

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 52nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, & IRRIGATION**

**Call to Order:** By Senator Greg Jergeson, on March 20, 1991, at 3:00 P.M.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Greg Jergeson, Chairman (D)  
Francis Koehnke, Vice Chairman (D)  
Gary Aklestad (R)  
Betty Bruski (D)  
Gerry Devlin (R)  
Jack Rea (D)  
Bernie Swift (R)  
Bob Williams (D)

##### **Members Excused:**

Thomas Beck (R)

**Staff Present:** Connie Erickson (Legislative Council).

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

##### **Announcements/Discussion:**

Chairman Jergeson announced that no bills would be heard today, but a presentation on genetically engineered microbes would be provided by Dr. Don Mathre of Montana State University.

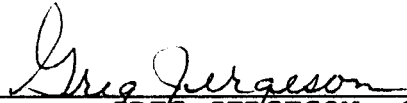
Dr. Don Mathre, Acting Associate Dean for Research, Montana State University, and also a plant pathologist at the Agriculture Experiment Station for the past 23 years, stated he appreciated the invitation to appear before the Committee. He added it was a pleasure to inform them of things that are going on in the field of genetic engineering, and speak before a committee without requesting money. Dr. Mathre stated genetic engineering is here with us, Montana State University is involved with it, and he believes Montana farmers will see more dollars as a result of it in the not too distant future.

Assisting Dr. Mathre in the presentation was Dr. Bill Gray, a colleague from Monsanto Corporation, who was involved with the release of the genetically engineered organism in combating a disease in wheat.

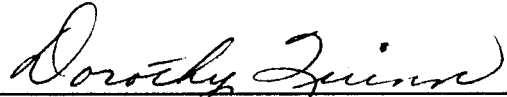
Drs. Mathre and Gray exhibited slides and a video tape to supplement their verbal presentation. The committee members were given an opportunity to ask questions following the presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment At: 4:00 P.M.



GREG JERGESON, Chairman



DOROTHY QUINN, Secretary

GJ/dq