NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS DATA COOPERATIVE

DESIGNING A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR INCREASING PRODUCTION AND DRIVING INNOVATION



- MESSAGE FROM NAPDC LEADERSHIP
- NEWS AND UPDATES & UPCOMING EVENTS
- RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS
- COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES

UNIVERSITY of NEBRASKA–LINCOLN

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Call for Contributions





MESSAGE FROM NAPDC LEADERSHIP

Dear NAPDC community,

I hope you had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to an exciting and productive Fall.

Our data governance team - led by Ana Castellanos at Portland State - hosted an in-person working group meeting at PSU. They have developed a data governance toolkit and related resources for agricultural producers. Woohoo! Expect these resources to become available in early Fall.

The NAPDC hosted a scientific session at ASABE-AIM in Indianapolis. Attendance was strong and the presenters did an awesome job highlighting advances and challenges in data, automation, and digital agriculture. Session materials will be added to the NAPDC website as soon as we collect them. A big thank you to everyone who participated! The conference included a student robotics competition, multiple poster sessions, and lots of cutting edge academic and industry research. Ziwen Yu from the University of Florida hosted a related session on data standards and the legal status of data, including speakers representing ISO TC 347 and AEF. Fascinating! Please see below for upcoming events that may be of interest to you.

In this issue we highlight several opportunities to collaborate with existing projects related to the NAPDC. These include the PASA Soil Health Benchmark Study and the D.R.I.V.E.S. project on long-term agricultural field experiements. Each includes contact information so reach out if you are interested.

We would love to highlight your story in our next newsletter! Please contact the NAPDC if you have news to report or would like to share information relevant to agricultural producer data.

Have a wonderful August and September!

Best wishes,

Jennifer



Dr. Jennifer Clarke
Director, NAPDC

NEWS AND UPDATES



THE DATA GOVERNANCE GROUP MEETING - PSU

The Data Governance group held a working meeting at Portland State University in late May to review progress and plan for next steps. The group, led by Sofía Castellanos of the National Policy Consenus Center at Portland State University, developed a data governance toolkit that includes a set of principles for producer dat, a guide to producer-researcher data sharing agreements, and a tool for surfacing issues for discussion and negotiation related to different kinds of producer data and research questions.

Attendees included Samuel Abebrese (Colorado State University), Victor Cabrera (University of Wisconsin–Madison), Scout Calvert (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Ben Craker (AgGateway and Agricultural Data Coalition), Ziwen Yu (University of Florida), and Yaguang Zhang (Purdue University). Additional members and contributers are my Charkowski (Colorado State University), Pei-Ying Chen (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), AVal Kovalsky (Nave Analytics), Yefan Nian (Clemson University), Prabhas Pokharel (Portland State University), Kristen Wright (Portland State University)

The group has plans to test the tools, incorporate feedback, and then disseminate the outputs for use, beginning in the fall. Watch for updates as we seek volunteers to help with user testing, disseminate the tools, and apply the tools in their own research.



Left to right: Victor Cabrera, Yaguang Zhang, Sofía Castellanos, Scout Calvert, Ben Craker, Samuel Abebrese (sitting), and Ziwen Yu (standing). Photo by Prabhas Pokharel.

ASABE-AIM Conference

We had a wonderful session with strong attendance and great questions. Many thanks to all of the presenters and the attendees!



Dr Jennifer Clarke and her daughter Trisha, and Yuri from Medecins sans Frontieres in downtown Indianapolis



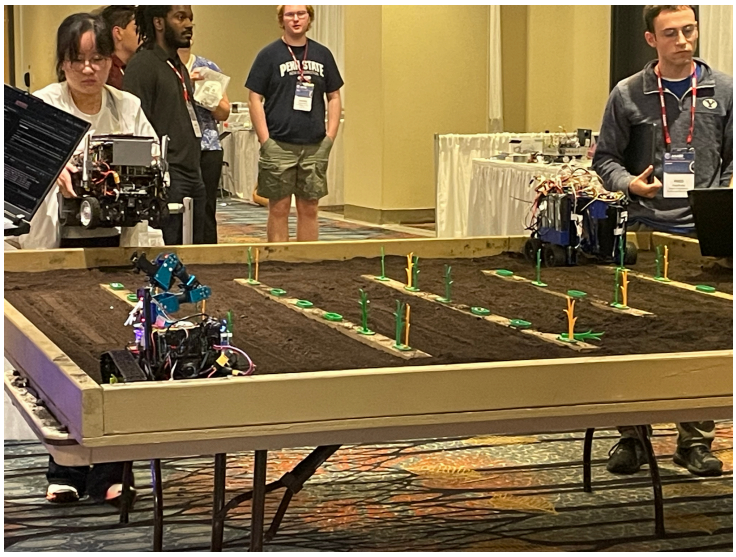
Ana Castellanos presenting



April Agee Carroll presenting



Yaguang Zhang presenting



Robotics competition

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



From Risk to Resilience:
Secure Supply and Scale Returns

October 27-28 | Minneapolis | #TransformFood

200 senior leaders across CPGs, retailers, and producers are convening at Transform Food & Agriculture USA to:

