NDSU Extension and North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station Update

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Director, NDSU Extension
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North Dakota Agriculture

- **Agriculture contributes more than $41.3 billion annually to the state's economy.**
- **1 in 5 jobs in North Dakota is supported by agriculture.**
- **Agriculture represents 25% of the state's gross product.**
- **Labor income for agriculture-related jobs is $10 billion.**

Bangsund & Hodor, 2025. North Dakota Agriculture Industry Economic Contribution Analysis. Summary Report

SBARE History

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

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

ND Century Code 15-12.1-14

SBARE Membership:

- 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 the chair of Legislative Management

*serve in ex-officio, nonvoting capacity

SBARE 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 (NDAES) and North Dakota State University Extension**
- **For a complete list of duties, see:**
  https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t15c12-1.pdf

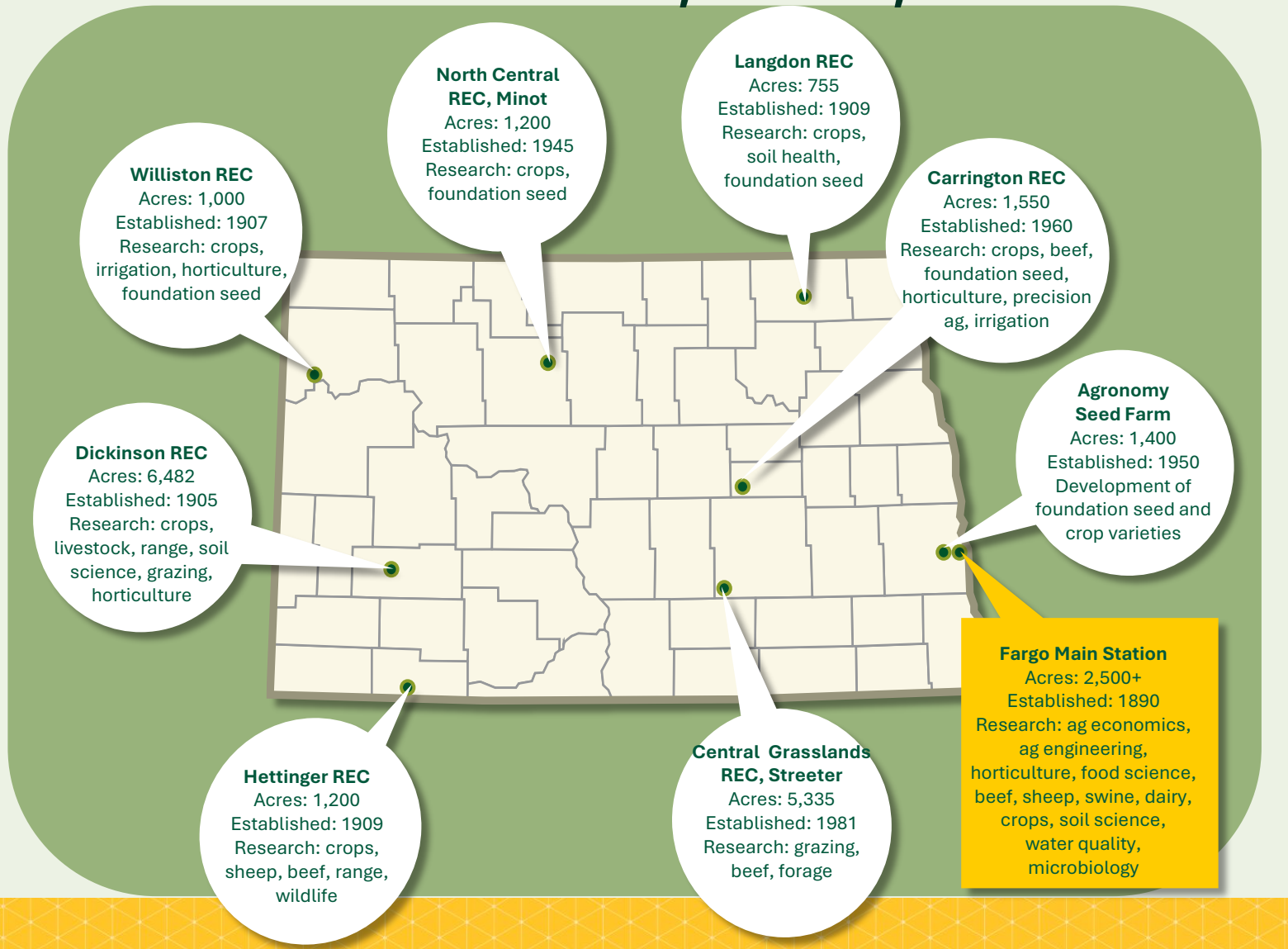
ND Century Code 15-12.1

ND Agricultural Experiment Station

“The North Dakota state university main research center must be located on the campus of North Dakota state university of agriculture and applied science. The center is the administrative location of the agricultural experiment station. The center shall conduct research and coordinate all research activities of the agricultural experiment station. The research must have, as a purpose, the development and dissemination of technology important to the production and utilization of food, feed, fiber, and fuel from crop and livestock enterprises. The research must provide for the enhancement of quality of life, sustainability of production, and protection of the environment. …”

