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## **SORGHUM E-Notes**

### **NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS Ensuring Sorghum's Profitability**

February 21, 2008

#### **NSP to Join With Commodity Classic**

The National Sorghum Producers will team with Commodity Classic, the annual conference of corn, soybeans and wheat, in 2009. The 2009 Commodity Classic will be held Feb. 26-28 at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center on Lake Grapevine in Grapevine, Texas.

"We are very excited to take part in Commodity Classic in 2009," said NSP President Dale Murden. "We recognize that farmers grow diverse crops and Commodity Classic gives producers the opportunity to network and learn about corn, soybeans, wheat, and now sorghum all at the same time."

Joint programming, crop-specific education, Learning Center session, What is New sessions a dynamic General Session, and a large tradeshow with hundreds of booths highlighting equipment, products and services that are important to farmers are key Commodity Classic attractions for producers, their families and agribusiness partners.

"The National Sorghum Producers will work in conjunction with the other commodities to offer joint programming as well as sorghum-specific education and networking. An NSP-only meeting will be held directly before the Classic," Murden added.

#### **NSP to Host President's Mission to Washington, D.C.**

NSP leadership and staff will visit Washington, D.C. Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> through Friday, February 29<sup>th</sup> to interact with the nation's leaders on sorghum's behalf. Attendees will be meeting with Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, Colin Peterson, as well as key farm bill, energy, appropriations and USDA leaders. Requests for interviews may be directed to Hannah Lipps at [hannah@sorghumgrowers.com](mailto:hannah@sorghumgrowers.com).

#### **EU Sorghum Workshops Very Well Attended**

Kurt Shultz of the U.S. Grains Council is in Europe this week conducting sorghum workshops for feed industry representatives. He is accompanied by sorghum industry representatives. Their goal is to educate the EU feed industry about the use of sorghum, mostly for animal feeding, as the EU imported significant amounts of U.S. sorghum last year and are expected to continue in the future.

"Turn out and interest in these workshop have been extraordinary," stated Council member and speaker, Tommy Young. "We have fielded a lot of questions about the use of sorghum in dairy, poultry and swine rations and addressed some of the common misconceptions of sorghum. There have been many questions about U.S. production of sorghum and whether the U.S. will be able to supply European end users, which we also addressed and assured them that U.S. sorghum farmers are very committed to supplying this market this year and in the future."

The workshops were held Monday through Friday in Ireland, England, the Netherlands and France. Attendance and interest were even higher than expected with over 50 attendees from six countries attending the first three seminars. The

seminars come at a critical time as the EU began importing mass amounts of U.S. sorghum in 2007. Europe has imported 110 million bushels of U.S. sorghum. Another 47 million bushels of outstanding sales are on the books and likely destined for the EU.

## **New Mexico Sorghum Meeting to be Held in Clovis**

The New Mexico Grain Sorghum Producers Association will hold their Annual Meeting at K-Bob's in Clovis, NM at 6:00 pm on March 13<sup>th</sup>. All New Mexico sorghum producers are invited to attend.

## **NSP Annual Conference a Success**

The NSP Annual Conference was held last week in San Antonio, Texas. The conference was held in conjunction with the U.S. Grains Council Annual Conference and included some joint programming. The Sorghum General Session held on Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup> included William Hohenstein, Director of USDA's Global Change Office, Barney Gordon from Kansas State University on Managing for Economic Yields, a panel on cellulosic sorghum for biofuels and a panel on grain sorghum for biofuels. The Conference also included legislative and organizational updates and work team meetings to involve members in the organization's day-to-day operations.

## **About Sorghum Notes**

SORGHUM Notes is a publication of the National Sorghum Producers. NSP represents U.S. sorghum producers and works to ensure the profitability of sorghum production through market development, research, education and legislative representation. Visit our website at [www.sorghumgrowers.com](http://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](mailto:hannah@sorghumgrowers.com). Copy and paste "Unsubscribe to Sorghum Notes" into the subject line.

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## **Quote of the week:**

In Germany they first came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time there was nobody left to speak up.

*-- Reverend Martin Niemoller, Germany, 1930's*

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