



November 9, 2023

Chairman Lovas and members of the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education,

My name is Ed Kessel and I'm the president of North Dakota Grain Growers Association (NDGGA). I'm a producer from Dickinson and grow wheat and barley. Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts on the board's priorities.

NDGGA would like to acknowledge the significant progress that has been made on funding agriculture research. We appreciate the Legislature's efforts to provide these dollars and hope to see them sustained.

NDGGA believes that SBARE's priorities should focus on ensuring adequate funding to support research and extension programs. Again, this funding was significant and will be instrumental in moving our industry forward. Additionally, operating and deferred maintenance is also critical.