ND Century Code 15-12.1-05

Statewide Network: Research Across North Dakota's Diverse Climates, Soils, and Production Systems



Primary Disciplines: Main Station / Campus

- **Agribusiness and Applied Economics**
  - Agricultural Economics and Policy; Natural Resource Management Economics; Trade, Marketing and Logistics; Food Safety and Biosecurity Economics; Cooperative Economics
- **Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering**
  - AI, Automation, Drones and Ag Tech; Water and Irrigation Management; Bioprocessing and Bioengineering; Storage and Buildings
- **Animal Sciences**
  - Breeding and Molecular Genetics; Livestock Environmental Stewardship; Meat Science and Muscle Biology; Nutrition and Reproductive Physiology; Stress Physiology, Behavior, and Animal Wellbeing
- **Agricultural and Family Education**
  - 4-H Youth Development, Agricultural Education, Extension Education, and Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- **Plant Pathology, Microbiological Sciences**
  - Crop Disease Surveillance, Diagnosis and Management; Molecular Pathogenesis of Crop Diseases; Collaborate to Develop Disease-Resistant Crops
  - Microbiomes in Crop Production, Soil Health and Livestock Production; Engineering Microbes for Enhanced Agricultural Activity; Livestock Vaccines
- **Plant Sciences**
  - Agronomy; Biotechnology and Genetics; Breeding; Cereal and Food Science; Horticulture; Turfgrass; Weed Science
- **School of Natural Resource Sciences**
  - Rangeland Sciences; Soil Sciences; Landscape and Ecosystem Management; Agricultural and Environmental Ecology; Entomology
- **Bill Bowman Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory**
  - Death-Loss Investigations; Foreign Animal Disease Testing; Detecting Diseases of Public Health Importance; Bridging Benchtop Research to Clinical Medicine