- Align sourcing and reformulation with sustainability and commercial priorities
- Build data systems that deliver value for both the business and the farm
- Strengthen resilience across increasingly fragile supply chains
- Drive operational efficiency across sourcing, production, and procurement

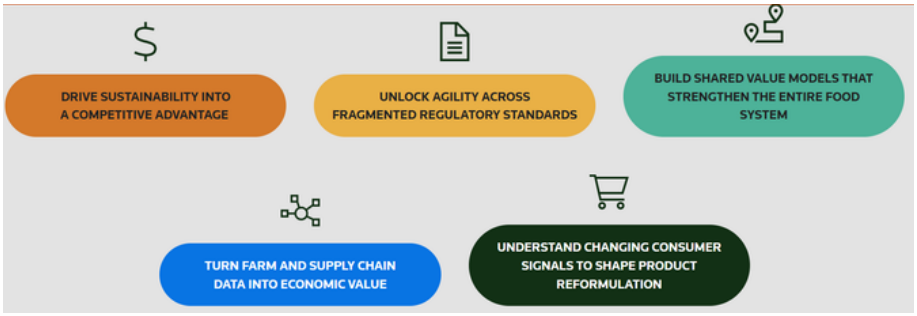
With a select group of senior leaders and private interactive sessions, this is an event built for honest discussion and practical decision-making.

Join us in Minneapolis if you're ready to turn pressure into operational advantage and stronger margins.

DOWNLOAD THE BROCHURE

"Events like Reuters Transform Food and Agriculture are essential for tackling the challenges no company can solve alone. In 2026, food and beverage leaders must embrace collaboration and transparency as pre-competitive conditions for success. The real opportunity is recognizing that sustainability and profitability are interdependent — organizations with traceable, responsible supply chains that support farmer wellbeing and ecosystem resilience are building trust that markets increasingly demand."

– Michel Santos, Senior Director, Global Sustainability, Bunge



REGISTER HERE

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

[More Information]

SAVE THE DATE

GOAT 2026

The Gathering for Open Agricultural Technology is a space for open exchange of ideas around responsible, collaborative digital technologies for agriculture, conservation, and food systems.



December 7–11, 2026

St. Christopher's Camp & Conference Center

Seabrook Island, SC

Applications to attend will open in July!

WE STILL NEED ORGANIZERS!

Help shape GOAT 2026. Join the organizing committee and make this conference happen.

forum.goatech.org/t/call-for-2026-conference-organizers

goatech.org

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

eFields On-Farm Research

The eFields program releases an annual report featuring on-farm research trials from across the state of Ohio. View all of the reports below.

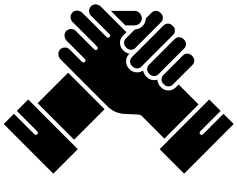
For a searchable database of reports from 2017 to 2025, visit the KX eFields database.

2025 Report

Other Helpful Links:
eFields Data Tool *(Click "Explore Data" to get started)*
eFields Profile Videos

Elizabeth Hawkins is the best point of contact (hawkins.301@osu.edu)

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be reaching out to farmers and ag landowners starting this month to gather in-depth information about their conservation practices.

This comes as part of the Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) survey, in partnership with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

"The USDA CEAP survey is one of the most important ways we can tell farmers' conservation stories," said Laura Campbell, Michigan Farm Bureau senior conservation and regulatory relations specialist.

Findings from this survey are used to guide conservation program development and support agricultural producers and partners in making informed management decisions backed by data and science. The resulting products produced by NRCS, CEAP Cropland Assessments, evaluate the conservation benefits achieved through the adoption and application of conservation practices on agricultural lands.

Specifically, CEAP results may help:

- Evaluate the resources farmers may need in the future to protect soil, water, and habitat.
- Shed light on techniques farmers use to conserve healthy environments.
- Improve and strengthen technical and financial programs that help landowners plan and install conservation practices on agricultural land.
- Support the conservation programs that can help producers' profits while also protecting natural resources. Data obtained will support the third set of national and regional cropland assessments delivered by USDA's CEAP, a multi-agency effort led by NRCS to quantify the effects of conservation practices across the nation's working lands.

The data from this survey will be published as a report on the CEAP Cropland Assessments webpage at nrcs.usda.gov/ceap/croplands. Farmers and landowners with questions about the survey can contact NASS at 888-424-7828 or visit nass.usda.gov/go/ceap.

