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SORGHUM E-Notes

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS Ensuring Sorghum's Profitability

February 28, 2008

Sorghum Producers Meet with Peterson

Sorghum producer leaders sat down with Collin Peterson, Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, last night to discuss farm bill progress. While reports of a budget number are floating, offsets have not been decided therefore things are still up in the air. House Speaker Pelosi has said she will not name conferees until an agreement is made. NSP leaders are also meeting with other key farm bill, energy, appropriations and USDA leaders. Producers working on behalf of other growers include Greg Shelor of Kansas, Dale Murden and Bill Kubecka of Texas, Gerald Simonsen and James Vorderstrasse of Nebraska, Kenneth Rose of Oklahoma, Matt Lansford of New Mexico, Jerry Van Zee of South Dakota, and Terry and Marcella Swanson of Colorado. Brian and Kimberly McCuisition of Planters Grain Coop in Odem, Texas are representing e-members. Staff participants include Wayne Cleveland, Executive Director of the Texas Grain Sorghum Producers, along with NSP CEO Tim Lust, Communications Director Hannah Lipps and D.C. Representative Mark Rokala.

Abengoa Planning to Use Sorghum at Hugoton Plant

At the National Ethanol Conference held in Orlando this week, Abengoa revealed that their intentions are to use sorghum as a grain source in their grain/cellulose hybrid plant at Hugoton, Kan. Sorghum can meet the advanced biofuel definition contained in the 2007 Energy Bill. NSP Strategic Business Director Chris Cogburn participated in the conference and said that NSP will continue working with Abengoa to ensure the needed feedstocks for the plant.

White Energy Business Plan Includes Local Sorghum

John Neufeld, Chief Risk Officer for White Energy, spoke with Keith Merckx of the Texas State Network today. Neufeld said that Texas' first ethanol plant, located in Hereford, is operating steadily and White's plant in Plainview, Texas is set to open in early April. Neufeld said that the company's Russell, Kan. plant operates on virtually 100% sorghum. "Sorghum works just as well for us as corn does because of the starch content. Clearly we want to get efficiencies out of using the raw material that is available right where we're at rather than bringing it in and putting a lot of the cost into the transportation of it. In our business, we're creating energy and we want to use as little energy as possible to create our end product." Neufeld said that White's business model is to build plants at destination locations close to not only large cattle operations but also the consumers of fuel ethanol. He said that the primary markets for the Texas plants will be Dallas, Houston and California. Russell has a significant market with local blenders. "It's our intent to build our organization to where we have between 500-700 million gallons of ethanol capacity a year. We'll have 250 million gallons so that means that we're going to grow at least by 100% in the near future. We are committed to becoming a significant part of our mobile fuel supply chain in the U.S." Listen to the interview at <http://sorghumgrowers.com/Portals/9601e447-03e0-4aad-9c41-e3f718fe1956/John%20Neufeld%20White%20Energy.mp3>.

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

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Quote of the week: for others is a life worthwhile.

"Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile." – Albert Einstein

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