

Agronomy Seed Farm SBARE Testimony
Brian Otteson, Director of Agronomy Seed Farm
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Background:

- Established in 1950 through a fund drive by ND Crop Improvement
- Self-supportive through its seed sales
- Primary mission is to produce high quality Foundation seed for seed growers in ND
- Provide support to main station researchers
 - Plot land preparation & clean up
 - Provide rotational ground for various research plots & breeding nurseries

Current Operations:

- Manage 1400 acres of cropland at Casselton, Prosper and Fargo
 - 1100 acres for seed production
 - 300 acres for research
- 3 FTE's
- Foundation seed production of HRWW, HRSW, barley, oat, field pea and soybean
 - 28 varieties for seed production in 2021
 - Carryover approximately 10 varieties per year
- Collaborate with NDSU Plant Science breeders
- Collaborate with Foundation Seedstocks, NDCISA and REC's on seed distribution
 - Directly involved with distribution of newly released varieties

Ag Research needs affecting ASF:

- Machinery storage sheds
 - Storage is needed for new high-tech equipment at Prosper and Fargo
 - Many research projects have acquired new GPS equipped planting and harvest equipment that is larger and requires more storage space
- Precision Agriculture
 - Collaboration with Plant Science and Ag & Biosystems Engineering
 - Numerous research projects are utilizing precision ag technologies
 - Drones capturing agronomic data
 - Wireless sensors collecting field data
 - Imagery and mapping

Ag Research needs affecting ASF (cont.)

- Big Data Initiative
 - Data collection in the research plots at ASF and Prosper
 - Tablets used to record data
 - Data analysis & software
- Waldron Hall Replacement
 - Improved varietal development
 - Storage of seed samples
 - Seed cleaning issues
 - Dust control