all funds	$1,651,392
Less estimated income	852,928
General fund	$798,464
FTE	0.20

[1] FTE positions are adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$76,883	$96,404	$173,287
Health insurance increase	43,015	71,085	114,100
Total	$119,898	$167,489	$287,387

[3] Funding is added to replace 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool funding.

[4] Funding of $145,707 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $101,995 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Vacant FTE positions	($62,903)	($82,804)	($145,707)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	44,032	57,963	101,995
Net savings	($18,871)	($24,841)	($43,712)

[5] Funding is added for operating expenses at the Peltier Complex.

[6] Adds one-time funding from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) for a pilot-scale mill and air classification system to separate protein, starch, and fiber.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Main Research Center - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$5,060,201	$5,060,201
Main Research Center	$116,148,130	7,176,589	123,324,719
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$12,236,790	$128,384,920
Less estimated income	58,022,465	7,872,229	65,894,694
General fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
FTE	358.47	6.08	364.55

Department 640 - Main Research Center - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts Funding for Base Payroll Changes[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Adjusts Funding for Bond Payments[5]	Adjusts Funding for Operating Expenses, Repairs, and Travel[6]
New and vacant FTE pool				$5,060,201		
Main Research Center	($938,345)	$5,337,004	$5,559,202	(7,150,286)	($178,477)	($1,394,344)
Total all funds	($938,345)	$5,337,004	$5,559,202	($2,090,085)	($178,477)	($1,394,344)
Less estimated income	291,232	2,043,975	1,844,395	(772,973)	0	(1,074,146)
General fund	($1,229,577)	$3,293,029	$3,714,807	($1,317,112)	($178,477)	($320,198)
FTE	10.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Adjusts Funding for Temporary Salaries[7]	Adjusts Funding Source for Salaries[8]	Adds Funding for FTE Veterinary Position[9]	Removes Vacant FTE Positions[10]	Adds One-Time Funding for the Oakes Irrigation Research Site[11]	Adds One-Time Funding for the Langdon Seed Conditioning Plant[12]
New and vacant FTE pool						
Main Research Center	($429,598)		$275,000	($1,191,067)	$620,000	$2,600,000
Total all funds	($429,598)	$0	$275,000	($1,191,067)	$620,000	$2,600,000
Less estimated income	(429,598)	300,000	0	(50,656)	620,000	2,600,000
General fund	$0	($300,000)	$275,000	($1,140,411)	$0	$0
FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	(4.98)	0.00	0.00

	Adds One-Time Funding for Storage Sheds[13]	Adds One-Time Funding for the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site[14]	Adds One-Time Funding for an Equipment Storage Shed[15]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool				$5,060,201
Main Research Center	$1,567,500	$2,300,000	$200,000	7,176,589
Total all funds	$1,567,500	$2,300,000	$200,000	$12,236,790
Less estimated income	0	2,300,000	200,000	7,872,229
General fund	$1,567,500	$0	$0	$4,364,561
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.08

[1] Funding is adjusted for base payroll changes. FTE positions are also adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$2,067,139	$1,191,857	$3,258,996
Health insurance increase	1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008
Total	$3,293,029	$2,043,975	$5,337,004

[3] Funding is added to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2023-25 new FTE pool	$220,000		$220,000
2023-25 vacant FTE pool	3,494,807	$1,844,395	5,339,202
Total	$3,714,807	$1,844,395	$5,559,202

[4] Funding of $7,150,286 is removed for estimated savings from new and vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $5,060,201 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
New FTE positions	($275,000)		($275,000)
Vacant FTE positions	(4,298,707)	($2,576,579)	(6,875,286)
Total	($4,573,707)	($2,576,579)	($7,150,286)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	3,256,595	1,803,606	5,060,201
Net savings	($1,317,112)	($772,973)	($2,090,085)

[5] Removes funding for bond payments.

[6] Adjusts base level funding for operating expenses ($967,487), repairs ($200,000), and travel ($226,857).

[7] Adjusts base funding for temporary salaries.

[8] Adjusts funding source for graduate assistant salaries from the general fund to local funds.

[9] Adds funding for an FTE veterinary toxicology resident position.

[10] The following vacant FTE positions and related salaries and wages are removed:

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Special Funds	Total
Nutritional epigenetics associate professor	0.70	$169,530		$169,530
Assistant professor	0.90	217,574		217,574
Assistant professor	0.80	250,624		250,624
Associate professor	0.90	241,278		241,278
Communication and outreach coordinator	0.68	109,438		109,438
Physiology lab coordinator	1.00	151,967	$50,656	202,623
Total	4.98	$1,140,411	$50,656	$1,191,067

[11] Adds one-time funding from SIIF to complete the Oakes Irrigation Research Site.

[12] Adds one-time funding from SIIF ($950,000) and local funds ($1,650,000) for a seed conditioning plant at the Langdon Research Center.

[13] Adds one-time funding from the general fund for equipment storage sheds at the Dickinson Research Center, the Central Grasslands Research Center, and the Carrington Research Center.

[14] Adds one-time funding from SIIF ($400,000) and local funds ($1,900,000) to complete the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site project.

[15] Adds one-time funding from local funds for an equipment storage shed at the Williston Research Center.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Agronomy Seed Farm - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$7,343	$7,343
Agronomy Seed Farm	$1,632,722	39,931	1,672,653
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	47,274	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	0.00	3.00

Department 649 - Agronomy Seed Farm - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[1]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool[2]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool			$7,343	$7,343
Agronomy Seed Farm	$42,109	$8,312	(10,490)	39,931
Total all funds	$42,109	$8,312	($3,147)	$47,274
Less estimated income	42,109	8,312	(3,147)	47,274
General fund	$0	$0	$0	$0
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	Other Funds
Salary increase	$24,093
Health insurance increase	18,016
Total	$42,109

[2] Funding is added from local funds to replace 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool funding.

[3] Funding of $10,490 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $7,343 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item resulting in net savings of $3,147.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Other Changes - Senate Action

A section is added:

- Regarding the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.
- To identify $2,320,000 from SIIF, including $350,000 for the Northern Crops Institute protein extraction and air classification system and $1,970,000 for the Main Research Center for the Langdon Research Center seed conditioning plant ($950,000), the Oakes irrigation research site ($620,000), and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site ($400,000).
- To provide the Main Research Center exemptions to continue funding appropriated in previous biennium into the 2025-27 biennium. The exemptions relate to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site and the branch research center storage sheds.

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
2/5/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

3:18 p.m. Chairman Wanzek opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Wanzek, Vice-Chair Dwyer, Senator Burckhard, Senator Erbele, and Senator Sickler.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action
- Crops air handling system

3:19 p.m. Brady Larson, Assistant Legislative Budget Analyst, Legislative Council, testified and submitted testimony #35482.

3:20 p.m. Senator Erbele moved amendment LC #25.0187.01002.

3:21 p.m. Senator Dwyer seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y

Motion passed 5-0-0

3:21 p.m. Senator Erbele moved Do Pass as Amended.
3:21 p.m. Senator Dwyer seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y

Motion passed 5-0-0

Senator Erbele will carry the bill.

3:23 p.m. Chairman Wanzek closed the meeting.

Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk

25.0187.01002
Title.
Fiscal No. 2

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Senate Appropriations - Government Operations Division Committee
February 5, 2025

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

~~NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE~~

		~~Adjustments or~~	
	~~Base Level~~	~~Enhancements~~	~~Appropriation~~
~~Extension service~~	~~$59,478,945~~	~~$0~~	~~$59,478,945~~
~~Soil conservation committee~~	~~1,361,520~~	~~0~~	~~1,361,520~~
~~Total all funds~~	~~$60,840,465~~	~~$0~~	~~$60,840,465~~

Less other funds	29,049,776	0	29,049,776
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$0	$31,790,689
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	0.00	252.70

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Less other funds	3,541,116	0	3,541,116
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$0	$2,183,655
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.00	18.15

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Less other funds	19,581,141	0	19,581,141
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$0	$5,226,375
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Less other funds	58,022,465	0	58,022,465
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$0	$58,125,665
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	0.00	358.47

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$0	$7,379,838
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	0	3,618,270
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	0	5,381,248
Langdon research center	3,195,869	0	3,195,869
North Central research center	5,355,217	0	5,355,217
Williston research center	5,527,125	0	5,527,125
Carrington research center	10,191,002	0	10,191,002
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$0	$40,648,569
Less other funds	20,964,971	0	20,964,971
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$0	$19,683,598
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	0.00	111.81

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation

~~Agronomy seed farm~~	~~$1,632,722~~	~~$0~~	~~$1,632,722~~
~~Total special funds~~	~~$1,632,722~~	~~$0~~	~~$1,632,722~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~3.00~~	~~0.00~~	~~3.00~~

~~Subdivision 7.~~

~~SECTION 1 TOTAL~~

	~~Base Level~~	~~Adjustments or Enhancements~~	~~Appropriation~~
~~Grand total all funds~~	~~$249,802,173~~	~~$0~~	~~$249,802,173~~
~~Less grand total other funds~~	~~132,792,191~~	~~0~~	~~132,792,191~~
~~Grand total general fund~~	~~$117,009,982~~	~~$0~~	~~$117,009,982~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~788.01~~	~~0.00~~	~~788.01~~

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$944,303	$60,423,248
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
New and vacant FTE pool	0	3,053,795	3,053,795
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less other funds	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	2.74	255.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,549,397	$7,274,168
New and vacant FTE pool	0	101,995	101,995
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less other funds	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation

Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	0	266,019	266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less other funds	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$16,426,589	$132,574,719
New and vacant FTE pool	0	5,060,201	5,060,201
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$21,486,790	$137,634,920
Less other funds	58,022,465	17,122,229	75,144,694
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	6.08	364.55

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$355,827	$7,735,665
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	88,766	3,707,036
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	160,658	5,541,906
Langdon research center	3,195,869	280,058	3,475,927
North Central research center	5,355,217	122,311	5,477,528
Williston research center	5,527,125	186,785	5,713,910
Carrington research center	10,191,002	328,102	10,519,104
New and vacant FTE pool	0	999,674	999,674
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less other funds	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183

Total general fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$39,931	$1,672,653
New and vacant FTE pool	0	7,343	7,343
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$30,493,709	$280,295,882
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	21,524,089	154,316,280
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$8,969,620	$125,979,602
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	3.37	791.38

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which each entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

One-Time Funding Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Northern crops institute			
Protein extraction and air classification system	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Total northern crops institute	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Main research center			
Equipment storage sheds	$1,567,500	$0	$1,567,500
Oakes irrigation research site interior	0	620,000	620,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000	2,600,000

Nesson Valley irrigation research site	0	2,300,000	2,300,000
Williston research center storage shed	0	200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation	0	6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition	0	3,250,000	3,250,000
Total main research center	$1,567,500	$14,970,000	$16,537,550
Grand total	$1,567,500	$15,320,000	$16,887,500

SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST. The North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main

research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 7. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The other funds line item in subdivision 2 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of $350,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for a protein extraction and air classification system. The other funds line item in subdivision 4 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of $1,970,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund, of which $950,000 is for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, $620,000 is for the Oakes irrigation research site, and $400,000 is for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority, except appropriation authority in the new and vacant FTE pool line items, within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

1. The sum of $475,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund for storage sheds in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws;
2. The sum of $1,700,000 appropriated from the general fund for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site project in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Summary of Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
Transportation Institute			
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less estimated income	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
General fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	(1.00)	42.88
Branch Research Centers			
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
FTE	111.81	(4.65)	107.16
NDSU Extension Service			
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less estimated income	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
FTE	252.70	2.74	255.44
Northern Crops Institute			
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	0.20	18.35
Main Research Center			
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$21,486,790	$137,634,920
Less estimated income	58,022,465	17,122,229	75,144,694
General fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
FTE	358.47	6.08	364.55
Agronomy Seed Farm			
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	47,274	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	0.00	3.00
Bill total			
Total all funds	$249,802,173	$30,493,709	$280,295,882
Less estimated income	132,792,191	21,524,089	154,316,280
General fund	$117,009,982	$8,969,620	$125,979,602
FTE	788.01	3.37	791.38

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Transportation Institute - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$266,019	$266,019
Upper Great Plains Trans. Institute	$24,807,516	521,955	25,329,471
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less estimated income	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
General fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Department 627 - Transportation Institute - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[1]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool[2]	Removes Vacant FTE Position[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool				$266,019	$266,019
Upper Great Plains Trans. Institute	$719,877	$339,241	($157,136)	(380,027)	521,955
Total all funds	$719,877	$339,241	($157,136)	($114,008)	$787,974
Less estimated income	507,163	236,946	(157,136)	(79,883)	507,090
General fund	$212,714	$102,295	$0	($34,125)	$280,884
FTE	0.00	0.00	(1.00)	0.00	(1.00)

[1] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$141,039	$314,606	$455,645
Health insurance increase	71,675	192,557	264,232
Total	$212,714	$507,163	$719,877

[2] Funding is added to replace 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool funding.

[3] Removes a vacant FTE program assistant position.

[4] Funding of $380,027 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $266,019 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Vacant FTE positions	($113,749)	($266,278)	($380,027)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	79,624	186,395	266,019
Net savings	($34,125)	($79,883)	($114,008)

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Branch Research Centers - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$999,674	$999,674
Dickinson Research Center	$7,379,838	355,827	7,735,665
Central Grasslands Research Center	3,618,270	88,766	3,707,036
Hettinger Research Center	5,381,248	160,658	5,541,906
Langdon Research Center	3,195,869	280,058	3,475,927
North Central Research Center	5,355,217	122,311	5,477,528
Williston Research Center	5,527,125	186,785	5,713,910
Carrington Research Center	10,191,002	328,102	10,519,104
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
FTE	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Department 628 - Branch Research Centers - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts FTE Authorization[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Adds Funding for Information Technology Rate Increases[5]	Adjusts Funding for Bond Payments[6]
New and vacant FTE pool				$999,674		
Dickinson Research Center		$198,821	$349,802	(198,196)	$5,400	
Central Grasslands Research Center		99,702	101,756	(93,916)	5,520	($24,296)
Hettinger Research Center		178,703	152,764	(176,329)	5,520	
Langdon Research Center		137,780	272,910	(136,152)	5,520	
North Central Research Center		176,012	152,059	(171,848)	5,520	(39,432)
Williston Research Center		239,777	179,941	(238,453)	5,520	
Carrington Research Center		425,895	309,899	(413,212)	5,520	
Total all funds	$0	$1,456,690	$1,519,131	($428,432)	$38,520	($63,728)
Less estimated income	0	369,844	319,812	(103,869)	19,425	0
General fund	$0	$1,086,846	$1,199,319	($324,563)	$19,095	($63,728)
FTE	(4.65)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool	$999,674
Dickinson Research Center	355,827
Central Grasslands Research Center	88,766
Hettinger Research Center	160,658
Langdon Research Center	280,058
North Central Research Center	122,311
Williston Research Center	186,785
Carrington Research Center	328,102
Total all funds	$2,522,181
Less estimated income	605,212
General fund	$1,916,969
FTE	(4.65)

[1] FTE positions are adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$625,768	$188,357	$814,125
Health insurance increase	461,078	181,487	642,565
Total	$1,086,846	$369,844	$1,456,690

[3] Funding is added to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2023-25 new FTE pool	$386,000		$386,000
2023-25 vacant FTE pool	813,319	$319,812	1,133,131
Total	$1,199,319	$319,812	$1,519,131

[4] Funding of $1,428,106 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $999,674 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Dickinson Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($198,196)		($198,196)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	138,737	$0	138,737
Net savings	($59,459)	$0	($59,459)
Central Grasslands Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($93,916)		($93,916)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	65,741	$0	65,741
Net savings	($28,175)	$0	($28,175)
Hettinger Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($137,151)	($39,178)	($176,329)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	96,006	27,425	123,431
Net savings	($41,145)	($11,753)	($52,898)
Langdon Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($112,055)	($24,097)	($136,152)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	78,439	16,868	95,307
Net savings	($33,616)	($7,229)	($40,845)
North Central Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($106,362)	($65,486)	($171,848)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	74,453	45,840	120,293
Net savings	($31,909)	($19,646)	($51,555)
Williston Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($196,836)	($41,617)	($238,453)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	137,785	29,132	166,917
Net savings	($59,051)	($12,485)	($71,536)
Carrington Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($237,360)	($175,852)	($413,212)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	166,152	123,096	289,248
Net savings	($71,208)	($52,756)	($123,964)
Branch Research Centers			
Vacant FTE positions	($1,081,876)	($346,230)	($1,428,106)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	757,313	242,361	999,674
Net savings	($324,563)	($103,869)	($428,432)

[5] Adds $19,095 from the general fund and $19,425 from special funds for information technology rate increases.

[6] Removes funding for bond payments at the Central Grasslands Research Center ($24,296) and the North Central Research Center ($39,432).

Senate Bill No. 2020 - NDSU Extension Service - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$3,053,795	$3,053,795
Extension Service	$59,478,945	944,303	60,423,248
Soil Conservation Committee	1,361,520		1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less estimated income	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
FTE	252.70	2.74	255.44

Department 630 - NDSU Extension Service - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts Funding for Base Payroll Changes[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool				$3,053,795	$3,053,795
Extension Service	($2,064,992)	$3,517,314	$3,854,545	(4,362,564)	944,303
Soil Conservation Committee					
Total all funds	($2,064,992)	$3,517,314	$3,854,545	($1,308,769)	$3,998,098
Less estimated income	(450,138)	1,702,115	1,763,198	(625,819)	2,389,356
General fund	($1,614,854)	$1,815,199	$2,091,347	($682,950)	$1,608,742
FTE	2.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.74

[1] Funding is adjusted for base payroll changes. FTE positions are also adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$1,094,432	$964,019	$2,058,451
Health insurance increase	720,767	738,096	1,458,863
Total	$1,815,199	$1,702,115	$3,517,314

[3] Funding is added to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2023-25 new FTE pool	$410,000		$410,000
2023-25 vacant FTE pool	1,681,347	$1,763,198	3,444,545
Total	$2,091,347	$1,763,198	$3,854,545

[4] Funding of $4,362,564is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $3,053,795 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Vacant FTE positions	($2,276,499)	($2,086,065)	($4,362,564)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	1,593,549	1,460,246	3,053,795
Net savings	($682,950)	($625,819)	($1,308,769)

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Northern Crops Institute - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$101,995	$101,995
Northern Crops Institute	$5,724,771	1,549,397	7,274,168
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	0.20	18.35

Department 638 - Northern Crops Institute - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts FTE authorization[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[5]	Adds One-Time Funding for a Protein Extraction and Air Classification System[6]
New and vacant FTE pool				$101,995		
Northern Crops Institute		$287,387	$119,317	(145,707)	$938,400	$350,000
Total all funds	$0	$287,387	$119,317	($43,712)	$938,400	$350,000
Less estimated income	0	167,489	60,680	(24,841)	299,600	350,000
General fund	$0	$119,898	$58,637	($18,871)	$638,800	$0
FTE	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool	$101,995
Northern Crops Institute	1,549,397
Total all funds	$1,651,392
Less estimated income	852,928
General fund	$798,464
FTE	0.20

[1] FTE positions are adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$76,883	$96,404	$173,287
Health insurance increase	43,015	71,085	114,100
Total	$119,898	$167,489	$287,387

[3] Funding is added to replace 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool funding.

[4] Funding of $145,707 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $101,995 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Vacant FTE positions	($62,903)	($82,804)	($145,707)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	44,032	57,963	101,995
Net savings	($18,871)	($24,841)	($43,712)

[5] Funding is added for operating expenses at the Peltier Complex.

[6] Adds one-time funding from the strategic investment and improvements fund for a pilot-scale mill and air classification system to separate protein, starch, and fiber.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Main Research Center - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$5,060,201	$5,060,201
Main Research Center	$116,148,130	16,426,589	132,574,719
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$21,486,790	$137,634,920
Less estimated income	58,022,465	17,122,229	75,144,694
General fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
FTE	358.47	6.08	364.55

Department 640 - Main Research Center - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts Funding for Base Payroll Changes[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Adds Funding for FTE Veterinary Position[4]	Removes Vacant FTE Positions[5]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[6]
New and vacant FTE pool						$5,060,201
Main Research Center	($938,345)	$5,337,004	$5,559,202	$275,000	($1,191,067)	(7,150,286)
Total all funds	($938,345)	$5,337,004	$5,559,202	$275,000	($1,191,067)	($2,090,085)
Less estimated income	291,232	2,043,975	1,844,395	0	(50,656)	(772,973)
General fund	($1,229,577)	$3,293,029	$3,714,807	$275,000	($1,140,411)	($1,317,112)
FTE	10.06	0.00	0.00	1.00	(4.98)	0.00

	Adjusts Funding for Bond Payments[7]	Adjusts Funding for Operating Expenses, Repairs, and Travel[8]	Adjusts Funding for Temporary Salaries[9]	Adjusts Funding Source for Salaries[10]	Adds One-Time Funding for the Oakes Irrigation Research Site[11]	Adds One-Time Funding for the Langdon Seed Conditioning Plant[12]
New and vacant FTE pool						
Main Research Center	($178,477)	($1,394,344)	($429,598)		$620,000	$2,600,000
Total all funds	($178,477)	($1,394,344)	($429,598)	$0	$620,000	$2,600,000
Less estimated income	0	(1,074,146)	(429,598)	300,000	620,000	2,600,000
General fund	($178,477)	($320,198)	$0	($300,000)	$0	$0
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Adds One-Time Funding for Storage Sheds[13]	Adds One-Time Funding for the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site[14]	Adds One-Time Funding for an Equipment Storage Shed[15]	Adds One-Time Funding for a Swine Facility Renovation[16]	Adds One-Time Funding for a Greenhouse Addition[17]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool						$5,060,201
Main Research Center	$1,567,500	$2,300,000	$200,000	$6,000,000	$3,250,000	16,426,589
Total all funds	$1,567,500	$2,300,000	$200,000	$6,000,000	$3,250,000	$21,486,790
Less estimated income	0	2,300,000	200,000	6,000,000	3,250,000	17,122,229
General fund	$1,567,500	$0	$0	$0	$0	$4,364,561
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.08

[1] Funding is adjusted for base payroll changes. FTE positions are also adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$2,067,139	$1,191,857	$3,258,996
Health insurance increase	1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008
Total	$3,293,029	$2,043,975	$5,337,004

[3] Funding is added to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2023-25 new FTE pool	$220,000		$220,000
2023-25 vacant FTE pool	3,494,807	$1,844,395	5,339,202
Total	$3,714,807	$1,844,395	$5,559,202

[4] Adds funding for an FTE veterinary toxicology resident position.

[5] The following vacant FTE positions and related salaries and wages are removed:

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Special Funds	Total
Nutritional epigenetics associate professor	0.70	$169,530		$169,530
Assistant professor	0.90	217,574		217,574
Assistant professor	0.80	250,624		250,624
Associate professor	0.90	241,278		241,278
Communication and outreach coordinator	0.68	109,438		109,438
Physiology lab coordinator	1.00	151,967	$50,656	202,623
Total	4.98	$1,140,411	$50,656	$1,191,067

[6] Funding of $7,150,286 is removed for estimated savings from new and vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $5,060,201 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
New FTE positions	($275,000)		($275,000)
Vacant FTE positions	(4,298,707)	($2,576,579)	(6,875,286)
Total	($4,573,707)	($2,576,579)	($7,150,286)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	3,256,595	1,803,606	5,060,201
Net savings	($1,317,112)	($772,973)	($2,090,085)

[7] Removes funding for bond payments.

[8] Adjusts base level funding for operating expenses ($967,487), repairs ($200,000), and travel ($226,857).

[9] Adjusts base funding for temporary salaries.

[10] Adjusts funding source for graduate assistant salaries from the general fund to the Main Research Center fund.

[11] Adds one-time funding from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) to complete the Oakes Irrigation Research Site.

[12] Adds one-time funding from SIIF ($950,000) and local funds ($1,650,000) for a seed conditioning plant at the Langdon Research Center.

[13] Adds one-time funding from the general fund for equipment storage sheds at the Dickinson Research Center, the Central Grasslands Research Center, and the Carrington Research Center.

[14] Adds one-time funding from SIIF ($400,000) and local funds ($1,900,000) to complete the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site project.

[15] Adds one-time funding from local funds for an equipment storage shed at the Williston Research Center.

[16] Adds one-time funding from local funds for the renovation of the Swine Research and Teaching Center.

[17] Adds one-time funding from local funds for an addition to the Jack Dalrymple Agricultural Research Complex.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Agronomy Seed Farm - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$7,343	$7,343
Agronomy Seed Farm	$1,632,722	39,931	1,672,653
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	47,274	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	0.00	3.00

Department 649 - Agronomy Seed Farm - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[1]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool[2]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool			$7,343	$7,343
Agronomy Seed Farm	$42,109	$8,312	(10,490)	39,931
Total all funds	$42,109	$8,312	($3,147)	$47,274
Less estimated income	42,109	8,312	(3,147)	47,274
General fund	$0	$0	$0	$0
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	Other Funds
Salary increase	$24,093
Health insurance increase	18,016
Total	$42,109

[2] Funding is added from local funds to replace 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool funding.

[3] Funding of $10,490 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $7,343 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item resulting in net savings of $3,147.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Other Changes - Senate Action

- A section is added regarding the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.
- A section is added to identify $2,320,000 from SIIF, including $350,000 for the Northern Crops Institute protein extraction and air classification system and $1,970,000 for the Main Research Center for the Langdon Research Center seed conditioning plant ($950,000), the Oakes irrigation research site ($620,000), and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site ($400,000).
- A section is added to provide the Main Research Center exemptions to continue funding appropriated in previous biennium into the 2025-27 biennium. The exemptions relate to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site and the branch research center storage sheds.

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Harvest Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
2/10/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

9:09 a.m. Chairman Bekkedahl opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman Bekkedahl, Vice-Chairman Erbele, and Senators Burckhard, Cleary, Conley, Davison, Dever, Dwyer, Magrum, Mathern, Meyer, Schaible, Sickler, Sorvaag, Thomas, Wanzek.

Discussion Topics:

- General Fund vs. SIIF Fund Allocation
- Committee Action

9:10 a.m. Senator Erbele introduced the bill, the amendment LC 25.0187.01003, and submitted testimony #36646.

9:21 a.m. Senator Erbele moved amendment LC 25.0187.01003.

9:22 a.m. Senator Wanzek seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Jeffery J. Magrum	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Y
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y

Motion Passed 16-0-0.

9:24 a.m. Senator Erbele moved a Do Pass as Amended.

9:24 a.m. Senator Wanzek seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Jeffery J. Magrum	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Y
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y

Motion Passed 16-0-0.

Senator Erbele will carry the bill.

9:25 a.m. Chairman Bekkedahl closed the hearing.

Elizabeth Reiten, Committee Clerk

25.0187.01003
Title.02000
Fiscal No. 3

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Senate Appropriations - Government Operations Division Committee
February 5, 2025

2-10-25
SB 1 of 9

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

~~NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE~~

	~~Base Level~~	~~Adjustments or Enhancements~~	~~Appropriation~~

HB 2009

Extension service	$59,478,945	$0	$59,478,945
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$0	$60,840,465
Less other funds	29,049,776	0	29,049,776
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$0	$31,790,689
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	0.00	252.70

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Less other funds	3,541,116	0	3,541,116
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$0	$2,183,655
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.00	18.15

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Less other funds	19,581,141	0	19,581,141
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$0	$5,226,375
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130

HB 3009

Less other funds	58,022,465	0	58,022,465
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$0	$58,125,665
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	0.00	358.47

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$0	$7,379,838
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	0	3,618,270
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	0	5,381,248
Langdon research center	3,195,869	0	3,195,869
North Central research center	5,355,217	0	5,355,217
Williston research center	5,527,125	0	5,527,125
Carrington research center	10,191,002	0	10,191,002
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$0	$40,648,569
Less other funds	20,964,971	0	20,964,971
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$0	$19,683,598
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	0.00	111.81

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$0	$1,632,722
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$0	$1,632,722
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$0	$249,802,173
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	0	132,792,191

HB 1009

~~Grand total general fund~~	~~$117,009,982~~	~~$0~~	~~$117,009,982~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~788.01~~	~~0.00~~	~~788.01~~

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$944,303	$60,423,248
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
New and vacant FTE pool	0	3,053,795	3,053,795
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less other funds	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	2.74	255.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,549,397	$7,274,168
New and vacant FTE pool	0	101,995	101,995
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less other funds	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	0	266,019	266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less other funds	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231

Total general fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$16,426,589	$132,574,719
New and vacant FTE pool	0	5,060,201	5,060,201
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$21,486,790	$137,634,920
Less other funds	58,022,465	17,122,229	75,144,694
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	6.08	364.55

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$355,827	$7,735,665
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	88,766	3,707,036
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	160,658	5,541,906
Langdon research center	3,195,869	280,058	3,475,927
North Central research center	5,355,217	122,311	5,477,528
Williston research center	5,527,125	186,785	5,713,910
Carrington research center	10,191,002	328,102	10,519,104
New and vacant FTE pool	0	999,674	999,674
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less other funds	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$39,931	$1,672,653
New and vacant FTE pool	0	7,343	7,343
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$30,493,709	$280,295,882
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	21,524,089	154,316,280
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$8,969,620	$125,979,602
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	3.37	791.38

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which each entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

One-Time Funding Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Northern crops institute			
Protein extraction and air classification system	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Total northern crops institute	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Main research center			
Equipment storage sheds	$1,567,500	$0	$1,567,500
Oakes irrigation research site interior	0	620,000	620,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000	2,600,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site	0	2,300,000	2,300,000
Williston research center storage shed	0	200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation	0	6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition	0	3,250,000	3,250,000

Total main research center	$1,567,500	$14,970,000	$16,537,550
Grand total	$1,567,500	$15,320,000	$16,887,500

SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST. The North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 7. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The other funds line item in subdivision 4 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of $1,970,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund, of which $950,000 is for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, $620,000 is for the Oakes irrigation research site, and $400,000 is for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority, except appropriation authority in the new and vacant FTE pool line items, within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

1. The sum of $475,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund for storage sheds in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws;
2. The sum of $1,700,000 appropriated from the general fund for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site project in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive

video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SB 2020

Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS (25.0187.01003)** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (16 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2020 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

25.0187.01003
Title.
Fiscal No. 3

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Senate Appropriations - Government Operations Division Committee
February 5, 2025

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

~~NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE~~

		~~Adjustments or~~	
	~~Base Level~~	~~Enhancements~~	~~Appropriation~~
~~Extension service~~	~~$59,478,945~~	~~$0~~	~~$59,478,945~~
~~Soil conservation committee~~	~~1,361,520~~	~~0~~	~~1,361,520~~
~~Total all funds~~	~~$60,840,465~~	~~$0~~	~~$60,840,465~~

Less other funds	29,049,776	0	29,049,776
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$0	$31,790,689
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	0.00	252.70

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Adjustments or Base Level	Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Less other funds	3,541,116	0	3,541,116
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$0	$2,183,655
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.00	18.15

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Adjustments or Base Level	Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Less other funds	19,581,141	0	19,581,141
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$0	$5,226,375
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Adjustments or Base Level	Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Less other funds	58,022,465	0	58,022,465
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$0	$58,125,665
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	0.00	358.47

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Adjustments or Base Level	Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$0	$7,379,838
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	0	3,618,270
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	0	5,381,248
Langdon research center	3,195,869	0	3,195,869
North Central research center	5,355,217	0	5,355,217
Williston research center	5,527,125	0	5,527,125
Carrington research center	10,191,002	0	10,191,002
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$0	$40,648,569
Less other funds	20,964,971	0	20,964,971
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$0	$19,683,598
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	0.00	111.81

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Adjustments or Base Level	Enhancements	Appropriation

~~Agronomy seed farm~~	~~$1,632,722~~	~~$0~~	~~$1,632,722~~
~~Total special funds~~	~~$1,632,722~~	~~$0~~	~~$1,632,722~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~3.00~~	~~0.00~~	~~3.00~~

~~Subdivision 7.~~

~~SECTION 1 TOTAL~~

	~~Base Level~~	~~Adjustments or Enhancements~~	~~Appropriation~~
~~Grand total all funds~~	~~$249,802,173~~	~~$0~~	~~$249,802,173~~
~~Less grand total other funds~~	~~132,792,191~~	~~0~~	~~132,792,191~~
~~Grand total general fund~~	~~$117,009,982~~	~~$0~~	~~$117,009,982~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~788.01~~	~~0.00~~	~~788.01~~

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$944,303	$60,423,248
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
New and vacant FTE pool	0	3,053,795	3,053,795
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less other funds	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	2.74	255.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,549,397	$7,274,168
New and vacant FTE pool	0	101,995	101,995
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less other funds	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation

Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	0	266,019	266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less other funds	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$16,426,589	$132,574,719
New and vacant FTE pool	0	5,060,201	5,060,201
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$21,486,790	$137,634,920
Less other funds	58,022,465	17,122,229	75,144,694
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	6.08	364.55

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$355,827	$7,735,665
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	88,766	3,707,036
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	160,658	5,541,906
Langdon research center	3,195,869	280,058	3,475,927
North Central research center	5,355,217	122,311	5,477,528
Williston research center	5,527,125	186,785	5,713,910
Carrington research center	10,191,002	328,102	10,519,104
New and vacant FTE pool	0	999,674	999,674
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less other funds	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183

Total general fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$39,931	$1,672,653
New and vacant FTE pool	0	7,343	7,343
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$30,493,709	$280,295,882
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	21,524,089	154,316,280
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$8,969,620	$125,979,602
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	3.37	791.38

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which each entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

One-Time Funding Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Northern crops institute			
Protein extraction and air classification system	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Total northern crops institute	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Main research center			
Equipment storage sheds	$1,567,500	$0	$1,567,500
Oakes irrigation research site interior	0	620,000	620,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000	2,600,000

Nesson Valley irrigation research site	0	2,300,000	2,300,000
Williston research center storage shed	0	200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation	0	6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition	0	3,250,000	3,250,000
Total main research center	$1,567,500	$14,970,000	$16,537,550
Grand total	$1,567,500	$15,320,000	$16,887,500

SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST. The North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main

research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 7. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The other funds line item in subdivision 4 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of $1,970,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund, of which $950,000 is for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, $620,000 is for the Oakes irrigation research site, and $400,000 is for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority, except appropriation authority in the new and vacant FTE pool line items, within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

1. The sum of $475,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund for storage sheds in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws;

2. The sum of $1,700,000 appropriated from the general fund for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site project in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Summary of Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
Transportation Institute			
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less estimated income	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
General fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	(1.00)	42.88
Branch Research Centers			
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
FTE	111.81	(4.65)	107.16
NDSU Extension Service			
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less estimated income	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
FTE	252.70	2.74	255.44
Northern Crops Institute			
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	0.20	18.35
Main Research Center			
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$21,486,790	$137,634,920
Less estimated income	58,022,465	17,122,229	75,144,694
General fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
FTE	358.47	6.08	364.55
Agronomy Seed Farm			
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	47,274	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	0.00	3.00
Bill total			
Total all funds	$249,802,173	$30,493,709	$280,295,882
Less estimated income	132,792,191	21,524,089	154,316,280
General fund	$117,009,982	$8,969,620	$125,979,602
FTE	788.01	3.37	791.38

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Transportation Institute - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$266,019	$266,019
Upper Great Plains Trans. Institute	$24,807,516	521,955	25,329,471
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less estimated income	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
General fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Department 627 - Transportation Institute - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[1]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool[2]	Removes Vacant FTE Position[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool				$266,019	$266,019
Upper Great Plains Trans. Institute	$719,877	$339,241	($157,136)	(380,027)	521,955
Total all funds	$719,877	$339,241	($157,136)	($114,008)	$787,974
Less estimated income	507,163	236,946	(157,136)	(79,883)	507,090
General fund	$212,714	$102,295	$0	($34,125)	$280,884
FTE	0.00	0.00	(1.00)	0.00	(1.00)

[1] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$141,039	$314,606	$455,645
Health insurance increase	71,675	192,557	264,232
Total	$212,714	$507,163	$719,877

[2] Funding is added to replace 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool funding.

[3] Removes a vacant FTE program assistant position.

[4] Funding of $380,027 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $266,019 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Vacant FTE positions	($113,749)	($266,278)	($380,027)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	79,624	186,395	266,019
Net savings	($34,125)	($79,883)	($114,008)

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Branch Research Centers - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$999,674	$999,674
Dickinson Research Center	$7,379,838	355,827	7,735,665
Central Grasslands Research Center	3,618,270	88,766	3,707,036
Hettinger Research Center	5,381,248	160,658	5,541,906
Langdon Research Center	3,195,869	280,058	3,475,927
North Central Research Center	5,355,217	122,311	5,477,528
Williston Research Center	5,527,125	186,785	5,713,910
Carrington Research Center	10,191,002	328,102	10,519,104
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
FTE	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Department 628 - Branch Research Centers - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts FTE Authorization[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Adds Funding for Information Technology Rate Increases[5]	Adjusts Funding for Bond Payments[6]
New and vacant FTE pool				$999,674		
Dickinson Research Center		$198,821	$349,802	(198,196)	$5,400	
Central Grasslands Research Center		99,702	101,756	(93,916)	5,520	($24,296)
Hettinger Research Center		178,703	152,764	(176,329)	5,520	
Langdon Research Center		137,780	272,910	(136,152)	5,520	
North Central Research Center		176,012	152,059	(171,848)	5,520	(39,432)
Williston Research Center		239,777	179,941	(238,453)	5,520	
Carrington Research Center		425,895	309,899	(413,212)	5,520	
Total all funds	$0	$1,456,690	$1,519,131	($428,432)	$38,520	($63,728)
Less estimated income	0	369,844	319,812	(103,869)	19,425	0
General fund	$0	$1,086,846	$1,199,319	($324,563)	$19,095	($63,728)
FTE	(4.65)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool	$999,674
Dickinson Research Center	355,827
Central Grasslands Research Center	88,766
Hettinger Research Center	160,658
Langdon Research Center	280,058
North Central Research Center	122,311
Williston Research Center	186,785
Carrington Research Center	328,102
Total all funds	$2,522,181
Less estimated income	605,212
General fund	$1,916,969
FTE	(4.65)

[1] FTE positions are adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$625,768	$188,357	$814,125
Health insurance increase	461,078	181,487	642,565
Total	$1,086,846	$369,844	$1,456,690

[3] Funding is added to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2023-25 new FTE pool	$386,000		$386,000
2023-25 vacant FTE pool	813,319	$319,812	1,133,131
Total	$1,199,319	$319,812	$1,519,131

[4] Funding of $1,428,106 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $999,674 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Dickinson Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($198,196)		($198,196)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	138,737	$0	138,737
Net savings	($59,459)	$0	($59,459)
Central Grasslands Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($93,916)		($93,916)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	65,741	$0	65,741
Net savings	($28,175)	$0	($28,175)
Hettinger Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($137,151)	($39,178)	($176,329)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	96,006	27,425	123,431
Net savings	($41,145)	($11,753)	($52,898)
Langdon Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($112,055)	($24,097)	($136,152)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	78,439	16,868	95,307
Net savings	($33,616)	($7,229)	($40,845)
North Central Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($106,362)	($65,486)	($171,848)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	74,453	45,840	120,293
Net savings	($31,909)	($19,646)	($51,555)
Williston Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($196,836)	($41,617)	($238,453)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	137,785	29,132	166,917
Net savings	($59,051)	($12,485)	($71,536)
Carrington Research Center			
Vacant FTE positions	($237,360)	($175,852)	($413,212)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	166,152	123,096	289,248
Net savings	($71,208)	($52,756)	($123,964)
Branch Research Centers			
Vacant FTE positions	($1,081,876)	($346,230)	($1,428,106)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	757,313	242,361	999,674
Net savings	($324,563)	($103,869)	($428,432)

[5] Adds $19,095 from the general fund and $19,425 from special funds for information technology rate increases.

[6] Removes funding for bond payments at the Central Grasslands Research Center ($24,296) and the North Central Research Center ($39,432).

Senate Bill No. 2020 - NDSU Extension Service - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$3,053,795	$3,053,795
Extension Service	$59,478,945	944,303	60,423,248
Soil Conservation Committee	1,361,520		1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less estimated income	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
FTE	252.70	2.74	255.44

Department 630 - NDSU Extension Service - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts Funding for Base Payroll Changes[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool				$3,053,795	$3,053,795
Extension Service	($2,064,992)	$3,517,314	$3,854,545	(4,362,564)	944,303
Soil Conservation Committee					
Total all funds	($2,064,992)	$3,517,314	$3,854,545	($1,308,769)	$3,998,098
Less estimated income	(450,138)	1,702,115	1,763,198	(625,819)	2,389,356
General fund	($1,614,854)	$1,815,199	$2,091,347	($682,950)	$1,608,742
FTE	2.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.74

[1] Funding is adjusted for base payroll changes. FTE positions are also adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$1,094,432	$964,019	$2,058,451
Health insurance increase	720,767	738,096	1,458,863
Total	$1,815,199	$1,702,115	$3,517,314

[3] Funding is added to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2023-25 new FTE pool	$410,000		$410,000
2023-25 vacant FTE pool	1,681,347	$1,763,198	3,444,545
Total	$2,091,347	$1,763,198	$3,854,545

[4] Funding of $4,362,564 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $3,053,795 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Vacant FTE positions	($2,276,499)	($2,086,065)	($4,362,564)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	1,593,549	1,460,246	3,053,795
Net savings	($682,950)	($625,819)	($1,308,769)

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Northern Crops Institute - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$101,995	$101,995
Northern Crops Institute	$5,724,771	1,549,397	7,274,168
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	0.20	18.35

Department 638 - Northern Crops Institute - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts FTE authorization[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[4]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[5]	Adds One-Time Funding for a Protein Extraction and Air Classification System[6]
New and vacant FTE pool				$101,995		
Northern Crops Institute		$287,387	$119,317	(145,707)	$938,400	$350,000
Total all funds	$0	$287,387	$119,317	($43,712)	$938,400	$350,000
Less estimated income	0	167,489	60,680	(24,841)	299,600	350,000
General fund	$0	$119,898	$58,637	($18,871)	$638,800	$0
FTE	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool	$101,995
Northern Crops Institute	1,549,397
Total all funds	$1,651,392
Less estimated income	852,928
General fund	$798,464
FTE	0.20

[1] FTE positions are adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$76,883	$96,404	$173,287
Health insurance increase	43,015	71,085	114,100
Total	$119,898	$167,489	$287,387

[3] Funding is added to replace 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool funding.

[4] Funding of $145,707 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $101,995 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Vacant FTE positions	($62,903)	($82,804)	($145,707)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	44,032	57,963	101,995
Net savings	($18,871)	($24,841)	($43,712)

[5] Funding is added for operating expenses at the Peltier Complex.

[6] Adds one-time funding from local funds for a pilot-scale mill and air classification system to separate protein, starch, and fiber.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Main Research Center - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$5,060,201	$5,060,201
Main Research Center	$116,148,130	16,426,589	132,574,719
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$21,486,790	$137,634,920
Less estimated income	58,022,465	17,122,229	75,144,694
General fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
FTE	358.47	6.08	364.55

Department 640 - Main Research Center - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adjusts Funding for Base Payroll Changes[1]	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[2]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Adds Funding for FTE Veterinary Position[4]	Removes Vacant FTE Positions[5]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[6]
New and vacant FTE pool						$5,060,201
Main Research Center	($938,345)	$5,337,004	$5,559,202	$275,000	($1,191,067)	(7,150,286)
Total all funds	($938,345)	$5,337,004	$5,559,202	$275,000	($1,191,067)	($2,090,085)
Less estimated income	291,232	2,043,975	1,844,395	0	(50,656)	(772,973)
General fund	($1,229,577)	$3,293,029	$3,714,807	$275,000	($1,140,411)	($1,317,112)
FTE	10.06	0.00	0.00	1.00	(4.98)	0.00

	Adjusts Funding for Bond Payments[7]	Adjusts Funding for Operating Expenses, Repairs, and Travel[8]	Adjusts Funding for Temporary Salaries[9]	Adjusts Funding Source for Salaries[10]	Adds One-Time Funding for the Oakes Irrigation Research Site[11]	Adds One-Time Funding for the Langdon Seed Conditioning Plant[12]
New and vacant FTE pool						
Main Research Center	($178,477)	($1,394,344)	($429,598)		$620,000	$2,600,000
Total all funds	($178,477)	($1,394,344)	($429,598)	$0	$620,000	$2,600,000
Less estimated income	0	(1,074,146)	(429,598)	300,000	620,000	2,600,000
General fund	($178,477)	($320,198)	$0	($300,000)	$0	$0
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Adds One-Time Funding for Storage Sheds[13]	Adds One-Time Funding for the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site[14]	Adds One-Time Funding for an Equipment Storage Shed[15]	Adds One-Time Funding for a Swine Facility Renovation[16]	Adds One-Time Funding for a Greenhouse Addition[17]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool						$5,060,201
Main Research Center	$1,567,500	$2,300,000	$200,000	$6,000,000	$3,250,000	16,426,589
Total all funds	$1,567,500	$2,300,000	$200,000	$6,000,000	$3,250,000	$21,486,790
Less estimated income	0	2,300,000	200,000	6,000,000	3,250,000	17,122,229
General fund	$1,567,500	$0	$0	$0	$0	$4,364,561
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.08

[1] Funding is adjusted for base payroll changes. FTE positions are also adjusted to reflect changes made pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023).

[2] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	$2,067,139	$1,191,857	$3,258,996
Health insurance increase	1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008
Total	$3,293,029	$2,043,975	$5,337,004

[3] Funding is added to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2023-25 new FTE pool	$220,000		$220,000
2023-25 vacant FTE pool	3,494,807	$1,844,395	5,339,202
Total	$3,714,807	$1,844,395	$5,559,202

[4] Adds funding for an FTE veterinary toxicology resident position.

[5] The following vacant FTE positions and related salaries and wages are removed:

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Special Funds	Total
Nutritional epigenetics associate professor	0.70	$169,530		$169,530
Assistant professor	0.90	217,574		217,574
Assistant professor	0.80	250,624		250,624
Associate professor	0.90	241,278		241,278
Communication and outreach coordinator	0.68	109,438		109,438
Physiology lab coordinator	1.00	151,967	$50,656	202,623
Total	4.98	$1,140,411	$50,656	$1,191,067

[6] Funding of $7,150,286 is removed for estimated savings from new and vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $5,060,201 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
New FTE positions	($275,000)		($275,000)
Vacant FTE positions	(4,298,707)	($2,576,579)	(6,875,286)
Total	($4,573,707)	($2,576,579)	($7,150,286)
New and vacant FTE pool line item	3,256,595	1,803,606	5,060,201
Net savings	($1,317,112)	($772,973)	($2,090,085)

[7] Removes funding for bond payments.

[8] Adjusts base level funding for operating expenses ($967,487), repairs ($200,000), and travel ($226,857).

[9] Adjusts base funding for temporary salaries.

[10] Adjusts funding source for graduate assistant salaries from the general fund to the Main Research Center fund.

[11] Adds one-time funding from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) to complete the Oakes Irrigation Research Site.

[12] Adds one-time funding from SIIF ($950,000) and local funds ($1,650,000) for a seed conditioning plant at the Langdon Research Center.

[13] Adds one-time funding from the general fund for equipment storage sheds at the Dickinson Research Center, the Central Grasslands Research Center, and the Carrington Research Center.

[14] Adds one-time funding from SIIF ($400,000) and local funds ($1,900,000) to complete the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site project.

[15] Adds one-time funding from local funds for an equipment storage shed at the Williston Research Center.

[16] Adds one-time funding from local funds for the renovation of the Swine Research and Teaching Center.

[17] Adds one-time funding from local funds for an addition to the Jack Dalrymple Agricultural Research Complex.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Agronomy Seed Farm - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$7,343	$7,343
Agronomy Seed Farm	$1,632,722	39,931	1,672,653
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	47,274	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	0.00	3.00

Department 649 - Agronomy Seed Farm - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases[1]	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool[2]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[3]	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool			$7,343	$7,343
Agronomy Seed Farm	$42,109	$8,312	(10,490)	39,931
Total all funds	$42,109	$8,312	($3,147)	$47,274
Less estimated income	42,109	8,312	(3,147)	47,274
General fund	$0	$0	$0	$0
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month:

	Other Funds
Salary increase	$24,093
Health insurance increase	18,016
Total	$42,109

[2] Funding is added from local funds to replace 2023-25 biennium vacant FTE pool funding.

[3] Funding of $10,490 is removed for estimated savings from vacant 2025-27 FTE positions and $7,343 is added for a new and vacant FTE pool line item resulting in net savings of $3,147.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Other Changes - Senate Action

A section is added:

- Regarding the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.
- To identify $1,970,000 from SIIF for the Main Research Center for the Langdon Research Center seed conditioning plant ($950,000), the Oakes irrigation research site ($620,000), and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site ($400,000).
- To provide the Main Research Center exemptions to continue funding appropriated in previous biennium into the 2025-27 biennium. The exemptions relate to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site and the branch research center storage sheds.

2025 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2020

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
3/11/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

8:31 a.m. Chairman Monson called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Chairman Monson, Vice Chair Brandenburg, Representatives: Bosch, Fisher, Kempenich, Meier, Pyle.

Discussion Topics:

- North Dakota Agriculture
- State Board of Agriculture Research and Education (SBARE)
- Research Extension Center (REC)
- Carbon impacts in ND
- Cropping system in ND
- Research and Extension Centers across ND
- ND Toxicologist
- North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association (NDCMA)
- Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL)
- Agronomy Research Study
- North Dakota Agricultural Coalition
- North Dakota Canola Oil

8:32 a.m. David Cook, President, North Dakota State University, testified in favor.

8:35 a.m. Sara Lovas, Chair, SBARE, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40262.

9:00 a.m. Gregory Lardy, Vice President, North Dakota State University, testified in neutral #40180 and referenced #40454.

9:41 a.m. Chairman Monson recessed the meeting.

9:52 a.m. Chairman Monson reconvened the meeting.

9:53 a.m. Mike Ostlie, Director, NDSU CREC, testified in favor and submitted testimony #39605.

10:03 a.m. Kevin Sedivec, Interim Director, North Dakota State University Central Grasslands REC, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40267 and #40268.

10:12 a.m. Chris Augustin, DREC Director, NDSU DREC, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40265.

10:18 am. Randy Mehlhoff, Agronomy Seed Farm Directors, Langdon REC, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40504.

10:33 a.m. Shana Forster, Acting Center Director, NDSU WREC, testified in favor and submitted testimony #39640 and #40034.

10:43 a.m. Christopher Shauer, Agronomy Seed Farm Directors, Hettinger REC, testified in favor.

10:55 a.m. Brian Otteson, Director, NDSU Agronomy Seed Farm, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40054.

10:59 a.m. Chairman Monson recessed the meeting.

11:07 a.m. Chairman Monson reconvened the meeting.

11:08 a.m. Allison Ritter, Veterinary, North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association, testified in favor.

11:09 a.m. Dr. Laura Beaudoin, North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40040.

11:17 a.m. Jeff Petersen, Owner, Pointe of View Winery and Souris Valley Vineyard, REC Advisory Board, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40218.

11:19 a.m. Curt Stanley, Sheep Farmer and Member, REC Advisory Board, testified in favor.

11:22 a.m. Karlee Rauschenberger, Member, Board of Visitors Members, North Central Research Extension Center, testified in favor and submitted testimony #39911.

11:27 a.m. Randy Albrecht, Owner, Wolf Creek Winery, testified in favor.

11:28 a.m. Alex Lahlum, 4-H Member and Ambassador, LaMoure County, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40314.

11:32 a.m. Grace Goettle, 4-H Member and Ambassador, Morton County, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40358.

11:37 a.m. Justin Topp, Farmer and Rancher, Grace City, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40253.

11:41 a.m. Thomas Wheeler, Farmer, Ray, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40082.

11:53 a.m. Jim Bahm, Chairman, North Dakota Agriculture Coalition, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40095.

12:00 p.m. Andrew Mauch, President, North Dakota Corn Growers Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony # 40411.

12:08 p.m. Ryan Pederson, Grain Farmer, ND Soybean Growers Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40603.

12:17 p.m. David Hill, Chair, ND State Soil Conservation Committee, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40038.

Additional written testimony:

#39536, #39666, #40068, #40077, #40126, #40163, #40180, #40194, #40236, #40270, #40344, #40369, #40394, #40419, #40420, #40447.

12:24 p.m. Chairman Monson closed the meeting.

Madaline Cooper, Committee Clerk

Anderson Seed Farms Inc.
Forman, ND

Chairman Monson and members of the House Appropriations, Government Operations Division

My name is Luke Anderson, I am part owner and operator Anderson Seed Farms Inc. in Forman, ND. I also am a representative on the advisory council for the Agronomy Seed farm in the SE District. Since 1958 we have produced, conditioned, and sold Certified Seed. We have raised many crops throughout our history and the origin of many of these varieties have come from the Agronomy Seed Farm in Casselton, ND. We have relied on the research and expertise of NDSU, NDSU Extension, ND Ag Experiment Station, and the Agronomy Seed Farm, to provide us with quality foundation seed varieties that have played a major role in our success as seed operation and the success of our farmer growers who have relied on the seed we produce.

The economic benefits that the Agronomy Seed Farm provides for seed producers in the state of North Dakota and surrounding region are greater than most realize. I can attest to this personally as a seed producer and farmer. Without the Agronomy Seed Farm's work in research trials and foundation seed production, area growers would not have the access to the scientific data and quality seed needed to grow NDSU seed varieties. This contribution creates an economic benefit to not only the state of North Dakota and NDSU, but also to the farmers of North Dakota and the surrounding region.

As a member of the Advisory council, I can also say that everyone at the Agronomy Seed Farm operates in the upmost professional manner. They are meticulous at not only producing clean and pure seed for farmers but also manage many research trials that provide seed growers and researchers important data on seed varieties.

In closing, I am asking for the approval of the Agronomy Seed Farm's budget. The Agronomy Seed Farm is self-supported and does not require any general fund appropriations which supports how efficient and successful the Agronomy Seed Farm has been for the people of the great state of North Dakota.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

Luke Anderson
President, Anderson Seed Farms Inc.
Southeast District Representative, Agronomy Seed Farm Advisory Council.

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Testimony to North Dakota House Appropriations Committee
March 11, 2025
North Dakota State University Carrington Research Extension Center
NDSU Agriculture Experiment Station & Research Extension Centers

Good morning, Chairman Monson and House Appropriations Committee members. My name is Mike Ostlie, Director of the Carrington Research Extension Center. Thank you for the opportunity to address your committee.

The Carrington Center staff are proud to be a part of the network of RECs, main campus researchers and Extension specialists working with crop and livestock producers to address today's agricultural needs. Starting on the second page of my packet, you will find a list of some of the impacts from CREC and collaborators from 2024. This is meant to provide a more detailed account of activity from the past year. As an example, our Plant Pathology program completed multi-site, multi-department research to improve fungicide efficacy in soybean and dry bean. This research led to the rapid adoption of low or no cost changes to application strategies, resulting in better disease control for producers at similar or reduced costs. We are requesting technical support for this program under SBARE AES Priority #6.

We sincerely thank you for your past support of capital projects to enhance our livestock research capabilities. These projects are crucial for North Dakota's livestock industry, particularly the utilization of feedstuffs from the growing biofuels industry and the promotion of livestock expansion in the state. As construction of these capital projects is at or near completion, our researchers are evaluating the increased inclusion of canola meal or hybrid rye in rations which appears to be a promising way to use more commodities locally. See also my impacts on page 2 handout to find out how much value ND producers would gain by feeding its cow herd to finish.

Thank you for securing the long-term future of the Oakes Irrigation Research Site. This site provides valuable data for high-yielding corn and soybean acres, including variety performance, water use efficiency, microbial inputs, and plant disease mitigation. Your support enabled the partial construction of a modern shop, lab, and office complex, with the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District funding the exterior and shop before donating the shell and land to NDSU. The local community and collaborative support throughout this endeavor has been rewarding to witness. This site wouldn't exist without everyone working together to realize this shared vision, almost 20 years in the making. The last phase of this project is completing the interior of this building, which is SBARE Capital Improvement Priority #1.

Our agronomic research and Foundation Seedstocks programs have expanded over the past decade, resulting in inadequate storage for research and field equipment. We request your support for the storage shed capital improvement project to protect our equipment from the elements and rodent exposure to maintain the longevity of expensive equipment.

Operational costs continue to rise, affecting all of agriculture. At the CREC, many of these costs are paid with grants, but grant opportunities are not increasing, and many operating and deferred maintenance costs are not allowed by grant sponsors. SBARE priority #4 would provide much-needed updates to equipment and ensure annual operational security for all teams at CREC. Our operating costs have increased 47% overall, and 95% for livestock research alone since 2021.

Mike Ostlie (701) 652-2951 Mike.Ostlie@ndsu.edu
Director - CREC

Carrington Research Extension Center Mission



- **Research programs** in Agronomy, Horticulture, Livestock, Organic Agriculture, Plant Pathology, Precision Agriculture, and Soil Science serving needs of local communities with priorities identified by our 13-county Advisory Board.
- **Extension programs** in Agronomy, Livestock, Precision Agriculture, Livestock Environmental Management serving statewide to promote unbiased best management practices suited to our region.
- **Locations** near Carrington, Oakes, Dazey, Wishek, and Fingal so that testing occurs in a wider region.
- **Experiments** are conducted in dryland, irrigated, and/or organic environments to represent growing conditions relevant to producer operations.
- **Foundation Seed** production for spring wheat, barley, durum, field pea, soybean, flax, and buckwheat to increase seed availability of the best varieties.
- **Providing local data** and best management practices since 1960.

Carrington Research Extension Center Impacts



Developing Profitable Cattle Feeding Strategies in Producer Feedout Studies.

- In 2024, producers averaged $200 per head additional profit from feeding cattle to finish in CREC research projects.
- If North Dakota fed 25% of its cow herds to finish, that would translate to $30 million net economic return to North Dakota cattle producers.
- In the Dakota Feeder Calf Show Feedout project, the average profitability difference between the top five herds and bottom five herds was $205.89 per head.



Twenty Different Foundation Seed Varieties were Produced in 2024.

- Crops produced included one barley, seven field peas, four spring wheats, three durums, two flaxes, and three soybeans.
- In total, 51,000 bushels of clean seed were produced in 2024 for distribution in 2025.
- ND Stampede is a new NDSU spring wheat variety with very high yields. Seed with very high quality will be available and released to the counties in 2025 through North Dakota Crop Improvement and Seed Association (NDCISA) allocations.



Train the trainer workshops were a success in 2024.

- CREC has provided leadership for the Advanced Crop Advisers workshop since 1993. In 2024, 150 participants attended and 97% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed their production recommendations would change as a result.
- The Getting-it-Right webinar series was organized by CREC and attended by over 500 people covering topics in soybean, dry bean, sunflower, and canola production. Participant evaluations indicated 81% of attendees increased knowledge and 83% would change practices due to the information received.

Fifty-seven people attended the reduced-tillage strategies session at Central Dakota Ag Day. Ninety percent of the respondents indicated they agree or strongly agree the session increased their knowledge and 77% of the respondents indicated they agree or strongly agree that they plan to act on what they learned.

Carrington Research Extension Center Impacts (cont.)

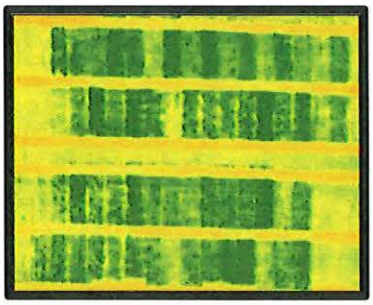


In 2024, the Northern Hardy Fruit Evaluation Project provided educational information to over 1,240 people with video conference programs, tours, meetings and personal phone calls. Field Day was attended by 55 people who learned about black rot fungus in apples. Horticultural expertise was also provided to other regions of the country including Alaska, Colorado, Minnesota and South Dakota.

Pathology researchers delivered disease management recommendations for field peas, chickpeas, dry beans, soybeans, and sunflowers to crop advisers, commercial agronomists, producers, and other stakeholders at winter production meetings and summer field tours, with a total direct audience of over 2,250 people across 15 events spanning five states and provinces (North Dakota, Minnesota, Manitoba, New York, Ontario).



NDSU Extension trained 65 professionals on how to safely respond to an animal disease outbreak or mass livestock mortality. One hundred percent of participants increased their confidence and ability to respond to an animal disease or mass livestock mortality event such as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) or livestock deaths due to natural disasters. Additionally, 96% of participants planned to make changes to be better prepared and better able to respond to animal diseases or mass livestock mortalities as a result of their participation in the training.



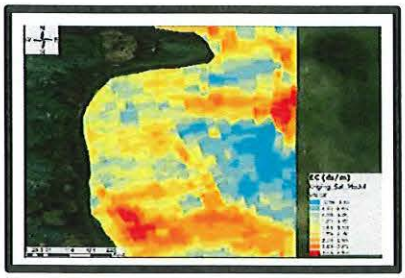
Split nitrogen (N) and sulfur (S) applications boost spring wheat yields and improve nitrogen use efficiency (NUE). Applying 10-20 lbs. of sulfur per acre increased wheat yields by 30.5%, even at the same nitrogen levels. Using split applications, with 25% less nitrogen, wheat yields were comparable to full nitrogen rates, saving on fertilizer costs. This approach not only increases wheat yield but also reduces environmental impact. Minnesota and North Dakota farmers can use this strategy to increase yields, reduce fertilizer use and expense, and promote sustainable farming practices.

The NDSU Extension Horse Management Webinar Series was held in spring 2024. Four webinars were presented to 309 individuals who joined live. Of 160 webinar poll respondents, 78% found the information shared either very or extremely useful. Recordings were viewed 679 times as of October 2024. Contacts for the webinar series increased by 930 individuals as compared to last year.



The CREC grew 22 different crops across seven locations, conducting extensive variety testing on 540 varieties. This included testing a diverse range of crops: 20 winter rye lines, 24 hard red winter wheat lines, 25 barley lines, 76 hard red spring wheat lines, 13 durum lines, 21 oat lines, 38 field pea lines, seven buckwheat lines, 17 flax lines, 37 canola lines, 19 corn silage lines, 65 corn lines, 35 edible bean lines, 76 soybean lines, and 67 sunflower lines. This testing provides local, non-biased data to make the best decision during variety selection.

Research demonstrated that field pea varieties differ in their tolerance to Aphanomyces and Fusarium root rot pressure, with some varieties capable of producing sharply higher yields without reductions in root rot severity. In studies conducted across 11 fields differing in Aphanomyces root rot pressure, the yield gains conferred by selecting a tolerant variety ranged from 3 to 20 bu/ac and averaged 14 bu/ac, with yield gains correlating closely to root rot pressure.



Salinity affects more than 1.9 million acres in North Dakota. Planting winter barley, winter rye, or winter camelina as spring cover crops one month before soybeans shows potential to improve soybean yields in saline soils. These cover crops can help to reduce salinity stress and support better soybean growth. While the yield increases (5-8%) are not yet statistically significant, these results offer practical steps toward managing salinity and improving sustainable soybean production.

The use of concrete surfaced pens did not impact finishing steers throughout the summer. Concrete surfaced pens can help improve footing during times of high moisture and mud, but comes at a higher cost than traditional dirt-surfaced pens. We found similar daily surface temperatures and similar activity levels of cattle fed on concrete and dirt-surface lots. During cattle finishing, concrete lots were not a detriment to cattle well-being or performance and could further benefit producers during cold, muddy times of the year.

One of the CREC's key ongoing projects is the development of an adapted sweet white lupin variety suited for the Northern Great Plains. Three promising lupin lines have been selected for seed increase, with plans for future variety release. Lupin, a highly nutritious legume, holds great potential as a plant-based protein source for food processing and can also serve as a beneficial alternative in crop rotation systems. CREC is currently engaged in discussions with potential producers, buyers, and processors of lupins in an effort to introduce this crop with commercial viability.



Variability in cattle feeding returns is discussed at the annual NDSU Feedlot School and at online backgrounding seminars. Producer knowledge of cattle feeding was increased by 33% from attending the Feedlot School. The backgrounding cattle seminars reached over 1,405 viewers.



Cover crop demonstration plots with 51 species were established and showcased at our annual Field Day and at the Cover Crops Field Training event in a vibrant display of the variety of available plant species that can be used for cover cropping. Constituents witnessed strengths and weaknesses of each species and the types of cropping systems that would best fit depending on factors such as desired planting date, available moisture, relay or intercropping, herbicide management considerations and cost.

A three-year study to evaluate winter pea adaptability in North Dakota was completed by testing fall planting dates and varieties. Year-to-year variability was substantial with winter kill ranging from 0-100% over the course of the study. Recommendations were updated to indicate fall-planted winter peas have potential in North Dakota, but are very risky, with ideal planting dates occurring between late September and early October to minimize winter kill potential.

Testimony to North Dakota House Appropriations Committee: SB 2020
North Dakota State University
Williston Research Extension Center
March 2025

Chairman Monson and Members of the Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to address you today on behalf of the Williston Research Extension Center (WREC). For the record, I am Shana Forster, acting director of the WREC.

The WREC provides research and outreach on diverse agricultural systems and crops and soils and includes dryland and irrigates research. Given our geographic relationship to the expansive oil and gas climate in the Bakken region and Williston basin, we also address land reclamation. Thank you for the funding provided during the previous legislative session. We are grateful for the continued benefit of fully paid health insurance policies and generous compensation packages. The Williston Basin includes a high cost of living and expensive labor and materials costs due to scarce resources and competition from the oil and gas industries.

We are thankful for the $1.7 million of state-appropriated funding provided for the WREC Irrigated Research Site during the last legislative session. The initial plans included a meeting center, heated shop and office space. The current facilities are not adequate or safe to complete research activities and provide a respite location for staff during breaks and lunch. Initial building bids for this facility were well over the $1.7 million provided, even with an unfinished building consisting of minimal internal structure suggested.

We are requesting a carryover of the $1.7 million dollars granted during the previous legislative session and are asking for legislative authority to use $1.3 million of special or local funds to complete the needed building project.

Additionally, the WREC was provided $475,00 from the previous legislative session to complete a machine storage shed. Similar to the Nesson Valley project, estimates were significantly higher than the dollar value granted. We are requesting a carryover of the $475,000 provided during the last legislative session, which contains an exemption from architectural requirements, and the authorization to spend an additional $325,000 in special funds to complete the project.

We ask that you please continue this request already approved by the Senate. Thank you for supporting the WREC. The success of our

programs depends on your ongoing investment in agricultural research and extension, which directly benefits North Dakota's farmers and ranchers. I appreciate your time and consideration.



Shana M. Forster, Acting Director
Williston Research Extension Center
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shana.forster@ndsu.edu

Ladies and Gentleman of SBARE:

I am coming before you today to ask for your support of a state-funded Agronomy research specialist to enhance the research capabilities of the NDSU North Central Research Extension Center. For the record, my name is Kendon Faul. I currently farm in Sheridan County. For 23 years, I held the position of Agronomy manager for the McClusky Co-op Elevator. I also serve on the NCREC Board of Visitors. My current family farming operation consists of growing wheat, soybeans, barley, canola, hay barley and corn silage. We took over my in-law's farm in 2001. I have passion for ND agriculture. I dedicated my life to being a successful farmer alongside my wife and children.

One might think that NDSU would be my competition in my role as the agronomy manager, however, this is far from true. Where else could I go to get unbiased, scientific research data? I used the research data from the NC Research Extension Center for making educated decisions for my customers. It has proven to be a very important source over the past 23 years. Now that I strictly farm, my past customers still call me for advice on my farming practices.

I am always looking at the publications or websites from the NDSU Research Extension Centers. I need to stay at the top of my game for my producers, who rely on me for information, and for my family farm. The success of the growers is crucial to maintaining food for not only ND, but the entire world. I start by comparing varieties of wheat (or any of the other crops we grow) and their yield potentials. By looking at the trials that the NC Research Extension Center puts out, I can safely point a grower to a product that will work (or produce) on their fields. I also look at where the trial was done at and determine if a particular variety is better on drier (light/sandy) soils then another.

It goes beyond variety trials. Many chemical companies have the best herbicide or fungicide for all situations. This is where I rely on the expertise of the Research Extension Center. I am in constant contact with Brian Jenks on which herbicide would work best. I even call Dr. Jenks to determine why a product failed, what I should have done differently, or is this a situation that nothing else could have been done. Looking at results from the NC Research Extension Center has allowed me to gain the confidence I need in my growers and my personal farm.

Over the past 23 years, I have had failures and successes in what I do. There are variables that we cannot predict, like weather, wind and tomorrow. Having the resources that the NC Research Extension Center has provided has allowed me to have many more success stories on my farm and the farms of all of my growers. They have relied on my advice to provide a return on investment to their farms. Saving the grower money today and providing a ROI means that they will be around tomorrow to do business with the Co-op and be a successful farmer.

With a state-funded Agronomy research specialist, the NCREC research agronomy program will be able to expand their current research capabilities without spending countless hours trying to find funding to help the staff, which is already stretched thin. . Agronomy research

will generate additional research that I can utilize on my own farm. I will be comfortable sharing and encouraging farmers in my Co-op to utilize this data as well.

Please continue funding to allow for this unbiased information for people who give advice to farmers and farmers alike. Farming is the backbone of our communities and we want it to remain this way in the future for our kids and grandkids.

Thank you

Kendon Faul
Farmer, Sheridan County

Testimony on SB 2020
Karlee Rauschenberger, Farmer
NCREC Board of Visitors Member
Minot, North Dakota

Chairman Monson and members of the committee:

My name is Karlee Rauschenberger, I am a farmer from south of Minot. I am here to ask for your support for the North Dakota State University Agriculture Research Extension Centers, specifically the North Central Research Center in Minot.

I grew up on a 3rd generation family farm. My two brothers went on to farm out of college and I became a teacher. When the oil boom came to western North Dakota my family was having trouble finding help on the farm so my husband and I both started running equipment and working on the farm.

Two years ago my husband, Gabe, and I rented land from a family member and started our own fourth generation family farm. Since Gabe is also a school principal many of the decisions and day to day farm operations fell to me. Farming is very complex and learning to farm at age 42 was an especially daunting task.

This is when the NDSU Research Extension Centers became imperative to our farm's success. I began listening to the online ag market updates, attending in-person training events and reading online research and resources. What I love most about the research extension centers is that the people conducting the research are specialized, highly educated and their focus is on helping farmers and the agriculture industry in North Dakota succeed.

I can read research online regarding when to spread fertilizer, how to deal with specific weeds or how to market my crops. Then I can pick up the phone and call the person who conducted the research and receive valuable input on the best way to manage our farm operation.

This is so valuable to ag producers in the state regardless of age or years of farming experience. The ag industry is dynamic and ongoing research and learning is necessary for the success of agriculture in ND. The NDSU Research Extension Centers serve as lifelines for many family farming operations.

This year is my first year on the Board of Visitors at the North Central Research Extension Center. Serving on the board has allowed me to see first hand how much the center is doing to support and enhance agriculture in the state. A primary need for this center is an increase in operating funds. As costs on the farm are increasing, their costs are increasing as well and it is important to be able to both operate and maintain the research facility in Minot.

Funding for an Agronomy Research Specialist is also very important. Soil types, weed issues, weather and crops grown vary across the state. It is imperative to have local research to help growers make informed decisions that work for the area they are farming in.

Farming is complex, it is not easy. Farmers need solid research on what does and doesn't work in the field and they need support. The NDSU North Central Research Center provides the knowledge and support farmers in north central North Dakota need to succeed. Thank you so much for your time and what you are doing to ensure the success of family farms for future generations.

NDSU | NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY North Central Research Extension Center

Testimony to North Dakota Senate Appropriations Committee: SB 2020
North Dakota State University
North Central Research Extension Center, Minot, ND
March 2025

Chairman Monson and Members of the Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to address you today and share some of the significant impacts of the North Central Research Extension Center (NCREC) that directly benefit North Dakota farmers and ranchers. For the record, I am Shana Forster, director of the NCREC in Minot. We provide unbiased, science-based information to support farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses in the region since our founding in HB 66, which passed in 1945.

Thank you for the state-appropriated project from the previous session, which supported the construction of a new 70' x 110' steel-framed machine storage shed. This facility will shelter valuable research equipment, extending its life and ensuring it continues to support our work.



We also thank you for the generous compensation and benefits package and the equity adjustments provided in the previous session.

In 2022, Dr. Brian Jenks, the NCREC weed scientist, received widespread reports from farmers, chemical company technical reps and agronomists concerned about ineffective kochia control in field crops. Dr. Jenks quickly pivoted his research program to work in this area and discovered that some kochia populations in western ND had developed resistance to commonly used pre-plant burndown herbicides.

The impact of this information was vast: 1) research provided farmers with information one year faster than previously available, 2) research saved wasted herbicide expense in the current year (~$12-25/A), 3) results helped avoid yield loss due to uncontrolled weeds (heavy density > 70-90% yield loss), 4) helped avoid millions of weed seed added to soil seed bank that would add weed control costs for years to come, 5) this information was useful to all growers across North Dakota and 6) it also provided research data to the EPA to approve new weed control options. Weed resistance is a growing problem nationally and globally.

I tell this story for two reasons:

1. Without the state-appropriated operating dollars provided to the NCREC, Dr. Jenks would not have been able to remain flexible and responsive to this new, emerging issue. There was no time to submit new grants and wait for funding approval. This research was needed now and, in some cases, even yesterday.

2. Without our trained, skilled and valuable research specialists and technical support at the NCREC, this research would not have been possible.

Currently, only 29% of technical support comes from state-appropriated dollars. This significantly impacts our work. The NCREC scientists must chase after grant money and conduct fee-for-service trials to maintain staff. We want them to be flexible and adapt to new issues like weed resistance. The NCREC has had no new state-appropriated research positions since the 2007 legislative session.

Requests for State-funding Support

We are requesting **state-appropriated funding for a research specialist to work in our agronomy research program** to meet the needs of our constituency. We are requesting **state-appropriated funding for a research specialist dedicated to our grape/vineyard program** to continue this program. We request **an increase in operating dollars** to remain flexible and responsive to new and emerging issues like weed resistance. Operating money is essential to the entire REC network due to increased costs in all areas.

Thank you for your continued support of the NDSU REC network and SBARE initiatives.

Shana M. Forster, PhD
Director, North Central Research Extension Center
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shana.forster@ndsu.edu

Chairman Monson and Members of the House Appropriations Committee - Government Operations Division,

My name is David Hill from Willow City, ND. I serve as the 2025 Chair of the North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee (SSCC) and represent Area III. *I also serve as a Supervisor on the Rolette County Soil Conservation District.* I am here today to express my strong support for SB2020 and, specifically, the NDSU Extension priority list, with particular emphasis on the number two initiative: Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support.

The SSCC operates as a division of NDSU Extension, providing administrative assistance and program planning support to the 54 Soil Conservation Districts (SCDs) across North Dakota. One of the primary responsibilities of the SSCC is to distribute appropriated funds received from the state legislature to local conservation districts. These funds are essential, as 100% of the state appropriations are allocated directly to SCDs to support employee salaries and benefits.

State appropriations are instrumental in ensuring that SCDs can effectively fulfill their conservation missions. The employees funded through this support play a pivotal role in assisting local producers in implementing conservation practices that improve soil health, water quality, and overall agricultural sustainability. They work directly with agriculture producers to improve practices in their operations which increases their profitability.

Utilizing the District Activity Reporting Tool (DART), we can quantify the impact and accomplishments of SCDs. In 2024 alone, North Dakota's Soil Conservation Districts:

- Delivered conservation and agricultural literacy educational programs almost 20,000 K-12 students, fostering a new generation of environmentally conscious leaders. They also hosted workshops, programs, and field days that engaged almost 13,000 adult participants.
- Seeded more than 3,000 acres of cover crops and over 4,700 acres of grasslands, enhancing soil health, livestock forage, and wildlife habitats.
- Installed more than 670 miles of weed barriers and planting nearly 37,000 trees by hand, contributing to erosion control and ecological stability.
- Conducted almost 500 hours of soil testing and over 550 hours of soil mapping to empower agricultural producers with actionable insights.
- Provided more than 500 field visits and dedicated more than 3,300 hours to delivering conservation technical assistance directly to producers.

The work of SCDs would not be possible without reliable funding to support their personnel and operations. I urge the committee to support SB2020 and ensure that this additional crucial funding be considered. By doing so, you are investing in the long-term sustainability of North Dakota's natural resources and agricultural productivity.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I welcome any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

David Hill
Chair, North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee
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In Support of SB 2020 (Re: Toxicology Resident Position)
March 11, 2025

Dear Members of the House Appropriations – Government Operations Committee,

The North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association (NDVMA) represents over 300 veterinarians across our state, working tirelessly to ensure the health and well-being of animals and the integrity of North Dakota's agricultural industry. Today, we are reaching out to request your support in securing funding for a veterinary toxicology resident at the North Dakota State University (NDSU) Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL).

The NDSU VDL stands among an elite group—one of only eight veterinary laboratories in the United States with a board-certified veterinary toxicologist (Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Toxicology). These highly specialized professionals play a critical role in identifying and preventing toxicological diseases in livestock, companion animals, and wildlife. Their expertise is vital in safeguarding North Dakota's agriculture by educating veterinarians, producers, and the public about toxicologic hazards affecting cattle, horses, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry, and small animals.

The NDSU VDL is recognized for its excellence in large animal toxicology, successfully identifying toxins such as petroleum contaminants, ergot alkaloids, phytoestrogens, blister beetle toxins, and mycotoxins in feed and animals. The laboratory's veterinary toxicologist, Dr. Michelle Mostrom, provides the necessary interpretation and guidance to ensure appropriate treatment and preventative measures for toxicologic diseases. However, this critical expertise is at risk.

The field of veterinary toxicology faces a crisis. Most diagnostic veterinary toxicologists in the U.S. are nearing retirement, including Dr. Mostrom at the NDSU VDL. Alarmingly, there are only three veterinary toxicology residents currently training in diagnostic settings—located in California, Iowa, and Kansas. Without intervention, North Dakota could be left without a veterinary toxicologist within the next five years. Such a loss would significantly impact our state's ability to diagnose and manage toxicologic threats to our livestock and agricultural economy.

On behalf of NDVMA veterinarians, we urge you to consider this funding request as a strategic investment in North Dakota's agricultural resilience and economic stability. By securing the necessary resources now, we can preserve the vital role of veterinary toxicologists and protect our state's producers, veterinarians, and animals from toxicological risks.

We appreciate your time and consideration of this urgent matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out for further discussion or additional information. We look forward to your support in safeguarding the future of veterinary toxicology in North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Laura Beaudoin, DVM
Past President (2021)
North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY – NDSU AGRONOMY SEED FARM

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS DIVISION

Testimony by: Brian Otteson, Director

SB 2020; Budget No. 649

March 11th, 2025

Good morning, Chairman Monson, members of the House Appropriations Government Operations Division. For the record, my name is Brian Otteson, I am the Director of the Agronomy Seed Farm at Casselton ND. Today, I would like to give you a brief update on the Agronomy Seed Farm and our activities over the past two years along with the impacts we've had on North Dakota agriculture.

First, I'd like to thank you for your past support with our budget, especially the salary compensation package last biennium. The salary adjustments have been very important for retaining high quality employees. Our budget remains mostly unchanged from year to year, with only small increases for salary adjustments and health care premium increases. The seed farm is 100% self-supportive through its seed sales with no state general funds included in this budget. This has always been the case for the past 75 years that the seed farm has been in operation and continues today. We continue to operate well within our current budget.

The Agronomy Seed Farm began operating in 1950 and will celebrate its 75th anniversary this year. Our mission is to produce high quality Foundation class seed of public varieties developed by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station for the seed producers and farmers of North Dakota. The seed farm provides producers direct access to these new and existing varieties of winter wheat, spring wheat, barley, oat, and soybean each year. We also collaborate with the ND Crop Improvement and Seed Association and the NDSU Foundation Seedstocks project on distribution of newly released varieties each year.

At the Agronomy Seed Farm, we produce on average 25 varieties for seed each year and distribute on average 33,000 bushels of seed each year. Our customer base includes seedsmen and farmers from across the entire state, as well as into neighboring states. These newly developed seed varieties benefit producers from across the state by adding value to their farming operation through seed sales to farmers in the region. The seed growers raise the Registered and Certified seed at a premium which results in additional revenue for their operation. For example, NDSU will be distributing a new high yielding wheat variety called "ND Stampede" this spring across the state that will benefit producers for years to come.

In addition to producing Foundation Seed, we also provide support to the main station scientists at NDSU. We work closely with plant breeding projects on new variety development and assist with initial breeder's seed increases at Casselton.

The seed farm has just three FTE's and one part time seasonal student employee.

Finally, I'd also like to encourage support for the Langdon seed plant that is #2 on the SBARE capital improvement projects list. There is a need to update the seed cleaning facilities at the Langdon REC which will benefit seed producers and farmers in the region.

Today, I am not asking for any general fund appropriations since we are 100% self-supported, but rather, I am just asking for your support in approving our budget so we can continue to operate as we have in the past. Thank you for your time today and I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Brian Otteson, Director

NDSU Agronomy Seed Farm

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SB2020
Government Operations Division of the House Appropriations Committee
3/11/2025
Jason Hanson, North Dakota Agriculture Consultant's Association

Chairman Monson and Fellow members of the Government Operations Division of the House Appropriations Committee. My name is Jason Hanson. I'm an independent crop consultant from Webster, ND. Today I come before you as a representative of the North Dakota Agriculture Consultants Association. We are an association of independent crop consultants. We provide independent crop consulting services to farmers. These services consist of crop scouting, providing pesticide recommendations, soil sampling, soil fertility recommendations and also precision agriculture recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB2020. The North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station and NDSU Extension play a critical role in how crop consultants in North Dakota develop their recommendations for North Dakota Farmers and therefore we strongly support funding these agencies.

While crop consultants work with private industry information, we depend on the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station to provide 3rd party, unbiased research to solidify our recommendations. In our industry, we look to the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station to provide data to make sure that industry products are living up to their marketing claims. Specialty crops such as lentils, dry beans and sugarbeets have relatively low acreages nationally, but there are significant crops for the North Dakota economy. Private industry often does not invest in these specialty crops because there are not enough acres nationally to get a good ROI from their research and development investments. Therefore, we look to the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station to conduct research on these crops. Their research has provided us with critical information about managing these crops. The North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station has even conducted research to provide the EPA with information for expanding labels for existing pesticides into these specialty crops. These label expansions would not have occurred without the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station as private industry would not have sought to have those label expansions due to the low acreages of these crops and the limited ROI to their business.

We also depend on NDSU Extension to provide unbiased continuing education. Agronomy is something that is constantly changing. Every year is different due to weather and markets. Further, over time the pest issues we face in the field also change over time. In order to stay informed as to how to work with all these issues, we depend on NDSU Extension programming to provide us relevant information to help us create the best recommendations for our growers every year. North Dakota Crop Consultants and crop consultants from other states attend Extension education programs every year to help with this very thing. For your reference, I gathered the number of attendees for some of these very important training sessions.

TITLE OF TRAINING	NUMBER OF ATTENDEES
SOIL & WATER WORKSHOP	174
WILD WORLD OF WEEDS	275
ADVANCED CROP ADVISORS WORKSHOP	160
WESTERN CROP AND PEST MANAGEMENT SCOUT SCHOOL	96
CROP MANAGEMENT SCHOOL	52
BEST OF THE BEST (WHEAT& SOYBEAN-3 LOCATIONS)	310
GETTING IT RIGHT (CORN, DRY BEAN, SUNFLOWER, FLAX, SOYBEAN)	545
SUGARBEET SYMPOSIUM AND GROWERS SEMINARS	914
LAKE REGION ROUNDUP	450
TOTAL	2976

Further, we have close relationships with many of the Extension Educators so that during the growing season, we can reach out to them and visit about issues that come up during the growing season so we can address these issues with the most informed information possible.

