Miscellaneous Reports

National Crop Insurance Services
2024 Meetings, Schools, Webinars & Conferences

Date	Meeting	Location	Attendance
January 4	Colorado-Wyoming R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Denver, CO	19
January 9	Missouri R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Columbia, MO	21
January 10-11	MN-ND-SD R/S Committees Annual Meeting	Morton, MN	41
January 23-24	2024 Claims Manager Conference	Hybrid	255
January 31	Gulf States R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Tunica, MS	30
February 1	Illinois-Wisconsin R/S Committee Annual Meeting	East Peoria, IL	33
February 15-16	Southwest R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Mescalero, NM	45
February 1	Kansas-Oklahoma R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Mulvane, KS	36
February 1	Kentucky-Tennessee R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Nashville, TN	19
February 6-7	Iowa & Nebraska R/S Committees Annual Meeting	Council Bluffs, IA	45
February 7	Indiana-Michigan-Ohio R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Fort Wayne, IN	40
February 4-7	Crop Insurance Industry Annual Convention	Scottsdale, AZ	438
February 21-22	Montana & Northwest R/S Committees Annual Meeting	Missoula, MT	53
February 20-21	AZ-CA-NV R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Monterey, CA	33
March 7	East & Southeast R/S Committees Annual Meeting	Savannah, GA	35
May 14	04.30 Contract Change Date Webinar	Virtual	313
May 21-22	Crop-Hail & MPCI Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Enid, OK	54
June 12-13	Crop-Hail and MPCI Apple, Cherry, Grape, Hops, Nursery, and Pears Loss Adjustment School	Richland, WA	69
July 9-10	Crop-Hail and MPCI Camelina, Flax, Mustard, Small Grains, and Soybean Loss Adjustment School	Moccasin, MT	108
July 10	Crop-Hail Corn, Soybean, Sunflower, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Beresford, SD	64
July 16-17	Crop-Hail Corn, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Columbia, MO	69
July 16-17	2025 NCIS Train-the-Trainer Fall Conference	Hybrid	426
July 17	New Adjuster Crop-Hail Corn, Dry Edible Bean, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Lamberton, MN	51
July 18	Crop-Hail Corn, Dry Edible Bean, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Lamberton, MN	83
July 24-25	Crop-Hail Cotton Loss Adjustment School	Lubbock, TX	152
July 31-August 1	Crop-Hail Corn, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Champaign, IL	67
August 5	New Adjuster Crop Hail Corn, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Fargo, ND	38

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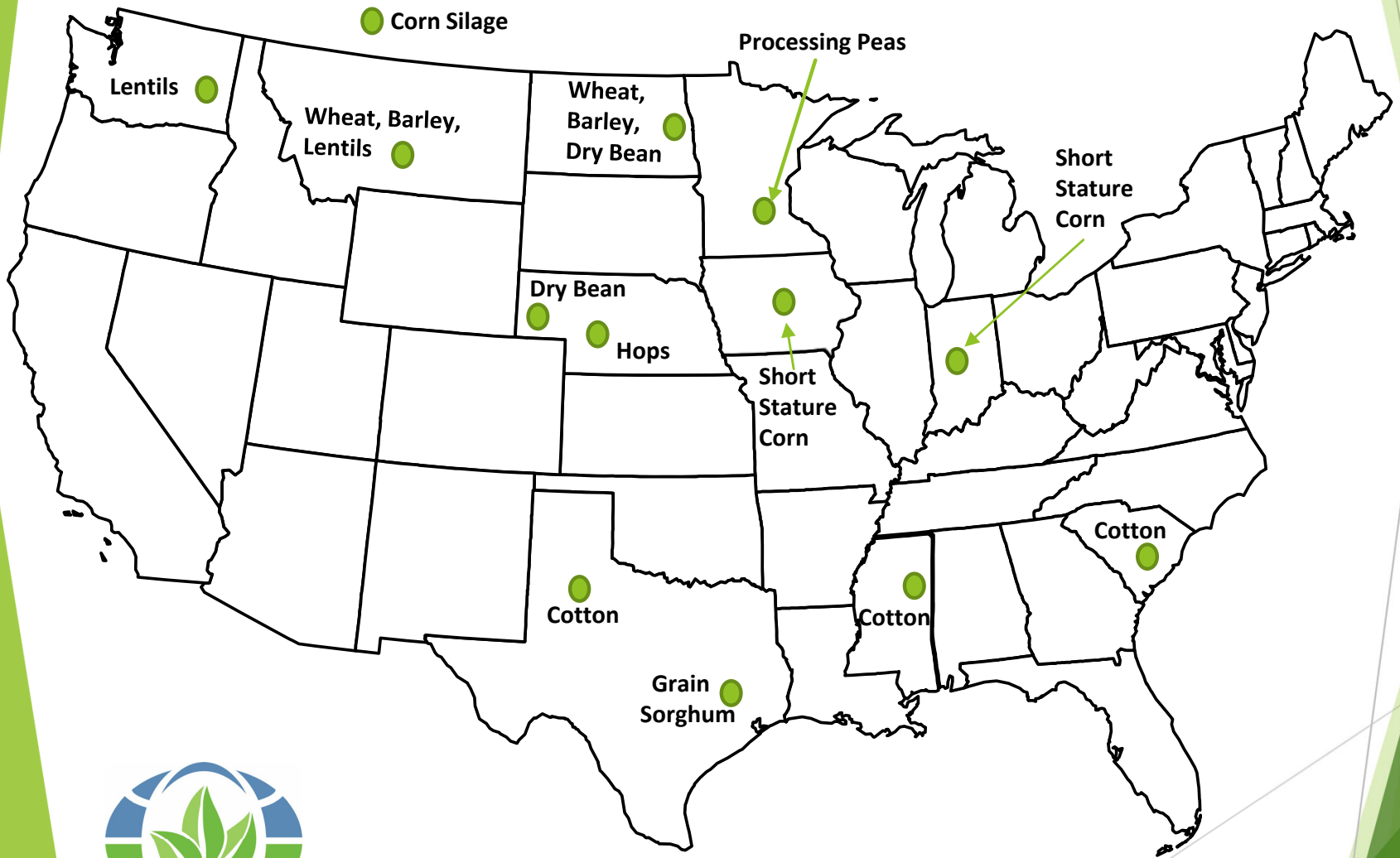
August 6-7	Crop-Hail Corn, Dry Edible Bean, Soybean, and Wheat Loss Adjustment School	Fargo, ND	74
August 13-14	Crop-Hail and MPCI Corn, Grain Sorghum, and Soybean Loss Adjustment School	Manhattan, KS	47
August 20-21	Crop-Hail Corn and Crop-Hail and MPCI Cotton Loss Adjustment School	Stoneville, MS	87
August 21	Crop-Hail and MPCI Dry Bean Loss Adjustment School	Scottsbluff, NE	67
September 12	08.31 Contract Change Date Webinar	Virtual	271
October 1-2	Crop-Hail and MPCI Cotton and Grain Sorghum Loss Adjustment School	Altus, OK	63
Nov. 20 & Dec. 10	2025 NCIS Train-the-Trainer Spring Conference	Virtual	482

