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## **SORGHUM E-Notes**

January 28, 2010

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

### **Advanced Biofuels Earn Mention in State of the Union**

"But to create more of these clean energy jobs, we need more production, more efficiency, more incentives," said the President in last night's State of the Union address. "It means continued investment in *advanced biofuels* and clean coal technologies."

Sorghum qualifies as an advanced biofuel feedstock according to the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2008 (EISA). Sorghum has already benefitted from this qualification as an advanced biofuel through the Advanced Biofuels Program in the 2008 Farm Bill, but this presidential mention could further catapult the production of advanced biofuels. In the past, a nod toward certain policies, technologies, crops and initiatives by the President has greatly increased notoriety and Congressional attention to those issues. NSP is working closely with Congress to ensure sorghum remains an advanced biofuel feedstock and producers are able to take full advantage of sorghum's advanced biofuel feedstock qualification.

### **Sorghum Research Database Now Available**

The United Sorghum Checkoff Program (USCP) has launched an online collection of research articles in conjunction with Texas Tech University, through the Great Plains Sorghum Initiative. The Sorghum Research Database will give producers an avenue to search and view thousands of research articles.

"I'm glad to see this database available through the work of the Sorghum Checkoff," said Earl Roemer, sorghum producer and USCP Research Committee Chair. "There are so many great resources available here; you can search articles on using sorghum as a feed for livestock and bio-energy, as well as articles on breeding and production. It will be a very useful tool for me as a producer."

Read more about it at [www.sorghumcheckoff.com](http://www.sorghumcheckoff.com) and access the Sorghum Research Database at [www.sorghumcheckoff.com/sorghum-research-database](http://www.sorghumcheckoff.com/sorghum-research-database).

### **NSP Voices Concerns on Standard Reinsurance Agreement**

This week the National Sorghum Producers joined nine other organizations in sending a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack expressing concerns about the Standard Reinsurance Agreement (SRA). A draft SRA released before Christmas proposed \$4 billion in additional cuts to the crop insurance program over the next five years.

“This concerns us because last year crop insurance sustained a cut of \$6.4 billion over 10 years on top of \$1.7 billion in cuts to other components of the farm safety net,” states the letter. “While the full impact of the cuts to crop insurance is still unknown, there is already concern that these cuts could be problematic for both producers and companies when they are fully implemented. Congress should have the ability to carefully consider changes resulting in savings of this magnitude.”

[Read the entire letter on NSP's Regulatory page here.](#)

## **Plan for Upcoming Producer Meetings**

Don't miss these upcoming events!

**Oklahoma Grain Sorghum Educational Series**, [nine locations across the state](#), February 1-4

**Oklahoma Grain Sorghum Producers Association Meeting**, Hooker, February 23

**Colorado Grain Sorghum Producers Association Meeting**, Granada, February 23

A complete list of meeting times and locations can be found on [NSP's calendar](#).

## **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 [hannah@sorghumgrowers.com](mailto: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.

## **SORGHUM Notes is sponsored by:**

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## **Quote of the Week:**

*“Most plans are just inaccurate predictions.”*

*-- Ben Bayol*

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