

## Dickinson Research Extension Center: Northern Plains Domain

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**Location within Domain:** Longitude 102° 49' W, Latitude 46° 53' N. The main station is located on the west edge of the city of Dickinson, ND. The ranch headquarters is located 20 miles north of Dickinson at Longitude 102° 50' W, Latitude 47° 14' N. The Center consists of 4,979 acres including 2,576 acres of native rangeland, 315 acres of crested wheatgrass, and 1263 acres of cropland.

**History:** The DREC was established in 1904 for agricultural field research. The DREC uses innovative approaches to find solutions to agricultural and resource problems. Current work at the Center focuses on grass production, rangeland management, weather influences on dryland agriculture, beef genetics, nutrition, management and disease control, swine genetics, nutrition, management and disease control, crop rotations and variety testing, and testing and demonstrations of lawn, vegetable crops, ornamental annual and perennial plants as well as trees.

**Key Characteristics:** The native rangeland is the Wheatgrass-Needlegrass vegetative type of the mixed grass prairie.

### Existing Infrastructure:

The DREC is a benchmark weather station and has collected weather data since 1892, while the ranch headquarters has collected weather data since 1981. The DREC is also one of the automated NDAWN stations in North Dakota. Collaborative activities take place with Dickinson State University.

**Facilities:** The DREC has a new office building with meeting rooms and research laboratories and equipment for center scientists to conduct scientific investigations in their areas of specialization. Dickinson, North Dakota, is a home rule city of 16,000 located on Interstate 94 in Southwest North Dakota about 60 miles east of the Montana State line. Great Lakes Airlines offers three flights to Dickinson per day. The city is the gateway to the serene and rugged Badlands and Theodore Roosevelt National Park. It is also located less than an hour's drive from Lake Sakakawea, the largest of the mainstem reservoirs on the Missouri River.