Nearly 23,000 operators nationwide will receive the 2026 Conservation Effects Assessment Project survey.

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Pasa SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Soil Health Benchmark Study

What are the soil samples, field management records, and first-hand experiences from 200+ farms telling us about soil health?

Building and preserving soil health is a fundamental component of a secure food system that effectively protects ecosystems and communities. Our Soil Health Benchmark Study is designed to help farmers monitor and evaluate the nuanced soil health strengths and challenges that can exist simultaneously within their fields. The ongoing study, which began in 2016, is one of the largest and most diverse community soil health research projects in the nation.

The study was developed and is administered by Pasa Sustainable Agriculture in collaboration with more than 150 vegetable, pastured livestock, and row crop farmers and partners including the **Cornell Soil Health Laboratory, farmOS, Future Harvest** and the **Million Acre Challenge, Maine Farmland Trust, OpenTEAM, Penn State Extension, Rodale Institute,** and **Stroud Water Research Center.**

The Soil Health Benchmark Study was initially made possible thanks to generous financial investments from Lady Moon Farms, the Jerry Brunetti family, the Shon Seeley family, and more than 120 donors committed to supporting farmers' efforts to build and preserve soil health. Additional financial support has been provided by the William Penn Foundation, the Hillman Foundation, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and the USDA Conservation Innovation Grants program.

We're accepting new farmer research collaborators into this study!
Reach out to **researchteam@pasafarming.org** for information on how to participate.



COLLABORATION

D.R.I.V.E.S.

About

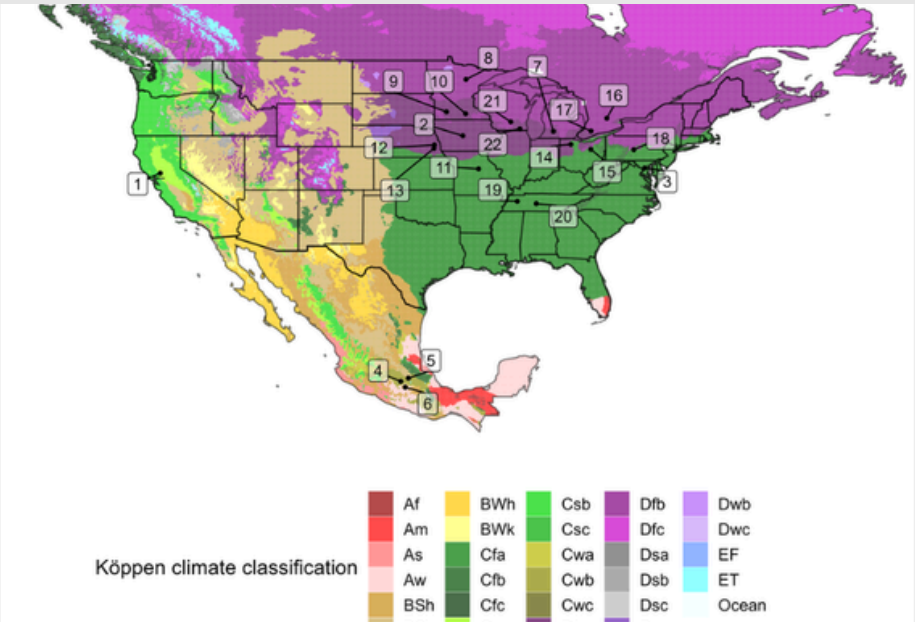
The Diverse Rotations Improve Valuable Ecosystem Services (D.R.I.V.E.S.) Project has created a database of historical data from long-term agricultural field experiments in North America to address research questions about benefits of diverse crop rotations, including profits, nutrition, and resilience to climate change.

Our core objectives are to:

1. Develop a research network
2. Create a publicly available database
3. Conduct cross-site synthesis research

We collaborate with over 30 scientists from universities, United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Services (USDA-ARS) sites, and International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) who manage long-term field experiments. Our core team of university and ARS scientists manages network-level data and research efforts.

D.R.I.V.E.S.



QUICK FACTS

22 long-term field experiments

495 site-years of data

87,300 crop yield observations

311,600 daily weather observations

18 sites with long-term soils data

D.R.I.V.E.S. Project Contact:
DRIVES_Project@NCSU.edu

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS



SHARE YOUR WORK!

This newsletter is all about sharing our community's ongoing initiatives - if you are currently working or researching in the agricultural data space, we would love to feature your work.

Ways to Contribute:

 Research Highlight

 Case Study

 Team Spotlight/ Community Feature

 Resources & Tools

 News & Updates

How to Participate:

- Email us at unl.agdatacoop@nebraska.edu or akushner2@unl.edu

Let's celebrate and amplify the impact of your work together!