July 31, 2018

Northeast Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors
Aquaculture Center
University of Rhode Island
14 East Farm Road
Kingston, RI 02881

To the Northeast Experimental Stations Board of Directors:

I am writing in support of the Multistate proposal NE_TEMP1838: Development of a Weed Emergence Model for the Northeastern United States. Real-time decision support tools for weed management have not been developed for the Northeast, despite the existence of a range of similar tools for insect pests and crop pathogens. The ability to predict percent emergence of major agricultural weeds in the Northeast would minimize repeat management actions for weed control, reducing farmer costs and off-target impacts such as herbicide runoff or incidental crop damage. Such tools exist for the Midwest, Italy’s Veneto region, and other areas, but the Northeast is behind in this regard. The Network for Environment and Weather Applications (newa.cornell.edu) provides an appropriate existing platform for such a decision tool, where an existing suite of similar tools are already housed. This tool would help me provide accurate information to agricultural producers I work with and would be of benefit to the western New York agricultural community.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Sharon N. Bachman
Agriculture and Natural Resource Educator
sin2@cornell.edu