



December 1974

Dear Former Agronomists at NDSU, and families,

This is the eighth annual Christmas and New Year's letter from Agronomy, NDSU, and with luck we may get it mailed to you in 1974 but not before December 25. We are busy all year and like all past years, November and December are some of the busiest months for meetings, like the American Society of Agronomy, North Dakota Crop Improvement Association, the North Dakota Agricultural Association, the Flax Institute, etc. The Consultation Board to the Experiment Station and Extension Service report, that we were preparing for last year at this time, was 192 pages long and a very successful report which we hope will benefit Agronomy and Agriculture at NDSU, NDSU in total in many ways.

Each of you and our many visitors usually are interested in the staff changes that you will notice in the lists at the end of this letter. Most notable and saddening, was the death of Dr. Glenn A. Peterson, March 26, 1974, after a long bout with cancer. A scholarship fund was started and many of you from many countries have contributed generously, and gifts are still arriving. We will have enough funds for a perpetual undergraduate scholarship of at least \$300/year and the North Dakota Crop Improvement Association and county associations are now providing significant amounts for a short-term scholarship to graduate students in barley breeding. We are grateful for your generous response. Dr. Peterson also received recognition as an outstanding agricultural scientist at the first annual Harvest Bowl, November 9, 1974. Dr. Melvern Anderson, former Ph.D. graduate at NDSU, has replaced Dr. Peterson in our barley breeding project after five years of teaching and research experience at the University of Kentucky. We intend to maintain our leadership in barley breeding and production!

Other staff changes were the retirement of Clarence Swallers after more than 40 years service to NDSU. Clarence was replaced by Dr. Al Schneider who recently received Ph.D. from University of Arizona but formerly was at Williston Station for five years. Dr. T. E. Thompson also joined Agronomy, NDSU, as Research Geneticist, USDA, to conduct research in flax genetics. Dr. Darrell Cole, USDA sugarbeet physiologist at NDSU has become associated with Agronomy as Adjunct Professor. Dr. Steve Miller is full time Assistant in Agronomy in a wild oats control project funded by USDA and Dr. Peter Fay, Cornell graduate, will join us about January 1, 1975, as Assistant in Agronomy, also in wild oats control, a pilot program. Postdoctorals, Washington, Bergman of U.S., Pudelko, Adamczewski of Poland, and Florin Stoenescu of Romania, have left but new ones, Franckowiak, Krol and Thomas have joined us or will arrive soon. Mary Duerr has replaced Mary Johnson and Susan Ulwelling replaced Gloria Fettig as secretaries and Elaine Dobrinz has accepted a half-time appointment as secretary (clerk-typists they are called nowadays).

The campus has changed some in the last year. A new addition to the Home Ec building with art gallery and other uses is well along and connects the present Home Ec building and the Memorial Student Union--quite a brick wall!! The new Vet Science building west of Stevens Hall also is well along. A modern meats lab facility was built on to Sheppard Arena this year also. The present 1975 Legislature appears inclined to more buildings, for example, the Ag Science Building which has been proposed for some years. The 1975-77 package also includes an expansion of our cold storage facilities for seed in basement of Corn Seedhouse.

North Dakota farmers and agronomic research enjoyed only a fair year. The spring was very late followed by drouth in some areas, a long hot period in July, aphid damage to some of crop, and our plots at Fargo were badly hail damaged for first time in at least 25 years. The hail was very injurious to apple trees in and around the NDSU campus. But, crop yields were quite good and prices of grain are very good so crops and agricultural income in North Dakota is very good. This was a year of much variety environment interaction so most data were difficult to interpret. Many of our new varieties of last couple of years performed well as did Waldron wheat under stress in much of state. Era wheat continues to perform very well in favorable sites too, and is the consistent high yielder. We are hoping for a more favorable crop year in 1975 that will help feed the masses as well as bring good crop income to producers who have greatly increased crop input costs of fuel, fertilizer, machinery, etc.

You will notice that we have quite a few new graduate students this year partly due to several Graduate Assistantships funded by the USDA wild oats grant and several new ones from foreign countries. We hope our graduates in foreign countries will help outstanding young scientists to get fellowship support to come here to study. We believe we at NDSU can best help to improve world agriculture by training young scientists who can come here to learn better how to improve food crop performance, better control weeds, etc., after they return to their home countries. New students this year were natives, Tom Bybee, Joseph Caroline, John Lukach, Steven Richardson, Zeno Wicks, Gordon Auwarter, Ronald Roach, and Gary Bordson, and Christiaan Mulder from Union of South Africa, Dorance Munoz from Colombia, Mohammed Panjsheri from Afghanistan, Rueben Sam from India and Hosseinali Rubani from Iran. One Ph.D. and five M.S. students completed degrees during 1974 and took positions or returned to their home countries. These were; Eugene Jorgenson to Saskatchewan as weed scientist, Ray Sletteland as Instructor to Devils Lake Junior College, Dennis Chamberlain as corn breeder to California, Juan Dominguez back to Spain as sunflower breeder, Marvin Mattson as agronomist with Crop Quality Council, and Emeka Agorua back to Nigeria as agronomist.

