



December 1973

Dear Former Agronomists at NDSU, and families,

This is the seventh annual Christmas and New Year's letter from Agronomy, NDSU--and you can notice from the postmark that it is on the late side, at least we can wish you a happy and prosperous and healthful 1974!! I'll admit that the late November ASA and CSSA meetings followed by a week of vacation in California before coming back to North Dakota put us in a far behind jam. Then while catching up with our back work we had the job of getting ready for an appearance of Agronomy before a special Consultation Board on the Experiment Station and Extension to the Board of Higher Education. This occurred January 8-9 but we had to get a report, visuals for speeches, etc. ready during the two holiday period so we hustled to the last minute. However, I think that we have prepared an impressive 192 page report that I would like to send to each of you if we had enough copies and the postage was not so much. Stop and see us and we will give you a chance to review the document.

We will try to bring you up to date with this letter, but I will admit to not having time to keep up to date on the campus activities. Keep sending us your letters, family pictures, Christmas cards, etc. as they are interesting and keep us informed about you. Also, tell us of your achievements and job responsibilities. And, be sure to stop and see us as you travel nearby.

Some change continues here as everywhere. Dr. Glenn Smith retired as Graduate Dean June 30, 1973, and rejoined the Agronomy faculty full time as half time breeder of wheat resistant to wheat stem sawfly and half time oats breeder. Quaker Oats and General Mills had supplied us a significant grant to increase our breeding on oats as oat purchases for processing to human food are great and increasing in this area. Probably you have noticed the great percentage of rolled oat product in the natural foods like granola as well as continuing production of traditional rolled oats. Also, Dr. Steve Miller, a recent graduate with Dr. Nalewaja, has joined our staff at least temporarily as leader of a large new effort to better control wild oats in fields of North Dakota and supported with USDA grant of funds via cooperative agreement. Several graduate research assistants also are supported with the wild oats funds.

New technicians, Gordon Auwater and Ron Roach, also have joined us in the weed control program, one of them on wild oats. Gordon replaces Larry Wegner. Gary Bordson is a new technician with Dr. Dexter replacing Lloyd Staska who took a position with American Crystal Sugar Co. Secretary Ann Huseby took a maternity leave December 1 to May 1, and is mother of a new son. Irene Johnson replaces Ann temporarily. Candy

Blackmer left with her graduated husband and was replaced with Mary Johnson. Sharon Collette was replaced by LeeAnn Tommerdahl and Joleen Markey transferred to Engineering and was replaced by Gloria Fettig. Janet Matzek, Elaine Dobrinz and Ginny Levenson continue so we are happy for a few veterans as well as competent new secretaries.

Another change coming soon is the retirement of Clarence Swallers, employed in Agronomy, NDSU, since 1932. Clarence's experience will be difficult to replace, but we are seeking and will soon have a replacement. Another new staff we are seeking is a USDA flax breeder, a new position at NDSU, and badly needed with 3 new races of flax rust leaving only two resistant varieties. Bill Wiidakas still comes to work in his corn library, and Lars Jensen continues to do some special jobs for us. Ted Stoa is around occasionally too, but mostly plays golf in the warm season.

The campus has not changed much if any since last year. The Grounds crew continues to improve and complete the landscaping around newer buildings and moved off more of former North Court so few if any of the old buildings are left--North Court was home to quite a few of you. A new Veterinary Science building has just been approved though and will be constructed west of Stevens Hall (the new biology building). Plans also have just been approved for new addition to Home Ec building and art gallery that will connect the Home Ec building and the Union, we understand.

North Dakota farmers and agronomic research enjoyed another good year with mostly good yields and record high prices--hard red spring wheat is \$5.45 and durum \$8.10 per bushel in Fargo today and other grains similarly high. We at NDSU released a short wheat of good quality in 1973 named OLAF for Olaf Gronaas, the longtime technician in the HRS wheat project. Ward durum and Beacon barley also were released. Before the end of 1973 we had released 3 more superior durums named Rugby, Botno and Crosby, and two hard red spring wheats named Ellar (for L. R. Waldron) and Tioga, the latter a sawfly resistant wheat. Pinto beans have been a good crop in eastern North Dakota, and we have helped bring in white navy beans in last two years--farmers have had up to 2000 lb./acre yields of white navy beans which at last price were selling for \$0.44/lb. Sunflower acreage is down, but we released from the USDA program a new rust resistant confectionery type called Sundak which was badly needed, and some sunflower inbreds are growing in Florida this winter for summer increase of inbreds and hybrids this summer--true hybrids with male steriles and restorers. Dave Ebeltoft has winter increases of wheats in Arizona, flax in Texas and sunflowers in Florida--and Dave is spending the winter in North Dakota yet!! Short wheats made up about 30% of North Dakota acreage in 1973 and will more with Olaf involved in 1974. Wheat is wheat nowadays, and we don't know for how long.

