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To: ndsusbare@ndsus.edu
Subject: written testimony in support of NDSU greenhouses and to save horticulture
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 8:13:56 PM

I am writing to you, the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education, as a Master Gardener, begging your board to save horticulture in North Dakota!

NDSU's horticulture faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students conduct research in the Lord and Burnham South Horticulture Greenhouse. I have been informed that the Lord and Burnham Greenhouse will likely be demolished soon after the new Agriculture Products Development Center (a/k/a Peltier Complex) is constructed. At this time, there are no plans to construct new greenhouses to replace ones that are removed. Removal of the greenhouse would greatly limit NDSU's faculty members and students' ability to conduct research.

Selected impacts of not having a horticulture greenhouse will include:

- *No annual flowers will be grown for the campus garden and no All-America Selections bedding plant research trials
- *Todd West's tree breeding and selection program will be unable to research, propagate and release trees that are disease-resistant and well-adapted for our climate
- *Chiwon Lee's students will be unable to gain experience in greenhouse crop production and research; industry will lose a valuable source of well-trained employees
- *Harlene Hatterman-Valenti will not be able to research and develop value-added fruit and vegetable crops for the region
- *The viability of NDSU's academic Horticulture Programs will be threatened

I am requesting funding for the construction of new greenhouse and laboratory space for NDSU's horticultural crop research teams. NDSU horticulture has had a huge outreach in the state, which needs support. The Master Gardener program aids in education and assistance through food growing, sharing, preparing, and preserving, as well as concentrations on many subjects such as soils, climate, trees, diseases, insects, etc. This all ties in with an initiative called Food Security and Outdoor Space, through which I would support legislative funding of operating funds for horticulture.

The horticulture greenhouse, that is slated for demolition, needs to be replaced to allow horticultural research and Extension to continue, so adding greenhouses to the replacement for Waldron Hall would make perfect sense.

Respectfully submitted,
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