



JOHN DEERE

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December 22th, 2023

State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE)
North Dakota State University
Morrill Hall 314
NDSU Dept 7520, PO Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050

Dear Sarah Lovas, SBARE Chair,

Deere & Company strongly supports North Dakota State University (NDSU) and other aligned organizations looking to partner on initiatives advocated by SBARE, especially those initiatives targeted towards digital agriculture and the data sciences.

Deere recognizes that North Dakota is an important agtech cluster with its land-grant university North Dakota State University, NDSU's highly regarded ag engineering department, the cluster of agtech companies in NDSU's Research Park, and the facilities at Grand Farm. Unlike many agtech regions, North Dakota provides a unique capability as a leading agricultural producer for a variety of crops, instead of a focus on just one or two. The crop variety, coupled with geographic diversity of the state allows for options of scale and scope in design and testing not easily replicable in other geographic regions.

John Deere has an Engineering Center that is deeply involved in the ongoing development and support of Deere's tech stack that is located in NDSU's Research Park. Deere has been in Fargo since the late 1990s. NDSU is an important knowledge partner for Deere today in that it provides Deere with students and graduates, as well as continuing advanced education for current staff. NDSU also provides access to faculty and facilities for advanced research. The presence of Deere and other agtech companies in the region position North Dakota for the commercialization of the innovations fostered by state and federal strategic investments, such as the NSF Engines program.

We look forward to continued engagement with the growing agtech and ag-data infrastructure and ecosystem emerging in North Dakota.

Signed: 

Print Name: Todd A. Pringle

Date: December 22th, 2023

Organization: Deere & Company