Our postdoctoral program continues. Dr. Jon Piss and Dr. Jerzy Pudelko have returned to Poland but Dr. Adamezewski came in the meantime and Mr. Krol another Polish postdoctoral will join us in April so this is a continuing and very useful program for both parties. Dr. Willie Washington, D. F. Jones Postdoctoral Fellow, and Mrs. Washington have returned to Ohio with a lovely Dakota born daughter. Dr. Jerald Bergman and family, the other D. F. Jones Postdoctoral Fellow, have taken a safflower breeding job at Sidney, Montana, station. Dr. Maan has a new predoctoral D. F. Jones Fellow, Tetsuo Sasakuma from Japan, and has applied again in the Postdoctoral program. We continue to seek predoctoral or postdoctoral candidates in food crop cytogenetics, especially wheat for this program if you know of some to send our way. Also, Dr. E. M. Matheson of Australia spent the summer at Agronomy, NDSU, working on a problem related to genetics of wheat plant morphology.

New graduate students are few due to slackening of Rockefeller, Ford, AID and other Fellowship programs. Our NDSU alumni in foreign lands are encouraged to assist outstanding young scientists to come here to NDSU and help find fellowship support for them as we in Agronomy have limited resources to provide financial aid to foreign students. We would like to help train scientists in plant breeding and weed science especially who will return to their native countries to improve food crop production and production techniques. New students this year are Luis Garcia from Spain, Emeka Agorua from Nigeria, Mahmoud Deghais from Tunisia, Tetsuo Sasakuma from Japan, and natives Marvin Boerboom, James Henson, Frederick Holbrook, Steven Hudson, Joel Knudson, Dennis Miller, and Leslie Wright. Eight Ph. D.'s and three M. S. students completed degrees during the year and took positions or returned to their home countries. These are listed with addresses in the accumulating list of graduate students but were Ph. D.'s Sylvan Addink, Ian Edwards, Abdul Goma, Ghassem Atashi-Rang, Andres Truegas, Soon J. Park, Steve Miller, Hugo Vivar, Mohammad Chatha, and Allyn Bell, and M. S. graduates Hailu Gebre, Roger Weinlaeder, Ghazanfar Rashid, and Marvin Mattson.

Foreign visitors during 1973 were numerous visiting mainly our wheat and barley staffs from such countries as Australia, South Africa, Netherlands, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Switzerland, England, Japan, Italy, Spain, Denmark, Japan, Canada, and 15 countries were represented in the group visiting here in August with a tour after the 4th International Wheat Genetics Symposium at Columbia, Missouri. Also, we had several Wheat Trade Teams from various countries to maintain our good relations and service to customer countries although not a great need to "sell wheat" nowadays.

Many of you have commented about our Christmas Party and Fall Agronomy picnic in your letters. The Christmas Party was held at the Bowler December 13. Marvin Mattson and his song and dance crew of students really developed a very original entertainment program of original songs and script that was enjoyed by everyone. The fall picnic was well attended too with Dr. Cross and corn crew providing Illinois supersweet corn and our wives ample other food of all kinds. The Bison had another 8-2 football season and successful in beating UND at home, and have an apparently good basketball team that has been mostly a winner so far.

Our staff continues to travel with usual work trips to Obregon, Mexico, by Dr.'s Foster, Lucken, Frohberg, etc. Dr. Schooler and wife went to Obregon to harvest barley in 1973. Dr. Maan and Dr. Quick attended and presented papers at a Durum Wheat Genetics conference in Bari, Italy, and both visited other experiment stations enroute home. Many of our wheat staff attended the 4th International Wheat Genetics Symposium in Columbia, Missouri, and about 8 graduate students also attended with travel grants provided by the organizing committee. The weed control scientists have traveled to several meetings, and agronomists otherwise to ASA Annual meetings at Las Vegas, Nevada, in November, 1973. Dr. Carter made several trips to Madison, Wisconsin, as member of Executive Committee of CSSA and ASA, and Dr. Williams made one visit as member of the Budget and Finance Committee of CSSA.

