

WREC PROGRAMS

Foundation Seedstocks



Nesson Valley Irrigation Research & Development



Plant Pathology



For More Information:

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NDSU

Williston Research Extension Center

Conducting research to increase agricultural productivity in the semi-arid region of northwestern North Dakota, while achieving a necessary balance between profitability and conservation of natural resources.

2025-2027 Biennium

Capital Projects

Nesson Valley Tech Transfer Center: The WREC is actively working on fundraising plans for the Nesson Valley Tech Transfer Center as the legislature has approved raising funds to complete this project. Architectural design of the Center has been updated to meet the needs of the project.

Cold Storage Shed: The cold storage shed will be going out for bids in January with a proposed completion in fall 2026. Thank you for your continued support of the WREC.

Deferred Maintenance

The WREC is utilizing the deferred maintenance budget to complete a number of safety items that have been needing attention, such as a functioning fire alarm system, flooring, and HVAC issues.

2027-2029 Biennium

Requests: Operating Support and Deferred Maintenance.

The WREC's request for the **2027-2029 biennium** includes an increase in the general budget for operating costs, as well as an additional budget for deferred maintenance.

Operating Budget: There are many financial challenges that exist at the WREC, one is the reality of the Bakken premium. Civil site plans for our cold storage shed came back 60% higher than those of other stations that have just recently had this process done. The budget of the WREC in the 2019-2021 biennium was \$2.86 million and increased to \$3.23 million in the 2023-2025 biennium, an increase of 13 percent. During this time frame the general operating costs (utilities, insurance, state fleet, IT, fuel, etc.) associated with normal operations increased by almost 31 percent.

Deferred maintenance: Items for the WREC are approaching \$1 million, with a lot of these items being updates to existing structures that were built when the station relocated to its current location in the 1950s. The variable rate irrigation systems at the Nesson Valley Irrigation Project have now reached 20 years of age and these systems need to be updated to fulfill the ever growing need of irrigated research for the MonDak region.

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Filling the Vacancies:

The WREC is actively recruiting for the Research Agronomist and Research Specialist positions. We have received approval to recruit the Plant Pathologist position and will have that open starting in January. Exciting and challenging times ahead at the WREC as hiring in the Bakken requires a premium. The WREC would like to add a part-time Administrative Assistant who will have daily admin duties with a social media focus. Updating and maintaining the WREC website; engaging social media posts with a consistent presence and help with community engagement and planning. The WREC also wants to reinstate the Extension Specialist position at the center.



WREC PROGRAMS

Horticulture



Soil Science



Agronomy

