

Northeast District 4-H Agriculture Science Camp

The NCSGGA participated in the Northeast District 4-H Agriculture Science Camp on Monday, July 24th at the Eastern Carolina Livestock Arena in Rocky Mount. This camp is designed for rising 6th– rising 10th graders that have an interest in agriculture from animal agriculture to wildlife to environmental studies. The afternoon session of camp featured “Agriculture Commodity Rotations” which included presentations from Soybean Association, Beef Association, Pork Association, Egg Association, Beekeepers Association, Small Grains Association, and Agriculture Safety. Approximately 90 youth rotated from station to station hearing 15 minute presentations at each stop. This was the perfect opportunity to educate and promote agriculture to our future generation, thank you to everyone involved in organizing and planning this great event!

Northeast Ag Expo Field Day

The Northeast Ag Expo Field Day was held Thursday, July 27th at R&R Farms in Belvidere. Approximately 200 people attended the field day which featured a tradeshow and several presentations on crops such as: Corn, Sorghum, and Double-Cropped Soybeans. Presentation topics included:

- Maximizing Corn Yield and Early Emergence
- Corn Starter Fertilization: Nitrogen and Phosphorus Placement
- High Moisture Wheat Harvest and Double Crop Soybeans
- Insect Management in Double Crop Soybean Systems
- High vs. Low Management Sorghum
- Plant Populations x Sorghum Variety
- Early and Late Season Sorghum Official Variety Trial
- Sorghum Weed Management

For more information on the field day or presentation topics please visit <http://www.ncneagexpo.com/> or contact the Perquimans Extension Center at (252) 426-5428. Thank you to everyone involved in making this successful field day possible!!

National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Update

NAWG Testifies on Need for Strong Crop Insurance, Title I, and Credit Programs in the Farm Bill

On Tuesday, July 25, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry held a hearing titled “Commodities, Credit, and Crop Insurance: Perspectives on Risk Management Tools and Trends for the 2018 Farm Bill.” NAWG President and Kansas farmer David Schemm testified to the Committee on the need for growers to have access to a strong safety net and risk management system.

In his testimony, NAWG President David Schemm spoke to the importance of credit and the impact that timing of Title 1 payments has in a farmers’ ability to secure credit; maintaining a choice between ARC and PLC; and increasing funding for MAP and FMD. NAWG’s release and David Schemm’s complete testimony can be found here: <http://www.wheatworld.org/nawg-testifies-on-need-for-strong-crop-insurance-title-i-and-credit-programs-in-the-farm-bill/>

House Committee on Agriculture Holds Hearing on NAFTA

On July 26, 2017, the House Committee on Agriculture held a hearing to discuss possible opportunities for agriculture in the renegotiation of North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). President and Sharon Springs, Kansas farmer David Schemm's statement can be found here: <http://www.wheatworld.org/nawg-to-house-panel-examining-nafta-do-no-harm/>. In the release, NAWG stresses our number one priority in the NAFTA renegotiation to be "Do No Harm."

NAWG Submits Comments to EPA's Review of Chlorpyrifos-methyl

On Friday, July 21, 2017, NAWG submitted comments to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding Chlorpyrifos-methyl, sold as Storcide II. Chlorpyrifos-methyl is undergoing a regular registration review process at EPA, but documents released for public comment indicate the agency is considering removing the registered use of Storcide II on stored wheat. NAWG members feel that Storcide II is a cost effective and safe product and support the continued availability of the product. With the impact of resistance to crop protection products, it is important that wheat growers have access to a variety of products to treat pests.

The National Wheat Foundation and Mini Wheat Summit Held Wheat Value Chain Summit

On Thursday, July 27th, the National Association of Wheat Growers, in conjunction with the National Wheat Foundation, held a Wheat Summit to address and collaborate on the challenges and opportunities facing the wheat industry. The Summit was attended by more than 20 industry professionals from across the wheat value chain.

WOTUS Argument Date Announced

The Supreme Court announced October 11 as the date to hear arguments on where the "waters of the U.S." (WOTUS) case will take place. Farm groups, manufacturers, along with many states and environmental groups believe that district courts should handle the matter, but the federal government believes the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals, who ruled they should hear the case, is the proper court level. This kicks off a 30-day comment period on withdrawing the Obama-era "waters of the U.S." rule. The EPA and Army Corps of Engineers are publishing a proposal that would kill the existing WOTUS rule and reinstate the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act the way it existed before 2015. The administration announced its plan June 27, but the formal release of the proposal was held up by a formatting problem with the Federal Register.

House Agriculture Committee: Farm Bill Listening Session in Texas

On Monday, July 31, Chairman K. Michael Conaway (TX-11), members of the House Agriculture Committee, and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue will attend a farm bill listening session "Conversations in the Field" at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas.

The Committee will also hold subsequent listening sessions Thursday, August 3, at Farmfest in Morgan, MN; Saturday, August 5, in Modesto, CA; and Wednesday, August 30, at the Farm Progress Show in Decatur, IL.

Check out USDA NASS's Improved Online Census of Agriculture Questionnaire Demonstration Website

If you are taking some time to get out of the heat this summer, go online and check out USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service's improved online census questionnaire demonstration site. "Responding to the census will be easier than ever before in December. It is our hope that producers will become familiar with the

online census questionnaire demo this summer, like it, and return to report online when responding to the Census of Agriculture later this year,” said NASS Census and Survey Division Director Barbara Rater. The updated online questionnaire, which will go live late fall, will be accessible on any electronic device. New features save time by calculating totals automatically and skipping questions that do not pertain to the respondent’s operation. While on the Census of Agriculture website, explore the census introduction video, view a video of USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue talking about the 2017 Census of Agriculture, see some examples of how census data are used, access frequently asked questions, and explore past and current data. And if you want to help promote the 2017 Census of Agriculture among your friends, colleagues and neighbors, see the partner tools.

National Wheat Yield Contest Spring Wheat Deadline is August 1st!

The National Wheat Yield Contest enrollment is finishing out its last couple of weeks. Entering its second year, the contest is sponsored by the National Wheat Foundation. The Contest is entirely web based and growers can enter at <http://yieldcontest.wheatfoundation.org>.

Deadline to enter for spring wheat is August 1, 2017!

NCSGGA Upcoming Events

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. ****