2025 Agronomic Research

10 projects in 10 states, including Canada



Summary of Research Projects in 2025

Dr. Mark Zarnstorff and Dr. James Houx

December 2024

SUMMARY OF RESEARCH PROJECTS IN 2025

NEW PROJECTS – 2025

LENTILS – VEGETATIVE STAGE DAMAGE

Montana – TBD

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 2025 as a complementary location for the research initiated in 2024 in Washington.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS – STAND REDUCTION

Nebraska – TBD
North Dakota – TBD

The established stand recommendations for bush and 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 and under 90,000 plants per acre for bush types. Producers have progressively increased stands to 100,000 plants per acre for vining types and 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 70,000 (vining types) and 90,000 (bush types) plants per acre.

CONTINUING PROJECTS – 2025

LENTILS – VEGETATIVE STAGE DAMAGE

Washington – Dr. Ian Burke

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.

HOPS – PLANT DAMAGE

Nebraska – Dr. Milos Zaric

Interest in growing hops as part of the "local food/ingredient" movement is increasing. NCIS has received many questions regarding the potential for developing procedures for Crop-Hail insurance

on hops. NCIS has not conducted hops research, and this is an opportunity to determine the feasibility of developing procedures.

PROCESSING PEAS – NODE CUT-OFFS

Minnesota – Dr. Charlie Rohrer

The Crop Hail Canning—Freezing Peas Loss Instructions, developed in the 1990s, only address stand reduction and pod loss for leafed varieties with tendrils. Current canning/freezing processing peas are semi-leafless varieties that possess a different growth stature and require new research on node cut-offs to align procedures with those for dry peas.

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.

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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.

COTTON – COMPARISON OF DEFOLIATION AND PLANT CUT-OFFS

South Carolina – Dr. Michael Jones
Mississippi – Dr. Brian Pieralisi
Texas – Dr. Jourdan Belle

The Crop-Hail Cotton Loss Instructions use stand reduction, plant cut-offs, and limb removal to assess potential loss from hail damage. Member-company personnel recommend that defoliation should also be considered. NCIS conducted preliminary defoliation research, but the results were inconsistent. As with the soybean procedures, evaluating cotton plant cut-offs at all growth stages may address defoliation damage. The proposed research would determine if the current plant cut-off procedures also account for defoliation losses.

SPRING WHEAT/BARLEY – RECOVERABLE HEADS

North Dakota – Dr. Burton Johnson
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.

GRAIN SORGHUM – DEFOLIATION

Texas – Dr. Ronnie Schnell

This project complements recent stand reduction research. Since the 1980 release of the Crop-Hail Grain Sorghum Loss Instructions, only stand reduction studies were conducted on this crop. Advances in genetics and cropping practices require verifying the accuracy of current defoliation loss tables. This research was duplicated in Kansas and that research was completed in 2024.