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SORGHUM E-Notes

December 4, 2008

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:
the voice of the sorghum industry

Deadline Approaches for Sorghum Insurance Appraisals

Producers should be aware that December 10th is the end of the insurance period for multi-peril policies such as CRC and APH. This means that producers with sorghum still in a field that may have a loss will need to contact their agent to have a claim opened up so an adjuster can look at the sorghum. Any losses after December 10th will not be used in adjusting this year's losses. A crop that is not looked at before December 10th will not qualify for adjustment since all losses could have happened after December 10th. This may be especially important for producers who have light bushel weight sorghum to harvest and have not contacted their insurance agent. If you have questions, please contact your crop insurance agent or NSP.

NSP Welcomes Newest E-Member

NSP would like to welcome its newest Elevator (E) Member, Sand Creek, Inc. at Sheridan Lake, Colorado. NSP's E-Members are entitled to a host of benefits, including NSP's weekly basis report, subscriptions to Sorghum Notes or E-Notes and, of course, a voice in NSP's first-class representation of sorghum growers in Washington, D.C. in legislative and regulatory arenas. Owners are Burl Scherler, Christi Stulp and Lynn Scherler. NSP greatly appreciates the partnership and support of Sand Creek, Inc.

Chambliss Holds on to Senate Seat

Senator Saxby Chambliss (R-GA), Ranking Member on the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, has managed to hold on to his highly contested Senate seat in a runoff election that was held this week. He defeated Democrat Jim Martin by a larger than expected 16-point margin. Chambliss served as Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee until Democrats gained control of Congress in 2006. Since then, he has remained a strong proponent for agriculture interests in Washington, D.C. and was instrumental in crafting the 2008 Farm Bill.

Sorghum Researcher Recognized for Career Achievement

Scott Bean, Research Chemist in the Grain Quality and Structure Research Unit at the Ag Research Service Manhattan, Kansas was selected as the Northern Plains Area Early Career Scientist for 2008. The award stemmed directly from his research on sorghum to improve the crop and explore potential new uses.

"My research is focused on understanding the biochemical components in sorghum that are related to end-use quality of sorghum," said Dr. Bean. "My research should benefit the food industry by helping to improve the quality of sorghum-based foods."

Dr. Bean's award, granted by USDA's Agricultural Research Service, recognizes his outstanding independent and collaborative research contributions to solve industry problems resulting in new and more efficient uses of sorghum.

Ethanol Co-Product Granted Entrance to Australia

Australia's first imported sample of U.S. distiller's dried grains with solubles (DDGS), a co-product of U.S. ethanol production, successfully cleared inspections this week after arriving at the Port of Melbourne on November 25th, according to the U.S. Grains Council (USGC). The shipment will be used in feeding trials which will be overseen by Australian feed supplier CopRice, a major supplier of feed ingredients, manufactured livestock and companion animal feeds.

"This is a major accomplishment for the Council and an exciting first step for CopRice," said Mike Callahan, USGC senior director of international operations for Asia. "This has also shown that DDGS can meet the stringent regiments of Australia's Quarantine and Inspection Service."

Adel Yusupov, USGC regional director of Southeast Asia said that the Council looks forward to hearing about CopRice's progress in using DDGS during the trial period. "Our staff is ready and available to assist them at any time upon their request."

Mexican Delegation Visits Texas Sorghum Industry

The Texas Grain Sorghum Producers is hosting a U.S. Grains Council (USGC) delegation of 14 Mexican grain buyers in Texas this week as part of their marketing outreach efforts. Mexico is a major importer of U.S. sorghum.

Their itinerary includes meetings and events at the Amarillo Farm and Ranch Show, updates on transportation and logistics issues, tours of grain facilities, ethanol plants and elevators as well as a visit to the Port of Victoria loading facilities. In addition, they will be visiting the Port of Corpus Christi and Texas sorghum producers on their farms.

The mission is intended to forge relationships between U.S. sorghum handlers and Mexican sorghum importers and provide a venue to collaboratively address industry issues.

About Sorghum Notes

SORGHUM Notes is a publication of the National Sorghum Producers. NSP represents U.S. sorghum producers. The organization serves as the voice of the sorghum industry from coast to coast through education and legislative and regulatory representation. To learn more about NSP visit our website at www.sorghumgrowers.com. Write to us at National Sorghum Producers, 4201 N Interstate 27, Lubbock, TX 79403. *To unsubscribe to Sorghum Notes, please reply to hannah@sorghumgrowers.com.* If you have questions about the sorghum industry or the National Sorghum Producers, please do not hesitate to call NSP at **(800) 658-9808**.

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Quote of the Week:

"History will be kind to me for I intend to write it."
-- Winston Churchill

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