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ON THE COVER: National Sorghum Producers recently elected Craig Meeker as the organization's new chairman. Craig is pictured with his seven-year-old son, Grant, the seventh generation of Meeker Farms near Wellington, Kansas. YOUR WAY OF FARMING

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Fall 2022, Volume 16, Issue 4

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my favorite season of the year, and, as I write, I've spent the last week deer hunting on my family's farm in southeast Washington, relishing the quiet, golden hour sunrises and sunsets that breathe life and a certain pureness into the lungs as the fall season approaches, offering with it change anew.

In sorghum country, harvest is passing quickly, and the season provides us a time to reflect on the 2022 growing season, its bounty-and its shortcomings. It has sadly been a challenging season for so many of our farmers, plagued by dry, unforgiving conditions, making this harvest difficultly bleak in many areas.

Ecclesiastes says for everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven, reminding us of God's sovereign hand, and as your National Sorghum Producers Chairman Craig Meeker recently said in his first interview as chairman, "the Lord has always provided before, and I expect that the Lord will always provide going forward." They say optimism is faith that leads to achievement, and I believe our organization is in very good hands.

This season of change is extending deep into our industry. Alongside Craig, in August the NSP board of directors also elected a new vice chair and new directors to the board, which you can learn more about starting on page 6. We also added a new staff member to Team Sorghum, and the National Sorghum Foundation has a new, but familiar, face as its new chairman, as well (page 24).

And for one of the bright spots this fall, we are preparing for one of the largest undertakings our organization has ever had. If you haven't heard the BIG, exciting news, NSP was a recipient of one of USDA's Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities grants to the tune of up to \$65 million. We're in final negotiations with USDA now and expect a rollout of the program hopefully for the 2023 growing season, so stay tuned and learn more on page 18. By the time this issue reaches your mailbox, the 2022 midterm elections will have passed. NSP is ready to go to work and understands the profound importance of doing one of the things we do best-developing and fostering relationships with legislators who impact you, your families, your farms and our industry.



Editor's Desk

Turning a New Leaf

he leaves are changing and there is a crispness to the air. This is by far





I wish each of you a safe fall and harvest season!

lemiter aboren

/Jennifer (Blackburn) Warren Sorghum Grower Editor and Vice President of Communications



By Jennifer (Blackburn) Warren

The National Sorghum Producers board of directors elected officers and new directors at its annual board and budget meeting in August. Craig Meeker of Wellington, Kansas, was selected as chairman of the organization, replacing Kody Carson from Olton, Texas. Amy France of Marienthal, Kansas, was elected vice chair.

"I am incredibly humbled I have the opportunity to serve as chairman of the National Sorghum Producers," Meeker said. "As I look forward to the things we have coming in the near future, I think we have a great opportunity to lay a firm foundation through the farm bill process to ensure sorghum farmers have a sustainable industry moving forward. With the Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities grant NSP recently received, it gives me great excitement to think about how we can leverage this initial investment to move the sorghum industry forward. I know with dry weather, it's easy to get down; however,

I am an optimist, and I think most farmers see the great potential sorghum has. I look forward to guiding the association in a great future."

Meeker was first elected to the NSP board in 2018 and has served as vice chairman since 2020. He is a sixth generation farmer with his father, wife and three children in south central Kansas, growing grain sorghum, wheat, cotton, corn, soybeans and a small cow-calf herd. Meeker is a graduate of Leadership Sorghum



SORGHUM Grower Fall 2022

▲ NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS Board of Directors welcomed new leadership to the organization with the election of Craig Meeker (left) of Wellington, Kansas, as Chairman and Amy France (top) of Marienthal, Kansas, as Vice Chair during the annual board and budget meeting in August. Kody Carson (bottom) continues to serve on the board as Past Chairman. New officers took their positions beginning Oct. 1.

Class III and led the NSP Legislative Committee the past two years.

France and her husband Clint are third-generation farmers, working alongside their oldest son on their family farm in western Kansas. They grow grain sorghum, corn, wheat and raise black angus cattle. She has served on the board since 2018.

"I am excited to welcome Craig and Amy to new leadership roles," NSP CEO Tim Lust said. "Their drive and passion for the industry will be crucial as our industry moves through a challenging but exciting year."

The NSP board of directors elected two new members—Garrett Love from Montezuma, Kansas, and Kent Martin from Alva, Oklahoma. Larry Richardson from Vega, Texas, was also re-elected. Love and Richardson will serve a three-year term beginning Oct. 1, and Martin will take his seat on the NSP board in December once his term is complete on the United Sorghum Checkoff Program board of directors.

Love farms in southwest Kansas and has spoken to the potential of sorghum as a sustainable solution for not only his family farm, but farms across the country. He has also served in several capacities within the government, including as a State Senator from 2010 to 2017 where he served as Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee from 2012 to 2016. He was the youngest State Senator in Kansas history. He was also appointed by U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue to serve on the Farm Service Agency State Committee in Kansas from 2018 to 2021, serving as chair from 2018 to 2020.



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JPL

Martin is a diversified farmer, as well as an agronomic and environmental consultant, in northwest Oklahoma, and he worked as a university professor in crop and soil sciences. Martin has served on many state and national organizations, including as chairman for the Oklahoma Sorghum Association and past chairman of the Sorghum Checkoff.

"We are excited to welcome Kent and Garrett, and for the return of Larry, to the NSP board of directors," Lust said. "I have had the pleasure of working with all three individuals in various capacities during my tenure as CEO of NSP and the Sorghum Checkoff. Larry is a leader in the sorghum seed industry, and the knowledge and experience Kent and Garrett bring as farmers, plus their respective backgrounds in research and government affairs, will prove as great assets to the NSP board." The NSP board recognized two leaders who ended their

terms as directors on Sept. 30. Dan Atkisson of Stockton, Kansas, served on the board since 2014 and was elected as chairman from 2018 to 2020. Atkisson helped lead the organization during the China trade crisis and during the passage and implementation of the 2018 Farm Bill.

Bobby Nedbalek of Sinton, Texas, served on the board since 2016, serving as a key representative with South Texas lawmakers and Texas port locations where NSP secured important trade and infrastructure wins during his tenure.

"We are sincerely grateful for the leadership and move on to the next chapter." perspective Dan and Bobby have provided through their New directors and officers took their respective service to the sorghum industry," outgoing NSP Chairpositions on the NSP board Oct. 1. Visit SorghumGrowers. man Kody Carson said. "These men have dedicated a sig*com/leadership* to learn more.