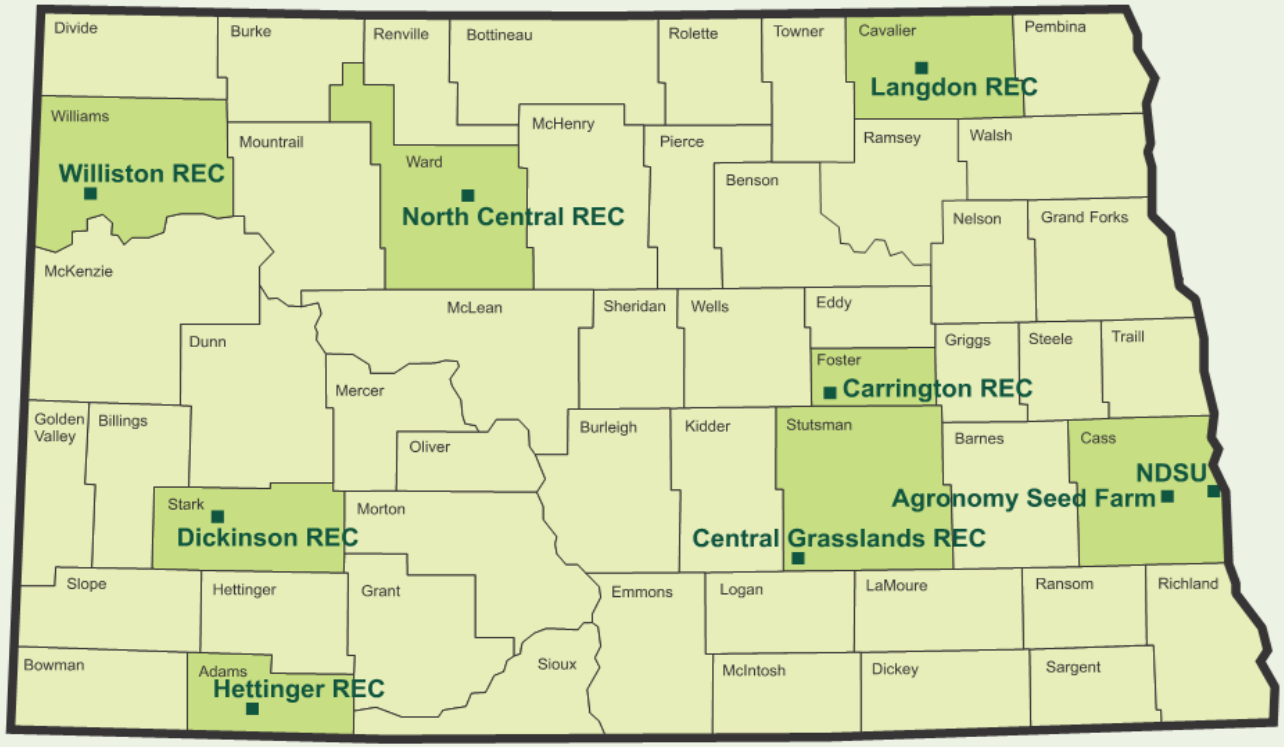
Capital Project Update: Bolley Agricultural Laboratory

- **Project Budget: $87,000,000 (SIIF); $10,000,000 fundraising authority**

Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening: **August 10, 2026**

Primary research areas: Branch Research Centers

- **Carrington REC**
  - Agronomy, livestock, soils, plant pathology, precision ag, organic ag, irrigation (Oakes), horticulture, Foundation seed
- **Central Grasslands REC** (Streeter)
  - Rangeland, livestock, forage
- **Dickinson REC**
  - Agronomy, livestock, soils, rangeland, horticulture
- **Hettinger REC**
  - Agronomy, livestock (sheep, beef), weed science, range/wildlife
- **Langdon REC**
  - Agronomy, plant pathology, Foundation seed
- **North Central REC** (Minot)
  - Agronomy, weed science, pulse breeding, viticulture, Foundation seed
- **Williston REC**
  - Agronomy, soils, irrigation, horticulture, Foundation seed