In closing, our agronomic recommendations depend on a viable North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station and NDSU Extension. We ask that you restore the base budget and we ask that you support SB2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Hanson
Rock N Roll Agronomy
President
ND Ag Consultants Association

#40077

Testimony for S.B. 2020 – Senate Appropriations Government Operations Division – 2025/27 session

Good morning.

My name is Greg Goodman, REC Advisory Board member for the Langdon Research Center. I am currently a 5th generation farmer, crop insurance agent, and a Cavalier County Commissioner. Thank you for taking the time this morning to listen to testimony on S.B. 2020. I would also like to thank you for the past support for the Langdon Research Center regarding the new greenhouse and storage building that have recently been added to our facility.

The State Board of Ag Research (SBARE) has outlined a priority in their 2025 plan to fund a new seed conditioning plant at the Langdon Research Center. This plant has been an integral piece of agriculture for our region over the past 62 years. Farmers, seed companies, and County Crop Improvement Associations have financially and agronomically benefitted from this plant during this time period. However, the aging facility has come to the end of its useful life, and operation of the plant is in question every day due to lack of available parts, a scale that no longer meets state standards, and the safety of our workers.

The Langdon Research Center's footprint in northeast North Dakota yields a wide variety of crops that are produced in the area. Many of these crops, most notably dry peas, continue to increase in acreage, and the standards set to clean these crops are challenging. A new seed conditioning plant will allow the Langdon Research Center to meet the demands of these growing specialty crops, in addition to supporting the very important Foundation Seed Programs.

I would ask you to support the efforts to put in a new seed cleaning plant at the Langdon Research Center.

Thank you for your time,

Greg Goodman
1205 11th St.
Langdon, ND 58249
(701) 370-7997

Chairman Monson and Committee members,

I'm Thomas Wheeler, farmer at Ray, 40 miles from Montana and 60 miles from Canada. I am representing ag producers, irrigators, farmers and ranchers. I termed out of advisory board last December but was asked to present here today. For those not aware we have a joint advisory board with Eastern Ag Research center at Sidney Montana. Many of the same crops are raised on both sides of the border. The collaboration has worked very well.

The USDA Agricultural Research Service in Sidney, Montana uses some of Nesson Valley irrigation acres for research also.

A high priority for WREC is a Technology Transfer Center at Nesson Valley Irrigation site 25 miles east of Williston. This building would house a conference room, small lab, several offices, seed sample storage, men's and women's bathrooms, and a shop.

In McKenzie and Williams counties there is an irrigation frontier of 400,000 plus acres that could be irrigated. The water for this would come from Yellowstone and Missouri rivers and also Lake Sakakawea. Some water could also come from aquifers in the area.

You will notice that the request now is different from the SBARE numbers. Both Oakes and Nesson need good facilities to further irrigation research and development

The Senate has approved another $400,000 in funding and also has raised the cap on special funds we can raise.

One stumbling block we always run in to is the Bakken Premium. Everything costs more and sometimes can't even get a bid. There is not a person in North Dakota that does not benefit from the oil produced in western North Dakota. But there is not a mechanism in the system to help us with the extra costs. The only place to help alleviate this disparity is in this legislative process.

The need for research is here, the acres are here. A nice facility helps hire and retain great employees. We are always competing with the oil industry for employees.

I support the funding and direction provided in Senate bill 2020. Please help Ag Producers get the building that is needed at Nesson Valley.

Thank you for your consideration. Thank you for all the help you have given us in the past

Will take answer any questions.

Thomas Wheeler

6561 115th Ave NW Ray,ND 58849

1605 E Capitol Ave., Suite 204
Bismarck, ND 58501
701-425-0095

House Appropriations Committee – Government Operations Division

Hearing for SB 2020

March 11, 2025

Testimony of Jim Bahm, North Dakota Ag Coalition

Chairman Monson and members of the committee, my name is Jim Bahm. I am here today as the Chairman of the North Dakota Ag Coalition. The Ag Coalition has provided a unified voice for North Dakota agricultural interests for more than 40 years. Today, we represent 49 statewide organizations and associations that represent specific commodities or have a direct interest in agriculture. Our members seek to enhance North Dakota's agriculture industry through membership in the Ag Coalition.

The Ag Coalition considers policy action items, brought forward by our members, seriously. It takes a policy position on a limited number of issues every session and only on those that have a significant impact on North Dakota's agriculture industry. The Ag Coalition is a diverse group that addresses all facets of agriculture that depend on NDSU Research and Education. As such, the North Dakota Ag Coalition supports the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE) 2025-2027 priorities, including its priorities for the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension and its capital improvement/one-time requests.

Innovation and technology in agriculture are continually challenging North Dakota's commodity producers to make decisions that produce the highest quality, most economically feasible product. Ag research and extension are essential to ensuring our producers are equipped to mitigate struggles and problem solve issues facing rural North Dakota. The Ag Coalition has five appointees on SBARE; it is pleased to be a voice in support of these priorities to advance and enhance agriculture in North Dakota.

Thank you for your past support of agricultural initiatives. We urge your continued support of research and extension as these programs provide valuable information, education, and tools for the state's producers. These producers have been – and will continue to be – the driving force in the future of North Dakota's number one industry and the state's economy.

The North Dakota Ag Coalition encourages your support of SB 2020. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Amundson Farms

(701) 343-2524

2444 32nd St. NE

Gilby, ND 58235-9758

Ron: (218) 791-2007 Greg: (218) 791-2009

March 10, 2025

Senate Appropriation Committee

Mr. Chairman and Distinguished Members

I am a Farmer from Gilby, ND and would like to tell little story about how extension impacts not only myself but the community it serves.

On our farm we put on an event every year called Root Connections, the event happens right here on our farm and we open it up to the community, GF in particular to come visit a farm, meet a farmer and just get out in to the country. Last year we served approximately 140 meals and had a great turnout showcasing Ag.

This event would not have been possible without the help of the Extension Service. The coordination, promotion and connections are invaluable to the process and they help to make this event a success.

I wholehearted stand behind the Extension Service and request that funding be continued without any interruptions or decreases, I would even go so far as to advocate for increased funding for programs. The value they provide to North Dakota is immense

We are an Agricultural State and we need to support It

Thank you

Greg Amundson
Gilby, ND

U.S. Durum Growers Association
PROMOTING THE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF DURUM AND SEMOLINA
P.O. Box 1091 • Bismarck, ND 58502 • (701) 214-3203
office@durumgrowers.com • www.durumgrowers.com

Testimony of Steve Perdue
President
SB 2020
March 11, 2025

Chairman Monson and members of the House Appropriations- Government Operations Division, my name is Steve Perdue, and I'm a farmer from Ray and serve as the president of the U.S. Durum Growers Association (USDGA). On behalf of the USDGA, we support SB 2020 as agriculture research, extension and education is essential to the future of maintaining a sustainable agriculture economy within the state.

USDGA has served to promote the production and marketing of durum wheat and semolina since 1978. The association represents grower and industry members from 10 states. We have many members from North Dakota as the acres produced in the state account for just over half of the country's durum production.

USDGA supports the efforts of the State Board of Agriculture and Education (SBARE) in prioritizing the needs of the state's ag community. USDGA participated in the SBARE information gathering process, as did dozens of other ag organizations, and would urge the Committee's favorable consideration of its priorities.

Ag research and extension has provided high value to producers across the state. With research into ag trade and policy as well as new and upcoming technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), will help our producers to continue to provide the most high-quality products to the world.

We also encourage continued support of the Northern Crops Institute (NCI). NCI is vital to expanding markets of northern grown crops and the education and technical programs offered are essential to not only maintaining but expanding domestic and international markets for northern-grown crops, including durum. NCI's education and training also provide support and growth to the agriculture industry.

Agriculture is vital to North Dakota's economy and USDGA believes the priorities given by SBARE will support the current and future landscape of agriculture research, extension and education. USDGA appreciates your past support and urges you to continue supporting SBARE priorities.

Senate Bill 2020 Testimony

March 11, 2025

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Greg Lardy, Director

Good morning, Chairman Monson and members of the Government Operations Division of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee.

My name is Greg Lardy, and I have the privilege of serving as the director of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.

The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station is the research and development agency of North Dakota agriculture. Our scientists generate solutions to meet the short- and long-term challenges faced by our state's agriculture. Through innovative and creative partnerships with a variety of entities, we develop technologies that help our farmers and ranchers adjust to changing market conditions, consumer preferences, disease threats, and a changing landscape of production scenarios. We develop more cost-effective feeding and grazing strategies for livestock, release plant varieties that are specifically suited to our unique growing conditions, and provide research-based solutions for a myriad of technological challenges faced by our farmers and ranchers. Our scientists help identify new uses for agricultural commodities, enhance marketing opportunities, and bring local solutions to the state through our network of operations on the main campus of North Dakota State University and our seven Research Extension Centers that are located strategically throughout the state.

I want to take a moment to thank the members of the 68th Legislative Assembly for their support of critical infrastructure and programmatic needs that were funded in the 2023 session. You will hear more about several of those projects and programs throughout the day today, but specifically, I wanted to thank you for the support of the employee compensation package, the agricultural field laboratory, and the positions included in our budget last biennium. Specifically, I will mention the field laboratory building which was funded in the 2023 session. We have begun construction on this project and expect it to be completed in mid-2026. It will spur additional growth in the ag economy by providing more timely research-based solutions to the industry in the years to come. These efforts will have a lasting positive impact on our agency and could not have been completed without your support.

The impact of agriculture on the state's economy is significant. Agriculture contributes over $41 billion annually to the state's economy. One in five jobs is directly tied to agriculture.

This morning, in addition to my testimony, you will hear firsthand from several grassroots users of our research programs. They will share how our research is making a difference in their daily

operations and contributing to a brighter future for their families, their communities, and the state.

Agriculture touches every corner of North Dakota. The impact is felt by businesses across the state, whether it is a specialty crop buyer in Beach, a soybean processor in Spiritwood, a dairy in Carrington, a pasta plant in Casselton, or a precision agriculture software company in Fargo.

This afternoon, we will cover the Governor's executive budget recommendation and the Senate version of our bill in more detail. I would ask that this committee carefully consider restoring the base budget cuts included in the Senate version of the bill. The cuts to our base budget reduce the ability of the agency to respond in a timely manner to serve our state with the best research possible. These cuts will impact important programs that deliver timely research-based answers to a variety of challenges facing the state's agricultural industry.

As Chairwoman Lovas mentioned, SBARE has listened carefully to the needs of the state's citizens through a series of listening sessions and dialogue regarding the programmatic priorities for the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.

SBARE's responsibilities in Century Code include setting the programmatic and budgetary priorities for the agency. They have identified several critical needs including:

Agency Needs

1. Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS): Research into the effects of national and international policies and trade on North Dakota's agriculture is essential. Export markets for agricultural products have become increasingly more complex, leading to higher levels of risk for farmers and agribusinesses. North Dakota's economy, heavily dependent on agriculture and trade, faces vulnerabilities due to tensions in international relations and trade dynamics, impacting food security and global trade patterns. The prosperity of North Dakota's agricultural sector is closely tied to the success of its farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses. Unique challenges confront the state, including the fact that its location requires rail transport to export markets. Research is crucial to understand the impact of changes in agricultural policies and global market trends on North Dakota's agricultural community. Request: Three FTEs total. Positions are: (1) Agricultural policy analyst – $275,000, (2) Market and trade analyst – $275,000 and (3) Economic impact/contributions specialist – $275,000. $150,000 in operating. Total: $975,000
2. Digital Transformation of Agriculture: Digital agriculture, precision farming and ranching, and related technologies are advancing rapidly, driven by breakthroughs in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). NDAES scientists are leveraging these technologies to transform food production. Investing in new technologies, staff and infrastructure will equip scientists with the necessary resources to accelerate research in sensor technology, plant breeding, precision livestock farming and other digital initiatives. This effort is key to enhancing global food security through innovations in

North Dakota agriculture. Such funding is crucial for improving infrastructure and capabilities in agricultural data analysis and precision agriculture. Request: Six FTEs total. Positions in prioritized order are: (1) AI/ML engineer – $280,000, (2) Database architect – $430,000, (3) Data manager – $280,000, (4) Data scientist – $280,000, (5) GIS specialist – $230,000 and (6) Unmanned Aircraft Systems chief pilot – $230,000. Operating request of $904,000 for software subscriptions for cloud server access, network servers, high-speed computers for AI computations, data archiving, storage architecture specialized for AI and ML, and software licenses. Total: $2,634,000

3. Livestock Animal Health: North Dakota faces a significant risk of having no veterinary toxicologist available. To address this critical need, funding is requested for a toxicology resident position. A toxicologist plays a vital role in supporting the state's livestock industry by developing assays for the detection of mycotoxins, ergot, blister beetle toxin, bromethalin in feed and other challenges that affect the industry. Request: One FTE total. Veterinary toxicology resident to support critical needs in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory – $275,000. $50,000 in operating. Total: $325,000
4. Operating, Equipment and Graduate Research Assistantships: Enhanced operating budgets are essential for sustaining growth and achieving ongoing success. The operational costs associated with the NDAES research mission have escalated. Expenses for fuel, equipment maintenance, repairs, feed, fertilizer and more limit the ability of scientists to be responsive to critical research needs. Additionally, operating funds are crucial for fostering the early career development of scientists, enabling them to acquire necessary start-up equipment and supplies and to support graduate student salaries. Sufficient start-up and operating funds are vital for establishing successful research programs. Modern research equipment is essential for conducting accurate experiments and advancing new methods to improve North Dakota's livestock and cropping systems. Funding is requested to ensure laboratories and agricultural field operations are equipped with modern equipment needed to generate world-class results. Graduate research assistants play an indispensable role in the successful completion of every NDAES agricultural research project. They are deeply involved in conducting experiments, analyzing data and applying research findings to solve real-world agricultural problems. Graduate students also share their advancements with the wider community through the dissemination of research through publications and presentations. Additionally, their research prepares them as the next generation of leaders, equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to address challenges facing North Dakota agriculture. This initiative requests an increase in the number of assistantships to support the research activities by attracting talent to NDSU. Request: Equipment and graduate research assistantship funding. $1,190,000 in operating ($560,000 for seven branch stations + $630,000 for main station units), $1,000,000 in equipment and $900,000 for graduate research assistants Total: $3,090,000
5. Biofuels and Carbon Management: As a consequence of the national and international agricultural customer base, North Dakota farmers can achieve economic gains through

the adoption of carbon and climate-smart farming strategies. This is key to reducing carbon intensity scores to more effectively participate in markets for renewable fuels. There is a significant need for research to develop advanced farming techniques tailored to North Dakota's unique agricultural conditions. This research will focus on practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping and efficient nutrient management aimed to both reduce carbon intensity and enhance the production of biofuel feedstocks. This supports efforts to improve sustainability and profitability in farmers' operations. Request: Two FTEs total. Positions are: (1) Scientist – $275,000 and (2) Research specialist – $200,000. $50,000 in operating. Total: $525,000

6. Research Specialists: Technical support staff are critical in assisting agricultural scientists to achieve their research goals. They provide essential expertise in the operation and maintenance of sophisticated laboratory and field equipment that ensures experiments are conducted efficiently and accurately. Staff contribute to the collection and analysis of data, which is fundamental for validating research findings and advancing scientific knowledge in agriculture. By providing logistical and administrative support, they enable scientists to focus on their core research activities, thereby accelerating the progress and impact of agricultural research. Request: Five FTEs total. Positions are technical support in needed areas: (1) Grapes/vineyards – $200,000, (2) Agronomy – $200,000, (3) Plant pathology – $200,000, (4) Soybean breeding – $200,000 and (5) Biosystems engineering – $200,000. 8/30/2024 Total: $1,000,

We are grateful to the 68th Legislative Assembly for their support of capital improvement projects at the Main Station and the branch centers in 2023.

SBARE also ranks the capital improvement project needs for the ND Agricultural Experiment Station. A summary of these capital improvement project requests is included in your budget book on Pages 11 (SBARE ranked projects) and 13 (special fund authorization projects) in your budget book.

1. Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS) Building Completion: Since 1975, the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (GDCD) has collaborated with the NDAES to promote irrigation research in North Dakota. The Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) is taking possession of a building at the Oakes site that will serve as the headquarters for NDAES irrigation research. Requested funding is for the completion of the OIRS headquarters interior. Total: $620,000
2. Langdon REC Seed Conditioning Plant: A modern seed cleaning facility is essential for providing North Dakota foundation crop varieties bred to grow in the state's unique environment. The current facility was built in the 1960s and is incapable of conditioning the full production capacity grown on NDAES land at the Langdon Research Extension Center. Total: $2,600,000

3. NDAES Equipment Storage Sheds: Purchasing and/or leasing expensive field equipment is an investment that the NDAES needs to protect. Storing expensive research plot equipment such as tractors, planters and combines outdoors reduces the life of the equipment and can compromise the sophisticated electronics typically used on such equipment. Sheds are needed at the Dickinson REC, Central Grasslands REC and Carrington REC. Total: $1,567,500

   One-time Requests

   Deferred Maintenance Request: $1,500,000

Williston Research Extension Center Capital Projects: The NDAES was unable to obtain any successful bids for the Nesson Valley facility or the storage shed at the Williston Research Extension Center in the 2023-2025 biennium.

Nesson Valley Request: 1. A change in scope to build a structure with a heated shop, restrooms and an employee break room (removing a planned conference room), 2. Special fund authority to raise an additional $1.3 million and 3. Carryover of $1.7 million in general funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly.

Storage Shed Request: 1. Carryover of $475,000 in strategic investment and improvements funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly, 2. Special fund authority to spend an additional $325,000 as needed to complete the shed and 3. Continuation of Section 14 Exemption in H.B. 1020 relating to the construction of the storage sheds.

On page 25 in the budget book, you will find a financial schedule that details our base budget and the governor's executive budget recommendation. At this time, I will walk through what he has included in his budget recommendation for our agency.

The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station works to provide timely solutions to the wide variety of challenges faced by the state's farmers and ranchers. These solutions are an investment in the future of North Dakota and provide a return on investment through improved yields, enhanced productivity, better milling characteristics in grains that lead to enhanced consumer acceptance and market opportunities, improved livestock performance, and more cost-effective input solutions. Most importantly, these solutions provide a means to enhance the state's economy and improve the economic condition of our communities, large and small, across the state. In short, when we provide research-based solutions, farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses are more profitable, and they reinvest those dollars locally.

Here are just a few examples of our impacts:

- Innovative solutions for livestock health and productivity enhance disease detection, optimize livestock management and improve nutritional strategies.

    - The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory played a crucial role in safeguarding animal and public health by conducting essential tests for diseases like rabies, anthrax and avian flu.
    - NDAES scientists demonstrated the effectiveness of virtual fencing technology in improving grazing management, calf performance and forage efficiency, making precision farming more accessible and cost-effective.
- Leveraging cutting-edge technologies like AI and data analytics accelerates crop improvements and promotes sustainable farming practices.
    - The Agricultural Data Analytics team is combining genetic data with field tests to develop models that improve crop varieties faster and more efficiently for North Dakota producers.
    - Scientists are integrating AI-driven weed identification with autonomous systems, reducing herbicide use and fostering more environmentally sustainable agriculture.
- New crop varieties and farming practices improve yield, quality and sustainability, while also reducing input costs for farmers.
    - Research on innovative nitrogen application methods and extensive variety testing have led to higher yields and better quality in crops like durum wheat, providing North Dakota farmers with seeds specifically suited to local conditions.
    - Newly released pulse crop, winter wheat and oat varieties will increase farm income, expand market opportunities and improve farm sustainability while reducing input costs and boosting resilience against environmental challenges.
    - Durum Wheat: 90% of ND acreage from NDSU varieties, adding $276.6M annually.
    - Spring Wheat: NDSU varieties cover 11% of ND acreage.
    - Dry Beans: 30% of ND/MN acreage
    - Potatoes: 38% of North Dakota-certified seed is from NDSU-developed varieties. Dakota Russet is among the top U.S. cultivars and was recently accepted by McDonald's as a variety that can be grown under contract for them. This is the only variety in McDonald's production contracts that is developed specifically for this region.

Thank you for your support of our agency. At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Testimony for the NDSU Hettinger Research Extension Center, Christopher Schauer, Director
House Appropriations Hearing – SB2020
March 11, 2025

Thank you Chairman and members of the House Appropriations Government Operations Committee. For the Record, my name is Christopher Schauer and I am the Director of the Hettinger Research Extension Center.

The research and Extension at the HREC continues to focus on Agronomy, Weed Science, Wildlife and Range Science, and Animal Science. My testimony today is going to largely be a bunch of "Thank You" comments. 1st, thanks to the 68th Legislative Assembly for the employee compensation package and equity funding salary package. Our employees are our lifeblood, and keeping salaries competitive is necessary to keep the excellent staff we have. 2nd, you provided funding for a 610 acre land purchase of land that has been rented by us for close to 20 years. The land has been transferred to the NDSU Hettinger REC and the transaction has been completed. Previous to this purchase, the HREC only owned 28% of the land upon which we conducted research – we now own 42%, giving our scientists a larger consistent land base upon which to plan research. The last item of Thanks goes back to the $3.4 million in capital project funding for livestock facilities we were given during the Special Session. This capital project was the largest infusion of funds at the HREC in 115 years. With these funds we were able to complete a new Livestock Handling Facility and a new Smart Feedlot. These state of the art facilities now make the HREC, and NDSU, a destination facility for research and extension not only for producers, but for collaborating scientists across the University, and the university system across the country. This project also gave us the ability to merge the new and the old with the renovation of the 115 year old Dairy Barn in conjunction with the Smart Feedlot Construction. When you drive into Hettinger from the west, that barn has been the 1st thing you see for 115 years. In keeping that landmark, we now have a facility that hopefully can last another 100 years while being structurally sound and capable of utilizing technology. You truly have breathed fresh air into one of the historic facilities in the nation, and the industry is aware of your commitment to livestock agriculture. One example of the impact is that these facilities are tied directly to our producers. Dakota Ram Test consignors that end up with Certified Rambouillet Rams expect to see their sale price triple when compared to rams that aren't certified.

In the past 2 years we have spent quite a bit of time developing new private/publication partnerships. One of these partners is Dakota Carrier Network, a North Dakota company that partners with 13 communication companies. Through the NDSU Ag Experiment Station and DCN, we have erected the 1st dedicated communication tower in western ND utilizing LoRaWan and cellular technologies, allowing us to expand our precision ag research in livestock, agronomy, and wildlife, while also updating all of our buildings with high speed internet. Our Wildlife and Range research program, through Dr. Ben Geaumont, has partnered with the Teddy Roosevelt Library and is providing the native seedlings for their roof and native range plantings – over 80,000 seedlings per year. And last, our Livestock Extension Specialist, Dr. Rachel Gibbs, has just finalized new partnership with the American and ND Boer Goat Association to run a Dakota Meat Goat test – the only producer led genetic selection test for the goat industry in

the nation. This test will utilize our new Smart Feedlot, and builds on a similar program that we currently run for the sheep industry.

The Hettinger REC and our Advisory Board stand in support of the SBARE priority list. We do not have any items directly on the Capital, Ag Experiment Station, or Extension list, but have benefited from some of the items in the past. Completing the Equipment Storage Shed priority for the rest of the Research Centers is needed to protect valuable equipment, especially in the age of precision agriculture farm equipment. Deferred maintenance for all us is a priority. The HREC currently has $1.5 million in deferred maintenance priorities. Right now we are waiting on the next biennium's funding just to replace a HVAC system due to lack of funds. Funding for Research Technicians and Operating Funds is the HREC's #1 priority. We currently have 1.5 Research Technicians for 5 scientists. It is difficult to plan for future research with lack of technician support funds to provide the labor needed to conduct research. Grant funding comes in waves, but scientists need a technician every day. Any additional funding for Research Technicians would be appreciated. Additionally, operating support for day-to-day operations has hit a crisis point. Inflation has hit the RECs the same way it hits producers. As we have shifted programs to precision agriculture, new costs have arisen. For example, the new precision ag equipment in the Smart Feedlot costs 10% of acquisition costs annually just to turn on. In this case, that is over $15,000/year, just to use the equipment. Grants can supplement those costs, but similar to technicians, the equipment needs to run daily and annually, not just periodically.

In closing, Thank You for your past support and am looking forward to another productive biennium. I will entertain any questions.

SB2020 03/11/2025

Chairman Monson and Members of the Committee: I'm Jeff Peterson, owner and operator of Pointe of View Winery and Souris Valley Vineyard. I'm here today in support of continued funding for grape and wine research at the North Central Research Extension Center in Minot.

Currently there are 17 licensed wineries and 20 plus commercial vineyards in North Dakota.

In 2022 WineAmerica, a national organization representing wineries in all 50 states commissioned an economic impact study of the wine industry that provided data for each individual state. John Dunham & Associates in Florida did the analytical work. North Dakota wineries annual impact was 16.4 million dollars and is projected close to 20 million dollars in 2025.

The work that the NCREC has been doing has recently resulted in the patent of two new varieties, and will become commercially available in the next few years. There are potentially more patentable varieties that need further evaluation. The need for a state funded grape & wine position and operating funds are vital to the completion of the grape & wine work at NCREC.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

3/10/2025
Dwight Pflipsen-Owner
Snake Creek Vineyard and Winery
2052 30th Ave NW
Max, ND 58759

Topic: SB-2020-Relating to NDSU Research and Extension Services

My background and experience in the wine and grape growing industry

I grew up on a Century, 3rd generation homesteaded farm south of Max, ND, and have retained the farm as I have a strong loyalty to North Dakota and have kept close ties with the state. I am a member of NDGWA and potentially may become a member of WAND. In 2009, as a hobbyist, I started making wine and beer. In 2017, I trademarked Snake Creek Vineyard and Winery in ND. In the past 3 years I have worked with the SCS Garrison office to plant over 400 fruit trees, fruit bushes and trees in my orchard. In my vineyard, 6 years ago, I test planted 150 vines of 5 different grape vine varieties. Four years ago, with the drought and a cold winter with no snow, I lost my entire vineyard. I have put a pause on replanting and expanding my vineyard, until grape vine varieties that will consistently produce quality grapes in our variations of ND climate and soil conditions become available. I have worked with Chris Asmundson-NDSU-Minot location and enjoy working with them as they are very knowledgeable and helpful in a practical manner of growing and developing grape vines. NDSU-Minot is an ideal location to develop grape vines as the climate, soil conditions, land space and staff are highly skilled for this purpose that can serve the whole state of ND. Their present vineyard is in great shape. Chris works with local wineries and growers to develop a variety of grape vines that meet their needs. In fact, last Friday, 3/10/25, Chris put on a seminar for Randy Albrecht-Wolf Creek Winery, me and employees on growing grape vines. This was held at Pointe of View Winery, Burlington, ND, Jeff Peterson-Owner. Chris has been working with Jeff Peterson extensively. Jeff provided Randy and me with cuttings from his vineyard.

I request that the legislature provide funds to continue the research at the NDSU-Minot location for grape vines to produce quality wine in ND soil and climate conditions for the ND Commercial Winery's (WAND), The Commercial Grape Vine Producers and NDGWA.

Thank you,

Dwight Pflipsen

Testimony to North Dakota House Appropriations Committee: SB 2020
March 11, 2025
North Dakota State University
NDSU Agriculture Experiment Station & Research Extension Centers

My name is Justin Topp. I am a 4th generation farmer from Grace City, North Dakota.

Today, I'm here on behalf of the countless farmers and ranchers who use and rely on the Carrington Research Extension Center. I want to talk about the value of the CREC and what it means to us as farmers and ranchers.

In 2015, NDSU projected the average cost of planting a corn crop at $431.21. In 2025 for the East Central Region where my farm and the Carrington Research Extension Center are located, NDSU is projecting the same corn crop to cost $552.34. That's an almost 30% increase to raise the same crop in 10 years. The same can be said for almost every crop across the board. The one thing that isn't accounted for in those budget numbers? Research and Development.

The CREC acts as the research and development arm for farmers and ranchers in central North Dakota and is the leading source of unbiased information on crop and livestock production for our area. The research center's areas of research include cover crop usage and grazing of cover crops, how crop rotation effects yield, fertilizer rate trials, chemical use trials, variety trials, organic trials, alternative feed source trials, and the list goes on and on. As individual famers we can't even begin to scratch the surface of the breadth and depth of the research being done at the CREC! Thanks to the research and educational programs CREC provides, farmers and ranchers benefit from enhanced productivity. With increased productivity comes increased revenue for farmers and ranchers in our region and state. In turn returning more tax dollars back to our states and local communities!

The world of agriculture is ever changing and shifting. As farmers we are asked to produce more output with less inputs and do it more sustainably. Without the continued efforts of the Carrington Research Extension Center it would make the job of producing more with less, extremely difficult. Seed, chemical, and fertilizer companies spend millions of dollars each year researching and testing their products. But most of those products are tested in areas with different weather patterns and soil types than North Dakota, and are conducted by companies with a financial stake in the results. CREC is an unbiased source that tests these products in our geographical region.

As a farmer and business owner I understand the need to allocate funding. Where is the money best spent and where am I getting the largest return on investment. I am here today to say that I believe it is in continued and increased funding for the Carrington Research Extension Center and the other REC's across the state. I know as our costs for putting in a crop has increased so has the cost to run the Research Centers. The need for added staff for the ever increasing areas of research from Plant

Pathology to Precision Ag. The need for more equipment storage to store and maintain expensive research equipment.

I can tell you from my experience using the Carrington Research Extension Center and interacting with their Staff that any increased funding will not go to waste. The programs they host are extremely well presented and full of useful real-world information. The staff and scientists are always easy to get along with and eager to share research and visit about any problems we are facing in production Ag.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Justin Topp
T-T Ranch
Grace City, ND
701-307-0408
Justin.k.topp@gmail.com

SB2020

Government Operations Division of the House Appropriations Committee

3/11/25

Sarah Hall Lovas, SBARE Chair

Chairman Monson and members of the Government Operations Division of the House Appropriations Committee. My name is Sarah Hall Lovas and I am an agronomist from Hillsboro, ND. I currently have the opportunity to serve as the Chair for the State Board of Ag Research and Education (SBARE). Thank you for this opportunity to come before you and share some information regarding the research conducted by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES), NDSU Extension (Extension), and SBARE.

First, thank you for your past support of the NDAES and Extension. The investments that the Legislature has made into the NDAES and Extension have resulted in significant and positive impacts for North Dakota agriculture and will last for future generations. Thank you.

I stand before you today in support of SB2020 and I ask you to support this bill with the critical ask to reinstate the base budgets for these agencies. In SB2020's current form, it contains base budget reductions for the Main Station of 3% and NDSU Extension of 4.7%. I ask for the restoration of these budgets.

SBARE within the policies of the State Board of Higher Education, is responsible for the budgeting and policy making associated with the Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension. Our role applies equally to both. I won't go through all the duties of SBARE, but they can be found in North Dakota Century Code and are also outlined on page 1 in your budget book. As required by the ND Century Code, SBARE develops the biennial budget report by receiving grassroots information from individual producers, commodity groups, organizations, stakeholders, constituents, and agribusinesses across the state. Through this process, SBARE creates three priority lists, which include: 1) The programmatic request list for Extension; 2) programmatic research request list for the Agricultural Experiment Station; and 3) the Capital request list for the Agricultural Experiment Station.

SBARE takes the process of receiving stakeholder input and creating these priority lists very seriously. This biennium, we began receiving stakeholder input on September 14, 2023 and concluded receiving input on January 3rd, 2024. Stakeholder input was received via three in-person input receiving sessions held in Minot, Dickinson, and Fargo as well as by mail submissions and electronic submissions. Once input was received, the prioritization process started on January 10, 2024 and concluded on February 21, 2024, and it took a total of three SBARE meetings over four days to develop these priority lists. The SBARE members worked very hard reviewing the stakeholder input that was received and formulating the priority lists you see before you. SBARE has a goal to develop priorities that are sound investments for the future of North Dakota's agriculture industry and address agriculture issues in a state with an extremely diverse agriculture industry. The 3 priority lists are included in your budget book and Vice-President Lardy will explain the priority lists in detail during his testimony. However, I would

like to highlight the priorities that request operating support which are included on both the NDAES as well as the Extension priority lists. I am highlighting the operating support priority for both agencies because SB2020, in its current form, has base budget reductions of 3% for the Main Research Station and 4.7% for Extension. Increased operating funds were a priority for us before this base budget reduction was implemented in our bill. If this budget reduction is implemented in this biennium, it would greatly impact the ability for NDAES and Extension to conduct their mission. Again, as Chair of SBARE, I ask for the restoration of our base budget and also give due regard to our need for increased operating support. Operating support helps the agencies be responsive to the range of critical needs that occur in our agricultural production systems and our communities throughout the state. They ensure the agencies can respond in a timely manner when needs arise.

North Dakota's agriculture industry has a significant economic impact to North Dakota's economy! Further, North Dakota's agriculture industry's economic impact touches every community in North Dakota. This year, we released a study which showed that North Dakota Agriculture industry contributes over $41 billion dollars to North Dakota's economy! Agriculture accounts for about 20% of all North Dakota's employment. If you have a dollar in your pocket, approximately twenty cents of that dollar would be attributed to North Dakota's agriculture industry. North Dakota's agriculture industry continues to expand, the economic impact numbers will increase also. North Dakota is currently realizing the expansion of value-added agriculture. In recent years, we have had two new soybean crush plant facilities open in Spriritwood and Casselton. Plans have been announced for a new potato processing facility in Grand Forks, and we anticipate the dairy industry to expand into our state as well.

Investing in agriculture is a sound investment. For every dollar invested in agriculture research, it returns $37 in economic returns. Research has shown that between 1960 and 2011, agriculture research has a 24.9% return on investment.

North Dakota agriculture is an important industry to our state economically and investing in agriculture research is a sound investment. However, what impact does the NDAES and NDSU Extension have on North Dakota's agriculture industry and the people of North Dakota? There are many success stories from the NDAES and NDSU Extension. I could not compile all them into a timeframe that would fit into our schedule today. I will, however, highlight some examples.

NDSU Extension's purpose is "extending education to North Dakota residents of all ages and walks of life". NDSU Extension provides education to our state in areas such as, agriculture (livestock and crops), family and consumer sciences, food and nutrition, leadership and civic engagement, and also 4-H youth development. Here are some NDSU Extension impacts to the citizens of North Dakota:

- Overall, in 2023, NDSU Extension had 312,589 individual contacts through 7,425 educational sessions and over 15,261 recorded educational hours
- NDSU Extension Pesticide program trained and certified 5,300 farmers, ranchers, and commercial applicators in 2023, ensuring safe pesticide use
- NDSU Extension's Ag Finance Program assisted landowners and operators in managing $1.3 billion in annual land rents across 22 million acres in 2024, supporting better decision-making and financial forecasting. NDSU Extension had 41,217 youth

educational contacts in 2023 which was a 40.3% increase from the previous year. 4-H reached 1 in 5 youth in North Dakota in 2023.

- One in thirteen North Dakotans needs to take on a government or non-profit leadership role in North Dakota, which underscores the need to effective leadership development initiatives. In response, NDSU Extension trained over 350 individuals in its leadership programs during 2023.

North Dakota leads the nation in producing wheat, sunflowers, canola, flax, dry beans, rye, and oats and honey. North Dakota also ranks in the top 5 states for the production of barley, dry edible peas, lentils, chickpeas, potatoes, sugarbeets. North Dakota also has a vibrant beef industry. The research conducted by the NDAES is critical to providing information to keep North Dakota's agriculture industry vibrant and competitive. Here are a few samples of how the NDAES agriculture research impacts North Dakota agriculture:

- NDSU has research working in the soil microbiome that is currently working on biological nitrogen fixation breakthroughs which include development of elite rhizobia optimized for optimized for nitrogen fixation in legume crops.
- NDAWN has over 200 individual weather stations across North Dakota and neighboring states. These weather stations provide weather information for agricultural pest forecasting models, which help farmers implement timely management strategies to protect their crops. In western North Dakota, these weather stations also help counties manage truck traffic in the Bakken region. This ultimately means better returns for the oil and gas industry and increased tax revenue for the state.

- Economic studies of custom feeding equips cow-calf operators with information to evaluate custom feeding options, reduce risk, and maximize profitability.
- Plant breeding efforts are extremely important to North Dakota agriculture producers.
    - 38% of North Dakota and 21% Minnesota certified potato seed is from NDSU's potato breeding program. The Dakota Russet, a potato variety accepted by McDonalds for their French fries.
    - NDSU spring wheat varieties have an economic impact of $69-284 million dollars.
    - NDSU's woody plant breeding program has 62 ornamental plant releases and in 2023, they resulted in $6 million in retail sales.
- As stated earlier, North Dakota has a diverse cropping system. Many of those crops are specialty crops. Nationally, they have limited acreage. However, North Dakota is responsible for a large portion of the production for these commodities, and these are crops economically important to our state and individual producers. While these crops may not garner attention on a national scale, they are critical to our producers. In these cases, large multi-national corporations may not have significant research budgets to devote to these crops, emphasizing the critical need for public investments in these sectors to ensure North Dakota farmers have access to key information as they plan their crop rotations. The NDAES has filled that gap and worked on many important issues for these crops. The NDAES has a dry bean breeding program which is critical to that crop's sustainability and future competitiveness. Further, the NDAES has conducted pesticide research to provide the EPA with data so that existing pesticides can have their labels be expanded and include specialty crops.

These are some examples of how NDSU Extension and NDAES are impacting the lives of ND citizens and North Dakota Agriculture. These agencies are critical to the success of North Dakota agriculture.

Thank you again for your time today. Thank you for your past support.

Request: Please support SB2020. Please restore the base budget for the NDAES and Extension. Please support the SBARE Priority List.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Hall Lovas
SBARE Chair

To: Chairman Monson and House Appropriations

Government Operations Division

From: Chris Augustin

Dickinson Research Extension Center Director

chris.augustin@ndsu.edu 701-456-1103

Subject: Support Senate Bill 2020

Good morning, Chairman Monson and House Appropriations Committee Members. For the record I am Chris Augustin and serve as director of the Dickinson Research Extension Center. I am a farm kid from Pembina County, the product of 4-H, and have worked hard to make the best better. The "best" being North Dakota! Thank you for this opportunity to communicate to you the value of the Dickinson Research Extension Center.

The Dickinson Research Extension Center (DREC) conducts agricultural research and outreach that empowers people. Soil acidity and aluminum toxicity are new soil health issues that robs farmers of crop yield. Soil acidity is found across the state. By working with farmers and NDSU colleagues across the state, we have developed lime recommendations that fix this issue and have started the Extension outreach portion of this project. Additionally, Dr. Victor Gomes has worked with students, farmers, and the integrated pest management program to scout over 12,000 acres of southwestern North Dakota farmland. Crop focus has been on wheat, barley, sunflower, canola, and soybean. Dr. Gomes' and the team's efforts provided timely pest management recommendations to farmers and contributed to increased crop health that supports the region's agricultural exports.

We perpetuate agriculture through research and education. Range Scientist Dr. Manske's grazing research has shown that the twice-over grazing system soil contains 58 tons of carbon. Whereas, 2023 Food and Agriculture Organization report states that prime North American grassland soils contain 27 tons of carbon per acre. DREC pastures have twice the carbon! Dr. Manske conducts various grazing tours and works one-on-one with many ranchers and students throughout the year.

The DREC improves food systems and natural resources for today and tomorrow. Integrating livestock and diversifying cropping systems research conducted by Douglas Landblom has shown a net return increase of $15 per acre. The integrated rotation has shown similar yields, while reducing nitrogen fertilizer by 50%.

I am pleased to report that the lab/shop funded by the special legislative session in 2021 is nearly complete. We are preparing this year's crop in the lab. The shop area is making a positive impact serving as home for our local 4H air rifle team.

Senator Rich Wardner has been a champion for North Dakota agriculture. I am thrilled to inform you that the State Board of Higher Education approved to honor Senator Wardner and name the new building the Wardner Agricultural Laboratory! I hope you join us at our

annual agronomy field day on July 17 where we will have a ribbon cutting ceremony and barbeque.

I support the SBARE priority list. Enhancing our operating budget is crucial to accomplish our charge. During my five years of serving at the DREC, our operating costs have increased immensely. Fuel, motor pool, and seed/feed/herbicides costs alone have risen 41, 9, and 18% respectively (Figure 1).

The SBARE capital improvement request to construct Equipment Storage Sheds is needed. Storing the equipment in sheds is vital to maximize the investment for the equipment by prolonging their life. Our combines may only have a five-foot header, while a farmer's combine has a 30 foot or larger header. However, despite this size difference, the two pieces of equipment share a similar price.

Thank you for your time and support. I am proud of the Dickinson Research Extension Center team. They are all dedicated, hardworking, and live the land-grant mission. I am happy to answer any questions.

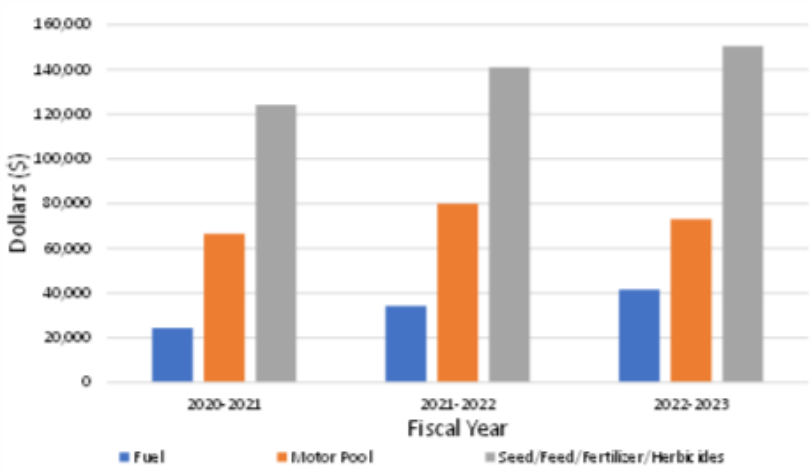


Figure 1. Comparison of costs for various categories at the Dickinson Research Extension Center.

NDSU AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER AND EXTENSION: EXTENDING KNOWELDEGE>CHANGING LIVES

NDSU Central Grasslands Research Extension Center

Enhancing Livestock Production while Improving Ecosystem Services and Conservation of Grasslands



Our Mission

- **Conduct research and provide Extension programming to enhance the economic return of grazing lands and forages while promoting ecosystem services and land conservation**
- ***North Dakota's #1 commodity is Range and Pasture at 9.46 million acres*** *(USDA, FSA 2024)*
  - *Mixed forages #5 (2.9 million acres). Wheat #2, soybeans #3, and corn #4 ranking*
- **Our goal is:**
  - *Develop grazing management strategies and identifying best forage options that enhance the lives of the ranching community while revitalizing rural communities*
  - *Study integrated grazing management strategies on range and cropland that regenerates our natural resources (increase carbon capture, increase bio-diversity, reduce water pollutants, and improve soil biology)*
  - *Develop best grazing management practices that enhance ecosystem services and livestock production*
  - *Assess impacts of management of beef cattle on reproduction and fetal development*
  - *Train our Extension agents, land managers, decision makers, and industry leaders*

Thank you to the 67th and 68th Legislative Assembly for their support of Central Grasslands REC

- **Capital projects: completed the livestock research facility and will complete the director's residency in 2025**
- **Generous compensation and equity adjustment package, and continued support for deferred maintenance and equipment from the 68th Assembly**

Needs for 2025-2027:

- **We support SBARE Priority Initiative #4 for the NDAES on increasing the operating budget. CGREC operating costs increase by 34% (+$119,000/year) from 2020 to 2024.**
- **We support the NDAES Capital Improvement Request #3: Storage Sheds**

Selected Impacts and Private/Public Values

1. Regenerative grazing using rotational grazing with variable grazing intensities

- Increased harvest efficiency by cattle of 37.6 percent (4-year average).
  - **Creates added value to the land by 21 lb of beef per acre. At $3/lb calf prices, this equates to $63 in added value per acre**
- USDA, NRCS showed an adoption rate for rotational grazing at 47 percent for the Northern Plains in 2023
  - **If only 10% of these ranchers adopted this grazing strategy, we would see an increased revenue by these ranchers of ~ $59.4 million annually in North Dakota.**
- Temporally heavy grazing increased all soil microbiome complexities, with any grazing level enhancing soil storage of total and organic carbon.
  - **Grazing can create healthier soils, better nutrient cycling, and cleaner water**
- Enhanced conservation of the land

2. Patch-burn grazing

- Increased forage quality by 25% and mineral concentration by 50 to 100%.
  - **Creating an increased calf performance by 0.14 lb/day (4-year average), equating to an increase of $14.28/acre in gross revenue**
- Created the greatest conservation in bird diversity and pollinator habitat.

3. Precision Agriculture (Virtual Fencing)

- Central Grasslands REC was the first to bring the technology to North Dakota in 2022
  - **We are leaders in the nation testing this technology. We've collaborated with the School of Natural Resource Sciences and Animal Sciences, as well as the Carrington REC, Dickinson REC, Hettinger REC, and 2 private ranches using 23 herds and almost 3,300 acres. We expect 15 to 20 producers to adopt the technology in 2025.**
- Classic model of research development > Extension programming > Delivery > Adoption

4. Extension Programming

- Extension programming tied to CGREC had 4,333 direct contacts at 89 events, with an indirect reach of 1,319,105 people.
  - **The state's BQA program is led by our Livestock specialist (Lisa Pederson). This program certified over 300 producers and 15,000 head of cattle in 2024, adding over $1.5 million in added value to those North Dakota producers.**

5. Workforce Development

- Will graduated 32 PhD and MS graduate students since 2019
- Trained over 100 undergraduate students by providing summer technician positions

Kevin Sedivec, Central Grasslands Research Extension Center
House 2025 Testimony

Good Morning,

Chair Munson, members of the House Appropriations Government Operations Division

For the record, my name is Kevin Sedivec, Interim Director for the Central Grasslands Research Extension Center

Thanks for the opportunity to testify today

The center's goals are to:

1) Develop grazing management strategies and identify best forage options that enhance livestock production, ecosystem services, healthy range and soils, and enhance the lives of North Dakota citizens

I want to THANK the 67th and 68th Legislative Assembly for their continued support for the Central Grasslands REC. Specifically, thanks for funding our

1) Capital projects: We completed the new livestock research facility early this year and the director's residency will be completed by June
2) Generous compensation and equity adjustment package, and continued support for deferred maintenance and equipment from the 68th Assembly

The center's success and productively is due to our partnership with main station scientists and Extension specialists, REC network, and collaboration with numerous government and private agencies, and livestock producers.

1) **Our latest research assessing regenerative grazing using rotational grazing with varying grazing intensities showed:**
    a. Increased grazing efficiency by cattle of 37.6 percent (4-year average).
        i. This increased efficiency added 21 pounds of beef per acre. At $3 calves this equates to $63 in added value per acre
    b. The USDA, NRCS showed an adoption rate for rotational grazing at 47 percent for the Northern Plains in 2023.
        i. If only 10% of these ranchers adopted this grazing strategy, we would see an increased revenue by these ranchers of ~ $59.4 million annually in North Dakota.

2) **Precision agriculture using virtual fencing**
    a. Central Grasslands REC was the first to bring precision agriculture with virtual fencing to North Dakota in 2022
        i. We are national leaders in testing this technology. We have collaborated with the NDSU School of Natural Resource Sciences and Animal Sciences, as well as the Carrington, Dickinson, and Hettinger REC, and two private ranches using 23 herds and almost 3,300 acres. We expect 20 to 25 producers to adopt this technology in 2025.
        ii. This project is a classic model of testing new research – leading to Extension programming – which leads to delivery – then adoption.

3) **Extension programming**
    a. Extension programming tied to Central Grasslands REC had over 4,300 direct contacts at 89 events in 2024, with an indirect reach of 1,319,105 people.
        i. Our Extension Livestock specialist (Lisa Pederson) leads the state's Beef Quality Assurance program. This program certified over 300 producers and 15,000 head of cattle in 2024, adding over $1.5 million in added value to those North Dakota producers.

4) **Workforce Development**
    a. The center takes pride in developing our future workforce, with 32 PhD and MS graduate students finishing up since 2019, and we've
    b. Trained over 100 undergraduate students by providing summer technician positions

In terms of Needs for 2025-2027

1) **We strongly support SBARE Priority Initiative #4 for the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES) on increasing the operating budget, equipment and graduate research assistantships.**
    a. From 2020 to 2024, CGREC operating costs increase by 34% (+$119,000/year or 12% of our budget).
    b. We also had budget cuts during the 2015-2017 and 2017-2019 sessions of 5 and 14.5%; respectively, creating a total loss of funds for research, development and Extension at 31% since 2015.

2) **And lastly, we support the NDAES Capital Improvement Request #3: A Storage Shed for equipment and precision technology**

March 9, 2025

To the Honorable Members of the North Dakota Legislative Assembly, House Appropriations Government Operations Division

I am writing this letter asking for your continued support of the NDSU Central Grasslands Research Extension Center (CGREC) located near Streeter ND.

This letter is written on behalf of the advisory board to the CGREC.

The research being conducted on range, forages, and animal science plays a critical role in helping to keep our agricultural-based economy healthy. The CGREC is made-up of 5,335 acres of mixed-grass prairie in Stutman and Kidder Counties. This location primarily serves a 16 county area in the Missouri Coteau but its outreach has been much greater than that.

The CGREC is uniquely positioned to conduct research trials on a field scale and unbiased third-party basis. This research continues to provide information and ideas that farmers and ranchers can apply to their own operations. The network of experiment stations that CGREC is part of is vital to the continued effort to enhance economic return of grazing lands and forages while promoting ecosystem services and land conservation. This is their mission! Farmers and ranchers need help researching new production methods that they can take and use as they may not be willing to try themselves until they are more proven.

On behalf of the advisory board to the NDSU CGREC, we support Senate Bill SB2020.

Thank you for time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christof Just

Chair of the CGREC Advisory Board

Berlin, ND

Alex Lahlum

ND House

4-H Extension

11 March 2025

Why 4-H matters to me

Information about myself

My name is Alex Lahlum, I've been involved with 4-H as long as I can remember, I'm a freshman at the University of Mary, and I'm proud to be born and raised a farmer. 4-H has been a large part of my family's history, both my parents and grandparents were involved in 4-H, my dad's family in particular was heavily involved, my grandma was inducted into the North Dakota 4-H hall of fame and our family is recognized as a century family as well.

Why 4-H is important to me

But why is 4-H important to me? 4-H has played an instrumental part in my life, being involved in something beyond myself and learning new skills has helped me grow exponentially. The leadership and communication abilities I have developed through 4-H shaped me into who I am today and helped me deal with challenges presented to me. Through 4-H, I met some of my best friends, people who have pushed me to do more and make the best for myself. The connections I've made and still make through 4-H have allowed me to excel in many new areas, finding mentors willing to teach me skills such as woodworking, electrical, insulation, drywall, and painting

Without 4-H, I would've never had so many amazing experiences in my life. I was able to attend National Congress in Atlanta, become a state ambassador, and show animals at the State Fair. The opportunities presented to me through 4-H gave me the confidence necessary to take

steps towards my dreams, I've started a small business with my friends, began planning small music events for one of my peers, and helped as a substitute teacher at my home parish.

I truly believe that without 4-H I would still be the anti-social kid I was. Being able to stand here in front of you today and talk about the importance of 4-H for other youth is a testament to 4-H's ability to form us into leaders and visionaries for the future of our world. It has been a great honor to be given the opportunity to speak in front of you here today, I hope you all consider how much your support on initiative #2 could impact other youth and build a strong foundation for their future. For all your past, present, and future support I give you my heartfelt gratitude, without 4-H I'm not sure I could be proud of who I am today, being able to look back and see my progress helps me to keep moving forward even when life seems bleak, I hope 4-H can continue to provide that growth to others in the future.

Thank you all for your time.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

My name is Jacob Odermann, a third-generation Billings County rancher and I also serve as vice-chair of the NDSU Dickinson Research Extension Center Advisory Board. My wife AJ and I along with our 4 children (4th Generation) raise our cattle in a native environment where we strive to conserve air, water and soil resources. Our family has benefited greatly from the Dickinson Research Extension Center's personnel, programs, and data in helping manage our herd.

The focus of our cattle operation is to produce animals that roam the prairies efficiently, consuming the grasses that spring from the earth. This means careful attention to preserving the biology of the land so it can feed the animals that roam our farm/ranch.

Our family with the help and input of Dickinson Research Extension Center Range Scientist, Dr. Manske has utilized the twice over grazing system for over 30 years. This system has increased our carrying capacity, forage quality and profitability.

We routinely participate in the various Extension outreach activities put together by the Dickinson Research Extension Center and NDSU Extension. We raise functional cattle and produce great mothers and offspring that perform great on the rail. With the help of the Cow Herd Appraisal Performance Software or CHAPS, we have used data to help make breeding selections, improve our overall herd and achieve our ranching goals.

The Dickinson Research Extension Center has and continues to make positive lasting impacts for ag producers and the consumers of their products in North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Jacob Odermann

Chairman Monson and House Government Operations Appropriations Committee members. I am here on behalf of the 4-H Extension to speak on the request for operating funds for North Dakota Extension.

North Dakota Extension and 4-H has been a major part of my life from a very young age, and one of the things I appreciate most are the relational experiences I have because of 4-H. I have built and maintained many friendships, and I know the same can be said for my siblings and my parents. On an individual level, one of the things I appreciate is that I have been able to maintain relationships on a generational level with the children of my parents' 4-H peers. The parents of my friend Alex Lahlum were both Ambassadors with my dad, and then, as we both come from large families, our siblings followed in the footsteps of our parents and were also friends with each other. And even though our families have always lived in different parts of the state, we have maintained our relationship through 4-H. I know similar experiences to be true for many of my other friends, and I believe those connections are very unique to 4-H. 4-H Extension is very community oriented, and it is focussed heavily on community improvement, while also highlighting and supporting one's individual growth. 4-H Extension, specifically through their youth development and leadership programs has helped me in countless ways. When looking at all the achievements in my life I realize that much of what has helped me to be successful has been the skills that I have gained from 4-H. I believe one of the most important skills I need to prepare me for a future career is the ability to work well with other people, and I wholeheartedly believe that 4-H has helped me and helps many other youth to obtain this essential skill and many other important skills. The communication, leadership, problem-solving, and teamwork skills I have gained from being involved in 4-H events and being a 4-H Ambassador, I use every day, and being able to use these skills in collaboration with my peers and their unique and

individual skills, I feel that I have been a part of strengthening the community within 4-H and within North Dakota. A 4-H event that I have been involved in every year from the time I was 8 years old is the Communication Arts Contest; a contest that helps and highlights the communication skills of the participants. Without being able to participate in this event there are many aspects of my life I believe I would not have been as successful in. I have done well competing in high school speech and I have learned how to speak clearly and confidently in front of people. Without 4-H's impact on my life I wouldn't have those skills or successes and probably would not be comfortable even standing here and testifying on this bill. I'm confident that the same can be said for most 4-H members, which is why it's so important for these events and programs to be available to North Dakota youth.

Your support will allow these events to continue being easily accessible. One of the great things about 4-H is that it has always been affordable. Many other programs for youth have many costs associated with them but 4-H has kept their expenses at a minimum, making it accessible to all youth in North Dakota. This is only because of the support that we receive, which is why I thank you for your past support and encourage you to continue your support of Extension and approve the request for operating funds for North Dakota Extension. Thank you.

March 10, 2025

Honorable Representative Monson
House Appropriations — Government Ops Division
North Dakota Legislative Council
State Capitol
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0360

Chairman Monson and members of the House Appropriations, Government Operations Division:

Western Region Economic Development (WRED), representing Divide, McKenzie, Mountrail, and Williams Counties of North Dakota, **supports SB2020** with the inclusion specifically of the SBARE priority of capital improvement projects for the Nesson Valley facility and storage shed of the NDSU Williston Research Extension Center to carry over $1.7 million for Nesson Valley and the $475,000 for the storage shed in general funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly. WRED supports to enact the special fund authority for both projects but **does not agree to the funding caps.** WRED requests that instead these caps be raised to ensure that the projects can be completed given that NDAES was unable to get any successful bids for the projects in the 2023-2025 biennium.

The Nesson Valley Irrigation Research and Development Project is located 27 miles from Williston and the irrigation staff currently utilize a small office and bathroom in a chemical storage building.

A Research and Technology Transfer and Research facility to include a heated shop, restrooms, and an employee break room would be a great asset. The addition of office and lab space as well as a conference room for irrigation conferences and grower meetings is needed to support the expansion of irrigation and food processing industries in western North Dakota and needs to remain in the facility plans.

Expanded agricultural economic development in western North Dakota will be driven mostly by expanded irrigation research and development as the catalyst to promote new and expanded production of high value crops and irrigated agricultural processing capability. The MonDak Irrigation Frontier has the potential to expand to 500,000 acres.

WRED strongly encourages this committee to approve the carryover of $1,700,000 for the Nesson Valley Facility, $475,000 for the storage shed as approved by the Senate, and **enact the special fund authority as needed to complete these projects** along with providing **full funding** of the budget request for the NDSU Williston Research Extension.

Sincerely,

Ann Kvande

Ann Kvande
Executive Officer

PO Box 1306, Williston, ND 58802-1306 Telephone: 701-577-8110 www.wrednd.com

RED RIVER VALLEY Sugarbeet GROWERS ASSOCIATION
Minnesota • North Dakota
1401 32nd Street SW • Fargo, ND 58103 • Phone: 701-239-4151 • Fax: 701-239-4276
email: information@rrvsga.com

March 11, 2025

Chairman Monson and members of the House Appropriations – Government Operations Committee,

I am Brent Baldwin, a farmer from Saint Thomas, North Dakota. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I am representing the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2020.

Agriculture continues to provide big returns for our rural economies, our state, and our nation. Our production practices, which have been developed, refined, or promoted through the unbiased research of the NDSU Extension and the ND Ag Experiment Station, have ensured we offer the safest and most efficient food network in the world. However, other countries are catching up, largely due to their significant increase in public agricultural research. According to the United States Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service, China surpassed U.S. total public expenditures on agricultural research in 2008.

NDSU Extension has a long and strong track record when it comes to providing value and returns to North Dakota Agriculture. Their presence in all 53 counties across North Dakota ensures that science-based research, information and programming is available to all agriculture producers. Any significant reduction in 2023-2025 base funding will impact Extension's mission and this statewide network.

NDSU Extension's unbiased research is extremely valuable to us producers. One example of this value is the development of various economic thresholds which are key to maintaining profitability on farm by helping in the decision making of pesticide applications. Another example is the use of NDSU Extension's research to help win a lawsuit against the EPA when a vital insecticide called chlorpyrifos was taken off the shelf for a period. Without the State's investment in agriculture, the above examples of value may not exist.

We encourage this committee to fully fund NDSU Extension and provide a DO PASS recommendation on SB 2020.

Brent Baldwin – Farmer – Saint Thomas, North Dakota
President - Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association

In Support of SB 2020
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station
House Appropriations – Government Operations Division

Testimony of Andrew Mauch

March 11, 2025

Chairman Monson and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity for the North Dakota Corn Growers Association to share our support of Senate Bill 2020.

For the record, my name is Andrew Mauch. I farm near Mooreton with my family. I am here today as the President of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association, representing more than 13,000 corn growers across the state.

From 1980 and 2015, our nation's corn farmers decreased the land required to produce a bushel of corn by 41 percent; reduced soil loss per acre by 58 percent; improved energy efficiency per bushel by 41 percent; reduced greenhouse gas emissions per bushel by 31 percent; and reduced per bushel irrigation water usage by 46 percent, as reported by the National Corn Growers Association. But corn growers have not made these gains on our own. We rely on partners in agribusiness, technology, and research to help us to achieve these efficiencies.

The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station initiatives include the network of Research Extension Centers, a major public source of independent and reliable practical research that our growers depend on in this ever-changing world of farming. We use the results of the professionals working for the benefit of our farmers on real-life challenges and opportunities we face on an ongoing basis. They help us cut through the marketing claims of products and supplies through field trials and research; how to identify plant diseases like the corn leaf disease tar spot that was discovered in the state last year, and how to manage it, and have their finger on the pulse on what our state's ag producers are facing by working

closely with our farmers throughout the state. They disseminate their findings so we can incorporate them into our farm operations. ***The Ag Experiment Station programs must be fully funded*** as they are a lifeline for North Dakota agriculture and its $41.3 billion annual impact on the state's economy.

Furthermore, we will need help as corn production is at a crossroads where there is a market-drive demand from consumers pressing for more accountability in how our food, fuel and fiber get to them. Specifically, the passenger aviation industry's net zero emissions goals have our value-added ag processors calling on us to evaluate our farming practices to be able to meet these market demands. **SBARE's Biofuels and Carbon Management** priority would further strengthen the marketability of our corn and improve the profitability of our operations as it intersects with our growers, helping us rise to the occasion.

And finally, we want to convey our support for the **Center for Ag Policy and Trade Studies** initiative. We must insert research from the heartland affecting national and international public policy on farm programs and trade. The initiative will allow us to better understand how such policies impact North Dakota's agricultural sector. With state funding to help leverage national funding, this can be an incredible opportunity to develop the center for the benefit of the ag industry in North Dakota.

Our mission statement is "growing a healthy, profitable business climate for northern corn," and research from the Ag Experiment Station is critical to help us meet that mission. We urge your support for SB 2020.

I will stand in response to any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration.

Growth Energy™
Expanding America's Bioeconomy

March 11, 2025

Hon. David Monson
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
Government Operations Division
State Capitol
600 E Boulevard Ave
Bismarck, ND 58505

Chairman Monson:

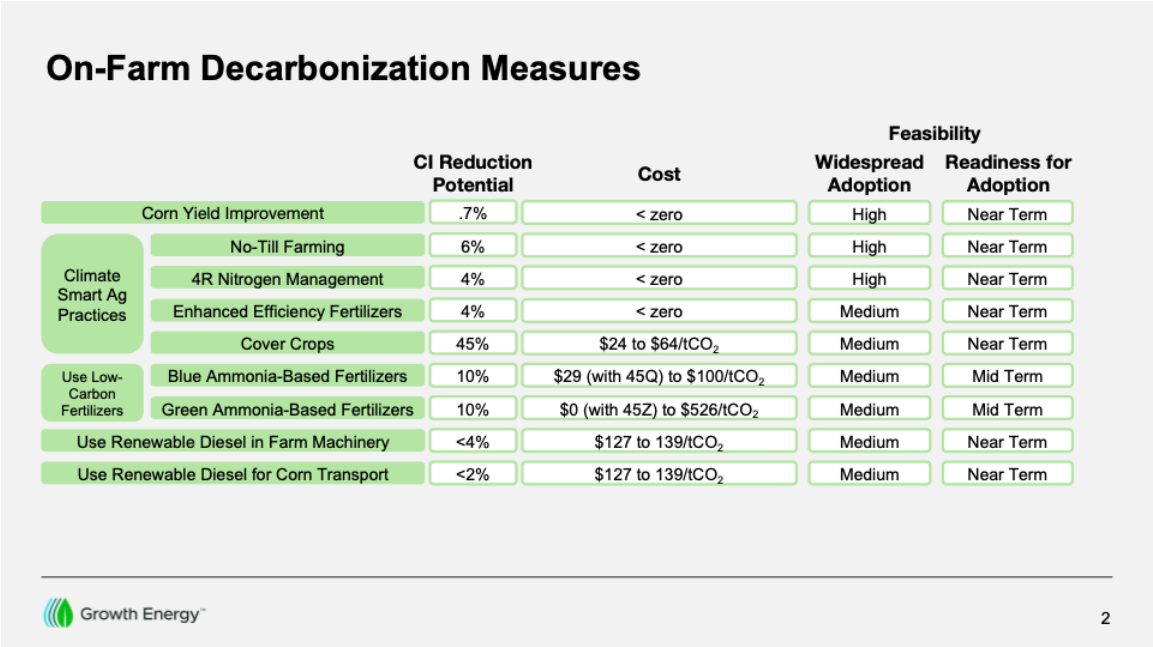
Growth Energy is the world's largest association of biofuel producers, representing 97 U.S. plants that each year produce more than 9.5 billion gallons of cleaner-burning, renewable fuel, including two biorefineries in North Dakota. We also represent 130 businesses and groups, including the North Dakota Corn Growers and North Dakota Ethanol Producers Association, working with them and tens of thousands of biofuel supporters around the country. Together, we remain committed to bringing better and more affordable choices at the fuel pump to consumers, helping our country by rebuilding the farm economy, lowering fuel costs, driving American energy dominance, and winning global markets.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding SB 2020, which provides appropriations for a number of agricultural research programs important to North Dakota farmers. As North Dakota is primed to be a leader in the production of lower carbon liquid fuels, the opportunities to create economic value for those fuels starts at the farm. With the inclusion of certain growing practices, North Dakota corn growers can drive a premium for their crops.

A recent study commissioned by Growth Energy, conducted by Energy Futures Initiative Foundation (EFIF) details a wide variety of on-farm practices that can increase corn growers' profitability in the global carbon economy. Practices such as the use of blue or green ammonia-based fertilizers, the use of renewable fuels, and a number of climate-smart agriculture practices were among those studied by EFIF. As these practices are implemented and carbon intensity (CI) is reduced, the premium for the crops increases. These practices are essential in for North Dakota corn growers to compete in the global carbon economy.

Yet, as the chart below also shows, the implementation of these practices can be costly, and not all of these practices are ready for widespread adoption. Earlier this year, the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE) released their priorities and budgetary requests, including a request to fund two full time employees (FTEs) for a program to support farmers'

carbon management practices and “develop advanced farming techniques tailored to North Dakota’s unique agricultural conditions.” This request would total $525,000 to “focus on practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping and efficient nutrient management.” This research will help North Dakota corn growers implement the premium-creating practices identified by EFIF.



On-Farm Decarbonization Measures

		CI Reduction Potential	Cost	Feasibility: Widespread Adoption	Feasibility: Readiness for Adoption
Corn Yield Improvement		.7%	< zero	High	Near Term
Climate Smart Ag Practices	No-Till Farming	6%	< zero	High	Near Term
	4R Nitrogen Management	4%	< zero	High	Near Term
	Enhanced Efficiency Fertilizers	4%	< zero	Medium	Near Term
	Cover Crops	45%	$24 to $64/tCO$_2$	Medium	Near Term
Use Low-Carbon Fertilizers	Blue Ammonia-Based Fertilizers	10%	$29 (with 45Q) to $100/tCO$_2$	Medium	Mid Term
	Green Ammonia-Based Fertilizers	10%	$0 (with 45Z) to $526/tCO$_2$	Medium	Mid Term
Use Renewable Diesel in Farm Machinery		<4%	$127 to 139/tCO$_2$	Medium	Near Term
Use Renewable Diesel for Corn Transport		<2%	$127 to 139/tCO$_2$	Medium	Near Term

Unfortunately, the text of SB 2020 omitted funding to research the development of these climate-smart agricultural practices for North Dakota farmers. Funding these public resources would not only help North Dakota agricultural producers become more profitable but also enable them to capitalize on the evolving market dynamics and landscape. Several states and nations with which we conduct a considerable amount of trade in the liquid fuels industry are incentivizing lower carbon liquid fuels. California, Oregon, and Washington have low carbon fuel standards while New Mexico is currently in the process of implementation. These programs provide an opportunity for North Dakota corn growers to realize increased profits at a time when the United States Department of Agriculture is projecting reduced farm incomes.

We respectfully request the committee consider the inclusion of funding for this project, which will benefit North Dakota corn growers as the domestic and international fuel markets evolve to demand lower carbon liquid fuels. We thank you for your time and consideration.

Additionally, we are happy to assist the committee with technical questions and thank the committee for its interest in ensuring North Dakota's bioethanol and agriculture industries remains competitive in the future.

Sincerely,



Chris Bliley
Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs
Growth Energy

Eric Broten
Broten Farms
1681 106th Ave SE
Dazey, ND 58429

March 11, 2025

ND House Appropriations Committee

Hello Chairman David Monson, and members of ND House appropriations committee,

My name is Eric Broten. I am a farmer from Dazey, ND. I farm in Barnes and Griggs County. I raise Corn, Soybean, Barley, Rye and have a few head of cattle on my family farm. I am a 4th generation farmer. I farm with my dad, my wife and 4 children and 6 full time employees. I am testifying on the importance of funding NDSU's Research and Extension Centers.

I grew up on our family farm and attended college at NDSU. After graduation I moved back to the farm and have been farming full time ever sense. As I look back on my father and grandfather's time farming. It is remarkable the scope of changes that have happened in Agriculture. To be a successful farmer in today's world you need to have a wide range of expertise. Input costs are extremely high, and profit margins are low. Making good financial and agronomic decisions are critical to the success of an operation. We cannot make these decisions without having good science-based research to base our decisions on.

The NDSU Research and Extension Centers are vital for producers to make good science-based decisions. As a producer, we buy inputs from many different venders. Each vender with their own best use practices and rates for their product. Doing on farm research is important, but it takes time, money, and in some cases just isn't practical. This is where we rely on the REC's. Here they provide the information I need to make the best decisions for not only my farm, but for each acre of every field on my farm. Every farmer in ND is benefiting from the NDSU Research and Extension Centers. They personally may not even be aware of what the RECs do, but the people who are making them recommendations are. I along with my agronomist have found great value in the research done through the Research and Extension centers and use this information to help make numerous agronomic decisions throughout the year.

Just like the cost of the equipment on my operation. The cost of their equipment is also increasing along with the need to have proper storage to keep these investments in good working condition. Also having the funding for the staff needed to complete this research is a necessity. Agriculture is changing as it always has. As I look forward, I see a landscape much different than I do today. I see more focus on soil health, reduced tillage, and more concern for our carbon footprint. We need the Research and Extension Centers to continue to provide us critical information. Information we can use to make the proper decisions on our farm for ourselves and for future generations.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eric Broten

Eric Broten.

Legislative Council

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase		$141,039	$319,939	$460,978		$141,039	$314,606	$455,645			($5,333)	($5,333)
Health insurance increase		71,675	198,562	270,237		71,675	192,557	264,232			(6,005)	(6,005)
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		102,295	236,946	339,241		102,295	236,946	339,241				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)		($34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)
Removes vacant FTE position				0	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)
Adds funding for artificial intelligence in surface transportation		375,000		375,000				0		(375,000)		(375,000)
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$690,009**	**$755,447**	**$1,445,456**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**($409,125)**	**($248,357)**	**($657,482)**
One-Time Funding Items												
Carbon dioxide transportation network study		$408,100		$408,100				$0		($408,100)		($408,100)
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$408,100**	**$0**	**$408,100**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**($408,100)**	**$0**	**($408,100)**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$1,098,109**	**$755,447**	**$1,853,556**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**($817,225)**	**($248,357)**	**($1,065,582)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**43.88**	**$6,324,484**	**$20,336,588**	**$26,661,072**	**42.88**	**$5,507,259**	**$20,088,231**	**$25,595,490**	**(1.00)**	**($817,225)**	**($248,357)**	**($1,065,582)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$13,059,451*				*$13,006,610*				*($52,841)*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*13.2%*	*3.9%*	*5.8%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*21.0%*	*3.9%*	*7.5%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Branch research centers - Budget No. 628
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Decreases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	(4.65)			$0	(4.65)			$0				$0
Salary increase		$625,768	$188,357	814,125		$625,768	$188,357	814,125				0
Health insurance increase		461,078	181,487	642,565		461,078	181,487	642,565				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		386,000		386,000		386,000		386,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		813,319	319,812	1,133,131		813,319	319,812	1,133,131				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(324,563)	(103,869)	(428,432)		($324,563)	($103,869)	(428,432)
Adds funding for IT rate increases		19,095	19,425	38,520		19,095	19,425	38,520				0
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)				0
Adds funding for operating expenses			280,000	280,000				0			(280,000)	(280,000)
Total ongoing funding changes	**(4.65)**	**$2,241,532**	**$989,081**	**$3,230,613**	**(4.65)**	**$1,916,969**	**$605,212**	**$2,522,181**	**0.00**	**($324,563)**	**($383,869)**	**($708,432)**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(4.65)**	**$2,241,532**	**$989,081**	**$3,230,613**	**(4.65)**	**$1,916,969**	**$605,212**	**$2,522,181**	**0.00**	**($324,563)**	**($383,869)**	**($708,432)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**107.16**	**$21,925,130**	**$21,954,052**	**$43,879,182**	**107.16**	**$21,600,567**	**$21,570,183**	**$43,170,750**	**0.00**	**($324,563)**	**($383,869)**	**($708,432)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*11.4%*	*4.7%*	*7.9%*	*(4.2%)*	*9.7%*	*2.9%*	*6.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*11.4%*	*4.7%*	*7.9%*	*(4.2%)*	*9.7%*	*2.9%*	*6.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Dickinson Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income		Section 4 authorizes the Dickinson Research Extension Center to spend up to $755,000 of revenue received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Williston Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income		Section 5 directs the Williston Research Extension Center to report to the 70th Legislative Assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 biennium.	

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the branch research centers, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority		Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the branch research centers and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by the branch research centers into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,614,854)	($450,138)	($2,064,992)		($1,614,854)	($450,138)	($2,064,992)				$0
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	2.74			0	2.74			0				0
Salary increase		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451				0
Health insurance increase		720,767	738,096	1,458,863		720,767	738,096	1,458,863				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		410,000		410,000		410,000		410,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(682,950)	(625,819)	(1,308,769)		($682,950)	($625,819)	(1,308,769)
Adds funding for an FTE extension carbon specialist		290,000		290,000				0		(290,000)		(290,000)
Adjusts base funding for supplies, operating expenses, and temporary salaries		619,621	(170,414)	449,207				0		(619,621)	170,414	(449,207)
Adds funding for operating support			150,000	150,000				0			(150,000)	(150,000)
Total ongoing funding changes	**2.74**	**$3,201,313**	**$2,994,761**	**$6,196,074**	**2.74**	**$1,608,742**	**$2,389,356**	**$3,998,098**	**0.00**	**($1,592,571)**	**($605,405)**	**($2,197,976)**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**2.74**	**$3,201,313**	**$2,994,761**	**$6,196,074**	**2.74**	**$1,608,742**	**$2,389,356**	**$3,998,098**	**0.00**	**($1,592,571)**	**($605,405)**	**($2,197,976)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**255.44**	**$34,992,002**	**$32,044,537**	**$67,036,539**	**255.44**	**$33,399,431**	**$31,439,132**	**$64,838,563**	**0.00**	**($1,592,571)**	**($605,405)**	**($2,197,976)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$10,057,689*				*$9,831,391*				*($226,298)*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*10.1%*	*10.3%*	*10.2%*	*1.1%*	*5.1%*	*8.2%*	*6.6%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*10.1%*	*10.3%*	*10.2%*	*1.1%*	*5.1%*	*8.2%*	*6.6%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by NDSU Extension Service, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority		Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the NDSU Extension Service and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by NDSU Extension Service into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	0.20			$0	0.20			$0				$0
Salary increase		$76,883	$96,404	173,287		$76,883	$96,404	173,287				0
Health insurance increase		43,015	71,085	114,100		43,015	71,085	114,100				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		58,637	60,680	119,317		58,637	60,680	119,317				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(18,871)	(24,841)	(43,712)		($18,871)	($24,841)	(43,712)
Adds funding for operating expenses		299,600	488,800	788,400		638,800	299,600	938,400		339,200	(189,200)	150,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.20**	**$478,135**	**$716,969**	**$1,195,104**	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$502,928**	**$1,301,392**	**0.00**	**$320,329**	**($214,041)**	**$106,288**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding for a protein extraction and air classification system			$350,000	$350,000			$350,000	$350,000				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.20**	**$478,135**	**$1,066,969**	**$1,545,104**	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$852,928**	**$1,651,392**	**0.00**	**$320,329**	**($214,041)**	**$106,288**
2025-27 Total Funding	**18.35**	**$2,661,790**	**$4,608,085**	**$7,269,875**	**18.35**	**$2,982,119**	**$4,394,044**	**$7,376,163**	**0.00**	**$320,329**	**($214,041)**	**$106,288**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*21.9%*	*20.2%*	*20.9%*	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*14.2%*	*22.7%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*21.9%*	*30.1%*	*27.0%*	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*24.1%*	*28.8%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Northern Crops Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority		Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Northern Crops Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
Exemption		Sections 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by the Northern Crops Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)				$0
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	10.06			0	10.06			0				0
Salary increase		2,089,044	1,193,705	3,282,749		2,067,139	1,191,857	3,258,996		($21,905)	($1,848)	(23,753)
Health insurance increase		1,254,414	853,619	2,108,033		1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008		(28,524)	(1,501)	(30,025)
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		220,000		220,000		220,000		220,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)				0
Adds funding for an FTE scientist and an FTE research specialist		495,000		495,000				0		(495,000)		(495,000)
Adds funding for an FTE veterinary toxicology resident position				0	1.00	275,000		275,000	1.00	275,000		275,000
Removes vacant FTE positions				0	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)
Adjusts funding for supplies, operating expenses, repairs, and travel		(320,198)	(1,074,146)	(1,394,344)		(320,198)	(1,074,146)	(1,394,344)				0
Adds funding for research equipment			1,000,000	1,000,000				0			(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)
Adjusts base level funding for temporary salaries			(429,598)	(429,598)			(429,598)	(429,598)				0
Adjusts the funding source for graduate assistant salaries		(300,000)	300,000	0		(300,000)	300,000	0				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**10.06**	**$5,525,013**	**$3,979,207**	**$9,504,220**	**6.08**	**$2,797,061**	**$2,152,229**	**$4,949,290**	**(3.98)**	**($2,727,952)**	**($1,826,978)**	**($4,554,930)**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site			$620,000	$620,000			$620,000	$620,000				$0
Adds funding for deferred maintenance			1,500,000	1,500,000				0			($1,500,000)	(1,500,000)
Langdon seed conditioning plant				0			2,600,000	2,600,000			2,600,000	2,600,000
Equipment storage sheds				0		$1,567,500		1,567,500		$1,567,500		1,567,500
Nesson Valley irrigation research site				0			2,300,000	2,300,000			2,300,000	2,300,000
Williston equipment storage shed				0			200,000	200,000			200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation				0			6,000,000	6,000,000			6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition				0			3,250,000	3,250,000			3,250,000	3,250,000
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$2,120,000**	**$2,120,000**	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$14,970,000**	**$16,537,500**	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$12,850,000**	**$14,417,500**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**10.06**	**$5,525,013**	**$6,099,207**	**$11,624,220**	**6.08**	**$4,364,561**	**$17,122,229**	**$21,486,790**	**(3.98)**	**($1,160,452)**	**$11,023,022**	**$9,862,570**
2025-27 Total Funding	**368.53**	**$63,650,678**	**$64,121,672**	**$127,772,350**	**364.55**	**$62,490,226**	**$75,144,694**	**$137,634,920**	**(3.98)**	**($1,160,452)**	**$11,023,022**	**$9,862,570**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$8,943,534*				*$8,742,305*				*($201,229)*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*2.8%*	*9.5%*	*6.9%*	*8.2%*	*1.7%*	*4.8%*	*3.7%*	*4.3%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*2.8%*	*9.5%*	*10.5%*	*10.0%*	*1.7%*	*7.5%*	*29.5%*	*18.5%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Main Research Center, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
SIIF		Section 7 identifies $1,970,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, Oakes irrigation research site, and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.	
Transfer authority		Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Main Research Center and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by Main Research Center into the 2027-29 biennium.	
Exemption		Subsection 1 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended SIIF appropriation authority relating to the branch research center storage sheds appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	
Exemption		Subsection 2 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority relating to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				Senate Compared to Executive Budget Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase			$24,093	$24,093			$24,093	$24,093				$0
Health insurance increase			18,016	18,016			18,016	18,016				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool			8,312	8,312			8,312	8,312				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0			(3,147)	(3,147)			($3,147)	(3,147)
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$50,421**	**$50,421**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**($3,147)**	**($3,147)**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$0**	**$50,421**	**$50,421**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**($3,147)**	**($3,147)**
2025-27 Total Funding	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,683,143**	**$1,683,143**	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,679,996**	**$1,679,996**	**0.00**	**$0**	**($3,147)**	**($3,147)**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.1%*	*3.1%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*3.1%*	*3.1%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Agronomy Seed Farm, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Agronomy Seed Farm and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority received by the Agronomy Seed Farm into the 2027-29 biennium.	








North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

NDSU Extension

Northern Crops Institute

2025-2027 Biennial Budget Request

Senate Bill 2020
House Government Operations
Representative David Monson, Chair
March 11, 2025

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station
- Main Station - Budget No. 640
- Branch Research Extension Centers - Budget No. 628
- Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649

NDSU Extension - Budget No. 630

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

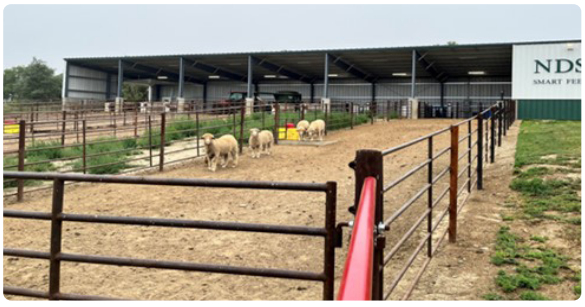
David Cook
President, North Dakota State University

Sarah Lovas
Chair, State Board of Agricultural Research and Education

Greg Lardy
Joe and Norma Peltier Vice President for Agriculture
Director, ND Agricultural Experiment Station
Director, NDSU Extension

www.ndsu.edu/agforlegislators

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY






SBARE

State Board of Agricultural Research and Education

Who we are and what we do

History

The State Board of Agricultural Research (SBAR) was established by legislative decree in 1997. It was responsible for budgeting and policy-making associated with the supervision of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.

The law was changed during the 1999 legislative session to include responsibility for the North Dakota State University Extension Service. SBAR became the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE).

Membership

The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education consists of:

- NDSU President or the President's designee
- NDSU Vice President for Agriculture*
- North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station Director*
- NDSU Extension Director*
- Five people appointed by Ag Coalition
- Five people appointed in the geographic areas represented by NDSU Extension's multicounty program units
- North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner*
- Two members of the legislative assembly appointed by the chair of Legislative Council

** serve in ex-officio, nonvoting capacity*

Duties

SBARE, within the policies of the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE), is responsible for budgeting and policy-making associated with the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and North Dakota State University Extension.

SBARE responsibilities are to:

- Determine the causes of any adverse economic impacts on crops and livestock produced in the state;
- Develop ongoing strategies for the provision of research solutions and resources to negate adverse economic impacts on crops and livestock produced in this state;
- Develop proactive strategies for NDSU Extension to fulfill the mission of improving the lives and livelihood of the citizens of North Dakota by providing research-based education;
- Implement the strategies developed under bullets 2 and 3, subject to approval by the SBHE;
- Develop, with the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension, an annual budget for the operations of these entities;
- Develop a biennial budget request based on its prioritized needs list and submit that request to the president of NDSU and the SBHE, and forward its prioritized needs list and request without modification to the Office of Management and Budget and the appropriations committees of the legislative assembly;
- Maximize the use of existing financial resources, equipment, and facilities to generate the greatest economic benefit from research and extension efforts and to promote efficiency;
- Annually evaluate the results of research and extension activities and expenditures, and report the findings to the Legislative Council and the SBHE;
- Advise the President of NDSU regarding the recruitment, selection and performance of the Vice President for Agriculture, the NDSU Extension Director and the Station Director; and
- Provide a status report to the budget section of the Legislative Council.

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7/1/2024

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Agency Statutory Authority

ND Constitution Article XIX; North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15-12.1

Agency Description

Situated on the campus of North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Science, the Main Research Station serves as the administrative hub for the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES). It conducts and coordinates all research activities, focusing on developing and disseminating technology crucial for producing and utilizing food, feed, fiber, and fuel from crop and livestock enterprises. This research contributes to economic development, enhances the quality of life, ensures sustainable production, and protects the environment. The Main Research Station meticulously documents all activities and publishes valuable information for the state's residents. Our research is an important component of agriculture's $30.8 billion contribution to the State's economy.

Agency Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide premier research solutions that empower our people and communities to thrive in a dynamic world. The NDAES is dedicated to transforming agriculture by embracing digital advancements, pioneering technological innovations, and prioritizing the conservation of our most precious natural resource, the land. Our goal is to become a global leader in research related to the production of food, fuel, and fiber.

