



North Dakota
Livestock Alliance

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North Dakota State Board of Agricultural Research and Education
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The North Dakota Livestock Alliance (NDLA) is providing this written comment in support of several initiatives that our organization sees as valuable assets to ND's current and future livestock producers. The first of which is the Department of Animal Sciences Precision Livestock Farming (PLF). We see many advantages to this program for the producers of all species of livestock across North Dakota. Technologies, like those described in the PLF proposal, are integral to the daily lives of producers and directly enable them to further expand care for their animals, increase productivity and to compete for top-notch employees.

The Precision Livestock Farming project addresses several of the NDLA Dairy Working Group's remaining recommendations with the proposed heifer development barn, automated calf feeding and robotic milking equipment. Paired with the beef feedlot development and the pending NDSU swine barn updates, these initiatives will better prepare students for their future careers in North Dakota's expanding livestock industries. NDLA also recognizes the need for continued support of the operating expenses required to sustain and to expand the faculty and staff needed for these exciting programs.

NDLA's Board of Directors consists of representatives from the ND Pork Council, ND Corn Utilization Council, ND Soybean Council, ND Farmers Union, Midwest Dairy – North Dakota Division, ND Corn Growers Association, ND Farm Bureau, Agtegra Cooperative and the North Dakota Ethanol Council. Our Board of Advisors is the Northern Crop Institute, NDSU Extension, NDSU Department of Animal Sciences, ND Stockmen's Association and the ND Department of Agriculture. NDLA memberships include individual farmers and ranchers, the Milk Producer's Association of ND and the North Dakota Lamb and Wool Producers Association.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amber E Wood

Amber Wood
Executive Director

The Vision of the North Dakota Livestock Alliance is strengthening rural communities, farm and ranch families, businesses, and natural resources through animal agriculture.