We had foreign visitors from at least 12 different countries in 1974 that I have recorded and, no doubt others visited various research projects and individuals. We had Wheat Trade Teams from at least six countries and tour groups from other countries including some plant scientists from USSR. We hope that some of you will be among our "foreign" visitors in the next year. Please stop to visit as you may pass this way in your travels.

Many of you have commented in your letters or cards about our Christmas Party and Agronomy Fall Picnic. The party was December 14 at The Bowler. Dr. Messersmith was MC and Les Wright impersonated Johnny Carson along with help from Perry Cregan and Dennis Miller in the student program with about 116 attending. We had good attendance at the Agronomy Fall Picnic too and Dr. Cross provided Illinois Supersweet corn even though hail damage and other environmental problems stressed corn in 1974. The Bison had another very good football season although they shared the Conference title with two other teams--wait until next year!

Our staff continues to travel with several traveling to Obregon, Mexico to care for wheat and barley nurseries. Mr. Ebeltoft produced seed crops of sunflowers in Florida, flax in Texas, and wheat and barley in Arizona as usual. Dr. Nalewaja won the CIBA-Geigy Outstanding Weed Science Teacher Award which was a trip to CIBA-Geigy headquarters in Switzerland, etc., and included additional travel to Poland to visit former postdoctorals and to weed science programs in other countries. Mrs. Nalewaja accompanied him on part of the tour. Dr. Maan is now on vacation trip to India to visit family. Dr. Williams has visited Agronomy Society Headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin, as chairman of the CSSA Finance Committee, but Dr. Carter has ceased those trips to Madison after ending his term as Past President of CSSA. However, Dr. Carter has made several trips as CSSA Director to meetings of Board of CAST (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology). U.S. agronomists should join this organization to promote and explain agriculture to the public, Congress, etc. Dr. Carter also is a member of Governor Link's Mined Land Planning Group charged with developing adequate procedures for reclamation of surface mined land.

The Agronomy Department has achieved many things in teaching, research and extension in 1974. In addition to Dr. Nalewaja's recognition above, Dr. Cal Messersmith won the Alpha Zeta Outstanding Teacher Award, Dr. Glenn Smith was recognized by Sigma Xi for outstanding service to Sigma Xi and the Graduate School and Dr. Nalewaja and Bill Wiidakas were given Outstanding Service Awards by the North Dakota Agricultural Association. Dr. Carter served as member of CSRS Review Team that reviewed the Plant and Soil Science Department at Montana State University. Some of you should achieve publication of your thesis results, if you have not already done so. Write me or your advisor if in doubt whether or how to proceed. Also, please continue to publish, communicate well in all ways, and support your scientific organization by paper presentation, attendance, etc. We will hope to see some of you at the annual Agronomy meetings at University of Tennessee, Knoxville, next August, 1975.

As the 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 and weed scientists here and around the world. I sincerely believe we have made a very good impression on all our native and foreign visitors in the past year, especially those coming here for the first time. The reception and reaction to scientific papers from our staff and students at ASA meetings in Chicago and recent North Central Weed Control Conference in St. Paul was outstanding as usual. One of our undergraduate students presented an excellent paper at Chicago and another won second place in the photography contest. 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 1975. 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,

J. F. Carter

J. F. Carter
Professor and Chairman

AGRONOMY FACULTY, 1974-75

- J. F. Carter, Professor and Chairman
- ✓M. K. Anderson, Assoc. Prof., Barley Breeding
- ✓R. H. Busch, Assoc. Prof., Wheat Genetics
- D. F. Cole, Adjunct Professor, Sugarbeet Physiologist (USDA)
- ✓H. Z. Cross, Ass't. Prof., Corn Breeding
- ✓E. L. Deckard, Ass't. Prof., Crop Physiology
- ✓A. G. Dexter, Ass't. Prof., Extension, Weed Science, Sugarbeets
- D. C. Ebeltoft, Assoc. Prof., Seedstocks
- J. R. Erickson, Assoc. Prof., HRW Wheat Breeding
- P. K. Fay, Ass't. in Agronomy, Weed Science
- ✓G. N. Fick, Adjunct Prof., Sunflower Geneticist (USDA)
- ✓A. E. Foster, Professor, Barley Breeding
- ✓R. C. Froberg, Professor, Wheat Breeding
- ✓J. J. Hammond, Assoc. Prof., Flax Breeding
- R. H. Hodgson, Adjunct. Prof., Plant Physiologist (USDA)
- L. R. Joppa, Adjunct Prof. Durum Genetics (USDA)

