

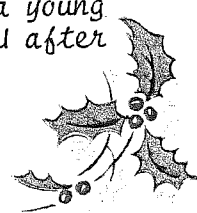
January, 1977 (for 1976, our bicentennial year  
in the United States)

Dear Former Agronomists at NDSU, and families,

This is the tenth annual Christmas and New Year's letter from Agronomy, NDSU; sorry about that date above as the jobs multiply each year and the help seems to stay the same at least in some areas, so the letter does not get written until the last day of the so-called "holidays." Many of you are 12-month employed agronomists now, so you know how the system works. One of our favorite questions from outsiders is "What do you do in summer and when classes are not in session?" This letter seems to get too long but hope it contains information and news that is interesting to you, and you can keep up to date with us here on campus and former classmates. Some of you have enclosed information or pictures and we encourage all of you to tell us about yourselves and send a photo--don't worry about the aging process--we all do!

We in Agronomy produced a 193-page annual report for year 1975 in August--later than we should because the 1976 annual report will be due in a few months. But everyone is busy and the annual report got delayed, partly because Howard Wilkins and I taught two sections of Grain Grading in the spring quarter plus other duties to delay the Annual Report. I participated in a CAST function (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology) called Food Dialogue to the Nation April 7-8 from Washington, D.C. About 20 experts in food, crops, environment, etc., participated with 12 phone lines kept busy for two 9-hour days and thousands of questions answered. If you are not a member of CAST, it is \$10/year and a good organization to promote agriculture. An NDSU Accreditation Team was on campus April 11-12, some of us participated, and NDSU was judged to be very worthy of accreditation in all areas. Now, our own Graduate Council is preparing to evaluate the graduate programs by departments. We think that we have an excellent program and system but will make for some work in preparation. In 1976, Dr. Carter consented to become Editor of a Sunflower Monograph for the American Society of Agronomy and Crop Science Society of America so that is a job--Dr. Gary Fick is a member of Editorial Committee and several NDSU faculty are writing chapters.

We did not have many new faculty changes in 1976. Dr. Mike McMullen joined Agronomy as an oat breeder so we expect to make some good advances in oats for feed and human food. Dr. Glenn Smith phased the oat breeding over to Dr. McMullen and now Dr. Smith works full time on breeding for wheat stem sawfly resistance in hard red spring wheat. Dr. Smith will soon reach a young 70 years and we hope that he might still have some association with NDSU after 70. Dr. Jerry Miller, Research Associate in Agronomy, became Research Geneticist, ARS, USDA, and Adjunct Professor in Agronomy, to replace Dr. Tommy Thompson who moved to Texas as sunflower breeder. Dr. Reed Barker, forage crops breeder, ARS, USDA, Mandan, ND, became Adjunct Professor in Agronomy January 1, 1976. We regret to report also that



Dr. Gary (Gerhardt) Fick, ARS, USDA, sunflower breeder and geneticist, has left NDSU and ARS as of December 31, 1976, to take a sunflower breeding position with Schuler Grain Co. of Wahpeton-Breckenridge. Ilene Tritten replaced LeeAnn Tommerdahl as Clerk Typist, Kathy Livingston replaced Mary Duerr as Clerk Typist, and Donna Kilen moved up to Secretary I position to replace Mary Duerr in that responsibility. New technicians are Dennis Rasmussen with Dr. Dexter replacing Reed Tinkham, Joan Gordon in new position with Dr. Maan, and Burton Johnson replacing Darrel Heins with Dr. Schneiter.