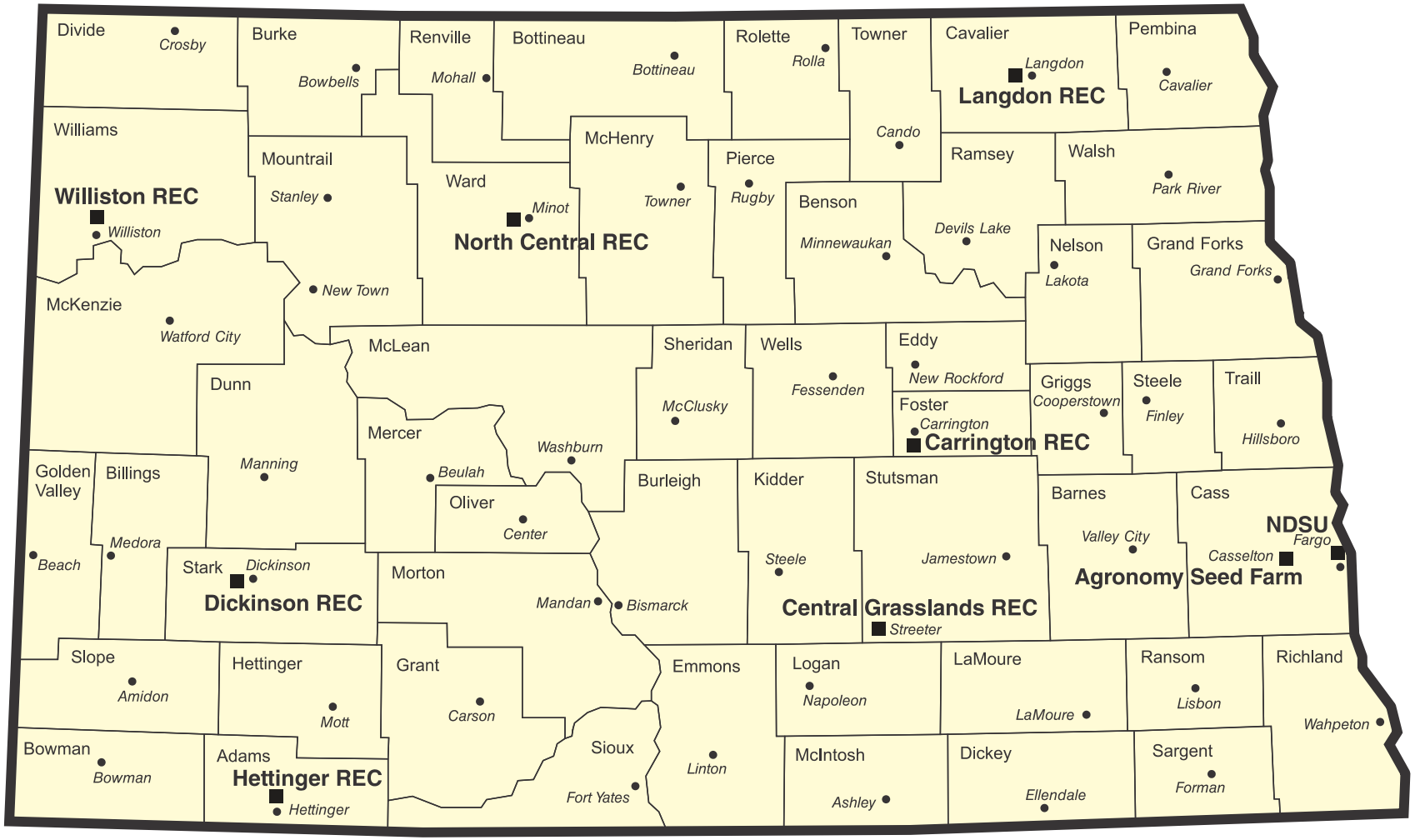
Research Impacts

- **Over 20 varieties of publicly available crops**
  - Buckwheat, grapes, dry edible beans, HRSW, HR white wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, soybeans, durum, and lentils
- **Improved grazing management through virtual fencing**
- **Unique partnership with the TRPL, servicing their need for native plants adapted to the ecoregion**
- **Using AI to improve weed control and reduce herbicide use**
- **Harnessing the power of NDAWN to improve pest and disease management**

NDSU Extension

- **Empowers North Dakotans to improve their lives and communities through science-based education**
- **Gears educational programs to the changing needs of North Dakotans**
- **Is present in all 53 counties in North Dakota and provides locally relevant information**
- **Partners with county commissioners who provide additional financial resources to support the county Extension model**

NDSU Extension Network



Major Programs: NDSU Extension

- **Agriculture and Natural Resources**
  - Crop management, soil health, pest control, livestock care, sustainable practices, horticulture and tree management, agricultural economics, and engineering.
- **Family and Community Wellness**
  - Food and nutrition, aging and gerontology, parent education, leadership and civic engagement.
- **4-H and Youth Development**
  - Youth workforce development, community service, hands-on/project-based learning.