The Agronomy Department has achieved many things in research, teaching and extension in 1973. In May, 1973, we prepared for and were subjected to a 3-year review by CSRS (Cooperative States Research Service) and received an excellent report from CSRS to Director Hazen about our review. Our wheat, barley, weed control, and other programs received very favorable comments. As you noted in another part of this letter, we have released Ward durum, Olaf wheat, Beacon barley, and still 3 more durum wheats, Rugby, Crosby and Botno since we wrote you last, and this week will release Tioga and Ellar (L-R) wheat. Also, Sundak sunflowers was released from Dr. Fick's program.

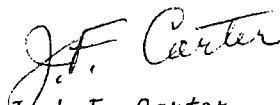
Other achievements were a very successful summer meeting of the North Central Branch of the American Society of Agronomy at NDSU, Fargo. Several of us participated in the retirement party for Dr. George Rogler, forage worker of the Northern Great Plains Research Center at Mandan. Dr. Carter served on a CSRS Review team to review the plant science programs of Agronomy, Horticulture and Plant Pathology at the University of Kentucky in January, 1973, and has been invited to serve on a CSRS team to review Plant and Soil Science at Montana State University, Bozeman, in April, 1974.

New types of activities always seem to include more bureaucracy. We now have to evaluate our employees more specifically with more and more "red tape." I note that "promptness of publication of research results" is an inquiry on a new form I must complete. I hope that each of you that have been delaying publication of thesis results from NDSU or your own research wherever you work, publish promptly so that your associates know about your work and all possible can profit from it. Set a goal of publication even if it means some night and weekend work and get caught up to your own professional satisfaction and advantage.

As time passes rapidly, the research production and teaching results of our fine, mostly young, staff and their students, increases in quantity and quality earning the recognition of other agronomists here and around the world. I sincerely believe that we made a good impression on all our visitors in the last year especially those coming here for the North Central ASA Branch meetings and those who came here to visit in connection with the posttour of the 4th International Wheat Genetics Symposium. The reception and reaction to scientific papers from our staff and students at Las Vegas ASA, CSSA meetings was outstanding again, as I know it is at Weed Science Society meetings and everywhere our faculty and students go to tell about their work. Perhaps the real test of our progress is the apparent and stated approval and respectful recognition of our agronomic colleagues here and worldwide as we publish, speak at national crop and weed conferences everywhere, accept and give courteous attention to visitors or are tested by critics here at home.

We hope that you had a Merry Christmas or other holiday season, and will have a happy, healthful and successful 1974. Let us hear from you and of your achievements, changed addresses, recent photos, etc. And, please stop to visit us as you pass nearby.

Sincerely,



Jack F. Carter
Professor and Chairman

JFC:jd

AGRONOMY FACULTY, 1973-74

- J. F. Carter, Professor and Chairman
- D. A. Whited, Assoc. Prof., Soybean Genetics
- H. D. Wilkins, Assoc. Prof., Extension, Crops
- L. W. Mitich, Professor, Extension, Weed Control
- E. L. Deckard, Ass't. Prof., Crop Physiology
- A. G. Dexter, Ass't. Prof., Extension, Weed Control, Sugarbeets
- R. H. Busch, Assoc. Prof., Wheat Genetics
- C. M. Swallers, Ass't. Prof., Specialty Crops
- J. D. Nalewaja, Professor, Weed Control
- D. W. Meyer, Ass't. Prof., Forage Crops
- H. Z. Cross, Ass't. Prof., Corn Breeding
- K. A. Lucken, Assoc. Prof., Hybrid Wheat
- J. S. Quick, Assoc. Prof., Durum Wheat Breeding
- A. E. Foster, Professor, Barley Genetics
- G. A. Peterson, Professor, Barley Breeding
- G. S. Smith, Professor, Wheat Breeding
- R. C. Frohberg, Assoc. Prof., Wheat Breeding
- N. D. Williams, Professor, Wheat Genetics (USDA)
- P. C. Sandal, Professor, Forage Crop Breeding
- J. R. Erickson, Ass't. Prof., HRW Wheat Breeding
- A. B. Schooler, Assoc. Prof., Barley Cytogenetics
- S. S. Maan, Assoc. Prof., Hybrid Wheat
- H. R. Lund, Assoc. Prof., Ass't. Director, Experiment Station