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS)

Research into the effects of national and international policies and trade on North Dakota's agriculture is needed. Export markets for agricultural products have become increasingly more complex, resulting in increasing levels of risk for farmers and agribusinesses in the state. North Dakota's economy, heavily dependent on agriculture and trade, faces vulnerabilities due to tensions in international relations and trade dynamics, impacting food security and global trade patterns. The prosperity of North Dakota's agricultural sector is intricately linked to the success of its farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses. Unique challenges confront the state, including the fact that its location requires rail transport to export markets. Research is crucial to comprehend the repercussions of changes in agricultural policies and global market trends on North Dakota's agricultural community.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Digital Transformation of Agriculture
Digital agriculture, precision farming and ranching, and related technologies are advancing rapidly, driven by breakthroughs in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). NDAES scientists are leveraging these technologies to transform food production. Investing in new technologies, staff and infrastructure will equip scientists with the necessary resources to accelerate research in sensor technology, plant breeding, precision livestock farming and other digital initiatives. This effort is key to enhancing global food security through innovations in North Dakota agriculture. Such funding is crucial for improving infrastructure and capabilities in agricultural data analysis and precision agriculture.

Livestock Animal Health
North Dakota faces a significant risk of having no veterinary toxicologist available. To address this critical need, a position is requested to fund a toxicology resident. A toxicologist plays a vital role in supporting the state's livestock industry by developing assays for the detection of mycotoxins, ergot, blister beetle toxin, bromethalin in feed and other challenges that affect the industry.

Operating, Equipment and Graduate Research Assistantships
Enhanced operating budgets are essential for sustaining growth and achieving ongoing success. The operational costs associated with the NDAES research mission have escalated. Expenses for fuel, equipment maintenance, repairs, feed, fertilizer and more limits the ability of scientists to be responsive to critical research needs. Additionally, operating funds are crucial for fostering the early career development of scientists, enabling them to acquire necessary start-up equipment and supplies, and to support graduate student salaries. Sufficient start-up and operating funds are vital for establishing successful research programs.

Modern research equipment is essential for conducting accurate experiments and advancing new methods to improve North Dakota's livestock and cropping systems. Funding is requested to ensure laboratories and agricultural field operations are equipped with modern equipment needed to generate world-class results.

Graduate research assistants play an indispensable role in the successful completion of every NDAES agricultural research project. They are deeply involved in conducting experiments, analyzing data and applying research findings to solve real-world agricultural problems. Graduate students also share their advancements to the wider community by the dissemination of research through publications and presentations. Additionally, their research prepares them as the next generation of leaders, equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to address challenges facing North Dakota agriculture. This initiative requests an increase in the number of assistantships to support the research activities by attracting talent to NDSU.

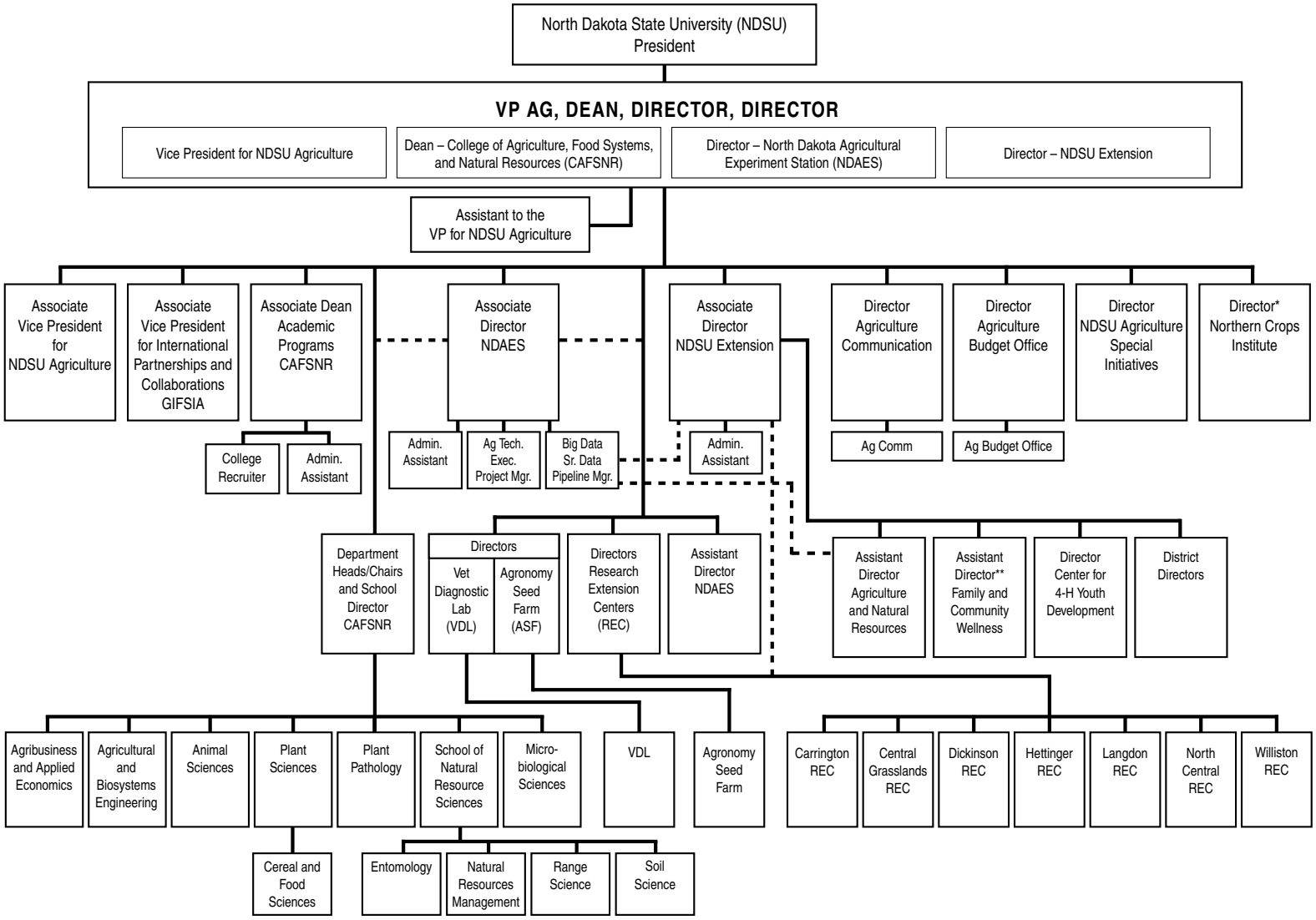
Biofuels and Carbon Management
As a consequence of national and international agricultural customer base, North Dakota farmers can achieve economic gains through the adoption of carbon and land management strategies. This is key to reduce carbon intensity scores to more effectively participate in markets for renewable fuels. There is a significant need for research to develop advanced farming techniques tailored to North Dakota's unique agricultural conditions. This research will focus on practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping and efficient nutrient management aimed to both reduce carbon intensity and enhance the production of biofuel feedstocks. This supports efforts in improving profitability in farmers' operations.

Research Specialists
Technical support staff are critical in assisting agricultural scientists to achieve their research goals. They provide essential expertise in the operation and maintenance of sophisticated laboratory and field equipment that ensures experiments are conducted efficiently and accurately. Staff contribute to the collection and analysis of data, which is fundamental for validating research findings and advancing scientific knowledge in agriculture. By providing logistical and administrative support, they enable scientists to focus on their core research activities, thereby accelerating the progress and impact of agricultural research.

Organizational Chart

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



*Director reports to Northern Crops Council. NDSU administrative reporting only.

**Extension faculty and staff in the Department of Human Development and Family Science and the Department of Health, Nutrition and Exercise Sciences (not shown on this chart) report to their respective department head/chair and are co-supervised by the Assistant Director for Family and Community Wellness.

4/1/24

2023-2025 North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station impacts

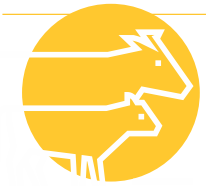
The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES) advances technology for the production and utilization of food, feed, fiber and fuel from crop and livestock enterprises.

- **Stakeholder-Driven:** NDAES research is guided by stakeholder needs, and solutions are communicated directly to thousands of stakeholders annually, ensuring that research outcomes are effectively implemented across the state.
- **Innovative Solutions:** Dedicated scientists deliver innovative research solutions that empower communities and drive agricultural transformation through digital advancements and pioneering technologies, all while conserving our natural resources.
- **Statewide Research:** NDAES research is conducted at eight branch stations across the state and on the main campus of North Dakota State University. Scientists address the critical issues unique to the diverse agriculture, food systems and natural resources in each region.
- **Economic Growth:** NDAES research supports economic development, enhances quality of life, ensures sustainable production and protects the environment, contributing directly to agriculture's $30.8 billion impact on North Dakota's economy.



Stakeholder-Driven Statewide Research

Major Accomplishments



Innovative solutions for livestock health and productivity enhance disease detection, optimize livestock management and improve nutritional strategies.

- The Bill Bowman Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) played a crucial role in safeguarding animal and public health by conducting essential tests for diseases like rabies, anthrax and avian flu.
- NDAES scientists demonstrated the effectiveness of virtual fencing technology in improving grazing management, calf performance and forage efficiency, making precision livestock management more accessible and cost-effective.
- Scientists developed and implemented advanced tests for detecting harmful toxins, ensuring the safety of livestock and protecting the agricultural supply chain.



Optimizing state investments positions North Dakota as a national leader in ag tech research and innovation.

- NDSU secured one of only 10 National Science Foundation Regional Engines grants, working with four partners to establish North Dakota as a key hub for agricultural technologies. NDAES scientists will play a key role in the grant by working collaboratively to develop technologies that provide solutions to problems across agricultural production systems.



Leveraging cutting-edge technologies like AI and data analytics accelerate crop improvements and promote sustainable farming practices.

- The Agricultural Data Analytics team is combining genetic data with field tests to develop models that improve crop varieties faster and more efficiently for North Dakota producers.
- Scientists are integrating AI-driven weed identification with autonomous systems, reducing herbicide use and fostering more environmentally sustainable agriculture.



Protecting and restoring natural resources by advancing sustainable practices enhances soil health, supports biodiversity and promotes climate resilience.

- Newly developed strategies to improve soil health, plant growth, and grassland quality for livestock and wildlife habitats following energy development.
- NDAES scientists pioneered sustainable farming techniques like rotational grazing and diverse crop rotations, which boost soil health, enhance carbon storage and increase agricultural resilience.



New crop varieties and farming practices improve yield, quality and sustainability, while also reducing input costs for farmers.

- Research on innovative nitrogen application methods and extensive variety testing have led to greater yields and better quality in crops like durum wheat, providing North Dakota farmers with varieties specifically suited to local conditions.
- Newly released pulse crop, winter wheat and oat varieties will increase farm income, expand market opportunities and improve farm sustainability while reducing input costs and boosting resilience against environmental challenges.



NDAES research protects North Dakota crops by monitoring and managing diseases, safeguarding productivity and preventing significant economic losses.

- Disease-monitoring programs detect threats like wheat rust and Sudden Death Syndrome in soybeans, enabling farmers to take early action and avoid potentially millions of dollars in losses.
- NDAES scientists developed effective management strategies for diseases such as canola clubroot and scab, ensuring crop protection, and maintaining farm productivity across the region.
- Innovative microbial solutions can boost crop yields and combat challenges like root rot and drought, enhancing the health and productivity of key crops such as soybeans, pulse crops and barley.

NDSU | NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

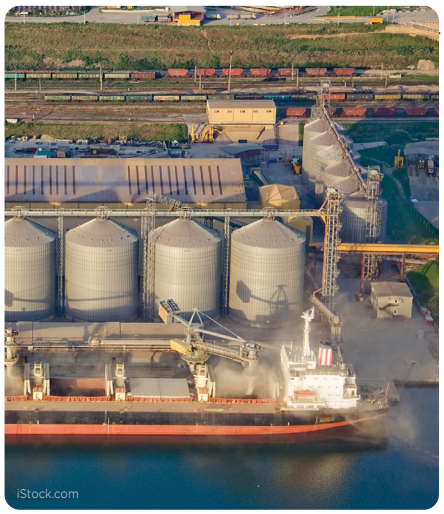
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SBARE Priorities for the

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION


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1 Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS)

Research into the effects of national and international policies and trade on North Dakota's agriculture is needed. Export markets for agricultural products have become increasingly more complex, resulting in increasing levels of risk for farmers and agribusinesses in the state. North Dakota's economy, heavily dependent on agriculture and trade, faces vulnerabilities due to tensions in international relations and trade dynamics, impacting food security and global trade patterns. The prosperity of North Dakota's agricultural sector is intricately linked to the success of its farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses. Unique challenges confront the state, including the fact that its location requires rail transport to export markets. Research is crucial to comprehend the repercussions of changes in agricultural policies and global market trends on North Dakota's agricultural community.

Request: Three FTEs total. Positions are: (1) Agricultural policy analyst–$275,000, (2) Market and trade analyst–$275,000 and (3) Economic impact/contributions specialist–$275,000. $150,000 in operating.

Total: $975,000


(NDSU photo)

2 Digital Transformation of Agriculture

Digital agriculture, precision farming and ranching, and related technologies are advancing rapidly, driven by breakthroughs in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). NDAES scientists are leveraging these technologies to transform food production. Investing in new technologies, staff and infrastructure will equip scientists with the necessary resources to accelerate research in sensor technology, plant breeding, precision livestock farming and other digital initiatives. This effort is key to enhancing global food security through innovations in North Dakota agriculture. Such funding is crucial for improving infrastructure and capabilities in agricultural data analysis and precision agriculture.

Request: Six FTEs total. Positions in prioritized order are: (1) AI/ML engineer–$280,000, (2) Database architect–$430,000, (3) Data manager–$280,000, (4) Data scientist–$280,000, (5) GIS specialist–$230,000 and (6) Unmanned Aircraft Systems chief pilot–$230,000. Operating request of $904,000 for software subscriptions for cloud server access, network servers, high-speed computers for AI computations, data archiving, storage architecture specialized for AI and ML, and software licenses.

Total: $2,634,000


(NDSU photo)

3 Livestock: Animal Health

North Dakota faces a significant risk of having no veterinary toxicologist available. To address this critical need, a position is requested to fund a toxicology resident. A toxicologist plays a vital role in supporting the state's livestock industry by developing assays for the detection of mycotoxins, ergot, blister beetle toxin, bromethalin in feed and other challenges that affect the industry.

Request: One FTE total. Veterinary toxicology resident to support critical needs in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory–$275,000. $50,000 in operating.

Total: $325,000

SBARE Priorities for the
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024



4 Operating, Equipment and Graduate Research Assistantships

Enhanced operating budgets are essential for sustaining growth and achieving ongoing success. The operational costs associated with the NDAES research mission have escalated. Expenses for fuel, equipment maintenance, repairs, feed, fertilizer and more limits the ability of scientists to be responsive to critical research needs. Additionally, operating funds are crucial for fostering the early career development of scientists, enabling them to acquire necessary start-up equipment and supplies, and to support graduate student salaries. Sufficient start-up and operating funds are vital for establishing successful research programs.

Modern research equipment is essential for conducting accurate experiments and advancing new methods to improve North Dakota's livestock and cropping systems. Funding is requested to ensure laboratories and agricultural field operations are equipped with modern equipment needed to generate world-class results.

Graduate research assistants play an indispensable role in the successful completion of every NDAES agricultural research project. They are deeply involved in conducting experiments, analyzing data and applying research findings to solve real-world agricultural problems. Graduate students also share their advancements to the wider community by the dissemination of research through publications and presentations. Additionally, their research prepares them as the next generation of leaders, equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to address challenges facing North Dakota agriculture. This initiative requests an increase in the number of assistantships to support the research activities by attracting talent to NDSU.

Request: Equipment and graduate research assistantships funding. $1,190,000 in operating ($560,000 for seven branch stations + $630,000 for main station units), $1,000,000 in equipment and $900,000 for graduate research assistants

Total: $3,090,000

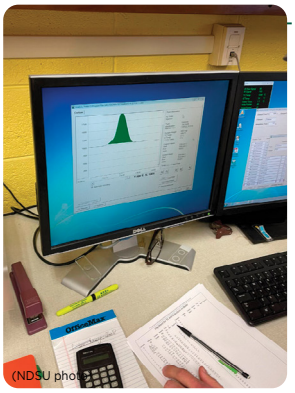


5 Biofuels and Carbon Management

As a consequence of national and international agricultural customer base, North Dakota farmers can achieve economic gains through the adoption of carbon and land management strategies. This is key to reduce carbon intensity scores to more effectively participate in markets for renewable fuels. There is a significant need for research to develop advanced farming techniques tailored to North Dakota's unique agricultural conditions. This research will focus on practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping and efficient nutrient management aimed to both reduce carbon intensity and enhance the production of biofuel feedstocks. This supports efforts in improving profitability in farmers' operations.

Request: Two FTEs total. Positions are: (1) Scientist – $275,000 and (2) Research specialist – $200,000. $50,000 in operating.

Total: $525,000



6 Research Specialists

Technical support staff are critical in assisting agricultural scientists to achieve their research goals. They provide essential expertise in the operation and maintenance of sophisticated laboratory and field equipment that ensures experiments are conducted efficiently and accurately. Staff contribute to the collection and analysis of data, which is fundamental for validating research findings and advancing scientific knowledge in agriculture. By providing logistical and administrative support, they enable scientists to focus on their core research activities, thereby accelerating the progress and impact of agricultural research.

Request: Five FTEs total. Positions are technical support in needed areas: (1) Grapes/vineyards – $200,000, (2) Agronomy – $200,000, (3) Plant pathology – $200,000, (4) Soybean breeding – $200,000 and (5) Biosystems engineering – $200,000.

Total: $1,000,000

8/30/2024

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Capital Improvement and One-time Requests

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Final Ranking by SBARE – November 13, 2024

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

One-time Requests

Deferred Maintenance

Request: $1,500,000

Williston Research Extension Center Capital Projects

The NDAES was unable to get any successful bids for the Nesson Valley facility or the storage shed at the Williston Research Extension Center in the 2023-2025 biennium.

Nesson Valley Request: 1. A change in scope to build a structure with a heated shop, restrooms and an employee break room (removing a planned conference room), 2. Special fund authority to raise an additional $1.3 million and 3. Carryover of $1.7 million in general funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly.

Storage Shed Request: 1. Carryover of $475,000 in strategic investment and improvements funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly, 2. Special fund authority to spend an additional $325,000 as needed to complete the shed and 3. Continuation of Section 14 Exemption in H.B. 1020 relating to the construction of the storage sheds.

Capital Improvement Requests

1. Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS) Building Completion

Since 1975, the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (GDCD) has collaborated with the NDAES to promote irrigation research in North Dakota. The Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) is taking possession of a building at the Oakes site that will serve as the headquarters for NDAES irrigation research. Requested funding is for completion of the OIRS headquarters interior.

Total: $620,000


(NDSU photo)

2. Langdon REC Seed Conditioning Plant

A modern seed cleaning facility is essential for providing North Dakota foundation crop varieties bred to grow in the state's unique environment. The current facility was built in the 1960s and is incapable of conditioning the full production capacity grown on NDAES land at the Langdon Research Extension Center.

Total: $2,600,000


(NDSU photo)

3. NDAES Equipment Storage Sheds

Purchasing and/or leasing expensive field equipment is an investment that the NDAES needs to protect. Storing expensive research plot equipment such as tractors, planters and combines outdoors reduces the life of the equipment and can compromise the sophisticated electronics typically used on such equipment. Sheds are needed at the Dickinson REC, Central Grasslands REC and Carrington REC.

Total: $1,567,500


(NDSU photo)

12/16/2024

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Request for Authorization
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Swine Facility Renovation

Total Project: $6,000,000
Special Funds: $6,000,000
Based on Percentage of Cost as per NDSU Master Plan Section 3: PED: 100%


(NDSU photo)

Master Plan Alignment

This project will enhance our ability to conduct research that directly addresses the needs of North Dakota's swine industry. Benefactors are eager to support the modernization of NDSU's swine unit, which was constructed several decades ago and is now in critical need of renovation. These updates will enable advanced research to support the growth of the livestock industry in the state, fostering economic opportunities (diversification) for farmers who produce feed grains and creating new market alternatives for widely grown crops such as soybeans and corn.

A modern swine facility will allow NDSU researchers to develop innovative feeding strategies using soybean meal, corn, and corn by-products, ensuring the industry remains competitive and efficient. Additionally, this enhanced facility will strengthen NDSU's capacity to conduct cutting-edge research, supporting rural communities by driving economic growth and job creation tied to the swine and feed industries.

Jack Dalrymple Agricultural Research Complex Addition

Total Project: $3,250,000
Special Funds: $3,250,000
Based on Percentage of Cost as per NDSU Master Plan Section 3: PED: 100%



Master Plan Alignment

This project will enhance our capacity to conduct research that directly addresses the needs of North Dakota's agricultural industry while fostering new opportunities with industry. As a recognized leader in the production of a diverse range of crops, North Dakota will benefit from the additional greenhouse space that enables our scientists to tackle critical challenges in crop production.

Potential benefactors are interested in supporting this expansion, as it will allow them to access needed space and technical expertise. The additional capacity will enable advanced research to support the growth of the agricultural industry in the state, provide research-based solutions to combat crop disease, and improve economic outcomes for farmers. The additional space will also allow scientists to collaborate with industry, accelerate commercialization of solutions, and enhance opportunities to train the next generation of plant scientists.

By strengthening NDSU's research infrastructure, this project enables cutting-edge research, that can drive the economic growth and job creation in rural communities.

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1/7/2025

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Business Unit number: **640**

Business Unit name: **Agricultural Experiment Station - Main Station**

Reporting Period **7/1/23-12/31/24**

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	287,812	287,812	287,812	287,812	287,812	287,812	5,691,984
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts	3,270	86,293	8,720	10,503	16,804	21,639	17,430	4,316	29,068	3,569		30,293	24,687	14,693	47,393	8,528	11,166	16,548	354,920
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay	-	-	7,758	10,150	-	19,625	3,000	-	3,000	2,427		5,000	10,042	10,769	-	11,375	10,000	3,000	96,146
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding	108,064	280,850	151,648	144,956	146,127	131,903	103,447	144,244	115,313	136,727	174,757	460,345	-	186,047	39,970	55,847	34,686	4,272	2,419,203
Extra Overtime Funding	9,765	28,096	19,282	20,026	15,322	9,277	5,039	3,421	7,269	3,819		37,856	-	15,687	9,559	8,629	-	-	193,047
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Salaries	-	178,314	209,367	238,230	246,315	228,979	216,009	289,404	263,582	262,284	258,517	525,051	29,525	293,619	324,781	357,906	324,199	325,421	4,571,503
																			-
Total	209,327	(243,127)	(66,349)	(93,439)	(94,142)	(80,997)	(14,499)	(110,959)	(87,806)	(78,400)	(102,848)	(728,119)	223,558	(233,003)	(133,891)	(154,473)	(92,239)	(61,429)	(1,942,835)
Vacant Positions:	66	64	64	64	56	59	60	60	59	55	54	52	54	54	55	58	48	42	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

2023-25 New Positions Approved

Position Title	Hire Date	OMB Pool Transfers	Budget Request	Estimated Salary Expenses 2023-25	Estimated Salary Expenses 2025-27
NDAWN Programmer	3/25/2024	$135,625	$153,868	$135,625	$208,064

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

640-Main Station

HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($3,714,807)*

OMB FTE Pool

Approved Transfers	*$1,874,809*
Anticipated Transfers	*$769,556*

Budget deficiency	***($1,070,442)***

Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

2023-25 Legislation that Included Reporting Requirements to 2025 Appropriation Committees

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

HB1020 (NDSU Research & Extension, Agronomy Seed Farm and Northern Crops Institute)

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO THE SIXTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly for the 2021-23 biennium and the 2023-25 biennium one-time funding items included in section 1 of this Act:

One-Time Funding Description

Deferred maintenance - $500,000
Equipment storage sheds (4 sheds) - $1,900,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project - $1,700,000
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation - $2,933,230
Hettinger research extension center land purchase - $1,038,000
Waldron hall replacement project - $97,000,000
Northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade - $3,250,000
Northern crops institute pellet mill - $650,000

The 2023-25 one-time funding amounts are not a part of the entity's base budget for the 2025-27 biennium. The main and branch research center shall report to the appropriations committees of the sixty-ninth legislative assembly on the use of this one-time funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

	General Fund	Special Fund	Status
Deferred maintenance	**500,000**		Projects underway and will be completed by 6/30/25
Equipment Storage Sheds	**1,900,000**		
Main Station	475,000		Completed fall 2024
Langdon REC	475,000		Completed fall 2025
North Central REC	475,000		Expected completion January 2025
Williston REC	475,000		Unsuccessful bid; refer to 2025-27 WREC capital projects request
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project	**1,700,000**		Unsuccessful bid; refer to 2025-27 WREC capital projects request
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation	**2,008,230**	**925,000**	
CREC Feedlot Research Support Facility	640,000		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
CREC Feedlot Pen Expansion	559,400		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
CREC Bulk Feed Commodity Storage Structure	157,400		Substantial completion October 2024
CGREC Livestock Facility	400,000		Substantial completion January 2025
LREC Greenhouse	251,430		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
CGREC Residence		175,000	Expected substantial completion 2nd qtr 2025
WREC Greenhouse		750,000	Project in fundraising stage
Hettinger research extension center land purchase	**1,038,000**		Land purchase closed March 2024
Waldron hall replacement project	**87,000,000**	**10,000,000**	The Bolley Agricultural Laboratory is estimated to be completed summer 2026.
Northern crops institute feed production center facility	**3,250,000**		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
Northern crops institute pellet mill	**650,000**		Pellet mill has been replaced

SECTION 3. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2023-25 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Status: Oil revenue received July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024 - $105,141

SECTION 4. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Williston research extension center shall report to the sixty-ninth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Status:

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023 - Amounts received $784,363; Amounts spent $218,853
July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024 - Amounts received $52,576; Amounts spent $212,991

SECTION 13. EXEMPTION - BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS PROJECTS-FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND. The amounts appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund for one-time projects at the Carrington research center, central grasslands research center, Dickinson research center, and Hettinger research center in section 6 of chapter 550 of the 2021 Special Session Session Laws are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Status:

All funds appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund have been expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

	2021 Special Session Funding	Unexpended
Carrington Research Extension Center	$ 446,000	$ -
Central Grasslands Research Extension Center	1,963,000	-
Dickinson Research Extension Center	2,200,000	-
Hettinger Research Extension Center	3,420,000	-
	8,029,000	-

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

		640 Main Station
Salaries	$	89,801,398
Operating		20,406,667
Equipment		4,600,000
Deferred Maintenance		1,340,065
Total Budget	$	116,148,130
Funding:		
Federal Fund*	$	8,918,293
General Fund		58,125,665
Special Fund*		49,104,172
Total Funding	$	116,148,130

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	358.47
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	370.53

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	2025-27 NDAES Request			2025-27 Executive Recommendation			2025-27 Senate Amendment		
	FTE	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	FTE	Executive Recommendation	Executive Recommendation	FTE	Senate Amendment	Senate Amendment
		General Fund	Special Fund		General Fund	Special Fund		General Fund	Special Fund
SBARE #1: Center for Trade and Policy Studies (CAPTS)	3.0	$975,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Agriculture policy analyst	1.0	275,000							
Market and trade analyst	1.0	275,000							
Economic impact/contributions specialist	1.0	275,000							
Operating		150,000							
SBARE #2: Digital Transformation of Agriculture	6.0	$2,634,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
AI/ML Engineer	1.0	280,000							
Database Architect	1.0	430,000							
Data Manager	1.0	280,000							
Data Scientist	1.0	280,000							
GIS Specialist	1.0	230,000							
UAS Chief Pilot	1.0	230,000							
Operating		904,000							
SBARE #3: Livestock: Animal Health	1.0	$325,000	-	-	-	-	1.0	275,000	-
Veterinary toxicology resident	1.0	275,000					1.0	275,000	
Operating		50,000							
SBARE #4: Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships	-	$3,090,000	-	-	-	$1,910,000	-	-	-
Operating main station		630,000				630,000			
Operating RECs		560,000				280,000			
Equipment		1,000,000				1,000,000			
Graduate research assistantships		900,000							
SBARE #5: Biofuels & Carbon Management	2.0	$525,000	-	-	$520,000	-	-	-	-
Scientist	1.0	275,000			-				
Research specialist	1.0	200,000			-				
Operating		50,000			520,000				
SBARE #6: Research Specialists	5.0	$1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Research specialist (grapes/vineyards)	1.0	200,000							
Research specialist (agronomy)	1.0	200,000							
Research specialist (plant pathology)	1.0	200,000							
Research specialist (soybean breeding)	1.0	200,000							
Research specialist (biosystems engineering)	1.0	200,000							
SBARE - Base Increase - Main Research Station	**17.0**	**$8,549,000**	**-**	**-**	**$520,000**	**$1,910,000**	**1.0**	**$275,000**	**$0**
ONE-TIME & CAPITAL FUNDING									
Deferred maintenance		1,500,000				1,500,000 SIIF			
Capital:									
SBARE #1 Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS) building completion		620,000				620,000 SIIF			620,000 SIIF
SBARE #2 Seed conditioning plant - Langdon		2,600,000							950,000 SIIF
									1,650,000 Local
SBARE #3 Equipment storage sheds (3) DREC, CGREC, CREC		1,567,500						1,567,500	
Unranked									
WREC Nesson Valley facility additional funding			1,300,000						400,000 SIIF
									1,900,000 Local
Swine Facility Renovation			6,000,000						6,000,000 Local
Jack Dalrymple Agricultural Research Complex Addition			3,250,000						3,250,000 Local
WREC storage shed additional funding			325,000						200,000 Local
Total One-time & capital funding-North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station		**$6,287,500**	**$10,875,000**		**$0**	**$2,120,000**		**$1,567,500**	**$14,970,000**

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$56,309,959**	**$58,013,314**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	1,782,012	
Employer Retirement Contribution	33,694	9,151
SBARE Priorities:		
Center for Trade and Policy Studies (CAPTS) (3 FTE)	975,000	
Digital Transportation of Agriculture (6 FTE)	2,634,000	
Livestock: Animal Health (1 FTE)	325,000	
Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships	2,530,000	
Biofuels & Carbon Management (2 FTE)	525,000	
Research Specialists (5 FTE)	1,000,000	
2025-27 Base Budget Request	**66,114,665**	**58,022,465**
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	3,714,807	1,844,395
Remove Bond Payments	(178,477)	
3% Budget Reduction	(1,849,775)	(1,542,512)
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	2,552,760	1,460,256
Health Insurance increase	1,254,414	853,619
Center for Trade and Policy Studies (CAPTS) (3 FTE)	(975,000)	
Digital Transportation of Agriculture (6 FTE)	(2,634,000)	
Livestock: Animal Health (1 FTE)	(325,000)	
Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships	(2,530,000)	1,630,000
Biofuels & Carbon Management (2 FTE)	(30,000)	
Research Specialists (5 FTE)	(1,000,000)	
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommended Base Increases (Decreases)	**(2,000,271)**	**4,245,758**
2025-27 Total Burgum Executive Recommended	**64,114,394**	**62,268,223**
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 -3%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	(463,716)	(266,551)
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommended Base Increases (Decreases)	**(463,716)**	**(266,551)**
2025-27 Total Armstrong Executive Recommended	**63,650,678**	**62,001,672**
Senate Adjustments		
Salary Increase Adjustments	(21,905)	(1,848)
Health Insurance Increase Adjustments	(28,524)	(1,501)
Remove New & Vacant FTE Pool 2025-27	(1,317,112)	(772,973)
Biofuels & Carbon Management (2 FTE)	(495,000)	
Add Veterinary toxicology resident (1 FTE)	275,000	
Remove Vacant FTE Positions (4.98 FTE)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)
Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships		(1,000,000)
2025-27 Senate Increases(Decreases)	**(2,727,952)**	**(1,826,978)**
2025-27 Senate Total	**60,922,726**	**60,174,694**

Agency Overview

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Agency Statutory Authority

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15-12.1

Agency Description

The North Dakota State University (NDSU) Research Extension Centers (RECs) are dedicated to enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability across various regions of North Dakota. Each center focuses on the unique needs and opportunities of its area, contributing to the state's agricultural development through research, education, and community engagement. Together, these centers play a vital role in advancing North Dakota's agricultural sector, leveraging research and innovation to meet the evolving needs of producers and communities across the state.

The Dickinson Research Extension Center (DREC) serves a 13-county region in southwest North Dakota, focusing on agronomy, beef management, and sustainable agricultural practices. With over 6,500 acres of land, DREC supports economic development while ensuring the sustainability of natural resources for future generations.

The Central Grasslands Research Extension Center (CGREC) concentrates on managing grasslands in central North Dakota, aiming to improve soil health, support beef production, and enhance the resilience of grasslands to varying weather conditions. The center's research promotes economic value while preserving the region's natural resources.

The Hettinger Research Extension Center (HREC) in southwest North Dakota focuses on agronomy and animal research, particularly in sheep and livestock feeding. Situated in a semi-arid region, HREC collaborates with various organizations to improve the productivity of livestock, grazing, and cropping systems, contributing to the region's economic development.

The Langdon Research Extension Center (LREC) supports a nine-county region in northeast North Dakota, where it addresses the unique challenges of crop production in a climate characterized by high precipitation and cooler temperatures. LREC's research focuses on disease management and providing growers with strategies to maximize returns on their crops.

The North Central Research Extension Center (NCREC), located near Minot, focuses on increasing agricultural productivity in the north central region of North Dakota. NCREC's research includes crop variety evaluation, pest management, and soil fertility, all aimed at supporting local agriculture and enhancing crop production.

The Williston Research Extension Center (WREC) in northwest North Dakota conducts research on crop variety evaluation, soil and water conservation, and irrigation development. WREC's work supports crop diversification and profitability, helping local farmers adapt to changing conditions and improve their livelihoods.

The Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) in central North Dakota focuses on enhancing agricultural productivity and diversity through research in agronomy, plant pathology, soil science, and precision agriculture. CREC's work supports both dryland and irrigated farming systems, contributing to the sustainability and competitiveness of agriculture in the region.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Agency Mission Statement

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station researchers at the Research Extension Centers throughout the state develop and share premier research solutions and technology to enhance the quality of life, sustain food, feed, fiber and fuel production, and protect our heritage - the great land and resources of North Dakota.

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

Research Continuity and Expansion
Ongoing research in soil health, agronomy, livestock production, and range management needs continued support, with an emphasis on maintaining and expanding these programs.

Deferred Maintenance and Facility Upgrades
Many facilities are outdated, unsafe, or in need of repairs, impacting both safety and the ability to conduct research. Specific needs include facility upgrades, equipment replacement, and completion of unfinished projects.

Funding and Operational Support
There is a need for increased base funding to support research and extension activities. Rising operational and labor costs, along with inflation, are straining budgets, making it difficult to maintain current programs and staff.

Land Ownership and Security
The need for secure land ownership is critical, particularly for research programs relying on rented land. The potential sale of land currently used for livestock and wildlife research adds uncertainty to future operations.

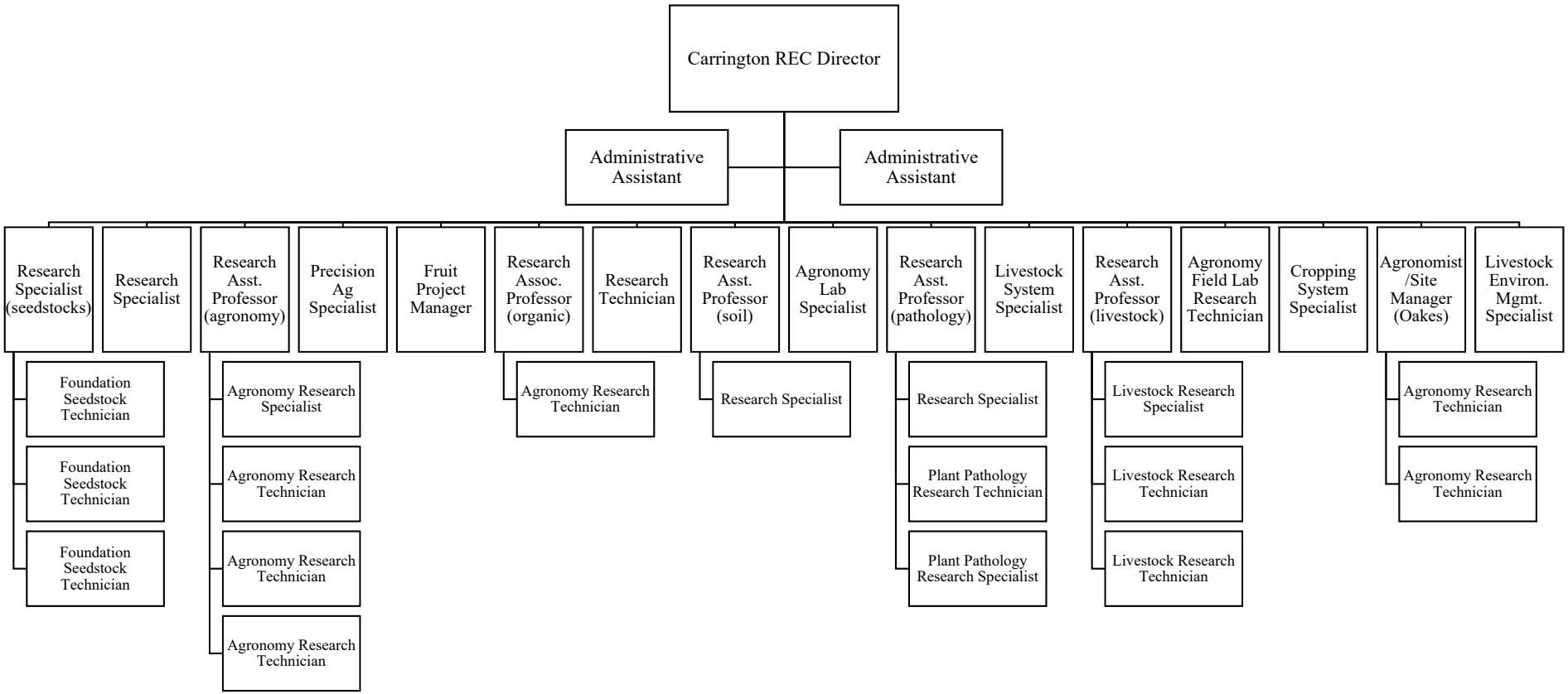
Programmatic and Staffing Requirements
There is a demand for additional technical support and research specialists to handle the growing needs of various research programs, as well as increased salary packages to retain and attract qualified staff.

External Funding and Grants
With appropriated funds declining, there is a greater dependence on grant opportunities and private funding to support research initiatives and maintain the quality and scope of the centers' work.

Organizational Chart

Carrington Research Extension Center

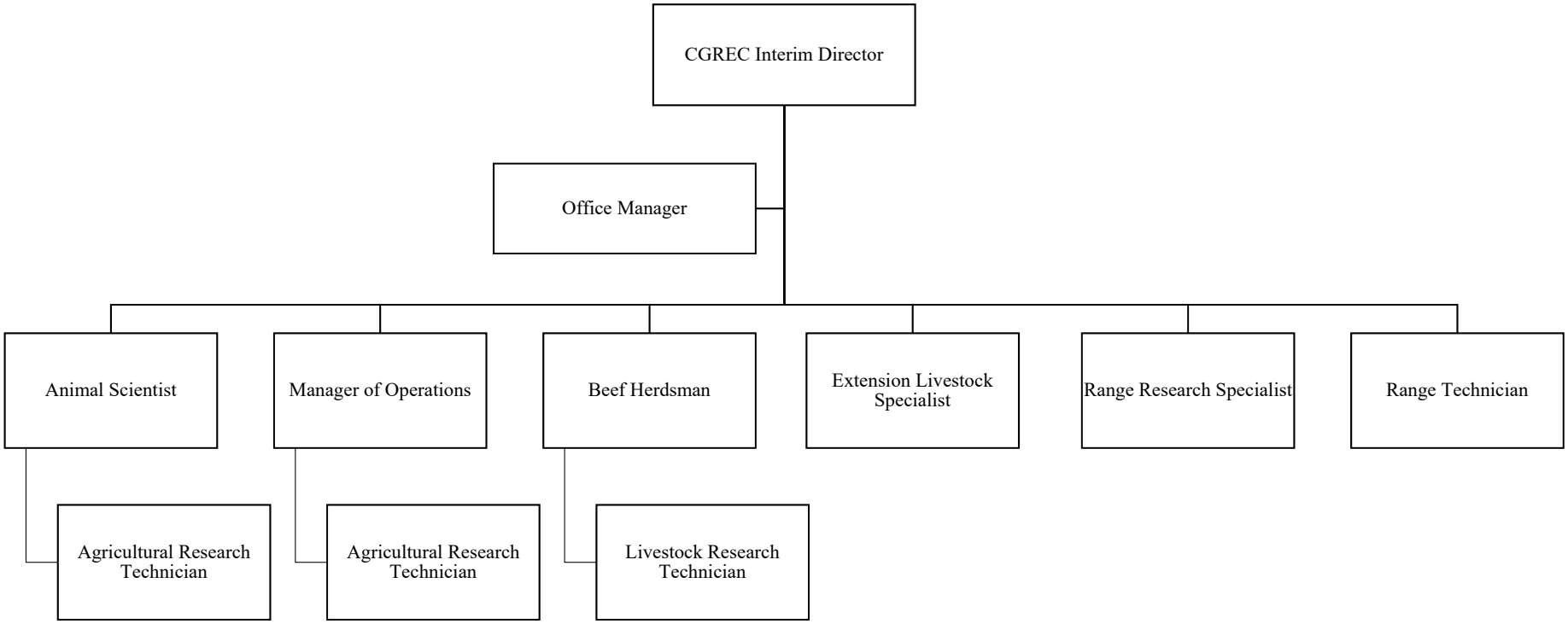
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Central Grasslands Research Extension Center

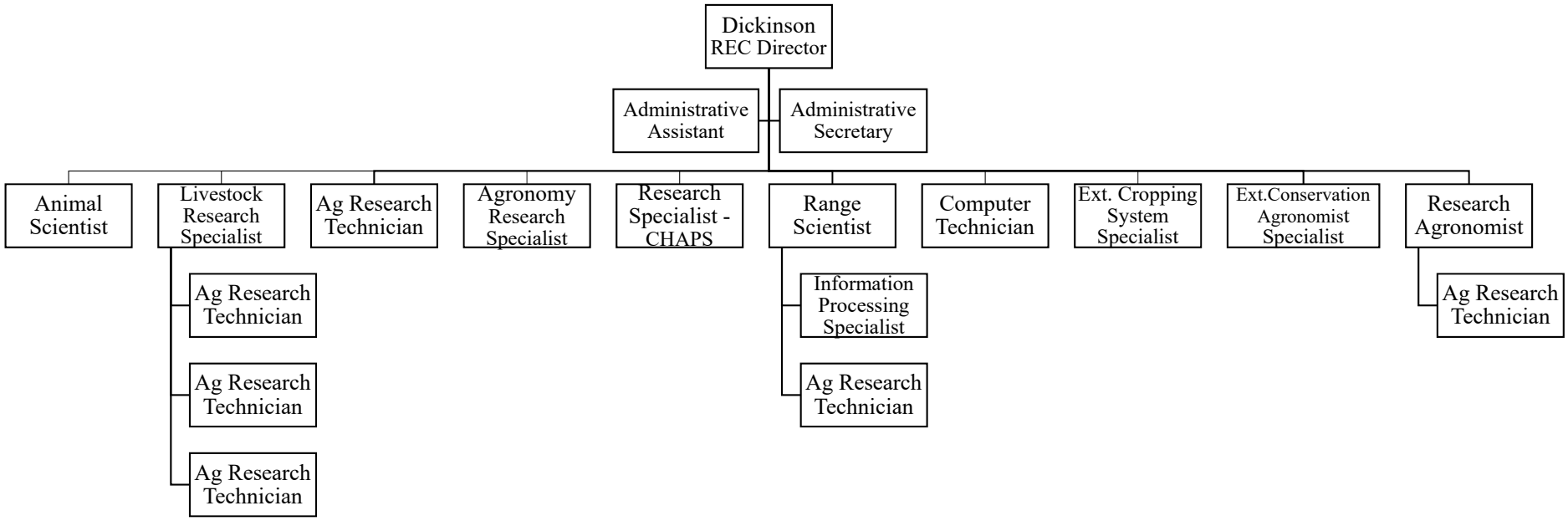
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Dickinson Research Extension Center

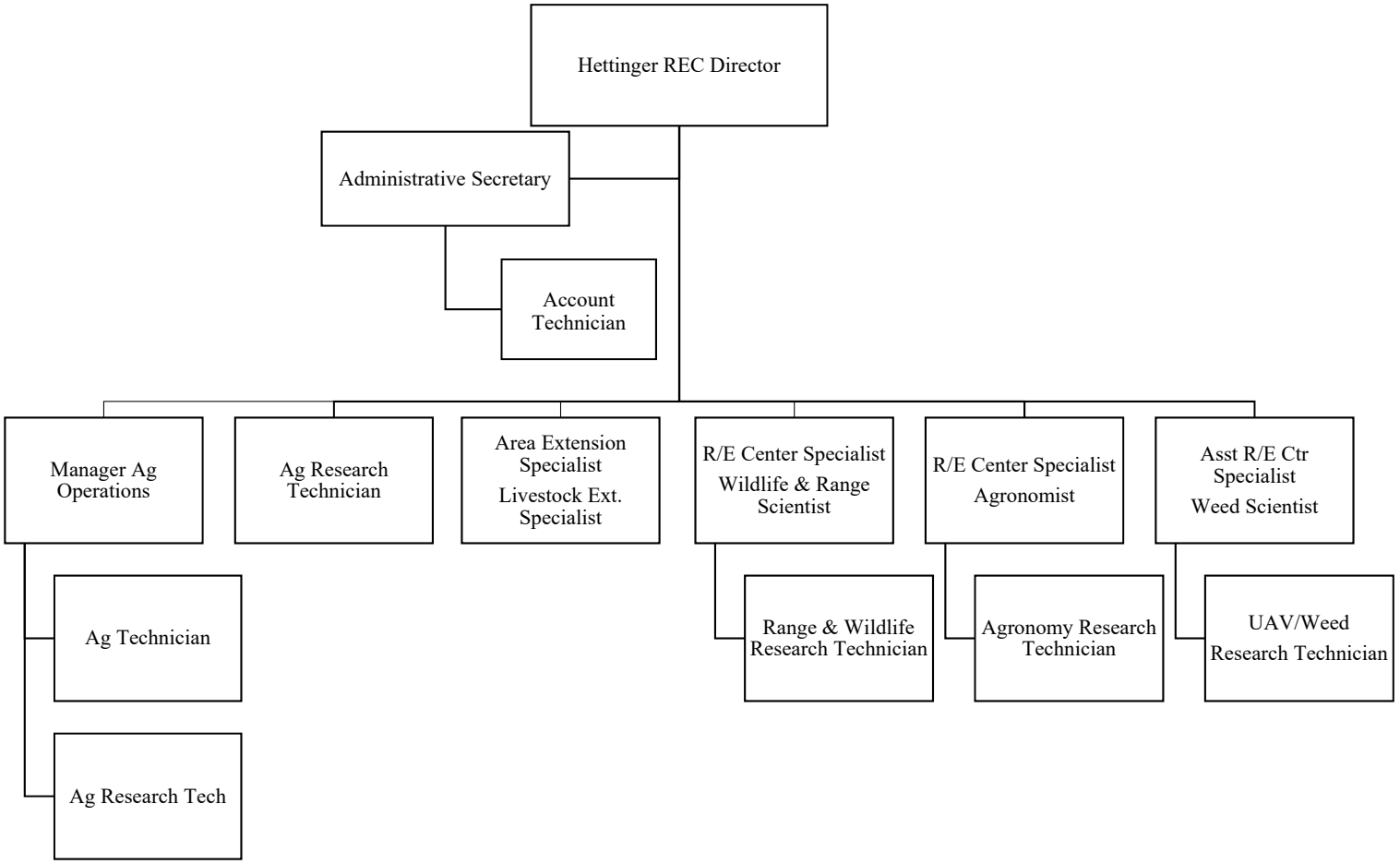
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Hettinger Research Extension Center

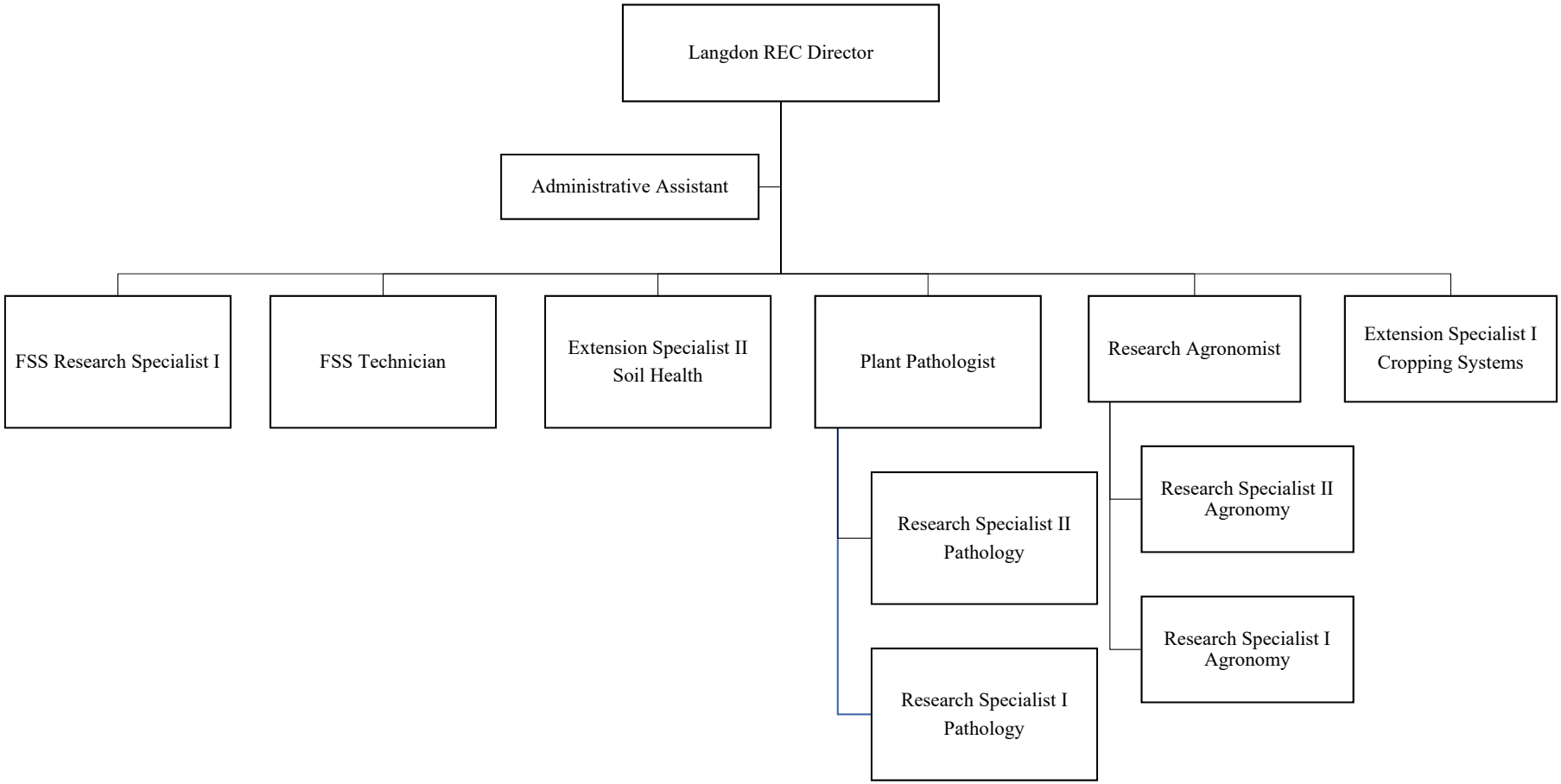
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Langdon Research Extension Center

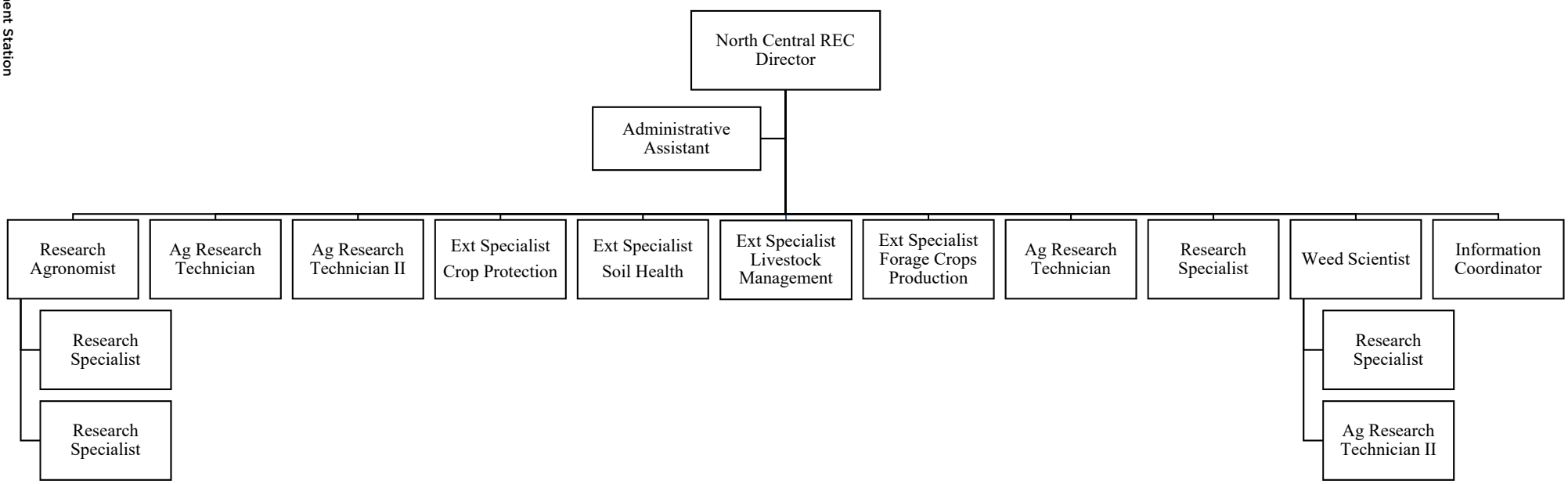
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

North Central Research Extension Center

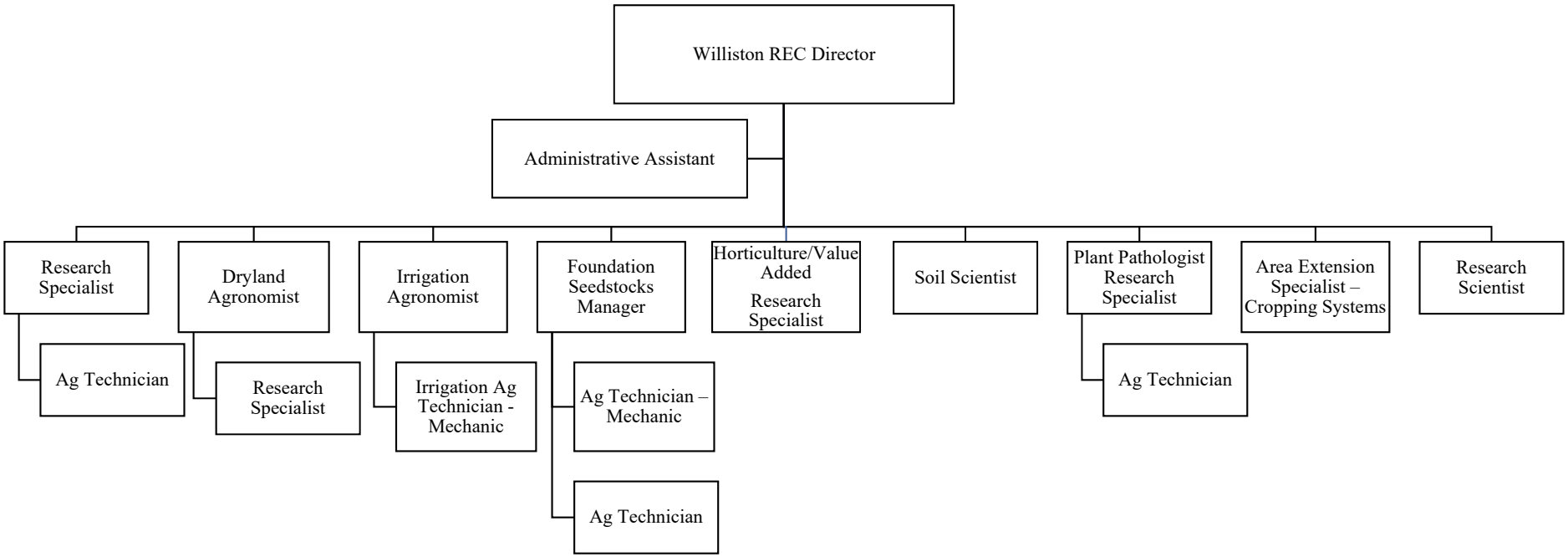
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Williston Research Extension Center

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Business Unit number: 628

Business Unit name: Branch Research Centers

Reporting Period 7/1/23-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	55,697	1,644,925
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts		113		1,433		2,604	12,249	7,172	9,429		4,629						1,963		39,592
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay		1,093		2,000			15,486	3,000		2,000	4,000	7,750				2,500			37,829
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding	21,821	111,202	14,850	12,425	13,775	11,225	6,275	4,950	4,950	4,325	-	190,001	36,764	118,267	10,289	6,800	11,700	3,500	583,119
Extra Overtime Funding	1,628	14,103	18,084	9,678	5,168	-	-	-	-	3,208	21,240	59,736	-	24,295	26,484	3,300	12,984	8,662	208,570
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Funding	0	2,284	5,764	6,542	-	6,542	6,542	7,254	8,920	8,630	7,299	12,082	-	6,162	3,889	3,889	14,446	16,056	116,301
																			-
Total	70,035	(35,311)	54,786	61,406	74,541	73,113	52,932	71,108	70,185	75,321	51,533	(176,085)	56,720	(55,240)	52,822	76,995	52,391	27,479	654,731
Vacant Positions:	21	21	20	19	17	18	22	23	22	20	18	18	18	17	15	16	18	13	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

2023-25 New Positions Approved

Position Title	Hire Date	OMB Pool Transfers	Budget Request	Estimated Salary Expenses 2023-25	Estimated Salary Expenses 2025-27
LREC Technician	8/21/2023	$157,183	$176,000	$157,183	$171,744
DREC Agronomist	2/1/2024	$155,135	$210,000	$155,135	$225,498

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

	641-Dickinson	642-Central Grasslands	643-Hettinger	644-Langdon	645-North Central	646-Williston	647-Carrington
HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($349,802)*	*($79,532)*	*($116,589)*	*($248,245)*	*($86,364)*	*($158,357)*	*($160,430)*
OMB Pool:							
Approved Transfers	*$155,135*	*$55,672*	*$81,612*	*$157,183*	*$60,455*	*$110,850*	*$112,301*
Anticipated Transfers	*$131,726*	*$0*	*$0*	*$51,789*	*$0*	*$0*	*$0*
Budget deficiency	***($62,941)***	***($23,860)***	***($34,977)***	***($39,273)***	***($25,909)***	***($47,507)***	***($48,129)***

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	641 Dickinson	642 Central Grasslands	643 Hettinger	644 Langdon	645 North Central	646 Williston	647 Carrington	Total
Salaries	$ 2,954,642	$ 1,686,924	$ 2,737,346	$ 1,898,518	$ 2,606,051	$ 3,634,511	$ 6,751,079	$ 22,269,071
Operating	3,130,196	1,756,346	2,038,902	532,351	2,389,166	1,106,614	2,167,923	$ 13,121,498
Equipment	1,295,000	175,000	605,000	765,000	360,000	786,000	1,272,000	$ 5,258,000
Total Budget	$ 7,379,838	$ 3,618,270	$ 5,381,248	$ 3,195,869	$ 5,355,217	$ 5,527,125	$ 10,191,002	$ 40,648,569
Funding:								
Federal Fund*	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
General Fund	3,893,104	2,180,257	2,494,357	1,775,617	2,173,813	3,072,343	4,094,107	$ 19,683,598
Special Fund*	3,486,734	1,438,013	2,886,891	1,420,252	3,181,404	2,454,782	6,096,895	20,964,971
Total Funding	$ 7,379,838	$ 3,618,270	$ 5,381,248	$ 3,195,869	$ 5,355,217	$ 5,527,125	$ 10,191,002	$ 40,648,569
FTE positions 2023-25	14.25	10.00	13.75	9.45	14.26	17.75	32.35	111.81
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	14.20	9.00	12.70	9.45	14.01	15.65	32.15	107.16

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$19,165,340**	**$20,950,865**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	497,119	
Employer Retirement Contribution	21,139	14,106
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	1,199,319	319,812
Remove Bond Payments	(63,728)	
NDIT Rate Adjustment	19,095	19,425
Operating RECs	560,000	
2023-25 Adjusted Appropriation, Less Base Adjustments- (2025-27 Base Budget Request)	**21,398,284**	**21,304,208**
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	765,443	230,408
Health Insurance increase	461,128	181,496
Operating RECs	(560,000)	280,000
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**666,571**	**691,904**
2025-27 Total Burgum Executive Recommended	**22,064,855**	**21,996,112**
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 -3%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	(139,725)	(42,060)
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**(139,725)**	**(42,060)**
2025-27 Total Armstrong Executive Recommended	**21,925,130**	**21,954,052**
Senate Adjustments		
Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	(324,563)	(103,869)
Remove Operating RECs		(280,000)
2025-27 Senate Increases(Decreases)	**(324,563)**	**(383,869)**
2025-27 Senate Total	**21,600,567**	**21,570,183**

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Agency Statutory Authority

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15-12.1

Agency Description

The Agronomy Seed Farm (ASF) is a 590 acre farm located near Casselton, which has been a part of the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station (NDAES) since it was gifted to the state in 1950. It was the result of a fund drive conducted by the North Dakota Crop Improvement Association, which solicited farmers, seed companies and many others throughout the state to help establish a farm whose main purpose is to increase seed of new varieties as they are developed by the plant breeding and supporting departments of the NDAES. The ASF also propagates seed of older but still desirable varieties for the seedsmen of the area.

Agency Mission Statement

To produce an adequate supply of foundation-grade seed for the seedsmen of the state and area at a reasonable price and to support the varietal development research of the NDAES.

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

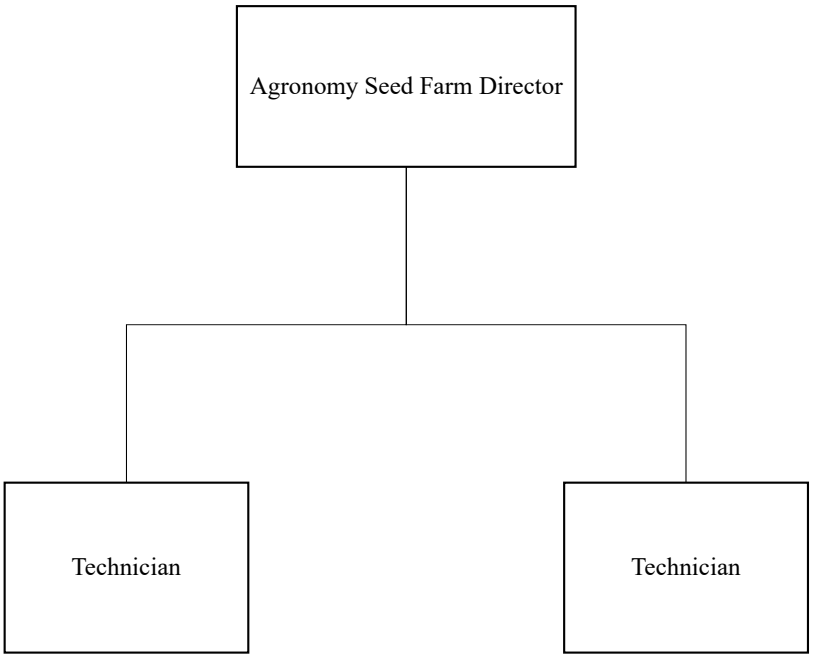
The critical issues facing the ASF are a continued demand for foundation-grade seed, favorable weather for growing seed and a good supply of varieties that are in demand by the seed industry. If these three conditions are present and good commodity prices accompany them, the future of the ASF is secure.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Organizational Chart

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Business Unit number: 649

Business Unit name: Agronomy Seed Farm

Reporting Period 7/1/23-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings												8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	62,510
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts																			-
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay																			-
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding												2,780	2,000	1,036	3,267	1,677	2,000	2,000	14,761
Extra Overtime Funding												2,392	5,057	9,140	4,866	1,549	3,463	1,459	27,926
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Funding																			-
																			-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,758	1,873	(1,246)	797	5,704	3,467	5,471	19,823
Vacant Positions:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	649 Agronomy Seed Farm
Salaries	$ 648,918
Operating	683,804
Equipment	300,000
Total Budget	$ 1,632,722
Funding:	
Federal Fund*	$ -
General Fund	-
Special Fund*	1,632,722
Total Funding	$ 1,632,722

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	3.00
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	3.00

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$1,629,764**
Employer Retirement Contribution	2,958
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	8,312
2025-27 Adjusted Other Fund Appropriation(Base Budget Request)	**$1,641,034**
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):	
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	29,468
Health Insurance increase	18,019
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**47,487**
2025-27 Total Burgum Executive Recommended	**$1,688,521**
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):	
2025-27 -3%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	(5,378)
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**(5,378)**
2025-27 Total ArmstrongExecutive Recommended	**1,683,143**
Senate Adjustments	
Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	(3,147)
2025-27 Senate Increases(Decreases)	**(3,147)**
2025-27 Senate Total	**1,679,996**

Agency Overview

NDSU Extension

Agency Statutory Authority

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 11-38

Agency Description

North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension is part of a nationwide, university-based educational system that provides research-based educational programs to advance the lives and livelihoods of citizens in all 53 counties and four American Indian reservations in North Dakota. Programs focus on addressing current needs and issues affecting the state's agriculture, youth, families, communities and natural resources. In an effort to provide extensive reach and share knowledge and resources across North Dakota, NDSU Extension staff are located at state, area and local/county offices. NDSU Extension combines funding from federal, state, county and grant sources to specifically address local concerns and make a positive impact on our land and our people.

Agency Mission Statement

Empower North Dakotans to improve their lives and communities through science-based education.
NDSU Extension believes:

- In lifelong learning through transformational education
- That all people belong and deserve respect
- In stakeholder input to guide program development
- In science-based, locally relevant information
- In the value of partners and collaboration

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

Biofuels and Carbon

Given the growing demand in multiple markets for agricultural products with low carbon intensity (CI), particularly in ethanol and biodiesel production, it's important for farmers in the region to adapt to meet these market preferences. This shift necessitates a comprehensive understanding of land management practices and how they are connected to carbon contracts. These contracts often entail long-term commitments from farmers and ranchers to implement practices that enhance carbon sequestration in soils. However, navigating the complexities of carbon capture practices and associated contracts can be challenging for producers.

Education plays a pivotal role in empowering farmers to navigate the complex landscape of carbon management effectively. A carbon specialist would serve as a vital conduit between farmers, ranchers and various stakeholders, including government agencies and carbon offset markets. By staying informed about the latest developments in carbon management policies, market trends, and technological advancements, the specialist will provide farmers with up-to-date information and

valuable insights. Through workshops, training sessions, and personalized consultations, they will educate farmers on the intricacies of carbon contracts and the potential benefits of participating in carbon markets. This educational support equips farmers with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions, maximize their participation in carbon offset programs, and ultimately enhance the sustainability and profitability of their operations.

Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support

Request for increased operating funds is crucial for the continued success of NDSU Extension's mission. These funds are essential in empowering extension specialists and agents to adapt and innovate; ensuring they can effectively address emerging needs and devise novel strategies to engage with local communities. However, the cost of operating has risen, including equipment and assistantships, placing strain on our ability to fulfill our mission effectively.

One area where increased operating support is particularly impactful is in the advancement of North Dakota's future through 4-H youth development and leadership programs. These programs nurture the next generation of leaders by providing them with positive experiences, fostering club involvement, enriching school environments, and equipping youth with essential workforce readiness skills.

In addition, allocating operating support to the State Soil Conservation Committee provides an increase in direct assistance funding to be distributed to local Soil Conservation Districts for technical assistance and conservation planning support.

Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health

The landscape of animal agriculture is experiencing a transformative evolution, driven by the integration of data related to a myriad of production variables. This integration serves a multifaceted purpose, overseeing crucial aspects such as health, nutrition, reproduction, and overall well-being of the animals. Through the utilization of cutting-edge technology, livestock management is undergoing significant enhancement, leading to improved efficiency across livestock enterprises. This shift toward digitization marks a pivotal moment in the industry, promising better outcomes for animals and farmers alike.

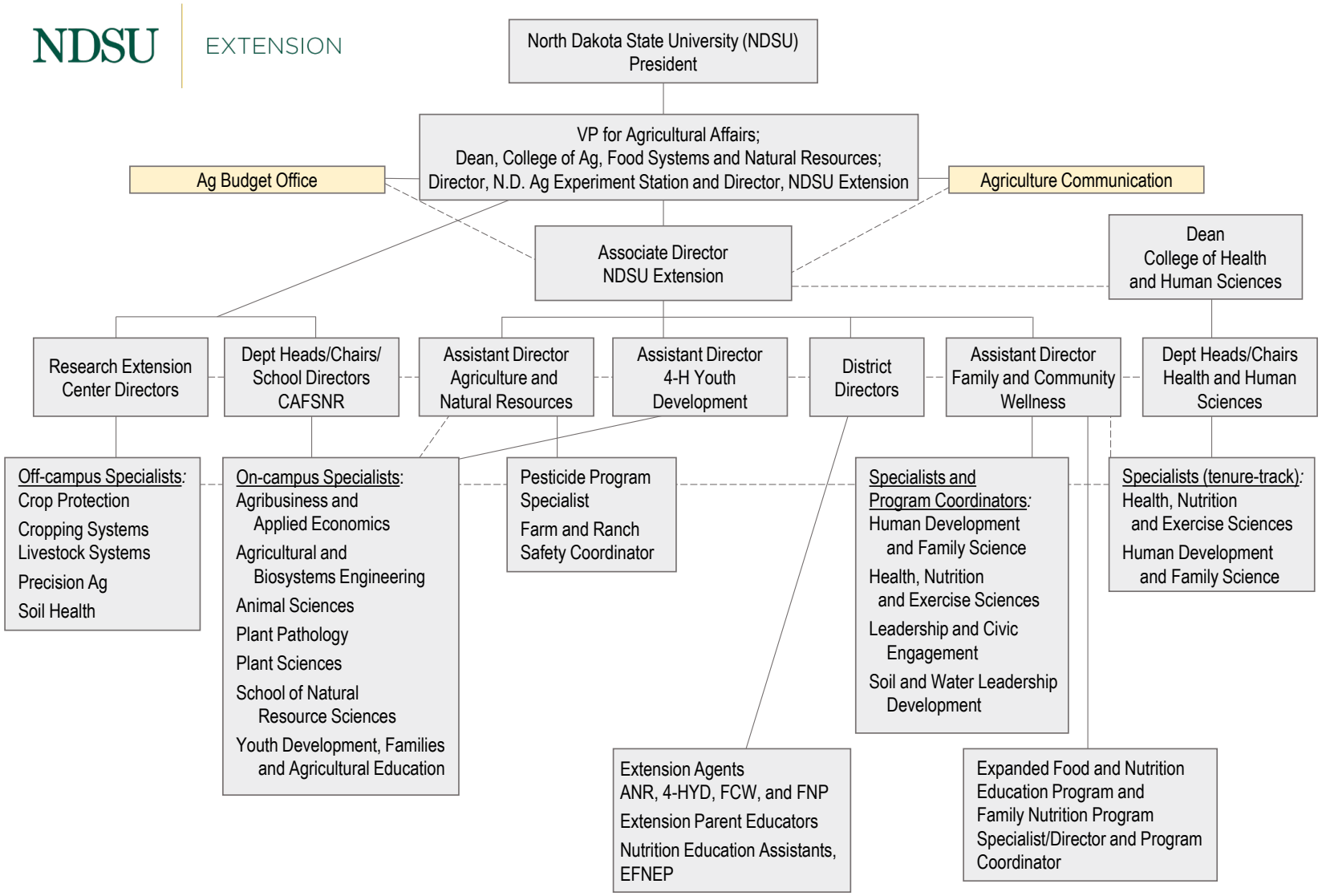
NDSU plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of animal agriculture. With an understanding of the interconnectedness between animal health, technology and economic prosperity, NDSU Extension serves as a technical resource and focuses on safeguarding livestock health in the state. Central to this mission is the elevation of monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases, which pose a threat to both animal and human populations. By actively engaging in this endeavor, NDSU Extension significantly contributes to the overall well-being of the community and the continued prosperity of the livestock industry.

Agribiome

As NDSU's agribiome research progresses toward solutions that can positively impact North Dakota crop and livestock operations, the involvement of an Extension specialist becomes pivotal in translating scientific advancements into practical applications. Extension education plays a crucial role in assisting producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. Presently, there are over 1,200 companies producing various biostimulants, inoculants, biofertilizers, biopesticides, probiotics and other biologicals aimed at enhancing crop and livestock production. Extension education is vital to provide the necessary guidance to empower producers with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions in this complex landscape.

Organizational Chart

NDSU Extension



Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

2024 Extension impacts

NDSU EXTENSION

Extending Knowledge. Changing Lives.

North Dakota State University Extension plays a crucial role in supporting agricultural sustainability, enhancing farm and ranch operations and fostering community well-being. Through its programs, NDSU Extension helps North Dakota's agricultural producers stay financially resilient, improve crop and livestock health, protect natural resources and prepare for natural disasters. Additionally, NDSU Extension's community wellness and 4-H youth development programs empower individuals and families with the knowledge and tools to improve their quality of life.

Pesticide and Fungicide Management

Ensuring environmental sustainability and healthy crops is at the heart of NDSU Extension's agricultural programs.

- **Safe Pesticide Use:** The Pesticide Safety Program trained 7,208 people on proper pesticide use, reducing environmental risks and supporting food security.
- **Fungicide Use in Wheat:** NDSU Extension's guidance on managing Fusarium head blight saved wheat producers between $500,000 to $2 million in input costs, and contributed to a new average yield record of 56.9 bushel/acre for all wheat in North Dakota.

Livestock Health and Beef Quality

Improving livestock health and quality is central to maintaining a sustainable livestock industry in North Dakota.

- **Animal Disease Preparedness:** A total of 65 professionals were trained on responding to animal disease outbreaks. As a result, 96% of those participants plan to implement changes to improve preparedness and response strategies.
- **Beef Quality Assurance:** Over 300 producers participated in beef quality assurance training, improving cattle handling practices and quality. This improvement resulted in an estimated $1.5 million in added value — or $100 per animal — to 15,000 cattle.

Agricultural Support and Financial Guidance

NDSU Extension is committed to providing resources that support agricultural producers in managing their operations and navigating financial challenges.

- **Ag Finance Program:** In 2024, the Ag Finance program helped landowners and operators navigate $1.3 billion in annual land rents across 22 million acres in North Dakota. This crucial information assists both financially constrained farmers and fixed-income landowners with better decision-making and forecasting.
- **Livestock Risk Protection Insurance:** Educating producers about USDA Livestock Risk Protection insurance led to 169,398 head of feeder cattle being insured in 2024 with over $4.5 million in indemnity payments. This program helps farmers manage risks related to price fluctuations and market volatility.

Horticulture and Food Security

Supporting local food production and increasing food security is a key focus of NDSU Extension's horticulture programs.

- **Vegetable Growers:** At 400 locations, growers evaluated 80 varieties of vegetables, which contributed to better yields, as well as healthier diets and improved physical activity among children involved in the program.
- **Master Gardeners:** Since 2014, NDSU Extension Master Gardeners donated 178,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to food pantries while also educating communities on sustainable gardening practices and pollinator conservation.

Family and Community Wellness: Promoting Healthy Lifestyles and Strengthening Communities

NDSU Extension is committed to enhancing community health, wellness and resilience through educational programs and resources that reach people of all ages.

Field to Fork:

- In 2024, 1,756 participants attended live webinars and 4,192 recorded views were made available to a wider audience.
- Of those who participated, 86% reported adjusting their practices, with 77% focusing on attracting more pollinators, 57% growing new vegetables and 47% increasing their intake of fruits and vegetables.

Aging in Community:

- In 2024, 4,270 community members were reached, with 85% of them reported feeling more connected to resources in their community and 84% gaining valuable knowledge.
- A reported 80% of clients noted improvements in their quality of life and 86% felt more confident living independently at home. For every $1 spent in 2024, the state of North Dakota potentially saved $308 in Medicaid costs by assisting individuals to remain in their homes.

Childcare and Education:

- In 2024, 692 childcare providers and school personnel received 3,480 hours of continuing education, ensuring high-quality care for children across the state.
- The Beginner's Guide to Grant Writing Workshop helped 62 participants learn how to secure funding for community projects. As a result, $75,000 was awarded to the Langdon Ambulance Service to support local emergency services.

4-H Youth Programs: Preparing the Next Generation for Success

NDSU Extension's 4-H program equips youth with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in agriculture, leadership and STEM fields.

4-H Livestock-in-a-Box Program:

- The Livestock-in-a-Box program allowed youth in grades 2-6 to explore livestock care from home. With 200 boxes purchased in 30 counties, this program reached youth across multiple states, expanding their agricultural knowledge and engagement.

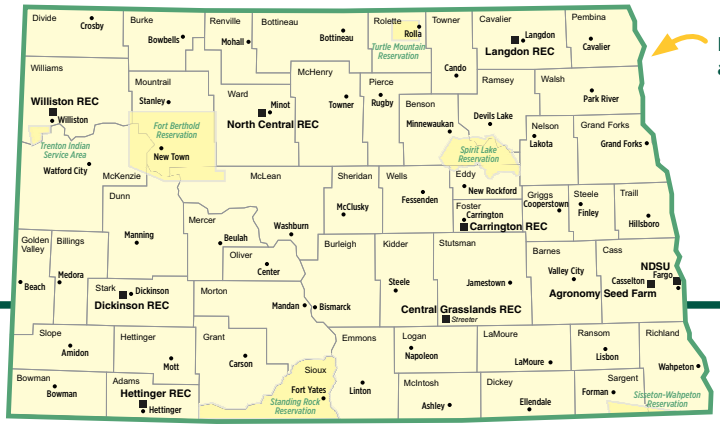
STEM Education and Recreation:

- In 2024, 439 youth participated in 19 unique 4-H camps, which included programs in livestock, archery, STEM exploration and outdoor skills. Parents reported high satisfaction, with 85% of campers showing increased independence and 94% discovering something new about themselves.

Volunteer Impact

NDSU Extension volunteers play a key role in shaping North Dakota's future, with over 1,540 volunteers dedicating nine hours per month to supporting 4-H youth programs. This commitment equates to a $5.5 million annual investment in North Dakota's youth.

- 97% of volunteers say their work helps youth build leadership skills.
- 100% of volunteers believe their efforts make communities stronger, better connected and healthier.



NDSU Extension network of county offices and research extension centers

For more information:

Lynette Flage, Associate Director,
NDSU Extension
lynette.flage@ndsu.edu 701-231-7782

ndsu.edu/extension

County commissions, North Dakota State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to Vice Provost, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 100, 701-231-7708, ndsu.eoaa@ndsu.edu. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, 701-231-7881. December 2024

NDSU Extension Program Initiatives

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024

NDSU | EXTENSION



1 Biofuels and Carbon Initiative

Given the growing demand in multiple markets for agricultural products with low carbon intensity (CI), particularly in ethanol and biodiesel production, it's important for farmers in the region to adapt to meet these market preferences. This shift necessitates a comprehensive understanding of land management practices and how they are connected to carbon contracts. These contracts often entail long-term commitments from farmers and ranchers to implement practices that enhance carbon sequestration in soils. However, navigating the complexities of carbon capture practices and associated contracts can be challenging for producers.

Education plays a pivotal role in empowering farmers to navigate the complex landscape of carbon management effectively. A carbon specialist would serve as a vital conduit between farmers, ranchers and various stakeholders, including government agencies and carbon offset markets. By staying informed about the latest developments in carbon management policies, market trends, and technological advancements, the specialist will provide farmers with up-to-date information and valuable insights. Through workshops, training sessions, and personalized consultations, they will educate farmers on the intricacies of carbon contracts and the potential benefits of participating in carbon markets. This educational support equips farmers with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions, maximize their participation in carbon offset programs, and ultimately enhance the sustainability and profitability of their operations.

Request: One FTE specialist position – Extension Carbon Specialist – $275,000. Will provide education of on-farm practices related to carbon contracts farmers and ranchers have the opportunity to implement. $50,000 in operating support for the specialist.

Total: $325,000



2 Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support

Request for increased operating funds is crucial for the continued success of NDSU Extension's mission. These funds are essential in empowering extension specialists and agents to adapt and innovate, ensuring they can effectively address emerging needs and devise novel strategies to engage with local communities. However, the cost of operating has risen, including equipment and assistantships, placing strain on our ability to fulfill our mission effectively.

One area where increased operating support is particularly impactful is in the advancement of North Dakota's future through 4-H youth development and leadership programs. These programs nurture the next generation of leaders by providing them with positive experiences, fostering club involvement, enriching school environments, and equipping youth with essential workforce readiness skills.

In addition, allocating operating support to the State Soil Conservation Committee provides an increase in direct assistance funding to be distributed to local Soil Conservation Districts for technical assistance and conservation planning support.

Request: Extension operating support – $600,000 and State Soil Conservation operating support – $150,000 for total request of $750,000.

Total: $750,000

Continued on page 2

NDSU Extension Program Initiatives

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024



(NDSU photo)


(NDSU photo)

3 Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative

The landscape of animal agriculture is experiencing a transformative evolution, driven by the integration of data related to a myriad of production variables. This integration serves a multifaceted purpose, overseeing crucial aspects such as health, nutrition, reproduction, and overall well-being of the animals. Through the utilization of cutting-edge technology, livestock management is undergoing significant enhancement, leading to improved efficiency across livestock enterprises. This shift toward digitization marks a pivotal moment in the industry, promising better outcomes for animals and farmers alike.

NDSU plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of animal agriculture. With an understanding of the interconnectedness between animal health, technology and economic prosperity, NDSU Extension serves as a technical resource and focuses on safeguarding livestock health in the state. Central to this mission is the elevation of monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases, which pose a threat to both animal and human populations. By actively engaging in this endeavor, NDSU Extension significantly contributes to the overall well-being of the community and the continued prosperity of the livestock industry.

Request: Two FTE specialist positions – (1) Extension Precision Agriculture Specialist - $275,000. Will provide education around key technological advancements in livestock technologies such as sensors, transponders, livestock collars and artificial intelligence. (2) Extension Veterinary Epidemiologist - $440,000. Efforts will focus on safeguarding the health of North Dakotans and their livestock by elevating the monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases shared between animals and humans. $100,000 for operating support for two specialists.

Total: $815,000


(NDSU photo)

4 Agribiome Initiative

As NDSU's agribiome research progresses toward solutions that can positively impact North Dakota crop and livestock operations, the involvement of an Extension specialist becomes pivotal in translating scientific advancements into practical applications. Extension education plays a crucial role in assisting producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. Presently, there are over 1,200 companies producing various biostimulants, inoculants, biofertilizers, biopesticides, probiotics and other biologicals aimed at enhancing crop and livestock production. Extension education is vital to provide the necessary guidance to empower producers with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions in this complex landscape.

