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SORGHUM E-Notes

May 7, 2010

NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS:
the voice of the sorghum industry

Condolences

NSP, USCP and the sorghum community express our deepest condolences to the family of Willy Lopez, 18, of Perryton, Texas, who passed away May 5. He is survived by his father and mother, Florentino and Kimberly Lopez. Florentino serves as the marketing director for the United Sorghum Checkoff Program.

Services will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 8, 2010 at the Community Worship Center in Perryton, with Nolan Silvey, youth pastor, officiating. Burial will be at the Lopez Family Cemetery in San Jose, Texas. Arrangements are by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials to Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Texas Panhandle, Box 365 Perryton, TX 79070, to Cal Farley's Boys' Ranch, Box 1890 Amarillo TX 79174, or Community Worship Center Mpac Student Ministries, Box 845 Perryton, TX 79070.

Congressman Lucas Defends Atrazine

Oklahoma Congressman Frank Lucas, ranking member on the House Agriculture Committee, issued a press release Monday in response to the EPA's continuing attack on American farmers and ranchers.

Lucas noted that despite completing its 12-year review of atrazine and granting its re-registration in 2006, the EPA announced last month that it would reevaluate atrazine by subjecting it to an additional Federal Insecticide Fungicide Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP).

"Atrazine is the second-most commonly used herbicide in the U.S.," Lucas said. "As the crop protector of choice for U.S. agriculture producers, atrazine has been safely used by corn, sorghum and sugar growers for more than 50 years. To date, in over 6,000 scientific studies, there has not been credible evidence that atrazine is harmful to human health or the environment. Rather, the studies demonstrate that atrazine can be used in a safe manner without affecting human life or the environment."

In an editorial on Monday, The Wall Street Journal also weighed in on the EPA's attack on atrazine:

"There is an agenda here far more ambitious than getting one chemical. The environmental lobby wants more farmland retired to 'nature,' and one way to do that is to make farming more expensive. The EPA notes that eliminating atrazine would cost \$2 billion annually in lost crop yields and substituting more expensive herbicides. Some farmers would go out of business or ask the federal government for more

subsidies. The environmental lobby also figures that if it can take down atrazine with its long record of clean health, it can get the EPA to prohibit anything.”

KSU Releases Monthly Risk Management Estimates

Kansas State Research and Extension’s Ag Manager.info, a marketing and risk management source for farmers, released its monthly estimates for weighted national average price and projected percent ACRE price loss for sorghum, corn, wheat and soybeans. KSU estimates the Marketing Year Average (MYA) prices for sorghum to be 3.08/bushel, which will trigger ACRE payments in some states. The May estimate is down 5 cents from last month’s estimate. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) will use the MYA to calculate ACRE payments for sorghum in September after the close of the marketing year.

Argentina Sorghum Basis Holds Strong

The U.S. Grains Council reported April 30 that basis is very strong in Argentina with corn running a +15 cents/bushel premium over U.S. origin. Logistics have pushed all sales forward to July and August and the restriction of export licenses to a select group has resulted in some very profitable business for the fortunate trading houses. Sorghum is also selling well in Argentina with prices rising. There are still 570,000 metric tons of sorghum licensed for export.

NSP Announces New Staff Addition

The National Sorghum Producers announced the addition of Lindsay Kennedy to its staff as external affairs director, overseeing all communications and outreach activities for NSP, including *Sorghum Grower* magazine. Kennedy joined NSP April 15.

Kennedy comes to the sorghum industry from the Texas Corn Producers Board and Texas Peanut Producers Board where she worked as communications director for two and half years. She was also the founding managing editor of the Ozarks Farm & Neighbor—Arkansas farm newspaper, and was an editorial intern for the High Plains Journal. Kennedy holds two degrees in agricultural communications - a bachelor’s degree from the University of Arkansas and a master’s degree from Texas Tech University.

“We are pleased to welcome Lindsay to the NSP communications and outreach staff,” said NSP CEO Tim Lust.

Kennedy replaces Hannah Lipps who will transition to legislative director. Lipps has been with NSP for three years managing communications for both NSP and, after its establishment, USCP. Her new role will include oversight of all NSP legislative and regulatory activities. Lipps was previously employed with the Texas House of Representatives and as an intern with the House Agriculture Committee.

“Lindsay’s background and experience will provide expertise both in communications and in the agriculture industry, while Hannah’s transition into legislative affairs will provide a deeper level of legislative service to our farmer and industry members.

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 @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.

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Quote of the Week:

"The future is no more uncertain than the present."
-- *Walt Whitman*

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