

North Central Research Extension Center: Northern Plains Domain

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Location within Domain: Longitude 101.30W, Latitude 48.18N. Section 11, Township 154N, Range 83W. Site includes 1,200 acres of land including intensive cropping acres, research plots, wetlands, and native grassland.

History: The Center was established in 1945 for agricultural field research and pure seed increase. It currently specializes in crop research, foundation seed production, and extension education.

Key Characteristics: Located on the border of North Dakota's two most prominent soil and vegetation regions - the dark brown soils of the semi-arid grassland and the black soils of central North Dakota's sub-humid grassland. An example of the soil type of these areas is Williams clay loam.

Existing Infrastructure: Collaborations exist with several agencies including the National Weather Service-weather observation station, NDAWN-weather observation and weather and disease forecasting, Global Atmospherics, Inc.- national lightning detection network, U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant Materials Center-production of native and introduced grass species production, North Dakota State University Integrated Pest Management program, North Dakota State University Extension Service-outreach education, Energy and Environmental Research Center-wind to hydrogen (hydrogen fuel-powered pickup truck), canola-based biodiesel research and diesel engine operation on 100% canola biodiesel, Minot State University-amphibian aquatics study; North Dakota Game and Fish Department native grasslands OWLS education project, Minot Air Force Base-missile and B52 bomb wing.

Facilities: On-site structures provide office and meeting rooms, technical support; wet laboratory; field laboratory; greenhouse; equipment repair and storage; 16 FTE on site support; modern utilities include T1 fiber optics, networking, and videoconferencing capabilities; 1,200 acres of land including intensive cropping acres, research plots, wetlands, and native grassland; within 3 miles of Minot State University which offers 60 undergraduate majors and 12 master's degree programs; within 4 miles of international airport with 3 flights per day, 3 U.S. highways, 2 Class 1 railroads, Amtrak.