

AGENCY OVERVIEW

Agronomy Seed Farm

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

Agency Statutory Authority

North Dakota Century Code 4-05.1.

Agency Description

The Agronomy Seed Farm is a 590-acre farm near Casselton, N.D., that has been a part of the 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 would be to increase seed of new varieties as they were 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 Performancy Measures

Per NDCC 4-05.1-19, 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 14, 2006. The report it 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.

■ Agronomy Seed Farm

- Provided support to more than 15 research projects at three locations, which included more than 120 acres of variety test plots devoted to new variety development, 25 acres devoted to inbred line development and testing, and approximately 150 acres devoted to other production-oriented crop and weed-related research, resulting in greater efficiency in the projects and money savings in fertilizer and land preparation
- Increased the supply of a barley experimental from 25 pounds to 81 bushels in one generation
- Produced 2,244 bushels of an experimental wheat from 4 bushels in two generations
- Hosted numerous tours of trade teams, and visiting scientists and producers, which foster good will and disseminates the ASF's research results to others
- Produced and distributed seed of the new wheat variety Howard, the new oat variety Maida and five new Roundup Ready soybean varieties



Providing high quality wheat seed continues to be an important part of the Agronomy Seed Farm's mission.