SORGHUM Grower Fall 2022



OUTGOING DIRECTORS, Bobby Nedbalek (above left) and Dan Atkisson (bottom, second from right) were recognized at the August annual board of directors meeting for their contributions and service to the sorghum industry.

nificant portion of their time to the improvement of the sorghum industry, advocating on behalf of U.S. sorghum farmers across the nation. I deeply respect their contributions to our industry, and I wish my friends well as they

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RETURN





Sorghum Research Surges

orghum is an ancient grain that human and animal species have consumed for centuries, and today is one of the leading crops grown in the United States. With sorghum receiving renewed recognition as an environmental and water-efficient crop with many health and climate benefits, this grain is experiencing a surge in investments from the research field. Accounting for more than \$25M in ongoing and future projects, researchers will be evaluating multiple facets of sorghum and will work to enhance its production and high-value usages.

Donald Danforth Plant Science Center takes on \$2.7M Gene Function Project

Through a multi-institutional partnership, the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center supports a three-year \$2.7M gene function project to enhance sorghum as a bioenergy crop. Grain sorghum is inherently resilient, making it a desirable cropping option in water-deficient and hot environments. Enhancing sorghum's natural resiliency could be vital in mitigating the effects of climate change and varying growing conditions.

Principal investigator Andrea Eveland, Ph.D., will work with collaborating investigators to analyze the sorghum's genetic diversity to examine how responses at the molecular level can cause morphological changes in response to drought stress.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Studies Sorghum's Genetic Makeup to Improve Nitrogen Efficiency

In another \$2.7M project, Jinliang Yang, Ph.D., at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is collaborating with Kansas State University and the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology to improve grain sorghum's nitrogen use efficiency. Previous studies have shown that several sorghum genes appear to have a role in managing nitrogen. This research project will also focus on other aspects of sorghum's fertilizer use, including nitrogen sensing,

signaling and downstream regulatory pathways. Yang is able to lead this project through grant funding from the U.S. Department of Energy. Yang says the project's overall goal is to increase sorghum nitrogen use efficiency and that the most promising varieties will be used across Nebraska through field testing.

Nebraska Food for Health Center Studying Sorghum Genes Related to Human Gut Health

The human body houses many microorganisms that benefit overall health and is directly influenced by our lifestyle and diet. Different foods provide unique nutrients and intestinal benefits to enhance microbe activity within the human gut-particularly whole grains. Scientists at the Nebraska Food for Health Center are evaluating how different crops and grains play a vital role in retaining gut health, studying sorghum consumption.

After sampling 300 kinds of sorghum and their effects on gut microbiomes, Dr. James Schnable with the Nebraska Food for Health Center found that grain consumption caused major changes in the human gut microbiome. Results showed that sorghum seed color played a role in microbiome activity, as dark-colored seeds stimulated growth of a set of microbes while light-colored seeds failed to stimulate growth. The study findings showed that the two parts of the genome contained Tan1

and Tan2 genes, which control the production of con-**Carbon Sequestration Project** densed tannins in food products like red wine and dark chocolate. These organisms could be beneficial for human The Ohio State University is leading a \$15M project with funding split between a \$5 million grant from Washington, health, particularly for those suffering from Inflammatory Bowel Disease and other gastrointestinal issues. D.C.-based Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research and roughly \$10 million in matching contributions from Ohio State and various other donors, including the United Sorghum Checkoff Program and National Sorghum Producers. This study will work to take carbon emitting into our Through a \$1.6M grant from United Sorghum Checkoff airways and capture it into the soil to enhance health and Program (USCP), researchers from Texas Tech University agronomic productivity. Carbon sequestration is often seen will work to study the climatic yield potential and grain qualas a solution to climate change. This study will evaluate how organic and inorganic carbon gets sequestered in the soil Davis College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, under different farming practices in the western hemisphere.

Texas Tech University \$1.6M Research to Focus on Sorghum Climatic Yield Potential and Grain Quality

ity in sorghum. Co-investigators at Texas Tech University Krishna Jagadish, Ph.D., and Dr. Haydee Laza, Ph.D., will collaborate with Texas A&M University, Kansas State University, the U.S Department of Agriculture and industry partners in this 5-year project with the intent to enhance programs through a multi-disciplinary approach.

The Department of Energy has awarded another \$1.85M grant as part of their initiative to advance biograin sorghum productivity and yields. Jagadish believes this research can help bolster other U.S.-based public sorghum energy technology to the University of Illinois to lead a research project focused on photosynthesis efficiency "For the first time in modern history, we have an opporin grain sorghum. Sorghum has become an increasingly tunity to reimagine the architecture of the plant and how important bioenergy crop, and Steve Long, Director of the University of Illinois Realizing Increased Photosynit operates," USCP CEO Tim Lust said in a release. "From drought tolerance to photosynthetic efficiency, this stellar thetic Efficiency (RIPE), says bioenergy sorghums are team of physiology experts will leave no stone unturned in very prolific and could be even more productive if we can pursuit of a more productive, efficient sorghum plant for identify ways to lessen its inability to adapt to shading. our farmers." Read more about the project on page 1 of the Aiming to evaluate the causes of sorghum's photosyn-Sorghum Checkoff Newsletter. thetic inefficiencies in shaded canopies, Long's research

Texas A&M Agrilife Carbon Replenishment in Soil

Carbon emissions contribute to climate change and Research (FFAR) Grant significantly influence the environment and our pro-Sorghum is a nutrient-dense grain consumed by duction practices. Finding unique ways to mitigate the humans, livestock and household pets. Particularly in consequences of climate change is at the forefront of scientific research. Recently, Texas A&M AgriLife embarked canines, research has shown that sorghum mill feed on a bioenergy study to evaluate if sorghum's roots can introduced into their diet resulted in lower digestibilreplenish carbon in the soil. GCB recently published ity, which could prove helpful in managing weight in overweight dogs at risk of developing diabetes. With the findings of this study, and their results show bioenergy sorghum hybrids capture and sequester significant an investment of over \$2.5M from Seeding Solutions, amounts of atmospheric carbon dioxide in soil. Carolina Seed Systems, Inc. and Clemson Univer-Principal investigator John Mullet, professor and sity, researchers at Clemson will study sorghum plant properties that enhance these beneficial compounds in animal feed usage.

