



Miscellaneous Reports

National Crop Insurance Services

2025 Meetings, Schools, Webinars & Conferences

Date	Meeting	Location	Attendance
January 8-9	MN-ND-SD R/S Committees' Annual Meeting	Watertown, SD	39
January 9	Missouri R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Columbia, MO	23
January 9	Colorado-Wyoming R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Denver, CO	20
January 16	Written Agreement Handbook Webinar	Virtual	486
January 22-23	2025 Claims Manager Conference	Hybrid	267
January 29	Kentucky-Tennessee R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Bowling Green, KY	20
January 30	Illinois-Wisconsin R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Springfield, IL	29
January 30-31	Southwest R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Fredericksburg, TX	44
January 30	Gulf States R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Tunica, MS	15
February 4-5	Iowa & Nebraska R/S Committees Annual Meeting	Council Bluffs, IA	63
February 5	Indiana-Michigan-Ohio R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Fort Wayne, IN	34
February 6	Kansas-Oklahoma R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Oklahoma City, OK	31
February 9-12	Crop Insurance Industry Annual Convention	Bonita Springs, FL	445
February 19-20	Montana & Northwest R/S Committees Annual Meeting	Missoula, MT	43
February 19-20	AZ-CA-NV R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Monterey, CA	32
March 5	East & Southeast R/S Committees Annual Meeting	Savannah, GA	29
May 15	04.30 Contract Change Date Webinar	Virtual	424
June 24-25	Crop-Hail and MPCl Canola, Dry Pea, Lentil and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Spokane, WA	64
July 8-9	Crop-Hail and MPCl Canola, Dry Pea, Lentil, Mustard, and Oat Loss Adjustment School	Moccasin, MT	70
July 9	Crop-Hail Corn, Soybean, Small Grain, and Sunflower Loss Adjustment School	Beresford, SD	43
July 15-16	Crop-Hail and MPCl Rice Loss Adjustment School	Harrisburg, AR	80
July 16-17	Crop-Hail Corn, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Columbia, MO	81
July 16	New Adjuster Crop-Hail Corn, Dry Edible Bean, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Lamberton, MN	76
July 17	Crop-Hail Corn, Dry Edible Bean, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Lamberton, MN	103
July 22-23	2026 NCIS Train-the-Trainer Fall Conference	Hybrid	461
July 22-23	Crop-Hail Corn Loss Adjustment School	Grand Island, NE	53
July 30-31	Crop-Hail Corn, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Champaign, IL	54