New graduate students starting since last year are Dale Aaberg, Michele Beguhn, Robert Benson, David Chandler\*, Ricardo Davila, Burton Johnson\*, Roy Johnston\*, Allen Mann, Paul Mayland\*, Barry Nagle, William Niehaus, James Oard, Dennis Rasmussen\*, James Stewart, and Seiichi Tsuji. \*Part-time graduate students among the above are Chandler and Johnston, Research Assistants in Agronomy, Rasmussen and Johnson, Technicians, and Paul Mayland, employee of a chemical company. In the Fall, 1976, Agronomy had 54 full-time and part-time graduate students. We plan that all of the part-time off-campus students will finish their theses before May and our list will be shortened by 3-4 students. New postdoctorals are Dr. Nikolai Bochkarev, sunflower breeder from USSR with Dr. Fick, Dr. Liu on sabbatical leave from Puerto Rico with Dr. Nalewaja, and from Poland, Henryk Czembor with Dr. Hammond, Eugeninsz Pacholak with Dr. Nalewaja, and Krystyna Gorecki with Dr. Shimabukuro.

Those students receiving degrees in May, 1976, Commencement were: M.S. degrees--Edmund Bernhardson, Marvin Boerboom, Thomas Bybee, Mahmoud Deghais, Luis Garcia-Torres, Dennis Miller, Wayne Olson, Herbert Schmidt, Gary Schultz, and Leslie Wright; and Ph.D. degree--Jerry Miller.

Our faculty and students presented 15 and 19 scientific papers this year at the Agronomy meetings in Houston and North Central Weed Control Conference in Omaha, respectively. Other papers were presented in the Weed Science Society meetings, at Crop Quality Council, Malting Barley Improvement Association, and dozens of other meetings. Dr. Carter, Mr. Wilkins, Dr. Gilles, and Mr. Virgil Anderson presented a series of six daylong seminars on seedstocks, budgets, etc., in extension Districts in North Dakota in October. This is the year of the Legislature so we are hoping for good treatment again. Our faculty and students published many papers in 1976--25 Journal papers, 11 Abstracts, 40 Proceedings, 5 in North Dakota Farm Research, 15 bulletins and circulars, 10 M.S. and 1 Ph.D. theses, and 16 other types of papers. If you are a former student, have you published your thesis yet? Are you continuing to publish results of your research wherever you are?

NDSU is changing as does all else. Enrollment at NDSU was highest ever at about 7,250 in Fall, 1976, with one of two largest increases in Agriculture. Agronomy has about 90 majors with more transferring in regularly. Class enrollment has increased also with many more sections in all lab courses and increased enrollment in lectures of all courses. Bison football was very successful with new coach Wacker and a 9-2 record in regular season and one win and one loss in postseason play.

The physical campus changes with Veterinary Science completed and occupied west of Stevens Hall. The old Vet Science building has been razed and new Agricultural Science building for Animal Science and Entomology started just north and adjacent to Morrill Hall. Our cold room expansion for seed storage is completed in Corn Seedhouse and room renovation of top two floors of Corn Seedhouse about ready for bidding and probable completion in the next year. We need the room and expect to get more office and lab space in Walster Hall when Animal Science moves to new building. Also, we are preparing some additional research field plot area in NW22 about 5 miles north of Fargo.

The crop year in 1976 was miraculously good in North Dakota despite the driest year on record in southern North Dakota. The season was timely and favorable especially in northern North Dakota where farmers had the best crop of record. Unfortunately, wheat and other grain prices are lower than for several years so farm income will be lower than recent years. Water supplies for domestic and utility use are very short in many areas of North Dakota, Minnesota, and South Dakota. Snowfall has been very light so far, so more snow and rain are needed.

Weeds continue to be a problem in our crops. Our intensive wild oat control research continues with Dr. Peter Fay and Chris Mulder in active leadership of daily research and Dr. Nalewaja directing the whole program along with several graduate students. Dr. Maan has received a significant grant to research genetic vulnerability in Triticum--Joan Gordon is working with him as Research Lab Technician. Dr. Tetsuo Sasakuma will continue research with Dr. Maan as D. F. Jones funded Postdoctoral. Dr. Schneiter is working on simulated hail injury to dry beans with a grant from National Crop Insurance Association. Other research grants come from Quaker Oats, Business and Industrial Development Division of North Dakota, North Dakota State Wheat Commission, many chemical grants, etc. The sugarbeet industry also provides grant funds.

