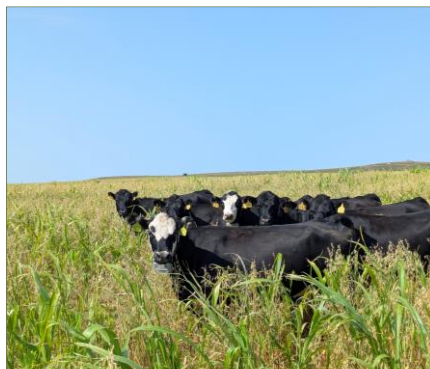
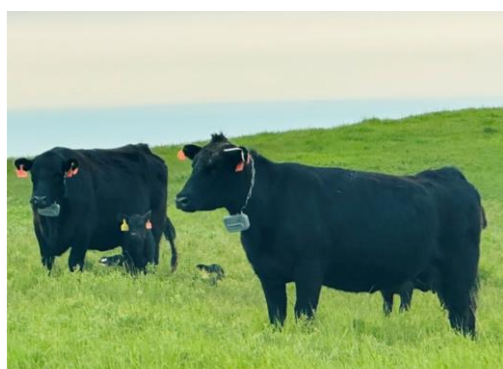


People, Land and Facilities

- ✓ The Central Grasslands Research Extension Center comprises 5,335 acres that support range, pasture, livestock, forage and grazing research, and extension.
 - The center facilities include the headquarters building, range and forage laboratory, livestock research laboratory, 28 pastures for grazing research, forage research sites, and housing units.
 - The center has 3300 acres of native range, 1,895 acres of tillable land, and 120 acres of wetlands.
 - We manage approximately 425 head of brood cows and 200 heifers
 - They allow studies to assess 1) early, growing-season, and late-season grazing trials, 2) integrated livestock/cropping systems grazing trials, 3) precision technologies (virtual fence, virtual waters, limit feeders using different grazing strategies), 4) impacts of diet/grazing strategies on reproduction and animal nutrition, and 5) economic efficiency.
- ✓ Currently 10 staff including: two scientists (range, livestock), two research specialist (range and livestock), two Extension state specialist (livestock, range), five support staff (one livestock, two agronomy, one range, and one office manager), and director.



Capital Project Update (2021-2025 Sessions)

Director's Residence

- ✓ \$325,000 was funded in 2021 – 2023 legislative session.
- ✓ \$500,000 was authorized in 2023 – 2025 legislative session (\$325,000 appropriated, \$175,000 internal).
- ✓ Completed October 2025
- ✓ The permanent director's residence on the center will enhance retention and recruitment.



NDSU | Central Grasslands Research Extension Center

Capital Project Update (2021-2025 Session) Continue

Livestock Facilities Enhancement Project

- ✓ Funded during the 2021 – 2023 legislative session for \$1,963,000 using ARPA funds.
- ✓ Another \$400,000 was funded during the 2023-2025 legislative session.
- ✓ Ground breaking occurred in spring 2024.
- ✓ Facility completed in January 2025; first group of cattle run through in January
- ✓ Increase research directed at livestock production and reproductive efficiency, grazing efficiency and biodiversity of rangelands.



Cold Storage Facility Enhancement Project

- ✓ Funded during the 2025 – 2027 legislative session for \$500,000.
- ✓ Environmental work completed in December 2025, solicit bids January 2026
- ✓ Provide protection from the environment for farm and ranch equipment

Future Requests

Support for an increased Operating and Technology Transfer Budget

- ✓ Justification:
 - General operating costs (utilities, insurance, fuel, chemicals, herbicides, general operating, IT, equipment leases) have increased at Central Grasslands REC from \$150,151 in 2020 to \$370,843 in 2025, or 147 percent.
 - To put this in perspective, I started as interim director in fall 2016. We took a 5% budget cut in the fall of 2016, and another 13.5% budget cut in 2017; for a total cut of 18.5%. This equated to \$175,750 per year permanent cut.
 - We received our first increase in operating during the 2025 – 2027 session for a re-occurring \$20,000 per year.
 - Net loss today compared to 2016 is \$376,442.
 - These losses require the REC to redirect income funds to operating that could be used for innovated research projects and Extension programming.
- ✓ Request:
 - Provide an infusion of re-occurring operating dollars for all the RECs and Main Station AES (for example, \$150,000 per REC and \$500,000 for Main Station)
 - Create a re-occurring increase to offset inflation with the operating line-item. This increase would be set by the appropriators and based on available funds, similar to pay raises each year (for example, 5%).