



**ON-FARM RESEARCH
NETWORK**
MINNESOTA WHEAT

Minnesota Wheat On-Farm Research Project is grower-funded research that uses producer-selected topics and producer driven research in a large plot environment.

The objective is researching a wide variety of topics to improve the conservation, fertility management, quality and profitability of wheat production in Minnesota.

Research Adviser and Principle Investigator

Background:

There is growing interest in on-farm research being conducted by growers. Growers like the idea of on-farm research because it usually involves a larger scale that is considered closer to their farming conditions. Data from research conducted using farm sized equipment is considered more easily adapted to an actual farming situation. When farmers conduct research on their own farms it gives them some control over the type of treatments that are tested. Furthermore, when they measure the results of their trials, they are able to better visualize the impact (or lack thereof) of the technology being tested. Nevertheless, most farmers are not trained in experimental design and in the use of statistics, in order to provide some level of confidence in the repeatability of the results. Additionally, growers may not be aware of some of the latest research findings at Universities and federal research facilities. Therefore, technical support to grower-led on-farm research has the potential of greatly enhancing the impact of this research. This is a part-time position.

Position Responsibilities:

- Assist growers in identifying research topics by reviewing ongoing research being conducted by the public and private sectors, by identifying and prioritizing factors currently limiting yield and profitability, by facilitating discussion on current and potential researchable topics, and by working with wheat scientists at local Universities
- Provide technical assistance in the design of the research that is being conducted in order to ensure that the research is efficient and statistically rigorous
- Analyze all data and summarize reports so that the participating growers might know of the outcomes of their research and so that the broader farming community can be educated on the results
- When needed, seek grants for additional funding with the help of the On-Farm Research Coordinators
- Assist the On-Farm Research Coordinators with fulfilling the requirements of the trials and communicating the results
- Be available to make in-field observations of trials at key times



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Minimum Qualifications:

- Ph.D. (or nearing completion) in crop science, agronomy, soil science or a closely related field
- Demonstrated experience with advanced statistical designs and statistical analysis
- Research experience with wheat and other small grains
- Experience in working with growers and in conducting research on growers' fields
- Documented ability to communicate using oral and written forms of communications

Preferred Qualifications:

- Ability to publish referred journal publications
- Ability to facilitate planning and reporting meetings

Salary/Contract: Depends on experience and background

Deadlines: Submit your resume and cover letter at your earliest convenience to David Torgerson at mnwheat@gvtel.com. Interviews will be on going until the position is filled. Preferred start date is as soon as possible.

About the Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council:

Established in 1978, the Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council is a non-profit organization that invests wheat check-off dollars for the benefit of wheat producers. The Council is funded by a 2-cent assessment on all wheat bushels sold and stored in Minnesota. About 50 percent of the check-off funds are allocated to research, 25 percent to promotion and 25 percent to communication of information to growers. The Council currently has five full time employees. The Council and this position will work closely with the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers.

Offices are located at 2600 Wheat Drive in Red Lake Falls, MN

David Torgerson, Executive Director
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