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## **SORGHUM E-Notes**

June 25, 2009

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:

*the voice of the sorghum industry*

### **House Democrats Reach Agreement on the Climate Change Bill**

Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson made an agreement Tuesday with Commerce Committee Chairman Henry Waxman for greater protection of farmers and other rural interests in the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009.

"We have reached an agreement that works for agriculture and contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gas emission in the United States." Peterson said. "The climate change bill will include a strong agriculture offset program run by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that will allow farmers, ranchers and forestland owners to participate fully in a market-based carbon offset program. This agreement also addresses concerns about the international indirect land use provisions that unfairly restricted U.S. biofuels producers and exempts agriculture and forestry from the definition of a capped sector."

Sponsors of the bill are still operating under the assumption that the bill will go to the House floor tomorrow. The House Speaker's office and sponsors are working to ensure they have the votes to pass the bill, but meanwhile, other members of congress are working to make sure the bill fails.

NSP Board of Directors, Legislative Committee and staff are engaged in this bill closely with the producers' best interests in mind. NSP supports Chairman Peterson's efforts to fight for agriculture and will keep members apprised.

### **GIPSA Reports on Sorghum Standards**

The Grain Inspection, Packers & Stockyards Administration advisory committee met in St. Louis June 24-25. During the meeting, staff presented an overview of data on sorghum standards, comparing pre and post regulatory changes in regards to standards, looking specifically at League City, New Orleans and Olympia. The staff also presented information on the April odor taskforce meeting led by Dr. Edgar Chambers, a sensory expert at Kansas State University. After reviewing the finding, the staff sought input from the committee. After discussion, the issue was tabled.

### **Sorghum Planting is Almost Complete**

By June 21, sorghum producers had planted 87 percent of their acreage, six percent ahead of last year's pace. Planting was complete in the Delta and Nebraska and neared completion in South Dakota and Texas. Heading was evident in 20 percent of the sorghum crop, one percent behind last year and the five-year average. 57 percent of the crop was reported in good to excellent condition, seven percent better than a year ago.

From: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/WWNatSumm/WWNatSumm-06-23-2009.pdf>

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

- July 1** NSP Board of Directors conference call, [email for more information](#)
- July 17-22** U.S. Grains Council and United Sorghum Checkoff Program Domestic Marketing Meeting, *San Diego, CA*
- July 23** Oklahoma Sorghum Commission and Association Meeting, *Goodwell, OK*
- August 11-12** Sorghum Improvement Conference of North America (SICNA) Research Meeting, *Amarillo, TX*

**August 12-13** United Sorghum Checkoff Program Board Meeting, *Drury Inn, Amarillo, TX*

**August 17-18** National Sorghum Producers Board Meeting, *Sorghum Headquarters, Lubbock, TX*

## 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 [hannah@sorghumgrowers.com](mailto:hannah@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:

"Burn down your cities and leave our farms, and your cities will spring up again as if by magic; but destroy our farms and the grass will grow in the streets of every city in the country."

-- William Jennings Bryan

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