Perry L. Adkisson Chair in Agricultural Biology in the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, and Bill commercial sorghum while simultaneously retaining its Rooney, professor and Borlaug-Monsanto Chair for Plant Breeding and International Crop Improvement have Under the direction of plant breeder Richard Boyles, Ph.D., the team of researchers at Clemson will assess collaborated for 15 years developing bioenergy sorghum. In their most recent study, Mullet and Rooney found that the health properties in sorghum beneficial for human consumption that do not cause negative outcomes for an acre planted with a bioenergy sorghum hybrid accumulates about 3.1 tons of dry root biomass over the crop's animals. The final step in the project is to provide val-155-day growing season. Essentially, this research shows ue-added, non-GMO sorghum varieties that enhance sorghum can improve soil fertility and potentially earn poultry development and their capability to reduce harmcarbon credits that offset greenhouse gas emissions. ful diseases within the poultry's intestinal health.

\$15 million Ohio State University

University of Illinois Research on Grain Sorghum Photosynthesis Efficiency

hopes to improve productivity and increase the yield of bioenergy sorghum.

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Sorgonomics

Are Carbon Contracts For You? Q&A with Tiffany Dowell Lashmet, J.D.

What are the main provisions of carbon contracts?

All of the contracts I've seen really vary in their requirements. It is so important for people to carefully read, analyze and understand every term in these contracts before signing. Generally speaking, the contract provides that payment will be made to a farmer for undertaking certain production practices that should increase the amount of carbon stored in the soil. Typically, the types of practices we see include cover crops, no-till or reduced till farming, buffer strips, and regenerative grazing.

What are some things to look out for, and what are automatic red flags?

One of the first questions to ask is whether the company offering the contract is willing to negotiate the terms. Some companies are, but some are not. That will allow a producer to know whether it is worth his or her time marking up a contract with edits. Some of the big issues that producers need to be aware of include: (1) understanding the amount of carbon that is likely able to be stored in your area and your soil type; (2) understand the payment structure of the contract—is it a payment for implementing the practice or is payment based on the actual measurement of soil carbon; (3) watch for any penalties of early termination of the contract; (4) look at the scope of the "stacking provision" which will prevent the same land from being entered into another carbon contract, but could be written broadly enough to also prevent enrolling in government programs as well.

Who are the main players looking to buy carbon?

The current market set up is interesting. There are many companies that have made certain pledges or promises to reduce their carbon footprint. Many of those companies seek to do so by buying carbon credits to offset their own carbon emissions. Some companies may be contracting directly with the farmer to purchase those carbon credits, but more common is for the farmer to deal with an aggregator. The aggregator essentially acts as a middle man who contracts to purchase carbon credits from the farmer and then, in turn, sells those credits to the company seeking to purchase the offset. So, a farmer could really be dealing directly with the company who will claim the offset or with an aggregator who will sell the credit.

What are the contracts actually requiring of producers?

Again, every contract is so different that it is hard to offer a general description. From a production standpoint, most contracts are requiring one or more of the following practices: cover crops, no-till or reduced till farming, buffer strips and regenerative grazing.

Are there any contracts for something other than carbon floating around right now?

Some contracts mention measuring greenhouse gasses, which would appear to indicate that they could potentially be paying for storing more than just carbon, but I have personally not seen contracts specifically for other greenhouse gasses.

What should producers do to evaluate a potential contract?

I really recommend hiring an attorney to help negotiate and draft these carbon contracts. This is a new area and spending the money to ensure there is a solid contract in place is a smart initial step. I've got a couple of resources I think could be useful for folks trying to get some background or who might want a checklist of things to consider when reviewing a contract. I've got a blog post with a checklist here: *agrilife.org/ texasaglaw/2022/01/24/understanding-evaluating-carbon-contracts*

I've got a podcast episode here: *aglaw.libsyn.com/epi-sode-117-anson-howard-todd-janzen-carbon-contracts*

What are some of the more interesting (good or bad) provisions you've seen in these contracts?

One of the most interesting terms (in a nerdy lawyer context) is a class action waiver whereby the farmer agrees not to participate in any class action lawsuit against the company related to the carbon contract. I think this is likely a result of the number of recent ag-related class actions and it is really interesting to me. On a more practical level, I think that the different payment terms can be interesting. Some pay for just adopting the practice while others will actually measure and pay on additional carbon stored. Some have a vesting provision where you are not entitled to the full payment for a number of years. On that note, one of the things I think is most misunderstood by producers is the way the payment is quoted. Most contracts that involve measurements will quote the price as \$xx/ton of carbon



- equivalent. But, people will always say \$xx/acre/year.
 However—for most producers, the two are not the same.
 Most producers cannot store a ton a year, therefore, the
 i price per ton and the price per acre per year are likely not
- *n* price per ton and the price per acre per year are likely not the same amount.
- **g** How long will a normal contract be? Again, differs by contract, but I think most are in the 10-year range. ≢

Tiffany Dowell Lashmet is an Associate Professor and Extension Specialist in Agricultural Law. She is located in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University. Tiffany grew up on a family farm and ranch in Northeastern New Mexico where her family raised sheep, cattle, alfalfa, wheat and milo. Tiffany has a B.S. in Agribusiness Farm and Ranch Management (summa cum laude) from Oklahoma State University and a Juris Doctor (summa cum laude) from the University of New Mexico School of Law. Prior to going to Texas A&M, she was engaged in private practice, working at a complex litigation firm in Albuquerque, New Mexico.





NSPToLead\$65MillionUSDAPartnershipsFor **Climate-Smart Commodities Funded Project**

By Jennifer (Blackburn) Warren | Photo By Tom Culley

uantifying the climate impact of incorporating sorghum and other tools into rotations is the focus of a five-year, up to \$65 million project by National Sorghum Producers. The project will highlight the climate-smart attributes of sorghum, reduce overall carbon emissions and translate that into value for developing sustainability markets for sorghum as a climate-smart commodity, serving as a trajectory for the sorghum industry's continuous environmental improvement throughout this decade and the next.

Funding for the project was provided by a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture through its new Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities. USDA announced award recipients Sept. 14 for pilot projects totaling \$2.8 billion to create market opportunities for commodities produced using climate-smart practices.

