

## **Appendix B.56**

### **Pulse Crop Working Group**

- 1) Advisory committee is formed. Thirteen people in attendance, July 13, 2005. The advisory committee has since grown to 17 members.
- 2) Pulse crops listserv "NC\_PULSECROP@MAIL.ABS.SDSTATE.EDU" has been established. Currently 46 members, including university research personnel, regulatory officials and producers from SD, ND, NE and WA. Investigating key contacts in MT and WY to add to the list.
- 3) Web Page for the Working Group is currently being developed by the Ag Communications Group at SDSU. Web page rollout is expected by Feb 1, 2006. The web page will be a central source for accessing research information for pulse crops, will provide an experts database for the Pulse crops in the Northern Plains and nationally, and will allow an "ask the expert" e-mail, which will send an e-mail to the Project Coordinator (me), who will then forward the information to the appropriate expert. The pages will be modeled similar to the NEIPM Center Working Group pages.
- 4) Priorities list for the Working Group. See attached priorities listing. The list is a fluid document and may be updated, but is current as of today.
- 5) Research Forum. 33 People plan to attend the Research Forum planned for Dec 5 in Pierre, SD. Please see the attached agenda for speakers. It is of note that Weidong Chen of ARS at Washington State and Todd Scholz of USA Dry Pea and Lentil (In Idaho) are planning to attend. Dr Chen is coming strictly for the Research Forum. Mr. Scholz may also be attending the SD Ag Horizons conference, organized by the South Dakota Crop Improvement Association, which will be held In Pierre on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- 6) Regionalized publications. Currently in discussion are efforts to regionalize pest management publications such as the fungicide guides. Other pest management areas are also in discussion.
- 7) Research priorities survey. I have attached the results of a grower survey conducted in ND for Pulse Crops (by the North Dakota Dry Pea and Lentil Association and NDSU). I have an excellent working relationship with the Director of the NDDPLA, and he has indicated interest in sharing the survey instrument. I hope to conduct a similar survey to the ND effort this winter in SD, NE and possibly MT and WY. This type of survey gives ground floor producer-based needs and provides a method of prioritization for current and future research efforts. Working through the grower organization has allowed excellent return to the ND effort in the past. It is hoped that similar success in results from the other states can be obtained by working through the grower organizations there.