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January 14, 2022

Dear Brian,

I write this letter in support of your Multi-State Project proposal titled “**W4008: Integrated Onion Pest, Disease and Weed Management**”. The National Onion Association (NOA) is a non-profit trade association representing the United States bulb onion industry. The Association includes about 500 members from throughout the entire country and comprises growers, shippers, handlers, and suppliers involved in various aspects of the business. The mission of NOA is to improve the business environment of all participants in the industry, and to educate consumers concerning the outstanding nutritional and healthful attributes of onion.

Onion is the third largest fresh vegetable crop in the U.S., the second most diversely consumed vegetable in the world, and the most widely traded raw vegetable on the globe. Domestic per capita consumption has risen over 65% during the past thirty years and the crop generates a farm gate value of approximately \$1.25 billion annually.

NOA strongly supports research and extension described in your Multi-State Project proposal as the industry needs new onion germplasm that is resistant to pathogens and insects and new management strategies for major onion insect pests, plant pathogens and weeds that impact production. Your diverse team of research and extension specialists from land grant universities, the USDA-ARS, and private sector companies is ideally suited to deliver comprehensive information and timely management strategies.

Thank you for past contributions and your continued efforts on behalf of the United States onion industry and the consumers it serves.

Sincerely,

Greg Yielding

Executive Vice President