NORTH CENTRAL REGION

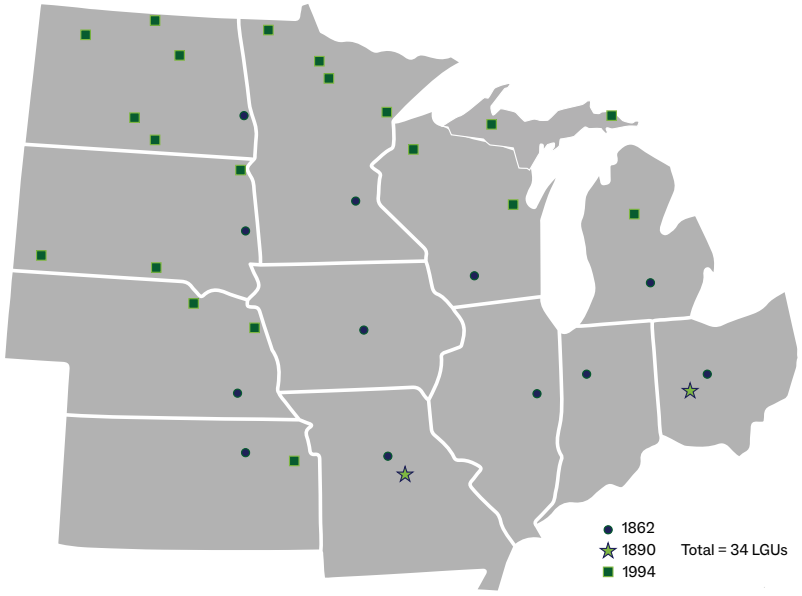
Feeding, Fueling & Strengthening America

The North Central Region (NCR) feeds, fuels, clothes and helps build America. Its Land-grant universities transform federal investments into research, innovation and Extension that strengthen agriculture, communities and our nation's competitiveness and resilience. Working across state lines, universities connect expertise, align around shared priorities and leverage investments to deliver science-based solutions with greater impact than any institution could achieve alone.

Food security is national security. Federal investment in NCR Land-grant universities — through both capacity and competitive grant funding — strengthens American producers, rural communities, food security, human health and economic competitiveness.

Every $1 invested in public agricultural research generates an estimated $10–$20 in economic benefits. Together, capacity and competitive investments sustain critical research and Extension infrastructure, drive innovation and deliver solutions that keep U.S. agriculture productive, resilient and globally competitive.

NCR LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES: DELIVERING FOOD, INNOVATION & SECURITY FOR AMERICA



BY THE NUMBERS: WHY THE NORTH CENTRAL REGION MATTERS →

FEEDS OUR COUNTRY

1 Of the world's most diverse ag production systems with abundant forests, water & other natural resources

1/2 Of America's top farmland states

7 Of the nation's strongest farm economies

DRIVES THE ECONOMY

9.9M Food & agriculture jobs

$2.8T Economic output

$721B Annual wages

$44B+ Agricultural exports

122 Fortune 500 companies

STRENGTHENS AMERICA

- Food Security
- Natural Resources
- Rural Communities
- National Security

COORDINATES SOLUTIONS

1 Region. Shared challenges. Greater impact. By working across state lines and sharing expertise and resources, we deliver mission-driven innovation via research, Extension, technology transfer and development of the next generation of agricultural workforce.

AMERICA'S MOST PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURAL REGION

From blueberries to beef, wheat to walleye, and apples to aquaculture, the North Central Region produces the diverse agricultural products that feed, fuel, clothe and strengthen America.

Grain & Oilseeds	Livestock	Specialty Crops & Value-Added Ag Products	Biomanufactured Products
• Corn & Soybeans • Wheat (winter, spring, durum) • Rice • Sunflower • Barley, Rye, Oats • Canola, Flaxseed	• Beef • Pork • Dairy • Poultry & Eggs • Aquaculture • Sheep & Goats	• Apples, Peaches, Apricots • Potatoes, Table & Sugar Beets • Asparagus, Onions, Dry Edible Beans • Blueberries, Cranberries, Strawberries, Cherries • Tomatoes, Squash, Melons • Cucumbers, Celery, Peas • Honey, Maple Syrup, Wine, Grapes, Peanuts, Chestnuts, Hops	• Ethanol • Biodiesel • Biobased Products • Wood & Paper Products • Cotton

FROM FEDERAL INVESTMENT TO AMERICAN IMPACT →

INVEST

Federal Capacity + Competitive Funding

↓

Leverages state, industry and other investments + partnerships

INNOVATE

Discover > Develop > Transfer > Deliver > Adopt

↓

- ☐ Research
- ☐ Extension
- ☐ Technology
- ☐ Entrepreneurship
- ☐ Workforce

INNOVATION IN ACTION

- ☐ Crop Genetics
- ☐ Animal Health
- ☐ Precision Agriculture
- ☐ Artificial Intelligence & Automation
- ☐ Water Conservation
- ☐ Safe & Healthy Food
- ☐ Extreme Weather Resilience

IMPACT

- ☐ Productive & Resilient Agriculture
- ☐ Food & Nutrition Security
- ☐ Human & Animal Health
- ☐ Natural Resource Stewardship
- ☐ Rural Prosperity
- ☐ Global Competitiveness
- ☐ National Security

Economic data from FeedingtheEconomy.com

LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITY RESEARCH
agInnovation NORTH CENTRAL

AGINNOVATIONNC.ORG

Jeanette Thurston
Executive Director
jthurston@ksu.edu

NCCEA

NCCEA.ORG

Robin Shepard
Executive Director
robin.shepard@wisc.edu