

Plant Materials Center to Host Foreign Scientist

The USDA-NRCS Aberdeen Plant Materials Center will be hosting a scientist from Mongolia this spring and summer.

Dr. Tumenjargal is a Professor of Agronomy at the Mongolian State University of Agriculture in Zaisan, Ulaanbaatar. During her visit to the Plant Materials Center she will be learning aspects of forage seed production. The rangelands of Mongolia and the Intermountain Region of the western United States are similar in climate, topography, and ecology. Increasing human and livestock populations in Mongolia and associated problems with overgrazing are threatening plant cover in many areas of Mongolia. The training that Dr. Tumenjargal will receive at the Aberdeen Plant Materials Center will allow her to help her country provide plant materials to Mongolian herders, develop alternative forage resources for subsistence operations, and to help stabilize deteriorated rangelands in Mongolia.

Dr. Tumenjargal will begin her training in Logan, Utah at the Agricultural Research Service Forage and Range Laboratory in early May. She will arrive in Aberdeen around May 15 and will be here until the middle of June at which time she will travel to Montana to visit and train at the Plant Materials Center in Bridger. She will return to Aberdeen around the first of August and remain here until the end of the month, at which time she will travel back to Logan, Utah to finish her training in the United States. According to American scientists who have visited Mongolia and met Dr. Tumenjargal, she speaks English very well and is excited to visit the United States.

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