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## **SORGHUM E-Notes**

June 3, 2010

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:

*the voice of the sorghum industry*

### **EPA Proposes Pesticide Permit to Regulate Usage**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing a new permit that would require all operators to reduce pesticide discharges by using the lowest effective amount of pesticide. The proposed permit is in response to an April 9, 2009 court decision that found that pesticide discharges to U.S. waters were pollutants, which require permits.

EPA estimates that the pesticide general permit will affect approximately 35,000 pesticide applicators nationally that perform approximately half a million pesticide applications annually. The agency's draft permit currently does not cover terrestrial applications to control pests on agricultural crops or forest floor covers. The draft permit does include pesticide uses on mosquito and flying insects, aquatic weed and algae, aquatic nuisance animal control, and forest canopy pest control. EPA is soliciting public comment on whether additional use patterns should be covered by this general permit.

EPA plans to finalize the permit in December 2010, and it will take effect April 9, 2011. EPA will accept written comments on the draft permit for 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.

### **Sorghum Highlighted as 'Grain of the Month'**

The Whole Grains Council is featuring sorghum as their June "Grain of the Month". The Council is featuring a different whole grain each month this year on their website, [www.wholegrainscouncil.org](http://www.wholegrainscouncil.org), to raise awareness about the advantages of eating whole grains. Included on the website is information about sorghum's origin, advantages of eating sorghum, recipes, areas where sorghum is grown, and other facts. NSP appreciates the Whole Grains Council recognizing the sorghum industry by highlighting the crop and its use as a whole grain. The Whole Grain Council's "Grain of the Month" can be seen on their website under the *What's New* section.

### **NSP Staff Member Welcomes New Addition to the Family**

NSP is happy to announce the birth of Isaiah Kian Lipps, who was born May 27, 2010 at 4:00 pm. Isaiah is the son of NSP Legislative Director Hannah Lipps and her husband Brandon. NSP congratulates the Lipps family on the new addition to their family.

### **NSP Board of Directors Seeks New Board Members**

The Nominating Committee for National Sorghum Producers is now taking applications from individuals interested in serving on the NSP Board of Directors. Applicants must be a member of NSP to apply and have a passion for working on behalf of the sorghum industry through legislative and fundraising activities. The deadline to apply is July 9. For an application and more information, please visit our website at [www.sorghumgrowers.com](http://www.sorghumgrowers.com).

## **Sorghum Now Included in BASF Seed Treatment Portfolio**

BASF recently announced that Stamina fungicide seed treatment will now include more crops, including sorghum, in supplemental labeling. Stamina fungicide seed treatment has generated positive results in regard to disease protection.

## **Planting Process Remains at Slow Pace**

By May 30, producers had planted 50 percent of the 2010 sorghum crop, compared with 54 percent last year and 53 percent for the 5-year average. Despite planting progress of 11 percentage points or more during the week, double-digit delays remained in Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

## **Upcoming Field Days**

- June 15** Stiles Farm Field Day, *Thrall, Texas*
- June 16** West Portland Gin Field Day, *Taft, Texas*
- June 16** Texas AgriLife Research & Extension Center Field Day, *Corpus Christi, Texas*
- June 23** SDSU Field Day, *Highmore, South Dakota*

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

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

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## **Quote of the Week:**

*"A farmer has to be an optimist or he wouldn't still be a farmer."*  
- Will Rogers

## **Interested in Sponsorship Opportunities?**

Call NSP at (800) 658-9808 to learn more.