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SORGHUM E-Notes

July 15, 2010

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:

the voice of the sorghum industry

NSP, RFA Support Current Ethanol Tax Policies

The Renewable Fuels Association released a press release today in support of two identical pieces of legislation that would extend current ethanol tax incentives through 2015. The release included support from not only RFA and NSP, but also the National Corn Growers Association, American Farm Bureau Federation, and the American Coalition for Ethanol.

The Renewable Fuels Investment Act (HR 4940) and the GREEN JOBS Act (S. 3231) would extend four key ethanol tax incentives through the year 2015. This includes a \$0.45 per gallon blenders credit for ethanol use.

“Continuing these tax incentives will be critical to add much needed green jobs throughout the Sorghum Belt and rural America,” said Gerald Simonsen, NSP Chairman. “To abandon these credits at this point will have devastating effects on a young but growing ethanol industry.”

The groups urged Senate leaders to include this legislation during upcoming energy bill discussions.

U.S. Grains Council Celebrates 50 years

Next week the U.S. Grains Council will celebrate their 50th anniversary in Boston, Mass. The theme, 50 Years of Leadership: Acting on Opportunity, exemplifies the years of service the USGC has dedicated to expanding foreign markets for U.S. grains. In 1958, Bill Nelson, former executive director for the Grain Sorghum Producers Association, drew up the first contract for the USGC with the USDA’s Foreign Agricultural Service to open foreign markets for grains like sorghum.

Guest speakers will include current and former secretaries of agriculture, key government trade officials, and experts on a wide range of topics that will have impact on global grain trade. More information about the event and the USGC’s history can be found on their website: www.grains.org.

Sorghum Heading Progresses in Many Areas

By July 11, heading had advanced by 2 percent during the week to 27 percent complete, which is slightly ahead of last year but 3 percent behind the 5-year average. Heading progressed most rapidly in Arkansas and Illinois, where heading progress advanced 19 and 20 percent during the week, respectively. Heading development in Texas progressed only slightly during the week and was 7 percent behind the normal pace. Twenty percent of the sorghum crop was at or beyond the coloring stage, 2 percent behind last

year and the 5-year average. Overall, 73 percent of the sorghum crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 2 percent from ratings last week and 21 percent than the same time last year.

Some areas in Texas are reaping the benefits from recent rainfall. However, heavy rains in the Coastal Bend continue with seed drop occurring and some lodging has been seen from the excessive rains. Kansas emerged sorghum was reported at 98 percent, up 2 percent from last year and the 5-year average, and 2 percent of the sorghum crop has headed. While in Nebraska, the first fields of sorghum were starting to head.

Upcoming Field Days and Events

July 22 University of Tennessee No-Till Field Day, *Milan, Tennessee*
July 28 Herbicide-Tolerant Sorghum Field Day, *Claude, Texas*

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 lindsay@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:

“Life on a farm is a school of patience; you can't hurry the crops or make an ox in two days.”

– Alain, Henri

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