



# Department of Research Centers



AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

*Million-Dollar Match Campaign*

# Research that supports MONTANA AGRICULTURE

The 2001 Montana Legislature recognized the return on research investment from the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES) to ag enterprises, businesses and communities.

Knowing that many of our MAES research facilities suffer from great disrepair, the Legislature allocated \$1 million for their renovation. However, the funds must be matched one-to-one with non-state sources. If we in the Montana agricultural community can come up with \$1 million, the Legislative action will match it.

## *Building needs are critical*

The total current value of buildings at Research Centers is **\$5,680,693**, with annual maintenance expenditures of approximately **\$22,200**. The annual maintenance budget is therefore, **0.4%** of building replacement value.

MSU Facilities Services on-campus at MSU uses a figure of **1.5 to 2.5% of current building value** as a benchmark for annual maintenance budgets.

In the past 50 years, the Department of Research Centers has experienced just two major construction efforts, funded partially, or in whole, with state-appropriated funds: the construction of the Western Triangle Ag Research Center in Conrad as a new facility (1977) and the construction of a shop at the Northern Ag Research Center in Havre (1992). Both of these projects were funded with special appropriations by the Montana Legislature (the shop at

NARC was also partially funded with private donations) and were not part of the MSU Long Range Building Plan process. In fact, there has not been a single



building project at any of the seven ag Research Centers that was funded through the Montana Long Range Building Plan in the past 50 years, despite numerous submissions.

## *The result is a deterioration of buildings at many of the Research Centers.*

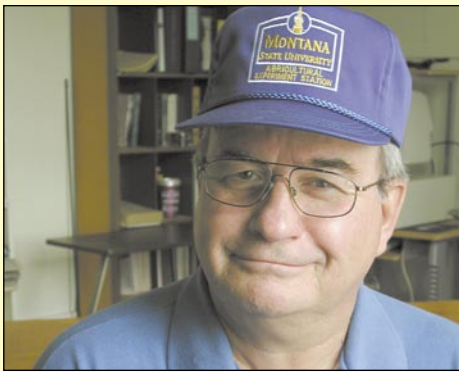
In 2000, we comprehensively assessed the facility needs at each

of the Research Centers. The total assessed need for all Centers came to \$5.2 million. A brief description of this assessment is included in this document; more in-depth information is available. There was also an assessment of \$1 million in needs for renovations for two research facilities administered from the Bozeman campus, bringing the total to \$6.2 million.

A special bill was introduced in the 2001 Legislature to provide funds for a \$6.2 million renovation and new construction projects among the Research Centers. The legislature did not approve full funding for this request, but did authorize

spending \$2 million on the project, with the stipulation that \$1 million would be provided from state appropriations (bonds) and the other \$1 million was to be raised privately by MAES from non-state sources as a dollar-for-dollar match. In other words, we can't spend any of the state-appropriated dollars on this project unless we match them with non-state sources.

In response to the legislative action, we pared the building plan down to the highest priority projects that would fit in a \$2 million budget. This \$2 million priority list is shown on the back page. Our current efforts are directed toward raising at least enough funds from private donations to meet (or exceed) the



full \$1 million match, which will enable the full \$2 million plan to be utilized. Enough funds have been raised to complete or begin two of the projects.

### ***The bottom line***

Research Centers improve the economic well-being of farmers, ranchers and ag businesses. When this \$2 billion ag industry is healthy, the economic impact through increased sales of products, equipment purchases, employment, lending opportunities and overall profitability is profound. **Cutting-edge research can be a catalyst in this positive cascade.**

## About the Department of Research Centers

The Department of Research Centers is an integral part of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES) system established to support the state's agriculture industry and rural lifestyle. The seven Agricultural Research Centers are:

**Central Agricultural Research Center, Moccasin;**  
**Eastern Agricultural Research Center, Sidney;**  
**Northern Agricultural Research Center, Havre;**  
**Northwestern Agricultural Research Center, Kalispell;**  
**Southern Agricultural Research Center, Huntley;**  
**Western Agricultural Research Center, Corvallis; and**  
**Western Triangle Agricultural Research Center, Conrad.**

The Research Centers are located in unique environments across the state where scientists conduct applied research in local production areas. Agricultural Research Center faculty, staff, and students perform field and laboratory research at both on- and off-station locations in the areas of beef cattle production (breeding, nutrition, and genetics), conservation practices, conventional and alternative field crops, horticultural crops, irrigated and dryland agriculture, pest control, pest management, plant breeding and genetics, plant nutrition, resource management, sustainable agriculture, and value enhancement of agricultural commodities produced in Montana. These often are in conjunction with land managers, private companies, and agencies. Research causes change that improves the overall economy and profitability of ag enterprises.

