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Sugarbeet Growers Seminars

8:30 – 12:00, lunch provided after seminars

- **Tuesday, February 3, 2026**
Grand Forks - Alerus Center - 1200 S 42nd St, Grand Forks, ND 58201
- **Tuesday, February 10, 2026**
Grafton - Grafton Armory - 309 Hill Ave, Grafton, ND 58237
- **Tuesday, February 17, 2026**
Fargo - DoubleTree - 825 E Beaton Dr, West Fargo, ND 58078

56TH ANNUAL

SUGARBEET RESEARCH REPORTING SESSION

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2025

Hilton Garden Inn, Fargo

SPONSORED BY:

Sugarbeet Research and Education
Board of MN and ND

NDSU | EXTENSION

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION

7:30	Coffee Welcome – Ross Pape, SBREB President Moderators – Drs. Eric Branch, Mark Boetel, Tom Peters, and Ashok Chanda
8:00	**Sugarbeet insect control research and the 2026 root maggot forecast. *Mark Boetel, Peter Hakk, and Reed Thoma. School of Natural Resource Sciences, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND.
8:15	**Sea beet as a genetic resource for sugarbeet improvement. *Chenggen Chu. USDA-ARS, Sugarbeet Research Unit, Fargo, ND.
8:30	Evaluation of root storage respiration rate and tissue firmness in cultivated beet germplasm. *Ahmet Barkan Bostan, Suraj Basyal, Lisa Preister, Xuehui Li, and Chenggen Chu.
8:45	A summary of genotype-specific wound healing mechanisms in postharvest sugarbeet roots. *Malick Bill ¹ , Shyam Kandel ² , and Rajtilak Majumdar ³ . ¹ Department of Plant Pathology, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, ² USDA-ARS, Sugarbeet Research Unit, Fargo, ND, ³ USDA-ARS, Northwest Irrigation and Soils Research, Kimberly, ID.
9:00	Profiling of fungal contaminants from the sugarbeet factory processing and targeted management approaches. *Sabina KC ^{1,2} , Malick Bill ^{1,2} , Eric Branch ¹ , Zhaohui Liu ¹ , and Shyam Kandel ² . ¹ Department of Plant Pathology, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, and ² USDA-ARS, Sugarbeet Research Unit, Fargo ND.
9:15	**Evaluation of rhizomania resistance-breaking in Minnesota and North Dakota sugarbeet fields. *Vanitha Ramachandran. USDA-ARS, Sugarbeet Research Unit, Fargo, ND.
9:30	**Management of Rhizoctonia and Cercospora diseases in sugarbeet. *Ashok Chanda and Austin Lien. University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN & Northwest Research and Outreach Center, Crookston, MN.
9:45	**Understanding and managing DMI fungicide resistance in <i>Cercospora beticola</i> . *Austin Lien and Ashok Chanda. University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN & Northwest Research and Outreach Center, Crookston, MN.
10:00	Break
10:30	**Sensitivity of <i>Cercospora beticola</i> to foliar fungicides in 2025. *Gary Secor and Viviana Rivera. Department of Plant Pathology, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND.
10:45	**Molecular epidemiology of Cercospora leaf spot. *Nathan Wyatt. USDA-ARS, Sugarbeet Research Unit, Fargo, ND.
11:00	Uncovering the sugarbeet leaf microbiome to identify novel molecules capable of inhibiting <i>Cercospora beticola</i> . *Madison Christenson ¹ , Daniel Back ² , Gary Secor ¹ , and Melvin Bolton ³ . ¹ Department of Plant Pathology, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, ² USDA-ARS, Sugarbeet Research Unit, Fargo, ND.
11:15	Evaluating relative fitness of <i>Cercospora beticola</i> . *Ashton Esco ^{1,2} and Nathan Wyatt ² . ¹ Department of Plant Pathology, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, and ² USDA-ARS Sugarbeet Research Unit, Fargo, ND.

11:30	**Optimizing Cercospora leaf spot management in different regions of North Dakota and Minnesota. *Eric Branch ¹ , Andy Fuchs ² , Mark Boetel ² , and David Mettler ³ . ¹ North Dakota State University and University of Minnesota, Fargo, ND, ² North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, ² North Dakota State University and University of Minnesota, Fargo, ND, and ³ Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative, Renville, MN.
11:45	**Evaluating fungicide programs for control of Cercospora leaf spot and relationship to latent infection and fungicide resistance profiles during the growing season. *Anu Ranabhat ¹ , Eric Branch ² , Andy Fuchs ¹ , Sophia Truscott ³ , and Nathan Wyatt ³ . ¹ North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, ² North Dakota State University and University of Minnesota, Fargo, ND, and ³ USDA-ARS, Fargo, ND.
12:00	Awards
12:15	Lunch
1:15	AI, robotics, and UAV in sugarbeet production research. *Rex Sun. North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND.
1:30	**Kochia control with Spin-Aid. *Thomas Peters and Adam Aberle. North Dakota State University and University of Minnesota, Fargo, ND.
1:45	**Sugarbeet tolerance from herbicide mixtures with insecticides and fungicides. *Adam Aberle ¹ , Thomas Peters ¹ , David Mettler ² , and Emma Burt ³ . ¹ North Dakota State University and University of Minnesota, Fargo ND, ² Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative, Renville, MN, and ³ Minn-Dak Farmers' Cooperative, Wahpeton, ND.
2:00	**Sugarbeet tolerance from Stinger HL alone or in mixtures. *Emma Burt ¹ , Thomas Peters ² , Adam Aberle ² , and David Mettler ³ . ¹ Minn-Dak Farmers' Cooperative, Wahpeton, ND, ² North Dakota State University and University of Minnesota, Fargo, ND, and ³ Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative, Renville, MN.
2:15	**Optimizing waterhemp control through fall residual applications. *David Mettler ¹ , Thomas Peters ² and Adam Aberle ² . ¹ Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative, Renville, MN, and ² North Dakota State University and University of Minnesota, Fargo, ND.
2:30	**Effects of strip-tillage and cover crops on sugarbeet growth and soil nitrogen dynamics. *Lindsay Pease. University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN & Northwest Research and Outreach Center, Crookston, MN.
2:45	**Manure in a sugarbeet rotation. *Melissa Wilson. University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.
3:00	**Comparison of lime sources for correction of soil acidity. *Daniel Kaiser. University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.
3:15	**Initial evaluation of the new sugarbeet plot harvester. *Peter Hakk ¹ , Andrew Fuchs ¹ , and Adam Aberle ² . ¹ North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, and ² North Dakota State University and University of Minnesota, Fargo, ND.