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SORGHUM E-Notes

November 4, 2010

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:

the voice of the sorghum industry

Election Results and What They Mean

Many conjectures can be made from the Nov. 2 elections, but a few in particular will have the greatest impact on the agriculture industry. On the House Agriculture Committee, 17 members were voted out of office. With the change in House leadership, Rep. Frank Lucas of Oklahoma will now chair the agriculture committee. As chair, Lucas says he will not address the 2012 Farm Bill immediately, saying the fiscal mood in Washington will be better in 2012. Lucas says there will be fewer dollars to work with but pledges he will work hard to protect the interests of farmers as the farm bill is developed in either 2011 or 2012.

A significant loss came when, Sen. Blanche Lincoln, the two-term Arkansas Democrat and chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee, was defeated by opposing Republican John Boozman. Democrats Debbie Stabenow of Michigan, Ben Nelson of Nebraska, and Kent Conrad of North Dakota have been mentioned as possible candidates to replace Lincoln as chair. It is predicted that Stabenow is the most likely candidate.

With a large change in personnel, NSP has many new relationships to build. Education will be a key part of the process, and we look forward to working with the new Congress going into 2011.

FSA Urges Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee Elections

This year's county committee elections will begin Friday, Nov. 5, with USDA mailing out ballots to eligible voters. The deadline to return these ballots to FSA offices is Dec. 6, 2010. FSA Administrator Jonathon Coppess said it is important to have farmer and rancher input on county committee members as they provide input and make informed decisions at the local level on administration of new disaster and conservation programs under the 2008 Farm Bill.

To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm is also eligible to vote. If eligible voters have not received a ballot in the coming week, they can obtain a ballot from their local USDA Service Center. Newly elected committee members and their alternates will take office Jan. 1, 2010.

You Could Be a Winner

It is that time of year again when producers have the opportunity to compete with other farmers and against their county average for the best sorghum yields in the nation. The NSP Yield and Management

Contest is underway, and it's not too late to enter your crop. [Click here](#) to go to the Yield Contest page on the NSP website where you can download an entry form, instructions, deadlines and rules.

This Week's Crop Report

Nationwide, sorghum producers had harvested 82 percent of this year's crop by week's end—42 percent, or 26 days, ahead of last year and 21 percent ahead of the 5-year average. Producers throughout the central Great Plains continued to take advantage of nearly ideal fieldwork conditions, harvesting 12 percent or more of their crop during the week.

Sign Up to Receive the Sorghum Checkoff e-Newsletter

Sorghum producers can now receive monthly e-Newsletters from the United Sorghum Checkoff Program. To receive monthly news and information regarding the Sorghum Checkoff's efforts in sorghum research, education and market development contact info@sorghumcheckoff.com and provide your email address. You can also sign up at www.SorghumCheckoff.com/contact-us. You can also follow the checkoff on Twitter @SorghumCheckoff.

Upcoming Field Days and Events

- Nov. 10-12** NAFB Convention, *Kansas City, Mo.*
- Nov. 10-12** Wichita Farm Show, *Wichita, Kan.*
- Nov. 17-18** Kansas Agribusiness Expo
- Nov. 18-19** KABE, *Wichita, Kan.*
- Nov. 19-21** Oklahoma Ag Expo, *Oklahoma City, Okla.*
- Nov. 19-21** Oklahoma Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, *Oklahoma City, Okla.*

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. You can also follow NSP on Twitter @SorghumGrowers, and you can find us on Facebook.

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Quote of the Week:

“No man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent.”

— Abraham Lincoln

Interested in Sponsorship Opportunities?

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