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## North Dakota Soybean Council SBARE Dickinson, December 7, 2021

### North Dakota Soybean Overview

- 7.2 million acres of soybean were planted in ND in 2021. Largest planted and harvested soybean crop in state history
  - Soybeans Surpassed Hard Red Spring Wheat in acreage in ND in 2021
  - Soybeans were the leading crops in terms of cash receipts, with an economic impact of over \$2 Billion dollars
- With the proposed soybean crush plant in Spiritwood, ND, the agriculture industry in the state is becoming more dependent on soybeans as the backbone commodity. ND soybean acreage is projected to increase.
- Soybean acres have expanded from a southeastern/eastern crop to all parts of the state including southwest ND
- The increase in soybean acres and short rotations are leading to:
  - Diseases including Sudden Death Syndrome and Frogeye leaf spot, are new to the state
    - Soybean Cyst Nematode is spreading to new areas every year
  - Insect pests in soybeans are becoming more problematic
    - Bean Leaf Beetle has been found in ND
    - Pyrethroid resistant aphids have been confirmed in ND

### What are the needs?

- **An Extension Soybean Plant Pathologist to focus on new diseases and identified diseases in North Dakota including Sudden Death Syndrome, Frogeye Leaf, White Mold, etc.**
  - Lead Extension Education on the management of these diseases
  - Conduct Soybean Disease Surveys
  - Conduct Soybean Cyst Nematode variety trials establishing a consistent resistance rating for commercial and public varieties
- Assist the NDSU soybean breeder to incorporate more disease resistance into NDSU soybean varieties
- **NDSC supports the addition of a Western North Dakota Soybean Specialist**
  - To conduct research relevant to western North Dakota
    - Fertility research
    - Weed control in no-till and conventional till
    - Soybean production under irrigation
    - Identification of soybean production problems and develop management strategies to mitigate those production issues
  - Organize and conduct soybean production education
    - Supporting efforts to ensure checkoff funded resources are available to soybean producers in the region
- **NDSC supports the addition of an Extension On-Farm Research Position (State Position – Fargo or Carrington)**
  - On-Farm Research is conducted by producers on their farm which proves concepts developed at small plot research trials are successful at farm scale
  - An effective way to educate and work with soybean producers on new research concepts that are unfamiliar to soybean farmers and help producers implement concepts they were hesitant to try

- Develop a close working relationship between farmers and researchers to keep strong lines of communication
- Provide farmers an opportunity to explore concepts on a large scale in their fields and growing conditions
- **Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS) 3 FTE's**
  - Production economics, marketing – working with Big Data
  - Regional economist to measure impacts of agriculture and renewable energy sectors to the state of ND
  - Technician - to preserve data
- **Oakes Irrigation Research Site \$400,000**
  - Currently this is partially funded through Garrison Diversion Board
  - Carrington Research Extension Center is conducting/managing the site
  - NDSC supports the additional \$400,000 allocation for the Oakes Irrigation Research Site
- **Research Extension Centers Needs**
  - Hiring and retention of skilled staff to conduct research (technicians and researchers)
  - Modern equipment to conduct relevant and important research
  - Updated machine storage to protect highly technical and large-sized equipment used today by researchers and farmers
    - Heat, cold, water, ice and rodents endanger research and staff
- **NDSC Supports the Replacement of Waldron Hall**
  - All ND commodity organizations need a modern and safe building to:
    - Conduct nationally respected research
    - Attract the brightest and the best researchers
- **Soybean Breeding Program**
  - NDSU's soybean breeding program provides valuable varieties to soybean producers.
  - This program requires technicians that bring stability to the program. A state funded position would accomplish this requirement and bring stability to the program.
  - NDSC supports a state funded technician for NDSU's soybean breeding program.
- **Dickinson Research Extension Center**
  - NDSC supports the addition of a full-time agronomist at Dickinson REC
    - Production issues in western North Dakota, including low pH soils, increases the demand for more agronomic research.

On behalf of the North Dakota Soybean Council, thank you for your support of North Dakota agriculture. I appreciate your service to North Dakota and to farmers and their families across the state.

If you have questions or need additional information or comments, please feel free to contact me at:

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