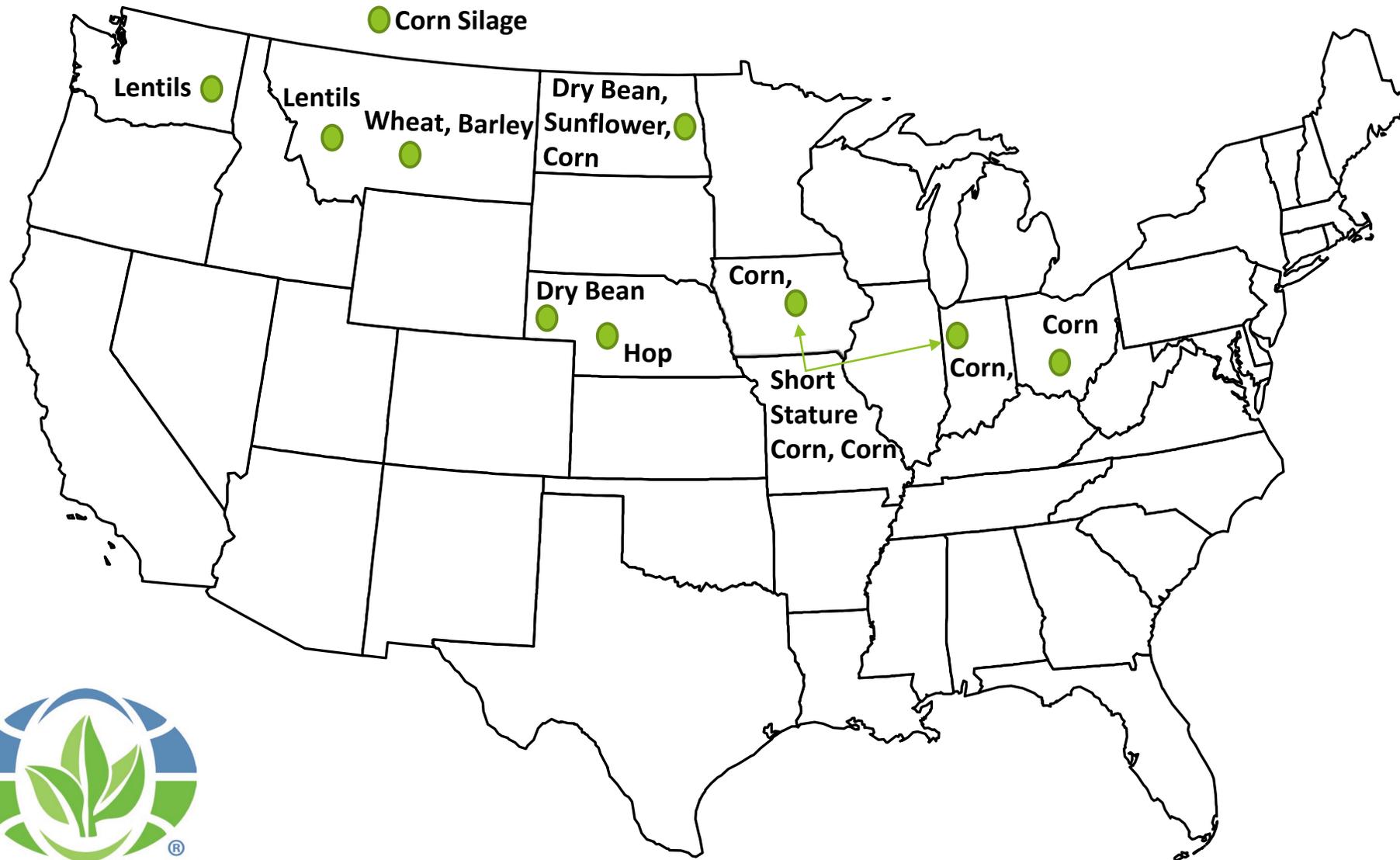
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2025 Meetings, Schools, Webinars & Conferences

August 4	New Adjuster Crop-Hail Corn, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Fargo, ND	42
August 5-6	Crop-Hail Corn, Dry Edible Bean, Soybean, Sunflower, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Fargo, ND	102
August 12-13	Crop-Hail and MPCl Corn, Grain Sorghum, and Soybean Loss Adjustment School	Manhattan, KS	47
August 13	NCIS Crop-Hail and MPCl Camelina, Corn, Dry Pea, Lentil, and Soybean Loss Adjustment School	Sidney, MT	40
August 21	MPCl Apple Loss Adjustment School	Winchester, VA	72
September 9-10	NCIS Crop-Hail and MPCl Corn Loss Adjustment School	Lubbock, TX	161
September 11	8.31 Contract Change Date Webinar	Virtual	370
October 21-22	NCIS Crop-Hail and MPCl Cotton and Soybean Loss Adjustment School	Altus, OK	59
Nov. 20 & Dec. 10	2025 NCIS Train-the-Trainer Spring Conference	Virtual	501

2026 Agronomic Research

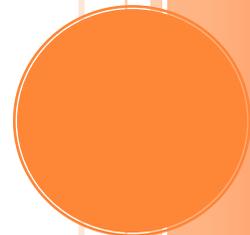
10 projects in 8 states, including Canada



SUMMARY OF RESEARCH PROJECTS IN 2026



Dr. James Houx and Dr. Jose Bais
December 2025



SUMMARY OF RESEARCH PROJECTS IN 2026

NEW PROJECTS – 2026

CORN – DEFOLIATION

Iowa – Dr. Mark Licht

Indiana – Dr. Dan Quinn

North Dakota – Dr. Burton Johnson

Ohio – Dr. Alex Lindsey

NCIS has not conducted defoliation research on standard dent corn hybrids in many years. Genetic advancement and cultural management has changed the vigor and productivity of corn hybrids since the last defoliation research. Current research on short-stature corn hybrids suggest that the current defoliation charts may need revising.