Agronomy has had dozens of foreign visitors in 1976 including wheat Trade Teams from Italy, Ecuador, England, Japan, Germany, Poland, Central America, etc., an Australian farmer tour, and other visitors from Iraq, Yugoslavia, Australia, etc. Some of our faculty have traveled and been recognized in 1976 also. Dr. Busch traveled with a wheat team to Peoples Republic of China, Dr. Quick on a wheat team to USSR, and Dr. Fick on sunflower team to USSR and to the International Sunflower Conference. Dr. Ebeltoft was an agricultural consultant in Jordan for FAO and Dr. Foster on barley breeding in the Philippines.

Several of our faculty were recognized with outstanding awards or other recognition: Drs. Anderson and Williams presented the outstanding papers in certain C-1 sections of the 1975 ASA meetings but announced in 1976; Dr. Fick was recognized by Northrup-King photo and resume in Crops and Soils, and other journals; Dr. Maan is cooperator for U.S.-Japanese Cooperative Science Program in wheat; Dr. Messersmith received the CIBA-Geigy Award from ASA at Houston in 1976, and was Editor for NCWCC Research Report; Dr. Nalewaja received the Outstanding Educator Award from Weed Science Society; Dr. Sandal is Kiwanis Governor for Minnesota-Dakotas Area; and Dr. Whited is invited genetic counselor for the Muscular Dystrophy Clinic, Dakota Clinic, Fargo. Students have

performed well, too: Gary Schultz presented a winning paper at recent North Central Weed Control Conference and Gordon Auwarter had a second place paper.

Many of you have commented in your letters or cards about our Christmas party and Agronomy fall picnic. The party was December 10 at the Oak Manor with about 120 attending. Dr. Mel Anderson was emcee and a short program by students was included--the Marv Mattson production of two years ago is hard to follow. The fall picnic was attended by about 150 people--sweetcorn production was not good because of drouth and hot weather at pollination time, but Dr. Cross found enough for at least one ear per person. A group of our NDSU Agronomy alumni get together in Mexico City also at holiday time, and we send our best wishes.

As the time passes rapidly, the research production and teaching results of our fine, mostly young, staff and their students increase in quantity and quality, earning the recognition of other agronomists and weed scientists here and around the world. I sincerely believe we have made a very good impression on all our native and foreign visitors in the past year, especially those coming to NDSU for the first time. The reception and reaction to scientific papers from our staff and students at the ASA meetings in Houston and recent North Central Weed Control Conference in Omaha were outstanding as usual. Probably the real test of our progress is the apparent and stated approval and respectful recognition of our agronomic colleagues here and worldwide as we publish, speak at national crop and weed conferences everywhere, accept and give courteous attention to visitors, or are tested by critics here at home.

We hope that you had a Merry Christmas or other holiday season, and will have a happy, healthful and successful 1977. Let us hear from you and of your achievements, changed addresses, recent photos, etc. Many of you sent cards recently, some with photos; please keep the photos coming! And, please stop to visit us as you pass nearby.

Sincerely,

*J. F. Carter*

J. F. Carter  
Professor and Chairman

TECHNICIANS & OTHER CLASSIFIED, 1976

Gordon Auwarter, weed control  
 Robert Baumann, HRS wheat  
 Kay Carlson, wheat cytogenetics  
 Eldien Edinger, durum wheat, USDA  
 Roger Genoch, barley  
 Joan Gordon, wheat cytogenetics  
 Harold Hickel, durum wheat  
 Burton Johnson, crop production  
 Gerald Johnson, HRW wheat  
 David Langerud, HRS wheat  
 Larry Lewis, flax genetics, USDA  
 James Liedahl, hybrid wheat

Lyle Lindberg, flax, soybeans  
 Carl Madsen, HRS wheat  
 Russell Mathison, oat breeding  
 Wayne Norby, forage crops  
 Dale Rehder, sunflowers, USDA  
 Allen Schmidt, durum wheat, USDA  
 Merle Skunberg, barley  
 Dennis Rasmussen, sugarbeet weed control  
 Ronald Roach, weed control  
 Bruce West, corn breeding