Request: One FTE specialist position – Extension Agribiome Specialist – $275,000. Will assist producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. $50,000 for operating support for the Extension agribiome specialist.

Total: $325,000

NDSU | EXTENSION

NDSU Extension

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Business Unit number: 630

Business Unit name: NDSU Extension

Reporting Period 7/1/23-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	2,131,992
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts	17,424	3,135	17,710	953	14,267	5,613	7,168	17,490	4,511	25,670	53,835	64,947	22,996	30,818	1,630	7,289	55,190	6,029	356,675
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay					9,333	11,925		9,800			20,853	33,959	-	6,451	25,427	6,045	6,045	6,045	135,883
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding	52,557	133,646	75,728	51,892	55,452	45,721	45,071	54,842	46,282	46,497	12,885	18,202	15,818	23,062	85,683	23,940	17,811	15,242	820,331
Extra Overtime Funding		729										1,955		5,933					8,617
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Salaries													4,503	8,433	7,154	7,853	11,490	9,234	48,667
																			-
Total	48,463	(19,066)	25,006	65,599	39,392	55,185	66,205	36,312	67,651	46,277	30,871	(619)	75,127	43,747	(1,450)	73,317	27,908	81,894	761,819
Vacant Positions:	31	28	31	29	27	33	35	34	37	37	36	35	29	27	25	28	25	25	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

New and Vacant FTE

NDSU Extension

2023-25 New Positions Approved

Position Title	Hire Date	OMB Pool Transfers	Budget Request	Estimated Salary Expenses 2023-25	Estimated Salary Expenses 2025-27
Soybean pathologist	11/1/2023	$0	$200,000	$200,321	$244,836
Swine specialist	6/14/2024	$0	$200,000	$118,125	$226,398

*Pool depleted with other filled vacancies

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

630-NDSU Extension

HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($2,091,347)*

OMB FTE Pool

Approved Transfers	*$1,545,943*
Anticipated Transfers	*$0*
Budget deficiency	***($545,404)***

Major Components of Current Base Level

NDSU Extension

		630 Extension
Salaries	$	53,482,772
Operating		5,996,173
Soil conservation committee operating		1,361,520
Total Budget	$	60,840,465
Funding:		
Federal Fund*	$	8,824,965
General Fund		31,790,689
Special Fund*		20,224,811
Total Funding	$	60,840,465

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	252.70
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	259.44

NDSU Extension

	2025-27 Extension Request			2025-27 Executive Recommendation			2025-27 Senate Amendment		
	FTE	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	FTE	Executive Recommendation	Executive Recommendation	FTE	Senate Amendment	Senate Amendment
		General Fund	Special Fund		General Fund	Special Fund		General Fund	Special Fund
SBARE #1 Biofuels and Carbon Initiative	1.0	$325,000	-	-	$309,000	-	-	-	-
Extension Carbon Specialist	1.0	275,000		-			-		
Operating		50,000			309,000				
SBARE #2 Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support	-	$750,000	-	-	-	$150,000	-	-	-
Extension operating support		600,000				$150,000			
State soil conservation committee operating support		150,000							
Animal Health Initiative	2.0	$815,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extension Precision Agriculture Specialist	1.0	$275,000							
Extension Veterinary Epidemiologist	1.0	$440,000							
Operating		100,000							
SBARE #4 Agribiome Initiative	1.0	$325,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extension Agribiome Specialist	1.0	275,000							
Operating		50,000							
SBARE - Base Increase - NDSU Extension Service	**4.0**	**$2,215,000**	**-**	**-**	**$309,000**	**$150,000**	**-**	**$0**	**$0**

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

NDSU Extension

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$30,908,214**	**$28,986,143**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	859,731	46,548
Employer Retirement Contribution	22,744	17,085
SBARE Priorities:		
Biofuels and Carbon Initiative (1 FTE)	325,000	
Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support	750,000	
Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative (2 FTE)	815,000	
Agribiome Initiative (1 FTE)	325,000	
2025-27 Base Budget Request	**34,005,689**	**29,049,776**
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	2,091,347	1,763,198
3% Budget Reduction	(1,017,114)	(641,074)
NDIT Rate Adjustment	21,755	20,401
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	1,336,017	1,179,254
Health Insurance increase	720,892	738,217
Biofuels and Carbon Initiative	(35,000)	
Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support	(750,000)	150,000
Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative (2 FTE)	(815,000)	
Agribiome Initiative (1 FTE)	(325,000)	
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommended Base Increases (Decreases)	**1,227,897**	**3,209,996**
2025-27 Total Burgum Executive Recommended	**35,233,586**	**32,259,772**
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 -3%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	(241,584)	(215,235)
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommended Base Increases (Decreases)	**(241,584)**	**(215,235)**
2025-27 Total Armstrong Executive Recommended	**34,992,002**	**32,044,537**
Senate Adjustments		
Remove Operating Expenses, Repairs, and Travel	(619,621)	170,414
Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	(682,950)	(625,819)
Remove Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support		(150,000)
Remove Biofuels & Carbon Management (2 FTE)	(290,000)	
2025-27 Senate Increases (Decreases)	**(1,592,571)**	**(605,405)**
2025-27 Senate Total	**33,399,431**	**31,439,132**

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

An international center for meeting and learning about northern grown crops of the United States.

Agency: 63800 - Northern Crops Institute

AGENCY NARRATIVES

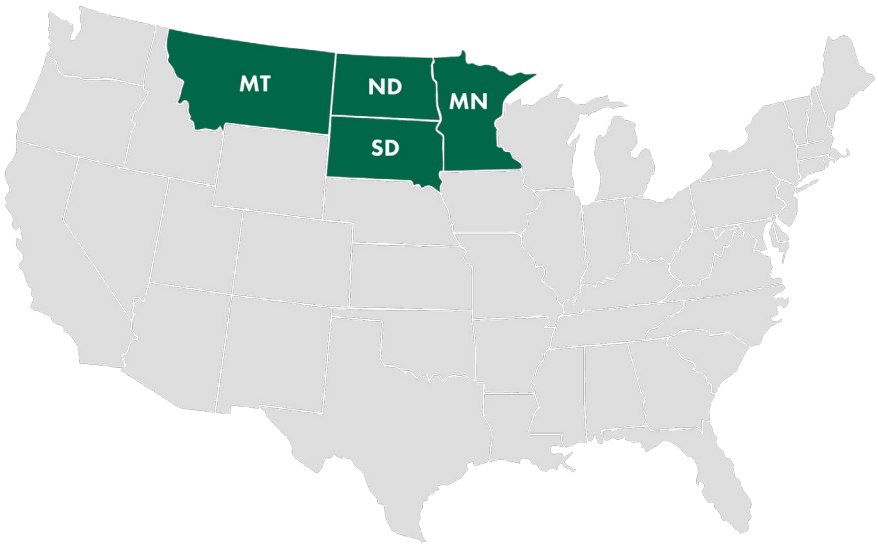
Agency Statutory: North Dakota Century Code Chapter 4.1-15

Agency Description: The Northern Crops Institute (NCI) is a collaborative effort between North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, and South Dakota to promote, develop, and market crops grown in the four-state region, and value-added agriculture, both internationally and domestically. NCI is an international meeting and learning center that brings together customers, commodity traders, technical experts, agricultural producers, and food and industrial processors for education, discussion, and technical services. NCI provides technical and marketing assistance through specialized training programs and technical services that facilitate domestic and international market development and expand the sale of northern grown crops. Representatives from more than 155 countries have visited NCI since its inception in 1979. Representatives from 81 countries participated in NCI's educational programs in 2022 and 2023.

Agency Mission Statement: NCI's mission is to support regional agriculture and value-added processing by conducting educational and technical programs that expand and maintain domestic and international markets for northern grown crops.

NCI AUDIT

Per ND state law, the NCI financial audit was conducted as a part of NDSU. The audit did not identify any areas of concern.

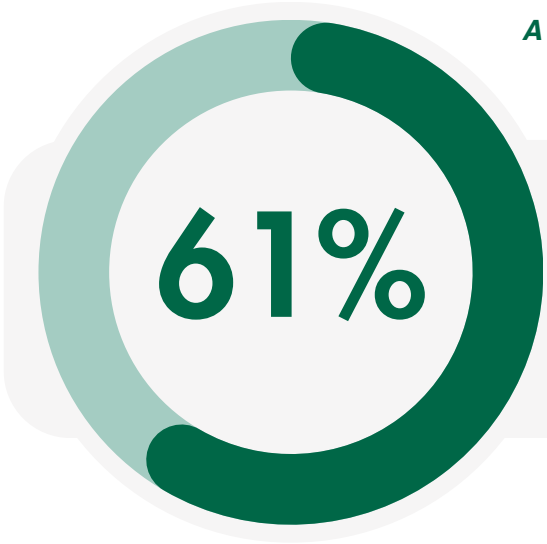


2025 NCI Impact Analysis

The **Northern Crops Institute (NCI)** meets its mission with services that lead to actual increased commodity purchases and regional investments. NCI actively contributes to adding value for products created by the region's farmers and processors.

Program Impact

The Northern Crops Institute offers a variety of short courses and webinars that unite customers, commodity traders, technical experts, and professors for discussion and education. During our courses, participants refresh their expertise and are exposed to technology, participate in lectures, case histories, laboratory demonstrations, and tours.



A 5% increase over 2022!

of attendees have increased the volume of US commodities as a result of NCI courses.



have *better understanding of* US crop quality as a result of NCI courses.



have *greater confidence* in the US supply chain as a result of NCI courses.

Global Impact



Individuals from 81 countries participated in NCI's educational programs from 2022 to 2023, expanding our global reach and connecting customers to the region!

> ***Knowledgeable staff, excellent facility, good engagement throughout sessions, up to date information, relevant content.***

WWW.NORTHERN-CROPS.COM

CONNECTING IN THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE

Technical Services Impact

As a result of your experience with NCI...

Technical service clients have increased their purchase activity of commodities and ingredients by 38%.



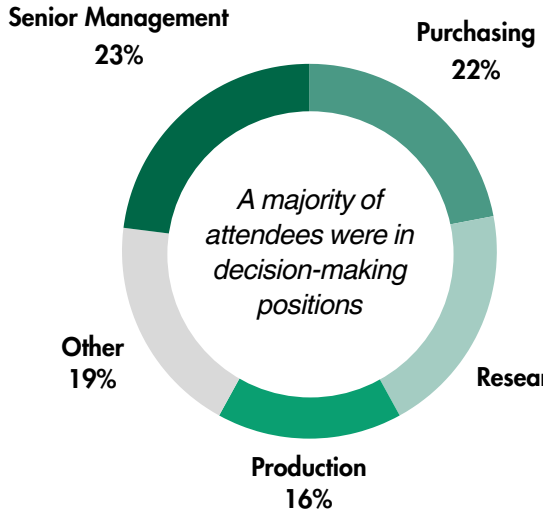
A 14% increase over 2022!

"NCI provides useful, industry-focused information to our partners as part of our work developing value-added uses for new and emerging crops."

"NCI has a long history of serving the 4-state area with professionalism, the people, and relationships with staff gives me confidence."

"NCI's work helped provide more clarity on the potential uses for the crops, including valuable data on product formulation and processing methods."

Course Attendee Roles



Net Promoter Score

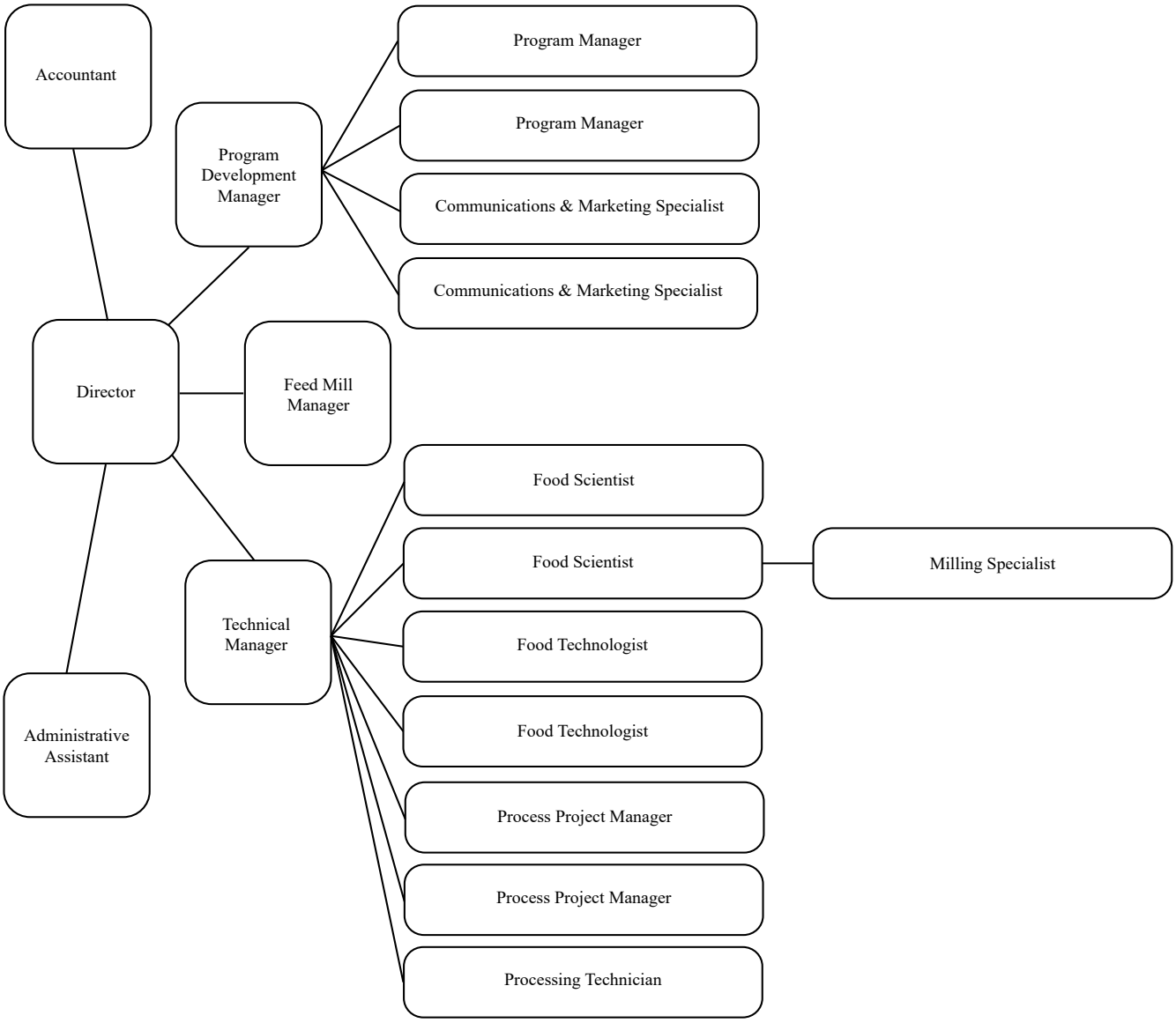
79 NPS rating for likeliness to recommend attending an NCI course.

75 NPS rating for likeliness to recommend NCI for technical services.

An increase of 24 points for courses and 15 points for technical services over 2022!

*Surveys conducted by **Prime46**, a third-party research and consulting organization. The surveys were sent to 381 course participants and 66 technical clients from the '22 and '23 calendar years.*

CURRENT NCI ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



CURRENT BIENNIUM MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. NCI successfully completed a physical relocation to the newly opened Peltier Complex.
2. Completed a third Impact Analysis survey to quantify and economic benefit of NCI programing and services. The new 2022-23 survey reported an 61% increase in US commodity purchases, and a 38% increase in ingredient purchases after participating in NCI programming and tech services, respectively.
3. NCI has delivered a 20% increase in technical service projects in the last biennium. This has helped to grow markets for crops grown in North Dakota and the surrounding states, but also assisted in growing value-added agriculture in the region.
4. Improvements to the NCI Feed Production Center have positioned NCI well to provide training and consultation to North Dakota livestock and feed producers as the livestock industry begins to expand in the state.
5. NCI Collaborated with US Grains Council on a study designed to show the performance value of U.S. corn compared to crops from other countries.
6. NCI has successfully navigated a significant budget shortfall through strong financial management and staffing changes, leading to a positive FY24 year-end balance and a projection for healthy reserves in FY25. This is coupled with improved financial accounting practices and transparency.
7. Defined a new 5-Year Strategy with engagement from the Northern Crops Council, NCI Advisory Board, NCI Staff, and other key stakeholders, which will provide focus and key objectives for NCI to meet its mission and expand impact.
8. NCI has implemented several new programs designed to increase opportunities for farmers growing specialty crops and small businesses utilizing those goods in North Dakota and within the U.S, such as stone milling courses and kitchen to consumer programs.
9. Strengthened relationships and maintained service with our state and national commodity partners while navigating budget and staffing changes.

NCI 2023 LEGISLATIVE CAPITAL PROJECTS

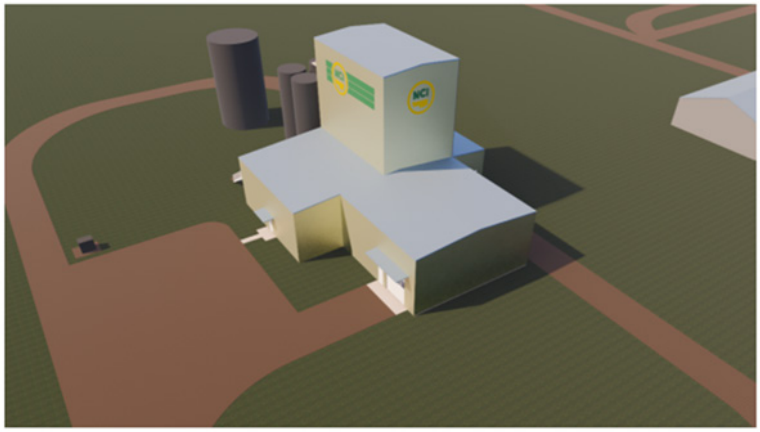
NCI Feed Production Center

- $3.9M from the 68th Legislative Assembly, HB1020
- Replaced aged pellet mill and grain bins
- Added spaces for lab, meeting room, classroom, and storage
- Expected completion in March 2025

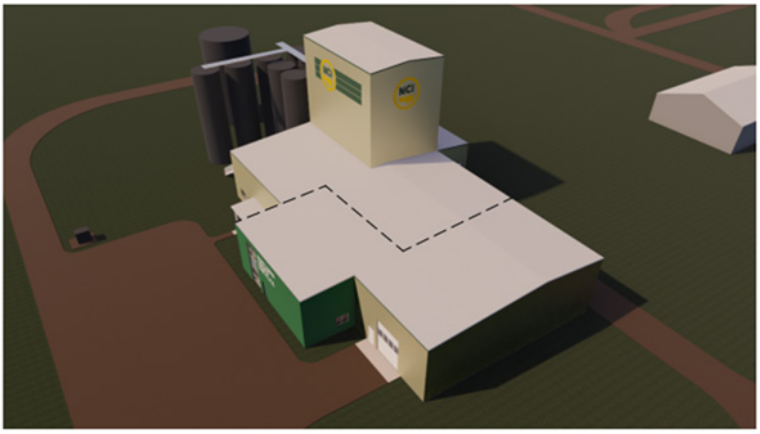




NCI Feed Mill Orgininal Renderings



FEED MILL EXISTING



FEED MILL ADDITION

CURRENT BIENNIUM CRITICAL ISSUES

1. NCI has become increasingly dependent on earned income and sponsorships to sustain current services and consider growth. The volatility of markets, grants, and commodity group partner income make that earned income uncertain. NCI needs to focus on sustainable income sources and growth to continue expanding its impact on the economy of North Dakota and the region.
2. NCI will have additional operating expenses for energy, maintenance, and consumable supplies in the new building and laboratories. The NCI cannot rely on grant funds to cover these costs. To meet its' mission NCI needs a sustainable source of operating funds to cover these increased costs.
3. Growth in crops being utilized for biofuels, new crops, and increased demands for information on sustainability, traceability, and artificial intelligence is creating a need for NCI to develop further areas of expertise. More staffing may be needed to manage growing needs in these areas.
4. In the first quarter of 2024, NCI entered a leadership transition, a budget transition, and a facility transition. NCI needs time to focus on stabilization, continuing to provide service at a high level, and planning for financial sustainability, while sharpening its vision and implementing a new 5-year strategy.

DESCRIPTION OF AGENCY CHARGES AND FEE COLLECTIONS

The NCI has a special fund authority of $3,541,116. Funds are raised through NCI courses, technical services, sponsorships and grants.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL OPERATING EXPENSES ($788,400 BIENNIUM)

Peltier Complex Utility Costs: Upon moving into the Peltier Complex, it was determined that NCI would assume responsibility for utilities and consumable costs. These expenses are currently estimated at $738,000 per biennium, which represents 80% of our planned annual income for FY25. This creates considerable pressure on our already tight budget and limits our ability to enhance our impact.

Global Crop Quality Surveys: NCI has increased our ability to access samples of US and foreign commodities. We have the potential to provide invaluable crop quality information to our state and national commodity group partners. Per ND Century Code 4.1-15-03, the NCI is directed to conduct annual surveys to monitor the quality and condition of commodities in the market channel. NCI can quickly provide additional, valuable quality information to partners with additional funds to procure samples from a supplier.

Part-Time and Student Labor: NCI proposes to hire flexible staffing to meet the needs of its currently reduced workforce. Current staffing numbers limit our ability to provide the exceptional service we desire. NCI staff roles have been shifted and efforts prioritized to meet minimum needs. Temporary staffing flexibility allows us to respond to opportunities and needs as they arise.

ND Start-Up and Registration Scholarships: The NCI has the potential to assist ND start-ups and educate various stakeholders throughout the supply chain. As we have begun offering training and services focused on specialty crops, we commonly find individuals that are not able to afford NCI services but have excellent business or product ideas to develop. Increasing our assistance to ND producers and entrepreneurs will lead to greater investment and activity in ND.

NCI Marketing Efforts: NCI and our services are not widely known across ND and regional agriculture. We will target the regional and domestic food industry, feed industry and ag marketing groups to increase awareness and participation in our services. We have also been asked to increase our engagement in national commodity group meetings with foreign customers and don't have the funds available to meet this opportunity.

ONE-TIME REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT

NCI has added a protein extraction lab in the Peltier Complex. This special request would be used to purchase a piece of equipment to maximize the productivity of this new lab. Pilot-scale air classification systems can separate protein, starch, and fiber from various flours for further food development or research. This capability allows NCI to expand our client services and promote protein, starch, and fiber in the cereal grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops grown in our region. Interest is rapidly growing in using plant proteins in foods and beverages in the U.S. with the current market value reaching $7 billion. Also reported was a compound annual growth rate of 37% for plant-based food and beverages globally. A significant share of recent NCI client work has involved protein fortification and food development, yet we either outsource the protein or starch isolation, or buy these ingredients from the marketplace. This equipment is not available in the region and our request has support from NDSU, UMN, and SDSU researchers who would access industrial-quality protein, starch, and fiber for other research projects. This equipment would be a key piece to the Peltier Complex protein lab, distinguishing NCI's capabilities to the food industry, and have a short return on investment.







NCI NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Northern Crops Institute

Business Unit number: 638

Business Unit name: NCI

Reporting Period 7/1/24-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,018	21,170	29,986	25,396	25,396	25,396	25,396	29,982	20,746	20,746	20,746	255,978
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts								15,662	42,414	16,137					5,548				79,761
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay																			-
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding								3,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	24,000
Extra Overtime Funding																			-
Other (identify)																			-
																			-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(7,644)	(24,244)	10,849	23,396	23,396	24,396	23,396	22,434	18,746	18,746	18,746	152,217
Vacant Positions:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Northern Crops Institute

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

638-NCI

HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($58,637)*

OMB FTE Pool

Approved Transfers	*$0*
Anticipated Transfers	*$41,046*
Budget deficiency	***($17,591)***

**NCI had no vacancies on 7/1/23*

Northern Crops Institute

	639 Northern Crops Institute
Salaries	$ 4,539,569
Operating	1,185,202
Equipment	-
Total Budget	$ 5,724,771
Funding:	
Federal Fund*	$ -
General Fund	2,183,655
Special Fund*	3,541,116
Total Funding	$ 5,724,771

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	18.15
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	18.35

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Northern Crops Institute

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$2,110,256**	**$3,540,445**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	72,602	
Employer Retirement Contribution	797	671
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	58,637	60,680
Operating Request	788400	
2023-25 Adjusted Appropriation, Less Base Adjustments- (2025-27 Base Budget Request)	**3,030,692**	**3,601,796**
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	94,041	117,920
Health Insurance increase	43,024	71,090
Operating Request	(488,800)	488,800
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**(351,735)**	**677,810**
2025-27 Total Burgum Executive Recommended	**2,678,957**	**4,279,606**
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 -3%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	(17,167)	(21,521)
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**(17,167)**	**(21,521)**
2025-27 Total ArmstrongExecutive Recommended	**2,661,790**	**4,258,085**
Senate Adjustments		
Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	(18,871)	(24,841)
Peltier Complex Operating Expenses	638,800	299,600
Remove Operating Expenses	(299,600)	(488,800)
2025-27 Senate Increases(Decreases)	**320,329**	**(214,041)**
2025-27 Senate Total	**2,982,119**	**4,044,044**

25.0187.01000

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$0	$59,478,945
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$0	$60,840,465
Less other funds	29,049,776	0	29,049,776

Total general fund	$31,790,689	$0	$31,790,689
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	0.00	252.70

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Less other funds	3,541,116	0	3,541,116
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$0	$2,183,655
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.00	18.15

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Less other funds	19,581,141	0	19,581,141
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$0	$5,226,375
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Less other funds	58,022,465	0	58,022,465
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$0	$58,125,665
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	0.00	358.47

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$0	$7,379,838
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	0	3,618,270
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	0	5,381,248
Langdon research center	3,195,869	0	3,195,869
North Central research center	5,355,217	0	5,355,217
Williston research center	5,527,125	0	5,527,125
Carrington research center	10,191,002	0	10,191,002
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$0	$40,648,569
Less other funds	20,964,971	0	20,964,971
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$0	$19,683,598
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	0.00	111.81

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$0	$1,632,722
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$0	$1,632,722
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$0	$249,802,173
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	0	132,792,191
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$0	$117,009,982
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	0.00	788.01

SECTION 2. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues

received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 3. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 4. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 6. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be

expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$944,303	$60,423,248
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
New and vacant FTE pool	0	3,053,795	3,053,795

Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less other funds	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	2.74	255.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,549,397	$7,274,168
New and vacant FTE pool	0	101,995	101,995
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less other funds	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	0	266,019	266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less other funds	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$16,426,589	$132,574,719
New and vacant FTE pool	0	5,060,201	5,060,201

Total all funds	$116,148,130	$21,486,790	$137,634,920
Less other funds	58,022,465	17,122,229	75,144,694
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	6.08	364.55

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$355,827	$7,735,665
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	88,766	3,707,036
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	160,658	5,541,906
Langdon research center	3,195,869	280,058	3,475,927
North Central research center	5,355,217	122,311	5,477,528
Williston research center	5,527,125	186,785	5,713,910
Carrington research center	10,191,002	328,102	10,519,104
New and vacant FTE pool	0	999,674	999,674
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less other funds	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$39,931	$1,672,653
New and vacant FTE pool	0	7,343	7,343
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$30,493,709	$280,295,882
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	21,524,089	154,316,280
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$8,969,620	$125,979,602
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	3.37	791.38

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which each entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

One-Time Funding Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Northern crops institute			
Protein extraction and air classification system	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Total northern crops institute	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Main research center			
Equipment storage sheds	$1,567,500	$0	$1,567,500
Oakes irrigation research site interior	0	620,000	620,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000	2,600,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site	0	2,300,000	2,300,000
Williston research center storage shed	0	200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation	0	6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition	0	3,250,000	3,250,000
Total main research center	$1,567,500	$14,970,000	$16,537,550
Grand total	$1,567,500	$15,320,000	$16,887,500

SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST. The North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the North Dakota state university extension service, northern

crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 7. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The other funds line item in subdivision 4 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of $1,970,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund, of which $950,000 is for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, $620,000 is for the Oakes irrigation research site, and $400,000 is for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer

appropriation authority, except appropriation authority in the new and vacant FTE pool line items, within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

1. The sum of $475,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund for storage sheds in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws;
2. The sum of $1,700,000 appropriated from the general fund for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site project in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

NDSU Extension Service

Northern Crops Institute

2025-2027
Biennial Budget Request

Senate Bill 2020

House Government Operations
Representative David Monson, Chair
March 11, 2025

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

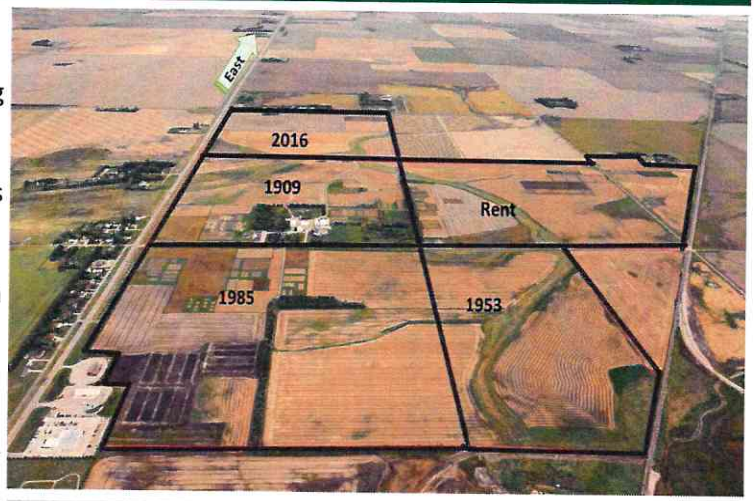
NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to Vice Provost, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 100, 701-231-7708, ndsu.eoaa@ndsu.edu. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, 701-231-7881.



NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center
House Appropriations Committee Report
Government Operations Division - March 11, 2025

Langdon REC 2023/25 Legislative Update

- August 2023 Larissa Jennings began working as a canola clubroot research specialist I.
- Construction of the greenhouse addition is complete within legislative budget.
- Storage shed (70 feet by 194 feet) has been constructed.



Langdon REC AES Research Programs

- Since 1983, Bryan Hanson, research agronomist, has been conducting agronomy research programming on all crops grown in our region with an emphasis on canola. He has built a very solid and trustworthy agronomy research program at Langdon.
- Plant Pathology research program focuses on diseases of crops in North Dakota. Our climate is the epicenter of crop disease incidence making Langdon an ideal disease research site.
- Foundation Seed production provides growers and seed companies with superior publicly owned upper midwest crop varieties.
- Support Fargo main station crop breeders and others researching the development of new ND crop varieties and other technologies.



Langdon REC Extension Program

- Cropping systems specialist prioritizing agent training, grower questions and IPM surveys.
- Soil Health specialist continues to prioritize extension agent/grower soil health education through on field testing and remediation.





NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center
House Appropriations Committee Report
Government Operations Division - March 11, 2025

NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center
2025/27 Programmatic Priorities

1. Please consider the initiatives prioritized by SBARE for the Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension . Thanks to the senate appropriations government operations division for including additional operating dollars for the REC's and the main station in their version of the budget.

NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center
Capital Projects Priority

1. An updated foundation seed conditioning system to support ND growers and seed companies with highest quality seed available.







- 64 years old.
- Workforce safety hazard.
- Inefficient at 15 bu/hr.
- In the past 10 years have sold foundation grade seed to 135 customers.
- NDPSC mandates a semi sized scale by end of 2026.
- LREC averages $224,171.80 of FSS program income per year (last five years).
- We currently condition HRSW, soybeans, flax, barley. Pulses, grasses, and other specialty crops unable to clean.

SENATE BILL NO. 2020
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS DIVISION
DAVID MONSON, CHAIR
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2020

Chairman Monson and members of the House Appropriations Government Operations Division, my name is Ryan Pederson. I am part of a diversified grain farm in north central ND started by my grandfather in 1959. My grandfather had an 8th grade education but became a self-educated plant and soil scientist through a close working relationship with NDSU extension and research. I have tried to continue that legacy of continuing education by participating in field trials, federal conservation programs, and most recently Farmers Union's pilot Climate Smart Program.

Over the years I have represented North Dakota farmers on various commodity organizations including the U.S. Canola Association, Northern Canola Growers and North Dakota Soybean Growers Association. I currently represent the North Dakota soybean industry as an executive committee member on the Clean Fuels Alliance America board. CFAA is the industry trade organization representing Biodiesel, Renewable Diesel and Sustainable Aviation Fuel.

I commend SBARE in their work in developing the priorities put forward today, and recognize how each plays a role in strengthening North Dakota agriculture. Given my background, I would like to speak to two of the priorities presented.

First, the Biofuels and Carbon Management request.

I have been representing ND farmers in the renewable fuels space, namely biomass-based diesel, for over 15 years. During this time the industry has grown from 200 million gallons to over 5 billion gallons annually. In each of the last ten months, over 1 billion pounds of soybean oil has been going into biomass-based diesel. That is roughly equivalent to 87 million bushels per month. For reference, in 2024 ND produced 245 million bushels. This is complemented by over 520 million pounds of Canola oil and 320 million pounds of corn oil used in December of last year.

This demand has arguably led to the construction of two soybean crushing plants and the conversion of a diesel toping plant into a renewable diesel plant in the past few years. This complements the existing three oilseed crush plants and biodiesel plant in our state.

However, the renewable fuels market is going through a fundamental change that will bring challenges to crop-based feedstocks moving forward.

This change has to do with evaluating each feedstock based on its carbon intensity or CI, score. Simply put, the CI score is how much carbon is released into the atmosphere based on which feedstock is used to produce the fuel. These models are already being developed at other land grant universities and my concern is that North Dakota produced crops may be disadvantaged based on how these models score various cropping systems, and how these scores compare to alternative feedstocks such as used cooking oil.

For example, cover crops. While I understand the benefits cover crops have on farmland in much of the country, North Dakota is different. I have been required to plant cover crops after small grain harvest for different conservation programs and have yet to see robust growth given the early frost dates we have. I once had an area Natural Resources Conservation Service conservationist say to me, "it seems the most consistent cover crop we can plant is what grows behind the combine".

Planting after a soybean crop is nearly certain to provide no measurable growth in much of the state. Also, the western part of the state is typically trying to conserve moisture through the use of no-till.

What we do have in North Dakota is a strong crop rotation system with many farmers having four or more crops in a rotation. We also have a shorter growing season so the percentage of time we have living roots in the unfrozen soil with our primary crop is significantly different then many other regions of the country.

In order to make sure that the commodities North Dakota farmers produce for the liquid fuels market don't get unjustly discounted, we need research in this area that focuses on quantifying the positive aspects of what we are already doing and identifying areas where we can continue to improve. This will help to insure continued market access of our bulk commodities at equitable rates.

The economics of this are substantial.

In the Californian market the difference in CI score from UCO to soybean oil equates to a $.30 to $.35 per bushel reduction in value for soybeans.

Currently Canola oil doesn't even qualify for a payment under the federal 45Z program.

The other aspect of carbon markets is direct payments to producers who practice certain farming methods in exchange for a payment. There is no shortage of programs being developed both through governmental agencies and private industry. As mentioned, our farm was part of a pilot program run in partnership by Virginia Tech and NDFU last year and we hope to continue this year.

This experience demonstrated to me the complexity of these programs. NDFU put together a great staff and strong outreach mechanisms and still the project was more difficult to navigate than expected. As private industry continues to develop carbon markets, I expect these difficulties to grow to a point where many producers won't want to participate.

Having access to extension personal who have clear understanding of the different programs available will run parallel to having access to extension weed scientist when producers have questions regarding weed control issues.

Lastly, the Center for Agricultral Policy and Trade Studies.

As I discussed earlier, commodity values can be heavily influenced by national and international polies such as those focused on carbon intensities. It is important that as our policy makers work on developing policies in this and countless other areas that they understand the impact to North Dakota agriculture. Often, these policies can have unexpected consequences that need to be understood during the policy making process.

And while North Dakota continues to develop value-added opportunities for our bulk commodities, its important to remember that we still export a large percentage of our production. Global trade patterns have always been dynamic, and it is important to have the ability to quickly quantify how different trade opportunities and barriers will affect the profitability of North Dakota farmers and ranchers.

In closing, NDSU has a rich history of supporting North Dakota's farmers and ranchers to the benefit of the entire state's economy. The priorities put forward by SBARE will continue to strengthen that legacy.

Thank you for your time and I would be glad to answer any questions you may have.

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
3/11/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

2:31 p.m. Chairman Monson opened the meeting.

Members Present: Chairman Monson, Vice Chair Brandenburg, Representatives: Bosch, Fisher, Kempenich, Meier, Pyle.

Discussion Topics:

- Budget Over for Research and Extension
- Northern Crop Institute (NCI)
- Operating Costs for NCI
- County and Township Roads
- Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
- Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute Budget Overview
- Co2 Network Study
- Future Growth Grants (FGG)
- Autonomous Vehicles and Trucking
- Soil Conservation

2:32 p.m. Laura Lacher, Executive Director, ND Ethanol Producers Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40321.

2:37 p.m. Neil Fisher, Administrator, North Dakota Wheat Commission, testified in favor.

2:45 p.m. Dan Wogsland, Lobbyist, ND Grain Growers Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40391.

2:50 p.m. Gregory Lardy, Director of NDSU Extension, testified in neutral and submitted testimony #40183 and continued with previous testimony #40454.

3:03 p.m. David Boehm, Director, Northern Crops Institute, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40576 and continued with previous testimony #40454.

3:29 p.m. Denver Tolliver, Agency 627, Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute NDSU, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40026, and #40027.

4:28 p.m. Russel Hanson, Executive Vice President, Associated General Contractors, testified in favor.

4:29 p.m. Scott Zainhofsky, Planning/Asset Management Division Engineer, NDDOT, testified and submitted testimony in favor #40014.

4:41 p.m. Lance Gaebe, Agriculture and Policy Strategist, North Dakota Farmers Union, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40327.

4:43 p.m. Parrell Grossman, Legislative Director, North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40053.

4:49 p.m. Rhonda Kelsch, Executive Director, North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts, testified in favor and submitted testimony #40421.

Additional written testimony:

Jacob Odermann, Advisory Board Vice Chair, DREC, submitted testimony in favor #40346.

Andrew Mauch, President, North Dakota Corn Growers Association, submitted testimony in favor #40414.

Sarah Tunge, Program Director, ND Conservation District Employees Association, submitted testimony #40485.

Jeff Zueger, Director, North Dakota Ethanol Producers Association, submitted testimony in favor #40508.

4:59 p.m. Chairman Monson adjourned the meeting.

Madaline Cooper, Committee Clerk

NORTH Dakota | Transportation
Be Legendary.

Senate Bill No. 2020

House Appropriations-Gov't Ops Division
Brynhild Haugland Room | March 11, 2025
Scott Zainhofsky, Planning/Asset Management

Greetings, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. I'm Scott Zainhofsky, director of the Planning/Asset Management Division for the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT). This submitted testimony is in support of the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute's (UGPTI) section of Senate Bill 2020.

The NDDOT utilizes the expertise of UGPTI to assist in conducting research and special studies in areas such as traffic modeling, preparing needs analyses, determining economic impacts, and providing analysis on various transportation related topics. Additionally, using actual NDDOT design projects, UGPTI trains future transportation engineers with real-world experience to the benefit of NDDOT, our local government partners, and the private sector, alike. UGPTI also assists with professional development training and outreach efforts for the whole transportation community. The services UGPTI provides are invaluable to the state's transportation system and its users. Therefore, NDDOT requests your continued support of UGPTI.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my testimony. Thank you.

NDSU Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute 2025-2027 Budget Requests

Denver Tolliver, Director
Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
Agency 627
North Dakota State University

NDSU UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

Legislative Directives and Purpose

N.D.C.C 54-53-03

The Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute's is to "conduct and supervise research in the field of transportation and logistics in order to facilitate acquisition of a wider knowledge and understanding of marketing factors associated with the geographical location of the state of North Dakota and the upper great plains in the field of transportation and their influence on the socioeconomic systems of the state, region, and country." UGPTI's research areas "must include the study of commodity and other freight movements into and out of the state in order to better know and understand the various factors affecting the marketing of area products and services."

Administration

N.D.C.C 54-53-01

The Institute must be administered by and in conjunction with the North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Science. The president and administration of the North Dakota State University are responsible for the selection of personnel for and the administration of the Institute

Advisory Council

N.D.C.C 54-53-02

The Legislature established a transportation council to serve in an advisory capacity and “consult with the Institute in matters of policy affecting the administration of this chapter and in the development of transportation in the state of North Dakota.” The council shall elect its own chair. And the Director of the Institute shall serve as the executive secretary of the council.

Advisory Council Members

- ND Aeronautics Commission
- Associated General Contractors of ND
- ND Association of Counties
- Greater ND Chamber
- ND Corn Council
- ND Department of Agriculture
- ND Department of Commerce
- ND Department of Transportation
- ND Farmers Union
- ND Grain Dealers Association
- ND Grain Growers Association
- ND League of Cities
- Lignite Energy Council
- ND Motor Carriers Association
- ND Public Service Commission
- ND Wheat Commission
- Dakota Transit Association
- Rep. of manufacturing sector
- Rep. of railway industry

Biennial Road & Bridge Needs Assessment

- 71,808 miles of road, including 5,843 miles of paved county road
- Vehicles counts (ADT and Truck ADT) ≈ 100 locations
- Surface conditions (roughness, cracking, etc.) of paved roads
- Survey of counties to determine blading and graveling practices
- Current ages/conditions of 2,079 bridges on county roads and 2,095 minor structures ≤ 20 feet

Table 1. County, Township, & Tribal Road & Bridge Needs (Millions)

Time Period	*Unpaved Roads*	*Paved Roads*	*Bridges*	*Minor Structures*	*All*
Twenty Years	$6,971.45	$3,496.17	$1,087.16	$805.00	$12,359.78
Current Biennium	$707.88	$433.82	$178.94	$151.06	$1,471.70
Avg. Biennial	$697.15	$349.62	$108.72	$80.50	$1,235.98

Road & Bridge Asset Management

- Geographic Roadway Inventory Tool (GRIT)
  - Inventorying/managing road & bridge assets
  - Recording maintenance activities
- Foundation for the biennial needs study
- Tools for performance-based construction/maintenance planning based on continually updated pavement condition and traffic data
- On-line reporting capabilities with web-based maps and dashboards which provide transparency and critical information
- Recently added features: a sign inventory layer and AI tools

Biennial Freight Analysis

- Data on shipment volumes, weights, and values of commodities originating or terminating in North Dakota
  - Inventory and analysis of the farm truck fleet
  - Commercial truck inventories and use patterns
  - Grain flows from farms to elevators and processing plants
  - Goods movements within and through the state by truck
- A railroad freight analysis tool that summarizes rail freight shipments to, from, and within the state by commodity group
- North Dakota Community Freight Survey

Productivity and Results

- Oct. 1, 2022 through Sept 30, 2024
- UGPTI and UTC program
- 179 peer-reviewed journal articles
- 68 peer-reviewed transportation research reports,
- 883 training, e-learning, and outreach events with 16,054 participants

Federal Funds

- U.S. Department of Transportation
  - Office of the Secretary of Transportation
  - Federal Highway Administration
  - Federal Transit Administration,
  - Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
  - National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration
- Pre-determined uses; limited discretion
- Not a substitute for state research dollars

State and Other Funds

- **Special funds**: grants from NDDOT, other state agencies, private industries
  - UGPTI does not operate facilities or assess fees that generate revenue on a continuous basis
- **General funds** are needed to:
  - Match federal grants (50%-100% match)
  - Provide continuity in times of delay or disruption in federal funding
  - Only hard dollars in UGPTI's budget

UGPTI's Budget Requests Included in Executive Recommendations

Request	Funding Request		
	Base	One Time	Total
Autonomous Surface Transp. Center	*Not included in Exec. Recommendation*		
AI for Surface Transportation	$375,000	$0	$375,000
CO2 Multimodal Network	$0	$408,100	$408,100
Total	$375,000	$408,100	$783,100
Included in Senate Bill 2020	$0	$0	$0

SB 2020 as Passed by the Senate

Item	Base	Adjustments	Appropriation
UGPTI	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	$0	$266,019	$266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less other funds	$19,581,141	$507,090	$20,088,231
Total general funds	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	-1	42.88

Details of Senate Changes to Executive Recommendations

Item	Add Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases	Add Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool	Remove Vacant FTE Position	Transfer Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE Pool				$266,019	$266,019
Upper Great Plains Trans.	$719,877	$339,241	($157,136)	($380,027)	$521,955
Total all funds	$719,877	$339,241	($157,136)	($114,008)	$787,974
Less estimated income	$507,163	$236,946	($157,136)	($70,883)	$507,090
General fund	$212,714	$102,295	$0	($34,125)	$280,884
FTE	0.00	0.00	(1.00)	0.00	(1.00)

CO_2 Network Study/Model

- CO_2 has many industrial uses including EOR
- However, a transportation network does not exist
- DOE programs intended to encourage expansion and interconnection of CO2 transportation network: FEED and FGG
  - Support shared infrastructure projects, including pipelines, rail, ships and barges, and ground shipping
- No comprehensive DOE model or plan; piecemeal development
- A state model/vision could help private sector apply for FGG

Input/Collaborations

- North Dakota Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Transportation and PSC
- Oil and Gas Division
- Energy and Environmental Research Center
- Biofuels and ethanol industries
- National DOE labs (ORNL)
- Class I and regional railroads

AI for Surface Transportation

- AI has potential to
  - Improve worker safety
  - Boost the consistency and reliability of data
  - Cost-effectiveness of transp. operations & asset management
  - Offset worker shortages
- Use data from smart sensors, cameras, drones, and vehicles
- AI can automate and improve the reliability of
  - Transportation infrastructure inspection and monitoring
  - Traffic monitoring, control, and safety
  - Predictive modeling for traffic and goods movements

AI for Surface Transportation (cont.)

- 68th Legislative Assembly provided $432,600 for Transportation Data & Intelligence Lab
- Requested funding would be used for:
  - Transportation research
  - Development of prototypes
  - Workforce development: train and mentor future workers in machine learning, AI, and agency operations in a highly automated environment

Autonomous Surface Transportation Freight Center

- Autonomous trucks have potential to:
  - Mitigate driver shortages
  - Improve safety and fuel economy
  - Spur economic development
  - Create new and attractive jobs
- Offer high levels of transportation productivity
  - Vehicles not limited by hours-of-service regulations
  - Especially valuable to agriculture during peak harvest period and first- and last-mile deliveries

Development/Spread of Autonomous Trucks

- Platooning already occurring
- Driverless (L4) developing rapidly in Southwest
  - I-45 between Dallas and Houston
  - Permian Basin
- Will spread across the South and Northeast
- North Dakota in last tier of deployment
- Challenges to northern rural areas

Main Goals of Center

- Research into possible enhancements to ADSs
- Better understanding of markets and conducive conditions
- Keep abreast of developments in industry and other states
- Learn from the policies and practices of other states
- Analyze and evaluate highway infrastructure
- Work with NDDOT, NDHP, CVSA, FMCSA, and autonomous truck companies (enhanced safety inspections)
- Facilitate a collaborative strategic planning process

UGPTI's Supplemental Budget Requests

Request	Funding Request		
	Base	One Time	Total
CO2 Multimodal Network	$0	$408,100	$408,100
AI for Surface Transportation	$375,000	$0	$375,000
Autonomous Surface Transp. Center		$750,000	$750,000
Total	$375,000	$1,158,100	$1,533,100

North Dakota State University
Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
Agency 627

Denver Tolliver, Director

2025 – 2027 Biennial Budget Request

Presented to:
The Government Operations Division
of the North Dakota House of Representatives

March 11, 2025

NDSU UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

I. Background Agency Information

Legislative Directives and Purpose N.D.C.C 54-53-03

The Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute's purpose is to "conduct and supervise research in the field of transportation and logistics in order to facilitate acquisition of a wider knowledge and understanding of marketing factors associated with the geographical location of the state of North Dakota and the upper great plains in the field of transportation and their influence on the socioeconomic systems of the state, region, and country." UGPTI's research areas "must include the study of commodity and other freight movements into and out of the state in order to better know and understand the various factors affecting the marketing of area products and services."

Advisory Council N.D.C.C 54-53-02

The Legislature established a transportation council to serve in an advisory capacity and "consult with the Institute in matters of policy affecting the administration of this chapter and in the development of transportation in the state of North Dakota." The current members of UGPTI's Advisory Council are listed below.

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute Advisory Council

- ND Aeronautics Commission
- Associated General Contractors of ND
- ND Association of Counties
- Greater ND Chamber
- ND Corn Council
- ND Department of Agriculture
- ND Department of Commerce
- ND Department of Transportation
- ND Farmers Union
- ND Grain Dealers Association
- ND Grain Growers Association
- ND League of Cities
- Lignite Energy Council
- ND Motor Carriers Association
- ND Public Service Commission
- ND Wheat Commission
- Dakota Transit Association
- Rep. of the manufacturing sector
- Rep. of the railway industry

Administration N.D.C.C 54-53-01

The Institute must be administered by and in conjunction with the North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Science. The president and administration of North Dakota State University are responsible for the selection of personnel for and the administration of the Institute.

II. Major Accomplishments in Current Biennium

Biennial Road & Bridge Needs Assessment

With its general fund appropriation, UGPTI conducted its biennial analysis of county, township, and tribal road investment needs in the state in 2024 and 2025. The study included 71,808 miles of road, including 5,843 miles of paved county road and 56,656 miles of gravel road. UGPTI staff and student employees counted and classified vehicles at approximately 100 locations on county, township, and tribal roads throughout the state, recording the total number of vehicles per day at each site, as well as the number of trucks, by size category.

When combined with NDDOT traffic counts on county roads, UGPTI's traffic data provide a comprehensive picture of traffic around the state. In addition to traffic counts, UGPTI analyzed the surface conditions of 5,843 miles of paved county road, collecting ride quality data in a cost-effective manner using sensors and special smart phones apps to measure road roughness and video images to assess road conditions (e.g., cracking). Using these roughness and condition measurements, composite ride scores were developed for all paved road sections. In order to estimate unpaved road funding needs, a survey was administered to each county to determine blading and graveling practices, the sources and costs of gravel, and other cost factors. All 53 counties responded to the survey. The current ages and conditions of 2,079 bridges on county roads and 2,095 minor structures with spans of less than 20 feet were also analyzed and investment and maintenance costs were estimated. The results are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. County, Township, & Tribal Road & Bridge Needs (Millions)

Time Period	*Unpaved Roads*	*Paved Roads*	*Bridges*	*Minor Structures*	*All*
Twenty Years	$6,971.45	$3,496.17	$1,087.16	$805.00	$12,359.78
Current Biennium	$707.88	$433.82	$178.94	$151.06	$1,471.70
Avg. Biennial	$697.15	$349.62	$108.72	$80.50	$1,235.98

Road & Bridge Asset Management

With its general fund appropriation, UGPTI continues to maintain and improve the Geographic Roadway Inventory Tool (GRIT), which is an on-line resource for North Dakota's local and Tribal Governments to use for inventorying and efficiently managing their road and bridge infrastructure assets and recording maintenance activities. Information gathered within GRIT provides a critical foundation for the county and local needs study conducted each biennium. In addition, GRIT includes tools for local governments to do performance-based construction and maintenance planning based on continually updated pavement condition and traffic data collected by UGPTI. GRIT also includes on-line reporting capabilities with web-based maps and dashboards which provide transparency and critical information for the public and decision makers. Some of the capabilities recently added to GRIT include a sign inventory layer and the development of artificial intelligence tools to make the road inventory and evaluation process more efficient for short-staffed local government agencies.

Freight Data & Analysis

As part of its Biennial Freight Analysis, UGPTI is compiling data on shipment volumes, weights, and the values of commodities originating or terminating in North Dakota, including: (1) an inventory and analysis of the farm truck fleet, (2) commercial truck inventories and use patterns, (3) grain flows from farms to elevators and processing plants, and (4) goods movements within and through the state by truck. In addition, UGPTI has developed a railroad freight analysis tool that summarizes rail freight shipments to, from, and within the state by

commodity group. Moreover, a North Dakota Community Freight Survey has been implemented this biennium to assess the existing and desired transportation services in North Dakota communities and their impacts on economic development.

Tribal Technical Assistance

UGPTI is the home of Federal Highway Administration's Northern Region Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) Center. Its vision is to enhance the quality of life in Tribal communities by building capacity for Tribes to administer and manage their transportation programs and systems. The mission is to "serve as a go-to local resource for Tribal transportation training, technical assistance, and technology transfer needs and opportunities."

Productivity and Results

For the two latest federal fiscal years (extending from October 1, 2022, through Sept 30, 2024), UGPTI and the Mountain-Plains Consortium (which is led by UGPTI) have published 179 peer-reviewed journal articles and 68 peer-reviewed transportation research reports, which are available from UGPTI's website. In addition, 883 training, e-learning, and outreach events were offered during this time, in which there were 16,054 participants. These measures are typical of UGPTI's outputs for a biennium.

III. Report on One-Time Funding

Funding Amount and Source

The 68th Legislative Assembly provided $432,600 of one-time funding to repurpose and equip a room in the Quentin Burdick Building at North Dakota State University to receive, process, archive, and analyze data from field sensors, vehicles, and many other sources. The Transportation Data Intelligence Lab will enable UGPTI to perform advanced data analytics, develop artificial intelligence solutions and tools, contribute timely transportation information to travelers and service providers, and train students in artificial intelligence and automation. The project is nearing completion. It is on schedule and within budget.

IV. UGPTI's Funding Sources

Special Funds

UGPTI does not operate facilities or assess fees that generate revenue on a continuous basis. Rather, UGPTI's special funds appropriation request represents the authority to collect grants and contracts from state and local agencies and private industries. Most of UGPTI's special funds originate from the North Dakota Department of Transportation under a strategic agency partnership that has benefited North Dakota for the last four decades. The ND Wheat Commission and several metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) also regularly provide grant funding. There is uncertainty in the levels of these grants and contracts that will be received during any biennium.

Federal Funds

The federal fund request represents a ceiling for UGPTI's federal grant collections. It is the agency's best projection of the authority needed to procure

all grants that may become available during the biennium. The vast majority originates from the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT), including grants from the Office of the Secretary, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration. Some grants (such as the University Transportation Center grant) are provided directly to UGPTI by federal agencies. In other cases, the funds are "federal source funds" provided by third parties through the federal procurement process. Although federal funds are important to UGPTI's budget, they have pre-determined uses. Ultimately, UGPTI has limited discretion in determining which critical issues are researched with federal funds. Federal research funds (although important) are not a substitute for state research dollars.

General Funds

Although state general funds comprise a minor portion of UGPTI's overall budget, they are essential to the agency's success and sustainability. State general funds are needed to match federal grants and provide continuity in times of delay or disruption in federal funding. Many of UGPTI's direct grants (such as the University Transportation Centers grant) require a 100% match of non-federal source funds. UGPTI's general funds are the only dependable source of match for these funds. Moreover, general funds are the only hard dollars in UGPTI's budget. Federal and special funds are provided at the discretion of intermediate agencies and third parties and are subject to the budget limits placed on these agencies.

V. Executive Recommendations and Senate Actions

As shown in Table 2, UGPTI's proposed 2025-27 budget includes base and one-time funding requests. However, only two of UGPTI's three requests were included in Governor Burgum's Executive Recommendation. Governor Armstrong's Executive Recommendation included the same two requests. Both Executive Recommendations provide $408,100 of one-time funding from the General Fund for a captured carbon dioxide transportation network study and $375,000 from the General Fund for a program in artificial intelligence for surface transportation. UGPTI's request for an autonomous surface transportation research center was not included in either recommendation or funded by the Senate.

Table 2. UGPTI's Supplemental Budget Requests Included in Executive Recommendations

	Funding Request		
Request	**Base**	**One Time**	**Total**
Autonomous Surface Transp. Center	*Not Included in either recommendation*		
AI for Surface Transportation	$375,000	$0	$375,000
CO2 Multimodal Network	$0	$408,100	$408,100
Total	$375,000	$408,100	$783,100
Included in Senate Bill 2020	$0	$0	$0

In fact, the budget passed by the Senate (Table 3) includes none of UGPTI's three budget requests. However, it includes other adjustments. Funding was added to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool funding that was previously sequestered at OMB. At the same time, a vacant FTE position was removed, and funding was transferred for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool.

Table 3. SB 2020 as Passed by the Senate

Item	Base	Adjustments	Appropriation
UGPTI	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	$0	$266,019	$266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less other funds	$19,581,141	$507,090	$20,088,231
Total general funds	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	-1	42.88

The details of these adjustments are given in Table 4, which shows that $157,136 of funding was removed from UGPTI's budget (corresponding to the removed FTE). Another $380,027 was transferred to the new and vacant FTE pool for the 2025-27 biennium. A total of $719,877 was added for salary and benefit adjustments, including salary adjustments of 3% on July 1, 2025, and 3% on July 1, 2026, as well as increases in health insurance premiums from $1,643 to $1,893 per month. The sum of these adjustments equals $521,955, which is shown in Column 3 of Table 3. In a separate adjustment, $266,019 was added to a new and vacant FTE pool line item. The effect of all adjustments was to increase UGPTI's General Fund from its base level of $5,226,375 per biennium to $5,507,259 per biennium, an increase of $280,884.

Table 4. Details of Senate Changes to Executive Recommendations

Item	Add Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases	Add Funding to Replace 2023-25 Vacant FTE Pool	Remove Vacant FTE Position	Transfer Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE Pool				$266,019	$266,019
Upper Great Plains Trans.	$719,877	$339,241	($157,136)	($380,027)	$521,955
Total all funds	$719,877	$339,241	($157,136)	($114,008)	$787,974
Less estimated income	$507,163	$236,946	($157,136)	($70,883)	$507,090
General fund	$212,714	$102,295	$0	($34,125)	$280,884
FTE	0.00	0.00	(1.00)	0.00	(1.00)

Because two of the three requests were included in the executive recommendations and the third request is timely given recent developments in the state, UGPTI requests that the House consider all three budget requests, which are described next. These requests have been

approved by (and recommended by) UGPTI's Advisory Council and the State Board of Higher Education.

VI. UGPTI's Budget Initiative Requests for 2025-2027

1. Multimodal Transportation System for Captured Carbon Dioxide

Relevant State Goals and Policies

As stated in N.D.C.C. 38-22-1, "it is in the public interest [of North Dakota] to promote the geologic storage of carbon dioxide. Doing so will benefit the state and the global environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions." Former Governor Burgum provided a vision for North Dakota to lead the nation in carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) and achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. CO_2 has many industrial uses, including enhanced oil recovery, that could spur economic growth and productivity in the state. However, this CO_2 vision requires that captured carbon dioxide be transported from producing locations to utilization and sequestration sites. Although some regional CO_2 pipelines are in place (mostly in Texas and surrounding states), the transportation network needed to support these movements does not exist on a national scale and must be built to accommodate greatly increased future demands.

Federal Funding Opportunities

The Department of Energy (DOE) has introduced several programs to encourage the expansion and interconnection of a CO_2 transportation network, including the Front-End Engineering and Design (FEED) and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation (CIFIA) Future Growth Grants programs. The CIFIA program is intended to "support shared infrastructure projects, including pipelines, rail transport, ships and barges, and ground shipping, that connect anthropogenic sources of carbon dioxide with endpoints for its storage or utilization." These programs are intended to "finance projects that build shared transport infrastructure to move CO_2 from points of capture to utilization facilities and storage wells" and "help form a domestic interconnected carbon management ecosystem." However, a piecemeal approach to constructing CO_2 transportation infrastructure requires "close coordination and alignment in the development of each element of the CCUS value chain" to realize the nation's goals.

Funding Request

The purpose of this one-time funding request of $408,100 is to conduct a strategic study of multimodal CO2 transportation options and infrastructure needs to support North Dakota's goals and position the state (including private industries and transportation modes) to develop proposals for federal funding. Having a CO2 transportation plan in place could provide competitive advantages in seeking DOE infrastructure funds. Moreover, one-time funding is needed to match federal research grants. If funded, this one-time request

could provide an initial boost to the state's CCUS aspirations and provide benefits for years to come.

Planned Activities

In this foundational study, UGPTI will seek input from the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Transportation; the Oil and Gas Division; the Public Service Commission; the Energy and Environmental Research Center; biofuels and ethanol industries; national DOE labs; Class I and regional railroads; and other interested parties. The project will result in assessments of:

- Sources of potential CO_2 suppliers in the United States, including sources that are not connected to pipelines, but which have railroad service and could potentially ship CO_2 into the state without large-scale infrastructure investments
- The potential for a multimodal system to transport CO_2 into and within North Dakota that could serve key industries and allow access to sequestration sites
- The potential for transportation of CO_2 by rail and truck in complementary roles to pipelines in a comprehensive transportation system that includes service to potential CO_2 hubs and distribution centers
- The initial development of a multimodal GIS-based network model that could identify connecting links and hubs that would enhance the connectivity of the CO_2 network
- The need for intermodal connections within North Dakota, which would allow railroads to directly serve hubs and distributions centers where direct connections do not currently exist.

2. Artificial Intelligence in Surface Transportation

Potential for AI in Transportation

Artificial intelligence (AI) has the potential to alleviate many workforce shortages, improve worker safety, boost the consistency and reliability of data, and foster cost-effectiveness in transportation operations and asset management. Using data from smart sensors, high-resolution cameras, drones, and vehicles, AI can automate and improve the reliability of transportation infrastructure inspection and monitoring; traffic monitoring, control, and safety; and autonomous and connected vehicle operations. In addition to alleviating worker shortages, AI can reduce the exposure of employees to risks during inspections and increase worker productivity and job satisfaction.

Goals of Transportation AI Research Program

The 68th Legislative Assembly provided $432,600 of one-time funding for room renovation, equipment, and sensors to establish a Transportation Data and Intelligence Center, focused on advanced data analytics and artificial intelligence. The main goals of the Transportation Data and Intelligence Center

are to: (1) conduct leading edge research in intelligent transportation solutions that benefit transportation planning and infrastructure/asset management; (2) develop new planning and forecasting models of freight and passenger transportation in a connected/automated vehicle environment; (3) provide advanced data analysis capabilities for the North Dakota DOT, MPOs, cities, Tribal nations, and other clients in the state and region; and (4) train and mentor future transportation specialists in machine learning, artificial intelligence, and agency operations in a highly automated environment. The focus of this effort would be restricted to transportation-related research and workforce development and the development of prototypes which could potentially be implemented by state and local agencies or commercialized by private industry with further development and integration.

Funding Request

This request (for $375,000 in base funding) will cover some senior researcher time and the hiring and mentoring of 1 to 2 postdocs and 3 to 4 students. Moreover, the base funding will be used to leverage federal grants, many of which require a 50% to 100% match in non-federal funds.

Planned Activities

Potential activities and topics that could be included in the 2025-2027 work plan include:

- AI tools and algorithms for predictive data modeling to support traffic management, route optimization, traffic safety management, and infrastructure management systems
- Tools such as advanced 3D graphical animation and generative AI that can facilitate seamless integrations of autonomous multimodal transport systems with existing physical and digital infrastructures
- AI models that leverage historical data and real-time inputs to predict future demands for goods movements across various sectors, improving the accuracy of logistics planning
- AI algorithms that dynamically optimize routes and schedules for freight transportation based on traffic conditions, weather, and delivery priorities
- Training and mentoring of students in writing AI algorithms and identifying potential AI solutions in transportation

3. Autonomous Surface Transportation Freight Center

Critical Driver Shortages

North Dakota's economy is dependent on efficient, reliable freight transportation services. Grains, oilseeds, and many farm products produced in North Dakota move at least part of the way to market by truck. In addition, many of the inputs needed by the oil, gas, and manufacturing industries are delivered by trucks. However, the trucking industry is plagued by driver shortages and rapid turnover. The average turnover rate for truck drivers exceeds 90%, meaning that more than 90% of drivers leave the company after

one year on the job. Driver shortages are hurting the agriculture and energy sectors, which depend heavily on contract trucking. Additionally, nearly 90% of all large truck crashes involve human factors.

Benefits of Autonomous Trucks

Autonomous trucks have the potential to mitigate driver shortages, improve safety, improve fuel economy, make freight transportation more efficient, maintain and improve freight services to rural communities, spur economic development, and create new and attractive jobs. The vehicles are not limited by hours-of-service regulations and do not need to stand idle while drivers take mandatory breaks. The number of operational hours per week is limited only by vehicle servicing requirements and constraints imposed by logistical operations (e.g., loading, unloading, queueing, and traffic delays). Autonomous trucks may be especially valuable to the agricultural industry during peak harvest period and first- and last-mile deliveries.

Challenges to Autonomous Trucks in Rural North Dakota

Autonomous trucking is proliferating in the Southwest under good weather conditions on interstate and well-designed highways. However, the spread of autonomous trucks to rural areas, where the vehicles must travel over two-lane rural roads under challenging conditions, is likely to be slower. Rural operations pose unique challenges related to (1) roadway conditions (e.g., faded edge markings and stripes, deteriorated or damaged traffic signs, narrower shoulders, and irregular roadway geometry); (2) uncontrolled access with intersections of farm roads and trails; (3) numerous at-grade highway-railroad crossings with lower levels of protection; (4) relatively few roadside landmarks for vehicle navigation; (5) snow, ice, and weather extremes; (6) near-zero visibility at times due to fog and drifting snow; and (7) unusual traffic and pedestrian patterns, such as wildlife crossings, pedestrians walking on highway shoulders and in traffic lanes (in the absence of sidewalks), and farm equipment entering and existing roadways and partially occupying lanes. Infrastructure improvements and training of autonomous driving systems may be needed before North Dakota can widely realize the benefits of autonomous trucks off the Interstate highway system.

A Research/ Information Sharing Center is Needed

As North Dakota makes the transition to autonomous freight transportation systems, research, technology transfer, and training are necessary to optimize emerging opportunities and make the transition as smooth as possible. UGPTI has a tentative program in autonomous trucking, primarily as a result of a federal grant that ends in 2025. However, reliable funding is needed to continue research and demonstrations and expand the research focus.

Goals of Proposed Center

If this request is funded, an Autonomous Surface Transportation Freight Center will be established at the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute. The center will focus on applied research and technology transfer rather than basic research. The goal is not to develop autonomous driving systems, which

have already been developed in the private sector. Rather, UGPTI's roles would be to:

- Conduct research into possible enhancements to ADSs to address the challenges posed by rural and northern operations
- Work with private-sector autonomous vehicle developers to better understand the markets, types of freight operations, and conditions most conducive to autonomous truck operations
- Keep abreast of developments in autonomous trucking and success stories in other states
- Learn from the policies and practices of states with established autonomous truck businesses
- Analyze and evaluate highway infrastructure enhancements and investments to support automated driving and allow autonomous trucks to penetrate edge markets, such as rural communities
- Work with the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the North Dakota Highway Patrol, and autonomous truck companies to identify their plans for enhanced safety inspections of autonomous trucks, safety protocols, and training and resources needs of the Highway Patrol
- Facilitate a collaborative strategic planning process that involves all stakeholders and increases the transparency of developments in the autonomous trucking industry.

Funding Request

This request is for one-time funding of $750,000 to effectively launch the autonomous freight center and demonstrate its value to the state. The funding could potentially leverage expertise and in-kind contributions from autonomous truck companies and freight industry partners. In addition, the funding could be used to match federal grant opportunities, which typically require a 50% to 100% match in non-federal funds.

Planned Activities

If this request is funded, an advisory panel will be established to provide input to the Center. The panel will include representatives of the North Dakota Department of Transportation and the Highway Patrol; the Department of Commerce; the trucking sector; agricultural and energy industries; autonomous truck companies; and national experts. The initial tasks will include fact-finding and identification of the goals and objectives of various stakeholders through outreach and consultations, including:

- Consultations with autonomous truck and technology companies and original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) that result in long-term strategic partnerships and provide opportunities to improve the efficiency and safety of freight movements in the state.
- Consultations with the agricultural sector (including the North Dakota Soybean Council, the Soy Transportation Coalition, the North Dakota Ethanol Producers, the North Dakota Grain Growers, the North

Dakota Grain Dealers, and the North Dakota Ethanol Producers, among others) to identify prospects for AV truck usage, technical assistance needs, possible scales of operation, and perceived obstacles.
- Consultations with the Western Dakota Energy Association, the North Dakota Petroleum Council, and the North Dakota Oil and Gas Division to gauge interests and potential prospects for the transportation of non-hazardous inputs, like the frac sand deliveries that occur in the Permian Basin.

Some of the actionable items planned for the biennium include:
- Work with the Department of Commerce and industry trade associations to identify potential opportunities for autonomous trucks in first, last, and middle movements of food products and manufactured goods.
- Work with autonomous truck companies to identify the types of industries needed to support and sustain autonomous truck operations, potential workforce opportunities resulting from these high-tech/service jobs, and the curricula and training needed for these skills. A report will include recommendations on how the NDUS could potentially develop training and educational programs that would attract companies and create new high-paying jobs in North Dakota.
- With the cooperation of Cass County, conduct tests of autonomous driving systems in specially equipped autonomous test vehicles over roads temporarily closed, or at the lowest traffic times when only a few travelers would be impacted. Safety drivers will be in the vehicles and the results of the tests will provide feedback on how effectively AVs can navigate two lane rural roads and the effectiveness of low-cost landmarks that could be placed roadside. Tests will occur during winter and summer conditions.
- Plan and deliver outreach events across the state and a newsletter that will keep decision makers abreast of developments and emerging issues.
- Plan and hold an autonomous truck conference in Bismarck in 2026.

UGPTI's three supplemental budget requests are summarized in Table 5. Three-fourths of UGPTI's total request consists of one-time funding initiatives. The base funding request of $375,000 represents a 6.8% increase over the base budget passed by the Senate (shown earlier in Table 4). We respectively request that the North Dakota House of Representatives consider these requests, which are important to transportation efficiency, safety, economic and technological advancement, and workforce development in the State.

Table 5. UGPTI's Supplemental Budget Requests

	Funding Request		
Request	**Base**	**One Time**	**Total**
CO2 Multimodal Network	$0	$408,100	$408,100
AI for Surface Transportation	$375,000	$0	$375,000
Autonomous Surface Transp. Center		$750,000	$750,000
Total	$375,000	$1,158,100	$1,533,100

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SENATE BILL NO. 2020
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS DIVISION
DAVID MONSON, CHAIR
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2020

Chairman Monson and members of the House Appropriations Government Operations Division. My name is Parrell Grossman, and it is my privilege to be the Legislative Director for the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association. I appear in support of Engrossed Senate Bill 2020, with amendments.

The Association advocates for 8,900 operations that raise soybeans in North Dakota. In 2024, those soybean farmers planted 6.6 million acres of soybeans, producing over 245 million bushels of soybeans.

The Committee is very aware of the agricultural economic impact in North Dakota. NDSU's 2024 North Dakota Agriculture Industry Economic Contribution Analysis reported that the economic contribution to North Dakota is $41.3 billion, including $26 billion from direct output and $15.3 billion from secondary output.

Research investments drive ag innovation. Every $1 invested in ag research yields $37 in economic returns. Therefore, it is critical for this legislature to continue to strategically invest in agriculture in North Dakota. The Association asks you to do so with this legislation with NDSU and SBARE's funding requests, including additional funding beyond that approved in the Engrossed Senate Bill.

The Association respectfully asks the Committee to restore full funding for the NDSU Extension and the ND Agricultural Experiment Station to the 2023-25 base budget. Soybean farmers rely heavily on these services and partner with NDSU. Research, grower education and promotion are the three pillars of the North Dakota Soybean Council. Based on soybean grower input, the NDSC works with NDSU research, leveraging your funding with checkoff dollars, to implement the third-party research critical to grower success and with extension to help disseminate actionable information to growers.

There is an emerging need and role for educating farmers and ranchers about the latest developments in carbon management policies, market trends, and technological advancements. Informed decision-making will result in increasing profitability and sustainability. NDSU Extension has a trusted role and presence in all 53 counties which allows it to provide local education ensuring producers are informed about these opportunities. In the industry perspective, there are significant opportunities in the ethanol, biomass-based diesel and sustainable aviation fuel industries, and farmers and ranchers must understand and capitalize on them. The NDSU Extension and Experiment Station have always demonstrated their commitment to leading these efforts in North Dakota. Finally, there is a critical need for positions and operating support to address emerging needs and to drive these initiatives forward.

We endorse the NDSU Extension Program Initiative #1 the "Biofuels and Carbon Initiative," because this funding request will provide specialists and resources to assist our farmers in navigating the complexities of carbon contracts and market preferences. We agree this initiative will keep producers updated on carbon management policies, market trends, and technological advancements, enabling them to make informed decisions and maximize their participation in carbon management programs. This program will educate our soybeans farmers and increase their sustainability and profitability.

Soybean farmer, Ryan Pederson, farms approximately 2,000 acres of soybeans and has substantial experience and expertise with the crop. Ryan has an impressive resume and credentials with state and national agricultural associations. Among the other organizations he outlined, he currently represents the North Dakota on the Clean Fuels Alliance America board, the industry trade association representing Biodiesel, Renewable Diesel and Sustainable Aviation fuel.

Ryan has experience participating in many university and private farm research projects. He detailed his experience with a pilot program with Virginia Tech and North Dakota Farmers Union. He praised that program and noted that experience demonstrated the complexities of these programs. Ryan, however, did not mention that he earned a master's degree in agriculture economics from Purdue University. When Ryan talks about the complexities of these farming programs or practices, we should take notice.

In the biomass-based diesel segment, there is demand for ever lower carbon index scores. Learning more about successful carbon lowering practices will help support our efforts to lower the soybean carbon index score, making the crop more

valuable for our state's farmers. Additionally, industry is moving quickly with numerous carbon management offerings in response to changing carbon reduction policies. Tracking all the offerings can become a full-time job and not everyone has Ryan's qualifications or is staffed to do an analysis of which of many offerings would make the most economic impact on their operations.

The Association also endorses and fully supports the NDSU Extension Program Initiative #2 the "Extension and Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support." Additional operating support is very necessary for their programs whether for emerging needs involving carbon and biofuels, livestock development, disaster response or any other current or arising issues that farmers rely on across the state for their agricultural operations. This increasing role and programs necessarily require additional operating support.

North Dakota's farmers are incredibly hardworking individuals carrying on multi-generational family farms. In addition to the constant risks of weather, disease, and low prices, they now face challenges in ever-changing market conditions or regulatory environments. The issues of low carbon intensity and carbon management in crop planting are a new and serious challenge.

Now, farmers are concerned that uncertainty around U.S. tariffs has had a negative impact on ag markets, pushing commodity prices lower. The Association also supports NDSU Experiment Station initiative #1, the Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies. CAPTS helps our growers better understand the effects of such policies on North Dakota agriculture.

NDSU and its services are just the help farmers and ranchers need. NDSU has a strong history and proven track record of taking the investments the legislature makes and leveraging its expertise, experience and resources into education, training, and improved farming practices that will exponentially benefit our agriculture and our farm families many years into the future.

For all these reasons, Chairman Monson and members of the House Government Operations Division, the Association supports Engrossed Senate Bill 2020 and respectfully urges you to restore full funding for NDSU Extension Service and the Agricultural Experiment Station, along with the requested enhancements, and give Engrossed Senate Bill 2020 a "Do Pass" recommendation with amendments.

Thank you for your consideration and I will try and answer any questions.

Senate Bill 2020 Testimony

March 11, 2025

NDSU Extension

Greg Lardy, Director

Good morning Chairman Monson and members of the Government Operations Division of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee.

My name is Greg Lardy, and I have the privilege of serving as the director of NDSU Extension. I am a native of Sentinel Butte, North Dakota, where I grew up on a small grain farm and cattle ranch. I've had the privilege of serving the state of North Dakota and NDSU for 27 years.

As you know, NDSU Extension plays a direct and vital role in the lives of North Dakotans, and it is one of the agencies that help shape the future of North Dakota through our programming efforts in agriculture, community wellness, and youth development. Thank you for your support of our base budget and the SBARE initiatives in 2023. The mission of NDSU Extension is to empower North Dakotans to improve their lives and communities through science-based education. This is accomplished, in part, through a local presence in each of the state's 53 counties. We partner with local county governments to staff a local office in each of these locations and have specialists located at our main campus in Fargo as well as each of our seven research Extension centers. Through this network of trusted community members, NDSU Extension reaches people where they live to deliver tailored, innovative and accessible educational programs, resources and partnerships. This network provides the educational resources necessary to help our citizens make decisions that are informed by science. NDSU Extension plays a role in enhancing our state's economy by delivering information and educational programs to communities large and small across the state, and we do so by delivering that information and programming in a variety of ways including webinars, in-person programming, web-based resources, and by other delivery methods. Our educational programming places a special emphasis on strengthening agriculture and rural communities; developing the potential of youth and adults; and addressing challenges the state faces in a variety of areas. These educational programs are science-based and aim to help make our citizens more profitable, their businesses more sustainable, and our communities more livable.

I want to take a moment to thank the members of the 68th Legislative Assembly for their support of programmatic needs that were funded in the 2023 session. You will hear more about several of those programs throughout the afternoon, but specifically, I wanted to thank you for the support of the employee compensation package, the operating support, and the positions that were included in our budget last biennium. These efforts will have a lasting positive impact on our agency and could not have been completed without your support. Specifically, I will mention the swine extension position which was funded in 2023. We have filled that position

and that individual is working directly with our commodity groups, interested producers, and allied industry personnel to help grow the swine industry in North Dakota. It's a great example of how NDSU Extension can play a key role in helping grow the agricultural economy in the state.

Today, you will get a chance to hear from people who benefit firsthand from our programming. They will describe their experiences with our programs, and how the education provided by NDSU Extension addresses pressing problems in rural and urban North Dakota. This leads to a brighter future for all North Dakotans.

The programming conducted by NDSU Extension delivers a return on investment by working upstream from the major challenges facing agriculture and our communities. Our programs lead to greater levels of profitability and sustainability for farmers and ranchers; reduced healthcare costs related to long-term disease conditions and poor nutrition; and improved lives through leadership development, youth development, and increased civic engagement.

With our mission of empowering North Dakotans to improve their lives and communities through science-based education, NDSU Extension is an important component of agriculture's $30.8 billion economic contribution to North Dakota.

This afternoon, we will cover the Governor's executive budget recommendation and the Senate version of our bill in more detail. I would ask that this committee carefully consider restoring the base budget cuts included in the Senate version of the bill. The cuts to our base budget reduce the ability of the agency to respond in a timely manner to serve our state with the best educational programming possible. These cuts will impact important programs that deliver timely, science-based answers to a variety of challenges facing the state's agricultural industry.

As Chairwoman Lovas mentioned, SBARE has listened carefully to the needs of the state's citizens through a series of listening sessions and dialogue regarding the programmatic priorities for NDSU Extension.

SBARE's responsibilities in Century Code include setting the programmatic and budgetary priorities for the agency. They have identified several critical needs including:

1. Biofuels and Carbon Initiative: Given the growing demand in multiple markets for agricultural products with low carbon intensity (CI), particularly in ethanol and biodiesel production, it's important for farmers in the region to adapt to meet these market preferences. This shift necessitates a comprehensive understanding of climate-smart practices and the intricacies of carbon contracts. These contracts often entail long-term commitments from farmers and ranchers to implement practices that enhance carbon sequestration in soils, thereby mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. However, navigating the complexities of carbon capture practices and associated contracts can be daunting for producers. Education plays a pivotal role in empowering farmers to navigate the complex landscape of carbon management

effectively. A carbon specialist would serve as a vital conduit between farmers, ranchers and various stakeholders, including government agencies and carbon offset markets. By staying informed about the latest developments in carbon management policies, market trends, and technological advancements, the specialist will provide farmers with up-to-date information and valuable insights. Through workshops, training sessions, and personalized consultations, they will educate farmers on the intricacies of carbon contracts, sustainable practices, and the potential benefits of participating in carbon markets. This educational support equips farmers (NDSU photo) with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions, maximize their participation in carbon offset programs, and ultimately contribute to climate change mitigation efforts while enhancing the sustainability and profitability of their operations. Request: One FTE specialist position – Extension Carbon Specialist – $275,000. Will provide education on climate-smart practices related to carbon contracts that farmers and ranchers have the opportunity to implement. $50,000 in operating support for the specialist. Total: $325,000

2. Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support: The request for increased operating funds is crucial for the continued success of NDSU Extension's mission. These funds are essential in empowering extension specialists and agents to adapt and innovate, ensuring they can effectively address emerging needs and devise novel strategies to engage with local communities. However, the cost of operating has risen, including equipment and assistantships, placing strain on our ability to fulfill (NDSU photo) our mission effectively. One area where increased operating support is particularly impactful is in the advancement of North Dakota's future through 4-H youth development and leadership programs. These programs nurture the next generation of leaders by providing them with positive experiences, fostering club involvement, enriching school environments, and equipping youth with essential workforce readiness skills. In addition, allocating operating support to the State Soil Conservation Committee provides an increase in direct assistance funding to be distributed to local Soil Conservation Districts for technical assistance and conservation planning support. Request: Extension operating support – $600,000 and State Soil Conservation operating support – $150,000 for a total request of $750,000. Total: $750,000

3. Livestock Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative: The landscape of animal agriculture is experiencing a transformative evolution, driven by the integration of data related to a myriad of production variables. This integration serves a multifaceted purpose, overseeing crucial aspects such as health, nutrition, reproduction, and overall well-being of the animals. Through the utilization of cutting-edge technology, livestock management is undergoing significant enhancement, leading to improved efficiency across livestock (NDSU photo) (NDSU photo) enterprises. This shift toward digitization marks a pivotal moment in the industry, promising better outcomes for animals and farmers alike. NDSU plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of animal agriculture. With an understanding of the interconnectedness between animal health, technology and economic prosperity, NDSU Extension serves as a technical resource and focuses on safeguarding livestock health in the state. Central to this mission is the

elevation of monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases, which pose a threat to both animal and human populations. By actively engaging in this endeavor, NDSU Extension significantly contributes to the overall well-being of the community and the continued prosperity of the livestock industry. Request: Two FTE specialist positions – (1) Extension Precision Agriculture Specialist - $275,000. Will provide education around key technological advancements in livestock technologies such as sensors, transponders, livestock collars and artificial intelligence. (2) Extension Veterinary Epidemiologist - $440,000. Efforts will focus on safeguarding the health of North Dakotans and their livestock by elevating the monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases shared between animals and humans. $100,000 for operating support for two specialists. Total: $815,000

4. Agribiome Initiative: As NDSU's agribiome research progresses toward solutions that can positively impact North Dakota crop and livestock operations, the involvement of an Extension specialist becomes pivotal in translating scientific advancements into practical applications. Extension education plays a crucial role in assisting producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. Presently, there are over 1,200 companies producing various biostimulants, inoculants, biofertilizers, biopesticides, probiotics and other biologicals aimed at enhancing crop and livestock production. Extension education is vital to provide the necessary guidance to empower producers with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions in this complex landscape. Request: One FTE specialist position – Extension Agribiome Specialist – $275,000. Will assist producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. $50,000 for operating support for the Extension agribiome specialist. Total: $325,000

On Page 77 in the budget book you will find a financial schedule that details our base budget and the governor's executive budget recommendation. At this time, I will walk through what he has included in his budget recommendation for our agency.

A few NDSU Extension Impacts for 2024 can be found on the infographic in your book (Pages 67-68). We are proud of the facts that:

- Ensuring environmental sustainability and healthy crops is at the heart of NDSU Extension's agricultural programs.
    - Safe Pesticide Use: The Pesticide Safety Program trained 7,208 people on proper pesticide use, reducing environmental risks and supporting food security.
    - Fungicide Use in Wheat: NDSU Extension's guidance on managing Fusarium head blight saved wheat producers between $500,000 to $2 million in input costs, and contributed to a new average yield record of 56.9 bushel/acre for all wheat in North Dakota.
- NDSU Extension is committed to providing resources that support agricultural producers in managing their operations and navigating financial challenges.