"This is a watershed day for the sorghum industry," NSP CEO Tim Lust said at the time of the announcement. sorghum along with a suite of additional practices, and "Sorghum is and always will be The Resource Conserving

Crop[™]. This award affirms that fact in historic fashion, and we appreciate USDA for the opportunity to realize sorghum's potential as a climate-smart commodity. For the first time, participating farmers will be fully recognized and compensated for the good work they do to improve the impact of agriculture on the environment. We couldn't be more excited to come alongside them in this important effort."

Project Goals

Rather than focusing on soil carbon sequestration alone, the NSP project will create a pathway for the impact of all practices to be quantified, tracked and verified with the intent to monetize these practices in ecosystems services markets of all kinds with an initial focus on low carbon fuel markets.

Payments will be made to producers to introduce a strong measurement and quantification program will



Galvanize Climate Solutions Technical advisory on climate market valuation

Texas Tech Universitu Quantification of the impact of irrigation on the climate



PLANT SCIENCE CENTER

Donald Danforth Plant Science Center Ouantification of impact of climate-smart practices on roots and soil carbon

Texas A&M University Leveraging DOE SMARTFARM site to perform remote sensing of





Kashi Nu Life Market,

ServiTech Soil sampling



Kansas Black **Farmers Association** Promotion of the program to underserved farmers

Valuation of climate-smart practices and validation of data collection framework in CPG markets

Danone and Kashi



Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Promotion of the program to underserved farmers

ProjectCollaborators



Kansas State University

The impact of nitrogen fertilizer rates, timing and delivery methods on carbon intensity



Arable

Remote sensing of emissions data on climatesmart participants' farms

SUSTAINABLE

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Sustainable

Environmental

Consultants

Data collection



Pheasants Forever and **Ouail Forever**

emissions data in sorghum

Technical service to farmers implementing climate-smart practices



National Cotton

Council Technical advisory on the development of a U.S. Sorghum Trust Protocol



Pinion Third-party verification



Conestoga, Western Plains, White Energy, Pratt Energy and Kansas Ethanol Validation of data collection framework in low carbon fuel markets

accompany these payments in order to highlight the climate impacts of associated practices.

The program will center specifically on enabling farmers to take advantage of added value under the California Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) as this market requires the most rigid quantification, monitoring, reporting and verification systems and already consumes up to one-third of the U.S. sorghum crop annually.

"The most important aspect of any program to incentivize climate-smart agricultural practices is robust demand from ecosystem services markets," NSP sustainability strategy consultant John Duff said. "The LCFS is the most reliable and longest-standing such market, and building our program around its rigorous data requirements will enable a five-year beta test of our industry's readiness for meeting the needs of ecosystem services markets for the coming decades."

Target Geography

The target geography of the project includes portions of six states and covers an average of 67 percent of the sorghum industry, or 4.4 million acres annually. The area includes more than 20,000 sorghum farmers and a region vitally important to U.S. agriculture.

Irrigated agriculture in this area, which is highly threatened, is particularly important. Sorghum has a key role to play in prolonging irrigated agriculture in the region. Furthermore, the U.S. High Plains is the world's leading region for nitrogen use efficiency and mitigation of nitrate leaching, volatilization and runoff. Sorghum is a primary tool in these mitigation efforts, and incorporating the crop into rotations in this region can improve the carbon footprint of U.S. agriculture overall.

"NSP's project is building on significant work to enhance climate-smart agricultural production in sorghum-based crop rotation systems at-scale," NSP Sustainability Director Adam York said. "The U.S. sorghum industry has piloted numerous initiatives in recent years with key conservation non-governmental organizations, such as Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever, to partner with our farmers and identify targeted solutions for working lands conservation. Through NSP's Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities project, our efforts will reach new levels of collaboration to deliver on-farm resiliency and profitability throughout this sensitive and important region."

Timely consultation and technical delivery to farms is vital to the success of this project. As farmers choose to implement novel approaches to benefit their landscapes, such as improved biodiversity practices, local conservationists and biologists in our partnership network steeped in wildlife habitat conservation will be integral to helping farmers deliver more sorghum products with positive biodiversity impacts.

"The Habitat Organization is excited and proud to

partner in the effort to expand climate-smart sustainability practices while benefiting farm profitability and conservation," noted Brent Rudolph, Director of Sustainability Partnerships for Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever. "Working side-by-side with sorghum producers is a wonderful fit for this important USDA program."

Partner Outreach

The project will also include a robust diversity and community outreach program that will focus on in-reach and outreach to underserved communities in the project target area with a primary focus of creating opportunities for underserved farmers to participate in climate-smart sorghum production and realize the benefits of ecosystems services markets.

"Kansas Black Farmers Association (KBFA) is working with NSP to create climate-smart agriculture best practices that will help the BIPOC farmers in our membership increase sustainable productivity, strengthen farmers' resilience, reduce agriculture's greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration," KBFA Executive Director and President JohnElla Holmes, Ph.D., said. "In Kansas, sorghum is an important crop for our farmers and researching ways to increase this crop's production will be life changing. In addition, it strengthens our farmer's ability to sustain, increase and maintain their farms and delivers environmental benefits. We are excited to work with NSP on this grant."

In addition to National Sorghum Producers, project partners and supporters include Kansas Black Farmers Association, Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, Sustainable Environmental Consultants, United Sorghum Checkoff Program, Arable, Galvanize Climate Solutions, Kansas State University, Texas Tech University, Conestoga Energy Partners, Kansas Ethanol, Pratt Energy, Western Plains Energy, White Energy, American Coalition for Ethanol, Peoria Tribe Of Indians of Oklahoma, Women Managing the Farm, Kansas Agri-Women, Nu Life Market, Pinion, Kansas Department of Agriculture, New Mexico Department of Agriculture, Kansas Water Office, Archer-Daniels-Midland Company, Kashi, RIPE, Trust in Food[™], Colorado State University, Prairie View A&M University, Texas A&M University, Oklahoma State University, Argonne National Lab, National Cotton Council, Field to Market, Danone, Colorado Sorghum Association, Kansas Grain Sorghum Association, New Mexico Sorghum Association, Oklahoma Sorghum Association, Texas Grain Sorghum Association, Bayer Crop Science, CoBank, High Plains Farm Credit, ServiTech and No Chaff Group.

The project contract with USDA is expected to be completed in the spring with a program rollout to qualified producers hopefully for the 2023 growing season. Learn more at SorghumGrowers.com/climatesmart.

