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SORGHUM E-Notes

September 3, 2009

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:
the voice of the sorghum industry

NSP Needs Comments Regarding Crop Insurance Price Election

The National Sorghum Producers is working with the Risk Management Agency (RMA) to improve sorghum crop insurance prices so that they are more equitable to other crops. RMA published the Texas A&M University (TAMU) model and it is now available for comment.

We need your help in order to create additional awareness to RMA about the concerns you may have about the proposed methodology. A letter with more information regarding the crop insurance price elections was sent via email and postal mail by Chris Cogburn of NSP earlier this week and is also available [here](#). Your comments are paramount for promoting crop insurance changes necessary for producers nationwide. Submissions are due September 22, 2009.

For more information, visit our Web site at www.sorghumgrowers.com or call Chris Cogburn directly at 806-749-3478.

NSP Working to Change Double Crop Insurance Coverage Area with RMA

On July 21, 2009, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) released an amendment to the Non Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) that will affect areas that can be insured under this coverage.

NSP is working closely with the RMA to expand the areas in which a producer can insure double crop sorghum with a written agreement. Under this new amendment, the FSA offices will no longer be able to offer NAP in counties where the coverage was previously offered. NSP is encouraging RMA to provide an alternative product.

If you currently double crop sorghum in Oklahoma or Kansas and would like more information, please contact RMA or NSP directly.

NSP will continue to work with RMA and FSA regarding this issue. We will update you as soon as the insurance coverage areas are determined.

Sorghum Crop Doing Well Overall This Week

Across the U.S., 92 percent of sorghum acreage was headed, five percent more than last year and one percent ahead of the five year average. Despite surplus rainfall, 24 percent of the crop in Illinois has developed heads during the week, but overall progress remained 18 percent below normal.

Coloring advanced nine percent this week, leaving progress at 49 percent, five percent lower than last year and eight percent lower than the average. Coloring progress was active across much of the growing region, but was behind in all estimating states except Colorado, Louisiana and Texas.

Crop maturity crept forward to 31 percent complete, on par with last year and the average. In Kansas, the largest sorghum-producing state, the sorghum crop had yet to reach maturity, leaving overall progress more than two weeks behind normal.

Harvest was slow during the week, advancing from just one percent to 28 percent complete by week's end, one percent higher than last year and two percent more than the five year average. Overall, 49 percent of the sorghum crop was rated in good to excellent condition, compared with 50 percent last week and 51 percent last year.

Source:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/WWNatSumm/WWNatSumm-09-01-2009.pdf>

Upcoming Meetings and Events

We are updating our online listing of field days, fairs, farm shows, meetings and events. [Please visit for the latest information.](#)

New Faces at NSP

We are glad to have a new Communications Coordinator for NSP this week. Alexis Arnold graduated with a Public Relations degree from Texas Tech University and was previously employed with United Supermarkets in the Marketing department. She has both cattle and sorghum farmers in her family and is excited to be a support to the sorghum community.

Hannah Lipps is now the External Affairs Director for both NSP and the United Sorghum Checkoff Program (USCP).

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 alexis@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:

Sorghum Partners, Inc.

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Quote of the Week:

Let us take things as we find them: let us not attempt to distort them into what they are not. We cannot make facts. All our wishing cannot change them. We must use them.

----John Henry Cardinal Newman

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