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## **SORGHUM E-Notes**

December 23, 2009

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:  
*the voice of the sorghum industry*

### **Federal Crop Insurance Faces Potential \$4B Cut**

The Risk Assessment Agency (RMA) this week proposed a \$4 billion budget cut for federal crop insurance that would span over a five year period beginning in the summer of 2010. The Standard Reinsurance Agreement for 2010 will expire June 30, 2010, leaving no federal crop insurance available beginning July 1, 2010 under the current proposal. There has been no official statement from RMA detailing the reason behind the proposed cut, but negotiations are ongoing with the crop insurance industry and the National Sorghum Producers (NSP) will be actively following the issue to protect sorghum growers' interests.

### **NSP Expects 9005 Payments by End of the Year**

NSP has been working with USDA and the House Agriculture Committee recently to request that USDA distribute payments this year to ethanol plants enrolled in the Advanced Biofuels Program, section 9005 of the Energy Title in the 2008 Farm Bill.

The program provides payments to ethanol plants that process advanced biofuels such as sorghum. These payments provide incentive to use advanced biofuels, thus providing a catalyst to help achieve the federal mandate of producing 36 billion gallons of fuel by 2022. This was also intended to aid the aggressive government goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by as much as 17 percent by 2020.

NSP is happy that the first payments were released to some plants today and other plants are expected to receive payments in the coming week. It was important for both tax and finance purposes that ethanol plants received payments in 2009 and NSP appreciates USDA's work to make this happen.

### **Merry Christmas from Our Family to Yours!**

On behalf of the NSP Board of Directors and staff, we wish you a Merry Christmas and thank you for your support of the sorghum industry and NSP. We look forward to continuing to serve you in 2010!

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

We are updating our online listing of field days, fairs, farm shows, meetings and events. [Please visit for the latest information.](#)

## 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 Web site 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 [alexis@sorghumgrowers.com](mailto:alexis@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.

## SORGHUM Notes is sponsored by:

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## Quote of the Week:

*"Reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very persistent one."*  
--Albert Einstein

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