Extension Impacts

- **Improved profitability and sustainability of crop production**
  - Using field demonstrations, decision-support tools, and timely recommendations, producers improved yields while using resources more efficiently.
- **Protected lives and land**
  - With NDSU Nursing, NDSU Extension trained over 350 residents on life-saving bleeding control techniques.
  - 5,000 individuals earned pesticide safety certification.
- **Beyond Ready: 4-H Youth Building North Dakota's Future**
  - In 2024-25, 4-H youth development programs reached nearly one in four youth in North Dakota
  - More than 1,540 volunteers have engaged with the 4-H program annually

SBARE Priorities:
NDSU Extension

- **Critical Priority: Restoration of the Governor's proposed 10% base budget reduction**
- **Operational Support**
  - $1.4 million in operating support

SBARE Priorities:
ND Agriculture Experiment Station

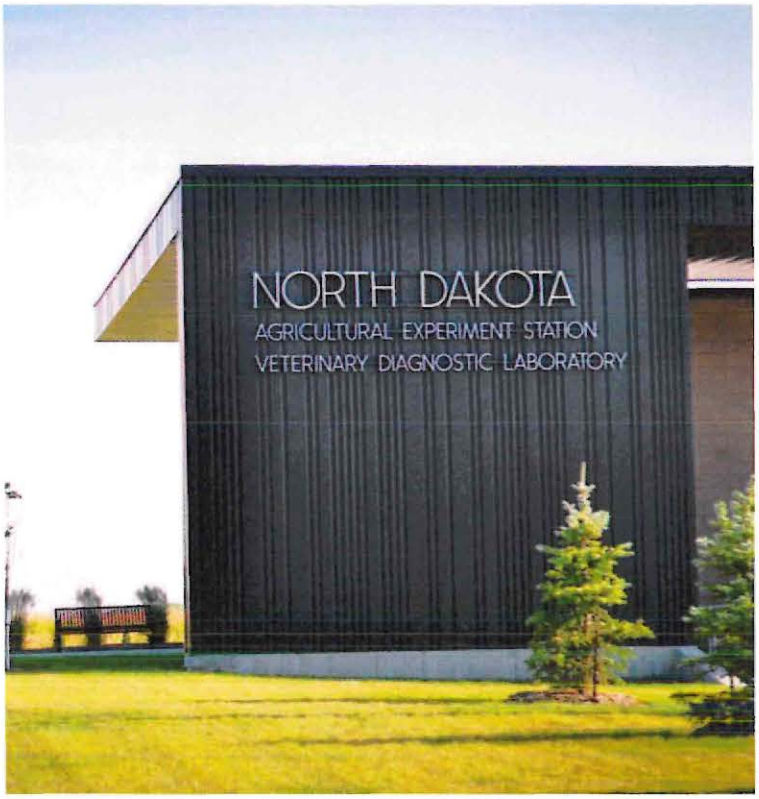
- **Critical Priority: Restoration of the Governor's proposed 10% base budget reduction**
- **Operational Support**
  - $5.7 million in operating support

SBARE Priorities:
Capital Projects

- **Deferred Maintenance**
  - $5 million in one-time funds
  - $1.183 in ongoing support

Questions?

NDSU
VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY



4035 19th Ave N
Fargo ND 58102

Driving directions

The NDSU VDL is located on 19th Ave N (West of I-29).

- Parking is free.
- Overflow parking available on south side of the building.

From the Memorial Union: Take Administration Ave to 12th Ave N. Turn right on to 12th Ave N. Turn right on to 18th Street N. Turn left on to19th Ave N. Travel west on 19th Ave N. Turn right on 41st St N.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station
SENATOR BILL BOWMAN
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

vdl.ndsu.edu/contact

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