Rebecca Lynn Larson (Bargabus)

EDUCATION

1999 B.S. (Ecology/Field Biology) St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

2003 Ph.D. (Plant Science) Montana State University, Bozeman, MT

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Western Sugar Cooperative, V.P./Chief Scientist and Governmental Affairs
Denver, Colorado 2016-Present

- Manages all internal research activities, including field yield trials and disease nurseries used for hybrid approval
- Represents all research functions on the Western Sugar Cooperative management team and responsible for all research reporting to the Western Sugar Cooperative grower board
- Steers Joint Research Committee, a board of Cooperative employees and farmers, in planning and investing in outside research in support of Cooperative activities
- Manages development, implementation, expansion, and reporting related to the Cooperative's on-farm sustainability program
- Manages all government relations activities
- Serve as primary public communicator for all on-farm technical matters

The Western Sugar Cooperative, Research Agronomist
Denver, Colorado 2015-2016

- Managed all internal research activities, including field yield trials and disease nurseries used for hybrid approval
- Collaborated with Joint Research Committee, a board of Cooperative employees and farmers, in planning and investing in outside research in support of Cooperative activities

Syngenta Crop Protection, Head of Product Evaluation for Diverse Field Crops, North America
Longmont, Colorado 2012-2015

- Managed a team of senior scientists focused on late stage hybrid and agrichemical evaluations for sugar beet, sunflower, canola, sorghum, alfalfa and pulse crops (known as Diverse Field Crops)
- Co-led the Seedcare Bioteam, overseeing and prioritizing seedcare protocols impacting Diverse Field Crops
- Guided product advancement through all major markets in North America, including designing, analyzing and interpreting all late-stage sugar beet hybrid trials and disease nurseries
- Led pre-commercial seed production/conditioning activities

- Member of the Biological Assessment leadership team, Product Evaluation leadership team, Diverse Field Crops management team and the Sugar Beet management team serving as the voice for end-to-end matters related to Research & Development in North America
- Accountable for end-to-end Research & Development activities for sugar beet and sunflower, including all trialing operations, seed productions, inventory management and budgets

Syngenta Seeds, Head of Product Evaluation & Regional Trialing Lead for Sugar Beets
Longmont, Colorado 2010-2012

- Managed the late-stage hybrid pipeline; planned seed productions, yield trials and disease tolerance evaluations
- Guided product advancement through all major markets in North America
- Member of the Biological Assessment Leadership Team which lead the reorganization of the North American Research & Development structure/operation
- Managed Research & Development activities at five sugar beet, three corn, one soy and one cereals research station housing 45 full time employees and greater than $10M in operating budgets
- Represented Sugar Beet Research & Development to external customers at seed committee meetings and official variety trial tours
- Managed all regulatory compliance and stewardship for genetically modified sugar beet, including regulated traits, in North America

Syngenta Seeds, Plant Scientist III Sugar Beets
Longmont, Colorado 2007-2010

- Planned and evaluated all late-stage yield trials, disease nurseries and seed productions
- Worked closely with sales and marketing team to understanding market gaps and determine how to fill them with existing Research & Development pipeline
- Managed Research & Development activities at the Longmont sugar beet station housing seven full time employees and $900K in operating budgets
- Managed all regulatory compliance and stewardship for the Longmont site

USDA-ARS, Research Plant Physiologist
Fort Collins, Colorado 2004-2007

- Developed proteomic tools (multidimensional liquid chromatography, tandem MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry, protein-protein interaction arrays) for understanding resistance and disease in sugar beet in response to *Beet necrotic yellow vein* virus and *Fusarium spp.*
- Discovered a role for phytohormone signaling in hairy root development and identified potential biomarkers for rapid resistance selection
- Actively and quickly published research findings in accredited peer-reviewed scientific journals

- Managed several assistant scientists, lab technicians, work study students and interns

USDA-ARS, Post Doctoral Research Associate
Fargo, North Dakota 2003-2004

- Developed *Barley stripe mosaic* virus vectors for silencing *Beet necrotic yellow vein* virus in sugar beet leaf assays

Montana State University, Research Assistant
Bozeman, Montana 1999-2003

- Characterized the mode of action of a biological control agent (BCA) as induction of systemic resistance. The BCA has been patented through Montana State University (U.S. patent application serial #: 11/361,283) and has been licensed to Montana Microbial Products. Knowledge gained in these studies provided the framework for developing a rapid screening method for identifying novel BCAs. Was inducted into the Montana State University Inventors Society in 2014.

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Board member, Beet Sugar Development Foundation, 2021-Present
Board member and Secretary/Treasurer, American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists, 2019-2021
Board member, Colorado Ag Commission (Hickenlooper Administration), 2018-2020

TOTAL CAREER SENIOR AND JUNIOR AUTHORED PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journals-	10	Book Chapters-	2
Invited Presentations-	50+	Technical Reports-	30+
Abstracts-	16	Proceedings-	1