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**Innovation Grant Progress Report**

PROJECT TITLE: Corn trial teaching tool and ag research at SMSU

REPORTING PERIOD: October 2019

FARMER INNOVATOR: SMSU Students and Tim Moline

COLLABORATING ORGANIZATION/PERSON: Tim Moline

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1.) PROJECT ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. (*Describe project progress specific to goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in your project proposal.*)

We planted a multi hybrid/company trial that represented the traits of Smart Stax, Double Pro, and Conventional hybrids on June 6th 2019.

2.) IDENTIFY ANY SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS AND RESULTS OF THE PROJECT TO DATE. (*There may be none to report at some stages of the project)*

As of October 2019 we have not harvested the plot as of yet. Some of the hybrids did not make black layer due to a frost and late planting date. We plan to harvest the plots in late October or Early November and report back.

3.) CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED. (*Describe any challenges that you encountered related to project progress specific to goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the project proposal.*)

Late planting date due to saturated field conditions and rain. Compaction in some trial areas. Also had an error in spraying herbicides, which destroyed the conventional hybrids.

4.) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITES. *(Describe any opportunities to engage with farmers, influencers or the media about your project.) Students have learned about research techniques and implementation in the field. As well as, importance of knowing what’s in the spray tank! We held a field day on July 18 2019 and showcased the plots to local supporters and farmers.*

5.) HOW CAN WE HELP? *(Please let us know how we can improve the experience or assist in your project if possible.) Since the season was not ideal, would like the board to consider funding this trial again for 2020, so we can get corn to maturity and have proper findings.*