    - Ag Finance Program: In 2024, the Ag Finance program helped landowners and operators navigate $1.3 billion in annual land rents across 22 million acres in North Dakota. This crucial information assists both financially constrained farmers and fixed-income landowners with better decision-making and forecasting.
    - Livestock Risk Protection Insurance: Educating producers about USDA Livestock Risk Protection insurance led to 169,398 head of feeder cattle being insured in 2024 with over $4.5 million in indemnity payments. This program helps farmers manage risks related to price fluctuations and market volatility.
- NDSU Extension's 4-H program equips youth with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in agriculture, leadership and STEM fields.
    - In 2024, 40,188 youth were involved in 4-H youth development programs provided by extension. That is 1 in 5 North Dakota youth reached through the 4-H program.
    - STEM Education and Recreation: In 2024, 439 youth participated in 19 unique 4-H camps, which included programs in livestock, archery, STEM exploration and outdoor skills. Parents reported high satisfaction, with 85% of campers showing increased independence and 94% discovering something new about themselves.

Thank you for your support of our agency. At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

NORTH DAKOTA ETHANOL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Testimony of Laura Lacher

North Dakota Ethanol Producers Association

In Support of SB 2020

March 11, 2025

Chairman Monson and members of the House Appropriations – Government Operations Division:

My name is Laura Lacher, executive director of the North Dakota Ethanol Producers Association (NDEPA), which represents North Dakota's six ethanol plants, industry stakeholders, and associated businesses. I am here on behalf of NDEPA to testify in support of SB 2020.

North Dakota's ethanol industry plays a vital role in economic growth, supporting jobs and expanding market opportunities for farmers. As the industry evolves, producers need access to up-to-date information on carbon management, market trends, and biofuel advancements. While these shifts create new opportunities, they also bring uncertainty. NDSU Extension is uniquely positioned to deliver the research and education farmers need to navigate these changes with confidence.

We urge the committee to support the Extension Biofuels and Carbon Management Initiative and the Biofuels and Carbon Management priority under the Agricultural Experiment Station, which will equip producers with the knowledge to adapt and thrive. Additionally, ensuring adequate operating support for NDSU Extension will maximize recent state investments in research facilities and strengthen North Dakota's agricultural sector.

This is especially important as North Dakota ethanol plants are leading the way in carbon capture and storage (CCS), with successful projects at Blue Flint in Underwood and Red Trail in Richardton. These facilities are demonstrating how ethanol production can significantly reduce its carbon footprint, positioning the industry for long-term success in low-carbon fuel markets. As policies and incentives around carbon intensity evolve, having dedicated Extension specialists

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providing guidance on CCS, biofuels, and emerging technologies will be critical for producers navigating these changes.

The ethanol industry is also advancing in areas like sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) and expanded biofuel applications. Funding dedicated Extension specialists will help North Dakota producers capitalize on these emerging opportunities, ensuring the state remains at the forefront of biofuel innovation.

In closing, we strongly support SB 2020 and its investment in research and education for our industry and producers. These initiatives are critical to the future success of North Dakota's agricultural and biofuels industries. We appreciate your time and urge your support for this important legislation.

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NORTH DAKOTA Farmers Union

Contact:
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Lance Gaebe on behalf of
North Dakota Farmers Union
Testimony in Support of SB 2020
House Appropriations Committee -Government Operations Division
March 11, 2025

Chairman Monson and members of the Government Operations Division, my name is Lance Gaebe. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of North Dakota Farmers Union members. To ensure the continued vitality of North Dakota agriculture, we support Senate Bill No. 2020, the budget bill for the NDSU research, extension, and associated entities.

We want to thank the Legislature, and particularly this committee, for the strong support for the NDSU Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) and Extension Service. The legislature's recent support for the Peltier Complex and the Bolley Agricultural Laboratory will bolster NDSU's ability to provide cutting edge research and improve farmers' and ranchers' access to that information and value.

We encourage the committee to fully fund the operating support outlined in SBARE's priorities. The investments the legislature has made in facilities at NDSU, and the AES create major opportunities for North Dakota agriculture, and Extension professionals help share the information gained. To capitalize on opportunities, these programs need baseline funding and adequate operating resources.

Base Budget Restoration and Operating Support

NDFU supports the list of SBARE ranked options, but our top priority is to restore baseline funding for the AES main station and the Extension Service. The proposed 3% cut to the Main Station will cause the loss of key staff, compromise critical research projects hindering farmers' access to essential information. Furthermore, the cumulative 4.7% cut to the Extension Service will critically impair its ability to deliver vital educational programs and on-the-ground support. We strongly encourage this committee to restore baseline funding.

Moreover, we encourage the committee to invest in the operating support required in SBARE's priorities. Sufficient operating support will help the AES and NDSU Extension hire and develop qualified staff in an increasingly competitive job market. Increased operating support will also help the AES and NDSU Extension keep up with rising costs. Operating support will benefit the entire system, including current and future initiatives.

We also continue to support SBARE's priority list. We want to highlight two key priorities for NDFU: the Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies and Biofuels and Carbon Management.

Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies

North Dakota agriculture plays a unique role in global agricultural markets. We lead the United States in production of 13 commodities and rank in the top five in eight more commodities. Our land-locked state is dependent on rail transportation and trans-Pacific trade; thus, we are uniquely impacted by domestic and international trade policy.

Moreover, the rapidly changing and increasingly uncertain global trade environment is creating new challenges for North Dakota producers. Tariffs, retaliation, and limited market access create new barriers to export of North Dakota's agriculture products. It is imperative for decision-makers to have access to objective research on the impact trade decisions have on North Dakota farmers and ranchers.

Enhancing the CAPTS center will provide analysis of the unique impacts domestic and trade policy on North Dakota farms, ranches, and related agribusinesses. It will also help North Dakota agriculture navigate the growing complexities of the global trade environment. We recommend the funding of three new positions: an agricultural policy analyst, a markets and trade analyst, and an economic impact specialist to help to provide comprehensive agricultural, valuation, trade, and policy analyses.

Biofuels and Carbon Management

Pressure is growing to reduce carbon emissions in agriculture and fuel markets. A combination of policy and market forces are transforming the economics of renewable fuels production. This shift could create new opportunities for agriculture producers.

Producers need more objective, science-based information to guide their decision making to adopt to the new market dynamics. We encourage the legislature to support the Biofuels and Carbon Management priority and the Extension Biofuels and Carbon Initiative. These two proposals will help provide the research and educate farmers and ranchers on how capitalize on new market opportunities and effectively navigate policy challenges.

Conclusion

I want to thank this committee for its strong commitment to NDSU research and extension efforts. Our members deeply appreciate your support for these critical investments. Again, we strongly encourage the committee to restore the baseline budget and prioritize operating support for the AES and NDSU Extension. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. I will stand for any questions.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

My name is Jacob Odermann, a third-generation Billings County rancher and I also serve as vice-chair of the NDSU Dickinson Research Extension Center Advisory Board. My wife AJ and I along with our 4 children (4th Generation) raise our cattle in a native environment where we strive to conserve air, water and soil resources. Our family has benefited greatly from the Dickinson Research Extension Center's personnel, programs, and data in helping manage our herd.

The focus of our cattle operation is to produce animals that roam the prairies efficiently, consuming the grasses that spring from the earth. This means careful attention to preserving the biology of the land so it can feed the animals that roam our farm/ranch.

Our family with the help and input of Dickinson Research Extension Center Range Scientist, Dr. Manske has utilized the twice over grazing system for over 30 years. This system has increased our carrying capacity, forage quality and profitability.

We routinely participate in the various Extension outreach activities put together by the Dickinson Research Extension Center and NDSU Extension. We raise functional cattle and produce great mothers and offspring that perform great on the rail. With the help of the Cow Herd Appraisal Performance Software or CHAPS, we have used data to help make breeding selections, improve our overall herd and achieve our ranching goals.

The Dickinson Research Extension Center has and continues to make positive lasting impacts for ag producers and the consumers of their products in North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Jacob Odermann

North Dakota Grain Growers Association
Testimony in Support of SB 2020
House Appropriations Committee
Government Operations Division
March 11, 2025

Chairman Monson, Members of the House Appropriations Committee Government Operations Division, for the record my name is Dan Wogsland representing the North Dakota Grain Growers Association (NDGGA). NDGGA strongly supports the appropriations for the NDSU Extension and the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station.

In SB2020's current form, the base budgets have been reduced by 4.7% and 3% for NDSU Extension and the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station respectively. These institutions are the backbone of agriculture innovation and education. They provide critical research and education that directly benefits grain producers and the entire agriculture industry. These budgets must be restored in order for NDSU Extension and Research to adequately meet the needs of farmers and ranchers across our state.

NDGGA strongly supports the State Board of Agriculture Research and Education (SBARE) and their prioritization efforts regarding the needs of North Dakota agriculture and science-based education for North Dakota citizens. North Dakota agriculture is extremely diverse across the state. The membership of SBARE is made up agriculturists from around the state who understand that diversity. SBARE had a robust way of gathering input from stakeholders and the prioritization process itself is rigorous. This means the legislature can be sure that the priority lists presented today really are the education and agriculture research needs of North Dakota. There are 49 other states in this nation that wish they had what North Dakota has enjoyed since Governor Jack Dalrymple initiated the push to have stakeholder input regarding the needs of North Dakota agriculture.

The positive impacts of NDSU Extension and North Dakota Experiment State and Extension for critical research and education are vast. NDGGA strongly believes they are critical to the success wheat, barley, and durum production in this state. Here are some examples of how NDSU Extension and the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station have positively impacted our industry:

- One of the most devasting plant diseases the grain industry has realized in North Dakota is Fusarium Head Blight (scab). This continues to be an issue farmers and agronomists manage every year. In 2024 alone, NDSU Extension's guidance on managing Fusarium head blight saved wheat producers between $500,000 and $2 million dollars in input costs.

- Wheat, barley, and durum growers depend on the plant breeding and variety development programs in the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station. These varieties help our industry produce the high-quality product our consumers demand and improve yields for the farmers. Keep in mind that durum and barley are specialty crops with relatively low acreage nationally. This means it is difficult for private industry to invest research and development dollars into these crops. North Dakota is fortunate to have plant breeding industries to support these industries.
    - The spring wheat plant breeding program not only improving yields but also maintaining quality. In 2024, over 550,000 acres of spring wheat were planted to NDSU variety releases which resulted in an economic impact of over $69 million dollars.
    - The Durum industry depends on NDSU variety releases, as 90% of the Durum acreage is planted with NDSU varieties, adding over $270 million annually of economic impact.

These are just a few examples of how North Dakota's grain industry depends on NDSU Extension and the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station. NDGGA strongly supports the work of the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station and NDSU Extension because they play a critical role in the success of the grain industry in North Dakota.

NDGGA would like to highlight three important initiatives on the SBARE priority list which include:

1. Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS): This program provides critical analysis of trade policies and global market conditions that directly impact North Dakota grain producers. In today's volatile international trade environment, this research is more important than ever.

2. Extension Carbon Specialist: The new carbon specialist within Extension will help our producers navigate the rapidly evolving carbon markets and credit programs, potentially opening new revenue streams while promoting sustainable practices.

3. We also want to strongly emphasize the need for adequate operating funds as requested in the SBARE prioritization. While creating new positions and programs is important, these initiatives cannot succeed without proper operating support. Research and Extension personnel need resources to conduct field trials, develop educational materials, travel to producer meetings, and maintain facilities. Inadequate operating funds significantly diminish the return on investment for personnel expenditures.

In conclusion, NDGGA strongly supports SB2020 and the work of the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station and NDSU Extension. The funding in SB2020 will enable our research and extension professionals to continue delivering science-based solutions that help grain producers remain competitive, profitable, and sustainable.

NDGGA also strongly supports the SBARE and their prioritization process for the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station and NDSU Extension. The partnership between North Dakota producers and NDSU through the SBARE process has created one of the most effective agricultural research and extension systems in the nation.

NDGGA asks for the base budgets of the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station and NDSU Extension to be restored, provide operating support for these entities, and consider the SBARE Priority List.

Thank you for your time. I would stand for any questions.

In Support of SB 2020
Northern Crops Institute
House Appropriations – Government Operations Division

Testimony of Andrew Mauch

March 11, 2025

Chairman Monson and members of the Committee,

My name is Andrew Mauch, and I farm near Mooreton. I am the current president of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association. I am here today to support SB2020 and the budget request for the Northern Crops Institute.

The North Dakota Corn Growers Association was organized in 1987 with a mission of growing a healthy, profitable business climate for northern corn. NDCGA is the farmer-led membership organization focusing on policy that impacts North Dakota corn producers. NDCGA has identified six priorities, including ethanol, livestock, grower services, production/stewardship, corn research, and public policy. NCI is a valuable partner with the North Dakota corn industry in supporting many of these priorities.

For over 40 years, NCI has connected our ag industry to international grain buyers and processors with a direct benefit to our producers. In 2024 alone, they connected with 71 countries in their educational programs and led a two-year study showing the increased feed value of US corn to corn from Brazil, Argentina, and Ukraine. They host webinars on the Future of Feeding, Market Updates, Ethanol Procurement, and short courses on US Grain Commodities, Procurement, Risk Management, and Livestock Feeding.

We support SB2020 as passed by the Senate and appreciate additional general funding to help NCI cover some increased operating expenses. North Dakota agriculture is best served when NCI can concentrate on high quality programming and not focus on chasing grants and sponsorships to cover its budget.

Therefore, we ask for your continued support of SB2020 and request any additional appropriated funding for NCI so they can continue to deliver on their mission. On behalf of North Dakota's corn growers, we appreciate your support of the Northern Crops Institute. Thank you.

NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
3310 University Drive ~ Bismarck, ND 58504
(701) 223-8518

Honorable Chairman Monson and Members of the House Appropriations Committee
Support for SB 2020 – March 11th, 2025

My name is Rhonda Kelsch and I serve as the Executive Director to the North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts (NDASCD). A grass roots organization that represents the 54 Soil Conservation Districts in North Dakota. The objectives of the Association, is to further the widespread application of sound and practical soil and water conservation practices on North Dakota farms and ranches by promoting the welfare of conservation districts and the people therein.

NDASCD supports SB 2020. We strongly encourage the committee to consider funding the full request for the ND State Soil Conservation Committee. The funding request falls within the SBARE program initiatives category 2 defined as operational support to the North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee.

The ND Soil Conservation Districts work in partnership with various local, state, and federal partners delivering, educating, and promoting sound conservation practices. Soil Conservation Districts are established within the ND Century Code 4.1-20. Within this chapter it provides for the conservation of the soil and soil resources of this state and for the control and prevention of soil erosion, and to preserve the state's natural resources, control floods, prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs, assist in maintaining the navigability of rivers, preserve wildlife, protect the tax base, protect public lands, protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of this state.

The funding structure for the North Dakota Soil Conservation Districts varies by county, services provided and staff capacity. Soil Conservation Districts have the ability to levy up to 2.5 mills yearly from property tax revenues in their counties. We do have several SCD Offices were the mill levy requested is a deficient for their operational needs. We are actively watching any proposed changes impacting property taxes during this legislative session. The funding request to the North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee doesn't meet the full request of financial demand and any reduction would have a substantial effect in the delivery of conservation programs and education. The county offices are also being affected by the reductions that have taken place within USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service with staff reductions. This will add additional workloads to county offices already impacted with short staff and budget restraints.

Each SCD operates within their availability of operational funds, while some counties struggle to provide an adequate wage along with a benefit package to retain employees. The funds received through the legislative process are used for staff capacity linked to conservation deliverables and to provide administrative office support. District programs and services continue to evolve as the needs of customers change. We are working to address training needs through a statewide district employee training program and are adding resources including technical specialists at NDASCD to provide assistance and outreach on Urban Conservation practices. These efforts are being made to work towards better employee retention. This coupled with the continued state appropriated funds will help create a stronger locally led conservation delivery system.

The Soil Conservation Districts in North Dakota delivered these key activities in 2024 from the 54 counties reporting. I would like to highlight a few of these accomplishments.

- Administration Management for 27,000 hours
- Livestock Pipeline Watering Facilities for a total of 105,790 feet
- Grassland and Prairie Management Seeding on 12,449 acres
- School Education presented to K-12 students with 18,861 attendees
- Education and Agriculture sponsored tours and workshops with 9,321 adult participants

We would appreciate your full support in SB 2020 to the North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee for our county Soil Conservation Districts to continue the agricultural legacy in the great state of North Dakota.

Rhonda Kelsch
North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts – Executive Director
3310 University Drive
Bismarck, ND 58504
(701) 321-0627
Rhonda@LincolnOakes.com

NORTH DAKOTA CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Testimony of
Sarah Tunge
North Dakota Conservation District Employees Association
Before the
House Appropriations Committee Government Operations Division
March 11, 2025

Honorable Chairman Monson and Members of the House Appropriations Committee
Government Operations Division – Support for SB 2020

My name is Sarah Tunge, and I serve as the Partnership and Programs Director to the North Dakota Conservation District Employees Association (NDCDEA). A grass roots organization that represents the 115+ Soil Conservation District employees in North Dakota. The objective of the Association is to promote education and professional development to facilitate the effective and efficient delivery of voluntary conservation practices and programs to North Dakota farmers, ranchers, and landowners.

NDCDEA supports the complete list of SBARE priorities and appreciates the stakeholder input used to develop them. I want to specifically highlight the request for an increase in funding to the ND State Soil Conservation Committee with direct funds impacting local Soil Conservation Districts.

Districts provide a local link to farmers, ranchers, and landowners in the state allowing for a conduit for delivering conservation planning and technical assistance, education, and promotion of sound conservation practice implementation in collaboration with local, state, federal, and non-governmental partners.

Soil Conservation Districts are tasked with providing for the prevention of soil erosion, preserving the state's natural resources, flood control, conserving wildlife, protecting public lands, and protecting and promoting the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of this state. (*ND Century Code 4.1-20*.)

This is a tall ask of districts whose funding varies widely by county, program and service income, and outside grants and agreements. The state appropriated funds received through the State Soil Conservation Committee and SB2020 are used to maintain critical staff capacity to provide services to the citizens of each county.

District employees provide outreach and education to school-age children and adults in their counties. They work on crucial water quality improvement projects, provide comprehensive conservation planning and assist in technical assistance for cost-share program enrollment. This includes working very closely

North Dakota Conservation District Employees Association

with our Federal partner, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, to deliver services related to Farm Bill programs.

This funding is even more important to districts as grant and agreement funding from our federal partners is in jeopardy and potential federal staff reductions mean increased workloads for district employees. District boards and employees are focused on providing uninterrupted services to their producers.

The funding request to the North Dakota State Conservation Committee doesn't meet the full financial demand from districts to maintain staffing rates in many cases and any reduction would have a substantial effect in the delivery of conservation planning, programs, outreach, and education.

We ask for your full support of SB 2020, including the full funding request for the ND State Soil Conservation Committee and local Soil Conservation Districts to continue exceptional service in their delivery of voluntary conservation across the great state of North Dakota.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. I will stand for any questions.

Contact:

Sarah Tunge, Partnership & Program Director
ND Conservation District Employees Association
sarah@ndcdea.org

NORTH DAKOTA ETHANOL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Testimony of Jeff Zueger

North Dakota Ethanol Producers Association

In Support of Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute Budget Request

March 11, 2025

Chairman Monson and Members of the House Appropriations – Government Operations Division:

My name is Jeff Zueger, CEO of Harvestone Low Carbon Partners (formally known as Midwest Ag Energy) which owns two plants in North Dakota, Blue Flint in Underwood and Dakota Spirit in Spiritwood. I also serve as a director on the North Dakota Ethanol Producers Association (NDEPA) board. On behalf of NDEPA, we strongly support a CO_2 study to develop a transportation network model—including pipeline, rail, truck, and transload—to move captured CO_2 to sequestration or utilization sites.

Carbon management is critical for ethanol producers to remain competitive in low-carbon markets like sustainable aviation fuel. As stated in North Dakota Century Code 38-22-1, “it is in the public interest [of North Dakota] to promote the geologic storage of carbon dioxide.” Former Governor Burgum’s vision for carbon neutrality by 2030 requires a reliable CO_2 transport system, yet key infrastructure gaps remain.

This study, led by UGPTI, will assess sources, multimodal transport options, and potential hubs, incorporating a real-world case study of a North Dakota ethanol plant to evaluate infrastructure needs and challenges. With federal funding opportunities available, a strategic plan will give North Dakota a competitive edge in securing investments for carbon capture and utilization.

We urge your support and appreciate your time.

1605 E. Capitol Avenue
PO Box 1091 • Bismarck, ND 58502
701.355.4458 • 701.223.4645 (fax) • www.ndethanol.org

Northern Crops Institute

Agency: 63800

NCI Testimony / House Government Operations Division / March 11, 2025

Chairman Representative Monson

Representatives Brandenburg, Bosch, Fisher, Kempenich, Meier, & Pyle

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Chairman Monson and members of the Government Operations Division of the House Appropriations Committee, my name is David Boehm and I have the pleasure of being the new Director of the Northern Crops Institute. My testimony is in support of SB2020, and administered within the North Dakota State University College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources. The NCI Agency update will be found in their book starting on page 81.

NCI INTRODUCTION: I want to start by giving just a brief overview of the NCI. The NCI is a state agency, started by North Dakota Century Code chapter 4.1-15. Beginning in 1979, the NCI's mission is to support regional agriculture and value-added processing by conducting educational and technical programs that expand and maintain domestic and international markets for northern grown crops. The NCI is governed by our Northern Crops Council, with permanent membership from the ND Wheat Commission, Barley Council, Oilseeds Council, Soybean Council, North Dakota State University, the ND Dept of Agriculture, and the ND State Mill and Elevator. Remaining seats are rotated with additional commodity groups from the region, and related ag industries. We are administered as a separate state agency by NDSU.

NCI is an international meeting and learning center that brings together customers, commodity traders, technical experts, agricultural producers, and food and industrial processors for education, discussion, and technical services. Representatives from more than 155 countries have visited NCI since its establishment in 1979. Representatives from 81 countries participated in NCI's educational programs in 2022 and 2023. Since we have moved into our new home in the Peltier Complex at NDSU in July 2024, we have already hosted participants from 44 countries.

NCI IMPACT ANALYSIS: Every 2 years, the NCI determines its impact to North Dakota agriculture by surveying past course participants and technical clients. Found on page 83 in your book, data from 2022-2023 continutes to validate an increasing positive impact. The most important result is whether we can influence global and domestic purchases of northern-grown crops. I am pleased to report that 61% of global attendees have increased the volume purchases of US commodities as a result of NCI courses. Our courses target the quality of our commodities, their utilization, and specifically how

international buyers get those products back to their home countries. Our technical services have resulted in increased commodity and ingredient purchase activity by 38%. Our staff works directly with ingredient suppliers and food manufacturers on the utilization of our regional commodities in pasta production, snack food products, all breads and bakery products, oilseed extraction, and soy-foods. Furthermore, the participants in our programs are key decision makers, and 81% are in roles of Senior Management, Purchasing, Research and Development, and Production. We know that our impact is measured by more than the number countries attending, participants in our courses, webinars, or on-line programs, or the number of private food companies we support. So we are confident that verifying increased purchases of commodities and ingredients shows our true impact.

NCI CURRENT BIENNIUM MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Found on page 87 is a listing of some major accomplishments of the NCI in the current biennium. I will summarize a few of these now.

1 in your book; NCI successfully completed a physical relocation to the newly opened Peltier Complex. We are indebted to legislative and industry support to make this incredible facility a reality and welcome you for a tour anytime.

3 in the list, NCI has delivered a 20% increase in technical service projects in the last biennium. This has helped to grow markets for crops grown in North Dakota and the surrounding states, but also assisted in growing value-added agriculture in the region.

#5 in your book; NCI collaborated with US Grains Council on a 2-year study designed to show the performance value of U.S. corn compared to corn from other countries, such as Brazil, Argentina, and Ukraine. We helped flip the narrative where US corn is discounted to where it should be at a premium.

NCI 2023 LEGISLATIVE CAPITAL PROJECTS:

Page 89 will show you highlights and a few recent photos of the NCI Feed Production Center. With gratitude to the 68th Legislative Assembly and under HB1020, $3.9M was approved for significant upgrades to our processing and educational capabilities. We have replaced an aged pellet mill that was regularly in need of repair, but so old that no parts were available, and have also replaced grain bins that were no longer suitable for storing high quality feed ingredients. With the expansion efforts, we have added spaces for a new lab, meeting room, classroom, and storage for ingredients and packaged feeds. Within the current biennium, we have increased our technical services and commodity group-funded projects. We also know that the demand for livestock feed development with coproducts from the biofuels industry, and the increased investment in animal agriculture will solidify the return on this investment. We are excited to show you when it is completed this spring.

CURRENT BIENNIUM CRITICAL ISSUES: Page 91 in your book will show some of our current biennium critical issues.

1. NCI has become increasingly dependent on earned income and sponsorships to sustain current services and consider growth. The volatility of ag markets, grants, and commodity group partner income make that earned income uncertain. NCI needs to focus on sustainable income sources and growth to continue expanding its impact on the economy of North Dakota and the region.
2. NCI will have additional operating expenses for energy, maintenance, and consumable supplies in the new building and laboratories. The NCI cannot rely on sponsorships or grant funds to cover these costs. To meet its' mission, NCI needs a sustainable source of operating funds to cover these increased costs. I will speak more to this during my budget review.
3. Growth in crops being utilized for biofuels, particularly Renewable Airline Fuels, new crops, and increased demands for information on sustainability, traceability, and artificial intelligence is creating a need for NCI to develop further areas of expertise. More staffing may be needed to manage the growing needs in these areas. To be clear, I will not be asking for additional FTE today, only suggesting that there are new and important changes to the ag industry that would align with NCIs mission, but we are not capable to fully deliver with current staffing today.
4. In the first half of 2024, NCI entered a leadership transition, a budget transition, and a facility transition. NCI needs time to focus on stabilization, continuing to provide service at a high level, and planning for financial sustainability, while sharpening its vision and implementing a new 5-year strategy.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL OPERATING EXPENSES): I will now review the request for additional operating expenses, found on page 91.

1. <u>Peltier Complex Utility Costs:</u>

   NCI had made an original request of $788k. SB2020, as currently approved by the Senate, provides an additional $638 in general funding for operating expenses. All of these funds will be used to cover increased utility and operating costs of the Peltier Complex. Actual biennial estimates of utility cost alone are expected to be at $737k, leaving the NCI $99k short of expected utility costs alone. While everyone understands the rising cost of utilities and operating expenses, the NCI space within the Peltier Complex is a significant increase in footprint for processing labs, meeting rooms, auditoriums, and demonstration spaces used to increase demand for our commodities. Our original budget request also included funds to be used for increasing labor costs, crop quality surveys, funds to cover fees for start-up businesses, and NCI marketing. These items are not currently funded under the current version of SB2020.

Chairman Monson and members of the committee, if funding is available, the next set of objectives could be key initiatives for the NCI. I am only going to address the paragraph for Global Crop Quality Surveys.

2. Global Crop Quality Surveys ($32,000): NCI has increased our ability to access samples of US and foreign commodities. We have the potential to provide invaluable crop quality information to our state and national commodity group partners. Per ND Century Code, the NCI is directed to conduct annual surveys to monitor the quality and condition of commodities in the market channel. NCI can quickly provide additional and valuable crop quality information to our partners with available funds to procure samples. The work we did with US Grains Council is an example, and we are doing similar work with soybeans and soybean meal from the US and South America.
3. Part-Time and Student Labor ($25,000): NCI proposes to hire flexible staffing to complement its' current workforce. The addition of part-time and student labor would allow flexibility and help us provide the exceptional service we desire, and deliver it in the most cost-effective manner. Temporary staffing also allows us to respond to opportunities and needs as they arise.
4. ND Start-Up and Registration Scholarships ($30,000): The NCI has the potential to assist ND start-ups and educate various stakeholders throughout the supply chain. As we have begun offering training and services focused on specialty crops, we commonly find individuals that are not able to afford NCI services but have excellent business or product ideas to develop. Increasing our assistance to ND producers and entrepreneurs will lead to greater investment and activity in ND.
5. NCI Marketing Efforts ($12,200): NCI and our services are not widely known across ND and regional food and agriculture. We will target the regional and domestic food industry, feed industry and ag marketing groups to increase awareness and participation in our services. We have also been asked to increase our engagement in national commodity group meetings with foreign customers and today unfortunately don't have the funds available to meet this opportunity.

ONE-TIME REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT ($350,000): Page 93 in the book listed the one-time equipment funding request. The NCI had requested one-time funding support of $350,000 for the purchase of a pilot-scale air-classification system. SB2020 shifted this request to special fund authority, thereby allowing NCI to raise funding through grants or donations. The NCI regularly works with food companies utilizing the proteins from our commodities. This special request would be used to purchase a pilot-scale air classification systems which can separate protein, starch, and fiber from various flours for further food development or research. This capability would allow NCI to expand our client services and

promote protein, starch, and fiber in the cereal grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops grown in our region. A significant share of recent NCI client work has involved protein fortification and high protein food development, yet we either outsource the protein or starch seperation, or we buy these ingredients from the marketplace. This equipment is not available in the region and our request has support from NDSU, UMN, and SDSU researchers who would access industrial-quality protein, starch, and fiber for other research projects. This equipment would be a key piece to the Peltier Complex protein lab, distinguishing NCI's capabilities to the food industry, and have a short return on investment. At current NCI daily rates, I estimate it will be paid for in less than 7 years and have a life expectancy of greater than 30 years.

CLOSING STATEMENT: Chairmen Monson and members of the committee, the Northern Crops Institute is proud of the work we do to connect international and domestic customers to North Dakota farmers, commodity groups, and value-added processors. Our impact statement shows real economic return on the investment the North Dakota legislature has made to our efforts. However, my staff is confident that there is more we can do to take advantage of our services, and our partnerships. We appreciate your consideration of our funding request, and I am happy to address any questions or comments that you might have. Thank you for your time.

On behalf of the NCI, representatives from the ND Corn Growers… Soybean Growers and Wheat Commission will testify next.

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
3/19/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

8:36 a.m. Chairman Monson called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Chairman Monson, Vice Chair Brandenburg, Representatives: Bosch, Fisher, Kempenich, Meier, Pyle.

Discussion Topics:

- 4-H impacts and benefits for participants
- Previous initiatives and their impacts
- Livestock Developer
- SBARE
- Federal Funds for Research and Extension
- Nesson Valley Research
- Williston Research Extension Center
- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)
- Budget Overview for NDSU Main Research Center
- Northern Crops Institute (NCI)

8:37 a.m. Greg Lardy, Vice President, Agricultural Affairs, testified in favor and submitted testimony #42988.

9:52 a.m. Chairman Monson recessed the meeting.

10:17 a.m. Chairman Monson reconvened the meeting

10:17 a.m. Chairman Monson went over the previous long sheet #40447.

11:28 a.m. Chairman Monson recessed the meeting.

11:39 a.m. Chairman Monson reconvened the meeting.

11:49 a.m. David Boehm, Director, Northern Crops Institute, testified in favor and continued with #40447.

11:58 a.m. Chairman Monson closed the meeting.

Madaline Cooper, Committee Clerk

SB2020 - Government Operations Appropriations Questions

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1. ND Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension Impacts

Impact & Value of NDAES Research

The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES) drives agricultural innovation, economic growth, and long-term sustainability. Research investments enhance crop productivity, resilience, and profitability, strengthening North Dakota's $41 billion agricultural economy.

High Return on Investment

- Every $1 invested in agricultural research yields $37 in economic returns.
- 24.9% ROI (1960-2011)—exceeding the U.S. average.
- Direct contributions to farm income, agribusiness, and rural communities.

Productivity & Innovation

- Advances in genomics, AI-driven analytics, and precision breeding are accelerating the development of high-yield, resilient crop varieties. In the past two years, these innovations have led to the release of two grape varieties, three hard red spring wheat varieties, one white spring wheat, one winter wheat, two bean varieties, and two oat varieties—each uniquely adapted to North Dakota's climate, ensuring the competitiveness of our farmers.
- Cutting-edge precision agriculture improves efficiency, crop protection, and sustainability.
- Spring Wheat: NDSU varieties cover 11% of ND acreage, economic impact $69M-$284M. In the last two years, three hard red spring wheat varieties were released including, ND Stampede, a particularly strong performer.
- Durum Wheat: 90% of ND acreage from NDSU varieties, adding $276.6M annually.
- Soybeans: NDSU glyphosate-resistant varieties save $30/acre, reducing input costs.
- Dry Beans: 30% of ND/MN acreage, $790 ROI per $1 invested. In the last two years, a pink bean and black bean, ND Galaxy, were released.
- Potatoes: 38% of ND and 21% of MN-certified seed from NDSU, Dakota Russet among top U.S. cultivars.

Additional NDAES impacts can be found on pages 7-8 of the budget book.

Impact and Value of NDSU Extension Education

NDSU Extension provides science-based education that improves the economic, health and community conditions for North Dakotans. We emphasize strengthening agriculture, stimulating communities, developing youths' potential, building strong families and protecting the natural resources.

Increasing Profits, Saving Money and Building the Workforce

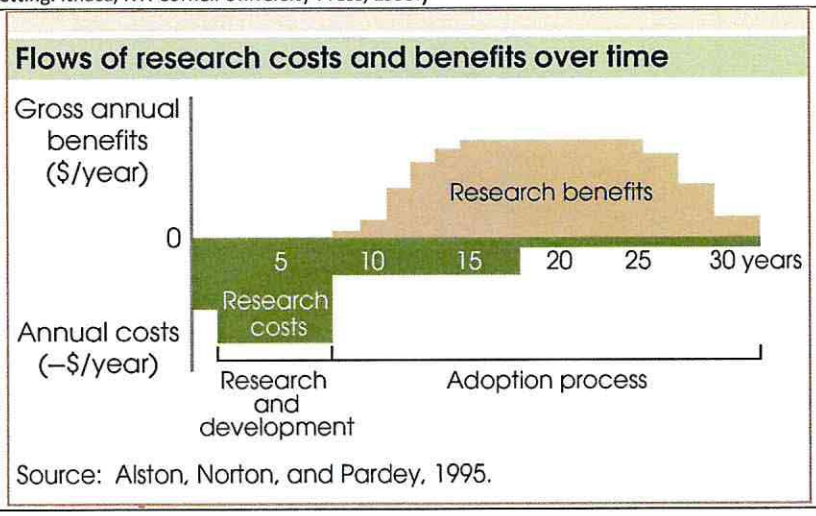
- Cattle Producer Support: In 2023-2024, feedout project participants saw an average increase of $200 per head in profit, generating $35,008 in additional revenue. The backgrounding cattle management video series reached 1,839 viewers, and Feedlot School participants reported a 33% knowledge increase, improving cattle feeding profitability.
- Pesticide Safety Program: Trained 7,208 individuals on proper pesticide use, reducing environmental risks and supporting food security.
- Fusarium Head Blight Management: NDSU Extension's guidance saved wheat producers $500,000 to $2 million in input costs and helped achieve a new state average yield record of 56.9 bushels per acre.
- Livestock Risk Protection Insurance: Extension educated producers about USDA Livestock Risk Protection insurance, leading to 169,398 head of cattle being insured in 2024, with over $4.5 million in indemnity payments to manage market volatility.

- NDSU Extension Master Gardeners (EMGs): Since 2014, EMGs have donated 202,322 pounds of fresh produce, providing 809,288 servings to those in need. They also distribute free vegetable seeds and offer gardening education, helping communities address food insecurity and grow their own healthy food.
- 4-H Youth Development: Reached 40,188 youth—1 in 5 North Dakota youth—through 4-H programs in 2024, promoting leadership, community involvement, and positive development.
    - Impact of 4-H Participation: Tufts University's study shows 4-H youth are 4x more likely to contribute to their communities, 2x more likely to engage in science programs, and 3x more likely to feel competent and make healthier choices.
    - Volunteer Contribution: 1,458 volunteers contribute an average of 9 hours per month, providing $5.24 million in volunteer value, with 98% helping youth prepare for future careers.
- Aging in Community: In 2024, 4,270 community members were reached, with 85% feeling more connected to local resources and 84% gaining valuable knowledge.
    - Cost Savings: For every $1 spent in 2024, North Dakota potentially saved $308 in Medicaid costs by helping individuals remain in their homes.

Additional NDSU Extension Impacts can be found on pages 67-68 of the budget book.

Agricultural research and Extension efforts often take time to produce measurable impacts due to the long-term nature of the work involved. Unlike other disciplines that may yield quicker results, agricultural research addresses complex systems that evolve over years or even decades. For instance, studies on crop yields, soil health, pest management, and weather adaptation require multiple growing seasons to be assessed and understood fully. Additionally, implementing new farming practices or technologies takes time, as farmers must adopt, experiment with, and see the benefits over time. Extension services, vital for sharing research findings with farmers, also require time to train and support producers effectively. These elements combined mean that the effects of agricultural research and Extension programs develop gradually, relying on the accumulation of knowledge, changes in farmer behavior, and environmental responses. This long-term perspective is essential for fostering sustainable improvements in agricultural practices.

Typical Lifecycle of Agricultural Technology: Development, Adoption, and Obsolescence
(source: Alston, Norton, and Pardey. Science Under Scarcity: Principles and Practices for Agricultural Research Evaluation and Priority Setting. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1995.)



a. NDAES and NDSU Extension funded Initiatives from 2019-2020 to present and their progress and impacts

NDAES: Major initiatives and FTEs funded in the last three bienniums and the impacts of each.

2019-2020				
Initiative	**Funding**	**FTEs**	**Location of FTEs**	**Impacts and what has been accomplished**
Scientist and technician (microbe-livestock)	$ 355,000	2	NDSU Campus	**Progress** • Established an interdisciplinary agribiome research program. • Hired two research scientists specializing in livestock (Dr Samat Amat) and crop (Dr Barney Geddes) microbiomes. • Added two research technicians to support laboratory and fieldwork. **Impacts - Livestock Microbiome** • Optimizing Feed Efficiency: Investigating maternal microbiome influence on calf growth. • New Pinkeye Prevention: Identified beneficial bacteria as a potential antibiotic-free solution. • Enhancing Fertility: Studying microbiome-driven improvements in cattle reproduction. **Impacts - Crop Microbiome** • Improving Nodulation in Legumes: Enhancing rhizobia performance for better nitrogen fixation. • Strengthening Disease Resistance: Investigating microbial solutions for root rot and iron deficiency chlorosis. • Fusarium Head Blight Mitigation: Developing microbial consortia to reduce disease prevalence. • Commercializing Microbial Inoculants: Bringing scientific breakthroughs into farmers' hands.
Scientist and technician (organismal-plant)	$ 355,000	2	NDSU Campus	

2021-2023				
Big Data	$ 800,000	3	NDSU Campus	**Progress** • NDAWN Modernization: Hired two programmers to upgrade outdated technology, improving data processing, cybersecurity, and system stability. Developed new weather-based decision tools and enhanced website functionality for farmers. • Agricultural Data Analytics Expansion: Hired two experts in database management and predictive modeling to improve data utilization. Developed advanced data pipelines and predictive models, creating tools that support plant breeders and agronomists in precision agriculture. **Impacts** • Developed the Nexus Data Hub to centralize agricultural applications and data, AgSkySight for AI-driven drone image analysis, and PredictPro to integrate genetic and phenotypic data in breeding programs. Improved database tools such as ExLibris for advanced crop data analysis and an Admin Panel for easier database management. • Broad Recognition: Increased collaboration with industry, government, and research institutions at national and global levels, positioning NDSU Agriculture as a leader in agricultural data science.
2023-2025				
Agronomist	$ 210,000	1	DREC	**Progress** • Dr. Krishna Katuwal began his role as Research Agronomist in February 2024. • Led three research projects in 2024 focused on crop yield and soil health. • Authored two research reports on sulfur fertilizer impacts. • Participated in four outreach events, engaging with farmers and industry professionals. • Secured over $300,000 in external funding for ongoing and future research. • Developed six research projects for 2025, in collaboration with multiple stakeholders. **Impacts** • Advancing Agricultural Research: Enhanced understanding of sulfur fertilization in wheat and canola. • Enhancing Farmer Education & Outreach: Provided practical guidance to farmers through events and publications. • Strengthening Agricultural Innovation: Supported UAV-guided precision agriculture research. • Expanding Research Capacity: Built collaborative research initiatives within NDSU and with external agencies.
Technician for clubroot fungus	$ 176,000	1	LREC	**Progress** • Larissa Jennings hired in August 2023 to support research on clubroot disease in canola. • Conducted a statewide survey mapping clubroot pathogen distribution. **Impacts** • Understanding Disease Spread: Established baseline data on clubroot occurrence in North Dakota. • Targeting Research in High-Risk Areas: Positioned for future studies in identified hot spots.

NDAWN position	$ 220,000	1	NDSU Campus	**Progress** • Hired one computer programmer to support NDAWN modernization. • Continued efforts initiated in the 2021-2023 legislative session. **Impacts** • Cattle Comfort Index: Launched to assist ranchers in managing livestock during extreme weather. • Soybean White Mold Index: Scheduled for release in 2025, addressing a major crop disease. • New NDAWN Website: Mobile-friendly platform under testing. • Website Enhancements: Improved data access and usability for farmers. • National Weather Forecast Integration: Upgrading NDAWN from reactive to predictive forecasting. • Camera Integration: Over 100 NDAWN stations now provide real-time images for transportation management.

NDSU Extension: Major initiatives and FTEs funded in the last three bienniums and the impacts of each.

2019-2020	Funding	FTEs	Location of FTE	Impacts and what has been accomplished
Extension operating support	$ 870,000		County programs	These funds provided to NDSU Extension were utilized to sustain and enhance the local delivery of Extension programs and services across North Dakota. This additional funding enabled continued partnerships with counties to support Extension agents, ensuring that local communities had direct access to valuable resources and expertise. Furthermore, the increased operating support was crucial for maintaining high-quality services from Extension specialists, allowing for the ongoing development and delivery of impactful programs statewide. As a result, NDSU Extension has successfully maintained at least one agent in every county, ensuring that residents across North Dakota can easily access the knowledge and assistance they need from NDSU, fostering individual and community growth and resilience.
Extension Web and Digital Delivery (one time funding)	$ 345,000		Campus - web overhaul	Web contractors completed a significant redesign of the NDSU Extension website to improve technological use and better engage younger audiences, enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery. Extension received funding to develop a new web strategy and refresh content offerings to align with future opportunities and evolving user needs. One of the key features is the Ag Hub, a centralized platform for accessing all agricultural research, publications, and extension programs.
2021-2023				
Livestock - Forage Specialist	$ 200,000	1	NCREC	Dr. James Rogers was hired as the Forage Specialist for NDSU Extension in 2022.Dr. Rogers has focused on helping producers grow high-quality forages, such as sorghum-sudangrass. Using field results, he advises producers to harvest forages at the boot stage to maximize cost efficiency. At this stage, the forage meets the nutritional needs of a 1,300 lb, post-partum cow without requiring expensive supplements, keeping bale costs around $40. He has advised that harvesting at later stages increases yield but lowers quality, necessitating added supplements and raising costs to over $60 per bale.
Livestock Development Specialist	$ 225,000	1	NDSU Campus	Dr. Jon Biermacher was hired as the Extension Livestock Development Specialist in 2022.Dr. Biermacher assessed the feed requirements for two large dairies planned for North Dakota in 2027: a 25,000-cow operation near Hillsboro and a 12,500-cow operation near Abercrombie. These dairies will require $86 million in feed annually, including corn silage, alfalfa hay, soybean meal, DDGS, and minerals. Co-product feeds from corn ethanol and soybean crush plants will provide $4.3 million. He highlighted the potential market opportunity for local farmers to supply these dairies and encouraged them to assess the economic feasibility of participation.

Agricultural Health and Safety	$ 240,000		NDSU Campus	Angie Johnson was hired as the NDSU Extension Farm and Ranch Safety Coordinator in 2022. She has implemented multiple safety programs and collaborates on farm safety research with Sanford Health. Program examples include: **Youth Farm Safety Camp 2024** - 46 youth, ages 14-16, participated in three farm safety camps across North Dakota. 45 youth passed the US Dept. of Labor Hazardous Occupational Order in Agriculture (HOOA) certification program, meaning they can legally work on a farm or ranch beyond their family's farm/ranch operation. Combined evaluation data from all three farm safety camps in 2024 include: • 53% increase in confidence in using a tourniquet • 36% increase in confidence in conducting a per-operation and maintenance check before operating farm equipment • 32% increase in confidence in safely working with a PTO shaft • 32% increase in confidence in using a fire extinguisher **Stop the Bleed 2024** 353 individuals in 25 North Dakota communities participated in an STB program Combined evaluation data from 25 STB sessions include: • 60% increase in how prepared participants felt applying a tourniquet when needed in an emergency • 49% increase in how confident participants felt packing a wound • 39% increase in their comfort controlling a life-threatening bleed injury due to the STB program.
Big Data specialist	$ 220,000		NDSU Campus	Vimlesh Kumar was hired as the NDSU Extension Big Data Specialist in 2022. He has re-developed a Pest Management Application that is currently being tested. Once finalized, it will provide farmers, ranchers, and other producers quick access to pest management information, including herbicide recommendations and labeled rates.
2023-2025				
Soybean pathologist	$ 200,000	1	NDSU Campus	Dr. Wade Webster was hired as the Extension Soybean Pathologist in 2024. Dr. Webster has focused on developing systems to improve the management of soybean cyst nematode (SCN), which causes over $1.5B in annual losses to U.S. soybean farmers. Since 2003, SCN has spread across North Dakota and is now present in many counties. Early detection through soil sampling is crucial for effective management. Dr. Webster has taken a leadership role in the campaign to collect and analyze SCN samples across the state. He advises producers on the importance of using soybean varieties with different sources of SCN resistance based on nematode counts in each field. Additionally, he has identified a new *Phytophthora* species that adversely impacts soybeans and will be developing strategies to manage this pathogen.
Swine specialist	$ 200,000	1	NDSU Campus	Dr. Taw Skaff was hired as the Extension Swine Specialist in 2024. Dr. Skaff is working with hog producers across the state as well as the ND Livestock Alliance to expand hog operations in ND. He has also assisted youth at various events, including at the State Fair where he helped with Showmanship, junior points show, as well as at 4-H, and FFA swine shows. He has also collaborated with two colleagues to develop a

				curriculum for a swine, sheep, and cattle 'Skillathon' for youth, which will feature a camp in Washburn and a workshop at the state fair.
Farm and Ranch Safety operating	$ 125,000		Farm and Ranch Safety program	These operating funds offer extra support for the Extension Farm and Ranch Safety program, helping fund farmer mental health education initiatives and purchasing a tractor simulator for youth safety training. Significant operating resources are also needed to run Farm Safety camps and the Stop the Bleed Program.

2. Review of Past Funding Requests

NDAES

Over the past four biennia, NDAES has proposed initiatives to advance agricultural technologies, including **precision agriculture, big data,** and the **digital transformation of agriculture.** Detailed explanations of these initiatives are provided below:

- **Precision Agriculture 2019-2021:** ND legislative body appropriated $600,000 in operating funding for precision agriculture. This funding was allocated through a competitive request-for-proposal process to support research initiatives spanning the full range of NDAES disciplines, including economics, microbiology, animal sciences, and plant pathology. Additionally, these funds facilitated advanced agricultural technology research, fostering collaboration between the REC network and main station researchers.
- **Big Data Initiative 2021-2023:** Legislators appropriated $1,140,000 for the Big Data Initiative, with a request for six FTEs—three for NDAWN and three for data analytics, curation, and breeding data management. Received funding for three total FTEs: 1.5 for NDAWN and 1.5 for the Big Data Pipeline team focused on breeding. Additional funds were requested for operations and equipment.
- **Big Data Initiative 2023-2025:** $638,000 was appropriated for the Big Data Initiative. Re-submitted a request for the remaining three FTEs from the original initiative and received funding for one additional FTE, which was used to hire a position in NDAWN.
- **Digital Transformation of Agriculture 2025-2027**: We are requesting the legislative body to help us build upon previous data initiatives focused on breeding and NDAWN, this phase expands support for data analytics across all agricultural disciplines. The need spans data ingestion, curation, transfer, security, analysis, and the development of research tools for applications such as IoT, drones, and genomics. This requires investment in personnel, hardware, and software.

NDSU Extension

Livestock Initiative: In 2021, SBARE elevated a livestock initiative for Extension, which included a request for four positions. Two positions were funded during that session: a forage specialist and a livestock development specialist. The initiative returned in 2023, with Extension receiving funding for a swine specialist. In 2025, the final position from the original 2021 request—a veterinary epidemiologist—has been requested once again, completing the four positions initially sought. A new position for a precision agriculture specialist has been added to the 2025 livestock initiative, aimed at advancing cutting-edge technologies to support livestock health, nutrition, and reproduction.

All other requests by NDSU Extension in 2025 are new initiatives.

b. SBARE Priorities that were and were not funded from 2019-2021 to present

2019-21 Budget Request

	2019-21 SBARE Priority List	FTE	HB1020 Authorization	FTE
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station				
SBARE #1: Agribiome	$1,160,000		$1,160,000	
Scientist and technician (microbe-livestock)	$355,000	2.0	$355,000	2.0
Scientist and technician (organismal-plant)	$355,000	2.0	$355,000	2.0
Operating	$450,000		$450,000	
SBARE #2 Precision Agriculture: Operating	$800,000		-	
SBARE #3: Enhancing Research Capacity	$690,000		$200,000	
Increased Support for Operations- RECs	$280,000		$0	
Increased Support for Operations- Main	$210,000		$0	
Increased Support for Operations- Oakes site	$200,000		$200,000	
Funding for salaries - DREC NCREC	$125,000		125,000	
ONE-TIME & CAPITAL FUNDING				
Deferred maintenance	$1,440,465		940,465	
Carrington REC Land Base – ($TBD)				
Williston Research Center greenhouse (OF)	$0		500,000	
Capital:				
SBARE #1 Capital: Agronomic, Pathology, and Soils Field Lab facility	$65,000,000			
SBARE #2 Capital: Seed cleaning facility WREC	$750,000		750,000	
SBARE #3 Capital: Equipment Storage Sheds (8)	$2,400,000			
SBARE #4 Capital: Precision Ag/ ABEN Facility	$6,000,000			
NDSU Extension				
SBARE #1: Operational Support	$870,000		$870,000	
Additional Operating Support			100,000	
ONE-TIME FUNDING				
Extension Web and Digital Delivery	$345,000		345,000	

2021-23 Budget Request

	2021-23 SBARE Priority List	FTE	SB2020 Authorization	FTE	SB2325 Special Session Authorization	
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station						
SBARE #1: Big Data	$1,660,000		$835,000			
NDAWN-3 FTEs (Main Station)	$570,000	3.0	$0	-		
Data analytics, management, and curation-3 FTEs (Main Station)	$570,000	3.0	$0	-		
Big Data-Senate			$800,000	3.0		
Big Data-House addn'l increase			$35,000			
Operating	$320,000		$0			
Equipment	$200,000		$0			
ONE-TIME & CAPITAL FUNDING						
Deferred maintenance	$1,440,465		500,000			
Capital:						
SBARE #1 Capital: Agronomic, Pathology, and Soils Field Lab facility	$65,000,000	-				
SBARE #2 Capital: Livestock Facilities	$6,372,000		$975,000		$8,029,000	
HREC Livestock Processing and Research Support Facility	$1,415,880				1,529,000	ARPA
CREC Livestock Facilities	$1,188,000		775,000		446,000	ARPA
CGREC Livestock Facilities	$2,017,440		200,000		1,963,000	ARPA
HREC Sheep Feed Efficiency Research Facility	$1,750,680				1,891,000	ARPA
DREC Agricultural Lab and Shop Facility					2,200,000	ARPA
SBARE #3 Capital: Greenhouse-LREC	$473,000		473,000			
SBARE #4 Capital: Storage (Main Station and REC's)	$2,400,000		300,000			
SBARE #5 Capital: CGREC Housing	$325,000		325,000			
NDSU Extension						
SBARE #1: Livestock Initiative	$1,010,000		$500,000			
4.0 FTE	$850,000	4.0	$425,000	2.0		
Operating	$160,000		$75,000			
SBARE #2: Agricultural Health and Safety	$720,000		$240,000	1.0		
3.0 FTE	$600,000	3.0	$0	-		
Operating	$120,000		$240,000			
SBARE #3: Big Data	$280,000		$280,000			
1.0 FTE	$220,000	1.0	$220,000	1.0		
Operating	$60,000		$60,000			

2023-25 Budget Request
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	2023-25 SBARE Priority List	FTE	HB1020 Authorization	FTE
Main Research Center				
SBARE #1: Plant Production and Protection Initiative	$1,580,000		$426,000	
Agronomist (DREC)	252,000	1.0	$210,000	1.0
Plant bacteriologist	252,000	1.0		
Plant bacteriologist technician	176,000	1.0		
Plant virologist	252,000	1.0		
Plant virologist technician	176,000	1.0		
Pulse breeding technician	176,000	1.0		
Technician for clubroot fungus (LREC)	176,000	1.0	176,000	1.0
Operating	120,000		40,000	
Unranked				
Fast track potato breeding research operating	-		$250,000	
SBARE #2: Operating Support	$2,194,000		$400,000	
Grant development positions	594,000	3.0		
Graduate research assistantships	720,000			
Main Station and RECs-operating	480,000			
Oakes Irrigation Research Site-operating	400,000		400,000	
SBARE #3: Big Data Initiative	$838,000		$300,000	
Data analytics, management and curation position	319,000	1.5		
NDAWN position	319,000	1.5	220,000	1.0
Operating	200,000		80,000	
SBARE #4: Climate Smart Agriculture	$458,200		$0	
Climate smart agricultural scientist	242,200	1.0		
Climate smart agricultural technician	176,000	1.0		
Operating	40,000			
SBARE #5 (Tie): Bee and Apiary Research	$458,200		$0	
Bee and apiary scientist (HREC)	242,200	1.0		
Bee and apiary research technician (HREC)	176,000	1.0		
Operating	40,000			
SBARE #5 (Tie): Precision Agriculture				
Operating	$600,000			
SBARE - Base Increase - Main Research Station	**$6,128,400**	**17.0**	**$1,376,000**	**3.0**
ONE-TIME & CAPITAL FUNDING				
Deferred maintenance	1,440,465		500,000	SIIF
Equipment for an ag biotech innovation core	1,000,000		-	
Land purchase HREC *unranked*	1,038,000		1,038,000	ARPA
Capital:				
SBARE #1 Field lab facility	97,000,000		*97,000,000	SIIF/Other
SBARE #2 AES Equipment storage sheds (7 sheds)	3,325,000		1,900,000	SIIF
SBARE #3 Nesson Valley facility	1,700,000		1,700,000	General
SBARE #4 Precision agriculture facility	55,000,000		-	
SBARE #5 Dairy barn	1,700,000		-	
Unranked				
Swine Unit Renovation **added to request after House session (fundraising request)*	6,000,000		-	
Total One-time & capital funding-North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station	**$168,203,465**		**$5,138,000**	
2021-23 CAPITAL CARRYOVER- ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUEST				
General Fund:				
CREC Feedlot Research Support Facility	640,000		640,000	
CREC Feedlot Pen Expansion with Waste Containment	95,000		95,000	
CREC Covered Feeding (Hoop barn or Mono-slope)	464,400		464,400	

2023-25 Budget Request
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	2023-25 SBARE Priority List	FTE	HB1020 Authorization	FTE
Main Research Center				
CREC Bulk Feed Commodity Storage Structure	157,400		157,400	
CGREC Livestock Facility	400,000		400,000	
LREC Greenhouse	251,430		251,430	
Special Fund:				
CGREC Housing	175,000		175,000	
WREC Greenhouse	750,000		750,000	
Total 2021-23 Capital carryover -additional funding request	**$2,933,230**		**$2,933,230**	

2023-25 Budget Request
NDSU Extension

	2023-25 SBARE Priority List	FTE	HB1020 Authorization	FTE
NDSU Extension				
SBARE #1 Cropping Systems Initiative	$1,400,000		$240,000	
Western ND crop production specialist	200,000	1.0		
Soybean pathologist (campus)	200,000	1.0	200,000	1.0
Weed specialist	200,000	1.0		
Carbon credit specialist	200,000	1.0		
Operating	200,000		40,000	
On-farm research coordinator	200,000	1.0		
On-farm Operating	200,000			
SBARE #2 Livestock Development Initiative	$770,000		$250,000	
Veterinary epidemiologist	250,000	1.0		
Swine specialist	200,000	1.0	200,000	1.0
Off-campus livestock development specialist	200,000	1.0		
Operating	120,000		50,000	
SBARE #3 Farm and Ranch Health and Safety Initiative				
Farm and ranch health and safety resources operating	$250,000		$125,000	
SBARE #4 Program Support for 4-H Initiative	$320,000		$80,000	
4-H entrepreneurship specialist	200,000	1.0		
4-H program operating support - including camping, clubs, after-school	120,000		80,000	
SBARE #5 Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support	$600,000		$370,000	
Extension program operating support	300,000		220,000	
SSCC operating support	300,000		150,000	
SBARE #6 Increased Food Security Initiative	$400,000		$0	
Urban ag/value-added food technologies specialist	200,000	1.0		
Operating support, including 2 new horticulture agents (western ND and in partnership with counties)	200,000			
SBARE - Base Increase - NDSU Extension Service	**$3,740,000**	**10.0**	**$1,065,000**	**2.0**

3. Federal Funding Breakdown

NDAES Federal Capacity Funding: The NDAES receives federal capacity funds, which are apportioned annually and are based on a formula that considers the farming and rural populations of the state. These funds are administered by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. At NDSU, these funds are used for salaries on main and branch stations and must be matched dollar-for-dollar by state funds.

NDAES	Federal Capacity Funding - Annual
Hatch	$3,723,490
McIntire-Stennis	$197,855
Animal Health	$18,802
Total Federal Capacity (must be matched 1:1 by state)	**$3,940,147**

NDAES Federal Grant Funds: Researchers in the NDAES also seek competitive grants from federal agencies (e.g., USDA, NSF, USFWS, NIH, DOD) to fund their research program. These extramural funds are competitive, meaning only those grants judged to have merit will receive funding. The grants typically fund salaries for staff, graduate students, equipment, research travel, publication fees, and facilities and administrative costs.

Currently, for both branch and main stations, there are $67,941,670 of federal grants funded. Federal grants account for 18% of our salary funding for the NDAES.

NDAES	Current Federal Grants*
Main Station	$66,199,479
Branch Stations	$1,742,191
Total Federal Grants	**$67,941,670**

* The duration of federal grants is typically 4 to 5 years.

NDSU Extension Federal Capacity Funding: NDSU Extension also receives federal capacity funds, which are apportioned annually. Federal capacity funds are administered by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. At NDSU, these funds are used for salaries and need to be matched dollar-for-dollar by state funds.

NDSU Extension	Federal Capacity Funding - Annual
Smith-Lever	$3,942,351
Renewable Resources	$46,409
Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program	$423,723
Total Federal Capacity (must be matched 1:1 by state)	**$4,412,483**

NDSU Extension Federal Grant Funds: Extension staff also seek competitive grants from federal agencies (e.g., USDA, NSF, USFWS, NIH, DOD) to fund their program. These extramural funds are competitive, meaning only those grants judged to have merit will receive funding. The grants typically fund salaries for staff, graduate students, equipment, travel, publication fees, and facilities and administrative costs. Duration of federal grants is typically 4 to 5 years.

Currently, Extension has $8,835,234 of federal grants that account for 10% of our salary funding.

NDSU Extension	Current Federal Grants*
	$8,835,234
Total Federal Grants	$8,835,234

* The duration of federal grants is typically 4 to 5 years.

4. Updates on Williston Research Extension Center and Nesson Valley

Recent research activities at Nesson Valley:

Water Source Project
This project evaluates the impact of different water sources (well water vs. surface water) on agricultural sustainability. By monitoring soil properties and comparing the effects of groundwater and Missouri River water, this research aims to identify the long-term implications of water source selection on soil health, crop productivity, and environmental sustainability.

Water Use Efficiency
This research is focused on improving water use efficiency in agriculture by optimizing irrigation practices across various crops. Researchers analyze irrigation timing and rates to identify strategies that reduce water waste while maximizing crop yield. Over the last three years, in collaboration with the ND Soybean Council, work has involved improving irrigation practices specifically for soybean production, helping farmers achieve greater water conservation and enhanced resource management.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Studies
Through extensive IPM research, the goal is to develop sustainable solutions for managing weeds and diseases in a wide range of crops, including corn, wheat, soybeans, dry beans, and pulses. With its ability to promote disease through supplemental irrigation, the Nesson site provides valuable insights into disease pressures that affect irrigated and non-irrigated acres. This research contributes to more resilient and efficient pest management strategies that benefit agricultural systems on a broader scale.

Fundraising and Bids for the Nesson Valley Project:
The project at Nesson Valley received two bids as noted below.

	Base Bid	Alternates							
		Addn Rooms & Lay ceiling	Cabinets break room	Addn area to shop	Shop Windows	Overhead Door	Exterior Paving	Gravel Paving	Removal of poor soil & replace with good soil
Contractor A	$2,091,646	$116,726	$23,231	$31,480	$4,000	$11,900	$34,205	$118,000	$73,148
Contractor B	$1,887,000	$97,500	$41,500	$125,000	$5,000	$15,000	$40,000	$15,000	$85/CUYD

Expenses to date for Nesson Valley project:

Advertising Services - Print	110.70
Architect Fees Capitalized	103,440.37
Engineering Fees Capitalized	8,626.00
Grand Total	**112,177.07**

Clarification on WREC Greenhouse fundraising
$500,000 has been raised for the WREC Greenhouse project.

5. Clarification of Livestock Toxicologist FTE Request

Two separate positions were requested on the 2025-27 SBARE initiative list. One position – a Livestock Toxicologist – is on the AES list and the other – a Livestock Epidemiologist – is on the extension list.

AES Livestock Toxicologist: Animal Health: SBARE Initiative #3: North Dakota faces a significant risk of having no veterinary toxicologist available. A position is requested to fund a toxicology resident to address this critical need. A toxicologist plays a vital role in supporting the state's livestock industry by developing assays for detecting mycotoxins, ergot, blister beetle toxin, bromethalin in feed, and other

industry challenges. **Request:** One FTE - Veterinary toxicology resident to support critical needs in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory – $275,000. $50,000 in operating. **Senate Version**: Included $275,000 for the livestock toxicologist position, $0 in operating.

EXTENSION Livestock Epidemiologist: Precision Management and Animal Health: SBARE Initiative #3 Extension serves as a technical and educational resource and focuses on safeguarding livestock health in the state. Central to this mission is the elevation of monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases, which threaten both animal and human populations. **Request:** One FTE - Extension Veterinary Epidemiologist - $440,000, $50,000 in operating. Efforts will focus on safeguarding the health of North Dakotans and their livestock by elevating the monitoring of zoonotic diseases shared between animals and humans and providing education for the public. **Senate Version:** The Extension Veterinary Epidemiologist position was not funded in the Senate version.

6. NDSU Agriculture Responses to Bird Flu – Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

The NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic Lab (VDL) has completed 272 tests (or reactions). However, this equates out to over 640 individual animals as individual samples (from the same species & premises) can be pooled in a single test.

Year	# of tests	# non-negative
2022	97	46
2023	35	8
2024	121	7
2025	19	1
TOTALS:	**272**	**62**

"Non-negative" is the term that must be reported to USDA-APHIS using the PCR assays as part of the National Animal Laboratory Health Network (NAHLN). It is essentially the same as "positive" or "detected". The VDL must pass proficiency tests to run these PCR assays.

Around 60 cases (but multiple samples and animals) have been Foreign Animal Disease Investigations (FADIs) initiated by the ND Board of Animal Health. There are only a few commercial poultry facilities, so much of the avian testing has been on backyard flocks. Scientists at the VDL have been able to provide results for FADIs mostly the same day or the next day at the latest (24-36hrs).

Most of the 2024 (starting April) and 2025 testing has been on cattle. The VDL did 94 tests that included over 340 animals. All have been "Not Detected" (i.e., "negative"). This does include animals from neighboring states.

Besides poultry and cattle, the VDL has tested numerous species of wild birds (passerines, waterfowl, and raptors), a few wild mammals (mostly canines submitted by wildlife officials), multiple zoo animals, and a few cats. Some foxes and cats (out of state) have been "non-negative".

As part of the USDA National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN), the VDL continues to test for HPAI when requested by the Board of Animal Health and Game and Fish veterinarians. Samples include tissues and swabs from sick or deceased animals and milk from dairy cattle. In addition, they might test for HPAI in animals with clinical signs (specifically neurologic signs and/or respiratory signs) and corresponding gross or microscopic lesions for possible HPAI infection.

As part of the FDA Veterinary Laboratory Investigation and Response Network (Vet-LIRN), they are prepared to test animal feed for HPAI if requested.

Pathologists/diagnosticians are working with researchers on influenza A virus receptor distribution in cats and cattle to determine risk of infection in these species. The NYT highlighted one of their publications last year.

In partnership with researchers, the NDSU VDL has provided samples to test for exposure to influenza A virus in beef cattle. We await those data.

Besides research and testing at the VDL, NDSU Extension provides education and technical assistance to local farmers, ranchers, flock owners and communities across the state. Efforts include:

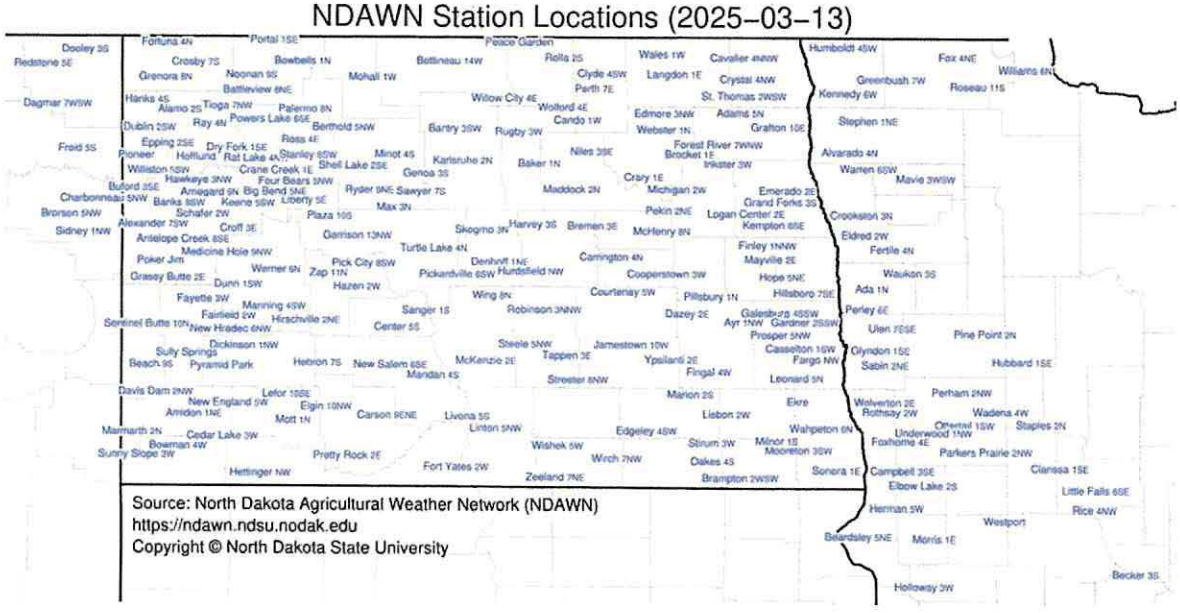
Extension Educational Efforts:

- A total of 31 HPAI-related posts were shared on social media, reaching **17,131 people** with **513 engagements**. .
- Issued **6 news releases** and **2 media interviews** regarding HPAI, with distribution mainly during migratory bird seasons to raise awareness.
- Provided multiple online resources and materials during educational events to support public and industry understanding:
    - **Extension Bulletin AS2239**: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)
    - **"Protect Your Flock from HPAI"** fact sheet
    - **Handling Wild Bird Carcasses**: Guidance for HPAI outbreaks
    - **HPAI Response Process Poster** (available through USDA)
    - **USDA Guide on Improving Biosecurity**: Prevent Avian Influenza with Simple Wildlife Management Practices

Additional Resources:

- Provided **Public Notice templates** for staff in the event of a local HPAI case, along with guidelines on who to contact.
- Shared regular, comprehensive talking points for Extension Agents and specialists across the state to ensure a coordinated and informed response.
- Extension personnel work closely on **biosecurity** issues in collaboration with the **ND State Board of Animal Health** and **local veterinarians** to enhance awareness and preventative measures.

7. NDAWN Updates



NDAWN is one of the most comprehensive state agriculture weather mesonets in the nation. It operates over 200 weather stations across North Dakota and nearby areas. Each station represents local weather conditions within a 20-mile (32 km) radius, except for rainfall, which varies more locally. Stations are named after the nearest city or town, with a number and direction indicating their location (e.g., Leonard 5N is 5 miles north of Leonard).

NDAWN received an additional 2.5 FTEs over the past two bienniums, enhancing its data analytics and model development capacity. The total personnel dedicated to NDAWN now includes 11 members: the director, five computer programmers, one mesonet technician, and four research specialists.

NDAWN delivers crop tools that enhance precision pest and disease management for barley, canola, corn, potatoes, soybeans, sugarbeets, sunflowers, wheat, and other small grains. This system helps farmers mitigate risk and save millions of dollars annually.

NDAWN stations record weather data every five minutes, including:

- Real-time and hourly averages for all variables
- Daily summaries (temperature, wind speed, and other key data)
- Data Transmission & Quality Control
- Data is sent every five minutes via wireless modem.
- Hourly and daily data are checked automatically for errors.

Since 1989, NDAWN has been funded by state general fund appropriations, federal and state agencies, commodity groups, businesses, and individuals. A federal grant helped upgrade its database and website to improve data access.

8. REC Operating Expenses

Energy and inputs (seed, feed and fertilizer) and comparing them to pre-COVID prices.

Breakdown of Percent Change in Energy (Electricity/ oil/gas/propane) and Inputs (seed, feed & fertilizer) at each REC.
All costs are compared to pre-COVID FY2020

REC	2021	2022	2023	2024
DREC	0%	27%	39%	-6%
CGREC	-11%	29%	26%	27%
HREC	-2%	37%	55%	52%
LREC	-37%	12%	42%	-18%
NCREC	53%	99%	103%	110%
WREC	-13%	29%	74%	32%
CREC	6%	45%	28%	8%
Avg. % change from pre-COVID	-1%	40%	53%	29%

9. Research Technician for Grapes

$200,000 is the total salary and benefits requested for 1 research technician at the NCREC in Minot. This position is found within the AES SBARE Initiative list - #6. (pg. 10).

10.Oil Revenue from Williston REC and Dickinson REC

Fiscal Year	Williston REC	Dickinson REC
2014	488,530.00	0.00
2015	0.00	0.00
2016	0.00	28,798.55
2017	149,029.21	86,938.09
2018	16,488.04	73,634.19
2019	15,065.90	86,024.75
2020	10,959.94	72,840.02
2021	5,465.68	61,968.05
2022	715,164.68	98,402.47
2023	31,949.13	125,151.95
2024	48,884.62	86,561.61

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
3/19/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

2:32 p.m. Chairman Monson opened the meeting.

Members Present: Chairman Monson, Vice Chair Brandenburg, Representatives: Bosch, Fisher, Kempenich, Meier, Pyle.

Discussion Topics:

- Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute (UGPTI)
- UGPTI Federal and State funding breakdown
- UGPTI Bridge Study
- Different axles and effects on roads and bridges
- Autonomous Vehicles

2:33p.m. Denver Tolliver, Director, Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, testified in favor and submitted testimony #43074.

2:52 p.m. Byron Fuchs, Program Director, North Dakota Local Technical Assistance Program, answered questions for the committee.

2:59 p.m. Chairman Monson reviewed previous long sheet #40447.

Additional written testimony:

Julie Ellingson, North Dakota Stockmen's Association, submitted testimony in favor #42960 and #42961.

3:27 p.m. Chairman Monson closed the meeting.

Madaline Cooper, Committee Clerk

North Dakota Stockmen's Association
SB 2020 – Experiment Stations
Senate Appropriations Government Operations Committee
Red River Room
Jan. 16, 2025

Good morning, Chairman Wanzek and members of the Senate Appropriations' Government Operations Committee. My name is Julie Ellingson, and I represent the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, a 95-year-old beef cattle trade organization comprised of approximately 3,100 members across the state.

I am not sure how the legislative bill numbering system came about, but, as you know, every other legislative session, the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE) budget is deemed SB 2020. Usually when we hear 20/20, we think of it as a reference to perfect vision – a measure of visual acuity and clarity. And I cannot help but think how perfect that is for the bill before you this morning – a forward-looking, visionary budget identifying critical investments with proven returns for our no. 1 industry, agriculture, and the state's overall economy. We join with our agricultural colleagues in enthusiastic support of the bill, as it represents programs and projects prioritized by SBARE through its comprehensive process.

As you look through the Experiment Station's priority list, there are a lot of things for a cattle producer to like. That's one of the reasons the bill was endorsed by our members at our annual convention. This morning, I will highlight just a few:

In fact, priority 1, the Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies initiative, was also the NDSA's no. 1 priority when we shared our thoughts in the last SBARE listening rounds.

No question, cattle ranching is big business, and research into the effects of national and international policies and trade on our industry is needed in order to be competitive on the global stage. To put that into dollars and cents for a North Dakota cattleman or cattlewoman, international beef sales add somewhere in the neighborhood of $400 in value per fed animal in the United States. That's real money, and so it's important we have the information we need at our disposal to make informed, evidence-based decisions.

Our industry also has real corresponding financial risk. Analysis and resources to help farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses navigate market complexities and guard against risk associated with international relations, trade dynamics and other factors are crucial for us to survive. The ag policy analyst, market and trade analyst and economic impact specialist included in this initiative will help in these regards. We think these professionals can also help producers in our industry adopt and better understand risk management tools, such as the Livestock Risk Protection product that has become increasingly popular with some recent enhancements or likely upcoming tools like the Weaned Calf Revenue Program being piloted in neighboring South Dakota, and can help us stabilize our positions and do long-term financial planning.

The Livestock/Animal Health initiative, as you would guess, is also important to us, and would add a needed resident veterinary toxicologist to the very capable team at the NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, bearing the name of our dear friend, the late former Sen. Bill Bowman who, for years, sat in these very chairs and helped shepherd this budget. The toxicologist will play a vital role in supporting the state's livestock industry by developing assays for the detection of things like mycotoxin, blister beetle toxin and other challenges that can be catastrophic for those in animal agriculture.

Finally, we are fortunate to have some of the best scientists in the world working on the NDSU team, but, without adequate operating budgets, equipment and support, their ability to deliver to their potential is limited. Therefore, even though initiative no. 4 might not seem as flashy or exciting as some of the others on the list, to us, it is a necessity, as it is foundational to the outcomes and success of the overall Experiment Station system.

Thank you for the consideration of these priorities and for all the support you have provided to help keep agriculture strong.

I would be happy to take any questions you have.

North Dakota Stockmen's Association
SB 2020 – Extension Service
Senate Appropriations Government Operations Committee
Red River Room
Jan. 16, 2025

Good afternoon, Chairman Wanzek and members of the Senate Appropriations' Government Operations Committee. For the record, I am Julie Ellingson, and I represent the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, a 95-year-old beef cattle trade organization comprised of approximately 3,100 members across the state.

As I mentioned in the Experiment Station discussion this morning, members of the North Dakota Stockmen's Association endorsed the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education's priorities through a policy resolution at our recent convention. Our organization is a longstanding champion of Extension, and we are grateful for the legislature's support over the years.

As you know, your investments have resulted in an incredible return not only for North Dakota's ag industry, but the state's overall economy. SB 2020 includes a host of projects that will continue to bolster the state's primary economic driver; grow the next generation of rural and agricultural leaders; invigorate our communities; and generate more tax dollars as a result of agriculture's prosperity.

From a livestock industry perspective, the Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative encapsulates many of our industry's needs. Animal agriculture is in the midst of a transformational evolution, driven by the integration of data and a host of production

variables. Coupled with workforce shortages and labor issues across the agricultural spectrum, the need to do more with fewer bodies, less time and what seems to be a never-ending workload calls for innovation and creative problem-solving. The incorporation of cutting-edge precision management tools – ranging from virtual fence to water and health monitoring systems and from GPS tags to smart feeders – can help improve efficiency and profitability across livestock enterprises. NDSU Extension has already been a leader in the Precision Management space, and the incorporation of an Extension specialist in this area can help expand understanding and adoption of game-changing technologies.

The Stockmen's Association hosts a Cattlemen's Educational Series Workshop each year at our convention, and precision management was the theme of the multi-session workshop in 2024. The topic was received incredibly well by our members – so much that we packed the room with interested producers, including many first-time participants who were drawn by this emerging topic. That, I think, speaks to the grassroots interest in this area.

The addition of an Extension epidemiologist is also a part of this initiative and would play a pivotal role in shaping the future of animal ag in North Dakota and helping safeguard the health of the domestic herd. Domestic and foreign animal diseases pose risks to our livestock industry. Having this position in place and filled is added insurance for the industry, elevating the monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases.

The no. 2 priority is Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee operating support. Again, operating support may not be as glamourous as some of the other areas, but it truly

is where the rubber meets the road. It gives Extension agents, specialists and other staff the tools they need to tackle their collective mission to improve lives, increase efficiencies and build better communities.

Increased operating support is particularly impactful in the advancement of North Dakota's future through 4-H youth development and leadership programs. Some of the most valuable leadership lessons and skills-building experiences of my life came through my time as a Morton County Go-Getters 4-H Club member and a part of a Centennial 4-H family.

I learned how to run a meeting, speak in front of a crowd, set goals, make friends, judge livestock, bake cookies, win and lose. Few things have given me more joy than having watched my five children have these same experiences through their own 4-H careers. Investment in 4-H is an investment in the future of our agricultural industry, communities and state. It is part of the solution to ongoing workforce shortages. And it is the best way to tackle some of the biggest challenges that face our society today. 4-H makes the best better.

You too can make the best better through your support of these and the other Extension initiatives represented in SB 2020. Thank you for your consideration of these components and the support you have already provided.

Answers to Questions from Government Operations Division

1. UGPTI's Federal and State Funding
   a. How much federal funding does UGPTI receive directly from federal agencies?
   b. How much funding does UGPTI receive from NDDOT?
   c. How much of the funding that UGPTI receives from NDDOT consists of federal source funds?

   The analysis includes all Federal and North Dakota DOT grants on an annualized basis. Many of UGPTI's federal grants (such as the University Transportation Center grants) are multiyear awards. Similarly, some North Dakota DOT grants are multiyear contracts. The total amounts of these awards are divided by the number of years to yield an average annual value—e.g., only one year of UGPTI's five-year University Transportation Center grant is reflected in the federal funds number. The numbers are summarized in the table below.

   Federal and NDDOT Funds Provided to UGPTI Annually (Preliminary)

Federal funds awarded directly to UGPTI	$11,901,893
Total NDDOT funds provided to UGPTI	$3,682,145
NDDOT funding from federal funds	$2,746,861

   As these numbers suggest, roughly 75% of NDDOT's grants to UGPTI are federal source funds. However, NDDOT must match these funds with non-federal source dollars. The match requirement is usually 20%. A few North Dakota DOT grants (such as the Western North Dakota Program and the annual North Dakota Transportation Conference) consist of state funds only, which is why the percentage is 75% instead of 80%. The preliminary estimates are being reviewed by NDDOT and UGPTI. Any appreciable adjustments to the percentages will be reported back to the committee.

2. In UGPTI's biennial road and bridge funding needs study, do we assume that all trucks are legally loaded? What percentages of trucks are assumed to be overloaded and by how much?

   In the studies, equivalent single axle loads (ESALs) are used to measure the road impacts due to truck traffic. ESALS are computed for each axle group and summed to obtain an EASL factor for the truck. An ESAL factor for a specific axle represents the impact of that axle in comparison to an 18,000-pound single axle (which has an ESAL factor of 1.0). The ESAL or impact factor depends on the type of axle (e.g., single, tandem, or tridem) and the weight on the axle.
   The pavement impacts are nonlinear. For example, a 16,000-pound single axle followed by a 20,000-pound single axle on a good flexible (asphalt) pavement generates a total of 2.12 ESALs, as compared to 2.0 ESALs for the passage of two

18,000-pound single axles (Figure 1).[1] An increase in a single-axle load from 18,000 to 22,000 pounds more than doubles the pavement impact, increasing the ESAL factor from 1.0 to 2.09. In comparison, a 34,000-pound tandem axle has an ESAL factor of 1.11 (Figure 2).

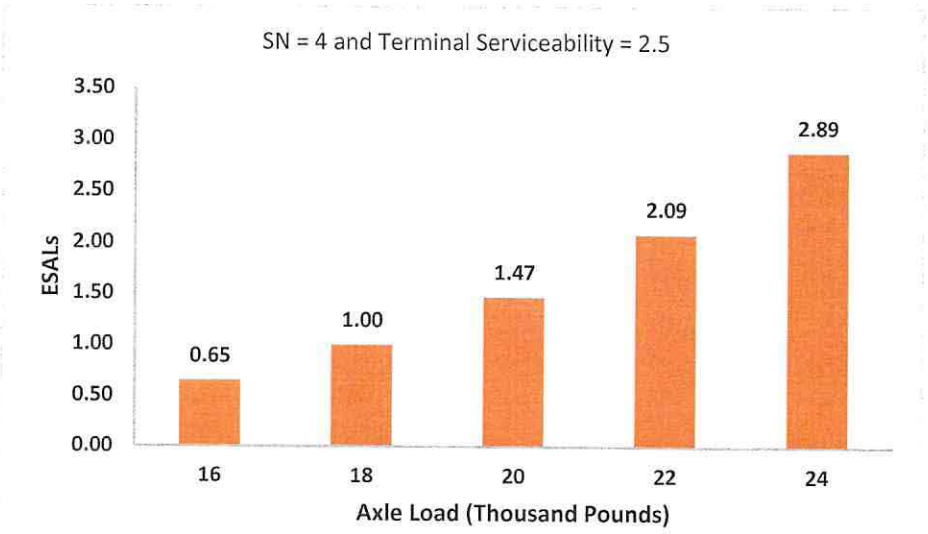


Figure 1 Pavement Impact Factors for Single Axle

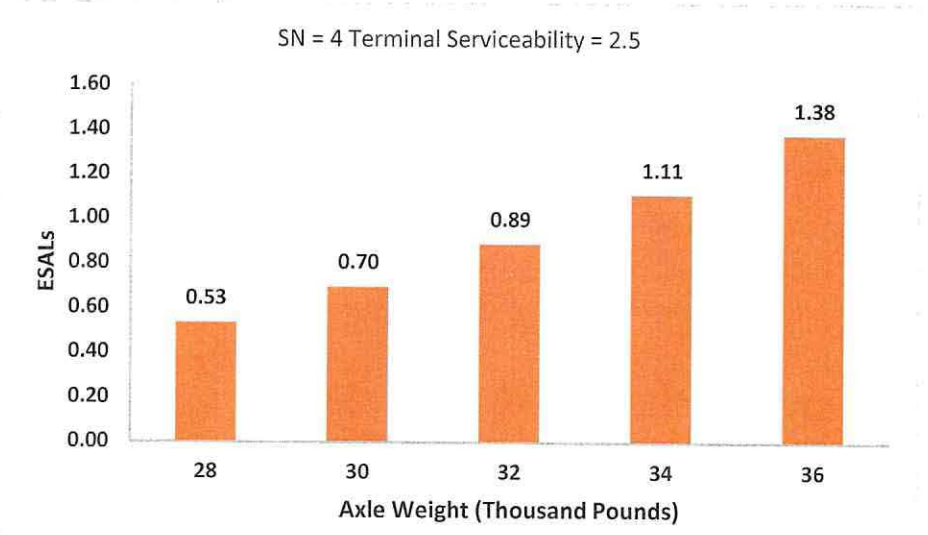


Figure 2 Pavement Impact Factors for Tandem Axle

It is likely that a portion of the truck movements analyzed in the study are overloaded. Based on enforcement data from the North Dakota Highway Patrol and special studies conducted at truck weigh stations, it is estimated that 25% of divisible oil-related truck movements are overloaded. The typical overloaded

[1] The differences in impacts can be more pronounced on roads with lower structural numbers.

vehicle weighs 90,000 pounds, which increases the truck EASL factor by 69% as compared to a legally loaded truck. For farm-to-market movements, most movements are assumed to be overloaded by 10%. Secondary movements between elevators and between elevators and processors are assumed to be legally loaded.

