## 3rd Oat Rust Forum (ORF17), February 2017

Members of the Oat Rust Initiative gathered February 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> at the Stakman Borlaug Center for the 3rd annual Oat Rust Forum (ORF17). This year's meeting brought together University of Minnesota oat and rust experts with researchers and industry, including representatives from SDSU, NDSU, Louisiana State, UW Madison, University of Florida, Prairie Oat Growers Association, PepsiCo, Grain Millers Inc., North America Millers' Association, General Mills, USDA, AAFC, and the International AgroInformatics Alliance.

Oat production is seriously threatened by rust diseases - in 2014, the state of MN is estimated to have lost around 50% of production due to oat crown rust. The Oat Rust Initiative and the ORF meetings are setting research priorities and leveraging funding around oat rust diseases.

