



Director's Update February 2013

REACCH Turns Two

This February marks the 2nd anniversary of the announcement of funding for REACCH and 20 months of activity since our launch in May 2011. These initial months have seen the establishment of our 15 experiments, installation of eddy covariance flux towers and chambers, establishment of baselines for insect pests, weeds, pathogens and earthworms, construction of initial models of yield projections, longitudinal surveys with grower cooperators, and wider surveys of producers, citizens and teachers of the region. Our graduate students and postdocs are in full force (19 students and 4 postdocs) and we are recruiting our second cohort of summer intern undergraduate students. To learn more about all of this motion within REACCH, please review our second annual report.

Our annual meeting venue this year is Portland, Oregon to facilitate travel by our guests and advisors from around the country. The meeting (Feb. 13-15) will feature a “speed science” day with 32 short talks on topics ranging from social survey analysis, to aphid biology and project assessment – all components of our integrated effort to study and promote adaptation to climate change by cereal production systems of the inland Pacific Northwest. Why speed science? It is the best way we can conceive of to allow all of us to appreciate the enormous diversity of the work ongoing in REACCH. These presentations and an additional set of posters will inform our discussions of how we integrate these elements most effectively for novel science and for maximum benefit to stakeholders.

Sanford Eigenbrode, REACCH Project Director