Commodity Shortage The Fed's battle to temper inflation will go on, as will effort o rebuild ag and energy supplies Executive Summarv Despite ongoing impacts from Russia's invasion of Ukraine and lingering supply cha lemic the LLS eco year grows increasingly gloomy. In contrast, the energy and agri-food sectors have ga

GRAINS

THE QUARTERLY

Inflation Abundance,

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oroduction and transportation issues are still most severe in the Black Sea, but drought in Europe, Asia, and the Americas is making grain supply and logistics a orries about availability of farm inputs. And global natural gas demand is r o outstrip supply for years as the world gears up to replace I

anxiously await the results as a third La Niña weather year portends more drou up for grabs. It will not be a quiet end to the year.

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act, that consumers' seemingly unbreakable willingness to spend is vexing the

er as supply shortages now appear to be medium-term challenges. Agricultur

Finally, enormous implications rest in the balance amid te



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JOIN TEAM SORGHUM

Dear Readers,

We are a resilient type of people here in rural America, familiar with the upsides and downsides of the way we live, yet we have a passion for what we do and know what hard work looks like and what it takes to make a difference for ourselves, our families and our communities.

Today, we are facing serious challenges and threats, and that makes your support of National Sorghum Producers critical. What's at stake? The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is moving the goalpost, determined to overturn its own decision on atrazine. Sorghum and corn farmers and other stakeholders stepped up in a big way, submitting over 16,000 comments letting EPA know how important this tool is on

our farms, but the fight is not over yet. Special interest groups continue to clog the courts, threatening not only products like atrazine, but many other seed and chemical technologies you need to farm. Farm bill policy talks will accelerate in 2023, and as the farmer's slice of the pie has gotten smaller over time, we'll be working hard to hold the thin green line and ensure you have adequate support and protection. And, that's just the beginning.

Together, we have the opportunity to make an impact, and there are still boundless opportunities, but we need your membership more than ever. Our organization was founded by farmers, and we will continue to serve as your voice, advocating on your behalf day-in and day-out. I can assure you NSP is devoted to your success, and I am excited to lead an organization with an unmatched passion for the work we do on behalf of every U.S. sorghum farmer.

We extend our sincere thanks to the members above and all of our supporting members. If you are not a member, consider joining our organization. I hope we can count on you to help us continue championing your cause and providing value to you by choosing a member selection on the next page or online.







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DATE OF BIRTH:		
OCCUPATION:		
FARM/EMPLOYER: _		
ADDRESS:		

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NSP Update

Team Sorghum Welcomes New Members

By Jennifer (Blackburn) Warren



National Sorghum Foundation Appoints Jeff Dahlberg as Chairman

The National Sorghum Foundation recently announced a leadership transition as Jeff Dahlberg, Ph.D., begins his role as chairman of the foundation, replacing Larry Lambright.

"We are thrilled to welcome Jeff back to Team Sorghum," NSP CEO Tim Lust said. "He has dedicated

his life to the research and development in the sorghum industry, and I can think of no better person to lead the National Sorghum Foundation as it continues its support of industry research and education and investment into future sorghum leaders."

Dahlberg has a long history in the sorghum industry, which began while he was a volunteer agricultural extension agent with the United States Peace Corps in Niger from 1980 to 1984. While in Niger, Dahlberg became intrigued by a very drought-tolerant crop grown by subsistence farmers—sorghum.

Dahlberg has worked as the research geneticist and sorghum curator at the USDA Agricultural Research Service Tropical Crops and Germplasm Research Center in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. For more than 20 years he worked as the research director for National Sorghum Producers and the United Sorghum Checkoff Program, and during this time, he served for two years as the president of the Whole Grains Council. Dahlberg recently retired as director of the University of California Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Parlier.

"I look forward to continuing the work that Bruce Maunder and Larry Lambright started with the Foundation," NSF Chairman Dahlberg said. "The Foundation gives us the ability to support research, but more importantly to help identify the next generation of sorghum research and policy leaders through our support of scholarships. Identifying and helping students as they work toward degrees that support sorghum farmers and research is critical to the success of sorghum as it takes its SorghumGrowers.com/staff.

place as an important cereal crop that can thrive under ever changing climate challenges."

Dahlberg will succeed Lambright, who served as chairman for the past three years. Lambright drew on a strong education in crop science and more than 50 years of experience as a sorghum breeder to lead the foundation.

"We are incredibly grateful for Larry's service to the National Sorghum Foundation," Lust said. "He has volunteered countless hours for the betterment of the sorghum industry and has continually invested into the future of young adults who have a passion for the crop. We wish him all the best."

For more information about the National Sorghum Foundation, visit SorghumGrowers.com/foundationscholarships.

NSP Hires Julie Barclau as Director of **Operations**

National Sorghum Producers recently added Julie Barclay to its team as the Director of Operations.

In her new role, Barclay will provide support to all bodies of the organization and manage day-to-day operations. She will work directly with the NSP board of directors and member



entities on behalf of the CEO and lead planning efforts relating to NSP's largest annual event Commodity Classic.

"Julie is a welcome addition to Team Sorghum," NSP CEO Tim Lust said. "She brings with her more than a decade of experience in operations and managing through organization growth, both of which will be great assets to our team."

Prior to joining NSP, Barclay earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Western Michigan University and has worked in healthcare administration at Covenant Health for the past 10.5 years.

For more information about Team Sorghum, visit





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What Your Checkoff Dollars Are **Funding: Texas Tech Taking Lead in \$1.6M Sorghum Project**

rexas Tech University is taking the lead in one of the largest projects ever funded by the United Sorghum Checkoff Program (USCP).

Krishna Jagadish, a professor and the Thornton Distinguished Chair in the Department of Plant and Soil Science, received \$1.6 million in funding in partnership with Kansas State University, Texas A&M University, the U.S Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service locations in Lubbock and Manhattan, Kansas, and industry partners. Haydee Laza, an assistant professor of plant physiology in the Davis College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, is also a co-investigator on the project.

Titled "Transforming grain sorghum's climatic yield potential and grain quality through traitbased ideotype breeding," the project is designed to maximize the sorghum crop by determining effective trait combinations for different environments.

"The project brings together major public sorghum improvement programs in the U.S.," Jagadish said. "The trans-disciplinary team aims to achieve the project goals by integrating agronomy, crop physiology, breeding, machine learning and crop and climate modeling."

