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To: nds.sbare@nds.edu
Subject: Testimony for SBARE input sessions
Date: Friday, December 3, 2021 11:12:44 AM

Dear sirs:

In the next couple of years NDSU horticulture is very likely to loose their greenhouse space. Horticulture has had tremendous effect on the development on North Dakota through its history. Many new plant varieties were, and continue to be released from the breeding programs of NDSU horticulture. Many new woody ornamentals as well as fruit and vegetable varieties have come from the breeding and trialing programs in the horticulture greenhouses.

I think horticulture is the red headed step child of agriculture in North Dakota. I don't believe a survey of the horticulture industry has ever been done in our state to quantify the size of our industry. I know how many dollars my business generates annually. Based on that I would guess horticulture is easily a 200 million dollar plus industry annually in the state.

I hope you will fund new horticulture teaching and research greenhouses at NDSU. Horticulture has a direct impact on the quality of life in our state. One of the few direct connections agriculture has to urban ND is horticulture. This will prove to be really important going forward, as you try to get urban legislators to fund Ag.

Thank you.

Phil Lowe

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