

Nebraska Pulse Crops Checkoff Survey

Nebraska Extension

Dear Nebraska pulse crop growers,

Thank you for contributing to the amazing growth of the pulse crops industry in Nebraska. In 2017, combined field pea, lentil, and chickpea acreage increased to approximately 80,000 acres. It is now easier than ever to find the seed and market for pulses in Nebraska. With support of UNL faculty and funding from NCR SARE and the seed industry, we have been able to research the rotational benefits, agronomic traits, and potential profit of field peas in different parts of the state (<https://cropwatch.unl.edu/2018/field-pea-planting-and-production-resources>). Nebraska pulse crop processors including New Alliance, Jelinek Custom Cleaning, Gavilon Grain, Redwood, and some out-of-state contractors like Farmers Business Network, Puris, and Montana Integrity have also contributed to this synergistic effort to grow the Nebraska pulse crops industry.

The establishment of a Nebraska pulse crops checkoff would be very timely and much needed for the future of this industry in Nebraska. We want you to consider this collective effort as an opportunity to send a clear signal to the processing industry that Nebraska pulse crops are here to stay, to generate funds for needed research, and to help us reap benefits, such as revenue insurance, from policies developed by the National Pulse Crops Coalition.

NATIONAL PULSE CROPS COALITION

The National Pulse Crops Coalition, administrated by the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council/American Pulse Association, has offered their assistance in this process. So far Idaho, Washington, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota are part of this coalition to provide equity for the industry, revenue-based crop insurance for growers, and a national board. To become part of the coalition, Nebraska would need to pay a minimum \$10,000 from their checkoff funds, which would provide them one seat on the board. The Pulse Crops Coalition does important work behind the scenes for the industry, therefore, we are sending you an [informational flyer](#) on their activities. It also lists the contributions each state makes to the national coalition.

THE SURVEY

In an effort to assess grower views, we have developed a Nebraska Pulse Crops Checkoff Survey. The 13 multiple-choice questions are designed to get your feedback on establishing a Pulse Crops Checkoff and the size of the assessment, representation, and other details to help the legislative process. The survey will be conducted only by direct mail to pulse growers. If you wish to participate, please send your address to my email (sstepanovic2@unl.edu) or call the Perkins County Extension office at 308-352-4340 and we will send you a survey and return envelope.

Before you fill out the survey, we want you to be aware that Nebraska Extension in Perkins County is willing to provide an unbiased platform for discussing the costs and benefits of Pulse Crops Checkoff. There is more than one way to approach this and we want to make sure you are well informed and your opinion is heard before draft legislation is formally introduced.

Thank you for your consideration,



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