

USDA Director

Nov 16 2010 7:09PM
KXMBTV Bismarck

After a nearly year long wait..a new director is finally in place.

Dr. Matt Sanderson is the new Lab Director at the Northern Great Plains Research facility south of Mandan.

Sanderson is originally from Willow City, North Dakota.

For the past 14 years he has been conducting research at Penn State University.

There he focused on forage and pasture management, as well as and conducting research on bioenergy crops, like switchgrass.

Sanderson says he hopes to continue that focus here in North Dakota.

(Dr. Matt Sanderson / Lab Director)"I think some of the things I would like to explore more, I think the bioenergy cropping area is interesting me and also working with some of the rangeland and forage issues in this part of the world as well. In the Northern Great Plains. I have done work on biodiversity, specifically plant biodiversity on grasslands and grazing lands and how that might be able to help farmers and producers manage sustainable and I think that is an area I would like to explore a little bit more."

Sanderson says another research area he is excited to expand on is using satellite technology in monitoring grasslands.  [watch the video](#)