AGRONOMY FACULTY, 1973-74

C. G. Messersmith, Ass't. Prof., Weed Control
 D. C. Ebeltoft, Assoc. Prof., Seedstocks
 J. J. Hammond, Assoc. Prof., Flax Breeding
 L. R. Joppa, Assoc. Prof. Durum Genetics (USDA)
 R. H. Hodgson, Assoc. Prof., Plant Physiologist (USDA)
 G. N. Fick, Ass't. Prof., Sunflower Geneticist (USDA)
 R. H. Shimabukuro, Assoc. Prof., Plant Physiologist (USDA)

TECHNICIANS, 1973-74

Eldien Edinger, durum wheat, USDA
 Roger Genoch, barley
 Harold Hickel, durum wheat
 Gerald Johnson, HRW wheat
 David Langerud, HRS wheat
 James Liedahl, hybrid wheat
 Lyle Lindberg, flax, soybeans
 Carl Madsen, HRS wheat
 Wayne Norby, forage crops
 Robert Baumann, HRS wheat
 _____, sunflowers, USDA
 Allen Schmidt, durum wheat, USDA
 Merle Skunberg, barley
 Garrett VanWatermulen, misc. crops
 Gordon Auwater, weed control
 Ronald Roach, weed control
 Gary Bordson, sugarbeet weed control

SECRETARIES, 1973-74

Janet Matzek, Secretary II
 Virginia Levenson, Secretary II, Ext.
 Mary Johnson, Secretary IV
 LeeAnn Tommerdahl, Secretary IV
 Elaine Dobrinz, parttime
 Ann Huseby, Secretary IV
 Gloria Fettig, Secretary IV

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS, 1973-74

Dr. Kazimierz Adamczewski: support is Agronomy and Church of Brethren Scientist Exchange Program, working with Dr. Nalewaja and Dr. Messersmith
 Dr. Jerzy Pudelko: support is Agronomy and Church of Brethren Scientist Exchange Program, working with Dr. Nalewaja and Dr. Messersmith (left January 1974)
 Dr. Jerald Bergman: support is from D. F. Jones Fellowship Program (left January 1974)
 Dr. Willie Washington: (Jones-Mangelsdorf corn patent funds) for research in cytogenetics of major food crop, wheat, under Dr. S. S. Maan's direction (left August, 1973)

**AGRONOMY GRADUATE MAJORS, 1973-74

Agorua, Emeka - Self support, Nigeria
 Bernhardson, Ed - Self support
 Boerboom, Marvin - GRA
 Chamberlain, Dennis - GRA
 Cregan, Perry - GRA
 Deghais, Mahmoud - AAI, Tunisia
 Domínguez, Juan - IRI, Spain
 García, Luis - IRI, Spain
 Henson, James - GRA
 Holbrook, Frederick - GRA
 Hudson, Steven - GRA
 Jorgenson, Eugene - GRA
 Knudson, Joel - GRA
 Lehrke, Robert - Self support
 Mann, H. Allen - Self support
 Marquis, Louis - GRA

Mattson, Marvin - GRA
 Miller, Dennis - GRA
 Miller, Jerry - Self support
 Nowatzki, Robert - Self support
 Rashid, Ghazanfar - IIE, Pakistan
 Sasakuma, Tetsuo - DFJ, Japan
 Schmidt, Herb - Self support
 Schultz, Gary - GRA
 Slettleland, Raymond - Self support
 Sorowat, Sutin - Self support, Thailand
 Spilde, LeRoy - Self support
 Teigen, Thomas - Self support
 Vian, Wayne - NDEA
 Vigil, Rudolph - GRA
 Ward, Roger - GRA
 Wright, Leslie - GRA

**Native unless foreign student indicated; RF = Rockefeller Foundation Fellow; AID = Agency for International Development; FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization; NDEA = National Defense Education Act Fellow; GRA = Graduate Research Assistant; DFJ = D. F. Jones Fellow; CB = Church of Brethren Cooperation; AAI = African American Institute; IRI = IRI Research Institute.