

**College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR)
Scholarship Recipient Personal Data Sheet
2018-2019**

Scholarship Name: Western Seed Association

Amount: 3000

Recipient Name: Chad Lammers

Recipient Address: 55988 879th RD
Hartington NE 68739

High School Name: Cedar Catholic High School

College Level: Junior

Personal biography:

Chad Lammers is from a family farm in Northeast Nebraska raising corn, soybeans, oats, alfalfa, and cattle. He is a Junior perusing a major in plant biology and is very involved in the UNL agronomy club. He enjoyed teaching agronomy to the Kloefkorn elementary students and is excited to attend the ASA (American Society of Agronomist) conference in Baltimore this November.

Over the last few summers Lammers has interned with Northeast Ag Consulting-Pioneer as a crop scout and Corteva Agriscience as corn breeding intern. Currently he is studying drought adaption in wheat with UCARE in Harkamal Walia's plant phenotyping lab.

After graduating from college, he plans to pursue a master's in plant breeding. This will allow him to better the future of agriculture as a commercial plant breeder. In this position, he will help to develop varieties of crops that make farmers more successful and help feed the growing population. After all, P. Stephen Baenziger did say that there will be 9 billion people that eat like 12 billion by 2050, and it is up to my generation to figure out how to feed them.

Career plans:

After graduating from college, I plan to pursue a master's in plant breeding. This will allow me to better the future of agriculture as a commercial plant breeder. In this position, I will help develop varieties of crops that make farmers more successful and help feed the growing population.

Dear Scholarship Committee,

I am honored to be a recipient of the Western Seed association Scholarship. It will go towards following my dreams and brightening my future. I grew up on farm in Northeast Nebraska raising corn, cattle, soybeans, and oats. My goal has always been to help farmers. This includes everything from helping Dad with chores to brainstorming new ideas to improve corn yields. Growing up as a rural high school student, meant that I didn't have the budget of Corteva or the know-how of Bayer. However, I am just as genuinely intrigued by corn breeding as they are. I've perused ways to true breed Indian Corn to get stiff stalk- and non-stiff stalks like Pioneer. After working with Corteva this summer as a corn breeding intern, I was able to pick up on a few things. I am now familiar the procedure to self-pollinate and cross-pollinate corn. This is an ongoing experiment and I am currently in the process of picking the lines that I think have good traits: ear height, green snap resistance, leaf orientation, and so on.

Studying plant biology at UNL has really propelled me by getting internships. My first internship was scouting with Northeast Ag Consulting- Pioneer (so that I can see all the problems farmers are facing: drought stress, weed control) and the other was a corn breeding internship with Pioneer R&D in York, NE. At York I enjoyed going out with the breeders to see their plots and learning what traits to look for. For example, tassel size and longevity, disease resistance, height of the plant are closely observed. I am also excited for my Ucare project where I will get to study the effects of modern plant breeding on root plasticity for drought adaptation in wheat.

I believe that with all these experiences under my belt I will be able to help feed the world's growing population by researching and breeding corn to have better traits that address the problems that farmers face every day. My dream job would be a corn breeder in the rural Midwest.

With the help of your very generous scholarship I will be able to follow my dream of becoming a plant breeder. I apologize for not being able to receive this scholarship in person, as I will be leaving for the American Society of Agronomist (ASA) conference in Baltimore with the UNL Agronomy club that same week.

Thank you again for the scholarship. It will go towards following my dreams and brightening my future.

Sincerely,

Chad Lammers