



For more information, contact:

Hannah Lipps
External Affairs Director
National Sorghum Producers
hannah@sorghumgrowers.com
cell: (806) 559-7486

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Commodity Classic Sorghum Session to Highlight Policy, New Technology

The National Sorghum Producers (NSP) will host a dynamic and informative general session at the Commodity Classic in Anaheim, Calif. next week. A panel of top-notch speakers will cover the latest developments and upcoming technology in the sorghum industry, sprinkled with a healthy dose of humor. The session begins at 8:00 AM Pacific on Thursday, March 4 in room California B at the Anaheim Hilton Hotel, Anaheim, Calif. and will be broadcast live on KFLP, All Ag All Day streaming from www.allagnews.com.

"The Sorghum General Session is an opportunity for producers to catch up on what NSP is doing in the industry and how new policies and technologies will impact their production in the coming year," said NSP Chairman Gerald Simonsen, a producer from Ruskin, Neb.

Simonsen will kick off the Sorghum General Session with his Presidential Address followed by the bright humor of motivational speaker, Kurtis Thomas. Thomas enjoys entertaining and inspiring audiences across the nation when his witty stories and passion for the agriculture industry.

"One of the highlights of the morning will be a panel discussion with some of our national yield and management contest winners," said Simonsen. "As a producer myself, I think farmers really like the opportunity to interact with their peers and learn what works and doesn't work for them in grain sorghum production." Contest winners from Kansas, Texas and Kentucky will make up the panel.

Another highlight of the session will be a presentation by Jonathon Coppess, Administrator of the Farm Service Agency. Coppess's role at USDA puts him in-the-know about the implementation of farm bill programs, the Administration's plans for agriculture and future farm bills.

DuPont Crop Protection's Wayne Schumacher will make an exciting announcement about new technology for sorghum. DuPont Crop Protection has been granted exclusive rights to the Kansas State University sulfonylurea and quizalofop tolerant sorghum traits. DuPont licensed seed companies will transfer these traits to their own germplasm. The limited commercial launch for seed and herbicides is targeted for 2012.

Other subjects and speakers include bright new opportunities for high biomass energy sorghum that will become available as the result of cooperation between the National Renewable Energy Lab, Department of Energy and NSP and the most current information about where sorghum stands in the Renewable Fuels Standard, version 2. The Hand that Feeds U.S., a public education effort that connects consumers to the food on their tables, will remind every agriculture stakeholder of his or her role in educating the world about the source of their food.

Don't miss out on the important information available in this morning session, either by attending the session at Commodity Classic or listening live at www.allagnews.com.

NSP represents U.S. sorghum producers. The organization serves as the voice of the sorghum industry coast to coast through legislative representation, regulatory representation and education. To learn more about NSP, visit www.sorghumgrowers.com.