3. **What confidence do we place in weigh-in-motion data? How has WIM technology improved over time?**

   The North Dakota DOT calibrates its WIM sites each year with a 5-axle semi loaded to 80,000 pounds. Generally, the WIM estimates of gross vehicle weights are within ± 6% of the actual weights. However, the accuracy may vary from site to site and with conditions, particularly with the wander of the truck's wheels, the temperature of the pavement materials, and the vehicle's speed.

   UGPTI has been researching ways to improve the accuracy, reliability, and cost-effectiveness of WIM systems for several years now, considering factors such as tire pressure (which affects the contact area between the wheel and pavement), pavement temperatures, vehicle speeds, and wander and using combinations of embedded sensors, high resolution cameras, and advanced signal processing. The initial results from tests at the MnRoad facility have been encouraging. However, prototype low-cost WIM stations are still a few years away.

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
3/25/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

2:35 p.m. Chairman Monson opened the meeting.

Members Present: Chairman Monson, Vice Chair Brandenburg, Representatives: Bosch, Fisher, Kempenich, Meier, Pyle.

Discussion Topics:

- SBARE
- Carbon Management
- Biofuels in North Dakota
- Carbon Specialist
- Special Fund Authority
- Budget Overview for Research and Extension
- Grape Crop Funding

2:36 p.m. Greg Lardy, Vice President, Agricultural Affairs at North Dakota State University, testified in favor and submitted testimony #43790.

3:53 p.m. Representative Fisher presented testimony #43799.

Additional written testimony:

Grant Gader, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Council, submitted neutral testimony #43777.

4:29 p.m. Chairman Monson adjourned the meeting.

Madaline Cooper, Committee Clerk

Legislative Council

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				House Version			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase		$141,039	$319,939	$460,978		$141,039	$314,606	$455,645		$141,039	$314,606	$455,645
Health insurance increase		71,675	198,562	270,237		71,675	192,557	264,232		71,675	192,557	264,232
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		102,295	236,946	339,241		102,295	236,946	339,241		102,295	236,946	339,241
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)		(34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)
Removes vacant FTE position				0	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)
Adds funding for artificial intelligence in surface transportation		375,000		375,000				0				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$690,009**	**$755,447**	**$1,445,456**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**
One-Time Funding Items												
Carbon dioxide transportation network study		$408,100		$408,100				$0				$0
Autonomous surface transportation freight center				0				0				0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$408,100**	**$0**	**$408,100**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$1,098,109**	**$755,447**	**$1,853,556**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**
2025-27 Total Funding	**43.88**	**$6,324,484**	**$20,336,588**	**$26,661,072**	**42.88**	**$5,507,259**	**$20,088,231**	**$25,595,490**	**42.88**	**$5,507,259**	**$20,088,231**	**$25,595,490**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$13,059,451*				*$13,006,610*				*$13,006,610*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*13.2%*	*3.9%*	*5.8%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*21.0%*	*3.9%*	*7.5%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*

Other Sections in Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Armstrong Executive Budget				Senate Version				House Version			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)		($291,232)	$291,232	$0
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	10.06			0	10.06			0	10.06			0
Salary increase		2,089,044	1,193,705	3,282,749		2,067,139	1,191,857	3,258,996		2,067,139	1,191,857	3,258,996
Health insurance increase		1,254,414	853,619	2,108,033		1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008		1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		220,000		220,000		220,000		220,000		220,000		220,000
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool				0		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)
Adds funding for an FTE scientist and an FTE research specialist for biofuels and carbon		495,000		495,000				0				0
Adds funding for an FTE veterinary toxicology resident position				0	1.00	275,000		275,000	1.00	275,000		275,000
Removes vacant FTE positions				0	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)
Adjusts base funding for supplies, operating expenses, repairs, and travel		(320,198)	(1,704,146)	(2,024,344)		(320,198)	(1,704,146)	(2,024,344)		0	(1,704,146)	(1,704,146)
Adds funding for operating expenses			630,000	630,000			630,000	630,000			630,000	630,000
Adds funding for research equipment			1,000,000	1,000,000				0			1,000,000	1,000,000
Adjusts base level funding for temporary salaries			(429,598)	(429,598)			(429,598)	(429,598)			0	0
Adjusts the funding source for graduate assistant salaries		(300,000)	300,000	0		(300,000)	300,000	0		(300,000)	300,000	0
Total ongoing funding changes	**10.06**	**$5,525,013**	**$3,979,207**	**$9,504,220**	**6.08**	**$2,797,061**	**$2,152,229**	**$4,949,290**	**6.08**	**$4,055,604**	**$3,581,827**	**$7,637,431**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site			$620,000	$620,000			$620,000	$620,000			$620,000	$620,000
Adds funding for deferred maintenance			1,500,000	1,500,000				0				0
Langdon seed conditioning plant				0			2,600,000	2,600,000			2,600,000	2,600,000
Equipment storage sheds				0		$1,567,500		1,567,500		$1,567,500		1,567,500
Nesson Valley irrigation research site				0			2,300,000	2,300,000			2,300,000	2,300,000
Williston equipment storage shed				0			200,000	200,000			200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation				0			6,000,000	6,000,000			6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition				0			3,250,000	3,250,000			3,250,000	3,250,000
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$2,120,000**	**$2,120,000**	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$14,970,000**	**$16,537,500**	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$14,970,000**	**$16,537,500**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**10.06**	**$5,525,013**	**$6,099,207**	**$11,624,220**	**6.08**	**$4,364,561**	**$17,122,229**	**$21,486,790**	**6.08**	**$5,623,104**	**$18,551,827**	**$24,174,931**
2025-27 Total Funding	**368.53**	**$63,650,678**	**$64,121,672**	**$127,772,350**	**364.55**	**$62,490,226**	**$75,144,694**	**$137,634,920**	**364.55**	**$63,748,769**	**$76,574,292**	**$140,323,061**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$8,943,534*				*$8,742,305*				*$8,742,305*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*2.8%*	*9.5%*	*6.9%*	*8.2%*	*1.7%*	*4.8%*	*3.7%*	*4.3%*	*1.7%*	*7.0%*	*6.2%*	*6.6%*

Total changes - Percentage of base level	*2.8%*	*9.5%*	*10.5%*	*10.0%*	*1.7%*	*7.5%*	*29.5%*	*18.5%*	*1.7%*	*9.7%*	*32.0%*	*20.8%*

Other Sections in NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640

Section Description	Armstrong Executive Budget	Senate Version	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool line item		Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation		Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Main Research Center, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
SIIF		Section 7 identifies $1,970,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, Oakes irrigation research site, and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.	
Transfer authority		Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments		Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Main Research Center and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption		Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by Main Research Center into the 2027-29 biennium.	
Exemption		Subsection 1 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended SIIF appropriation authority relating to the branch research center storage sheds appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	
Exemption		Subsection 2 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority relating to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].	Subsection 2 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority relating to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include a heated shop, restrooms, and an employee break room.
Exemption			Section 12 allows the Main Research Center to expend funds for storage sheds without procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer.
Emergency			Section 13 declares the $6 million in the other funds line item in Section 1 for the swine facility renovation to be an emergency measure.













North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

NDSU Extension

Northern Crops Institute

2025-2027 Biennial Budget Request

Senate Bill 2020
House Government Operations
Representative David Monson, Chair
March 11, 2025

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station
- Main Station - Budget No. 640
- Branch Research Extension Centers - Budget No. 628
- Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649

NDSU Extension - Budget No. 630

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

David Cook
President, North Dakota State University

Sarah Lovas
Chair, State Board of Agricultural Research and Education

Greg Lardy
Joe and Norma Peltier Vice President for Agriculture
Director, ND Agricultural Experiment Station
Director, NDSU Extension

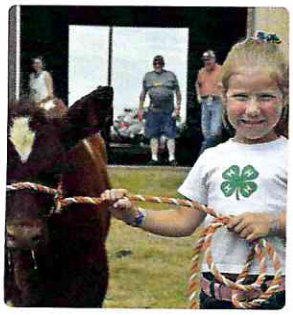
www.ndsu.edu/agforlegislators

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY









SBARE

State Board of Agricultural Research and Education

Who we are and what we do

History

The State Board of Agricultural Research (SBAR) was established by legislative decree in 1997. It was responsible for budgeting and policy-making associated with the supervision of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.

The law was changed during the 1999 legislative session to include responsibility for the North Dakota State University Extension Service. SBAR became the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE).

Membership

The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education consists of:

- NDSU President or the President's designee
- NDSU Vice President for Agriculture*
- North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station Director*
- NDSU Extension Director*
- Five people appointed by Ag Coalition
- Five people appointed in the geographic areas represented by NDSU Extension's multicounty program units
- North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner*
- Two members of the legislative assembly appointed by the chair of Legislative Council

** serve in ex-officio, nonvoting capacity*

Duties

SBARE, within the policies of the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE), is responsible for budgeting and policy-making associated with the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and North Dakota State University Extension.

SBARE responsibilities are to:

- Determine the causes of any adverse economic impacts on crops and livestock produced in the state;
- Develop ongoing strategies for the provision of research solutions and resources to negate adverse economic impacts on crops and livestock produced in this state;
- Develop proactive strategies for NDSU Extension to fulfill the mission of improving the lives and livelihood of the citizens of North Dakota by providing research-based education;
- Implement the strategies developed under bullets 2 and 3, subject to approval by the SBHE;
- Develop, with the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension, an annual budget for the operations of these entities;
- Develop a biennial budget request based on its prioritized needs list and submit that request to the president of NDSU and the SBHE, and forward its prioritized needs list and request without modification to the Office of Management and Budget and the appropriations committees of the legislative assembly;
- Maximize the use of existing financial resources, equipment, and facilities to generate the greatest economic benefit from research and extension efforts and to promote efficiency;
- Annually evaluate the results of research and extension activities and expenditures, and report the findings to the Legislative Council and the SBHE;
- Advise the President of NDSU regarding the recruitment, selection and performance of the Vice President for Agriculture, the NDSU Extension Director and the Station Director; and
- Provide a status report to the budget section of the Legislative Council.

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7/1/2024

Agency Overview

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Agency Statutory Authority

ND Constitution Article XIX; North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15-12.1

Agency Description

Situated on the campus of North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Science, the Main Research Station serves as the administrative hub for the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES). It conducts and coordinates all research activities, focusing on developing and disseminating technology crucial for producing and utilizing food, feed, fiber, and fuel from crop and livestock enterprises. This research contributes to economic development, enhances the quality of life, ensures sustainable production, and protects the environment. The Main Research Station meticulously documents all activities and publishes valuable information for the state's residents. Our research is an important component of agriculture's $30.8 billion contribution to the State's economy.

Agency Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide premier research solutions that empower our people and communities to thrive in a dynamic world. The NDAES is dedicated to transforming agriculture by embracing digital advancements, pioneering technological innovations, and prioritizing the conservation of our most precious natural resource, the land. Our goal is to become a global leader in research related to the production of food, fuel, and fiber.

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS)

Research into the effects of national and international policies and trade on North Dakota's agriculture is needed. Export markets for agricultural products have become increasingly more complex, resulting in increasing levels of risk for farmers and agribusinesses in the state. North Dakota's economy, heavily dependent on agriculture and trade, faces vulnerabilities due to tensions in international relations and trade dynamics, impacting food security and global trade patterns. The prosperity of North Dakota's agricultural sector is intricately linked to the success of its farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses. Unique challenges confront the state, including the fact that its location requires rail transport to export markets. Research is crucial to comprehend the repercussions of changes in agricultural policies and global market trends on North Dakota's agricultural community.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Digital Transformation of Agriculture
Digital agriculture, precision farming and ranching, and related technologies are advancing rapidly, driven by breakthroughs in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). NDAES scientists are leveraging these technologies to transform food production. Investing in new technologies, staff and infrastructure will equip scientists with the necessary resources to accelerate research in sensor technology, plant breeding, precision livestock farming and other digital initiatives. This effort is key to enhancing global food security through innovations in North Dakota agriculture. Such funding is crucial for improving infrastructure and capabilities in agricultural data analysis and precision agriculture.

Livestock Animal Health
North Dakota faces a significant risk of having no veterinary toxicologist available. To address this critical need, a position is requested to fund a toxicology resident. A toxicologist plays a vital role in supporting the state's livestock industry by developing assays for the detection of mycotoxins, ergot, blister beetle toxin, bromethalin in feed and other challenges that affect the industry.

Operating, Equipment and Graduate Research Assistantships
Enhanced operating budgets are essential for sustaining growth and achieving ongoing success. The operational costs associated with the NDAES research mission have escalated. Expenses for fuel, equipment maintenance, repairs, feed, fertilizer and more limits the ability of scientists to be responsive to critical research needs. Additionally, operating funds are crucial for fostering the early career development of scientists, enabling them to acquire necessary start-up equipment and supplies, and to support graduate student salaries. Sufficient start-up and operating funds are vital for establishing successful research programs.

Modern research equipment is essential for conducting accurate experiments and advancing new methods to improve North Dakota's livestock and cropping systems. Funding is requested to ensure laboratories and agricultural field operations are equipped with modern equipment needed to generate world-class results.

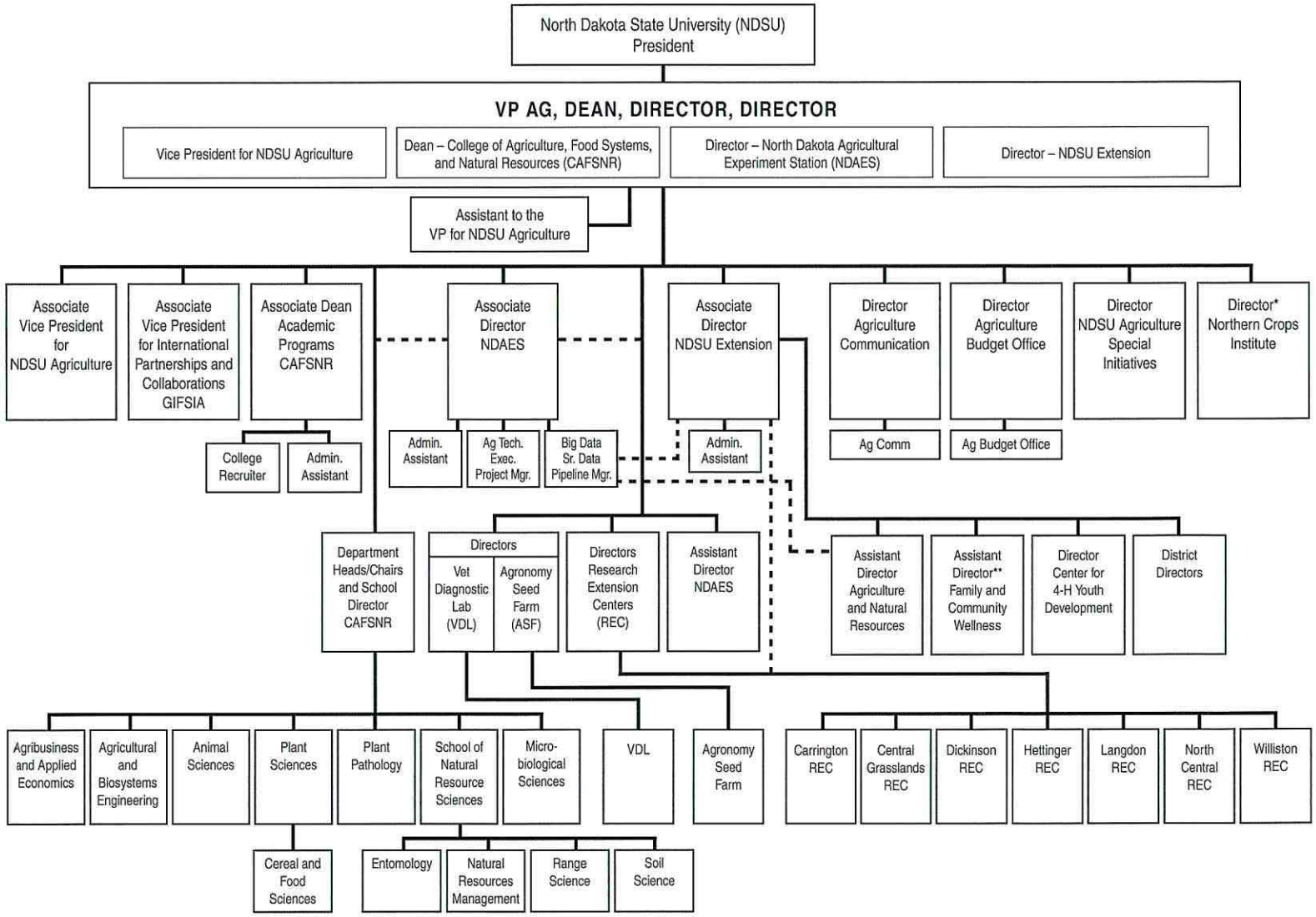
Graduate research assistants play an indispensable role in the successful completion of every NDAES agricultural research project. They are deeply involved in conducting experiments, analyzing data and applying research findings to solve real-world agricultural problems. Graduate students also share their advancements to the wider community by the dissemination of research through publications and presentations. Additionally, their research prepares them as the next generation of leaders, equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to address challenges facing North Dakota agriculture. This initiative requests an increase in the number of assistantships to support the research activities by attracting talent to NDSU.

Biofuels and Carbon Management
As a consequence of national and international agricultural customer base, North Dakota farmers can achieve economic gains through the adoption of carbon and land management strategies. This is key to reduce carbon intensity scores to more effectively participate in markets for renewable fuels. There is a significant need for research to develop advanced farming techniques tailored to North Dakota's unique agricultural conditions. This research will focus on practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping and efficient nutrient management aimed to both reduce carbon intensity and enhance the production of biofuel feedstocks. This supports efforts in improving profitability in farmers' operations.

Research Specialists
Technical support staff are critical in assisting agricultural scientists to achieve their research goals. They provide essential expertise in the operation and maintenance of sophisticated laboratory and field equipment that ensures experiments are conducted efficiently and accurately. Staff contribute to the collection and analysis of data, which is fundamental for validating research findings and advancing scientific knowledge in agriculture. By providing logistical and administrative support, they enable scientists to focus on their core research activities, thereby accelerating the progress and impact of agricultural research.

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



*Director reports to Northern Crops Council. NDSU administrative reporting only.

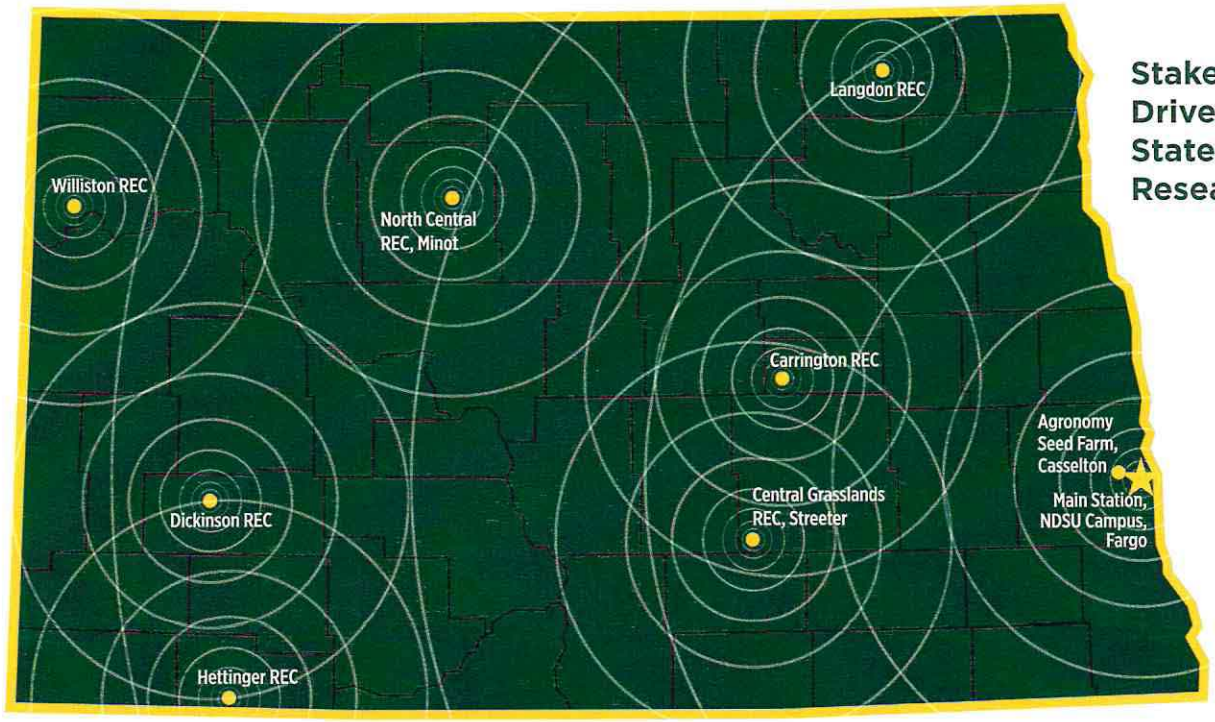
**Extension faculty and staff in the Department of Human Development and Family Science and the Department of Health, Nutrition and Exercise Sciences (not shown on this chart) report to their respective department head/chair and are co-supervised by the Assistant Director for Family and Community Wellness.

4/1/24

2023-2025 North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station impacts

The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES) advances technology for the production and utilization of food, feed, fiber and fuel from crop and livestock enterprises.

- **Stakeholder-Driven:** NDAES research is guided by stakeholder needs, and solutions are communicated directly to thousands of stakeholders annually, ensuring that research outcomes are effectively implemented across the state.
- **Innovative Solutions:** Dedicated scientists deliver innovative research solutions that empower communities and drive agricultural transformation through digital advancements and pioneering technologies, all while conserving our natural resources.
- **Statewide Research:** NDAES research is conducted at eight branch stations across the state and on the main campus of North Dakota State University. Scientists address the critical issues unique to the diverse agriculture, food systems and natural resources in each region.
- **Economic Growth:** NDAES research supports economic development, enhances quality of life, ensures sustainable production and protects the environment, contributing directly to agriculture's $30.8 billion impact on North Dakota's economy.



Stakeholder-Driven Statewide Research

Major Accomplishments



Innovative solutions for livestock health and productivity enhance disease detection, optimize livestock management and improve nutritional strategies.

- The Bill Bowman Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) played a crucial role in safeguarding animal and public health by conducting essential tests for diseases like rabies, anthrax and avian flu.
- NDAES scientists demonstrated the effectiveness of virtual fencing technology in improving grazing management, calf performance and forage efficiency, making precision livestock management more accessible and cost-effective.
- Scientists developed and implemented advanced tests for detecting harmful toxins, ensuring the safety of livestock and protecting the agricultural supply chain.



Optimizing state investments positions North Dakota as a national leader in ag tech research and innovation.

- NDSU secured one of only 10 National Science Foundation Regional Engines grants, working with four partners to establish North Dakota as a key hub for agricultural technologies. NDAES scientists will play a key role in the grant by working collaboratively to develop technologies that provide solutions to problems across agricultural production systems.



Leveraging cutting-edge technologies like AI and data analytics accelerate crop improvements and promote sustainable farming practices.

- The Agricultural Data Analytics team is combining genetic data with field tests to develop models that improve crop varieties faster and more efficiently for North Dakota producers.
- Scientists are integrating AI-driven weed identification with autonomous systems, reducing herbicide use and fostering more environmentally sustainable agriculture.



Protecting and restoring natural resources by advancing sustainable practices enhances soil health, supports biodiversity and promotes climate resilience.

- Newly developed strategies to improve soil health, plant growth, and grassland quality for livestock and wildlife habitats following energy development.
- NDAES scientists pioneered sustainable farming techniques like rotational grazing and diverse crop rotations, which boost soil health, enhance carbon storage and increase agricultural resilience.



New crop varieties and farming practices improve yield, quality and sustainability, while also reducing input costs for farmers.

- Research on innovative nitrogen application methods and extensive variety testing have led to greater yields and better quality in crops like durum wheat, providing North Dakota farmers with varieties specifically suited to local conditions.
- Newly released pulse crop, winter wheat and oat varieties will increase farm income, expand market opportunities and improve farm sustainability while reducing input costs and boosting resilience against environmental challenges.



NDAES research protects North Dakota crops by monitoring and managing diseases, safeguarding productivity and preventing significant economic losses.

- Disease-monitoring programs detect threats like wheat rust and Sudden Death Syndrome in soybeans, enabling farmers to take early action and avoid potentially millions of dollars in losses.
- NDAES scientists developed effective management strategies for diseases such as canola clubroot and scab, ensuring crop protection, and maintaining farm productivity across the region.
- Innovative microbial solutions can boost crop yields and combat challenges like root rot and drought, enhancing the health and productivity of key crops such as soybeans, pulse crops and barley.

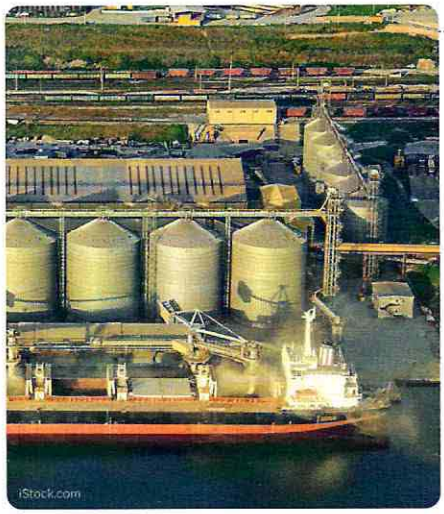
NDSU | NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

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SBARE Priorities for the
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION



1 Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS)

Research into the effects of national and international policies and trade on North Dakota's agriculture is needed. Export markets for agricultural products have become increasingly more complex, resulting in increasing levels of risk for farmers and agribusinesses in the state. North Dakota's economy, heavily dependent on agriculture and trade, faces vulnerabilities due to tensions in international relations and trade dynamics, impacting food security and global trade patterns. The prosperity of North Dakota's agricultural sector is intricately linked to the success of its farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses. Unique challenges confront the state, including the fact that its location requires rail transport to export markets. Research is crucial to comprehend the repercussions of changes in agricultural policies and global market trends on North Dakota's agricultural community.

Request: Three FTEs total. Positions are: (1) Agricultural policy analyst–$275,000, (2) Market and trade analyst–$275,000 and (3) Economic impact/contributions specialist–$275,000. $150,000 in operating.

Total: $975,000



2 Digital Transformation of Agriculture

Digital agriculture, precision farming and ranching, and related technologies are advancing rapidly, driven by breakthroughs in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). NDAES scientists are leveraging these technologies to transform food production. Investing in new technologies, staff and infrastructure will equip scientists with the necessary resources to accelerate research in sensor technology, plant breeding, precision livestock farming and other digital initiatives. This effort is key to enhancing global food security through innovations in North Dakota agriculture. Such funding is crucial for improving infrastructure and capabilities in agricultural data analysis and precision agriculture.

Request: Six FTEs total. Positions in prioritized order are: (1) AI/ML engineer–$280,000, (2) Database architect–$430,000, (3) Data manager–$280,000, (4) Data scientist–$280,000, (5) GIS specialist–$230,000 and (6) Unmanned Aircraft Systems chief pilot–$230,000. Operating request of $904,000 for software subscriptions for cloud server access, network servers, high-speed computers for AI computations, data archiving, storage architecture specialized for AI and ML, and software licenses.

Total: $2,634,000



3 Livestock: Animal Health

North Dakota faces a significant risk of having no veterinary toxicologist available. To address this critical need, a position is requested to fund a toxicology resident. A toxicologist plays a vital role in supporting the state's livestock industry by developing assays for the detection of mycotoxins, ergot, blister beetle toxin, bromethalin in feed and other challenges that affect the industry.

Request: One FTE total. Veterinary toxicology resident to support critical needs in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory–$275,000. $50,000 in operating.

Total: $325,000

SBARE Priorities for the
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024



4 Operating, Equipment and Graduate Research Assistantships

Enhanced operating budgets are essential for sustaining growth and achieving ongoing success. The operational costs associated with the NDAES research mission have escalated. Expenses for fuel, equipment maintenance, repairs, feed, fertilizer and more limits the ability of scientists to be responsive to critical research needs. Additionally, operating funds are crucial for fostering the early career development of scientists, enabling them to acquire necessary start-up equipment and supplies, and to support graduate student salaries. Sufficient start-up and operating funds are vital for establishing successful research programs.

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Request: Equipment and graduate research assistantships funding. $1,190,000 in operating ($560,000 for seven branch stations + $630,000 for main station units), $1,000,000 in equipment and $900,000 for graduate research assistants

Total: $3,090,000

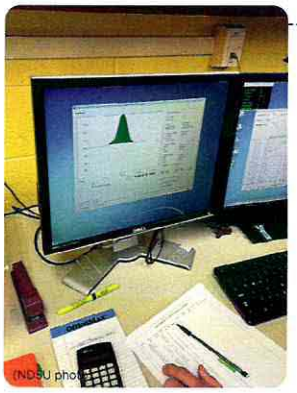


5 Biofuels and Carbon Management

As a consequence of national and international agricultural customer base, North Dakota farmers can achieve economic gains through the adoption of carbon and land management strategies. This is key to reduce carbon intensity scores to more effectively participate in markets for renewable fuels. There is a significant need for research to develop advanced farming techniques tailored to North Dakota's unique agricultural conditions. This research will focus on practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping and efficient nutrient management aimed to both reduce carbon intensity and enhance the production of biofuel feedstocks. This supports efforts in improving profitability in farmers' operations.

Request: Two FTEs total. Positions are: (1) Scientist–$275,000 and (2) Research specialist–$200,000. $50,000 in operating.

Total: $525,000



6 Research Specialists

Technical support staff are critical in assisting agricultural scientists to achieve their research goals. They provide essential expertise in the operation and maintenance of sophisticated laboratory and field equipment that ensures experiments are conducted efficiently and accurately. Staff contribute to the collection and analysis of data, which is fundamental for validating research findings and advancing scientific knowledge in agriculture. By providing logistical and administrative support, they enable scientists to focus on their core research activities, thereby accelerating the progress and impact of agricultural research.

Request: Five FTEs total. Positions are technical support in needed areas: (1) Grapes/vineyards–$200,000, (2) Agronomy–$200,000, (3) Plant pathology–$200,000, (4) Soybean breeding–$200,000 and (5) Biosystems engineering–$200,000.

Total: $1,000,000

8/30/2024

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Capital Improvement and One-time Requests
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Final Ranking by SBARE – November 13, 2024

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

One-time Requests

Deferred Maintenance

Request: $1,500,000

Williston Research Extension Center Capital Projects

The NDAES was unable to get any successful bids for the Nesson Valley facility or the storage shed at the Williston Research Extension Center in the 2023-2025 biennium.

Nesson Valley Request: 1. A change in scope to build a structure with a heated shop, restrooms and an employee break room (removing a planned conference room), 2. Special fund authority to raise an additional $1.3 million and 3. Carryover of $1.7 million in general funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly.

Storage Shed Request: 1. Carryover of $475,000 in strategic investment and improvements funds appropriated by the 68th Legislative Assembly, 2. Special fund authority to spend an additional $325,000 as needed to complete the shed and 3. Continuation of Section 14 Exemption in H.B. 1020 relating to the construction of the storage sheds.

Capital Improvement Requests

1. Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS) Building Completion

Since 1975, the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (GDCD) has collaborated with the NDAES to promote irrigation research in North Dakota. The Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) is taking possession of a building at the Oakes site that will serve as the headquarters for NDAES irrigation research. Requested funding is for completion of the OIRS headquarters interior.

Total: $620,000



2. Langdon REC Seed Conditioning Plant

A modern seed cleaning facility is essential for providing North Dakota foundation crop varieties bred to grow in the state's unique environment. The current facility was built in the 1960s and is incapable of conditioning the full production capacity grown on NDAES land at the Langdon Research Extension Center.

Total: $2,600,000



3. NDAES Equipment Storage Sheds

Purchasing and/or leasing expensive field equipment is an investment that the NDAES needs to protect. Storing expensive research plot equipment such as tractors, planters and combines outdoors reduces the life of the equipment and can compromise the sophisticated electronics typically used on such equipment. Sheds are needed at the Dickinson REC, Central Grasslands REC and Carrington REC.

Total: $1,567,500



12/16/2024

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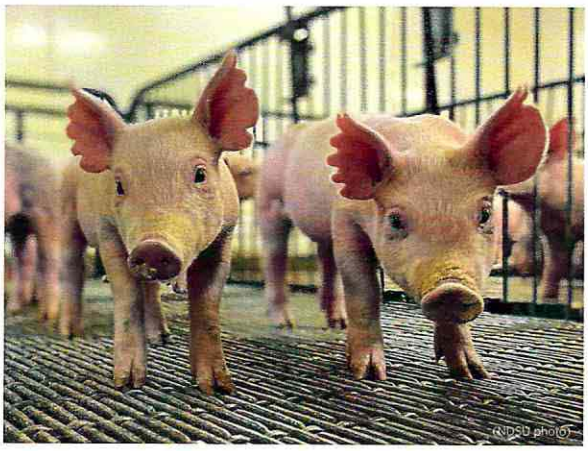
Request for Authorization

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Swine Facility Renovation

Total Project: $6,000,000
Special Funds: $6,000,000
Based on Percentage of Cost as per NDSU Master Plan Section 3: PED: 100%



Master Plan Alignment

This project will enhance our ability to conduct research that directly addresses the needs of North Dakota's swine industry. Benefactors are eager to support the modernization of NDSU's swine unit, which was constructed several decades ago and is now in critical need of renovation. These updates will enable advanced research to support the growth of the livestock industry in the state, fostering economic opportunities (diversification) for farmers who produce feed grains and creating new market alternatives for widely grown crops such as soybeans and corn.

A modern swine facility will allow NDSU researchers to develop innovative feeding strategies using soybean meal, corn, and corn by-products, ensuring the industry remains competitive and efficient. Additionally, this enhanced facility will strengthen NDSU's capacity to conduct cutting-edge research, supporting rural communities by driving economic growth and job creation tied to the swine and feed industries.

Jack Dalrymple Agricultural Research Complex Addition

Total Project: $3,250,000
Special Funds: $3,250,000
Based on Percentage of Cost as per NDSU Master Plan Section 3: PED: 100%



Master Plan Alignment

This project will enhance our capacity to conduct research that directly addresses the needs of North Dakota's agricultural industry while fostering new opportunities with industry. As a recognized leader in the production of a diverse range of crops, North Dakota will benefit from the additional greenhouse space that enables our scientists to tackle critical challenges in crop production.

Potential benefactors are interested in supporting this expansion, as it will allow them to access needed space and technical expertise. The additional capacity will enable advanced research to support the growth of the agricultural industry in the state, provide research-based solutions to combat crop disease, and improve economic outcomes for farmers. The additional space will also allow scientists to collaborate with industry, accelerate commercialization of solutions, and enhance opportunities to train the next generation of plant scientists.

By strengthening NDSU's research infrastructure, this project enables cutting-edge research, that can drive the economic growth and job creation in rural communities.

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Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Business Unit number: 640

Business Unit name: Agricultural Experiment Station - Main Station

Reporting Period 7/1/23-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	330,426	287,812	287,812	287,812	287,812	287,812	287,812	5,691,984
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts	3,270	86,293	8,720	10,503	16,804	21,639	17,430	4,316	29,068	3,569		30,293	24,687	14,693	47,393	8,528	11,166	16,548	354,920
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay	-	-	7,758	10,150	-	19,625	3,000	-	3,000	2,427		5,000	10,042	10,769	-	11,375	10,000	3,000	96,146
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding	108,064	280,850	151,648	144,956	146,127	131,903	103,447	144,244	115,313	136,727	174,757	460,345	-	186,047	39,970	55,847	34,686	4,272	2,419,203
Extra Overtime Funding	9,765	28,096	19,282	20,026	15,322	9,277	5,039	3,421	7,269	3,819		37,856	-	15,687	9,559	8,629	-	-	193,047
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Salaries	-	178,314	209,367	238,230	246,315	228,979	216,009	289,404	263,582	262,284	258,517	525,051	29,525	293,619	324,781	357,906	324,199	325,421	4,571,503
																			-
Total	209,327	(243,127)	(66,349)	(93,439)	(94,142)	(80,997)	(14,499)	(110,959)	(87,806)	(78,400)	(102,848)	(728,119)	223,558	(233,003)	(133,891)	(154,473)	(92,239)	(61,429)	(1,942,835)
Vacant Positions:	66	64	64	64	56	59	60	60	59	55	54	52	54	54	55	58	48	42	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

2023-25 New Positions Approved

Position Title	Hire Date	OMB Pool Transfers	Budget Request	Estimated Salary Expenses 2023-25	Estimated Salary Expenses 2025-27
NDAWN Programmer	3/25/2024	$135,625	$153,868	$135,625	$208,064

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

640-Main Station

HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($3,714,807)*

OMB FTE Pool

Approved Transfers	*$1,874,809*
Anticipated Transfers	*$769,556*

Budget deficiency	***($1,070,442)***

Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

2023-25 Legislation that Included Reporting Requirements to 2025 Appropriation Committees

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

HB1020 (NDSU Research & Extension, Agronomy Seed Farm and Northern Crops Institute)

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO THE SIXTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly for the 2021-23 biennium and the 2023-25 biennium one-time funding items included in section 1 of this Act:

One-Time Funding Description

Deferred maintenance - $500,000
Equipment storage sheds (4 sheds) - $1,900,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project - $1,700,000
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation - $2,933,230
Hettinger research extension center land purchase - $1,038,000
Waldron hall replacement project - $97,000,000
Northern crops institute feed production center facility upgrade - $3,250,000
Northern crops institute pellet mill - $650,000

The 2023-25 one-time funding amounts are not a part of the entity's base budget for the 2025-27 biennium. The main and branch research center shall report to the appropriations committees of the sixty-ninth legislative assembly on the use of this one-time funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

	General Fund	Special Fund	Status
Deferred maintenance	**500,000**		Projects underway and will be completed by 6/30/25
Equipment Storage Sheds	**1,900,000**		
Main Station	475,000		Completed fall 2024
Langdon REC	475,000		Completed fall 2025
North Central REC	475,000		Expected completion January 2025
Williston REC	475,000		Unsuccessful bid; refer to 2025-27 WREC capital projects request
Nesson Valley irrigation research site project	**1,700,000**		Unsuccessful bid; refer to 2025-27 WREC capital projects request
Branch research extension centers capital projects inflation	**2,008,230**	**925,000**	
CREC Feedlot Research Support Facility	640,000		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
CREC Feedlot Pen Expansion	559,400		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
CREC Bulk Feed Commodity Storage Structure	157,400		Substantial completion October 2024
CGREC Livestock Facility	400,000		Substantial completion January 2025
LREC Greenhouse	251,430		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
CGREC Residence		175,000	Expected substantial completion 2nd qtr 2025
WREC Greenhouse		750,000	Project in fundraising stage
Hettinger research extension center land purchase	**1,038,000**		Land purchase closed March 2024
Waldron hall replacement project	**87,000,000**	**10,000,000**	The Bolley Agricultural Laboratory is estimated to be completed summer 2026.
Northern crops institute feed production center facility	**3,250,000**		Expected substantial completion 1st qtr 2025
Northern crops institute pellet mill	**650,000**		Pellet mill has been replaced

SECTION 3. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2023-25 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Status: Oil revenue received July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024 - $105,141

SECTION 4. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Williston research extension center shall report to the sixty-ninth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Status:

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023 - Amounts received $784,363; Amounts spent $218,853
July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024 - Amounts received $52,576; Amounts spent $212,991

SECTION 13. EXEMPTION - BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS PROJECTS-FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND. The amounts appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund for one-time projects at the Carrington research center, central grasslands research center, Dickinson research center, and Hettinger research center in section 6 of chapter 550 of the 2021 Special Session Session Laws are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations are available and may be expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Status:

All funds appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund have been expended during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

	2021 Special Session Funding	Unexpended
Carrington Research Extension Center	$ 446,000	$ -
Central Grasslands Research Extension Center	1,963,000	-
Dickinson Research Extension Center	2,200,000	-
Hettinger Research Extension Center	3,420,000	-
	8,029,000	-

Major Components of Current Base Level

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

		640 Main Station
Salaries	$	89,801,398
Operating		20,406,667
Equipment		4,600,000
Deferred Maintenance		1,340,065
Total Budget	$	116,148,130
Funding:		
Federal Fund*	$	8,918,293
General Fund		58,125,665
Special Fund*		49,104,172
Total Funding	$	116,148,130

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	358.47
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	370.53

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	2025-27 NDAES Request			2025-27 Executive Recommendation			2025-27 Senate Amendment			
	FTE	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	FTE	Executive Recommendation	Executive Recommendation	FTE	Senate Amendment	Senate Amendment	
	General Fund		Special Fund	General Fund		Special Fund	General Fund		Special Fund	
SBARE #1: Center for Trade and Policy Studies (CAPTS)	3.0	$975,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Agriculture policy analyst	1.0	275,000								
Market and trade analyst	1.0	275,000								
Economic impact/contributions specialist	1.0	275,000								
Operating		150,000								
SBARE #2: Digital Transformation of Agriculture	6.0	$2,634,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
AI/ML Engineer	1.0	280,000								
Database Architect	1.0	430,000								
Data Manager	1.0	280,000								
Data Scientist	1.0	280,000								
GIS Specialist	1.0	230,000								
UAS Chief Pilot	1.0	230,000								
Operating		904,000								
SBARE #3: Livestock: Animal Health	1.0	$325,000	-	-	-	-	1.0	275,000	-	
Veterinary toxicology resident	1.0	275,000					1.0	275,000		
Operating		50,000								
SBARE #4: Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships	-	$3,090,000	-	-	-	$1,910,000	-	-	-	
Operating main station		630,000				630,000				
Operating RECs		560,000				280,000				
Equipment		1,000,000				1,000,000				
Graduate research assistantships		900,000								
SBARE #5: Biofuels & Carbon Management	2.0	$525,000	-	-	$520,000	-	-	-	-	
Scientist	1.0	275,000			-					
Research specialist	1.0	200,000			-					
Operating		50,000			520,000					
SBARE #6: Research Specialists	5.0	$1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Research specialist (grapes/vineyards)	1.0	200,000								
Research specialist (agronomy)	1.0	200,000								
Research specialist (plant pathology)	1.0	200,000								
Research specialist (soybean breeding)	1.0	200,000								
Research specialist (biosystems engineering)	1.0	200,000								
SBARE - Base Increase - Main Research Station	**17.0**	**$8,549,000**	**-**	**-**	**$520,000**	**$1,910,000**	**1.0**	**$275,000**	**$0**	
ONE-TIME & CAPITAL FUNDING										
Deferred maintenance		1,500,000				1,500,000 SIIF				
Capital:										
SBARE #1 Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS) building completion		620,000				620,000 SIIF			620,000	SIIF
SBARE #2 Seed conditioning plant - Langdon		2,600,000							950,000	SIIF
									1,650,000	Local
SBARE #3 Equipment storage sheds (3) DREC, CGREC, CREC		1,567,500						1,567,500		
Unranked										
WREC Nesson Valley facility additional funding			1,300,000						400,000	SIIF
									1,900,000	Local
Swine Facility Renovation			6,000,000						6,000,000	Local
Jack Dalrymple Agricultural Research Complex Addition			3,250,000						3,250,000	Local
WREC storage shed additional funding			325,000						200,000	Local
Total One-time & capital funding-North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station		**$6,287,500**	**$10,875,000**		**$0**	**$2,120,000**		**$1,567,500**	**$14,970,000**	

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Main Research Station

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$56,309,959**	**$58,013,314**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	1,782,012	
Employer Retirement Contribution	33,694	9,151
SBARE Priorities:		
Center for Trade and Policy Studies (CAPTS) (3 FTE)	975,000	
Digital Transportation of Agriculture (6 FTE)	2,634,000	
Livestock: Animal Health (1 FTE)	325,000	
Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships	2,530,000	
Biofuels & Carbon Management (2 FTE)	525,000	
Research Specialists (5 FTE)	1,000,000	
2025-27 Base Budget Request	**66,114,665**	**58,022,465**
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	3,714,807	1,844,395
Remove Bond Payments	(178,477)	
3% Budget Reduction	(1,849,775)	(1,542,512)
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	2,552,760	1,460,256
Health Insurance increase	1,254,414	853,619
Center for Trade and Policy Studies (CAPTS) (3 FTE)	(975,000)	
Digital Transportation of Agriculture (6 FTE)	(2,634,000)	
Livestock: Animal Health (1 FTE)	(325,000)	
Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships	(2,530,000)	1,630,000
Biofuels & Carbon Management (2 FTE)	(30,000)	
Research Specialists (5 FTE)	(1,000,000)	
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommended Base Increases (Decreases)	**(2,000,271)**	**4,245,758**
2025-27 Total Burgum Executive Recommended	**64,114,394**	**62,268,223**
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 -3%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	(463,716)	(266,551)
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommended Base Increases (Decreases)	**(463,716)**	**(266,551)**
2025-27 Total Armstrong Executive Recommended	**63,650,678**	**62,001,672**
Senate Adjustments		
Salary Increase Adjustments	(21,905)	(1,848)
Health Insurance Increase Adjustments	(28,524)	(1,501)
Remove New & Vacant FTE Pool 2025-27	(1,317,112)	(772,973)
Biofuels & Carbon Management (2 FTE)	(495,000)	
Add Veterinary toxicology resident (1 FTE)	275,000	
Remove Vacant FTE Positions (4.98 FTE)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)
Operating, Equipment, & Graduate Research Assistantships		(1,000,000)
2025-27 Senate Increases(Decreases)	**(2,727,952)**	**(1,826,978)**
2025-27 Senate Total	**60,922,726**	**60,174,694**

Agency Overview

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Agency Statutory Authority

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15-12.1

Agency Description

The North Dakota State University (NDSU) Research Extension Centers (RECs) are dedicated to enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability across various regions of North Dakota. Each center focuses on the unique needs and opportunities of its area, contributing to the state's agricultural development through research, education, and community engagement. Together, these centers play a vital role in advancing North Dakota's agricultural sector, leveraging research and innovation to meet the evolving needs of producers and communities across the state.

The Dickinson Research Extension Center (DREC) serves a 13-county region in southwest North Dakota, focusing on agronomy, beef management, and sustainable agricultural practices. With over 6,500 acres of land, DREC supports economic development while ensuring the sustainability of natural resources for future generations.

The Central Grasslands Research Extension Center (CGREC) concentrates on managing grasslands in central North Dakota, aiming to improve soil health, support beef production, and enhance the resilience of grasslands to varying weather conditions. The center's research promotes economic value while preserving the region's natural resources.

The Hettinger Research Extension Center (HREC) in southwest North Dakota focuses on agronomy and animal research, particularly in sheep and livestock feeding. Situated in a semi-arid region, HREC collaborates with various organizations to improve the productivity of livestock, grazing, and cropping systems, contributing to the region's economic development.

The Langdon Research Extension Center (LREC) supports a nine-county region in northeast North Dakota, where it addresses the unique challenges of crop production in a climate characterized by high precipitation and cooler temperatures. LREC's research focuses on disease management and providing growers with strategies to maximize returns on their crops.

The North Central Research Extension Center (NCREC), located near Minot, focuses on increasing agricultural productivity in the north central region of North Dakota. NCREC's research includes crop variety evaluation, pest management, and soil fertility, all aimed at supporting local agriculture and enhancing crop production.

The Williston Research Extension Center (WREC) in northwest North Dakota conducts research on crop variety evaluation, soil and water conservation, and irrigation development. WREC's work supports crop diversification and profitability, helping local farmers adapt to changing conditions and improve their livelihoods.

The Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) in central North Dakota focuses on enhancing agricultural productivity and diversity through research in agronomy, plant pathology, soil science, and precision agriculture. CREC's work supports both dryland and irrigated farming systems, contributing to the sustainability and competitiveness of agriculture in the region.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Agency Mission Statement

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station researchers at the Research Extension Centers throughout the state develop and share premier research solutions and technology to enhance the quality of life, sustain food, feed, fiber and fuel production, and protect our heritage - the great land and resources of North Dakota.

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

Research Continuity and Expansion

Ongoing research in soil health, agronomy, livestock production, and range management needs continued support, with an emphasis on maintaining and expanding these programs.

Deferred Maintenance and Facility Upgrades

Many facilities are outdated, unsafe, or in need of repairs, impacting both safety and the ability to conduct research. Specific needs include facility upgrades, equipment replacement, and completion of unfinished projects.

Funding and Operational Support

There is a need for increased base funding to support research and extension activities. Rising operational and labor costs, along with inflation, are straining budgets, making it difficult to maintain current programs and staff.

Land Ownership and Security

The need for secure land ownership is critical, particularly for research programs relying on rented land. The potential sale of land currently used for livestock and wildlife research adds uncertainty to future operations.

Programmatic and Staffing Requirements

There is a demand for additional technical support and research specialists to handle the growing needs of various research programs, as well as increased salary packages to retain and attract qualified staff.

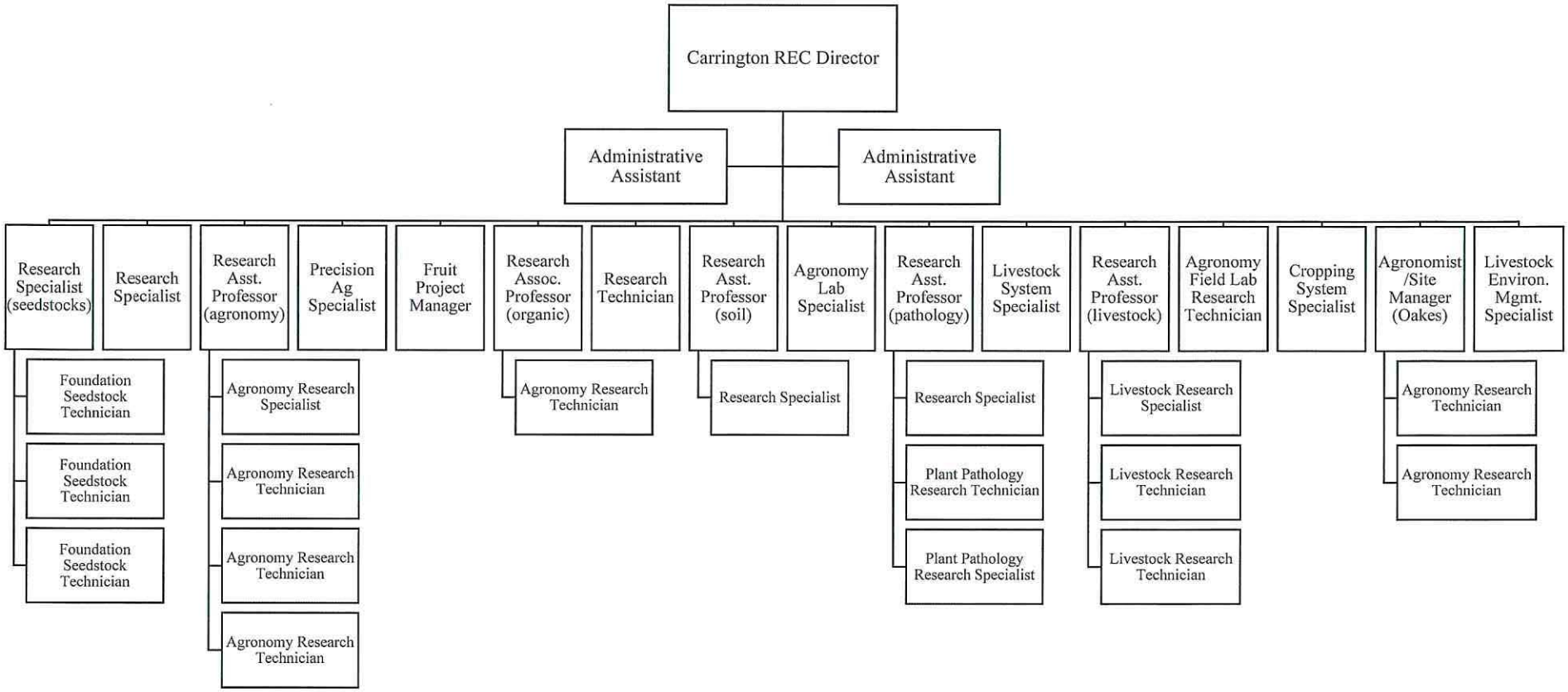
External Funding and Grants

With appropriated funds declining, there is a greater dependence on grant opportunities and private funding to support research initiatives and maintain the quality and scope of the centers' work.

Organizational Chart

Carrington Research Extension Center

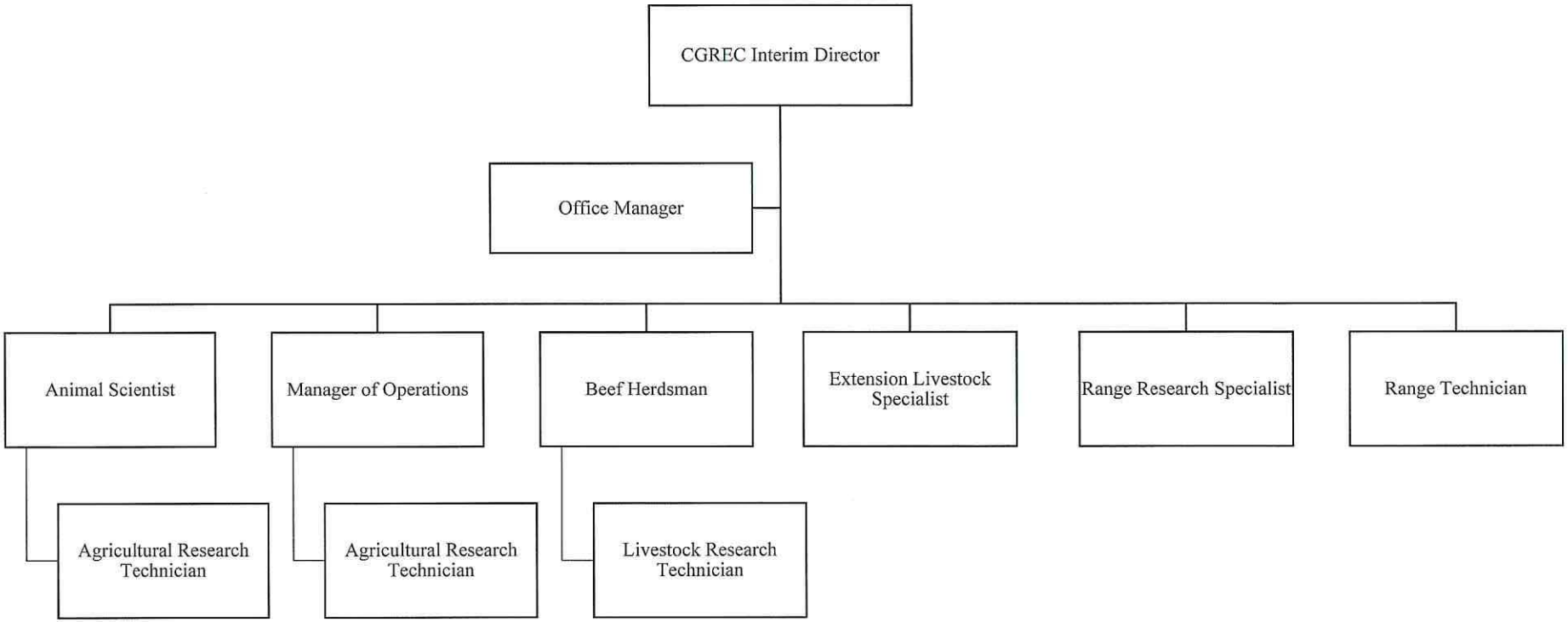
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Central Grasslands Research Extension Center

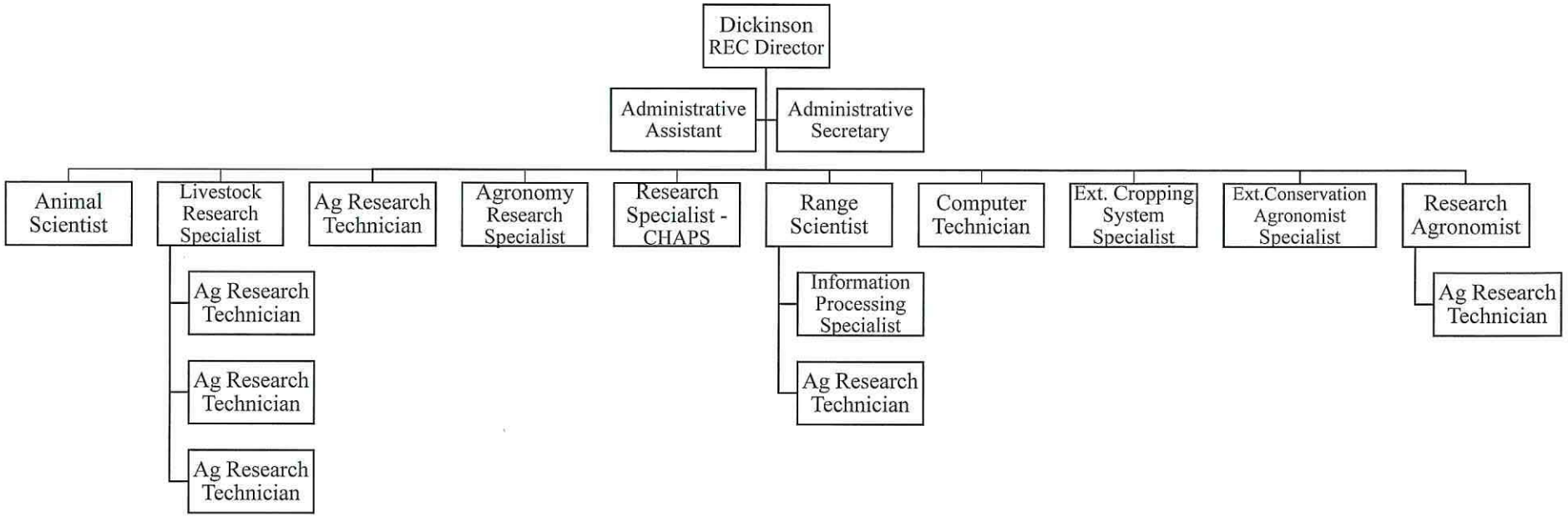
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Dickinson Research Extension Center

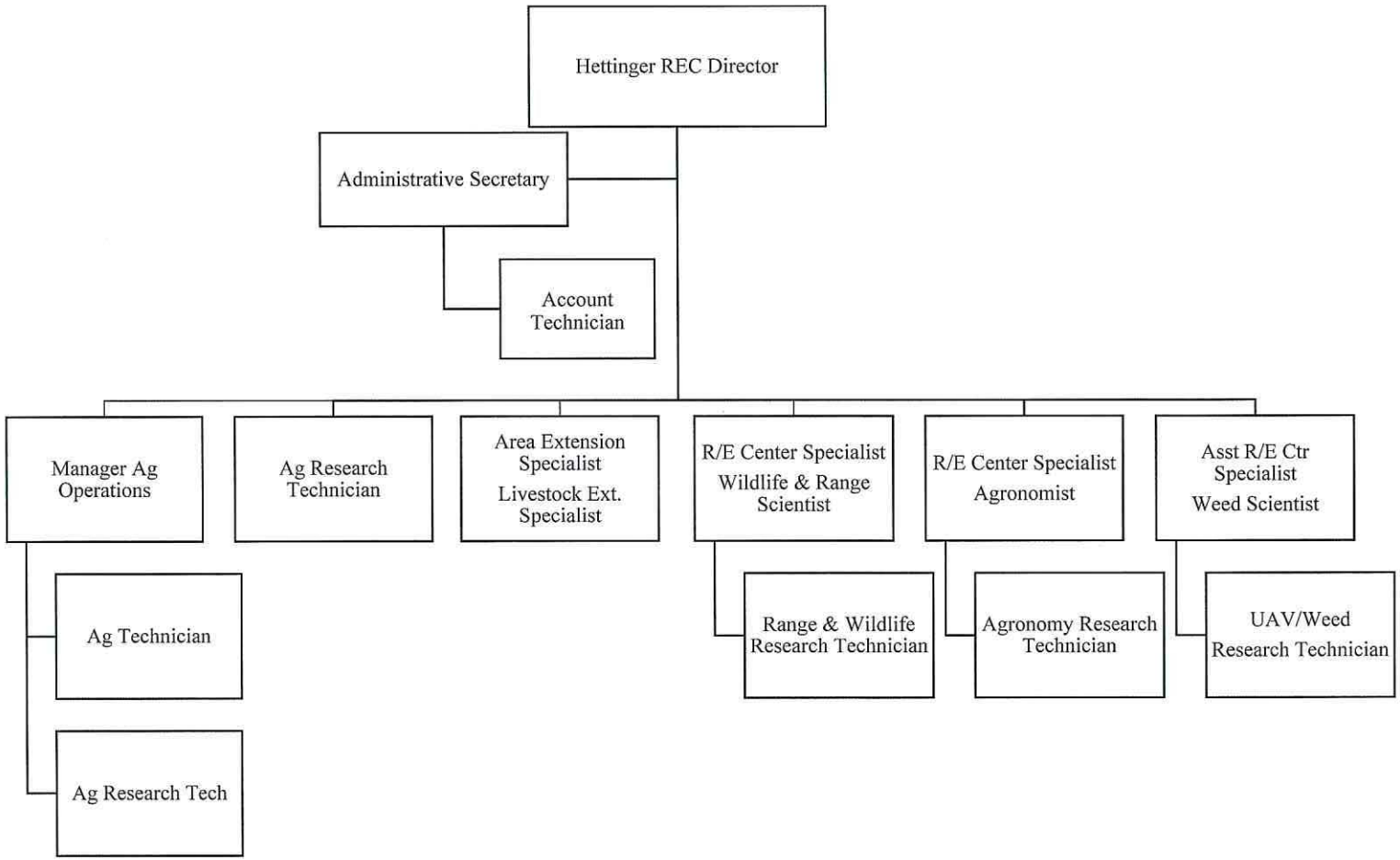
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Hettinger Research Extension Center

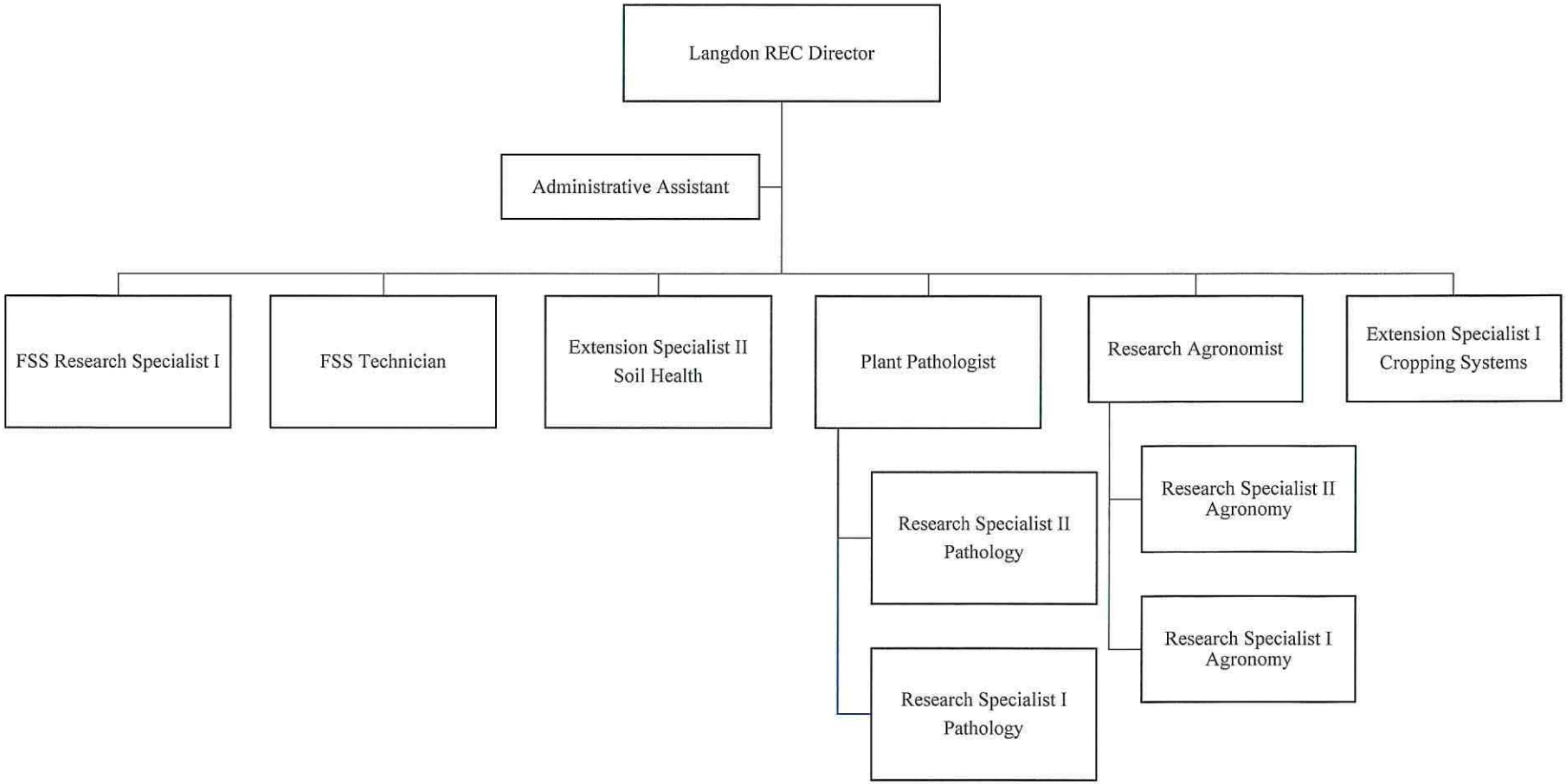
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Langdon Research Extension Center

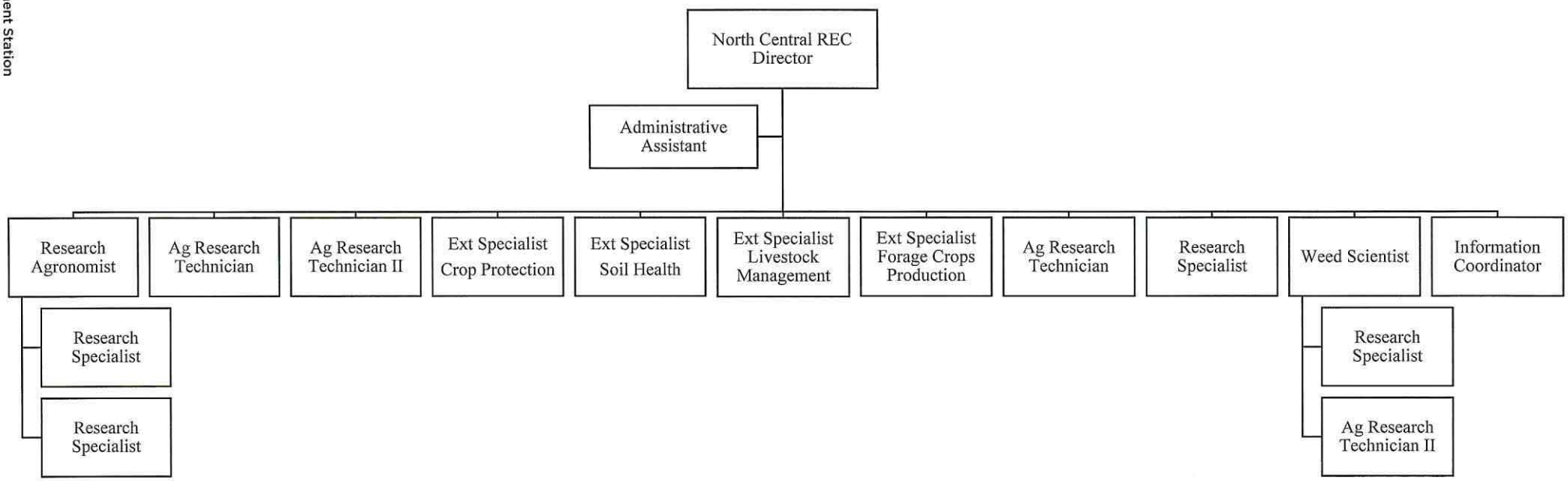
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

North Central Research Extension Center

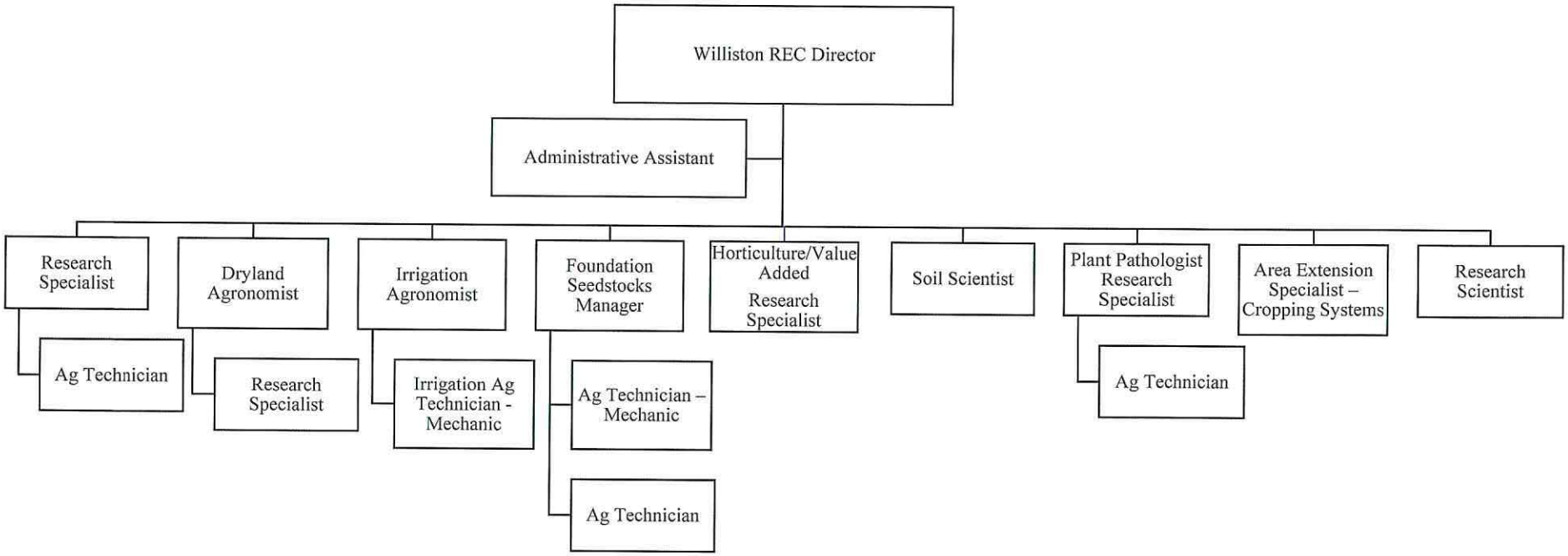
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Organizational Chart

Williston Research Extension Center

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Business Unit number: 628

Business Unit name: Branch Research Centers

Reporting Period 7/1/23-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	93,484	55,697	1,644,925
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts		113		1,433		2,604	12,249	7,172	9,429		4,629						1,963		39,592
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay		1,093		2,000			15,486	3,000		2,000	4,000	7,750				2,500			37,829
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding	21,821	111,202	14,850	12,425	13,775	11,225	6,275	4,950	4,950	4,325	-	190,001	36,764	118,267	10,289	6,800	11,700	3,500	583,119
Extra Overtime Funding	1,628	14,103	18,084	9,678	5,168	-	-	-	-	3,208	21,240	59,736	-	24,295	26,484	3,300	12,984	8,662	208,570
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Funding	0	2,284	5,764	6,542	-	6,542	6,542	7,254	8,920	8,630	7,299	12,082	-	6,162	3,889	3,889	14,446	16,056	116,301
Total	70,035	(35,311)	54,786	61,406	74,541	73,113	52,932	71,108	70,185	75,321	51,533	(176,085)	56,720	(55,240)	52,822	76,995	52,391	27,479	654,731
Vacant Positions:	21	21	20	19	17	18	22	23	22	20	18	18	18	17	15	16	18	13	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

2023-25 New Positions Approved

Position Title	Hire Date	OMB Pool Transfers	Budget Request	Estimated Salary Expenses 2023-25	Estimated Salary Expenses 2025-27
LREC Technician	8/21/2023	$157,183	$176,000	$157,183	$171,744
DREC Agronomist	2/1/2024	$155,135	$210,000	$155,135	$225,498

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

	641-Dickinson	642-Central Grasslands	643-Hettinger	644-Langdon	645-North Central	646-Williston	647-Carrington
HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($349,802)*	*($79,532)*	*($116,589)*	*($248,245)*	*($86,364)*	*($158,357)*	*($160,430)*
OMB Pool:							
Approved Transfers	*$155,135*	*$55,672*	*$81,612*	*$157,183*	*$60,455*	*$110,850*	*$112,301*
Anticipated Transfers	*$131,726*	*$0*	*$0*	*$51,789*	*$0*	*$0*	*$0*
Budget deficiency	***($62,941)***	***($23,860)***	***($34,977)***	***($39,273)***	***($25,909)***	***($47,507)***	***($48,129)***

Major Components of Current Base Level

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	641 Dickinson	642 Central Grasslands	643 Hettinger	644 Langdon	645 North Central	646 Williston	647 Carrington	Total
Salaries	$ 2,954,642	$ 1,686,924	$ 2,737,346	$ 1,898,518	$ 2,606,051	$ 3,634,511	$ 6,751,079	$ 22,269,071
Operating	3,130,196	1,756,346	2,038,902	532,351	2,389,166	1,106,614	2,167,923	$ 13,121,498
Equipment	1,295,000	175,000	605,000	765,000	360,000	786,000	1,272,000	$ 5,258,000
Total Budget	$ 7,379,838	$ 3,618,270	$ 5,381,248	$ 3,195,869	$ 5,355,217	$ 5,527,125	$ 10,191,002	$ 40,648,569
Funding:								
Federal Fund*	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
General Fund	3,893,104	2,180,257	2,494,357	1,775,617	2,173,813	3,072,343	4,094,107	$ 19,683,598
Special Fund*	3,486,734	1,438,013	2,886,891	1,420,252	3,181,404	2,454,782	6,096,895	20,964,971
Total Funding	$ 7,379,838	$ 3,618,270	$ 5,381,248	$ 3,195,869	$ 5,355,217	$ 5,527,125	$ 10,191,002	$ 40,648,569
Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council								
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium								
FTE positions 2023-25	14.25	10.00	13.75	9.45	14.26	17.75	32.35	111.81
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	14.20	9.00	12.70	9.45	14.01	15.65	32.15	107.16

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Branch Research Stations

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$19,165,340**	**$20,950,865**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	497,119	
Employer Retirement Contribution	21,139	14,106
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	1,199,319	319,812
Remove Bond Payments	(63,728)	
NDIT Rate Adjustment	19,095	19,425
Operating RECs	560,000	
2023-25 Adjusted Appropriation, Less Base Adjustments-(2025-27 Base Budget Request)	**21,398,284**	**21,304,208**
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	765,443	230,408
Health Insurance increase	461,128	181,496
Operating RECs	(560,000)	280,000
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**666,571**	**691,904**
2025-27 Total Burgum Executive Recommended	**22,064,855**	**21,996,112**
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 -3%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	(139,725)	(42,060)
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**(139,725)**	**(42,060)**
2025-27 Total Armstrong Executive Recommended	**21,925,130**	**21,954,052**
Senate Adjustments		
Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	(324,563)	(103,869)
Remove Operating RECs		(280,000)
2025-27 Senate Increases(Decreases)	**(324,563)**	**(383,869)**
2025-27 Senate Total	**21,600,567**	**21,570,183**

Agency Overview

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Agency Statutory Authority

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15-12.1

Agency Description

The Agronomy Seed Farm (ASF) is a 590 acre farm located near Casselton, which has been a part of the North Dakota Agriculture Experiment Station (NDAES) since it was gifted to the state in 1950. It was the result of a fund drive conducted by the North Dakota Crop Improvement Association, which solicited farmers, seed companies and many others throughout the state to help establish a farm whose main purpose is to increase seed of new varieties as they are developed by the plant breeding and supporting departments of the NDAES. The ASF also propagates seed of older but still desirable varieties for the seedsmen of the area.

Agency Mission Statement

To produce an adequate supply of foundation-grade seed for the seedsmen of the state and area at a reasonable price and to support the varietal development research of the NDAES.

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

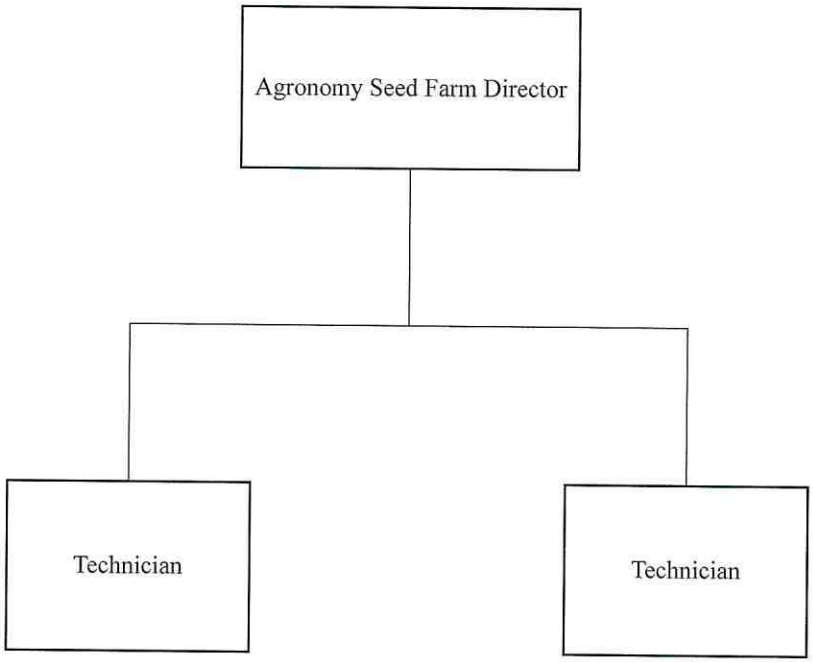
The critical issues facing the ASF are a continued demand for foundation-grade seed, favorable weather for growing seed and a good supply of varieties that are in demand by the seed industry. If these three conditions are present and good commodity prices accompany them, the future of the ASF is secure.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Organizational Chart

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station



Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Business Unit number: 649

Business Unit name: Agronomy Seed Farm

Reporting Period 7/1/23-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings												8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	8,930	62,510
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts																			-
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay																			-
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding												2,780	2,000	1,036	3,267	1,677	2,000	2,000	14,761
Extra Overtime Funding												2,392	5,057	9,140	4,866	1,549	3,463	1,459	27,926
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Funding																			-
																			-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,758	1,873	(1,246)	797	5,704	3,467	5,471	19,823
Vacant Positions:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	649 Agronomy Seed Farm
Salaries	$ 648,918
Operating	683,804
Equipment	300,000
Total Budget	$ 1,632,722
Funding:	
Federal Fund*	$ -
General Fund	-
Special Fund*	1,632,722
Total Funding	$ 1,632,722

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	3.00
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	3.00

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$1,629,764**
Employer Retirement Contribution	2,958
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	8,312
2025-27 Adjusted Other Fund Appropriation(Base Budget Request)	**$1,641,034**
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):	
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	29,468
Health Insurance increase	18,019
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**47,487**
2025-27 Total Burgum Executive Recommended	**$1,688,521**
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):	
2025-27 -3%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	(5,378)
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**(5,378)**
2025-27 Total ArmstrongExecutive Recommended	**1,683,143**
Senate Adjustments	
Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	(3,147)
2025-27 Senate Increases(Decreases)	**(3,147)**
2025-27 Senate Total	**1,679,996**

Agency Overview

NDSU Extension

Agency Statutory Authority

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 11-38

Agency Description

North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension is part of a nationwide, university-based educational system that provides research-based educational programs to advance the lives and livelihoods of citizens in all 53 counties and four American Indian reservations in North Dakota. Programs focus on addressing current needs and issues affecting the state's agriculture, youth, families, communities and natural resources. In an effort to provide extensive reach and share knowledge and resources across North Dakota, NDSU Extension staff are located at state, area and local/county offices. NDSU Extension combines funding from federal, state, county and grant sources to specifically address local concerns and make a positive impact on our land and our people.

Agency Mission Statement

Empower North Dakotans to improve their lives and communities through science-based education.
NDSU Extension believes:

- In lifelong learning through transformational education
- That all people belong and deserve respect
- In stakeholder input to guide program development
- In science-based, locally relevant information
- In the value of partners and collaboration

Agency Performance Measures

Per North Dakota Century Code 15-12.1-17 the State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) presents a status report to the budget section of the legislative council. SBARE's most recent presentation to the budget section was on June 19, 2024. The report they gave and provided in written form included the status of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the NDSU Extension Service. A copy of the information is on file in the legislative council office.

Agency Future Critical Issues

Biofuels and Carbon

Given the growing demand in multiple markets for agricultural products with low carbon intensity (CI), particularly in ethanol and biodiesel production, it's important for farmers in the region to adapt to meet these market preferences. This shift necessitates a comprehensive understanding of land management practices and how they are connected to carbon contracts. These contracts often entail long-term commitments from farmers and ranchers to implement practices that enhance carbon sequestration in soils. However, navigating the complexities of carbon capture practices and associated contracts can be challenging for producers.

Education plays a pivotal role in empowering farmers to navigate the complex landscape of carbon management effectively. A carbon specialist would serve as a vital conduit between farmers, ranchers and various stakeholders, including government agencies and carbon offset markets. By staying informed about the latest developments in carbon management policies, market trends, and technological advancements, the specialist will provide farmers with up-to-date information and

valuable insights. Through workshops, training sessions, and personalized consultations, they will educate farmers on the intricacies of carbon contracts and the potential benefits of participating in carbon markets. This educational support equips farmers with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions, maximize their participation in carbon offset programs, and ultimately enhance the sustainability and profitability of their operations.

Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support

Request for increased operating funds is crucial for the continued success of NDSU Extension's mission. These funds are essential in empowering extension specialists and agents to adapt and innovate; ensuring they can effectively address emerging needs and devise novel strategies to engage with local communities. However, the cost of operating has risen, including equipment and assistantships, placing strain on our ability to fulfill our mission effectively.

One area where increased operating support is particularly impactful is in the advancement of North Dakota's future through 4-H youth development and leadership programs. These programs nurture the next generation of leaders by providing them with positive experiences, fostering club involvement, enriching school environments, and equipping youth with essential workforce readiness skills.

In addition, allocating operating support to the State Soil Conservation Committee provides an increase in direct assistance funding to be distributed to local Soil Conservation Districts for technical assistance and conservation planning support.

Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health

The landscape of animal agriculture is experiencing a transformative evolution, driven by the integration of data related to a myriad of production variables. This integration serves a multifaceted purpose, overseeing crucial aspects such as health, nutrition, reproduction, and overall well-being of the animals. Through the utilization of cutting-edge technology, livestock management is undergoing significant enhancement, leading to improved efficiency across livestock enterprises. This shift toward digitization marks a pivotal moment in the industry, promising better outcomes for animals and farmers alike.