AGRONOMY FACULTY, 1974-75

- ✓K. A. Lucken, Professor, Hybrid Wheat
- H. R. Lund, Assoc. Prof., Assoc. Director, Experiment Station
- ✓S. S. Maan, Professor, Hybrid Wheat
- ✓C. G. Messersmith, Ass't. Prof., Weed Science
- ✓D. W. Meyer, Ass't. Prof., Forage Crops
- J. F. Miller, Ass't. in Agronomy, Hybrid Wheat Production
- S. D. Miller, Ass't. in Agronomy, Weed Science
- L. W. Mitich, Professor, Extension, Weed Science
- ✓J. D. Nalewaja, Professor, Weed Science
- ✓J. S. Quick, Assoc. Prof., Durum Wheat Breeding
- ✓P. C. Sandal, Professor, Forage Crop Breeding
- A. B. Schooler, Assoc. Prof., Barley Cytogenetics
- ✓A. A. Schneiter, Ass't. Professor, Specialty Crops
- ✓R. H. Shimabukuro, Adjunct Prof. Plant Physiologist (USDA)
- ✓G. S. Smith, Professor, Wheat Breeding
- T. E. Thompson, Adjunct Prof. Research Geneticist (USDA)
- ✓D. A. Whited, Assoc. Prof., Soybean Genetics
- H. D. Wilkins, Assoc. Prof., Extension, Crops
- N. D. Williams, Adjunct Professor, Wheat Genetics (USDA)

Retired:

- L. A. Jensen
- T. E. Stoa
- C. M. Swallers
- W. Wiidakas

TECHNICIANS, 1974-75

- 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
- Dale Rehder, sunflowers, USDA
- Allen Schmidt, durum wheat, USDA
- Merle Skunberg, barley
- Garrett VanWatermulen, misc. crops
- Gordon Auwarter, weed control
- Ronald Roach, weed control
- Gary Bordson, sugarbeet weed control

SECRETARIES, 1974-75

- Janet Matzek, Clerk IV
- Virginia Levenson, Secretary I, Ext.
- Mary Duerr, Clerk Typist I
- LeeAnn Tommerdahl, Clerk Typist I
- Elaine Dobrinz, one-half time, Clerk Typist
- Ann Huseby, Clerk Typist I
- Susan Ulwelling, Clerk Typist I

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS, 1974-75

- Dr. Jerome Franckowiak: support is from D. F. Jones Fellowship program for research in cytogenetics of major food crop, wheat, under Dr. S. S. Maan's direction.
- Dr. J. B. Thomas: support is from D. F. Jones Fellowship program for research in cytogenetics of major food crop, wheat, under Dr. S. S. Maan's direction.
- Dr. Marion Krol: support is Agronomy and Church of Brethren Scientist Exchange Program working with Dr. Nalewaja.

**AGRONOMY GRADUATE MAJORS, 1974-75

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| Auwater, Gordon - self support | Mulder, Christiaan - IIE, GRA, South Africa |
| Bernhardson, Ed - self support | Munoz, Dorance - ICETEX, Colombia |
| Boerboom, Marvin - GRA | Nowatzki, Robert - self support |
| Bordson, Gary - self support | Panjsheri, Mohammed - AID, Afghanistan |
| Bybee, Tom - GRA | Rashid, Ghazanfar - IIE, Pakistan |
| Caroline, Joseph - GRA | Richardson, Steven - GRA |
| Cregan, Perry - GRA | Roach, Ronald - self support |
| Deghais, Mahmoud - AAI, Tunisia | Rubani, Hosseinali - self support, Iran |
| Garcia, Luis - IRI, Spain | Sam, Rueben - self support, India |
| Hendrickson, Elton - self support | Sasakuma, Tetsuo - DFJ, Japan |
| Henson, James - GRA | Schmidt, Herb - self support |
| Holbrook, Frederick - GRA | Schultz, Gary - GRA |
| Hudson, Steven - GRA | Sorowat, Sutin - self support, Thailand |
| Knudson, Joel - GRA | Spilde, LeRoy - self support |
| Lehrke, Robert - self support | Teigen, Thomas - self support |
| Lukach, John - GRA | Vian, Wayne - NDEA |
| Mann, H. Allen - self support | Vigil, Rudolph - GRA |
| Marquis, Louis - GRA | Ward, Roger - GRA |
| Miller, Dennis - GRA | Wicks, Zeno - GRA |
| Miller, Jerry - self support | 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.