

Dear Partners in North Dakota Agriculture:

The NDSU Extension Service is pleased to partner with the North Dakota Field Office of NASS-USDA in bringing you the 2016 issue of North Dakota Agricultural Statistics.

Just as it is most years, the faithfulness of unpredictable weather is providing challenges in 2016. Just as faithful, though, is North Dakota agriculture's resolve to be resilient and successful. While Extension cannot solve the vagaries of weather, our agricultural programs are designed to help farmers and ranchers adapt to the challenging conditions, improve productivity by adopting crop and livestock best management practices, control crop pests, and manage range land and natural resources. The crop, livestock and economic statistics compiled in North Dakota Agricultural Statistics help us learn from the past and plan for the future. These statistics also showcase the diversity of crop and livestock enterprises in our state and that we lead the nation in the production of many commodities.

North Dakota's agricultural statistics are used extensively by the NDSU Extension Service to identify and plan educational programs. We use information about state-wide crop production trends to ensure that Extension programs focus on the areas of greatest need, while county information is helpful to Extension agents in planning programs that will have the greatest impact at the local level.

On behalf of the specialists and agents of the NDSU Extension Service, I am pleased to help support this report and the agricultural success of North Dakota.

Sincerely,



Chris Boerboom
Director, NDSU Extension Service

