OUTREACH SUMMARY: CROP MANAGEMENT FIELD TOURS AND TRAINING SESSIONS

Greg Endres, Blaine Schatz, Ezra Aberle, Paul Hendrickson, Bob Henson, and Steve Zwinger

Using the 2002 growing season, the Carrington Research Extension Center hosted numerous crop management tours and training sessions. The Center's research trials and demonstration plots were used by extension and research staff to provide field training for nearly 700 people. Education of farmers, crop advisers, and agri-business personnel during the growing season provides an opportunity for the audience to immediately incorporate the information into farm operations.

Following are the crop management events conducted at the Center from May through September:

May

- Carrington 3rd Grade Class ag tour
- Extension IPM Crop Scout training
- Chilean farm group tour

June

- Crop Management Field School
- DuPont/Pioneer sales representatives field training
- Dakota Pride Cooperative/Canterra Seeds workshop and tour

July

- Off-station crop variety tours (Dazey and Fullerton)
- Legume Logic Seed Growers tour
- Hail Adjusters workshop
- CREC Annual Field Day

August

- American Malting Barley Association tour
- Australian Dry Bean Growers Association tour
- Brazilian durum industry trade tour

September

- ND Soybean Council Soybean Research Plot Tour
- National Sunflower Association Field Day
- Slovakian pulse and bean industry tour

Crop subject matter areas during these events included crop cultivar performance, pest identification and management (disease, insects, and weeds), traditional and alternative crop management, cropping systems, irrigated crop management, and forage production. Many of the tours also included viewing and discussing livestock (beef and bison) and aquaculture research projects.

In the future, the Carrington Center will continue to host and conduct field educational events during the growing season. Individuals or groups are encouraged to visit the Center for formal or informal educational opportunities throughout the year.