

# **North Central Crop Evaluation Committee**

## **Minutes from the 2003 Annual Meeting**

**August 12-13, 2003**

**University of Missouri**

**Penn State University**

### **Attendees:**

<b>Mark Antle – Penn State</b>	<b>Darin Joos - Univ. of Illinois</b>
<b>Tim Boring – Michigan State</b>	<b>Chris Kroon Van Diest – Ohio State</b>
<b>John Boyse – Michigan State</b>	<b>Joe Lauer – Wisconsin</b>
<b>Kelly Day – Purdue</b>	<b>Kraig Roozeboom – Kansas</b>
<b>Tim Dietz – Michigan State</b>	<b>Greg Roth – Penn State</b>
<b>Keith Dysinger – Michigan State</b>	<b>Dave Starner – Virginia Tech</b>
<b>Ralph Esgar – Univ. of Illinois</b>	<b>John Shaffer – Penn State</b>
<b>Wayne Haas – Penn State</b>	<b>Peter Thomison – Ohio State</b>
<b>Marvin Hall – Penn State</b>	<b>Richard Todd – Penn State</b>
<b>Scott Harkcom – Penn State</b>	<b>Debi Warnock – Michigan State</b>
<b>Brian Henry – Univ. of Illinois</b>	<b>Bill Widdicombe – Michigan State</b>
<b>Dave Johnson – Penn State</b>	

### **Minutes:**

The meeting began at 8:30 Tuesday morning with introductions and state reports by all those attending. Following the introductions, Daryl Bowman, a statistician from North Carolina State University, led a very informative discussion on the procedures used for rejecting crop performance data. He then followed up with a discussion on nearest neighbors analysis. Wayne Haas then led a discussion on treated seed being submitted for variety testing.

Following lunch, the group loaded onto a bus to travel to Evergreen Farms, located near Spruce Creek, Pennsylvania. Once there, the group met with Andy Harpster who gave us details on how the 1400 cow dairy farm is managed and operated. Evergreen farms grow all of their corn silage and forages and we had the opportunity to view the milking parlor during milking and see the huge feed storage bunkers located at the farm.

At 2:30 in the afternoon, the group traveled to the Penn State Agronomy Research Farm, located about 10 miles from Penn State's University Park Campus. Greg Roth led a discussion on Penn State's corn silage variety evaluation program. The corn silage evaluation program, in its second year, has been well received by both industry and producers. Equipment used in Penn State's variety testing programs were on display also. Following a short break, the NCCEC group was taken on a tour of some of the cool season grass variety trials conducted by Richard Todd as part of the forage variety evaluation program.

At 5:30, we loaded back onto the bus and headed to Penn State's Stone Valley Recreation Area for supper. After a delicious meal of chicken and ribs, along with some cold beverages and excellent socializing, the group headed back to the hotel for the evening.

On Wednesday morning, the group gathered at Penn State's Haller Beef Research Farm to tour Marvin Hall's grazing variety trials. In these trials, Dr. Hall is measuring the yield potential of various forages when grown and harvested under grazing conditions.

The next stop was at Accuweather, the country's largest weather forecasting service. We had a very informative tour there and had the opportunity to walk through their main control center as well as some of their forecasting and weather mapping studios.

After the tour at Accuweather, we traveled back to campus for our business meeting. Iowa State has volunteered to host the 2004 meeting. The dates decided on for the 2004 meeting will be August 10-11, 2004. There was a lengthy discussion regarding implementing a \$50.00 registration fee. Possible topics suggested for the 2004 meeting include a tour of Almaco and/or Pioneer Hi-Bred, inviting a grower to participate in the meetings, a discussion on specialty crops, quality measurements for corn and soybeans, and the grain quality lab.

The meeting was adjourned 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Scott Harkcom