Over the course of the project researchers, led by Jagadish, hope to develop trait-based ideotype sorghum hybrids specifically targeted to thrive in water-deficient areas and in areas considered favorable for growing sorghum.

"For the first time in modern history, we have an opportunity to reimagine the architecture of the plant and how it operates," USCP CEO Tim Lust said. "From drought tolerance to photosynthetic efficiency, this stellar team of physiology experts will leave no stone unturned in pursuit of a more productive, efficient sorghum plant for our farmers."

The project is scheduled to last five years and incorporate a number of students seeking both master's and doctoral degrees, giving it the added benefit of helping train the next generation of leaders in the sorghum industry.

"This project is timely and will be a difference-maker as we strive to improve crop resilience and feed the world," said Plant and Soil Science Department Chair Glen Ritchie. "The collaborators on this project are top experts in sorghum physiology and stress tolerance and they will make a global impact with their success."

WHAT'S INSIDE

What Your Checkoff Dollars Are Funding: Texas Tech Taking Lead in \$1.6M Sorghum Project

> Strengthening **Relationships with Global Trade Teams**

Sorghum Checkoff Names Leadership Sorghum **Class VI Members**



Strengthening Relationships with Global Trade Teams

ach summer, the Sorghum Checkoff partners with the U.S. Grains Council (USGC) to facilitate trade team visits that include international sorghum buyers and end-users from across the globe who tour sorghum states and various parts of the industry. U.S. sorghum industry experts and representatives also visit countries interested in sorghum use to strengthen existing trade relationships and foster new opportunities with potential buyers, creating enhanced interest and market demand for U.S. sorghum.

Vietnam

USGC recently hosted representatives from the Sorghum Checkoff and Texas Sorghum in Vietnam. This region has the largest animal feed market in Southeast Asia with a demand of over 30.1 MMT for grain in 2021. There is tremendous growth in the commercial feed market with numbers expected to eclipse 35 MMT. The Sorghum Checkoff hosted a grain traders dinner in Ho Chi Minh City where 75

grain traders and industry professionals attended the event. In addition to the regular meal, the USGC team collaborated with a local chef to serve sorghum Bahn My (a traditional French-Vietnamese sandwich) using sorghum flour. The trade mission marked the first official visit by the U.S. sorghum industry to Vietnam since U.S. sorghum gained market access in 2020.

The pathway for U.S. sorghum market access to Vietnam was finalized in May 2020, following the completion of a pest risk assessment and nearly three years of close collaboration between USGC, the U.S. sorghum industry, Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). A group of representatives

from the Xiamen Mingsui Grains and Oils Trading Co. spent time in Kansas and Texas in October, learning more about U.S. sorghum and its benefits. While in



The U.S. Grains Council and U.S. sorghum team members discussed the benefits of sorghum with a delegation from Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, led by Vice Minister Le Quoc Doanh.

Kansas, two group members (pictured left) had the opportunity to speak with Kansas sorghum producer Kevin Kniebel about the crop quality while on his farm and then gained insight into the U.S. export system and quality grading during the group's visit to parts of Texas.

China

USGC's China office took part in the third China International Companion Animal Food Ingredient Conference (CAFIC III) from August 15-17. USGC hopes that by participating in the event it will be able to extend the U.S. sorghum market from feed and baijiu into pet food, and the barley market from malt into the pet food industry.

At the conference, Florentino Lopez, agricultural consultant with Creando Mañana, LLC, offered a global outlook on sorghum production, supply and demand, followed by Brian Younker, a new board member on the Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission, who shared insight on planting progress in Kansas

Dr. Greg Aldrich (pictured on screen), associate professor at Kansas State University, recently spoke on behalf of the U.S. Grains Council (USGC) at the third China International Companion Animal Food Ingredient Conference.

and sorghum production and marketing. Additionally, Sorghum Checkoff's Lanier Dabruzzi MS, RD, LD, addressed the nutritional value of sorghum for human consumption and how the United States has embraced this as a new consumption trend.

"The United Sorghum Checkoff Program, Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission and Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Board have been essential partners in facilitating successful virtual programs over the past few years," USGC director of global programs Emily Byron said. "This partnership ensures our global customers have continuous access to information about U.S. sorghum quality, pricing and availability."

Export Exchange

USGC and their partners hosted the biennial Export Exchange in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Oct. 12-14 where buyers from around the world came together to learn about U.S. grain production, including sorghum. The 2022 event featured more than

500 international customers from 50 countries and nearly 300 domestic suppliers of U.S. coarse grains and co-products, including distiller's dried grains with solubles (DDGS). Domestic suppliers were in attendance to answer questions and facilitate trade. Sorghum Checkoff Executive Director Norma Ritz Johnson spoke about the advantages of sorghum and looked ahead to opportunities next year.

Export Exchange allows the Sorghum Checkoff to reach prospective buyers from around the globe. Additionally, the Sorghum Checkoff, along with state sorghum organizations, hosted buying teams from Turkey, Spain, Kenya and Mexico.

Mexico

Following Export Exchange, a team of DDGS and sorghum importers from Mexico traveled to Texas with the opportunity to converse with producers while touring sorghum farms. During this post-tour, participants saw firsthand U.S. sorghum production areas, visited ethanol plants, learned about DDGS production and made connections with grain cooperatives and elevators.

Members of this team represented sorghum end-users in Mexico from the National Association of Food Manufacturers for Animal Consumption (ANFACA) and companies in central and northern Mexico, including the state of Jalisco, the number one livestock producing state in the country, which accounts for 17 percent of the feed production in Mexico or 5.76 MMT. Mexico is the fourth largest producer of livestock feed worldwide, accounting for 33.87 MMT of feed. Of this total, Jalisco, Sonora and Michoacán contribute to a combined 31 percent of overall production in Mexico. U.S. sorghum exports to Mexico more than guadrupled from last year, totaling 361,000 MT. Overall, the U.S. market share in Mexico has remained high, as geographic advantages continue to make the United States the best supplier for most major agricultural goods.

Mink Joins Sorghum Checkoff as Compliance Director

🕇 he Sorghum Checkoff recently named Garrett Mink as the organization's Compliance



Director. In this role, Mink is responsible for all aspects of compliance for the United Sorghum

Checkoff Program including onsite collections and compliance activities and first-handler communications and feedback efforts.