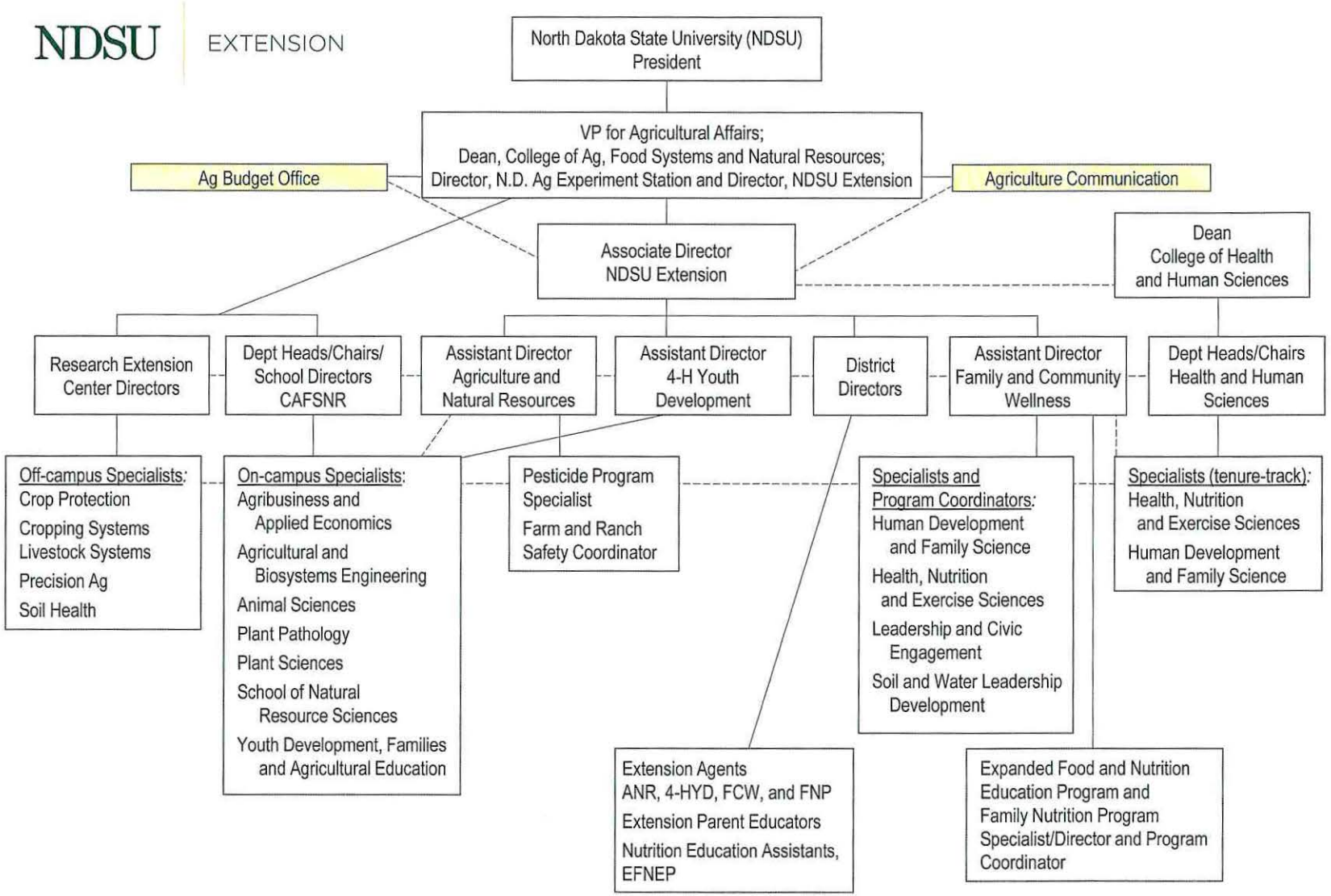
NDSU plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of animal agriculture. With an understanding of the interconnectedness between animal health, technology and economic prosperity, NDSU Extension serves as a technical resource and focuses on safeguarding livestock health in the state. Central to this mission is the elevation of monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases, which pose a threat to both animal and human populations. By actively engaging in this endeavor, NDSU Extension significantly contributes to the overall well-being of the community and the continued prosperity of the livestock industry.

Agribiome

As NDSU's agribiome research progresses toward solutions that can positively impact North Dakota crop and livestock operations, the involvement of an Extension specialist becomes pivotal in translating scientific advancements into practical applications. Extension education plays a crucial role in assisting producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. Presently, there are over 1,200 companies producing various biostimulants, inoculants, biofertilizers, biopesticides, probiotics and other biologicals aimed at enhancing crop and livestock production. Extension education is vital to provide the necessary guidance to empower producers with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions in this complex landscape.

Organizational Chart

NDSU Extension



Office of the State Auditor

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

North Dakota State University

Audit Report for the Biennium Ended June 30, 2023 | *Client Code 235*

WHAT WE LOOKED AT AND WHY

North Dakota state law requires that our team perform an audit once every two to four years. This included a review of financial transactions and determining that expenses are correct. Our audit reports any errors, internal control weaknesses or potential violations of law identified in significant or high-risk functions of the agency.

Additionally, we performed testing to determine whether the North Dakota State School of Pharmacy was admitting students to the Pharmacy program (PharmD) based on their admission policies.

WHAT WE FOUND

This audit did not identify any areas of concern.

2024 Extension impacts

NDSU EXTENSION

Extending Knowledge. Changing Lives.

North Dakota State University Extension plays a crucial role in supporting agricultural sustainability, enhancing farm and ranch operations and fostering community well-being. Through its programs, NDSU Extension helps North Dakota's agricultural producers stay financially resilient, improve crop and livestock health, protect natural resources and prepare for natural disasters. Additionally, NDSU Extension's community wellness and 4-H youth development programs empower individuals and families with the knowledge and tools to improve their quality of life.

Pesticide and Fungicide Management

Ensuring environmental sustainability and healthy crops is at the heart of NDSU Extension's agricultural programs.

- **Safe Pesticide Use:** The Pesticide Safety Program trained 7,208 people on proper pesticide use, reducing environmental risks and supporting food security.
- **Fungicide Use in Wheat:** NDSU Extension's guidance on managing Fusarium head blight saved wheat producers between $500,000 to $2 million in input costs, and contributed to a new average yield record of 56.9 bushel/acre for all wheat in North Dakota.

Livestock Health and Beef Quality

Improving livestock health and quality is central to maintaining a sustainable livestock industry in North Dakota.

- **Animal Disease Preparedness:** A total of 65 professionals were trained on responding to animal disease outbreaks. As a result, 96% of those participants plan to implement changes to improve preparedness and response strategies.
- **Beef Quality Assurance:** Over 300 producers participated in beef quality assurance training, improving cattle handling practices and quality. This improvement resulted in an estimated $1.5 million in added value—or $100 per animal—to 15,000 cattle.

Agricultural Support and Financial Guidance

NDSU Extension is committed to providing resources that support agricultural producers in managing their operations and navigating financial challenges.

- **Ag Finance Program:** In 2024, the Ag Finance program helped landowners and operators navigate $1.3 billion in annual land rents across 22 million acres in North Dakota. This crucial information assists both financially constrained farmers and fixed-income landowners with better decision-making and forecasting.
- **Livestock Risk Protection Insurance:** Educating producers about USDA Livestock Risk Protection insurance led to 169,398 head of feeder cattle being insured in 2024 with over $4.5 million in indemnity payments. This program helps farmers manage risks related to price fluctuations and market volatility.

Horticulture and Food Security

Supporting local food production and increasing food security is a key focus of NDSU Extension's horticulture programs.

- **Vegetable Growers:** At 400 locations, growers evaluated 80 varieties of vegetables, which contributed to better yields, as well as healthier diets and improved physical activity among children involved in the program.
- **Master Gardeners:** Since 2014, NDSU Extension Master Gardeners donated 178,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to food pantries while also educating communities on sustainable gardening practices and pollinator conservation.

Family and Community Wellness: Promoting Healthy Lifestyles and Strengthening Communities

NDSU Extension is committed to enhancing community health, wellness and resilience through educational programs and resources that reach people of all ages.

Field to Fork:

- In 2024, 1,756 participants attended live webinars and 4,192 recorded views were made available to a wider audience.
- Of those who participated, 86% reported adjusting their practices, with 77% focusing on attracting more pollinators, 57% growing new vegetables and 47% increasing their intake of fruits and vegetables.

Aging in Community:

- In 2024, 4,270 community members were reached, with 85% of them reported feeling more connected to resources in their community and 84% gaining valuable knowledge.
- A reported 80% of clients noted improvements in their quality of life and 86% felt more confident living independently at home. For every $1 spent in 2024, the state of North Dakota potentially saved $308 in Medicaid costs by assisting individuals to remain in their homes.

Childcare and Education:

- In 2024, 692 childcare providers and school personnel received 3,480 hours of continuing education, ensuring high-quality care for children across the state.
- The Beginner's Guide to Grant Writing Workshop helped 62 participants learn how to secure funding for community projects. As a result, $75,000 was awarded to the Langdon Ambulance Service to support local emergency services.

4-H Youth Programs: Preparing the Next Generation for Success

NDSU Extension's 4-H program equips youth with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in agriculture, leadership and STEM fields.

4-H Livestock-in-a-Box Program:

- The Livestock-in-a-Box program allowed youth in grades 2-6 to explore livestock care from home. With 200 boxes purchased in 30 counties, this program reached youth across multiple states, expanding their agricultural knowledge and engagement.

STEM Education and Recreation:

- In 2024, 439 youth participated in 19 unique 4-H camps, which included programs in livestock, archery, STEM exploration and outdoor skills. Parents reported high satisfaction, with 85% of campers showing increased independence and 94% discovering something new about themselves.

Volunteer Impact

NDSU Extension volunteers play a key role in shaping North Dakota's future, with over 1,540 volunteers dedicating nine hours per month to supporting 4-H youth programs. This commitment equates to a $5.5 million annual investment in North Dakota's youth.

- 97% of volunteers say their work helps youth build leadership skills.
- 100% of volunteers believe their efforts make communities stronger, better connected and healthier.



NDSU Extension network of county offices and research extension centers

For more information:

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ndsu.edu/extension

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NDSU Extension Program Initiatives

Final Ranking by SBARE - February 21, 2024

NDSU | EXTENSION



1 Biofuels and Carbon Initiative

Given the growing demand in multiple markets for agricultural products with low carbon intensity (CI), particularly in ethanol and biodiesel production, it's important for farmers in the region to adapt to meet these market preferences. This shift necessitates a comprehensive understanding of land management practices and how they are connected to carbon contracts. These contracts often entail long-term commitments from farmers and ranchers to implement practices that enhance carbon sequestration in soils. However, navigating the complexities of carbon capture practices and associated contracts can be challenging for producers.

Education plays a pivotal role in empowering farmers to navigate the complex landscape of carbon management effectively. A carbon specialist would serve as a vital conduit between farmers, ranchers and various stakeholders, including government agencies and carbon offset markets. By staying informed about the latest developments in carbon management policies, market trends, and technological advancements, the specialist will provide farmers with up-to-date information and valuable insights. Through workshops, training sessions, and personalized consultations, they will educate farmers on the intricacies of carbon contracts and the potential benefits of participating in carbon markets. This educational support equips farmers with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions, maximize their participation in carbon offset programs, and ultimately enhance the sustainability and profitability of their operations.

Request: One FTE specialist position – Extension Carbon Specialist – $275,000. Will provide education of on-farm practices related to carbon contracts farmers and ranchers have the opportunity to implement. $50,000 in operating support for the specialist.

Total: $325,000



2 Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support

Request for increased operating funds is crucial for the continued success of NDSU Extension's mission. These funds are essential in empowering extension specialists and agents to adapt and innovate, ensuring they can effectively address emerging needs and devise novel strategies to engage with local communities. However, the cost of operating has risen, including equipment and assistantships, placing strain on our ability to fulfill our mission effectively.

One area where increased operating support is particularly impactful is in the advancement of North Dakota's future through 4-H youth development and leadership programs. These programs nurture the next generation of leaders by providing them with positive experiences, fostering club involvement, enriching school environments, and equipping youth with essential workforce readiness skills.

In addition, allocating operating support to the State Soil Conservation Committee provides an increase in direct assistance funding to be distributed to local Soil Conservation Districts for technical assistance and conservation planning support.

Request: Extension operating support – $600,000 and State Soil Conservation operating support – $150,000 for total request of $750,000.

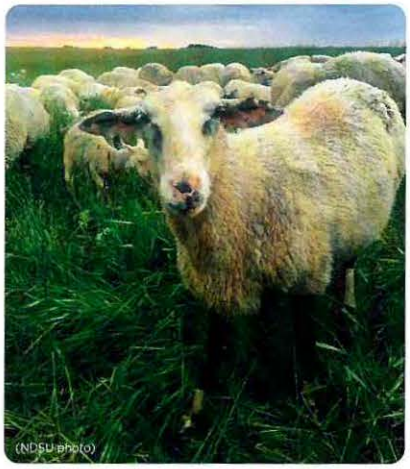
Total: $750,000

Continued on page 2

NDSU Extension Program Initiatives

Final Ranking by SBARE – February 21, 2024





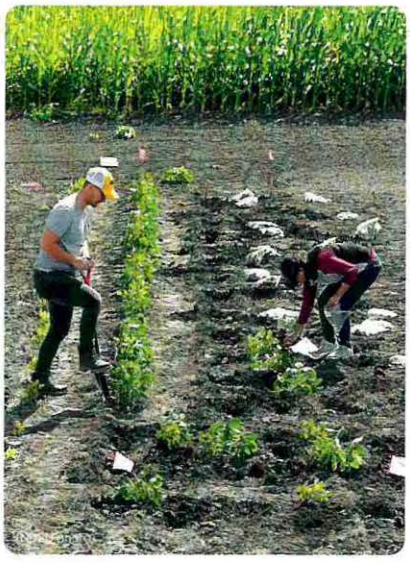
3 Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative

The landscape of animal agriculture is experiencing a transformative evolution, driven by the integration of data related to a myriad of production variables. This integration serves a multifaceted purpose, overseeing crucial aspects such as health, nutrition, reproduction, and overall well-being of the animals. Through the utilization of cutting-edge technology, livestock management is undergoing significant enhancement, leading to improved efficiency across livestock enterprises. This shift toward digitization marks a pivotal moment in the industry, promising better outcomes for animals and farmers alike.

NDSU plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of animal agriculture. With an understanding of the interconnectedness between animal health, technology and economic prosperity, NDSU Extension serves as a technical resource and focuses on safeguarding livestock health in the state. Central to this mission is the elevation of monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases, which pose a threat to both animal and human populations. By actively engaging in this endeavor, NDSU Extension significantly contributes to the overall well-being of the community and the continued prosperity of the livestock industry.

Request: Two FTE specialist positions – (1) Extension Precision Agriculture Specialist - $275,000. Will provide education around key technological advancements in livestock technologies such as sensors, transponders, livestock collars and artificial intelligence. (2) Extension Veterinary Epidemiologist - $440,000. Efforts will focus on safeguarding the health of North Dakotans and their livestock by elevating the monitoring and surveillance of zoonotic diseases shared between animals and humans. $100,000 for operating support for two specialists.

Total: $815,000



4 Agribiome Initiative

As NDSU's agribiome research progresses toward solutions that can positively impact North Dakota crop and livestock operations, the involvement of an Extension specialist becomes pivotal in translating scientific advancements into practical applications. Extension education plays a crucial role in assisting producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. Presently, there are over 1,200 companies producing various biostimulants, inoculants, biofertilizers, biopesticides, probiotics and other biologicals aimed at enhancing crop and livestock production. Extension education is vital to provide the necessary guidance to empower producers with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions in this complex landscape.

Request: One FTE specialist position – Extension Agribiome Specialist – $275,000. Will assist producers in navigating the rapidly expanding and increasingly intricate microbial biologicals market. $50,000 for operating support for the Extension agribiome specialist.

Total: $325,000

NDSU EXTENSION

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

NDSU Extension

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Business Unit number: 630

Business Unit name: NDSU Extension

Reporting Period 7/1/23-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	118,444	2,131,992
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts	17,424	3,135	17,710	953	14,267	5,613	7,168	17,490	4,511	25,670	53,835	64,947	22,996	30,818	1,630	7,289	55,190	6,029	356,675
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay					9,333	11,925		9,800			20,853	33,959	-	6,451	25,427	6,045	6,045	6,045	135,883
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding	52,557	133,646	75,728	51,892	55,452	45,721	45,071	54,842	46,282	46,497	12,885	18,202	15,818	23,062	85,683	23,940	17,811	15,242	820,331
Extra Overtime Funding		729										1,955		5,933					8,617
Other (identify) Grad Assistant Salaries													4,503	8,433	7,154	7,853	11,490	9,234	48,667
																			-
Total	48,463	(19,066)	25,006	65,599	39,392	55,185	66,205	36,312	67,651	46,277	30,871	(619)	75,127	43,747	(1,450)	73,317	27,908	81,894	761,819
Vacant Positions:	31	28	31	29	27	33	35	34	37	37	36	35	29	27	25	28	25	25	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

New and Vacant FTE

NDSU Extension

2023-25 New Positions Approved

Position Title	Hire Date	OMB Pool Transfers	Budget Request	Estimated Salary Expenses 2023-25	Estimated Salary Expenses 2025-27
Soybean pathologist	11/1/2023	$0	$200,000	$200,321	$244,836
Swine specialist	6/14/2024	$0	$200,000	$118,125	$226,398

*Pool depleted with other filled vacancies

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

630-NDSU Extension

HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($2,091,347)*

OMB FTE Pool

Approved Transfers	*$1,545,943*
Anticipated Transfers	*$0*
Budget deficiency	***($545,404)***

Major Components of Current Base Level

NDSU Extension

		630 Extension
Salaries	$	53,482,772
Operating		5,996,173
Soil conservation committee operating		1,361,520
Total Budget	$	60,840,465
Funding:		
Federal Fund*	$	8,824,965
General Fund		31,790,689
Special Fund*		20,224,811
Total Funding	$	60,840,465

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	252.70
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	259.44

NDSU Extension

	2025-27 Extension Request			2025-27 Executive Recommendation			2025-27 Senate Amendment		
	FTE	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	2025-27 SBARE Priority List	FTE	Executive Recommendation	Executive Recommendation	FTE	Senate Amendment	Senate Amendment
		General Fund	Special Fund		General Fund	Special Fund		General Fund	Special Fund
SBARE #1 Biofuels and Carbon Initiative	1.0	$325,000	-	-	$309,000	-	-	-	-
Extension Carbon Specialist	1.0	275,000		-			-		
Operating		50,000			309,000				
SBARE #2 Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support	-	$750,000	-	-	-	$150,000	-	-	-
Extension operating support		600,000				$150,000			
State soil conservation committee operating support		150,000							
Animal Health Initiative	2.0	$815,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extension Precision Agriculture Specialist	1.0	$275,000							
Extension Veterinary Epidemiologist	1.0	$440,000							
Operating		100,000							
SBARE #4 Agribiome Initiative	1.0	$325,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extension Agribiome Specialist	1.0	275,000							
Operating		50,000							
SBARE - Base Increase - NDSU Extension Service	**4.0**	**$2,215,000**	**-**	**-**	**$309,000**	**$150,000**	**-**	**$0**	**$0**

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

NDSU Extension

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$30,908,214**	**$28,986,143**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	859,731	46,548
Employer Retirement Contribution	22,744	17,085
SBARE Priorities:		
Biofuels and Carbon Initiative (1 FTE)	325,000	
Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support	750,000	
Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative (2 FTE)	815,000	
Agribiome Initiative (1 FTE)	325,000	
2025-27 Base Budget Request	**34,005,689**	**29,049,776**
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	2,091,347	1,763,198
3% Budget Reduction	(1,017,114)	(641,074)
NDIT Rate Adjustment	21,755	20,401
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	1,336,017	1,179,254
Health Insurance increase	720,892	738,217
Biofuels and Carbon Initiative	(35,000)	
Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support	(750,000)	150,000
Livestock: Precision Management and Animal Health Initiative (2 FTE)	(815,000)	
Agribiome Initiative (1 FTE)	(325,000)	
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommended Base Increases (Decreases)	**1,227,897**	**3,209,996**
2025-27 Total Burgum Executive Recommended	**35,233,586**	**32,259,772**
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 -3%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	(241,584)	(215,235)
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommended Base Increases (Decreases)	**(241,584)**	**(215,235)**
2025-27 Total Armstrong Executive Recommended	**34,992,002**	**32,044,537**
Senate Adjustments		
Remove Operating Expenses, Repairs, and Travel	(619,621)	170,414
Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	(682,950)	(625,819)
Remove Extension and State Soil Conservation Committee Operating Support		(150,000)
Remove Biofuels & Carbon Management (2 FTE)	(290,000)	
2025-27 Senate Increases (Decreases)	**(1,592,571)**	**(605,405)**
2025-27 Senate Total	**33,399,431**	**31,439,132**

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

An international center for meeting and learning about northern grown crops of the United States.

Agency: 63800 - Northern Crops Institute

AGENCY NARRATIVES

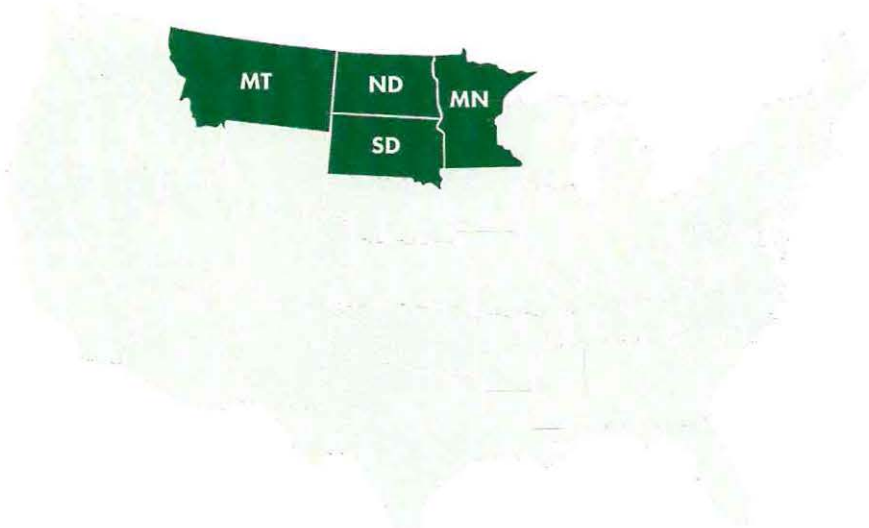
Agency Statutory: North Dakota Century Code Chapter 4.1-15

Agency Description: The Northern Crops Institute (NCI) is a collaborative effort between North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, and South Dakota to promote, develop, and market crops grown in the four-state region, and value-added agriculture, both internationally and domestically. NCI is an international meeting and learning center that brings together customers, commodity traders, technical experts, agricultural producers, and food and industrial processors for education, discussion, and technical services. NCI provides technical and marketing assistance through specialized training programs and technical services that facilitate domestic and international market development and expand the sale of northern grown crops. Representatives from more than 155 countries have visited NCI since its inception in 1979. Representatives from 81 countries participated in NCI's educational programs in 2022 and 2023.

Agency Mission Statement: NCI's mission is to support regional agriculture and value-added processing by conducting educational and technical programs that expand and maintain domestic and international markets for northern grown crops.

NCI AUDIT

Per ND state law, the NCI financial audit was conducted as a part of NDSU. The audit did not identify any areas of concern.

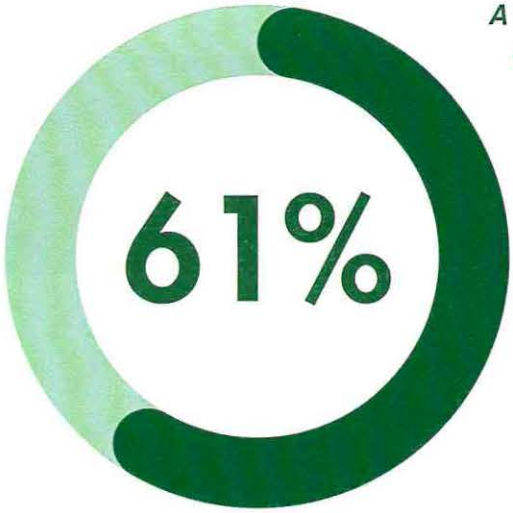


2025 NCI Impact Analysis

The **Northern Crops Institute (NCI)** meets its mission with services that lead to actual increased commodity purchases and regional investments. NCI actively contributes to adding value for products created by the region's farmers and processors.

Program Impact

The Northern Crops Institute offers a variety of short courses and webinars that unite customers, commodity traders, technical experts, and professors for discussion and education. During our courses, participants refresh their expertise and are exposed to technology, participate in lectures, case histories, laboratory demonstrations, and tours.



A 5% increase over 2022!

of attendees have increased the volume of US commodities as a result of NCI courses.





Global Impact

81

Individuals from 81 countries participated in NCI's educational programs from 2022 to 2023, expanding our global reach and connecting customers to the region!

> ***Knowledgeable staff, excellent facility, good engagement throughout sessions, up to date information, relevant content.***

WWW.NORTHERN-CROPS.COM

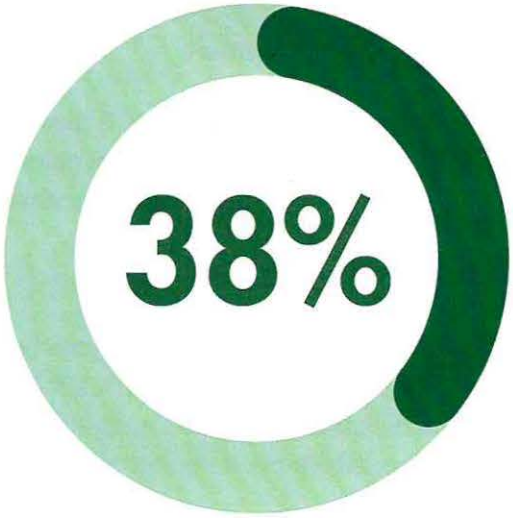
CONNECTING IN THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE

Technical Services Impact

As a result of your experience with NCI...

Technical service clients have increased their purchase activity of commodities and ingredients by 38%.

A 14% increase over 2022!

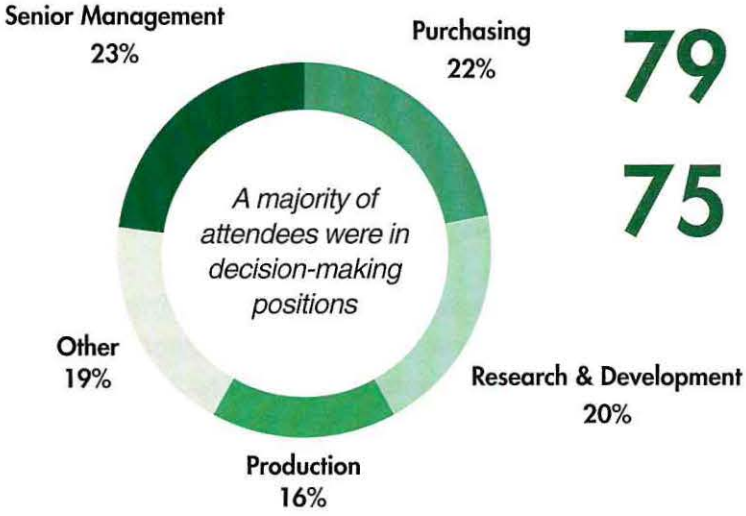


"NCI provides useful, industry-focused information to our partners as part of our work developing value-added uses for new and emerging crops."

"NCI has a long history of serving the 4-state area with professionalism, the people, and relationships with staff gives me confidence."

"NCI's work helped provide more clarity on the potential uses for the crops, including valuable data on product formulation and processing methods."

Course Attendee Roles



Net Promoter Score

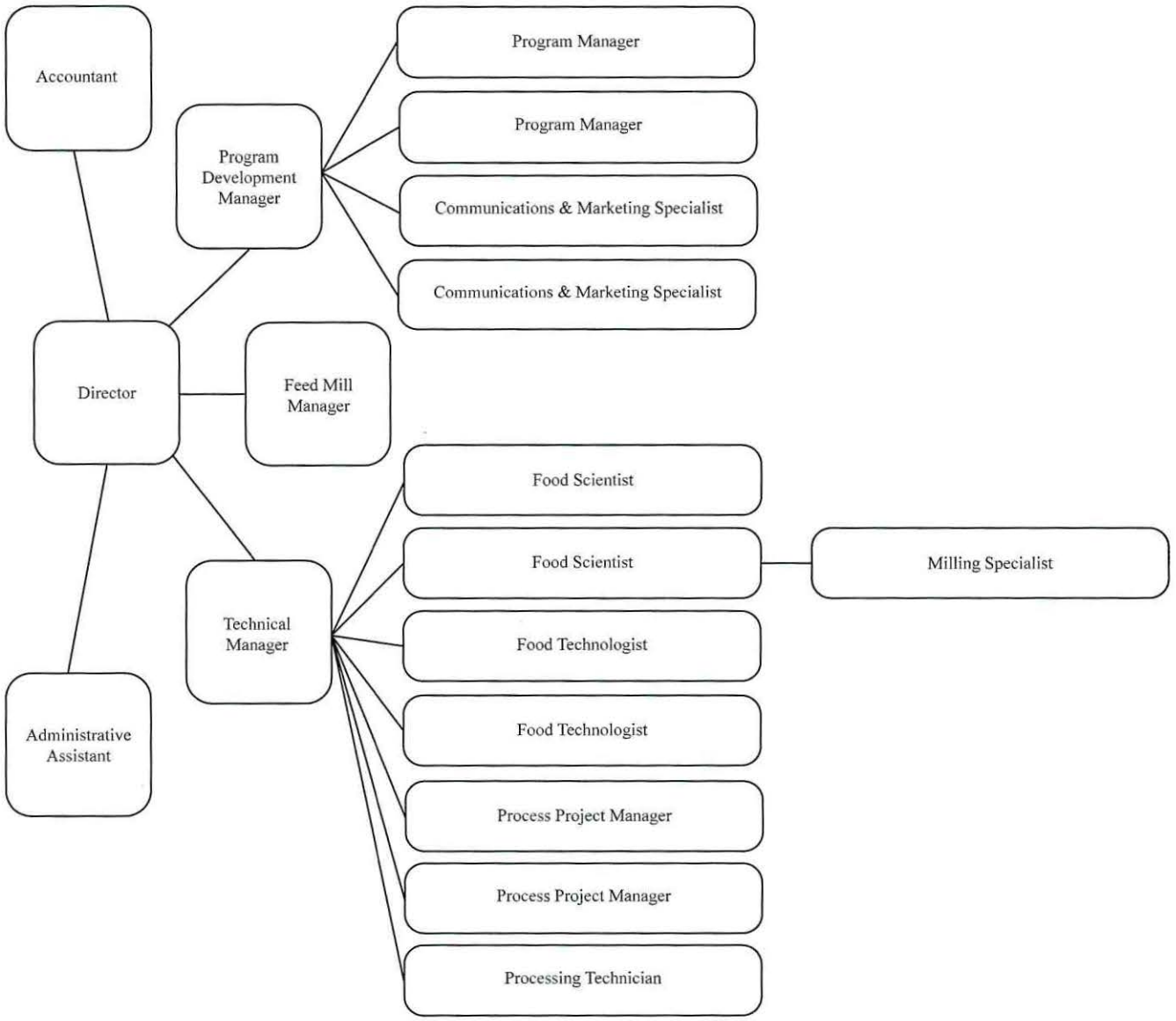
79 NPS rating for likeliness to recommend attending an NCI course.

75 NPS rating for likeliness to recommend NCI for technical services.

An increase of 24 points for courses and 15 points for technical services over 2022!

*Surveys conducted by **Prime46**, a third-party research and consulting organization. The surveys were sent to 381 course participants and 66 technical clients from the '22 and '23 calendar years.*

CURRENT NCI ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



CURRENT BIENNIUM MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. NCI successfully completed a physical relocation to the newly opened Peltier Complex.
2. Completed a third Impact Analysis survey to quantify and economic benefit of NCI programing and services. The new 2022-23 survey reported an 61% increase in US commodity purchases, and a 38% increase in ingredient purchases after participating in NCI programming and tech services, respectively.
3. NCI has delivered a 20% increase in technical service projects in the last biennium. This has helped to grow markets for crops grown in North Dakota and the surrounding states, but also assisted in growing value-added agriculture in the region.
4. Improvements to the NCI Feed Production Center have positioned NCI well to provide training and consultation to North Dakota livestock and feed producers as the livestock industry begins to expand in the state.
5. NCI Collaborated with US Grains Council on a study designed to show the performance value of U.S. corn compared to crops from other countries.
6. NCI has successfully navigated a significant budget shortfall through strong financial management and staffing changes, leading to a positive FY24 year-end balance and a projection for healthy reserves in FY25. This is coupled with improved financial accounting practices and transparency.
7. Defined a new 5-Year Strategy with engagement from the Northern Crops Council, NCI Advisory Board, NCI Staff, and other key stakeholders, which will provide focus and key objectives for NCI to meet its mission and expand impact.
8. NCI has implemented several new programs designed to increase opportunities for farmers growing specialty crops and small businesses utilizing those goods in North Dakota and within the U.S, such as stone milling courses and kitchen to consumer programs.
9. Strengthened relationships and maintained service with our state and national commodity partners while navigating budget and staffing changes.

NCI 2023 LEGISLATIVE CAPITAL PROJECTS

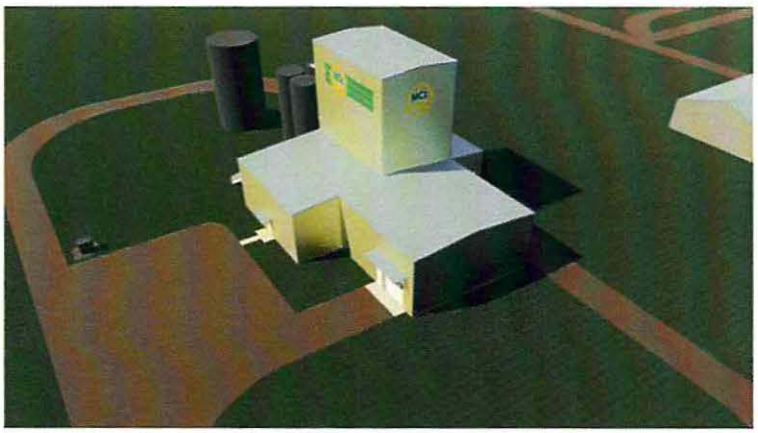
NCI Feed Production Center

- $3.9M from the 68th Legislative Assembly, HB1020
- Replaced aged pellet mill and grain bins
- Added spaces for lab, meeting room, classroom, and storage
- Expected completion in March 2025

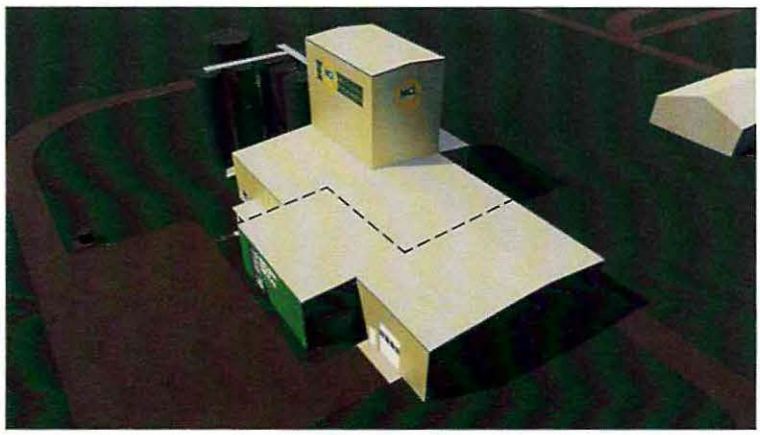




NCI Feed Mill Orgininal Renderings



FEED MILL EXISTING



FEED MILL ADDITION

CURRENT BIENNIUM CRITICAL ISSUES

1. NCI has become increasingly dependent on earned income and sponsorships to sustain current services and consider growth. The volatility of markets, grants, and commodity group partner income make that earned income uncertain. NCI needs to focus on sustainable income sources and growth to continue expanding its impact on the economy of North Dakota and the region.
2. NCI will have additional operating expenses for energy, maintenance, and consumable supplies in the new building and laboratories. The NCI cannot rely on grant funds to cover these costs. To meet its' mission NCI needs a sustainable source of operating funds to cover these increased costs.
3. Growth in crops being utilized for biofuels, new crops, and increased demands for information on sustainability, traceability, and artificial intelligence is creating a need for NCI to develop further areas of expertise. More staffing may be needed to manage growing needs in these areas.
4. In the first quarter of 2024, NCI entered a leadership transition, a budget transition, and a facility transition. NCI needs time to focus on stabilization, continuing to provide service at a high level, and planning for financial sustainability, while sharpening its vision and implementing a new 5-year strategy.

DESCRIPTION OF AGENCY CHARGES AND FEE COLLECTIONS

The NCI has a special fund authority of $3,541,116. Funds are raised through NCI courses, technical services, sponsorships and grants.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL OPERATING EXPENSES ($788,400 BIENNIUM)

Peltier Complex Utility Costs: Upon moving into the Peltier Complex, it was determined that NCI would assume responsibility for utilities and consumable costs. These expenses are currently estimated at $738,000 per biennium, which represents 80% of our planned annual income for FY25. This creates considerable pressure on our already tight budget and limits our ability to enhance our impact.

Global Crop Quality Surveys: NCI has increased our ability to access samples of US and foreign commodities. We have the potential to provide invaluable crop quality information to our state and national commodity group partners. Per ND Century Code 4.1-15-03, the NCI is directed to conduct annual surveys to monitor the quality and condition of commodities in the market channel. NCI can quickly provide additional, valuable quality information to partners with additional funds to procure samples from a supplier.

Part-Time and Student Labor: NCI proposes to hire flexible staffing to meet the needs of its currently reduced workforce. Current staffing numbers limit our ability to provide the exceptional service we desire. NCI staff roles have been shifted and efforts prioritized to meet minimum needs. Temporary staffing flexibility allows us to respond to opportunities and needs as they arise.

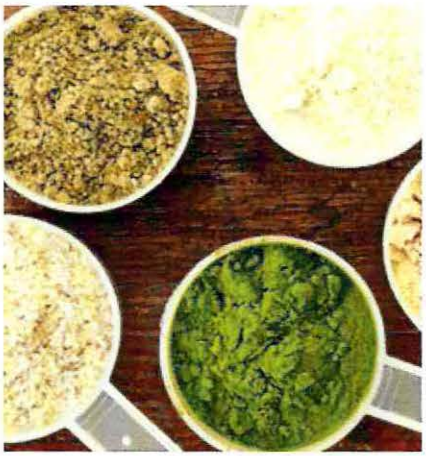
ND Start-Up and Registration Scholarships: The NCI has the potential to assist ND start-ups and educate various stakeholders throughout the supply chain. As we have begun offering training and services focused on specialty crops, we commonly find individuals that are not able to afford NCI services but have excellent business or product ideas to develop. Increasing our assistance to ND producers and entrepreneurs will lead to greater investment and activity in ND.

NCI Marketing Efforts: NCI and our services are not widely known across ND and regional agriculture. We will target the regional and domestic food industry, feed industry and ag marketing groups to increase awareness and participation in our services. We have also been asked to increase our engagement in national commodity group meetings with foreign customers and don't have the funds available to meet this opportunity.

ONE-TIME REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT

NCI has added a protein extraction lab in the Peltier Complex. This special request would be used to purchase a piece of equipment to maximize the productivity of this new lab. Pilot-scale air classification systems can separate protein, starch, and fiber from various flours for further food development or research. This capability allows NCI to expand our client services and promote protein, starch, and fiber in the cereal grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops grown in our region. Interest is rapidly growing in using plant proteins in foods and beverages in the U.S. with the current market value reaching $7 billion. Also reported was a compound annual growth rate of 37% for plant-based food and beverages globally. A significant share of recent NCI client work has involved protein fortification and food development, yet we either outsource the protein or starch isolation, or buy these ingredients from the marketplace. This equipment is not available in the region and our request has support from NDSU, UMN, and SDSU researchers who would access industrial-quality protein, starch, and fiber for other research projects. This equipment would be a key piece to the Peltier Complex protein lab, distinguishing NCI's capabilities to the food industry, and have a short return on investment.







NCI NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

Agency Vacancy Saving Worksheet

Northern Crops Institute

Business Unit number: 638

Business Unit name: NCI

Reporting Period 7/1/24-12/31/24

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Cumulative Total
Est. Vacancy Savings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,018	21,170	29,986	25,396	25,396	25,396	25,396	29,982	20,746	20,746	20,746	255,978
Use of vacant position savings:																			
Accrued Leave Payouts								15,662	42,414	16,137					5,548				79,761
Extra Salary Increases																			-
Bonuses																			-
Incentive/location Pay																			-
Reclassifications																			-
Extra Temporary salary Funding								3,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	24,000
Extra Overtime Funding																			-
Other (identify)																			-
																			-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(7,644)	(24,244)	10,849	23,396	23,396	24,396	23,396	22,434	18,746	18,746	18,746	152,217
Vacant Positions:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	

DO NOT MODIFY WORKSHEET FORMAT

Northern Crops Institute

New and Vacant FTE Funding Pool Information

638-NCI

HB1020 General Fund Decrease	*($58,637)*

OMB FTE Pool

Approved Transfers	*$0*
Anticipated Transfers	*$41,046*
Budget deficiency	***($17,591)***

**NCI had no vacancies on 7/1/23*

Major Components of Current Base Level

Northern Crops Institute

	639 Northern Crops Institute
Salaries	$ 4,539,569
Operating	1,185,202
Equipment	-
Total Budget	$ 5,724,771
Funding:	
Federal Fund*	$ -
General Fund	2,183,655
Special Fund*	3,541,116
Total Funding	$ 5,724,771

Source: 2025-27 Base-level budget, Legislative Council
*No changes anticipated for 2025-27 biennium

FTE positions 2023-25	18.15
FTE positions 2025-27 Executive Recommendation	18.35

Reconciliation of 2023-25 Orig. Appropriation to 2025-27

Northern Crops Institute

	General Fund	Other Fund
2023-25 Original Appropriation	**$2,110,256**	**$3,540,445**
Base Adjustments:		
Target Market Equity	72,602	
Employer Retirement Contribution	797	671
Restore Amount Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	58,637	60,680
Operating Request	788400	
2023-25 Adjusted Appropriation, Less Base Adjustments-(2025-27 Base Budget Request)	**3,030,692**	**3,601,796**
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 - 4%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	94,041	117,920
Health Insurance increase	43,024	71,090
Operating Request	(488,800)	488,800
2025-27 Burgum Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**(351,735)**	**677,810**
2025-27 Total Burgum Executive Recommended	**2,678,957**	**4,279,606**
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommendation Base Increases (Decreases):		
2025-27 -3%/3% Salary & Fringe Benefits	(17,167)	(21,521)
2025-27 Armstrong Executive Recommended Base Increases(Decreases)	**(17,167)**	**(21,521)**
2025-27 Total ArmstrongExecutive Recommended	**2,661,790**	**4,258,085**
Senate Adjustments		
Removed for New & Vacant FTE Pool	(18,871)	(24,841)
Peltier Complex Operating Expenses	638,800	299,600
Remove Operating Expenses	(299,600)	(488,800)
2025-27 Senate Increases(Decreases)	**320,329**	**(214,041)**
2025-27 Senate Total	**2,982,119**	**4,044,044**

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$0	$59,478,945
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$0	$60,840,465
Less other funds	29,049,776	0	29,049,776

Total general fund	$31,790,689	$0	$31,790,689
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	0.00	252.70

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$0	$5,724,771
Less other funds	3,541,116	0	3,541,116
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$0	$2,183,655
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.00	18.15

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$0	$24,807,516
Less other funds	19,581,141	0	19,581,141
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$0	$5,226,375
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	0.00	43.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$0	$116,148,130
Less other funds	58,022,465	0	58,022,465
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$0	$58,125,665
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	0.00	358.47

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$0	$7,379,838
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	0	3,618,270
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	0	5,381,248
Langdon research center	3,195,869	0	3,195,869
North Central research center	5,355,217	0	5,355,217
Williston research center	5,527,125	0	5,527,125
Carrington research center	10,191,002	0	10,191,002
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$0	$40,648,569
Less other funds	20,964,971	0	20,964,971
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$0	$19,683,598
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	0.00	111.81

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$0	$1,632,722
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$0	$1,632,722
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$0	$249,802,173
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	0	132,792,191
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$0	$117,009,982
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	0.00	788.01

SECTION 2. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues

received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 3. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 4. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 6. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be

expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Extension service	$59,478,945	$944,303	$60,423,248
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
New and vacant FTE pool	0	3,053,795	3,053,795

Total all funds	$60,840,465	$3,998,098	$64,838,563
Less other funds	29,049,776	2,389,356	31,439,132
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$1,608,742	$33,399,431
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	2.74	255.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,549,397	$7,274,168
New and vacant FTE pool	0	101,995	101,995
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less other funds	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	0	266,019	266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490
Less other funds	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Main research center	$116,148,130	$16,426,589	$132,574,719
New and vacant FTE pool	0	5,060,201	5,060,201

Total all funds	$116,148,130	$21,486,790	$137,634,920
Less other funds	58,022,465	17,122,229	75,144,694
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$4,364,561	$62,490,226
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	6.08	364.55

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$355,827	$7,735,665
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	88,766	3,707,036
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	160,658	5,541,906
Langdon research center	3,195,869	280,058	3,475,927
North Central research center	5,355,217	122,311	5,477,528
Williston research center	5,527,125	186,785	5,713,910
Carrington research center	10,191,002	328,102	10,519,104
New and vacant FTE pool	0	999,674	999,674
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$2,522,181	$43,170,750
Less other funds	20,964,971	605,212	21,570,183
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$1,916,969	$21,600,567
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$39,931	$1,672,653
New and vacant FTE pool	0	7,343	7,343
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$30,493,709	$280,295,882
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	21,524,089	154,316,280
Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$8,969,620	$125,979,602
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	3.37	791.38

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which each entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

One-Time Funding Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Northern crops institute			
Protein extraction and air classification system	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Total northern crops institute	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Main research center			
Equipment storage sheds	$1,567,500	$0	$1,567,500
Oakes irrigation research site interior	0	620,000	620,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000	2,600,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site	0	2,300,000	2,300,000
Williston research center storage shed	0	200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation	0	6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition	0	3,250,000	3,250,000
Total main research center	$1,567,500	$14,970,000	$16,537,550
Grand total	$1,567,500	$15,320,000	$16,887,500

SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST. The North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the North Dakota state university extension service, northern

crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 7. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The other funds line item in subdivision 4 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of $1,970,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund, of which $950,000 is for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, $620,000 is for the Oakes irrigation research site, and $400,000 is for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer

appropriation authority, except appropriation authority in the new and vacant FTE pool line items, within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

1. The sum of $475,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund for storage sheds in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws;
2. The sum of $1,700,000 appropriated from the general fund for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site project in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

NDSU Extension Service

Northern Crops Institute

2025-2027
Biennial Budget Request

Senate Bill 2020

House Government Operations
Representative David Monson, Chair
March 11, 2025

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to Vice Provost, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 100, 701-231-7708, ndsu.eoaa@ndsu.edu. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, 701-231-7881.

Sum of DBT_BUDGET_AMOUNT	Agency	FUNDING_CATEGORY		
	AES		EXT	Grand Total
NAME	State Appropriations	Other Funds	State Appropriations	
		46,379		46,379
		65,814		65,814
	93,600	10,400		104,000
	40,248		13,415	53,663
	105,438		6,590	112,028
			82,820	82,820
		55,114		55,114
	51,858	5,762		57,620
		53,560		53,560
	85,965	27,200	12,088	125,253
	35,130		27,601	62,731
	6,319	58,572		64,891
		66,000		66,000
			82,820	82,820
			102,510	102,510
	27,456			27,456
	78,438	7,783		86,221
	66,020			66,020
Grand Total	**590,472**	**396,584**	**327,844**	**1,314,900**

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
3/31/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

3:34 p.m. Chairman Monson called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Chairman Monson, Vice Chair Brandenburg, Representatives: Bosch, Fisher, Meier, Pyle.

Members Absent: Representative Kempenich

Discussion Topics:

- Capture Carbon Transportation
- Enhanced Oil recovery
- Upper Great Plains Institute
-

3:36 p.m. Denver Tolliver, Director, Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, testified in favor and submitted testimony in favor #44478.

4:11 p.m. Greg Lardy, President, North Dakota State University, testified in favor.

Additional written testimony:

Grant Gader, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Council, submitted testimony in neutral #44483.

4:34 p.m. Chairman Monson adjourned the meeting.

Madaline Cooper, Committee Clerk

Revised 3-31-2025

Answers to Questions from Government Operations Division on March 11, 2025

1. UGPTI's Federal and State Funding
   a. How much federal funding does UGPTI receive directly from federal agencies?
   b. How much funding does UGPTI receive from NDDOT?
   c. How much of the funding that UGPTI receives from NDDOT consists of federal source funds?

   All federal grants provided directly to UGPTI and all grants provided by NDDOT are included in the analysis. Many of UGPTI's grants are multiyear ones. So, for comparative purposes, all grants are placed on average annual basis. Of the approximately $3.68 million dollars in annual grants that UGPTI receives from NDDOT (shown in the table below), approximately 75% are federal funds provided to the North Dakota DOT by the U.S. DOT. The North Dakota DOT must match the federal funds it provides to UGPTI (e.g., 20%). Thus, a portion of the grants provided to UGPTI must come from non-federal source funds. Roughly 38% of the federal funds received directly from UGPTI are subcontracted to partner universities in the Region 8 consortium. The numbers are summarized in the table below.

UGPTI Funding: Annualized Estimates of Federal and North Dakota DOT Funds

Source of Funds	*Amount*
Federal Funds	$11,901,893
Funds subcontracted to other universities in consortium	$4,561,108
NDDOT Total Funds	$3,682,145
NDDOT funding from Federal Funds	$2,746,861

2. In UGPTI's biennial road and bridge funding needs study, do we assume that all trucks are legally loaded? What percentages of trucks are assumed to be overloaded and by how much?

   In the studies, equivalent single axle loads (ESALs) are used to measure the road impacts due to truck traffic. ESALS are computed for each axle group and summed to obtain an EASL factor for the truck. An ESAL factor for a specific axle represents the impact of that axle in comparison to an 18,000-pound single axle (which has an ESAL factor of 1.0). The ESAL or impact factor depends on the type of axle (e.g., single, tandem, or tridem) and the weight on the axle.
   The pavement impacts are nonlinear. For example, a 16,000-pound single axle followed by a 20,000-pound single axle on a good flexible (asphalt) pavement generates a total of 2.12 ESALs, as compared to 2.0 ESALs for the passage of two 18,000-pound single axles (Figure 1).[1] An increase in a single-axle load from

[1] The differences in impacts can be more pronounced on roads with lower structural numbers.

18,000 to 22,000 pounds more than doubles the pavement impact, increasing the ESAL factor from 1.0 to 2.09. In comparison, a 34,000-pound tandem axle has an ESAL factor of 1.11 (Figure 2).

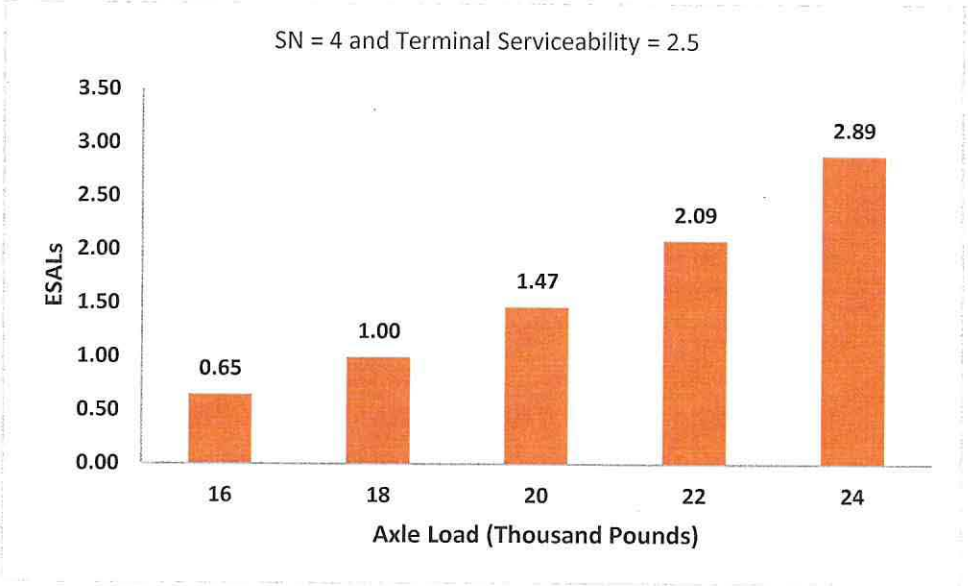


Figure 1 Pavement Impact Factors for Single Axle



Figure 2 Pavement Impact Factors for Tandem Axle

It is likely that a portion of the truck movements analyzed in the study are overloaded. Based on enforcement data from the North Dakota Highway Patrol and special studies conducted at truck weigh stations, it is estimated that 25% of divisible oil-related truck movements are overloaded. The typical overloaded vehicle weighs 90,000 pounds, which increases the truck EASL factor by 69% as compared to a legally loaded truck. For farm-to-market movements, most

movements are assumed to be overloaded by 10%. Secondary movements between elevators and between elevators and processors are assumed to be legally loaded.

3. **What confidence do we place in weigh-in-motion data? How has WIM technology improved over time?**

   The North Dakota DOT calibrates its WIM sites each year with a 5-axle semi loaded to 80,000 pounds. Generally, the WIM estimates of gross vehicle weights are within ± 6% of the actual weights. However, the accuracy may vary from site to site and with conditions, particularly with the wander of the truck's wheels, the temperature of the pavement materials, and the vehicle's speed.

   UGPTI has been researching ways to improve the accuracy, reliability, and cost-effectiveness of WIM systems for several years now, considering factors such as tire pressure (which affects the contact area between the wheel and pavement), pavement temperatures, vehicle speeds, and wander and using combinations of embedded sensors, high resolution cameras, and advanced signal processing. The initial results from tests at the MnRoad facility have been encouraging. However, prototype low-cost WIM stations are still a few years away.

Legislative Council

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase		$141,039	$314,606	$455,645		$141,039	$314,606	$455,645				$0
Health insurance increase		71,675	192,557	264,232		71,675	192,557	264,232				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		102,295	236,946	339,241		102,295	236,946	339,241				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)		(34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)				0
Removes vacant FTE position	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)				0
Adds funding for artificial intelligence in surface transportation				0				0				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
One-Time Funding Items												
Carbon dioxide transportation network study				$0				$0				$0
Autonomous surface transportation freight center				0				0				0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
2025-27 Total Funding	**42.88**	**$5,507,259**	**$20,088,231**	**$25,595,490**	**42.88**	**$5,507,259**	**$20,088,231**	**$25,595,490**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$13,006,610*				*$13,006,610*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Branch research centers - Budget No. 628
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Decreases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	(4.65)			$0	(4.65)			$0				$0
Salary increase		$625,768	$188,357	814,125		$625,768	$188,357	814,125				0
Health insurance increase		461,078	181,487	642,565		461,078	181,487	642,565				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		386,000		386,000		386,000		386,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		813,319	319,812	1,133,131		813,319	319,812	1,133,131				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(324,563)	(103,869)	(428,432)		(324,563)	(103,869)	(428,432)				0
Adds funding for IT rate increases		19,095	19,425	38,520		19,095	19,425	38,520				0
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)				0
Adds funding for operating expenses				0		280,000	280,000	560,000		$280,000	$280,000	560,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**(4.65)**	**$1,916,969**	**$605,212**	**$2,522,181**	**(4.65)**	**$2,196,969**	**$885,212**	**$3,082,181**	**0.00**	**$280,000**	**$280,000**	**$560,000**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(4.65)**	**$1,916,969**	**$605,212**	**$2,522,181**	**(4.65)**	**$2,196,969**	**$885,212**	**$3,082,181**	**0.00**	**$280,000**	**$280,000**	**$560,000**
2025-27 Total Funding	**107.16**	**$21,600,567**	**$21,570,183**	**$43,170,750**	**107.16**	**$21,880,567**	**$21,850,183**	**$43,730,750**	**0.00**	**$280,000**	**$280,000**	**$560,000**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*9.7%*	*2.9%*	*6.2%*	*(4.2%)*	*11.2%*	*4.2%*	*7.6%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*9.7%*	*2.9%*	*6.2%*	*(4.2%)*	*11.2%*	*4.2%*	*7.6%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Dickinson Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income	Section 4 authorizes the Dickinson Research Extension Center to spend up to $755,000 of revenue received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 4 authorizes the Dickinson Research Extension Center to spend up to $755,000 of revenue received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Williston Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income	Section 5 directs the Williston Research Extension Center to report to the 70th Legislative Assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 5 directs the Williston Research Extension Center to report to the 70th Legislative Assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 biennium.	

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the branch research centers, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the branch research centers, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the branch research centers and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the branch research centers and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the branch research centers into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the branch research centers into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,614,854)	($450,138)	($2,064,992)		($1,239,116)	($150,138)	($1,389,254)		$375,738	$300,000	$675,738
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	2.74			0	2.74			0				0
Salary increase		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451				0
Health insurance increase		720,767	738,096	1,458,863		720,767	738,096	1,458,863				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		410,000		410,000		410,000		410,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(682,950)	(625,819)	(1,308,769)		(711,950)	(625,819)	(1,337,769)		(29,000)		(29,000)
Adds funding for an FTE extension carbon specialist				0	1.00	290,000		290,000	1.00	290,000		290,000
Adjusts base funding for supplies, operating expenses, and temporary salaries				0		619,621		619,621		619,621		619,621
Adds funding for operating support				0			150,000	150,000			150,000	150,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**2.74**	**$1,608,742**	**$2,389,356**	**$3,998,098**	**3.74**	**$2,865,101**	**$2,839,356**	**$5,704,457**	**1.00**	**$1,256,359**	**$450,000**	**$1,706,359**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**2.74**	**$1,608,742**	**$2,389,356**	**$3,998,098**	**3.74**	**$2,865,101**	**$2,839,356**	**$5,704,457**	**1.00**	**$1,256,359**	**$450,000**	**$1,706,359**
2025-27 Total Funding	**255.44**	**$33,399,431**	**$31,439,132**	**$64,838,563**	**256.44**	**$34,655,790**	**$31,889,132**	**$66,544,922**	**1.00**	**$1,256,359**	**$450,000**	**$1,706,359**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$9,831,391*				*$9,831,391*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*5.1%*	*8.2%*	*6.6%*	*1.5%*	*9.0%*	*9.8%*	*9.4%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*5.1%*	*8.2%*	*6.6%*	*1.5%*	*9.0%*	*9.8%*	*9.4%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by NDSU Extension Service, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by NDSU Extension Service, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the NDSU Extension Service and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the NDSU Extension Service and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by NDSU Extension Service into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by NDSU Extension Service into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	0.20			$0	0.20			$0				$0
Salary increase		$76,883	$96,404	173,287		$76,883	$96,404	173,287				0
Health insurance increase		43,015	71,085	114,100		43,015	71,085	114,100				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		58,637	60,680	119,317		58,637	60,680	119,317				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(18,871)	(24,841)	(43,712)		(18,871)	(24,841)	(43,712)				0
Adds funding for operating expenses		638,800	299,600	938,400		638,800	299,600	938,400				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$502,928**	**$1,301,392**	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$502,928**	**$1,301,392**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding for a protein extraction and air classification system			$350,000	$350,000			$350,000	$350,000				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$852,928**	**$1,651,392**	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$852,928**	**$1,651,392**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
2025-27 Total Funding	**18.35**	**$2,982,119**	**$4,394,044**	**$7,376,163**	**18.35**	**$2,982,119**	**$4,394,044**	**$7,376,163**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*14.2%*	*22.7%*	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*14.2%*	*22.7%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*24.1%*	*28.8%*	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*24.1%*	*28.8%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Northern Crops Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Northern Crops Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Northern Crops Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Northern Crops Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
Exemption	Sections 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Northern Crops Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	Sections 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Northern Crops Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)		($291,232)	$291,232	$0		$938,345		$938,345
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	10.06			0	10.06			0				0
Salary increase		2,067,139	1,191,857	3,258,996		2,067,139	1,191,857	3,258,996				0
Health insurance increase		1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008		1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		220,000		220,000		220,000		220,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)		(1,357,112)	(772,973)	(2,130,085)		(40,000)		(40,000)
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)				0
Adds funding for an FTE scientist and an FTE research specialist for biofuels and carbon management				0				0				0
Adds funding for an FTE veterinary toxicology resident position	1.00	275,000		275,000	1.00	275,000		275,000				0
Adds funding for an FTE grape/vineyard research specialist and an FTE agronomy research specialist				0	2.00	400,000		400,000	2.00	400,000		400,000
Removes vacant FTE positions	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)				0
Adjusts base funding for supplies, operating expenses, repairs, and travel		(320,198)	(1,704,146)	(2,024,344)		0	(1,704,146)	(1,704,146)		320,198		320,198
Adds funding for operating expenses			630,000	630,000			630,000	630,000				0
Adds funding for research equipment				0			1,000,000	1,000,000			$1,000,000	1,000,000
Adjusts base level funding for temporary salaries			(429,598)	(429,598)			0	0			429,598	429,598
Adjusts the funding source for graduate assistant salaries		(300,000)	300,000	0		(300,000)	300,000	0				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**6.08**	**$2,797,061**	**$2,152,229**	**$4,949,290**	**8.08**	**$4,415,604**	**$3,581,827**	**$7,997,431**	**2.00**	**$1,618,543**	**$1,429,598**	**$3,048,141**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site			$620,000	$620,000			$620,000	$620,000				$0
Adds funding for deferred maintenance				0			500,000	500,000			$500,000	500,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant			2,600,000	2,600,000			2,600,000	2,600,000				0
Equipment storage sheds		$1,567,500		1,567,500		$1,567,500		1,567,500				0
Nesson Valley irrigation research site			2,300,000	2,300,000			2,300,000	2,300,000				0
Williston equipment storage shed			200,000	200,000			200,000	200,000				0
Swine facility renovation			6,000,000	6,000,000			6,000,000	6,000,000				0
Main research center greenhouse addition			3,250,000	3,250,000			3,250,000	3,250,000				0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$14,970,000**	**$16,537,500**	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$15,470,000**	**$17,037,500**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$500,000**	**$500,000**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**6.08**	**$4,364,561**	**$17,122,229**	**$21,486,790**	**8.08**	**$5,983,104**	**$19,051,827**	**$25,034,931**	**2.00**	**$1,618,543**	**$1,929,598**	**$3,548,141**
2025-27 Total Funding	**364.55**	**$62,490,226**	**$75,144,694**	**$137,634,920**	**366.55**	**$64,108,769**	**$77,074,292**	**$141,183,061**	**2.00**	**$1,618,543**	**$1,929,598**	**$3,548,141**

Federal funds included in other funds			*$8,742,305*				*$8,742,305*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.7%*	*4.8%*	*3.7%*	*4.3%*	*2.3%*	*7.7%*	*6.2%*	*6.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.7%*	*7.5%*	*29.5%*	*18.5%*	*2.3%*	*10.4%*	*32.8%*	*21.6%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Main Research Center, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Main Research Center, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
SIIF	Section 7 identifies $1,970,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, Oakes irrigation research site, and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.	Section 7 identifies $2,470,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for deferred maintenance, the Langdon seed conditioning plant, Oakes irrigation research site, and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Main Research Center and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Main Research Center and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by Main Research Center into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by Main Research Center into the 2027-29 biennium.	
Exemption	Subsection 1 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended SIIF appropriation authority relating to the branch research center storage sheds appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	Subsection 1 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended SIIF appropriation authority relating to the branch research center storage sheds appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	
Exemption	Subsection 2 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority relating to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].	Subsection 2 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority relating to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	
Exemption		Section 12 allows the Main Research Center to expend funds for storage sheds without procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer.	
Emergency		Section 13 declares the $6 million in the other funds line item in Section 1 for the swine facility renovation to be an emergency measure.	

Legislative Council

Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase			$24,093	$24,093			$24,093	$24,093				$0
Health insurance increase			18,016	18,016			18,016	18,016				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool			8,312	8,312			8,312	8,312				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool			(3,147)	(3,147)			(3,147)	(3,147)				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
2025-27 Total Funding	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,679,996**	**$1,679,996**	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,679,996**	**$1,679,996**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Agronomy Seed Farm, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Agronomy Seed Farm, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Agronomy Seed Farm and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Agronomy Seed Farm and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Agronomy Seed Farm into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Agronomy Seed Farm into the 2027-29 biennium.	

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
4/7/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

3:19 p.m. Chairman Monson called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Chairman Monson, Vice Chair Brandenburg, Representatives: Bosch, Fisher, Kempenich, Meier, Pyle.

Discussion Topics:

- Branch Research Centers
- Central Grassland Grants
- Carbon Specialist
- North Crops Institute

3:20 p.m. Chairman Monson reviewed the new long sheet #44745.

3:47 p.m. Representative Fisher moved to adopt LC #25.0187.02001, #44750.

3:48 p.m. Representative Pyle seconded the motion.

3:52 p.m. Chairman Monson recessed the meeting.

3:59 p.m. Chairman Monson reconvened the meeting.

Representatives	Vote
Representative David Monson	Y
Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y
Representative Glenn Bosch	Y
Representative Jay Fisher	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	Y
Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Representative Brandy L. Pyle	Y

Motion carried 7-0-0.

4:06 p.m. Representative Fisher moved a Do Pass as Amended.

4:06 p.m. Representative Bosch seconded motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative David Monson	Y
Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y
Representative Glenn Bosch	Y
Representative Jay Fisher	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	Y
Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Representative Brandy L. Pyle	Y

Motion carried 7-0-0.

Representative Fisher will carry the bill.

Additional written testimony:

Grand Gader, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Council, submitted neutral testimony #44745 and #44750.

4:07 p.m. Chairman Monson closed the meeting.

Madaline Cooper, Committee Clerk

Legislative Council

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase		$141,039	$314,606	$455,645		$141,039	$314,606	$455,645				$0
Health insurance increase		71,675	192,557	264,232		71,675	192,557	264,232				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		102,295	236,946	339,241		102,295	236,946	339,241				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)		(34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)				0
Removes vacant FTE position	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)				0
Adds funding for artificial intelligence in surface transportation				0				0				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
One-Time Funding Items												
Carbon dioxide transportation network study				$0				$0				$0
Autonomous surface transportation freight center				0				0				0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
2025-27 Total Funding	**42.88**	**$5,507,259**	**$20,088,231**	**$25,595,490**	**42.88**	**$5,507,259**	**$20,088,231**	**$25,595,490**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$13,006,610*				*$13,006,610*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Branch research centers - Budget No. 628
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Decreases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	(4.65)			$0	(4.65)			$0				$0
Salary increase		$625,768	$188,357	814,125		$625,768	$188,357	814,125				0
Health insurance increase		461,078	181,487	642,565		461,078	181,487	642,565				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		386,000		386,000		386,000		386,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		813,319	319,812	1,133,131		813,319	319,812	1,133,131				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(324,563)	(103,869)	(428,432)		(364,563)	(103,869)	(468,432)		($40,000)		(40,000)
Adds funding for an FTE grape/vineyard research specialist and an FTE agronomy research specialist				0		400,000		400,000		400,000		400,000
Adds funding for IT rate increases		19,095	19,425	38,520		19,095	19,425	38,520				0
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)				0
Adds funding for operating expenses				0		280,000	280,000	560,000		280,000	$280,000	560,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**(4.65)**	**$1,916,969**	**$605,212**	**$2,522,181**	**(4.65)**	**$2,556,969**	**$885,212**	**$3,442,181**	**0.00**	**$640,000**	**$280,000**	**$920,000**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(4.65)**	**$1,916,969**	**$605,212**	**$2,522,181**	**(4.65)**	**$2,556,969**	**$885,212**	**$3,442,181**	**0.00**	**$640,000**	**$280,000**	**$920,000**
2025-27 Total Funding	**107.16**	**$21,600,567**	**$21,570,183**	**$43,170,750**	**107.16**	**$22,240,567**	**$21,850,183**	**$44,090,750**	**0.00**	**$640,000**	**$280,000**	**$920,000**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*9.7%*	*2.9%*	*6.2%*	*(4.2%)*	*13.0%*	*4.2%*	*8.5%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*9.7%*	*2.9%*	*6.2%*	*(4.2%)*	*13.0%*	*4.2%*	*8.5%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Dickinson Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income	Section 4 authorizes the Dickinson Research Extension Center to spend up to $755,000 of revenue received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 4 authorizes the Dickinson Research Extension Center to spend up to $755,000 of revenue received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Williston Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income	Section 5 directs the Williston Research Extension Center to report to the 70th Legislative Assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 5 directs the Williston Research Extension Center to report to the 70th Legislative Assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 biennium.	

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the branch research centers, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the branch research centers, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the branch research centers and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the branch research centers and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the branch research centers into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the branch research centers into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,614,854)	($450,138)	($2,064,992)		($1,239,116)	($150,138)	($1,389,254)		$375,738	$300,000	$675,738
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	2.74			0	2.74			0				0
Salary increase		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451				0
Health insurance increase		720,767	738,096	1,458,863		720,767	738,096	1,458,863				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		410,000		410,000		410,000		410,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(682,950)	(625,819)	(1,308,769)		(710,450)	(625,819)	(1,336,269)		(27,500)		(27,500)
Adds funding for an FTE extension carbon specialist				0	1.00	290,000		290,000	1.00	290,000		290,000
Adjusts base funding for supplies, operating expenses, and temporary salaries				0		619,621		619,621		619,621		619,621
Adds funding for operating support				0			150,000	150,000			150,000	150,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**2.74**	**$1,608,742**	**$2,389,356**	**$3,998,098**	**3.74**	**$2,866,601**	**$2,839,356**	**$5,705,957**	**1.00**	**$1,257,859**	**$450,000**	**$1,707,859**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**2.74**	**$1,608,742**	**$2,389,356**	**$3,998,098**	**3.74**	**$2,866,601**	**$2,839,356**	**$5,705,957**	**1.00**	**$1,257,859**	**$450,000**	**$1,707,859**
2025-27 Total Funding	**255.44**	**$33,399,431**	**$31,439,132**	**$64,838,563**	**256.44**	**$34,657,290**	**$31,889,132**	**$66,546,422**	**1.00**	**$1,257,859**	**$450,000**	**$1,707,859**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$9,831,391*				*$9,831,391*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*5.1%*	*8.2%*	*6.6%*	*1.5%*	*9.0%*	*9.8%*	*9.4%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*5.1%*	*8.2%*	*6.6%*	*1.5%*	*9.0%*	*9.8%*	*9.4%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by NDSU Extension Service, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by NDSU Extension Service, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the NDSU Extension Service and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the NDSU Extension Service and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by NDSU Extension Service into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by NDSU Extension Service into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	0.20			$0	0.20			$0				$0
Salary increase		$76,883	$96,404	173,287		$76,883	$96,404	173,287				0
Health insurance increase		43,015	71,085	114,100		43,015	71,085	114,100				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		58,637	60,680	119,317		58,637	60,680	119,317				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(18,871)	(24,841)	(43,712)		(18,871)	(24,841)	(43,712)				0
Adds funding for operating expenses		638,800	299,600	938,400		638,800	299,600	938,400				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$502,928**	**$1,301,392**	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$502,928**	**$1,301,392**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding for a protein extraction and air classification system			$350,000	$350,000			$350,000	$350,000				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$852,928**	**$1,651,392**	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$852,928**	**$1,651,392**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
2025-27 Total Funding	**18.35**	**$2,982,119**	**$4,394,044**	**$7,376,163**	**18.35**	**$2,982,119**	**$4,394,044**	**$7,376,163**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*14.2%*	*22.7%*	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*14.2%*	*22.7%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*24.1%*	*28.8%*	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*24.1%*	*28.8%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Northern Crops Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Northern Crops Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Northern Crops Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Northern Crops Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
Exemption	Sections 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Northern Crops Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	Sections 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Northern Crops Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)		($291,232)	$291,232	$0		$938,345		$938,345
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	10.06			0	10.06			0				0
Salary increase		2,067,139	1,191,857	3,258,996		2,067,139	1,191,857	3,258,996				0
Health insurance increase		1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008		1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		220,000		220,000		220,000		220,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)				0
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)				0
Adds funding for an FTE scientist and an FTE research specialist for biofuels and carbon management				0				0				0
Adds funding for an FTE veterinary toxicology resident position	1.00	275,000		275,000	1.00	275,000		275,000				0
Removes vacant FTE positions	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)				0
Adjusts base funding for supplies, operating expenses, repairs, and travel		(320,198)	(1,704,146)	(2,024,344)		0	(1,704,146)	(1,704,146)		320,198		320,198
Adds funding for operating expenses			630,000	630,000			630,000	630,000				0
Adds funding for research equipment				0			1,000,000	1,000,000			$1,000,000	1,000,000
Adjusts base level funding for temporary salaries			(429,598)	(429,598)			0	0			429,598	429,598
Adjusts the funding source for graduate assistant salaries		(300,000)	300,000	0		(300,000)	300,000	0				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**6.08**	**$2,797,061**	**$2,152,229**	**$4,949,290**	**6.08**	**$4,055,604**	**$3,581,827**	**$7,637,431**	**0.00**	**$1,258,543**	**$1,429,598**	**$2,688,141**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site			$620,000	$620,000			$620,000	$620,000				$0
Adds funding for deferred maintenance				0			500,000	500,000			$500,000	500,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant			2,600,000	2,600,000			2,600,000	2,600,000				0
Equipment storage sheds		$1,567,500		1,567,500		$1,567,500		1,567,500				0
Nesson Valley irrigation research site			2,300,000	2,300,000			2,300,000	2,300,000				0
Williston equipment storage shed			200,000	200,000			200,000	200,000				0
Swine facility renovation			6,000,000	6,000,000			6,000,000	6,000,000				0
Main research center greenhouse addition			3,250,000	3,250,000			3,250,000	3,250,000				0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$14,970,000**	**$16,537,500**	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$15,470,000**	**$17,037,500**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$500,000**	**$500,000**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**6.08**	**$4,364,561**	**$17,122,229**	**$21,486,790**	**6.08**	**$5,623,104**	**$19,051,827**	**$24,674,931**	**0.00**	**$1,258,543**	**$1,929,598**	**$3,188,141**
2025-27 Total Funding	**364.55**	**$62,490,226**	**$75,144,694**	**$137,634,920**	**364.55**	**$63,748,769**	**$77,074,292**	**$140,823,061**	**0.00**	**$1,258,543**	**$1,929,598**	**$3,188,141**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$8,742,305*				*$8,742,305*				*$0*	

Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.7%*	*4.8%*	*3.7%*	*4.3%*	*1.7%*	*7.0%*	*6.2%*	*6.6%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.7%*	*7.5%*	*29.5%*	*18.5%*	*1.7%*	*9.7%*	*32.8%*	*21.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Main Research Center, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Main Research Center, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
SIIF	Section 7 identifies $1,970,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, Oakes irrigation research site, and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.	Section 7 identifies $2,470,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for deferred maintenance, the Langdon seed conditioning plant, Oakes irrigation research site, and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Main Research Center and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Main Research Center and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by Main Research Center into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by Main Research Center into the 2027-29 biennium.	
Exemption	Subsection 1 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended SIIF appropriation authority relating to the branch research center storage sheds appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	Subsection 1 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended SIIF appropriation authority relating to the branch research center storage sheds appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	
Exemption	Subsection 2 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority relating to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].	Subsection 2 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority relating to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	
Exemption		Section 12 allows the Main Research Center to expend funds for storage sheds without procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer.	
Emergency		Section 13 declares the $6 million in the other funds line item in Section 1 for the swine facility renovation to be an emergency measure.	

Legislative Council

Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase			$24,093	$24,093			$24,093	$24,093				$0
Health insurance increase			18,016	18,016			18,016	18,016				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool			8,312	8,312			8,312	8,312				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool			(3,147)	(3,147)			(3,147)	(3,147)				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
2025-27 Total Funding	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,679,996**	**$1,679,996**	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,679,996**	**$1,679,996**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Agronomy Seed Farm, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Agronomy Seed Farm, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Agronomy Seed Farm and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Agronomy Seed Farm and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Agronomy Seed Farm into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Agronomy Seed Farm into the 2027-29 biennium.	

25.0187.02001
Title.
Fiscal No. 1

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for House Appropriations - Government Operations Division Committee
April 2, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; ~~and~~ to provide an exemption; and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation

~~Extension service~~	~~$59,478,945~~	~~$944,303~~	~~$60,423,248~~
Extension service	$59,478,945	$2,404,662	$61,883,607
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
~~New and vacant FTE pool~~	~~0~~	~~3,053,795~~	~~3,053,795~~
~~Total all funds~~	~~$60,840,465~~	~~$3,998,098~~	~~$64,838,563~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~29,049,776~~	~~2,389,356~~	~~31,439,132~~
~~Total general fund~~	~~$31,790,689~~	~~$1,608,742~~	~~$33,399,431~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~252.70~~	~~2.74~~	~~255.44~~
New and vacant FTE pool	0	3,301,295	3,301,295
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$5,705,957	$66,546,422
Less other funds	29,049,776	2,839,356	31,889,132
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$2,866,601	$34,657,290
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	3.74	256.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,549,397	$7,274,168
New and vacant FTE pool	0	101,995	101,995
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less other funds	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	0	266,019	266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490

Less other funds	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Main research center~~	~~$116,148,130~~	~~$16,426,589~~	~~$132,574,719~~
Main research center	$116,148,130	$19,614,730	$135,762,860
New and vacant FTE pool	0	5,060,201	5,060,201
~~Total all funds~~	~~$116,148,130~~	~~$21,486,790~~	~~$137,634,920~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~58,022,465~~	~~17,122,229~~	~~75,144,694~~
~~Total general fund~~	~~$58,125,665~~	~~$4,364,561~~	~~$62,490,226~~
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$24,674,931	$140,823,061
Less other funds	58,022,465	19,051,827	77,074,292
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$5,623,104	$63,748,769
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	6.08	364.55

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Dickinson research center~~	~~$7,379,838~~	~~$355,827~~	~~$7,735,665~~
~~Central grasslands research center~~	~~3,618,270~~	~~88,766~~	~~3,707,036~~
~~Hettinger research center~~	~~5,381,248~~	~~160,658~~	~~5,541,906~~
~~Langdon research center~~	~~3,195,869~~	~~280,058~~	~~3,475,927~~
~~North Central research center~~	~~5,355,217~~	~~122,311~~	~~5,477,528~~
~~Williston research center~~	~~5,527,125~~	~~186,785~~	~~5,713,910~~
~~Carrington research center~~	~~10,191,002~~	~~328,102~~	~~10,519,104~~
~~New and vacant FTE pool~~	~~0~~	~~999,674~~	~~999,674~~
~~Total all funds~~	~~$40,648,569~~	~~$2,522,181~~	~~$43,170,750~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~20,964,971~~	~~605,212~~	~~21,570,183~~

~~Total general fund~~	~~$19,683,598~~	~~$1,916,969~~	~~$21,600,567~~
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$435,827	$7,815,665
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	168,766	3,787,036
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	240,658	5,621,906
Langdon research center	3,195,869	360,058	3,555,927
North Central research center	5,355,217	202,311	5,557,528
Williston research center	5,527,125	266,785	5,793,910
Carrington research center	10,191,002	408,102	10,599,104
New and vacant FTE pool	0	1,359,674	1,359,674
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$3,442,181	$44,090,750
Less other funds	20,964,971	885,212	21,850,183
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$2,556,969	$22,240,567
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$39,931	$1,672,653
New and vacant FTE pool	0	7,343	7,343
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Grand total all funds~~	~~$249,802,173~~	~~$30,493,709~~	~~$280,295,882~~
~~Less grand total other funds~~	~~132,792,191~~	~~21,524,089~~	~~154,316,280~~
~~Grand total general fund~~	~~$117,009,982~~	~~$8,969,620~~	~~$125,979,602~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~788.01~~	~~3.37~~	~~791.38~~
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$36,309,709	$286,111,882
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	24,183,687	156,975,878

Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$12,126,022	$129,136,004
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	4.37	792.38

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which each entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

One-Time Funding Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Northern crops institute			
Protein extraction and air classification system	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Total northern crops institute	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Main research center			
Equipment storage sheds	$1,567,500	$0	$1,567,500
Oakes irrigation research site interior	0	620,000	620,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000	2,600,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site	0	2,300,000	2,300,000
Deferred maintenance	0	500,000	500,000
Williston research center storage shed	0	200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation	0	6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition	0	3,250,000	3,250,000
~~Total main research center~~	~~$1,567,500~~	~~$14,970,000~~	~~$16,537,550~~
~~Grand total~~	~~$1,567,500~~	~~$15,320,000~~	~~$16,887,500~~
Total main research center	$1,567,500	$15,470,000	$17,037,500
Grand total	$1,567,500	$15,820,000	$17,387,500

SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST. The North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch

research centers, and agronomy seed farm line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 7. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The other funds line item in subdivision 4 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of ~~$1,970,000~~$2,470,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund, of which $950,000 is for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, $620,000 is for the Oakes irrigation research site, $500,000 is for deferred maintenance, and $400,000 is for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer

appropriation authority, except appropriation authority in the new and vacant FTE pool line items, within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

1. The sum of $475,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund for storage sheds in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws; and
2. The sum of $1,700,000 appropriated from the general fund for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site project in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws. ~~The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].~~

SECTION 12. EXEMPTION - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION. The main research center, for its use of the $1,567,500 appropriated from

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Branch Research Centers - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$999,674	$360,000	$1,359,674
Dickinson Research Center	$7,379,838	7,735,665	80,000	7,815,665
Central Grasslands Research Center	3,618,270	3,707,036	80,000	3,787,036
Hettinger Research Center	5,381,248	5,541,906	80,000	5,621,906
Langdon Research Center	3,195,869	3,475,927	80,000	3,555,927
North Central Research Center	5,355,217	5,477,528	80,000	5,557,528
Williston Research Center	5,527,125	5,713,910	80,000	5,793,910
Carrington Research Center	10,191,002	10,519,104	80,000	10,599,104
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$43,170,750	$920,000	$44,090,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	21,570,183	280,000	21,850,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$21,600,567	$640,000	$22,240,567
FTE	111.81	107.16	0.00	107.16

Department 628 - Branch Research Centers - Detail of House Changes

	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[1]	Adds Funding for Research Specialist Positions[2]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[3]	Total House Changes
New and vacant FTE pool	$360,000			$360,000
Dickinson Research Center			$80,000	80,000
Central Grasslands Research Center			80,000	80,000
Hettinger Research Center			80,000	80,000
Langdon Research Center			80,000	80,000
North Central Research Center	(400,000)	$400,000	80,000	80,000
Williston Research Center			80,000	80,000
Carrington Research Center			80,000	80,000
Total all funds	($40,000)	$400,000	$560,000	$920,000
Less estimated income	0	0	280,000	280,000
General fund	($40,000)	$400,000	$280,000	$640,000
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] Funding of $400,000 is removed for new research specialist positions and $360,000 is added for the positions in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.

[2] Funding of $400,000 from the general fund is added for a grape and vineyard research specialist and an agronomy research specialist. The State Board of Higher Education may increase the number of authorized FTE positions pursuant to Section 9 for these positions.

