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SORGHUM E-Notes

December 15, 2011

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:

the voice of the sorghum industry

NSP Announces Yield and Management Contest Winners

National Sorghum Producers is proud to announce the winners of the 2011 NSP Yield and Management Contest. Farmers from 20 states spanning from New Mexico to New Jersey entered to win this year's contest. Producer yields are highlighted in nine different categories with this year's top yield at 192.73 bushels per acre.

The national winners will be further recognized at Commodity Classic in Nashville, Tenn., on March 2, 2012, at an awards dinner sponsored by Pioneer.

First place national winners that will be honored in Nashville include Jeff Scates of Illinois who won the Reduced-Till Irrigated category with a yield of 192.73 bushels per acre; Levin Farms Inc. in Kansas in the No-Till Non-Irrigated category with a yield of 185.91 bushels per acre; Duane L. Vorderstrasse of Nebraska in the Mulch-Till Non-Irrigated category with a yield of 176.25 bushels per acre; Jason Gamble of South Carolina in the Conventional-Till Non-Irrigated category with a yield of 150.99 bushels per acre; and John A. Scates of Illinois in the Conventional-Till Irrigated category with a yield of 189.31 bushels per acre.

Michael Fisher of Nebraska won the Non-Irrigated National Food-Grade category with a yield of 114.59 bushels per acre. Jeff Scates of Illinois won the Irrigated Bin Buster Award category with a yield of 192.73 bushels per acre, and Levin Farms Inc. in Kansas yielded 185.91 bushels to win the Non-Irrigated Bin Buster Award.

"The yield contest provides an invaluable opportunity for NSP to connect with producers around the country," said NSP Chairman Terry Swanson. "I would like to congratulate and recognize all 2011 winners on their hard work and dedication to best management practices, which have enabled them to become leaders among their peers."

To see a complete list of the NSP Yield and Management Contest results or to learn more about the contest, visit www.sorghumgrowers.com.

Chromatin, Inc. Passes Major Milestone in Sweet Sorghum Technologies

On Dec. 13, Chromatin announced its use of proprietary mini-chromosome technology to enable the improvement of sorghum with multiple new sets of genes. This will allow Chromatin to customize sorghum to meet the specialized needs of power, fuel and chemical producers. Chromatin demonstrated its sorghum mini-chromosome technology by inserting a gene "stack" into a sweet sorghum line, the

technology can also be used to modify grain and forage sorghum. Chromatin believes this new technology will enable them to create new sorghum hybrids that carry genes for needed improvement while keeping the native host genome intact.

Terms of Four Checkoff Directors Come to a Close

The terms of inaugural Sorghum Checkoff board members Billy Bob Brown of Panhandle, Texas, Louise Rigdon of Blackwell, Okla., James Vorderstrasse of Hebron, Neb., and Gary Kilgore of Chanute, Kan., came to a close after the organization's board meeting Dec. 13-14 in Lubbock, Texas.

The Sorghum Checkoff thanked the outgoing directors for their dedication and service for the past three years. The experience, knowledge and passion of the board of directors drives the producer-funded organization and the sorghum industry into the future.

Japanese Video Crew Highlights Sorghum's Food Value

The Sorghum Checkoff and the U.S. Grains Council hosted a Japanese video crew to Texas and Kansas in November in an effort to increase awareness about sorghum as a healthy food option in Japan. The crew shot video that was edited into an Japanese infomercial explaining the health benefits of sorghum. The video aired for the first time at a sorghum symposium in Tokyo where Japanese chefs prepared traditional dishes using sorghum.

Japan is the third largest importer of U.S sorghum and primarily utilizes the grain in their livestock industry. By promoting sorghum as a healthy food product, the Sorghum Checkoff hopes to increase demand for sorghum and increase profitability for sorghum farmers. To read more about this initiative, visit the Sorghum Checkoff [website](#).

Market News - To view this week's Gulf export grain report, click [here](#).

Sign Up to Receive the Sorghum Checkoff e-Newsletter

Sorghum producers can also 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 or sign up at www.SorghumCheckoff.com/contact-us. You can also follow the Sorghum Checkoff on Twitter @SorghumCheckoff.

About Sorghum Notes

Sorghum Notes is a publication of the National Sorghum Producers. NSP represents U.S. sorghum producers and 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 National Sorghum Producers on Facebook.

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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."

— Henri Alain

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