## Fundraising Progress

Since fundraising began in earnest in the fall of 2003, approximately \$700,000 has been raised from non-state sources toward the final goal of at least \$1 million. Donations have come from individuals, commodity groups, banks, foundations, cooperatives, and private companies (large and small), with individual donations ranging up to \$100,000. This has allowed us to complete the office building at CARC and to initiate construction of the office/lab building at SARC.

We currently have sufficient funds to initiate other projects, as well, but our top priority for now is to maintain the momentum to complete the entire fundraising effort. Each contributor will be acknowledged at all seven Research Centers and in Linfield Hall at MSU-Bozeman with a plaque signifying their contributions to this effort.

# Million-Dollar Match Campaign

## Research Center Building Plan Based On \$2 Million Budget

### Havre

Equipment Storage Building     \$241,000

### Huntley

Office/Lab Building     \$600,000

*(Authorized for construction;  
architectural designs are being completed)*

Machine Shed     \$450,000

Water/Septic System     \$125,000

### Kalispell

Greenhouse and Headhouse     \$60,000

Irrigation System     \$100,000

### Moccasin

Office Building     \$150,000 ✓ Done

Machine Shed     \$ 19,000

Horse Barn/Seed Lab     \$ 11,000

### Sidney

Chemical Storage     \$75,000

Equipment Storage     \$152,000

**Total**     **\$2,000,000**

### RECOGNITION LEVELS

- Up to \$1,000 ..... Donor**
- \$1,000—\$10,000..... Friend**
- \$10,000—\$100,000 ..... Leader**
- \$100,000 Plus ..... Founder**

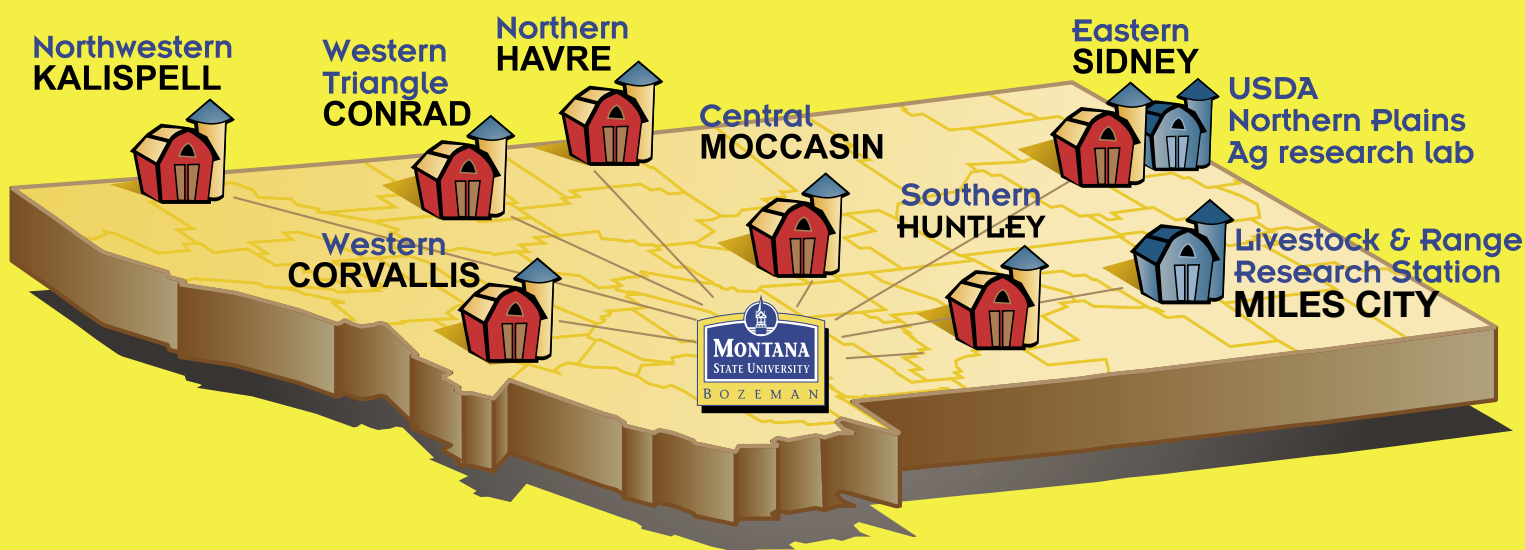
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Make contributions to LRBP-COA, and send to  
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http://www.ag.montana.edu