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State Board of Agricultural Research and Education
North Dakota State University
Company Name
314 Morrill Hall
Fargo, ND 58108-6050

Dear State Board of Agricultural Research and Education:

On behalf of the Cavalier County Crop Improvement Board, I would like to submit our support for necessary upgrades to the seed cleaning facilities at the Langdon Research Extension Center. This facility is critical to maintaining the foundation seedstock program in this area.

The current facility is 61 years old, lacks adequate dust control for worker safety, and is increasingly difficult to keep operable due to the availability of parts. Additionally, it has a meager cleaning capacity of 15 bushels per hour which is vastly undersized for the needs this facility is meant to fill. Finally, the facility is unable to clean pulse crops, which is a major limitation for this area as crop rotations evolve.

The value that public varieties developed by NDSU have to growers, and by extension the entire community, in this area cannot be understated. It is therefore critical to maintain the foundation seedstock program locally to ensure that new varieties can be made available to local farmers in a timely fashion.

We see it as critical to maintain the foundation seedstock program locally. This will not be possible without a significant update to the seed cleaning facilities at the Langdon REC, not only for production capabilities, but for worker safety as well.

Sincerely,

Grant Ruehle, Cavalier County Crop Improvement Board President