

2017 NC Small Grains Measured Crop Performance

The 2017 NC OVT Wheat and Oat data is now available, and can be found on the new NC OVT website (www.ncovt.com) or by clicking the following link:

<https://officialvarietytesting.ces.ncsu.edu/small-grains-2017/>

For any questions please contact Ryan Heiniger, NCSU Official Variety Testing Program Director at 919.515.2827 or rwheinig@ncsu.edu

A BIG **Thank You** to everyone involved in putting this information together so quickly for our growers!!

Feed the Dialogue NC

On Tuesday, June 27th the NCSGGA attended the annual Feed the Dialogue NC Foundation Partners Meeting held at the NC Farm Bureau Headquarters in Raleigh. Feed The Dialogue NC is a public forum for food discussion with the purpose of reconnecting the foods we eat to the farmers that feed us. This unique forum provides articles, videos and perspectives from experts including farmers, food scientists, health care professionals and leaders in the consumer food service industry that can provide input to help others better understand issues such as: Animal Care, Antibiotics, Biotechnology/GMOs, Environment, Farmers & Farm Practices, Food Safety, and Health & Nutrition.

The meeting began with a discussion of recent attacks on Agriculture not only in NC but all across the country. Today, more than ever the agriculture industry is experiencing a negative backlash from consumers. Somewhere along the way consumers lost trust in how our food is produced and that has caused a major disconnect between farm to table, which is why it's so important to have platforms like Feed the Dialogue to help reconnect the consumer to our farmers.

The next item on the agenda was the introduction of Marlowe Vaughan who is the new Executive Director of Feed the Dialogue NC Foundation. Marlowe discussed some new and exciting outreach programs they are currently working on as well as future opportunities and upcoming events. Also presented at the meeting was an overview of all the current and new Social Media outlets for Feed the Dialogue and how effective that is for reaching consumers.

We encourage YOU to help "Feed The Dialogue" with your comments, questions and personal perspectives on the content published at <http://feedthedialoguenc.com/>. You can also join the discussion on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, and upcoming Feed The Dialogue NC events! So let's talk food!

National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Update

U.S. Wheat Organizations Share Positions on NAFTA with USTR

On Tuesday, June 27, 2017, the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) CEO Chandler Goule and U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) Director of Policy Ben Conner testified to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) on modernizing the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with Canada and Mexico. Since the Trump administration announced its intention to renegotiate NAFTA, the wheat industry has urged the government to not harm its trade relationships with Canada and Mexico.

NAWG Commends Senate Agriculture Committee for Holding a Hearing to Examine the Farm Bill Conservation Programs

Thursday, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry held a Full Committee hearing on “Conservation and Forestry: Perspectives on the Past and Future Direction for the 2018 Farm Bill”. Members heard testimony from several USDA representatives including Mr. Tom Tidwell, Chief of the Forest Service; Mr. Jimmy Bramblett, Deputy Chief of Programs at the Natural Resources Conservation Service; and Ms. Misty Jones, Director, Conservation and Environmental Programs Division at the Farm Service Agency. NAWG President David Schemm submitted written testimony for the record.

House Panel Advances FY 2018 Agriculture Spending Bill

On Wednesday, June 28, the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee considered and approved its version of the FY 2018 Agriculture Appropriations bill. Overall, the bill includes a reduction of \$876 million in discretionary spending compared to the FY 2017 enacted level. The bill does not include cuts to crop insurance or farm programs, and no amendments were considered during the markup. The bill could be considered by the full Appropriations Committee sometime shortly after the 4th of July recess. In preparation for potential Congressional action on appropriations and a budget, NAWG urges wheat farmers across the country to engage your Members of Congress if they do public events during the recess and talk about the economic conditions in wheat country and the need to maintain strong funding for Farm Bill programs.

NAWG Joins Ag Industry Groups in Urging the Administration to Appoint USDA Leadership Team

On June 28, 2017, NAWG joined more than a dozen other prominent agriculture organizations in signing onto a letter to President Donald Trump urging him to quickly to fill vacancies within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

California Lists Glyphosate as Cancer-Causing

Effective July 7th, glyphosate will be added to California’s list of chemicals known to cause cancer. Proposition 65 will require companies selling the chemical in the state to add warning labels to packaging within a year. Monsanto has vowed to continue their legal battle against the ruling claiming that research from the Agricultural Health Study, a large and significant study, led by scientists at the U.S. National Cancer Institute on agricultural workers and their families in the United States, was ignored.

This study is one of the largest to examine the effects of pesticide use in real life investigating about 89,000 agricultural workers, farmers and their families in Iowa and North Carolina. Results showed no association of glyphosate exposure with cancer incidence, but the study was ignored because it hasn’t been published yet due to there being too much content to fit into one scientific paper. The linked Reuters article: <http://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/glyphosate-cancer-data/> recently appeared questioning the process WHO’s IARC used in its review of glyphosate in 2015 that led to a “probably carcinogen” designation and, eventually, to California’s action next week.

US WTO China Challenge

In the World Trade Organization (WTO)'s Challenge of China domestic subsidies in agriculture, WTO has consisted a dispute panel. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/2tpbu6T>

President of African Development Bank Wins 2017 World Food Prize

Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank, was announced as the 2017 World Food Prize Laureate at a ceremony at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Awarded by the World Food Prize Foundation, the \$250,000 prize honors Nigerian Dr. Adesina for his leading role over the past two decades in: significantly expanding food production in Nigeria; introducing initiatives to exponentially increase the availability of credit for smallholder farmers across the African continent; and galvanizing the political will to transform African agriculture. Read the release here.

NCSGGA Upcoming Events

July 12th / 8:30am - 3:00pm
Research & Education Mtg.
NCSGGA Office
3822 Bland Road
Raleigh, NC

July 27th
Northeast Ag Expo Field Day
R&R Farms
106 Riddick Grove Rd.
Belvidere, NC 27919

August 1st / 10:00am – 12:00pm
Touch a Tractor Event
4020 Market At North Hills St.
Raleigh, NC 27609

August 2nd, 2017
Blacklands Farm Managers Tour
Green Valley Farms
7014 NC-94
Columbia, NC 27925

August 10th - 11th
NCSGGA Board Meeting
Sheraton Imperial Hotel
Durham, NC

September 9th / 2:30pm – 5:00pm
CALs Tailgate
PNC Arena
Raleigh, NC

September 15th / 5:00pm – 8:00pm
Family Fun Night
Mt. Vernon School
Raleigh, NC

*Note***If you know of someone that does not have access to a computer/internet and would like to receive printed hard copies of the Wheat Beat please have them call Nikki Johnson at 919-809-8657 to setup a mailing delivery address. *****