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**Minnesota Crop Improvement Association
Announces Duane Dahlman as Executive Director**

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, January 15, 2026

On behalf of the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association (MCIA) Board of Directors, Chair Brent Benike, is pleased to announce the selection of Duane Dahlman as the new Executive Director of the association effective as of January 1st, 2026.

Duane has a lifetime of experience working in both the seed and food industries. He was one of 3 owners of Dahlman Farms/Dahlco Seeds of Cokato, MN and held that position for over 40 years. The business was sold to Western Integrated Seed (WIS), and Duane worked with WIS for a number of years. Most recently in his career, he was working as an Ag Production Supervisor with Seneca Foods in Glencoe, MN.

Duane holds a B.S. in Agronomy from the University of Minnesota. While at the University, he was a member of the National Champion, University of Minnesota crops judging team. He has served various agricultural organizations, including MCIA, the Wright County Soil and Water Conservation District, and U of M Extension in Wright County. He has also demonstrated a commitment to area youth by dedicating time to 4H, FFA, and athletic organizations. In addition, he is involved in community events and church-based activities. Duane has also served MCIA as member of the board of directors for 12 years and was chair for 2 of those years. For the past several years, he has been in the category C, secretary position on MCIA's board.

The organization is excited to have Duane's leadership and industry knowledge applied to MCIA's mission and focus on our members and clients.

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Since 1903, Minnesota Crop Improvement Association (MCIA) has provided programs and services to meet the needs of an ever-changing agricultural world. These services include seed certification, organic certification, foundation seed production, seed laboratory services, and a variety of customized third-party verification programs for seed and identity-preserved grains. MCIA operates from facilities on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus with field staff located throughout Minnesota and organic staff located in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

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If you would like more information on this topic, please contact MCIA at 612-625-7766 or mncia@mncia.org.