

Current On-Farm Research Network Leadership Team

Tim Osowski, Producer/Co-manager, Osowski-Urbaniak Farms, Oslo MN

Education: 2004 – B.S. in Ag Economics from NDSU with a minor in Crop and Weed Science

Tim currently serves on the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers and is a member of the National Association of Wheat Growers' Research Committee and has conducted on-farm research on his farm for the last seven years. (218-478-4148)

Tony Brateng, Producer/Manager, South 89 Farms, Roseau MN

Education: 2005 – B.S. Agronomy and Weed Science, U of M Crookston

Tony is a current board member of MWRPC and the MN Canola Council, as well as the RL Grass Seed Growers Cooperative. He is proficient in precision ag, using RTK, GPS, variable rate applications, satellite images, yield monitors and he has conducted numerous on-farm research projects. (218-452-0165)

Richard Magnusson, Producer/Manager, Magnusson Farms, Roseau MN

Education: 1983 -B.S. in Agronomy from North Dakota State University, 2014 U of M Eldon Siehl Prize Laureate for Excellence in Production Agriculture.

Richard is past chairman and current member of the Small Grains Research and Communications Committee and past president of the MAWG and the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association. (218-689-6634)

Bruce Hamnes, Retired Farmer/Grower, Stephen MN

Education: BS degree in General Agriculture, NDSU

Bruce received the U of M Eldon Siehl Prize Laureate for Excellence in Production Agriculture and is creating an endowment fund to empower farmers. (218-791-2619)

Lauren Stai, On-Farm Research Coordinator, MN Wheat Reserch & Promotion Council, Red Lake Falls, MN

Education: 2012 BS in Agronomy, U of M Crookston, Crookston MN

For the past 2 1/2 years, Lauren has worked as an agronomist at Northern Farmers Co-op Exchange in Williams, MN. Lauren begins her new position with the MN Wheat Council on February 2, 2015. (218-253-4311)

Garth Kruger, Ph.D., Director, EvaluationGroup, LLC, Warren MN

Education: Ph.D. in research methodologies from the University of North Dakota and Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology from Mansfield University of Pennsylvania.

Garth has been conducting program evaluations of local, state and federally funded programs over the past 17 years. (218-437-8435)

Dave Willis, Owner and President, Agassiz Crop Management, Inc., Thief River Falls MN

Education: ABD, Michigan State University, Botany and Plant Pathology, M.S. Plant pathology, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

For the past 26 years Dave has operated a crop consulting firm operating in the northern Red River Valley and has been involved in providing consultation on all aspects of crop production including fertility and weed, insect and disease control, supported by soil sampling and crop scouting services. (218-681-6970)

Dave Grafstrom, Ph.D., Custom Training Representative-Precision Agriculture

Education: Ph.D. North Dakota State University - Weed Science, M.S. in Agronomy, NDSU.

Dave has extensive experience with coordinating on-farm research with growers of multiple crops and is currently working with U of M on small plot research and field scale on-farm research. (218-463-1071)

Dave Torgerson, Executive Director, Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council (MWRPC) & Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers (MAWG)

Education: 1986 B.S. in Agriculture Economics from NDSU

Dave has worked with a committee of growers, university and industry experts to prioritize and fund wheat research projects and has been involved with initiating and implementing a number of new educational events in NW MN and across state boundaries. (218-253-4311 ext. 1)