Garrett VanWatermolen, Motor Vehicle Mech. I  
 Eugene P. (Pat) Fuerst, Lab Helper II

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS, 1976

Nikolai Bochkarev: partial support from IREX, U.S. State Department and from USSR, sunflower breeding with Dr. Fick.  
 Henryk Czernobor: support is Agronomy and Church of Brethren Scientist Exchange Program working with Dr. Hammond.  
 Ryszard Gorecki: support is Agronomy and Church of Brethren Scientist Exchange Program working with Dr. Nalewaja.  
 Krystyna Gorecki: support is Agronomy and Church of Brethren Scientist Exchange Program working with Dr. Shimabukuro.  
 Liu Chyuan Liu: support is 1/2 sabbatical leave, University of Puerto Rico, 1/2 NDSU wild oats research with Dr. Nalewaja.  
 Eugeniusz Pacholak: support is Agronomy and Church of Brethren Scientist Exchange Program working with Dr. Nalewaja.

\*AGRONOMY GRADUATE MAJORS, 1976

Aaberg, Dale - GRA  
 Andreoli, Claudenci - MSU, Brazil  
 Aqua, Joseph - GRA  
 Ault, Jeffrey - Self support  
 Auwarter, Gordon - Self support  
 Beguhn, Michele - GRA  
 Benson, Robert - GRA  
 Boerboom, Marvin - GRA  
 Bolson, Eder Luiz - MSU, Brazil  
 Bybee, Thomas - GRA  
 Caroline, Joseph - Self support  
 Ceden, Jesus - Venezuela  
 Chandler, Dave - Self support  
 Cregan, Perry - GRA  
 Davila, Ricardo - LASPAU, Mexico  
 Eylands, Val - Self support  
 Fisher, Jon - GRA

Fisher, Loren - GRA  
 Ghiasi, Homayon - Self support, Iran  
 Gigax, Danny - GRA  
 Harada, Will - GRA  
 Henson, James - GRA  
 Holbrook, Frederick - GRA  
 Johnson, Burton - Self support  
 Johnston, Roy - Self support  
 Knudson, Joel - Self support  
 Luizzi, Domingo - AID, Uruguay  
 Lukach, John - Self support  
 Mann, H. Allen - GRA  
 Marquis, Louis - GRA  
 Mayland, Paul - Self support  
 Mulder, Christiaan - Self support, Union of South Africa  
 Munoz, Dorance - ICETEX, Colombia

\*AGRONOMY GRADUATE MAJORS, 1976

Nagle, Barry - Self support  
 Niehaus, William - GRA  
 Nowatzki, Robert - Self support  
 Oard, James - GRA  
 Olson, Wayne - GRA  
 Panjsheri, Mohammad - AID, Afghanistan  
 Rashid, Ghazanfar - IIE, Pakistan  
 Rasmussen, Dennis - Self support  
 Rubani, Hosseinali - Self support, Iran  
 Salazar, Mario - CONACYT, Mexico  
 Salinas, Javier - CONACYT, Mexico

Sasakuma, Tetsuo - DFJ, Japan  
 Schroeder, Galen - Self support  
 Schultz, Gary - GRA  
 Stewart, James - GRA  
 Tsuji, Seiichi - DFJ, Japan  
 Vigil, Rudolph - GRA  
 Ward, Roger - GRA  
 Wicks, Zeno, III - GRA  
 Wilson, Tom - GRA, Canada  
 Wright, Leslie - GRA

\*Native unless foreign student indicated; AID = Agency for International Development; GRA = Graduate Research Assistant; DFJ = D. F. Jones Fellow; CB = Church of Brethren Cooperation; ICETEX = Ministry of Education and Colombian Institute of Agriculture; MSU = Mississippi State University - Brazil Contract; CONACYT = Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnologia, Mexico; IREX = International Research and Exchanges Board; LASPAU = Latin American Scholarship Program of American Universities.