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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 20, 2011**

**Former NSP Research Director Recognized for Contributions to Sorghum Industry**

LUBBOCK, Texas — The National Sorghum Producers recognized Dr. Jeff Dahlberg as the 2011 NSP Outstanding Achievement Award recipient during the 28<sup>th</sup> Biennial Sorghum Research and Utilization Conference held Sept. 14 in Stillwater, Okla.

Dahlberg served as research director for the National Sorghum Producers and the United Sorghum Checkoff Program. He also previously served as the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) curator for sorghum. He returned to his home state of California in December 2010 to work as director of the Kearney Research and Extension Center in Parlier, Calif.

Dahlberg has worked tirelessly to strengthen sorghum research to promote the crop and increase industry opportunities. His accomplishments in the sorghum industry include increasing federal sorghum funds to USDA-ARS by more than \$6 million, introducing 200 new exotic parents into the Sorghum Conversion Program, and re-evaluating and improving genetic sorghum descriptors, which have been used to collect data on nearly 8,500 accessions of sorghum growing in various regenerations.

He is the past president of the Whole Grains Council, served as chair of the Sorghum and Millet Germplasm Committee, and was formerly the secretary of the International Sorghum Genomics Committee that worked to get sorghum sequenced. He also led research efforts in conjunction with National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) on a U.S. Department of Energy Sorghum to Ethanol grant.

“This is the highest award for a member of the sorghum community,” said Bruce Maunder, research advisor for the United Sorghum Checkoff Program, who also received the award in 1985. “Jeff is very deserving of such recognition for his contributions to this industry.”

NSP congratulates Dahlberg on this honor and is grateful for his contributions to the U.S. sorghum industry.

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*NSP represents U.S. sorghum producers and 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](http://www.sorghumgrowers.com).*