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SORGHUM E-Notes

June 2, 2011

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:

the voice of the sorghum industry

Ag Spending Measure Approved by House Appropriations Committee

The House Appropriations Committee approved May 31 the ag appropriations bill for fiscal year 2012. The legislation includes \$125.5 billion in discretionary and mandatory funding—more than \$7 billion less than President Obama requested. Discretionary spending is down \$2.7 billion from last year's level—a cut of more than \$5 billion from the President's request. The bill included several amendments, one that would impose stricter income limits on farmers who get subsidies. The bill is expected to pass through the House of Representatives with little change while the same process still must be repeated in the Senate.

Stabenow, Roberts Hold First Field Farm Bill Hearing

Michigan Sen. Debbie Stabenow, chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, and Kansas Sen. Pat Roberts, the committee's ranking member, held the first farm bill field hearing May 31 at Michigan State University in East Lansing. The senators described the challenges to be faced writing the 2012 Farm Bill as well as the need to maintain an efficient crop insurance program.

Sorghum Harvest Updates to be Offered

The Sorghum Checkoff and International Grains Program at Kansas State University have teamed up in effort to educate consumers about grain sorghum's multi-purpose benefits as a commodity. Project participants will submit grain samples to IGP for quality testing, and then data will be mapped according to production regions and subsequently posted to the department's website. Additionally, IGP is working with producers from various sorghum growing regions to provide harvest progression updates. This information will be used to update grain buyers and potential processors on the quality attributes of the 2011 grain sorghum crop. Surveying begins this June with sorghum harvest in Texas and will continue through the fall.

NSP Board of Directors Seeking Applicants

The nominating committee for NSP has begun the process of accepting applications for anyone with an interest in serving on the NSP board of directors. If you have an interest in participating with our organization at the board of directors' level, you may call the office to request an application and recruitment packet or find it on our website under the board of directors page [here](#).

A member of the board of directors must first be a member of NSP and have a passion for working on the behalf of sorghum growers through lobbying activities and fundraising. The NSP Board is not limited to

growers. No experience is necessary, simply a desire to improve the industry. Deadline to apply is Wednesday, June 22.

Crop Report

As of May 30, planting progress varied between states. Arkansas was 94 percent complete, Colorado at 14 percent, Illinois at 7 percent, Kansas at 26 percent, Louisiana at 100 percent, Missouri at 26 percent, Nebraska at 47 percent, New Mexico at 26 percent, Oklahoma at 54 percent, South Dakota at 29 percent, and Texas at 74 percent. Grain sorghum harvest has also begun in the Lower Rio Grande Valley region of Texas.

Upcoming Field Days and Events

- June 15** Nebraska Sorghum Board Meeting, *Lincoln, Neb.*
- June 20** Nebraska Grain Sorghum Producers Association Meeting, *Beatrice, Neb.*
- June 28** Northeast Research Station Pest Management and Crop Production Field Day, *Joseph, La.*
- June 27-29** International Food Aid and Development Conference, *Kansas City, Mo.*
- June 27-30** Fuel Ethanol Workshop, *Indianapolis, Ind.*
- July 22** Oklahoma No-Till Conference, *Norman, Okla.*
- July 25-27** U.S. Grains Council 51st Annual Board of Delegates Meeting, *San Francisco, Calif.*
- July 29** Oklahoma Commission Meeting, *Goodwell, Okla.*

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.

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 jennifer@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.

SORGHUM Notes is sponsored by:

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Quote of the Week:

“Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant.”

—Robert Louis Stevenson

Interested in Sponsorship Opportunities?

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