The Sorghum Checkoff is excited to welcome Mink to the role and believes she will be a valuable resource, filling a much needed role for the Sorghum Checkoff to ensure effective compliance of agreements and assessments. Mink transitions

to the Sorghum Checkoff from her position as the Director of **Operations at National Sor**ghum Producers.

"This is an exciting time to join the team at the Sorghum Checkoff," Mink said. "I hope my efforts will continue to maintain an excellent program that is in good standing with the Agricultural Marketing Service and meeting the needs of sorghum farmers."

Sorghum Checkoff Names Leadership **Sorghum Class VI Members**

fter an extensive search, the HUnited Sorghum Checkoff Program has selected 15 members to participate in Leadership Sorghum Class VI, a program designed to develop the next generation of sorghum leaders and industry advocates.

"The Sorghum Checkoff uses this program to prepare sorghum advocates and leaders at the local, state and federal level." Leadership Sorghum Program Director Shelee Padgett said. "Leadership development is critical to the sorghum industry's advancement, and we are so excited to equip Class VI with skills to advocate for their operations and the sorghum industry as a whole."

During the 14-month leadership program, class members will have the opportunity to experience various aspects of the sorghum industry in addition to personal development and networking opportunities. Through both hands-on and classroom-style learning experiences, class members develop an understanding of how sorghum moves through the value chain, how

checkoffs and stakeholder organizations interact on behalf of the industry and what the future holds for sorghum.

"Leadership Sorghum has exposed me to every aspect of the Sorghum industry. I enjoyed meeting other producers who are passionate about sorghum," Class V graduate Brian Younker said. "We were able to bounce ideas off one another to help all of us grow and market the crop more successfully. During our time together, we were able to network with sorghum industry professionals and learn everything from planting the seed to exporting the crop globally. After completing Leadership Sorghum, I plan to continue to be involved with all things sorghum. Sorghum has and always will be a profitable crop for our farm." Participants of the Leadership Sorghum program will begin their experience with their first session in December at the USCP Annual Board Meeting. For more information about the Leadership Sorghum program, visit LeadSorghum.com.

SORGHUM INDUSTRY EVENTS

Nov 24-25	Thanksgiving Office Closed	
Dec 14-15	Sorghum Checkoff Annua Lubbock, TX	
Dec 23-26	Christmas Office Closed	

For more events, visit sorghumcheckoff.com/calendar



The Sorghum Checkoff commits to reveal the potential and versatility of sorghum through increased shared value.

Leadership Sorghum Class VI will consist of 15 farmers from 8 states. Those selected include:

Jimmy Diamond Akron, Colorado Ieremiah Nicholson Dodge City, Kansas **Clint France** Scott City, Kansas **Brad Haynes** Hays, Kansas Henry Martin III Texico, New Mexico Lee Dunn IV Edenton, North Carolina **Brad Brainard** Enid, Oklahoma **Ashley Tucker** Enid, Oklahoma **David Hunsberger** Mifflintown, Pennsylvania **Hunter Bevill** Claude, Texas **Nicole Johnson** Canyon, Texas **David Barrett** Sinton, Texas **Trey Beyer III** Portland, Texas Jessica Robertson Robstown, Texas Joel Huesby Touchet, Washington

al Board Meeting



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Sorghum Becoming a Staple in Grocery **Aisles Across the Country**

Bu Lanier Dabruzzi MS. RD. LD. Sorahum Checkoff Director of Food Innovations & Institutional Markets

norghum's use in food products is seeing growth like never before. Beyond the robust nutrition package it provides, sorghum checks many of the boxes of what consumers are looking for in their food.

Sorghum is a natural source of antioxidants, which may help to lower your risk of cancer, diabetes, heart disease and some neurological diseases. Additionally, antioxidants naturally extend the shelf life of food products, which is why many manufacturers are turning to sorghum rather than artificial preservatives. With more than 10 grams of protein and 6 grams of fiber per half-cup serving, sorghum is an excellent source of fiber-rich, plant-based protein.

Sorghum is categorized as an ancient grain, which means that the grain has remained mostly unchanged since its cultivation. Consumers are drawn to the ancient grain category when it comes to everything from side dishes to breading on chicken nuggets.

As the United States becomes more and more of a melting pot for various cultures and cuisines, sorghum will play an even more prominent role in the food world. Sorghum is a staple in African, Indian, Japanese and Chinese cuisines, and as the palates of our country expand, having culturally-inclusive foods, like sorghum, as a widely available option will become more important.

While it is clear how much sorghum offers to the food landscape of this country, it is still a fairly unknown ingredient. However, there is good news. The Sorghum Checkoff commissioned consumer research in late 2021 and it showed that once consumers who had never tried sorghum were exposed to it, nearly 80 percent continued to seek it out and use it in their homes. This is a remarkable retention rate for an ingredient that relatively few consumers know about.

Hungry yet? During your next trip to the grocery store, keep your eyes peeled for these champions in the sorghum food category, and we'll keep giving you new product updates.

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Dave's Killer Bread®

Dave's Killer Bread® 21 Whole Grains and Seeds sandwich bread is packed with nutrition and taste, and features sorghum as part of their 21 whole grains. Due to the carbohydrate and protein cross linkages in the sorghum grain, baked goods made with sorghum flour have the added benefit of staving moister longer than those made with wheat flour alone.



Trader Joe's™

in their product Trader Joe's[™] is a sought line up is Simple after grocery chain for health Truth Organic[™] conscious consumers, partic- Black Pepper ularly Millennials and Gen 100% Whole Grain Z due to its offerings for a Brown Rice with variety of dietary limitations, Ancient Grains, such as gluten-free, vegan featuring sorand organic. Among its ghum among the gluten-free offerings, Trader Ancient Grains. Joe's[™] uses sorghum in its This pre-cooked Gluten Free All Purpose pouch can be Flour, Gluten Free Butterheated in a micromilk Pancake & Waffle Mix, wave and ready and Gluten Free Pumpkin in 90 seconds, Bread & Muffin Baking Mix. as opposed to a 45-minute cook time for sorghum

Kroger[®]

Kroger[®] is the parent company for a variety of national and regional grocery chains including Harris Teeter[®], Food4Less[®], Ralphs[®], FredMeyer[®] and more. All of the stores offer Simple Truth[™] branded items, which include natural and organic foods free from artificial preservatives that are non-GMO. Included





on the stovetop. It is an exciting time for the industry as grocery aisles across the country feature more sorghum-based products. The Sorghum Checkoff is continually working with food companies to further innovation, with the goal to make sorghum a mainstream staple in products and homes.