[3] Funding of $280,000 from the general fund and $280,000 from local funds is added for operating expenses at the branch research centers.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - NDSU Extension Service - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$3,053,795	$247,500	$3,301,295
Extension Service	$59,478,945	60,423,248	1,460,359	61,883,607
Soil Conservation Committee	1,361,520	1,361,520		1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$64,838,563	$1,707,859	$66,546,422
Less estimated income	29,049,776	31,439,132	450,000	31,889,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$33,399,431	$1,257,859	$34,657,290
FTE	252.70	255.44	1.00	256.44

Department 630 - NDSU Extension Service - Detail of House Changes

	Adds Funding to Restore Base Budget Reductions[1]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[2]	Adds Funding for an FTE Extension Carbon Specialist[3]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[4]	Total House Changes
New and vacant FTE pool		$247,500			$247,500
Extension Service	$1,295,359	(275,000)	$290,000	$150,000	1,460,359
Soil Conservation Committee					
Total all funds	$1,295,359	($27,500)	$290,000	$150,000	$1,707,859
Less estimated income	300,000	0	0	150,000	450,000
General fund	$995,359	($27,500)	$290,000	$0	$1,257,859
FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00

[1] Funding of $995,359 from the general fund and $300,000 from local funds is added to to restore a portion of the funding removed by the Senate for base budget reductions.

[2] Funding of $275,000 for a new FTE extension carbon specialist position is removed and $247,500 is added for the position in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.

[3] Funding of $290,000 is added from the general fund for an FTE extension carbon specialist position, including $15,000 for operating expenses.

[4] Funding of $150,000 from local funds is added for operating expenses.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Northern Crops Institute - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$101,995		$101,995
Northern Crops Institute	$5,724,771	7,274,168		7,274,168
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$7,376,163	$0	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	4,394,044	0	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$2,982,119	$0	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	18.35	0.00	18.35

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Main Research Center - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$5,060,201		$5,060,201
Main Research Center	$116,148,130	132,574,719	$3,188,141	135,762,860
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$137,634,920	$3,188,141	$140,823,061
Less estimated income	58,022,465	75,144,694	1,929,598	77,074,292
General fund	$58,125,665	$62,490,226	$1,258,543	$63,748,769
FTE	358.47	364.55	0.00	364.55

Department 640 - Main Research Center - Detail of House Changes

	Adds Funding to Restore Base Budget Reductions[1]	Adds Funding for Research Equipment[2]	Adds One-Time Funding for Deferred Maintenance[3]	Total House Changes
New and vacant FTE pool				
Main Research Center	$1,688,141	$1,000,000	$500,000	$3,188,141
Total all funds	$1,688,141	$1,000,000	$500,000	$3,188,141
Less estimated income	429,598	1,000,000	500,000	1,929,598
General fund	$1,258,543	$0	$0	$1,258,543
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] Funding of $1,258,543 from the general fund and $429,598 from local funds is added to restore a portion of the funding removed by the Senate for base budget reductions.

[2] Funding of $1 million from local funds is added for research equipment.

[3] One-time funding of $500,000 is added from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) for deferred maintenance projects.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Agronomy Seed Farm - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$7,343		$7,343
Agronomy Seed Farm	$1,632,722	1,672,653		1,672,653
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$1,679,996	$0	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	1,679,996	0	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	3.00	0.00	3.00

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Other Changes - House Action

The amendment also:

- Amends a section identifying $2,470,000 appropriated in Section 1 from SIIF. The Senate appropriated $1,970,000 from SIIF.
- Amends a section to remove requirements added by the Senate for the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site.
- Adds a section to exempt the Main Research Center from Section 48-01.2-02.1, relating to procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer, for equipment storage sheds construction.
- Adds a section to declare the $6 million in the other funds line item in Section 1 for the swine facility renovation to be an emergency measure.

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
4/9/2025

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

9:18 a.m. Chairman Vigesaa opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Vigesaa, Vice Chairman Kempenich, Representatives Anderson, Berg, Bosch, Brandenburg, Fisher, Hanson, Louser, Meier, Mitskog, Monson, Murphy, Nathe, Nelson, O'Brien, Pyle, Richter, Sanford, Stemen, Wagner

Members absent: Martinson, Swiontek

Discussion Topics:

- Committee Action
- Greenhouse Addition

9:20 a.m. Representative Fisher introduced Amendment LC #25.0187.02001, #44841, and additional testimony #44842.

9:54 a.m. Representative Fisher moved to adopt Amendment LC #25.0187.02001.

9:54 a.m. Representative Brandenburg seconded the motion.

9:54 a.m. Roll Call Vote

Representatives	Vote
Representative Don Vigesaa	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	Y
Representative Bert Anderson	Y
Representative Mike Berg	Y
Representative Glenn Bosch	Y
Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y
Representative Jay Fisher	Y
Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Representative Scott Louser	AB
Representative Bob Martinson	AB
Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Representative Alisa Mitskog	Y
Representative David Monson	Y
Representative Eric J. Murphy	Y
Representative Mike Nathe	Y
Representative Jon O. Nelson	Y

Representative Emily O'Brien	Y
Representative Brandy L. Pyle	Y
Representative David Richter	Y
Representative Mark Sanford	Y
Representative Gregory Stemen	Y
Representative Steve Swiontek	AB
Representative Scott Wagner	Y

9:54 a.m. Motion passed 20-0-3.

9:55 a.m. Representative Fisher moved Do Pass as Amended.

9:55 a.m. Representative Stemen seconded the motion.

9:56 a.m. Roll Call Vote

Representatives	Vote
Representative Don Vigesaa	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	Y
Representative Bert Anderson	Y
Representative Mike Berg	Y
Representative Glenn Bosch	Y
Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y
Representative Jay Fisher	Y
Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Representative Scott Louser	AB
Representative Bob Martinson	AB
Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Representative Alisa Mitskog	Y
Representative David Monson	Y
Representative Eric J. Murphy	Y
Representative Mike Nathe	Y
Representative Jon O. Nelson	Y
Representative Emily O'Brien	Y
Representative Brandy L. Pyle	Y
Representative David Richter	Y
Representative Mark Sanford	Y
Representative Gregory Stemen	Y
Representative Steve Swiontek	AB
Representative Scott Wagner	Y

9:56 a.m. Motion passed 20-0-3.

9:56 a.m. Representative Fisher will carry the bill.

10:00 a.m. Chairman Vigesaa adjourned the meeting.

Krystal Eberle, Committee Clerk

25.0187.02001
Title.03000
Fiscal No. 1

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for House Appropriations - Government Operations Division Committee

April 2, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

VC 4/9/25
1 of 12

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; ~~and~~ to provide an exemption; and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation

~~Extension service~~	~~$59,478,945~~	~~$944,303~~	~~$60,423,248~~
Extension service	$59,478,945	$2,404,662	$61,883,607
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
~~New and vacant FTE pool~~	~~0~~	~~3,053,795~~	~~3,053,795~~
~~Total all funds~~	~~$60,840,465~~	~~$3,998,098~~	~~$64,838,563~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~29,049,776~~	~~2,389,356~~	~~31,439,132~~
~~Total general fund~~	~~$31,790,689~~	~~$1,608,742~~	~~$33,399,431~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~252.70~~	~~2.74~~	~~255.44~~
New and vacant FTE pool	0	3,301,295	3,301,295
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$5,705,957	$66,546,422
Less other funds	29,049,776	2,839,356	31,889,132
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$2,866,601	$34,657,290
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	3.74	256.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,549,397	$7,274,168
New and vacant FTE pool	0	101,995	101,995
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less other funds	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	0	266,019	266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490

Less other funds	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Main research center~~	~~$116,148,130~~	~~$16,426,589~~	~~$132,574,719~~
Main research center	$116,148,130	$19,614,730	$135,762,860
New and vacant FTE pool	0	5,060,201	5,060,201
~~Total all funds~~	~~$116,148,130~~	~~$21,486,790~~	~~$137,634,920~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~58,022,465~~	~~17,122,229~~	~~75,144,694~~
~~Total general fund~~	~~$58,125,665~~	~~$4,364,561~~	~~$62,490,226~~
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$24,674,931	$140,823,061
Less other funds	58,022,465	19,051,827	77,074,292
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$5,623,104	$63,748,769
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	6.08	364.55

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Dickinson research center~~	~~$7,379,838~~	~~$355,827~~	~~$7,735,665~~
~~Central grasslands research center~~	~~3,618,270~~	~~88,766~~	~~3,707,036~~
~~Hettinger research center~~	~~5,381,248~~	~~160,658~~	~~5,541,906~~
~~Langdon research center~~	~~3,195,869~~	~~280,058~~	~~3,475,927~~
~~North Central research center~~	~~5,355,217~~	~~122,311~~	~~5,477,528~~
~~Williston research center~~	~~5,527,125~~	~~186,785~~	~~5,713,910~~
~~Carrington research center~~	~~10,191,002~~	~~328,102~~	~~10,519,104~~
~~New and vacant FTE pool~~	~~0~~	~~999,674~~	~~999,674~~
~~Total all funds~~	~~$40,648,569~~	~~$2,522,181~~	~~$43,170,750~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~20,964,971~~	~~605,212~~	~~21,570,183~~

~~Total general fund~~	~~$19,683,598~~	~~$1,916,969~~	~~$21,600,567~~
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$435,827	$7,815,665
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	168,766	3,787,036
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	240,658	5,621,906
Langdon research center	3,195,869	360,058	3,555,927
North Central research center	5,355,217	202,311	5,557,528
Williston research center	5,527,125	266,785	5,793,910
Carrington research center	10,191,002	408,102	10,599,104
New and vacant FTE pool	0	1,359,674	1,359,674
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$3,442,181	$44,090,750
Less other funds	20,964,971	885,212	21,850,183
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$2,556,969	$22,240,567
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$39,931	$1,672,653
New and vacant FTE pool	0	7,343	7,343
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Grand total all funds~~	~~$249,802,173~~	~~$30,493,709~~	~~$280,295,882~~
~~Less grand total other funds~~	~~132,792,191~~	~~21,524,089~~	~~154,316,280~~
~~Grand total general fund~~	~~$117,009,982~~	~~$8,969,620~~	~~$125,979,602~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~788.01~~	~~3.37~~	~~791.38~~
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$36,309,709	$286,111,882
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	24,183,687	156,975,878

Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$12,126,022	$129,136,004
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	4.37	792.38

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which each entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

One-Time Funding Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Northern crops institute			
Protein extraction and air classification system	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Total northern crops institute	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Main research center			
Equipment storage sheds	$1,567,500	$0	$1,567,500
Oakes irrigation research site interior	0	620,000	620,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000	2,600,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site	0	2,300,000	2,300,000
Deferred maintenance	0	500,000	500,000
Williston research center storage shed	0	200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation	0	6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition	0	3,250,000	3,250,000
~~Total main research center~~	~~$1,567,500~~	~~$14,970,000~~	~~$16,537,550~~
~~Grand total~~	~~$1,567,500~~	~~$15,320,000~~	~~$16,887,500~~
Total main research center	$1,567,500	$15,470,000	$17,037,500
Grand total	$1,567,500	$15,820,000	$17,387,500

SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST. The North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch

research centers, and agronomy seed farm line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 7. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The other funds line item in subdivision 4 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of ~~$1,970,000~~$2,470,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund, of which $950,000 is for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, $620,000 is for the Oakes irrigation research site, $500,000 is for deferred maintenance, and $400,000 is for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer

appropriation authority, except appropriation authority in the new and vacant FTE pool line items, within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

1. The sum of $475,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund for storage sheds in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws; and
2. The sum of $1,700,000 appropriated from the general fund for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site project in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws. ~~The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].~~

SECTION 12. EXEMPTION - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION. The main research center, for its use of the $1,567,500 appropriated from

the general fund for branch research center storage sheds is not subject to the provisions of section 48-01.2-02.1, and the main research center may spend this funding without procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer.

SECTION 13. EMERGENCY. The $6,000,000 appropriated from other funds for the swine facility renovation in subdivision 4 of section 1 of this Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Summary of House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
Transportation Institute				
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$25,595,490	$0	$25,595,490
Less estimated income	19,581,141	20,088,231	0	20,088,231
General fund	$5,226,375	$5,507,259	$0	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	42.88	0.00	42.88
Branch Research Centers				
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$43,170,750	$920,000	$44,090,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	21,570,183	280,000	21,850,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$21,600,567	$640,000	$22,240,567
FTE	111.81	107.16	0.00	107.16
NDSU Extension Service				
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$64,838,563	$1,707,859	$66,546,422
Less estimated income	29,049,776	31,439,132	450,000	31,889,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$33,399,431	$1,257,859	$34,657,290
FTE	252.70	255.44	1.00	256.44
Northern Crops Institute				
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$7,376,163	$0	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	4,394,044	0	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$2,982,119	$0	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	18.35	0.00	18.35
Main Research Center				
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$137,634,920	$3,188,141	$140,823,061
Less estimated income	58,022,465	75,144,694	1,929,598	77,074,292
General fund	$58,125,665	$62,490,226	$1,258,543	$63,748,769
FTE	358.47	364.55	0.00	364.55
Agronomy Seed Farm				
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$1,679,996	$0	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	1,679,996	0	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	3.00	0.00	3.00
Bill total				
Total all funds	$249,802,173	$280,295,882	$5,816,000	$286,111,882
Less estimated income	132,792,191	154,316,280	2,659,598	156,975,878
General fund	$117,009,982	$125,979,602	$3,156,402	$129,136,004
FTE	788.01	791.38	1.00	792.38

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Transportation Institute - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$266,019		$266,019
Upper Great Plains Trans. Institute	$24,807,516	25,329,471		25,329,471
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$25,595,490	$0	$25,595,490
Less estimated income	19,581,141	20,088,231	0	20,088,231
General fund	$5,226,375	$5,507,259	$0	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	42.88	0.00	42.88

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Senate Bill No. 2020 - Branch Research Centers - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$999,674	$360,000	$1,359,674
Dickinson Research Center	$7,379,838	7,735,665	80,000	7,815,665
Central Grasslands Research Center	3,618,270	3,707,036	80,000	3,787,036
Hettinger Research Center	5,381,248	5,541,906	80,000	5,621,906
Langdon Research Center	3,195,869	3,475,927	80,000	3,555,927
North Central Research Center	5,355,217	5,477,528	80,000	5,557,528
Williston Research Center	5,527,125	5,713,910	80,000	5,793,910
Carrington Research Center	10,191,002	10,519,104	80,000	10,599,104
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$43,170,750	$920,000	$44,090,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	21,570,183	280,000	21,850,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$21,600,567	$640,000	$22,240,567
FTE	111.81	107.16	0.00	107.16

Department 628 - Branch Research Centers - Detail of House Changes

	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[1]	Adds Funding for Research Specialist Positions[2]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[3]	Total House Changes
New and vacant FTE pool	$360,000			$360,000
Dickinson Research Center			$80,000	80,000
Central Grasslands Research Center			80,000	80,000
Hettinger Research Center			80,000	80,000
Langdon Research Center			80,000	80,000
North Central Research Center	(400,000)	$400,000	80,000	80,000
Williston Research Center			80,000	80,000
Carrington Research Center			80,000	80,000
Total all funds	($40,000)	$400,000	$560,000	$920,000
Less estimated income	0	0	280,000	280,000
General fund	($40,000)	$400,000	$280,000	$640,000
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] Funding of $400,000 is removed for new research specialist positions and $360,000 is added for the positions in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.

[2] Funding of $400,000 from the general fund is added for a grape and vineyard research specialist and an agronomy research specialist. The State Board of Higher Education may increase the number of authorized FTE positions pursuant to Section 9 for these positions.

[3] Funding of $280,000 from the general fund and $280,000 from local funds is added for operating expenses at the branch research centers.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - NDSU Extension Service - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$3,053,795	$247,500	$3,301,295
Extension Service	$59,478,945	60,423,248	1,460,359	61,883,607
Soil Conservation Committee	1,361,520	1,361,520		1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$64,838,563	$1,707,859	$66,546,422
Less estimated income	29,049,776	31,439,132	450,000	31,889,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$33,399,431	$1,257,859	$34,657,290
FTE	252.70	255.44	1.00	256.44

Department 630 - NDSU Extension Service - Detail of House Changes

	Adds Funding to Restore Base Budget Reductions[1]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[2]	Adds Funding for an FTE Extension Carbon Specialist[3]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[4]	Total House Changes
New and vacant FTE pool		$247,500			$247,500
Extension Service	$1,295,359	(275,000)	$290,000	$150,000	1,460,359
Soil Conservation Committee					
Total all funds	$1,295,359	($27,500)	$290,000	$150,000	$1,707,859
Less estimated income	300,000	0	0	150,000	450,000
General fund	$995,359	($27,500)	$290,000	$0	$1,257,859
FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00

[1] Funding of $995,359 from the general fund and $300,000 from local funds is added to to restore a portion of the funding removed by the Senate for base budget reductions.

[2] Funding of $275,000 for a new FTE extension carbon specialist position is removed and $247,500 is added for the position in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.

[3] Funding of $290,000 is added from the general fund for an FTE extension carbon specialist position, including $15,000 for operating expenses.

[4] Funding of $150,000 from local funds is added for operating expenses.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Northern Crops Institute - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$101,995		$101,995
Northern Crops Institute	$5,724,771	7,274,168		7,274,168
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$7,376,163	$0	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	4,394,044	0	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$2,982,119	$0	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	18.35	0.00	18.35

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Main Research Center - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$5,060,201		$5,060,201
Main Research Center	$116,148,130	132,574,719	$3,188,141	135,762,860
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$137,634,920	$3,188,141	$140,823,061
Less estimated income	58,022,465	75,144,694	1,929,598	77,074,292
General fund	$58,125,665	$62,490,226	$1,258,543	$63,748,769
FTE	358.47	364.55	0.00	364.55

Department 640 - Main Research Center - Detail of House Changes

	Adds Funding to Restore Base Budget Reductions[1]	Adds Funding for Research Equipment[2]	Adds One-Time Funding for Deferred Maintenance[3]	Total House Changes
New and vacant FTE pool				
Main Research Center	$1,688,141	$1,000,000	$500,000	$3,188,141
Total all funds	$1,688,141	$1,000,000	$500,000	$3,188,141
Less estimated income	429,598	1,000,000	500,000	1,929,598
General fund	$1,258,543	$0	$0	$1,258,543
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] Funding of $1,258,543 from the general fund and $429,598 from local funds is added to restore a portion of the funding removed by the Senate for base budget reductions.

[2] Funding of $1 million from local funds is added for research equipment.

[3] One-time funding of $500,000 is added from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) for deferred maintenance projects.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Agronomy Seed Farm - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$7,343		$7,343
Agronomy Seed Farm	$1,632,722	1,672,653		1,672,653
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$1,679,996	$0	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	1,679,996	0	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	3.00	0.00	3.00

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Other Changes - House Action

The amendment also:

- Amends a section identifying $2,470,000 appropriated in Section 1 from SIIF. The Senate appropriated $1,970,000 from SIIF.
- Amends a section to remove requirements added by the Senate for the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site.
- Adds a section to exempt the Main Research Center from Section 48-01.2-02.1, relating to procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer, for equipment storage sheds construction.
- Adds a section to declare the $6 million in the other funds line item in Section 1 for the swine facility renovation to be an emergency measure.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
ENGROSSED SB 2020

Appropriations Committee (Rep. Vigesaa, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS (25.0187.02001)** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (20 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 3 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2020 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

25.0187.02001
Title.
Fiscal No. 1

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for House Appropriations - Government Operations Division Committee
April 2, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; ~~and~~ to provide an exemption; and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation

~~Extension service~~	~~$59,478,945~~	~~$944,303~~	~~$60,423,248~~
Extension service	$59,478,945	$2,404,662	$61,883,607
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
~~New and vacant FTE pool~~	~~0~~	~~3,053,795~~	~~3,053,795~~
~~Total all funds~~	~~$60,840,465~~	~~$3,998,098~~	~~$64,838,563~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~29,049,776~~	~~2,389,356~~	~~31,439,132~~
~~Total general fund~~	~~$31,790,689~~	~~$1,608,742~~	~~$33,399,431~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~252.70~~	~~2.74~~	~~255.44~~
New and vacant FTE pool	0	3,301,295	3,301,295
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$5,705,957	$66,546,422
Less other funds	29,049,776	2,839,356	31,889,132
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$2,866,601	$34,657,290
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	3.74	256.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,549,397	$7,274,168
New and vacant FTE pool	0	101,995	101,995
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less other funds	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	0	266,019	266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490

Less other funds	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Main research center~~	~~$116,148,130~~	~~$16,426,589~~	~~$132,574,719~~
Main research center	$116,148,130	$19,614,730	$135,762,860
New and vacant FTE pool	0	5,060,201	5,060,201
~~Total all funds~~	~~$116,148,130~~	~~$21,486,790~~	~~$137,634,920~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~58,022,465~~	~~17,122,229~~	~~75,144,694~~
~~Total general fund~~	~~$58,125,665~~	~~$4,364,561~~	~~$62,490,226~~
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$24,674,931	$140,823,061
Less other funds	58,022,465	19,051,827	77,074,292
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$5,623,104	$63,748,769
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	6.08	364.55

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Dickinson research center~~	~~$7,379,838~~	~~$355,827~~	~~$7,735,665~~
~~Central grasslands research center~~	~~3,618,270~~	~~88,766~~	~~3,707,036~~
~~Hettinger research center~~	~~5,381,248~~	~~160,658~~	~~5,541,906~~
~~Langdon research center~~	~~3,195,869~~	~~280,058~~	~~3,475,927~~
~~North Central research center~~	~~5,355,217~~	~~122,311~~	~~5,477,528~~
~~Williston research center~~	~~5,527,125~~	~~186,785~~	~~5,713,910~~
~~Carrington research center~~	~~10,191,002~~	~~328,102~~	~~10,519,104~~
~~New and vacant FTE pool~~	~~0~~	~~999,674~~	~~999,674~~
~~Total all funds~~	~~$40,648,569~~	~~$2,522,181~~	~~$43,170,750~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~20,964,971~~	~~605,212~~	~~21,570,183~~

~~Total general fund~~	~~$19,683,598~~	~~$1,916,969~~	~~$21,600,567~~
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$435,827	$7,815,665
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	168,766	3,787,036
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	240,658	5,621,906
Langdon research center	3,195,869	360,058	3,555,927
North Central research center	5,355,217	202,311	5,557,528
Williston research center	5,527,125	266,785	5,793,910
Carrington research center	10,191,002	408,102	10,599,104
New and vacant FTE pool	0	1,359,674	1,359,674
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$3,442,181	$44,090,750
Less other funds	20,964,971	885,212	21,850,183
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$2,556,969	$22,240,567
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$39,931	$1,672,653
New and vacant FTE pool	0	7,343	7,343
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Grand total all funds~~	~~$249,802,173~~	~~$30,493,709~~	~~$280,295,882~~
~~Less grand total other funds~~	~~132,792,191~~	~~21,524,089~~	~~154,316,280~~
~~Grand total general fund~~	~~$117,009,982~~	~~$8,969,620~~	~~$125,979,602~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~788.01~~	~~3.37~~	~~791.38~~
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$36,309,709	$286,111,882
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	24,183,687	156,975,878

Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$12,126,022	$129,136,004
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	4.37	792.38

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which each entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

One-Time Funding Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Northern crops institute			
Protein extraction and air classification system	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Total northern crops institute	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Main research center			
Equipment storage sheds	$1,567,500	$0	$1,567,500
Oakes irrigation research site interior	0	620,000	620,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000	2,600,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site	0	2,300,000	2,300,000
Deferred maintenance	0	500,000	500,000
Williston research center storage shed	0	200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation	0	6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition	0	3,250,000	3,250,000
~~Total main research center~~	~~$1,567,500~~	~~$14,970,000~~	~~$16,537,550~~
~~Grand total~~	~~$1,567,500~~	~~$15,320,000~~	~~$16,887,500~~
Total main research center	$1,567,500	$15,470,000	$17,037,500
Grand total	$1,567,500	$15,820,000	$17,387,500

SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST. The North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch

research centers, and agronomy seed farm line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 7. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The other funds line item in subdivision 4 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of ~~$1,970,000~~$2,470,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund, of which $950,000 is for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, $620,000 is for the Oakes irrigation research site, $500,000 is for deferred maintenance, and $400,000 is for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer

appropriation authority, except appropriation authority in the new and vacant FTE pool line items, within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

1. The sum of $475,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund for storage sheds in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws; and
2. The sum of $1,700,000 appropriated from the general fund for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site project in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws. ~~The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].~~

SECTION 12. EXEMPTION - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION. The main research center, for its use of the $1,567,500 appropriated from

the general fund for branch research center storage sheds is not subject to the provisions of section 48-01.2-02.1, and the main research center may spend this funding without procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer.

SECTION 13. EMERGENCY. The $6,000,000 appropriated from other funds for the swine facility renovation in subdivision 4 of section 1 of this Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Summary of House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
Transportation Institute				
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$25,595,490	$0	$25,595,490
Less estimated income	19,581,141	20,088,231	0	20,088,231
General fund	$5,226,375	$5,507,259	$0	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	42.88	0.00	42.88
Branch Research Centers				
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$43,170,750	$920,000	$44,090,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	21,570,183	280,000	21,850,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$21,600,567	$640,000	$22,240,567
FTE	111.81	107.16	0.00	107.16
NDSU Extension Service				
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$64,838,563	$1,707,859	$66,546,422
Less estimated income	29,049,776	31,439,132	450,000	31,889,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$33,399,431	$1,257,859	$34,657,290
FTE	252.70	255.44	1.00	256.44
Northern Crops Institute				
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$7,376,163	$0	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	4,394,044	0	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$2,982,119	$0	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	18.35	0.00	18.35
Main Research Center				
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$137,634,920	$3,188,141	$140,823,061
Less estimated income	58,022,465	75,144,694	1,929,598	77,074,292
General fund	$58,125,665	$62,490,226	$1,258,543	$63,748,769
FTE	358.47	364.55	0.00	364.55
Agronomy Seed Farm				
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$1,679,996	$0	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	1,679,996	0	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	3.00	0.00	3.00
Bill total				
Total all funds	$249,802,173	$280,295,882	$5,816,000	$286,111,882
Less estimated income	132,792,191	154,316,280	2,659,598	156,975,878
General fund	$117,009,982	$125,979,602	$3,156,402	$129,136,004
FTE	788.01	791.38	1.00	792.38

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Transportation Institute - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$266,019		$266,019
Upper Great Plains Trans. Institute	$24,807,516	25,329,471		25,329,471
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$25,595,490	$0	$25,595,490
Less estimated income	19,581,141	20,088,231	0	20,088,231
General fund	$5,226,375	$5,507,259	$0	$5,507,259
FTE	43.88	42.88	0.00	42.88

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Branch Research Centers - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$999,674	$360,000	$1,359,674
Dickinson Research Center	$7,379,838	7,735,665	80,000	7,815,665
Central Grasslands Research Center	3,618,270	3,707,036	80,000	3,787,036
Hettinger Research Center	5,381,248	5,541,906	80,000	5,621,906
Langdon Research Center	3,195,869	3,475,927	80,000	3,555,927
North Central Research Center	5,355,217	5,477,528	80,000	5,557,528
Williston Research Center	5,527,125	5,713,910	80,000	5,793,910
Carrington Research Center	10,191,002	10,519,104	80,000	10,599,104
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$43,170,750	$920,000	$44,090,750
Less estimated income	20,964,971	21,570,183	280,000	21,850,183
General fund	$19,683,598	$21,600,567	$640,000	$22,240,567
FTE	111.81	107.16	0.00	107.16

Department 628 - Branch Research Centers - Detail of House Changes

	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[1]	Adds Funding for Research Specialist Positions[2]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[3]	Total House Changes
New and vacant FTE pool	$360,000			$360,000
Dickinson Research Center			$80,000	80,000
Central Grasslands Research Center			80,000	80,000
Hettinger Research Center			80,000	80,000
Langdon Research Center			80,000	80,000
North Central Research Center	(400,000)	$400,000	80,000	80,000
Williston Research Center			80,000	80,000
Carrington Research Center			80,000	80,000
Total all funds	($40,000)	$400,000	$560,000	$920,000
Less estimated income	0	0	280,000	280,000
General fund	($40,000)	$400,000	$280,000	$640,000
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] Funding of $400,000 is removed for new research specialist positions and $360,000 is added for the positions in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.

[2] Funding of $400,000 from the general fund is added for a grape and vineyard research specialist and an agronomy research specialist. The State Board of Higher Education may increase the number of authorized FTE positions pursuant to Section 9 for these positions.

[3] Funding of $280,000 from the general fund and $280,000 from local funds is added for operating expenses at the branch research centers.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - NDSU Extension Service - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$3,053,795	$247,500	$3,301,295
Extension Service	$59,478,945	60,423,248	1,460,359	61,883,607
Soil Conservation Committee	1,361,520	1,361,520		1,361,520
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$64,838,563	$1,707,859	$66,546,422
Less estimated income	29,049,776	31,439,132	450,000	31,889,132
General fund	$31,790,689	$33,399,431	$1,257,859	$34,657,290
FTE	252.70	255.44	1.00	256.44

Department 630 - NDSU Extension Service - Detail of House Changes

	Adds Funding to Restore Base Budget Reductions[1]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[2]	Adds Funding for an FTE Extension Carbon Specialist[3]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[4]	Total House Changes
New and vacant FTE pool		$247,500			$247,500
Extension Service	$1,295,359	(275,000)	$290,000	$150,000	1,460,359
Soil Conservation Committee					
Total all funds	$1,295,359	($27,500)	$290,000	$150,000	$1,707,859
Less estimated income	300,000	0	0	150,000	450,000
General fund	$995,359	($27,500)	$290,000	$0	$1,257,859
FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00

[1] Funding of $995,359 from the general fund and $300,000 from local funds is added to to restore a portion of the funding removed by the Senate for base budget reductions.

[2] Funding of $275,000 for a new FTE extension carbon specialist position is removed and $247,500 is added for the position in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.

[3] Funding of $290,000 is added from the general fund for an FTE extension carbon specialist position, including $15,000 for operating expenses.

[4] Funding of $150,000 from local funds is added for operating expenses.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Northern Crops Institute - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$101,995		$101,995
Northern Crops Institute	$5,724,771	7,274,168		7,274,168
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$7,376,163	$0	$7,376,163
Less estimated income	3,541,116	4,394,044	0	4,394,044
General fund	$2,183,655	$2,982,119	$0	$2,982,119
FTE	18.15	18.35	0.00	18.35

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Main Research Center - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$5,060,201		$5,060,201
Main Research Center	$116,148,130	132,574,719	$3,188,141	135,762,860
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$137,634,920	$3,188,141	$140,823,061
Less estimated income	58,022,465	75,144,694	1,929,598	77,074,292
General fund	$58,125,665	$62,490,226	$1,258,543	$63,748,769
FTE	358.47	364.55	0.00	364.55

Department 640 - Main Research Center - Detail of House Changes

	Adds Funding to Restore Base Budget Reductions[1]	Adds Funding for Research Equipment[2]	Adds One-Time Funding for Deferred Maintenance[3]	Total House Changes
New and vacant FTE pool				
Main Research Center	$1,688,141	$1,000,000	$500,000	$3,188,141
Total all funds	$1,688,141	$1,000,000	$500,000	$3,188,141
Less estimated income	429,598	1,000,000	500,000	1,929,598
General fund	$1,258,543	$0	$0	$1,258,543
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] Funding of $1,258,543 from the general fund and $429,598 from local funds is added to restore a portion of the funding removed by the Senate for base budget reductions.

[2] Funding of $1 million from local funds is added for research equipment.

[3] One-time funding of $500,000 is added from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) for deferred maintenance projects.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Agronomy Seed Farm - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
New and vacant FTE pool		$7,343		$7,343
Agronomy Seed Farm	$1,632,722	1,672,653		1,672,653
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$1,679,996	$0	$1,679,996
Less estimated income	1,632,722	1,679,996	0	1,679,996
General fund	$0	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	3.00	0.00	3.00

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Other Changes - House Action

The amendment also:

- Amends a section identifying $2,470,000 appropriated in Section 1 from SIIF. The Senate appropriated $1,970,000 from SIIF.
- Amends a section to remove requirements added by the Senate for the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site.
- Adds a section to exempt the Main Research Center from Section 48-01.2-02.1, relating to procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer, for equipment storage sheds construction.
- Adds a section to declare the $6 million in the other funds line item in Section 1 for the swine facility renovation to be an emergency measure.

Breeding Program Timeline

Year	2024			
1	Cross →	Greenhouse Increase (F_1) →	New Zealand Winter (F_2)	
2	North Dakota Field (F_3) →		Puerto Rico Winter (F_4)	
3	North Dakota Field (F_5) →		Arizona Winter (F_6)	Mixograph, SRC
4	Yield Trial 1, two locations ↓			Mixograph, SRC
5	Yield Trial 2, four locations ↓			Mixograph, SRC
6	Yield Trial 3, six locations ↓			Mixograph, SRC, Baking
7	Yield Trial 4, 12 locations ↓			Mixograph, SRC, Baking

NDSU PLANT SCIENCES

Breeding Program Timeline

8

North Dakota State Variety Trial (~15 locations) & Breeder Seed Production

Farinograph, Baking

9

North Dakota State Variety Trial (Year 2) & Pre-release Increase

Farinograph, Baking

10

Release and Foundation Seed Production



11

Certified Seed Production

12

Commercial Production



http://www.astecbulk.com/news/case-study--rail-mounted-barge-loading--grain/

2036

NDSU PLANT SCIENCES

2025 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2020

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
4/18/2025
Conference Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

10:03 a.m. Senator Erbele opened the hearing.

Members present: Senator Erbele, Senator Wanzek, Senator Dwyer, Representative Fisher, Representative Monson and Representative Brandenburg.

Discussion Topics:

- Grape and vineyard research
- Grassland and cropland research
- SBARE priorities
- Operating costs of seven branch research centers
- Carbon research specialist position request
- NDSU Extension Program Initiatives
- Sources of special funds
- Deferred maintenance
- Irrigation research

10:03 a.m. Grant Gader, LC Fiscal Analyst, submitted testimony #45089.

10:04 a.m. Representative Fisher began committee discussion about the differences between the House and Senate versions of this budget.

10:20 a.m. Greg Lardy, Director, ND Ag Extension Service and NDSU Extension, responded to committee questions and referenced (pp. 9-10 and pp. 69-70) of testimony #32982 submitted 1/16/2025, 9:13 a.m.).

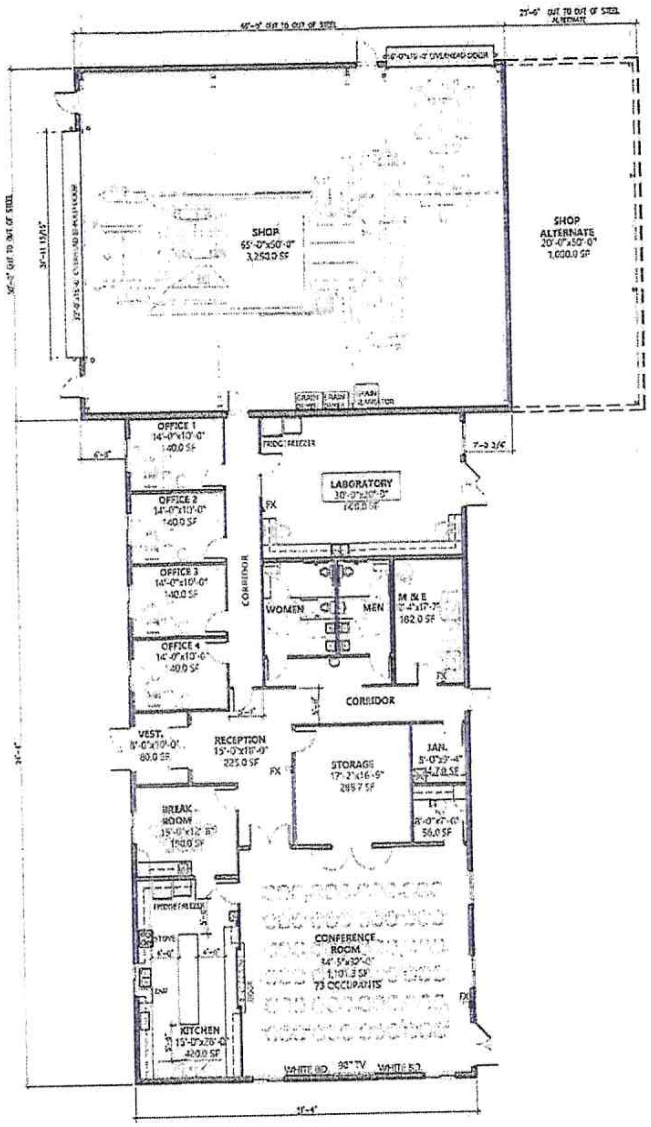
10:24 a.m. Grant Gader provided budget information.

10:27 a.m. Senator Dwyer supplied information about irrigation research and submitted testimony #45086.

10:30 Senator Erbele closed the meeting.

Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk

#45086



1 FLOOR PLAN
A201 SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

EAPC

CLIENT
NDSU -IRRIGATION RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
NEW FACILITY

CITY WILLISTON
STATE ND

ISSUE DATES

MARK	DESCRIPTION	DATE

PROJECT NO: 20236270
DRAWN BY: BEY
CHECKED BY: RBH

COPYRIGHT:

DRAWING TITLE
FLOOR PLAN

A201

Irrigation Research and Development Technology Transfer Facility with heated shop

1. To include interactive video conference meeting room, vestibule/reception area, 4 offices, laboratory, IT room, men's/women's bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitor room, M&E room (5,000 sq.ft.total) with heated shop (3,250 sq.ft.)

Legislative Council

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	43.88	$5,226,375	$19,581,141	$24,807,516	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase		$141,039	$314,606	$455,645		$141,039	$314,606	$455,645				$0
Health insurance increase		71,675	192,557	264,232		71,675	192,557	264,232				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		102,295	236,946	339,241		102,295	236,946	339,241				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)		(34,125)	(79,883)	(114,008)				0
Removes vacant FTE position	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)	(1.00)		(157,136)	(157,136)				0
Adds funding for artificial intelligence in surface transportation				0				0				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
One-Time Funding Items												
Carbon dioxide transportation network study				$0				$0				$0
Autonomous surface transportation freight center				0				0				0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**(1.00)**	**$280,884**	**$507,090**	**$787,974**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
2025-27 Total Funding	**42.88**	**$5,507,259**	**$20,088,231**	**$25,595,490**	**42.88**	**$5,507,259**	**$20,088,231**	**$25,595,490**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$13,006,610*				*$13,006,610*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*(2.3%)*	*5.4%*	*2.6%*	*3.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute - Budget No. 627

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Branch research centers - Budget No. 628
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	111.81	$19,683,598	$20,964,971	$40,648,569	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Decreases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	(4.65)			$0	(4.65)			$0				$0
Salary increase		$625,768	$188,357	814,125		$625,768	$188,357	814,125				0
Health insurance increase		461,078	181,487	642,565		461,078	181,487	642,565				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		386,000		386,000		386,000		386,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		813,319	319,812	1,133,131		813,319	319,812	1,133,131				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(324,563)	(103,869)	(428,432)		(364,563)	(103,869)	(468,432)		($40,000)		(40,000)
Adds funding for an FTE grape/vineyard research specialist and an FTE agronomy research specialist				0		400,000		400,000		400,000		400,000
Adds funding for IT rate increases		19,095	19,425	38,520		19,095	19,425	38,520				0
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)		(63,728)				0
Adds funding for operating expenses				0		280,000	280,000	560,000		280,000	$280,000	560,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**(4.65)**	**$1,916,969**	**$605,212**	**$2,522,181**	**(4.65)**	**$2,556,969**	**$885,212**	**$3,442,181**	**0.00**	**$640,000**	**$280,000**	**$920,000**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**(4.65)**	**$1,916,969**	**$605,212**	**$2,522,181**	**(4.65)**	**$2,556,969**	**$885,212**	**$3,442,181**	**0.00**	**$640,000**	**$280,000**	**$920,000**
2025-27 Total Funding	**107.16**	**$21,600,567**	**$21,570,183**	**$43,170,750**	**107.16**	**$22,240,567**	**$21,850,183**	**$44,090,750**	**0.00**	**$640,000**	**$280,000**	**$920,000**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*9.7%*	*2.9%*	*6.2%*	*(4.2%)*	*13.0%*	*4.2%*	*8.5%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*(4.2%)*	*9.7%*	*2.9%*	*6.2%*	*(4.2%)*	*13.0%*	*4.2%*	*8.5%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

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Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Dickinson Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income	Section 4 authorizes the Dickinson Research Extension Center to spend up to $755,000 of revenue received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 4 authorizes the Dickinson Research Extension Center to spend up to $755,000 of revenue received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Williston Research Extension Center - Mineral rights income	Section 5 directs the Williston Research Extension Center to report to the 70th Legislative Assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 5 directs the Williston Research Extension Center to report to the 70th Legislative Assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 biennium.	

Other Sections in Branch research centers - Budget No. 628

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the branch research centers, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the branch research centers, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the branch research centers and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the branch research centers and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the branch research centers into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the branch research centers into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	252.70	$31,790,689	$29,049,776	$60,840,465	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,614,854)	($450,138)	($2,064,992)		($1,239,116)	($150,138)	($1,389,254)		$375,738	$300,000	$675,738
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	2.74			0	2.74			0				0
Salary increase		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451		1,094,432	964,019	2,058,451				0
Health insurance increase		720,767	738,096	1,458,863		720,767	738,096	1,458,863				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		410,000		410,000		410,000		410,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545		1,681,347	1,763,198	3,444,545				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(682,950)	(625,819)	(1,308,769)		(710,450)	(625,819)	(1,336,269)		(27,500)		(27,500)
Adds funding for an FTE extension carbon specialist				0	1.00	290,000		290,000	1.00	290,000		290,000
Adjusts base funding for supplies, operating expenses, and temporary salaries				0		619,621		619,621		619,621		619,621
Adds funding for operating support				0			150,000	150,000			150,000	150,000
Total ongoing funding changes	**2.74**	**$1,608,742**	**$2,389,356**	**$3,998,098**	**3.74**	**$2,866,601**	**$2,839,356**	**$5,705,957**	**1.00**	**$1,257,859**	**$450,000**	**$1,707,859**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**2.74**	**$1,608,742**	**$2,389,356**	**$3,998,098**	**3.74**	**$2,866,601**	**$2,839,356**	**$5,705,957**	**1.00**	**$1,257,859**	**$450,000**	**$1,707,859**
2025-27 Total Funding	**255.44**	**$33,399,431**	**$31,439,132**	**$64,838,563**	**256.44**	**$34,657,290**	**$31,889,132**	**$66,546,422**	**1.00**	**$1,257,859**	**$450,000**	**$1,707,859**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$9,831,391*				*$9,831,391*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*5.1%*	*8.2%*	*6.6%*	*1.5%*	*9.0%*	*9.8%*	*9.4%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*5.1%*	*8.2%*	*6.6%*	*1.5%*	*9.0%*	*9.8%*	*9.4%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by NDSU Extension Service, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by NDSU Extension Service, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	

Other Sections in NDSU Extension Service - Budget No. 630

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the NDSU Extension Service and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the NDSU Extension Service and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by NDSU Extension Service into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by NDSU Extension Service into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	18.15	$2,183,655	$3,541,116	$5,724,771	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	0.20			$0	0.20			$0				$0
Salary increase		$76,883	$96,404	173,287		$76,883	$96,404	173,287				0
Health insurance increase		43,015	71,085	114,100		43,015	71,085	114,100				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		58,637	60,680	119,317		58,637	60,680	119,317				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(18,871)	(24,841)	(43,712)		(18,871)	(24,841)	(43,712)				0
Adds funding for operating expenses		638,800	299,600	938,400		638,800	299,600	938,400				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$502,928**	**$1,301,392**	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$502,928**	**$1,301,392**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding for a protein extraction and air classification system			$350,000	$350,000			$350,000	$350,000				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$350,000**	**$350,000**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$852,928**	**$1,651,392**	**0.20**	**$798,464**	**$852,928**	**$1,651,392**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
2025-27 Total Funding	**18.35**	**$2,982,119**	**$4,394,044**	**$7,376,163**	**18.35**	**$2,982,119**	**$4,394,044**	**$7,376,163**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*14.2%*	*22.7%*	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*14.2%*	*22.7%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*24.1%*	*28.8%*	*1.1%*	*36.6%*	*24.1%*	*28.8%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Northern Crops Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Northern Crops Institute, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Northern Crops Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Northern Crops Institute and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	

Other Sections in Northern Crops Institute - Budget No. 638

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
Exemption	Sections 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Northern Crops Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	Sections 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Northern Crops Institute into the 2027-29 biennium.	

Legislative Council

NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	358.47	$58,125,665	$58,022,465	$116,148,130	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Base payroll changes		($1,229,577)	$291,232	($938,345)		($291,232)	$291,232	$0		$938,345		$938,345
Increases FTE positions pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023)	10.06			0	10.06			0				0
Salary increase		2,067,139	1,191,857	3,258,996		2,067,139	1,191,857	3,258,996				0
Health insurance increase		1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008		1,225,890	852,118	2,078,008				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		220,000		220,000		220,000		220,000				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202		3,494,807	1,844,395	5,339,202				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)		(1,317,112)	(772,973)	(2,090,085)				0
Adjusts funding for bond payments		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)		(178,477)				0
Adds funding for an FTE scientist and an FTE research specialist for biofuels and carbon management				0				0				0
Adds funding for an FTE veterinary toxicology resident position	1.00	275,000		275,000	1.00	275,000		275,000				0
Removes vacant FTE positions	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)	(4.98)	(1,140,411)	(50,656)	(1,191,067)				0
Adjusts base funding for supplies, operating expenses, repairs, and travel		(320,198)	(1,704,146)	(2,024,344)		0	(1,704,146)	(1,704,146)		320,198		320,198
Adds funding for operating expenses			630,000	630,000			630,000	630,000			local	0
Adds funding for research equipment				0			1,000,000	1,000,000			$1,000,000	1,000,000
Adjusts base level funding for temporary salaries			(429,598)	(429,598)			0	0			429,598	429,598
Adjusts the funding source for graduate assistant salaries		(300,000)	300,000	0		(300,000)	300,000	0				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**6.08**	**$2,797,061**	**$2,152,229**	**$4,949,290**	**6.08**	**$4,055,604**	**$3,581,827**	**$7,637,431**	**0.00**	**$1,258,543**	**$1,429,598**	**$2,688,141**
One-Time Funding Items												
Adds funding to complete the interior of the Oakes irrigation research site			$620,000	$620,000			$620,000	$620,000				$0
Adds funding for deferred maintenance				0			500,000	500,000			Sitf $500,000	500,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant			2,600,000	2,600,000			2,600,000	2,600,000				0
Equipment storage sheds		$1,567,500		1,567,500		$1,567,500		1,567,500				0
Nesson Valley irrigation research site			2,300,000	2,300,000			2,300,000	2,300,000				0
Williston equipment storage shed			200,000	200,000			200,000	200,000				0
Swine facility renovation			6,000,000	6,000,000			6,000,000	6,000,000				0
Main research center greenhouse addition			3,250,000	3,250,000			3,250,000	3,250,000				0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$14,970,000**	**$16,537,500**	**0.00**	**$1,567,500**	**$15,470,000**	**$17,037,500**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$500,000**	**$500,000**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**6.08**	**$4,364,561**	**$17,122,229**	**$21,486,790**	**6.08**	**$5,623,104**	**$19,051,827**	**$24,674,931**	**0.00**	**$1,258,543**	**$1,929,598**	**$3,188,141**
2025-27 Total Funding	**364.55**	**$62,490,226**	**$75,144,694**	**$137,634,920**	**364.55**	**$63,748,769**	**$77,074,292**	**$140,823,061**	**0.00**	**$1,258,543**	**$1,929,598**	**$3,188,141**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$8,742,305*				*$8,742,305*				*$0*	

Sec 1 | Sec 1 & 2

Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*1.7%*	*4.8%*	*3.7%*	*4.3%*	*1.7%*	*7.0%*	*6.2%*	*6.6%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*1.7%*	*7.5%*	*29.5%*	*18.5%*	*1.7%*	*9.7%*	*32.8%*	*21.2%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in NDSU Main Research Center - Budget No. 640

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Main Research Center, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Main Research Center, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
SIIF	Section 7 identifies $1,970,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, Oakes irrigation research site, and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.	Section 7 identifies $2,470,000 in the other funds line item in Section 1 is from SIIF for deferred maintenance, the Langdon seed conditioning plant, Oakes irrigation research site, and the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.	
Transfer authority	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 8 authorizes the transfer of appropriation authority between the Main Research Center, the branch research centers, NDSU Extension Service, and Northern Crops Institute and provide that any transfers be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Main Research Center and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Main Research Center and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by Main Research Center into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by Main Research Center into the 2027-29 biennium.	
Exemption	Subsection 1 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended SIIF appropriation authority relating to the branch research center storage sheds appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	Subsection 1 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended SIIF appropriation authority relating to the branch research center storage sheds appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	
Exemption	Subsection 2 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority relating to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].	Subsection 2 of section 11 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation authority relating to the Nesson Valley irrigation research site appropriated in section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws into the 2025-27 biennium.	
Exemption		Section 12 allows the Main Research Center to expend funds for storage sheds without procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer.	
Emergency		Section 13 declares the $6 million in the other funds line item in Section 1 for the swine facility renovation to be an emergency measure.	

Legislative Council

Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2020

	Senate Version				House Version				House Compared to Senate Version			
									Increase (Decrease)			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	3.00	$0	$1,632,722	$1,632,722	0.00	$0	$0	$0
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes												
Salary increase			$24,093	$24,093			$24,093	$24,093				$0
Health insurance increase			18,016	18,016			18,016	18,016				0
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool			8,312	8,312			8,312	8,312				0
Removes funding for the 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool			(3,147)	(3,147)			(3,147)	(3,147)				0
Total ongoing funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
One-Time Funding Items												
No one-time funding items				$0				$0				$0
Total one-time funding changes	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$47,274**	**$47,274**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
2025-27 Total Funding	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,679,996**	**$1,679,996**	**3.00**	**$0**	**$1,679,996**	**$1,679,996**	**0.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Federal funds included in other funds			*$0*				*$0*				*$0*	
Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Total changes - Percentage of base level	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*0.0%*	*N/A*	*2.9%*	*2.9%*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*

Other Sections in Agronomy Seed Farm - Budget No. 649

Section Description	Senate Version	House Version	
New and vacant FTE pool line item	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	Section 3 provides for the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.	
Additional income appropriation	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Agronomy Seed Farm, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	Section 6 provides that, in addition to the amount appropriated as other funds, any other income from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the Agronomy Seed Farm, is appropriated for the purposes designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation for the 2025-27 biennium.	
FTE position adjustments	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Agronomy Seed Farm and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	Section 9 authorizes the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions for the Agronomy Seed Farm and provides that any adjustments be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.	
Exemption	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Agronomy Seed Farm into the 2027-29 biennium.	Section 10 authorizes the continuation of unexpended general fund appropriation and excess income received by the Agronomy Seed Farm into the 2027-29 biennium.	

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
4/21/2025
Conference Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

4:00 p.m. Chairman Erbele opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Erbele, Senator Dwyer, Senator Wanzek, Representative Fisher, Representative Bosch, and Representative Brandenburg.

Discussion Topics:

- Operating costs - fleet costs
- Required 3% budget reduction
- Graduate research assistantships
- Sources of "other funds"
- Carbon specialist - new full-time employee
- Branch stations and specialty crops

4:01 p.m. Chairman Erbele opened the discussion of differences between the Senate and House versions of this bill, referencing testimony #34720, the "long sheet" submitted on 2/4/2025 at 2:34 p.m.

4:04 p.m. Grant Gader, LC Fiscal Analyst, answered a budget question.

4:08 p.m. Greg Lardy, Director, ND Agricultural Experiment Stations and NDSU Extension, answered committee questions.

4:28 p.m. Rep. Fisher supplied information about individual research centers and submitted testimony #45113.

4:30 p.m. Sen. Dwyer supplied information about the grape and wine industry and submitted testimony #45114 and #45115.

4:48 p.m. Chairman Erbele closed the meeting.

Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk

REC	Empl's Bus Title (Pos Desc)	Last	First Name	Special/Grant Funded	Extension	Research	Grand Total
Carrington	Ag Research Technician	Fauss	Aaron	100%		1.00	1.00
		Fetch	Scott	90%		0.60	0.60
		Nava	Victor	100%		1.00	1.00
		Schaubert	Steven	90%		1.00	1.00
		Schroeder	Timothy	47%		1.00	1.00
	Agronomist - Site Manager	Paniagua	Miguel	100%		1.00	1.00
	Agronomy Field - Lab Res Tech	Burgard	Harley	96%		1.00	1.00
		Kraft	Billy	91%		1.00	1.00
	Agronomy Lab Specialist	Hafner	Melissa	100%		1.00	1.00
	CREC Plant Path Research Spec	Hafner	Jesse	100%		1.00	1.00
	Foundation Seedstocks Tech	Richter	Chad	96%		1.00	1.00
	LivestockEnviornManagementSpec	Keena	Mary	93%	1.00		1.00
	Research Specialist	Kallis	Suanne	100%		1.00	1.00
Carrington Total					1.00	11.60	12.60
Dickinson	Ext Spec-Conservation Agron	Nyamusamba	Rutendo	100%	1.00		1.00
Dickinson Total					1.00		1.00
Hettinger	Ag Research Technician	Hanson	Nicole	90%		1.00	1.00
		Witt	Michelle	100%		1.00	1.00
	Ag Technician	Drolc	Donald	95%		1.00	1.00
	UAV & Weed Scien Research Tech	Guimaraes Abe	Daniel	100%		1.00	1.00
Hettinger Total						4.00	4.00
Langdon	Ag Research Technician	Ewert	Carmen	53%		1.00	1.00
	Assoc Ag Expir Station Spec	Chapara	Venkata	23%		1.00	1.00
	Research Specialist	Duerr	Richard	100%		1.00	1.00
		Hakanson	Travis	26%		1.00	1.00
Langdon Total						4.00	4.00
North Central	Ag Research Technician	Hennessy	Colby	10%		1.00	1.00
	Ag Research Technician II	Bertsch	Andrew	100%		1.00	1.00
		Piesik	Dana	100%		1.00	1.00
	Research Agronomist	Bortolon	Leandro	10%		1.00	1.00
	Research Specialist	Hansen	Jayden	100%		1.00	1.00
		Kraklau	Austin	90%		1.00	1.00
		Willoughby	Gary	9%		1.00	1.00
	Weed Scientist	Jenks	Brian	24%		0.90	0.90
North Central Total						7.90	7.90
Williston	Ag Research Technician	Haug	Destiney	100%		1.00	1.00
	Ag Seed Technician	Cornell	Kaleb	100%		0.60	0.60
	Research Technician	Ortiz	Samuel	100%		1.00	1.00
Williston Total						2.60	2.60
Grand Total					2.00	30.10	32.10

Buyer 4-21-22

SPECIALTY CROP

17-366 – NDSU – Advancing Viticultural Management techniques for North Dakota.

$70,976.92

To meet the needs of the North Dakota grape and wine industry, viticultural techniques will be evaluated to enhance productivity, quality, and economic sustainability of grapes grown on commercial vineyards

17-375 – NDSU - Screening of the North Dakota State University Grape Germplasm Collection For Temperature Adaptive Acclimation Response

$44,469.26

To develop improved grapevine germplasm with greater winter survival, dormancy acclimation is a critical suite of traits necessary for incorporation within a breeding context

17-377 – NDSU - Making Better Selections of Japanese Haskap for North Dakota

$32,950

These plants and all of our data are the benchmarks with which we will judge and select plants that perform better in North Dakota conditions. This grant allows us to continue to visit their orchard and breeding fields and make selections that might perform better here. The third aspect of this project was to investigate the use of alternative bees in the place of native bees or honey bees, We theorize that this is due to a lack of bees at the time they bloom

18-263 – NDSU – Investigation the Polyphenol Content of ND Grown Aronia Berries

$71,588

We propose that North Dakota-grown aronia fruit may possess superior quantities of polyphenolic compounds as compared to fruit grown at more southerly latitudes. With this research, we intend to show that North Dakota's 'McKenzie' fruit is indistinguishable from other types of aronia so that our growers can sell their fruit without reservation in the US market.

18-270 – NDSU - Evaluation, Development, and Postharvest Treatments for Improved Quality of Cold-Hardy Interspecific Grape Crosses.

$212,809.17

To address the needs of the industry the NDSU Grape Enhancement program continued evaluation and culling of the 10,000+ accessions located at the NDSU North Central

Research Extension Center near Minot, ND and the NDSU Ag. Expt. Station for the advancement of material into replicated studies. North Dakota State University also initiated breeding efforts to increase disease resistance in germplasm and to conducted research fundamental to the expansion of the Upper Midwest grape and wine industries through investigating the commercial potential of elite grapevine selections and determining prospects of underdeveloped methodologies for improving fruit quality of Vitis riparia based red wine grapes.

20-483 – NDSU – Putting North Dakota Small Fruit Breeding into Action.

$68,778

After years of examination, North Dakota State University is almost ready to release serviceberry and cold-hardy grape cultivars. North Dakota State University will collect cultivar specific release data and examine the best methods to increase plant material for release to licensed propagators.

20-484 – NDSU - Adaptive Management Response to Extreme Climatic Swings for North Dakota's Grape and Wine Industry

$89,870

To lead and execute the project to evaluate grapevine acclimation, periderm accumulation, and mid-winter cold-hardiness following in-season foliar application of critical nutrients. Supplementary evaluation of grapevine fruit quality following in-season foliar application of foliar nutrients and evaluation of grapevine acclimation and periderm accumulation in a greenhouse environment will be conducted to support physiological results from field studies

21-304 – NDSU - Integrated Improvement Process of Cold-Hardy Grapes; from Breeding, Production, to Sensory Analysis.

$266,634.57

To evaluate 11,000+ winter-hardy grape accessions, including breeding projects, to grafting and production improvements, to final microvinification (small batch wine) process and tasting evaluations at the NCI.

21-301 – NDSU - Virtual Experiences Delivering Real Protection of Specialty Crops from Plant Diseases and Economic Loss

$120,305.11

North Dakota State University plant pathologists will deliver transformational educational experiences to growers by utilizing immersive 360-degree videos and drone imagery that teach disease management practices by letting growers 'experience' protection of specialty crops from diseases and yield loss.

22-240 - Evaluating Aronia for Edible and Ornamental Use for North Dakota

$56,655.77

These cultivars, unreleased germplasm and species were evaluated as an ornamental shrub for landscape use, commercial nursery production to determine establishment, winter and drought hardiness, soil adaptation, pest susceptibility, aesthetic characteristics, fruit production and survival in North Dakota at two different locations including the NDSU Horticulture Research Farm

24-105 – NDSU - Evaluation, comparison and survival of hardwood and green cuttings for grape propagation in a northern climate

$30,000

The North Dakota State University's North Central Research Extension Center in Minot will lead a project that evaluates, compares and determines survival rates for advanced grape lines in the current research vineyard consisting of ~2,000+ winter-hardy grape lines. These advanced lines will be evaluated for survival and ability to propagate when selected as hardwood and/or green cuttings. Hardwood cuttings will be taken from mature, dormant woody growth, while green cuttings are taken from fresh, green tissue.

4-21-25 Nwyer

Grape & Wine Program

14-126 NGA Lindsay Ostlie

$2,000

Research efforts on yellow raspberries

14-125 NGA NDSU - Harlene Hatterman-Valenti

$66,500

Research towards germplasm evaluation of cold hardy winegrape cultivars

15-360 NGA North Dakota State University- Harlene

$64,000

Germplasm evaluation of cold-hardy winegrape accessions and cultivar management research in North Dakota

18-104 ND Grape & wine Association

$10,720

18-103 NDSU – North Central Research

$4,500

18-102 NDSU – North Central Research

$23,680

Continuing utilization of best management practices for vineyard

18-101 NDSU – Harlene

$37,200

Continued research of hardy grape varieties

20-187 NGA Noth Dakota University

$18,500

Utilizing best management practices for the NDREC Vineyard

20-186 NDSU North Dakota State University - Harlene

$50,000

Development of fermentation tactics for elite grapes and promising cider apples

22-156 NGA North Dakota State University

$60,000

Evaluating the cold-hardiness acclimation adaptiveness of University of Minnesota cultivars and North Dakota State University germplasm

23-330 NGA North Dakota State University

$52,590

Support research using high throughput phenotyping to improve the efficiency and speed of grapevine cultivar development

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2020
4/22/2025
Conference Committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; and to provide an exemption.

11:32 a.m. Chairman Erbele opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Erbele, Senator Dwyer, Senator Wanzek, Representative Fisher, Representative Monson, and Representative Brandenburg.

Discussion Topics:

- Nesson Valley irrigation building
- Grape and vineyard research location
- Agronomy specialist
- State Board of Agricultural Research (SBARE) priorities
- Base funding and payroll changes

11:33 a.m. Chairman Erbele opened committee discussion and distributed testimony #45126.

11:51 a.m. Grant Gader, LC Fiscal Analyst, answered budget questions.

12:00 p.m. Senator Dwyer moved to accept Representative Brandenburg's adjustments to the bill removing one agronomy position and $408,000 from the budget.

12:00 p.m. Representative Brandeburg seconded the motion.

12:02 p.m. Roll Call - Motion Passed 5-1-0.

12:03 p.m. Senator Wanzek moved in place of amendment LC# 25.0187.02001 adopted by the House, the bill is amended by the conference committee amendment LC# 25.0187.02002

12:03 p.m. Representative Brandenburg seconded the motion.

12:04 p.m. Roll Call Vote - Motion Passed 5-1-0.

Senator Erbele will carry the bill.

Representative Brandenburg will carry the bill.

12:05 p.m. Chairman Erbele closed the meeting.

Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk

25.0187.02002
Title.04000
Fiscal No. 1

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Conference Committee

April 22, 2025

CO
4/24/25
1 of 12

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2020

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

In place of amendment (25.0187.02001) adopted by the House, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2020 is amended by amendment (25.0187.02002) as follows:

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; ~~and~~ to provide an exemption; and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and federal funds, to the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

Subdivision 1.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation

~~Extension service~~	~~$59,478,945~~	~~$944,303~~	~~$60,423,248~~
Extension service	$59,478,945	$2,342,700	$61,821,645
Soil conservation committee	1,361,520	0	1,361,520
~~New and vacant FTE pool~~	~~0~~	~~3,053,795~~	~~3,053,795~~
~~Total all funds~~	~~$60,840,465~~	~~$3,998,098~~	~~$64,838,563~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~29,049,776~~	~~2,389,356~~	~~31,439,132~~
~~Total general fund~~	~~$31,790,689~~	~~$1,608,742~~	~~$33,399,431~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~252.70~~	~~2.74~~	~~255.44~~
New and vacant FTE pool	0	3,301,295	3,301,295
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$5,643,995	$66,484,460
Less other funds	29,049,776	2,839,356	31,889,132
Total general fund	$31,790,689	$2,804,639	$34,595,328
Full-time equivalent positions	252.70	3.74	256.44

Subdivision 2.

NORTHERN CROPS INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Northern crops institute	$5,724,771	$1,549,397	$7,274,168
New and vacant FTE pool	0	101,995	101,995
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$1,651,392	$7,376,163
Less other funds	3,541,116	852,928	4,394,044
Total general fund	$2,183,655	$798,464	$2,982,119
Full-time equivalent positions	18.15	0.20	18.35

Subdivision 3.

UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Upper great plains transportation institute	$24,807,516	$521,955	$25,329,471
New and vacant FTE pool	0	266,019	266,019
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$787,974	$25,595,490

Less other funds	19,581,141	507,090	20,088,231
Total general fund	$5,226,375	$280,884	$5,507,259
Full-time equivalent positions	43.88	(1.00)	42.88

Subdivision 4.

MAIN RESEARCH CENTER

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Main research center~~	~~$116,148,130~~	~~$16,426,589~~	~~$132,574,719~~
Main research center	$116,148,130	$19,566,700	$135,714,830
New and vacant FTE pool	0	5,060,201	5,060,201
~~Total all funds~~	~~$116,148,130~~	~~$21,486,790~~	~~$137,634,920~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~58,022,465~~	~~17,122,229~~	~~75,144,694~~
~~Total general fund~~	~~$58,125,665~~	~~$4,364,561~~	~~$62,490,226~~
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$24,626,901	$140,775,031
Less other funds	58,022,465	19,051,827	77,074,292
Total general fund	$58,125,665	$5,575,074	$63,700,739
Full-time equivalent positions	358.47	6.08	364.55

Subdivision 5.

BRANCH RESEARCH CENTERS

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Dickinson research center~~	~~$7,379,838~~	~~$355,827~~	~~$7,735,665~~
~~Central grasslands research center~~	~~3,618,270~~	~~88,766~~	~~3,707,036~~
~~Hettinger research center~~	~~5,381,248~~	~~160,658~~	~~5,541,906~~
~~Langdon research center~~	~~3,195,869~~	~~280,058~~	~~3,475,927~~
~~North Central research center~~	~~5,355,217~~	~~122,311~~	~~5,477,528~~
~~Williston research center~~	~~5,527,125~~	~~186,785~~	~~5,713,910~~
~~Carrington research center~~	~~10,191,002~~	~~328,102~~	~~10,519,104~~
~~New and vacant FTE pool~~	~~0~~	~~999,674~~	~~999,674~~
~~Total all funds~~	~~$40,648,569~~	~~$2,522,181~~	~~$43,170,750~~
~~Less other funds~~	~~20,964,971~~	~~605,212~~	~~21,570,183~~

~~Total general fund~~	~~$19,683,598~~	~~$1,916,969~~	~~$21,600,567~~
Dickinson research center	$7,379,838	$435,827	$7,815,665
Central grasslands research center	3,618,270	168,766	3,787,036
Hettinger research center	5,381,248	240,658	5,621,906
Langdon research center	3,195,869	360,058	3,555,927
North Central research center	5,355,217	202,311	5,557,528
Williston research center	5,527,125	266,785	5,793,910
Carrington research center	10,191,002	408,102	10,599,104
New and vacant FTE pool	0	1,089,674	1,089,674
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$3,172,181	$43,820,750
Less other funds	20,964,971	885,212	21,850,183
Total general fund	$19,683,598	$2,286,969	$21,970,567
Full-time equivalent positions	111.81	(4.65)	107.16

Subdivision 6.

AGRONOMY SEED FARM

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
Agronomy seed farm	$1,632,722	$39,931	$1,672,653
New and vacant FTE pool	0	7,343	7,343
Total special funds	$1,632,722	$47,274	$1,679,996
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

Subdivision 7.

SECTION 1 TOTAL

	Base Level	Adjustments or Enhancements	Appropriation
~~Grand total all funds~~	~~$249,802,173~~	~~$30,493,709~~	~~$280,295,882~~
~~Less grand total other funds~~	~~132,792,191~~	~~21,524,089~~	~~154,316,280~~
~~Grand total general fund~~	~~$117,009,982~~	~~$8,969,620~~	~~$125,979,602~~
~~Full-time equivalent positions~~	~~788.01~~	~~3.37~~	~~791.38~~
Grand total all funds	$249,802,173	$35,929,717	$285,731,890
Less grand total other funds	132,792,191	24,183,687	156,975,878

Grand total general fund	$117,009,982	$11,746,030	$128,756,012
Full-time equivalent positions	788.01	4.37	792.38

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which each entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

One-Time Funding Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Northern crops institute			
Protein extraction and air classification system	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Total northern crops institute	$0	$350,000	$350,000
Main research center			
Equipment storage sheds	$1,567,500	$0	$1,567,500
Oakes irrigation research site interior	0	620,000	620,000
Langdon seed conditioning plant	0	2,600,000	2,600,000
Nesson Valley irrigation research site	0	2,300,000	2,300,000
Deferred maintenance	0	500,000	500,000
Williston research center storage shed	0	200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation	0	6,000,000	6,000,000
Main research center greenhouse addition	0	3,250,000	3,250,000
~~Total main research center~~	~~$1,567,500~~	~~$14,970,000~~	~~$16,537,550~~
~~Grand total~~	~~$1,567,500~~	~~$15,320,000~~	~~$16,887,500~~
Total main research center	$1,567,500	$15,470,000	$17,037,500
Grand total	$1,567,500	$15,820,000	$17,387,500

SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST. The North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch

research centers, and agronomy seed farm line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 4. DICKINSON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME. The Dickinson research extension center may spend up to $755,000 of revenues received during the 2025-27 biennium from mineral royalties, leases, or easements for ongoing operational expenses. Any revenues received in excess of $755,000 may be spent only for one-time expenditures, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. WILLISTON RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER - MINERAL RIGHTS INCOME - REPORT. The Williston research extension center shall report to the seventieth legislative assembly on amounts received and spent from mineral royalties, leases, or easements in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, and the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME - APPROPRIATION. In addition to the amounts included in the other funds appropriation line items and special funds appropriations line item in section 1 of this Act, any other income, including funds from federal acts, private grants, gifts, and donations, or from other sources received by the North Dakota state university extension service, the northern crops institute, the upper great plains transportation institute, the main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm, except as otherwise provided by law, is appropriated for the purpose designated in the act, grant, gift, or donation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 7. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER. The other funds line item in subdivision 4 of section 1 of the Act includes the sum of ~~$1,970,000~~$2,470,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund, of which $950,000 is for the Langdon seed conditioning plant, $620,000 is for the Oakes irrigation research site, $500,000 is for deferred maintenance, and $400,000 is for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site.

SECTION 8. EXEMPTION - TRANSFER AUTHORITY. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, upon approval of the state board of agricultural research and education and appropriate branch research center directors, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer

appropriation authority, except appropriation authority in the new and vacant FTE pool line items, within subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 9. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS - REPORT. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the state board of higher education may adjust or increase full-time equivalent positions as needed for the entities in section 1 of this Act, subject to availability of funds. All full-time or part-time positions must be separate from North Dakota state university. Annually, the board shall report to the office of management and budget and to the budget section any adjustments made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 10. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED GENERAL FUND - EXCESS INCOME. Any unexpended general fund appropriation authority available to and any excess income received by entities listed in section 1 of this Act are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11, and any unexpended funds from these appropriations or revenues are available and may be expended by those entities, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2029.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

1. The sum of $475,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund for storage sheds in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws; and
2. The sum of $1,700,000 appropriated from the general fund for the Nesson Valley irrigation research site project in subdivision 4 of section 1 of chapter 20 of the 2023 Session Laws. ~~The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must include an interactive video conference meeting room, reception area, four offices, laboratory, information technology room, bathroom, kitchen, break room, storage room, janitorial room, and mechanical room and electrical room. The Nesson Valley irrigation research site must be at least five thousand square feet [464.5 square meters] and have an adjoining heated shop that is at least three thousand two hundred fifty square feet [301.9 square meters].~~

SECTION 12. EXEMPTION - MAIN RESEARCH CENTER - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION. The main research center, for its use of the $1,567,500 appropriated from

the general fund for branch research center storage sheds is not subject to the provisions of section 48-01.2-02.1, and the main research center may spend this funding without procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer.

SECTION 13. EMERGENCY. The $6,000,000 appropriated from other funds for the swine facility renovation in subdivision 4 of section 1 of this Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Summary of Conference Committee Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	House Version	Comparison to House
Transportation Institute						
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$25,595,490	$0	$25,595,490	$25,595,490	$0
Less estimated income	19,581,141	20,088,231	0	20,088,231	20,088,231	0
General fund	$5,226,375	$5,507,259	$0	$5,507,259	$5,507,259	$0
FTE	43.88	42.88	0.00	42.88	42.88	0.00
Branch Research Centers						
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$43,170,750	$650,000	$43,820,750	$44,090,750	($270,000)
Less estimated income	20,964,971	21,570,183	280,000	21,850,183	21,850,183	0
General fund	$19,683,598	$21,600,567	$370,000	$21,970,567	$22,240,567	($270,000)
FTE	111.81	107.16	0.00	107.16	107.16	0.00
NDSU Extension Service						
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$64,838,563	$1,645,897	$66,484,460	$66,546,422	($61,962)
Less estimated income	29,049,776	31,439,132	450,000	31,889,132	31,889,132	0
General fund	$31,790,689	$33,399,431	$1,195,897	$34,595,328	$34,657,290	($61,962)
FTE	252.70	255.44	1.00	256.44	256.44	0.00
Northern Crops Institute						
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$7,376,163	$0	$7,376,163	$7,376,163	$0
Less estimated income	3,541,116	4,394,044	0	4,394,044	4,394,044	0
General fund	$2,183,655	$2,982,119	$0	$2,982,119	$2,982,119	$0
FTE	18.15	18.35	0.00	18.35	18.35	0.00
Main Research Center						
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$137,634,920	$3,140,111	$140,775,031	$140,823,061	($48,030)
Less estimated income	58,022,465	75,144,694	1,929,598	77,074,292	77,074,292	0
General fund	$58,125,665	$62,490,226	$1,210,513	$63,700,739	$63,748,769	($48,030)
FTE	358.47	364.55	0.00	364.55	364.55	0.00
Agronomy Seed Farm						
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$1,679,996	$0	$1,679,996	$1,679,996	$0
Less estimated income	1,632,722	1,679,996	0	1,679,996	1,679,996	0
General fund	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	3.00	0.00	3.00	3.00	0.00
Bill total						
Total all funds	$249,802,173	$280,295,882	$5,436,008	$285,731,890	$286,111,882	($379,992)
Less estimated income	132,792,191	154,316,280	2,659,598	156,975,878	156,975,878	0
General fund	$117,009,982	$125,979,602	$2,776,410	$128,756,012	$129,136,004	($379,992)
FTE	788.01	791.38	1.00	792.38	792.38	0.00

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Transportation Institute - Conference Committee Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	House Version	Comparison to House
New and vacant FTE pool		$266,019		$266,019	$266,019	
Upper Great Plains Trans. Institute	$24,807,516	25,329,471		25,329,471	25,329,471	
Total all funds	$24,807,516	$25,595,490	$0	$25,595,490	$25,595,490	$0
Less estimated income	19,581,141	20,088,231	0	20,088,231	20,088,231	0
General fund	$5,226,375	$5,507,259	$0	$5,507,259	$5,507,259	$0
FTE	43.88	42.88	0.00	42.88	42.88	0.00

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Senate Bill No. 2020 - Branch Research Centers - Conference Committee Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	House Version	Comparison to House
New and vacant FTE pool		$999,674	$90,000	$1,089,674	$1,359,674	($270,000)
Dickinson Research Center	$7,379,838	7,735,665	80,000	7,815,665	7,815,665	
Central Grasslands Research Center	3,618,270	3,707,036	80,000	3,787,036	3,787,036	
Hettinger Research Center	5,381,248	5,541,906	80,000	5,621,906	5,621,906	
Langdon Research Center	3,195,869	3,475,927	80,000	3,555,927	3,555,927	
North Central Research Center	5,355,217	5,477,528	80,000	5,557,528	5,557,528	
Williston Research Center	5,527,125	5,713,910	80,000	5,793,910	5,793,910	
Carrington Research Center	10,191,002	10,519,104	80,000	10,599,104	10,599,104	
Total all funds	$40,648,569	$43,170,750	$650,000	$43,820,750	$44,090,750	($270,000)
Less estimated income	20,964,971	21,570,183	280,000	21,850,183	21,850,183	0
General fund	$19,683,598	$21,600,567	$370,000	$21,970,567	$22,240,567	($270,000)
FTE	111.81	107.16	0.00	107.16	107.16	0.00

Department 628 - Branch Research Centers - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[1]	Adds Funding for Research Specialist Position[2]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[3]	Total Conference Committee Changes
New and vacant FTE pool	$90,000			$90,000
Dickinson Research Center			$80,000	80,000
Central Grasslands Research Center			80,000	80,000
Hettinger Research Center			80,000	80,000
Langdon Research Center			80,000	80,000
North Central Research Center	(100,000)	$100,000	80,000	80,000
Williston Research Center			80,000	80,000
Carrington Research Center			80,000	80,000
Total all funds	($10,000)	$100,000	$560,000	$650,000
Less estimated income	0	0	280,000	280,000
General fund	($10,000)	$100,000	$280,000	$370,000
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] Funding of $100,000 is removed for the grape and vineyard research specialist position and $90,000 is added to the new and vacant FTE pool for the position resulting in net savings of $10,000.

[2] Funding of $100,000 from the general fund is added to provide partial funding for a grape and vineyard research specialist. The State Board of Higher Education may increase the number of authorized FTE positions pursuant to Section 9 for this position. The House provided $400,000 from the general fund for a grape and vineyard research specialist and an agronomy research specialist. The Senate did not provide funding for the research specialist position.

[3] Funding of $280,000 from the general fund and $280,000 from local funds is added for operating expenses at the branch research centers, the same as provided by the House.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - NDSU Extension Service - Conference Committee Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	House Version	Comparison to House
New and vacant FTE pool		$3,053,795	$247,500	$3,301,295	$3,301,295	
Extension Service	$59,478,945	60,423,248	1,398,397	61,821,645	61,883,607	($61,962)
Soil Conservation Committee	1,361,520	1,361,520		1,361,520	1,361,520	
Total all funds	$60,840,465	$64,838,563	$1,645,897	$66,484,460	$66,546,422	($61,962)
Less estimated income	29,049,776	31,439,132	450,000	31,889,132	31,889,132	0
General fund	$31,790,689	$33,399,431	$1,195,897	$34,595,328	$34,657,290	($61,962)
FTE	252.70	255.44	1.00	256.44	256.44	0.00

Department 630 - NDSU Extension Service - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	Adds Funding to Restore Base Budget Reductions[1]	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool[2]	Adds Funding for an FTE Extension Carbon Specialist[3]	Adds Funding for Operating Expenses[4]	Total Conference Committee Changes
New and vacant FTE pool		$247,500			$247,500
Extension Service	$1,233,397	(275,000)	$290,000	$150,000	1,398,397
Soil Conservation Committee					
Total all funds	$1,233,397	($27,500)	$290,000	$150,000	$1,645,897
Less estimated income	300,000	0	0	150,000	450,000
General fund	$933,397	($27,500)	$290,000	$0	$1,195,897
FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00

[1] Funding of $933,397 from the general fund and $300,000 from local funds is added to restore a portion of the funding removed by the Senate for base budget reductions. The House provided $995,359 from the general fund and $300,000 from local funds.

[2] Funding of $275,000 for a new FTE extension carbon specialist position is removed and $247,500 is added for the position in the new and vacant FTE pool line item, the same as the House.

[3] Funding of $290,000 is added from the general fund for an FTE extension carbon specialist position, including $15,000 for operating expenses, the same as provided by the House. The Senate did not provide funding for the position.

[4] Funding of $150,000 from local funds is added for operating expenses, the same as provided by the House.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Northern Crops Institute - Conference Committee Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	House Version	Comparison to House
New and vacant FTE pool		$101,995		$101,995	$101,995	
Northern Crops Institute	$5,724,771	7,274,168		7,274,168	7,274,168	
Total all funds	$5,724,771	$7,376,163	$0	$7,376,163	$7,376,163	$0
Less estimated income	3,541,116	4,394,044	0	4,394,044	4,394,044	0
General fund	$2,183,655	$2,982,119	$0	$2,982,119	$2,982,119	$0
FTE	18.15	18.35	0.00	18.35	18.35	0.00

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Senate Bill No. 2020 - Main Research Center - Conference Committee Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	House Version	Comparison to House
New and vacant FTE pool		$5,060,201		$5,060,201	$5,060,201	
Main Research Center	$116,148,130	132,574,719	$3,140,111	135,714,830	135,762,860	($48,030)
Total all funds	$116,148,130	$137,634,920	$3,140,111	$140,775,031	$140,823,061	($48,030)
Less estimated income	58,022,465	75,144,694	1,929,598	77,074,292	77,074,292	0
General fund	$58,125,665	$62,490,226	$1,210,513	$63,700,739	$63,748,769	($48,030)
FTE	358.47	364.55	0.00	364.55	364.55	0.00

Department 640 - Main Research Center - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	Adds Funding to Restore Base Budget Reductions[1]	Adds Funding for Research Equipment[2]	Adds One-Time Funding for Deferred Maintenance[3]	Total Conference Committee Changes
New and vacant FTE pool				
Main Research Center	$1,640,111	$1,000,000	$500,000	$3,140,111
Total all funds	$1,640,111	$1,000,000	$500,000	$3,140,111
Less estimated income	429,598	1,000,000	500,000	1,929,598
General fund	$1,210,513	$0	$0	$1,210,513
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

[1] Funding of $1,210,513 from the general fund and $429,598 from local funds is added to restore a portion of the funding removed by the Senate for base budget reductions. The House provided $1,258,543 from the general fund and $429,598 from local funds.

[2] Funding of $1 million from local funds is added for research equipment, the same as provided by the House.

[3] One-time funding of $500,000 is added from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) for deferred maintenance projects, the same as provided by the House.

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Agronomy Seed Farm - Conference Committee Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	House Version	Comparison to House
New and vacant FTE pool		$7,343		$7,343	$7,343	
Agronomy Seed Farm	$1,632,722	1,672,653		1,672,653	1,672,653	
Total all funds	$1,632,722	$1,679,996	$0	$1,679,996	$1,679,996	$0
Less estimated income	1,632,722	1,679,996	0	1,679,996	1,679,996	0
General fund	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
FTE	3.00	3.00	0.00	3.00	3.00	0.00

Senate Bill No. 2020 - Other Changes - Conference Committee Action

The amendment also:

- Amends a section identifying $2,470,000 appropriated in Section 1 from SIIF, the same as provided by the House. The Senate appropriated $1,970,000 from SIIF.
- Amends a section to remove requirements added by the Senate for the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site, the same as included by the House.
- Adds a section to exempt the Main Research Center from Section 48-01.2-02.1, relating to procuring plans, drawings, and specifications from an architect or engineer, for equipment storage sheds construction, the same as included by the House.
- Adds a section to declare the $6 million in the other funds line item in Section 1 for the swine facility renovation to be an emergency measure, the same as included by the House.

SB 2020 042225 1202 PM Roll Call Vote

Amendment

SB 2020

Date Submitted: April 22, 2025, 12:02 p.m.

Action: Passed

Amendment LC #: Pending LC #

Description of Amendment: Brandonburg's proposed cuts

Motioned By: Dwyer, Michael

Seconded By: Brandenburg, Mike

Emergency Clause: None

Vote Results: 5 - 1 - 0

Sen. Erbele, Robert	Yea
Sen. Wanzek, Terry M.	Yea
Sen. Dwyer, Michael	Yea
Rep. Fisher, Jay	Nay
Rep. Monson, David	Yea
Rep. Brandenburg, Mike	Yea

SB 2020 042225 1204 PM Roll Call Vote

Final Recommendation

SB 2020
Date Submitted: April 22, 2025, 12:04 p.m.
Recommendation: In Place Of
Amendment LC #: 25.0187.02002
Engrossed LC #: N/A
Description:
Motioned By: Wanzek, Terry M.
Seconded By: Brandenburg, Mike
House Carrier: Brandenburg, Mike
Senate Carrier: Erbele, Robert
Emergency Clause: None
Vote Results: 5 - 1 - 0

Sen. Erbele, Robert	Yea
Sen. Wanzek, Terry M.	Yea
Sen. Dwyer, Michael	Yea
Rep. Fisher, Jay	Nay
Rep. Monson, David	Yea
Rep. Brandenburg, Mike	Yea

Insert LC: 25.0187.02002 Title: 04000
Senate Carrier: Erbele
House Carrier: Brandenburg

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
ENGROSSED SB 2020

Your conference committee (Sens. Erbele, Wanzek, Dwyer and Reps. Fisher, Monson, Brandenburg) recommends that in place of amendment 25.0187.02001 adopted by the House, Engrossed SB 2020 is amended by amendment 25.0187.02002.

Engrossed SB 2020 was placed on the Seventh order of business on the calendar.

4-22-25 Sen Erbele

SB 2020 House additions

Budget 640 - Main Research Center

General Fund

320,198 operating, Supplies and Travel

SIIF

500k deferred maintenance (request was 1.5M we used it to finish the sheds)

Budget 630- Extension Service

General Fund

290k for a carbon specialist (was #1 SBARE priority)

619,621 Adjusts base funding for supplies, operating, and temporary salaries. This was a correction instead of 3% reduction it was reduced by 4.7%

Budget 628 - Branch Stations

General Fund

400K FTE Grape/ Vinyard research specialist (200k)

FTE Agronomy research specialist (200K)

General Fund

280k 280k Special

Operating funds equally divided among all 7