SUNFLOWER – STAND REDUCTION

North Dakota – Dr. Ana Carcedo

Sunflower is another crop that NCIS has not researched in many years. This stand reduction research will determine if current varieties compensate from stand loss as previously planted ones. The research will focus on various levels of stand reduction from early vegetative to mid reproductive growth stages.

BUSH-TYPE DRY EDIBLE BEANS – STAND REDUCTION

Nebraska – Dr. Nevin Lawrence

North Dakota – Dr. Burton Johnson

The established stand recommendations for bush type dry edible bean production have remained stable in recent years. The Crop-Hail Dry Bean Loss Instructions do not count stand reduction until stands are less than 90,000 plants per acre for bush types. Producers have progressively increased stands to 120,000 for bush types. University research suggests that higher plant populations could result in a slight yield increase; however, this gain is not substantial enough for Extension agronomists to revise the current stand recommendations. Dry bean producers have communicated to our member companies that current procedures should account for higher plant populations. Consequently, company personnel have requested NCIS to investigate stand reduction for plant populations exceeding 90,000 plants per acre.

LENTILS – VEGETATIVE STAGE DAMAGE

Montana – Dr. Giseli Valentini

The Crop-Hail Lentil Loss Instructions do not have a procedure for adjusting plant damage—only pods/seed loss. This project will focus on plant damage from the mid vegetative stages to the flat pod stage. The results will allow NCIS to develop plant damage loss charts for several growth stages and

allow for adjustments prior to seed and pod loss. Montana is added in 2026 as a complementary location for the research initiated in 2024 in Washington.

CONTINUING PROJECTS – 2026

VINING-TYPE DRY EDIBLE BEANS – STAND REDUCTION

Nebraska – Dr. Nevin Lawrence

North Dakota – Dr. Burton Johnson

The established stand recommendations for vining type dry edible bean production have remained stable in recent years. The Crop-Hail Dry Bean Loss Instructions do not count stand reduction until stands are less than 70,000 plants per acre for vining types. Producers have progressively increased stands to 100,000 plants per acre for vining types. University research suggests that higher plant populations could result in a slight yield increase; however, this gain is not substantial enough for Extension agronomists to revise the current stand recommendations. Dry bean producers have communicated to our member companies that current procedures should account for higher plant populations. Consequently, company personnel have requested NCIS to investigate stand reduction for plant populations exceeding 70,000 plants per acre.

LENTILS – VEGETATIVE STAGE DAMAGE

Washington – Dr. Mike Neff/Jessica Kalin

The Crop-Hail Lentil Loss Instructions currently address only pod and seed loss, not plant damage. This project will study plant damage from mid-vegetative through flat pod stages. Results will help NCIS create charts for plant damage losses at various growth stages and allow loss adjustments prior to seed and pod loss.

HOP – PLANT DAMAGE

Nebraska – Dr. Milos Zaric

NCIS has received many questions regarding the potential for developing procedures for Crop-Hail insurance on hop. NCIS has not conducted hop research, and this is an opportunity to determine the feasibility of developing procedures. Treatments for this experiment are removal of 0, 33, 66, and 100% of the leaf area at three developmental stages spanning from vegetative to the beginning of cone production

SHORT-STATURE CORN – DEFOLIATION

Iowa – Dr. Mark Licht

Indiana – Dr. Dan Quinn

Corn breeders have developed "short stature" hybrids with shorter internodes, resulting in ears closer to the ground and potentially better wind resistance. This study will examine if defoliation

affects these hybrids similarly to conventional, “tall” hybrids from which the current charts were developed.

CORN SILAGE – DEFOLIATION

Saskatchewan – Dr. Steve Shirtliffe

Supported by the Canadian Crop Hail Association, this project investigates the effects of defoliation on silage yield and quality. Current Canadian procedures assign values to stem, leaf, and cob damage, with cob damage correlated to leaf damage. This research seeks to verify if these procedures accurately assess loss by examining the relationship between leaf damage and cob damage.

SPRING WHEAT/BARLEY – RECOVERABLE HEADS

Montana – Dr. Kent McVay

NCIS recently completed research on recoverable head factors for winter wheat grown in the Midwest and western states. However, NCIS has not researched spring wheat and barley for many years. This project is conducted in two major spring wheat/barley production areas to determine if the current recoverable head factors for these crops are accurate. The research was completed in North Dakota last year, but that in Montana was destroyed by hail necessitating another year of research in 2026.