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Sorghum Update

Brought to you by the Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission

Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission Prepares for Upcoming Fiscal Year

n Thursday, September 1, 2022, the Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission budget board meeting was called to order by Commission Chairman Kevin Kniebel at American AgCredit, in Great Bend, Kansas. Those in attendance included Max Tjaden, Zach Simon, Jesse McCurry, Maddy Meier, Kevin Harris, Kevin Kniebel, Jon Berning, Mike Rosebrook, Clark Bibb, Tim Lust, Sarah Sexton-Bowser, Brant Peterson, and Nathan Larson. Minutes from the previous board meeting on July 20, 2022, were approved and seconded by Larson and Harris, respectively.

Following introductions and staff reports, National Sorghum Producers CEO, Tim Lust, gave updates from the National Sorghum Producers and United Sorghum Checkoff Program boards. These included potential outlooks on the discussion on the EPA's regulation of atrazine, possible items on the upcoming Farm Bill, and C-SMART funding projects.

Marketing and Promotion

Representatives from Fort Hays State University were also in attendance to discuss future marketing endeavors with Kansas Grain Sorghum being a sponsor for athletic events. The commission hopes to use this partnership in order to strengthen relationships with sorghum growers in the western part of the state. Marketing development funding for the U.S. Grains Council, Renew Kansas, and Export Sorghum were discussed and approved. Proposed total funding for marketing was \$84,685 and \$42,000 for promotion.

Education

Kansas Grain Sorghum staff continue to support external committees such as Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC), Kansas Farm Food Connection (KFFC), Kansas Agricultural and Rural Leadership (KARL), and more. With an extended staff-directed budget, staff are eager to continue to develop future projects that will help bring the crop to the forefront. The commission budgeted \$52,200 for external education programs.

Research

Within the research sector, Sarah Sexton-Bowser, manag-

ing director of the Center for Sorghum Improvement, gave insight on research proposals. Attendees also discussed the research proposals of Tesso, Felderhoff, and Roozeboom. The commission discussed further on individual proposals, totaling eight projects that will help further the advancement of grain sorghum in terms of biotechnology, genomics, and food-grade sorghum, for a total of \$1,021,500.

The remaining \$169,999 of the proposed budget will go towards administrative fees, program development (including the internship program), and communications resources. The total proposed budget for the 2023 fiscal year is \$1,370,384.



After the completion of the overall budget discussion, Kevin Harris moved to approve the 2023 fiscal year budget. Brant Peterson seconded the motion, and was approved. Following the announcement of upcoming events, the meeting was adjourned.

The Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission staff would like to express their gratitude towards those who continue to invest in our organization. With your continued support, we are able to continue to properly serve the industry and sorghum growers through market development, promotion and research.

All funding is subject to USDA Approval

Join us in Orlando March 9-11, 2023 for America's largest farmer-led, farmer-focused educational and agricultural experience





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(())))Sorghum Shortcuts

Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Update

The Emergency Relief Program (ERP), announced on May 16, 2022, has provided over \$7 billion in disaster relief and include the following: to producers, over \$700 million of which has been paid to sorghum producers. Congress originally passed the ERP in September of 2021 with \$10 billion for producers recovering from natural disasters faced in 2020 and 2021. Of the \$10 billion, \$750 million was earmarked for livestock producers, and \$100 million was set aside for administrative costs. Phase 1 of ERP provided assistance to producers who received a crop insurance indemnity payment, using crop insurance data to automatically calculate payments. Applications were then mailed to producers to sign and return to their local FSA offices. Phase 2 of ERP, not yet announced but expected yet this fall (technically ends Dec. 21 this year), will fill any gaps from Phase 1, such as producers who had shallow losses and did not trigger a crop insurance indemnity, producers who did not have crop insurance, etc. Producers who receive an ERP payment are required to purchase crop insurance for the following 2 years at 60/100 or higher. The linkage requirement applies to crops that received an ERP payment and only in counties the payment was received.

Yield Contest Harvest Reports Due

The 2022 National Sorghum Yield Contest is coming to a close. Please return all forms, including harvest forms, no later than Nov. 25, 2022. Contest results will be announced in December, and state and national winners will be recognized at the annual Commodity Classic March 2023 in Orlando, Florida. To view official contest rules, visit sorghumgrowers.com/yieldcontest.

BASF Scholarship App Closes Dec. 1

The National Sorghum Foundation and BASF are accepting applications for a joint scholarship, and the deadline is just around the corner! A \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded in January 2023 for the 2022-2023 academic year. To apply, candidates must be a child or grandchild of a National Sorghum Producers member and be pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in an agricultural related curriculum. Undergraduate appli-

cants must be entering at least their second year of college during the 2022-2023 school year.

Applications must be postmarked by Dec. 1, 2022,

- Completed application
- Official transcript
- At least two letters of recommendation
- A headshot photo for media release

To inquire about your membership status, you can call the National Sorghum Producer office at 800-658-9808. For more information about the scholarship and application forms, visit SorghumGrowers.com/foundation-scholarships.

Save the Date: Sorghum in the 21st Century 2023 Conference

Following the immensely successful 2018 Sorghum in the 21st Century Global Sorghum Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, the international sorghum community is preparing to gather again June 5-9, 2023, in Montpellier, France, to share and learn about the latest developments in research, innovation and industry.

Organized by CIRAD in consortium with its global partners, the conference will encompass the entirety of the sorghum value chain - from genetics to agronomics to end uses - and will highlight many of the key challenges currently being faced by sorghum around the world. Topics and sessions will be targeted to both researchers and the private sector with many opportunities for crosssectoral networking.

Check out important dates and subscribe to receive further information about the conference at 21centurysorghum.org.

UN Declares 2023 International Year of Millets, Including Sorghum

The U.N. General Assembly recently adopted a resolution, sponsored by India and supported by more than 70 countries, declaring 2023 as the International Year of Millets, which includes sorghum. The resolution is intended to increase public awareness on the health benefits of millets and their suitability for cultivation under tough conditions marked by climate change. Learn more at *news.un.org/en/story/2021/05/1092492*.



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