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SORGHUM E-Notes

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NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:
the voice of the sorghum industry

WASDE Report Still Misses the Mark on Acreage

Last Friday's September World Ag Supply and Demand Estimate (WASDE) Report again did not increase sorghum acreage though it did raise projected sorghum production numbers. The September 12th report left it's planted sorghum acreage forecast unchanged, even though reports from the industry indicate that many farmers planted late sorghum as double crop behind wheat or after losing other crops to weather. The WASDE report did raise its forecast for sorghum yield from 63.7 bushels per acre to 66.1 bushels per acre. This yield adjustment raised sorghum crop production expectations by 16 million bushels to 426 million bushels.

Information from: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde/latest.pdf>

NSP Website is Home to New Production Page

As of today, the NSP website hosts a new page focusing on sorghum production and management. The page will serve as a source of information for sorghum farmers on management and agronomics and is located at <http://www.sorghumgrowers.com/Production%20and%20Management.html>. You can also link to that page from the Sorghum Growers [home page](#). As season-specific issues and new information on best management practices become available, we will be posting them at this location. Be sure to check the page early next week as we will be posting tips on late season sorghum management.

NSP Working on Energy Bill Implementation

NSP is working to encourage USDA to implement the advanced biofuels provisions of the Energy Bill as Congress intended. Last week, NSP testified at a USDA Energy Bill implementation hearing on the Advanced Biofuel and B-Cap programs, which will encourage starch, sugar and cellulosic sorghum ethanol production.

U.S. Grains Council Hosts Two Sorghum Missions

A [U.S. Grains Council](#) team will participate in the Council's European Union Sorghum Workshops September 15 through 23 which will be held in several European countries including Denmark, Germany, Italy, Spain and Portugal. Team members include Dale Artho, past USGC chairman and a Texas sorghum producer; Joe Hancock, a professor at Kansas State University; Brian McCuiston, general manager of the Planter's Grain Cooperative and member of the [NSP Board of Directors](#); Michael Martin, a consultant with Martin Associates; and Kurt Shultz, USGC director of the Mediterranean and Africa. The team will meet with several key feed organizations in each country including the Danish Grain and Feed Trade Association, the Italian Feed Manufacturers Association, the Spanish Feed Manufactures Association and the Portuguese Feed Manufactures Association to discuss milling characteristics and formulation of sorghum in swine and poultry diets, sorghum production and export channels.

Meanwhile, another USGC-sponsored mission to Europe is scouting out export opportunities. Sorghum exports to Europe were high last year and the mission aims to make sure those markets will be open again this year. The group will meet with industry representatives and end-users in several countries. Participants on that Sorghum Mission include: Troy Skarke, USGC sorghum sector director; Jeff Casten of Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission; Wayne Cleveland of the Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Board; Bill Kubecka of the Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Board; Larry Dedic of the

Nebraska Grain Sorghum Board; Chuck McDonald of the Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Board and Chris Correy, USGC Director of International Relations for Rest of the World. All producer participants are also members of the National Sorghum Producers.

Sorghum Harvest Lagging

Major sorghum producing areas of Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas received up to 10 inches of rainfall during the week. Ninety-six percent of sorghum acreage was at or beyond heading, four percent behind last year and one percent behind the five-year average. Heading was complete or nearly complete except in New Mexico and Oklahoma. Seventy-one percent of the acreage was coloring or beyond, 18 percent behind last year and six percent behind the five-year average. Acreage reaching maturity, at 38 percent, lagged 11 percent behind last year and five percent behind the five-year average. Major delays were evident in Illinois, where development was 50 percent behind the five-year average. Producers had harvested 29 percent of the sorghum acreage, eight percent behind last year and three percent behind the five-year average. Harvest in Arkansas was 45 percent behind average, while elsewhere, harvest was within 11 percent of normal. Fifty-four percent of the crop was rated good to excellent, one percent better than the previous week.

From: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/WWNatSumm/WWNatSumm-09-16-2008.pdf>

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 hannah@sorghumgrowers.com.*

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Quote of the Week:

I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forgo their use.

-- *Galileo Galilei (1564 - 1642)*

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