

## **Kids Series: "Touch A Tractor" Event**

The NCSGGA participated in the North Hills Kids Series "Touch a Tractor" Event on Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at Midtown Park in Raleigh hosted by the NC Soybean Producers Association. North Hills Kids is a seasonal series of fun-filled events that provides an opportunity for children to come together to learn, exercise, and socialize outdoors, it consists of ten weeks of free programmed activities in Midtown Park on Tuesdays from 10-12am June 14th - August 16th. This event featured an actual tractor for children to explore, the agriculture simulator experience, hands on activities such as toy tractor painting, planting soybeans, grinding wheat to make flour, and fun games and giveaways for everyone. Approximately 400 people attended this fun agriculture event, a big thank you to the Soybean Association for planning and organizing everything! To see pictures from the day please visit our photo gallery on our website at: <http://ncwheat.com/media-gallery/>

## **Blackland Farm Managers Tour**

The Annual Blackland Farm Manager Tour was held Wednesday, August 2nd at Green Valley Farms in Columbia. This field day is one of the largest and most attended field days of the year. Approximately 600 people attended the event which featured a vendor fair, available pesticide credits and different field sessions throughout the morning.

Registration and the vendor fair began at 7:00am, opening remarks from various guest speakers began at 8:00am and Field sessions began at 9:00am ending around 12:30pm. There were four routes available for field sessions, each including a different combination of three stops. Attendees were able to choose which route they would like to go on with wagons taking them around the field. For Example: (Route1 = Stops1,2,3; Route2 = Stops2,3,4; Route3 = Stops3,4,1; Route4 = Stops4,1,2).

The Route Stops Included:

### Stop #1:

- Rod Gurganus – Corn Sidedress Nitrogen Placement & Timing Tests
- Anna-Beth Williams – Overview of On-Farm Tests
- Scott Tilley – Sorghum Varieties

### Stop #2:

- Dr. Ron Heiniger – Micronutrients and Fertilizer Placement and Timing in Corn
- Dr. Carl Crozier – Corn Starter Fertilizer
- Dr. David Hardy – Potassium Response in Corn

### Stop #3:

- Dr. Wes Everman – Weed Management
- Dr. Dominic Reisig – Soybean Looper Recommendations and Insect Management
- Dr. Alan York – Dicamba Update

### Stop #4:

- Dr. Jim Dunphy – Foliar Yield Enhancement and Maximum Dryland Yield
- Dr. Lindsey Thiessen – Nematode Management

The day concluded with Lunch, Door Prizes, and Guest Speaker Kevin Matthews owner of Matthews Family Farm in Yakin County.

For more information on the field day or presentation topics please visit <http://blacklandnc.org/> . Thank you to everyone involved in making this successful field day possible!!

## **2017-18 Small Grain Research Proposals**

***By: Rhonda Garrison, Southern Farm Network***

Dan Weathington, Executive Director of the North Carolina Small Grain Growers Association, recently sat down with Rhonda Garrison to discuss research projects that have been presented for the 2017-18 winter wheat and small grain growing season and to outline projects under consideration:

“This year’s wheat crop turned out a lot better than we thought, it wasn’t close as far as acreage planted, but the yield we feel like is going to be somewhere near 60 bu/a.

“We’ve got to manage our wheat just like we do corn or tobacco, we can’t treat it as a second or a third crop just because there’s so much double crop. From the time we chose the land and the seed, and a lot of these research projects are looking at timing on fungicides and making sure we’re scouting our fields and such. These are some of the research projects that are being presented to our board on the 11th of August.

“One other thing with the increased malters in the areas where they’re producing North Carolina beers, we have at last count about 125 brewers, so we are putting some money in malting barley variety and fungicide testing for North Carolina. Dr. Angela Post will be doing that.

“That’s just kind of an overview of what we’re doing, wheat will continue to be a crop in North Carolina, supported in our rotation, comes off at a time when it’s good to get that cash money, June and July.

“As I’ve said before, farmers would have the opportunity to sell some \$5-plus wheat, that happened a couple of weeks ago, and it’ll happen again. I’d ask everybody to look at these research projects as they come out when we have field days, and manage wheat, manage it for a good yield, manage your marketing program, and you’ll be able to come out on the positive side if you choose wheat and keep it in your rotation and in your farming program.”

## **National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Update**

### **US Wheat Industry Outlines Trade Violations and Abuses**

This week NAWG and USW submitted joint comments on trade agreements violations and abuses to USTR, per the April Executive Order, that have impacted US wheat growers. In general violations and abuses to wheat are due to domestic subsidies that exceed WTO commitment levels, sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) regulatory standards, plant health regulations, residue and contaminant requirements. Regulations limiting the import of commodities derived through biotechnology is also of concern to US wheat growers.

### **U.S. Food and Ag Dialogue Letter in Support of Steve Censky as Deputy Secretary of Agriculture**

The U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue for Trade (Dialogue) is an inclusive, broad-based forum made up of over 200 organizations representing the entire food and agriculture value chain. The Dialogue works to promote industry collaboration and engagement in constructive and proactive efforts to support the expansion of the U.S. food and agricultural trade around the globe. In a recent letter to the U.S. Senate, the

U.S. Food and Agriculture for Trade wrote in support of the President's nomination of Stephen Censky to be Deputy Secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### **House Ag Committee Holds Farm Bill Listening Sessions During August**

During the month of August, the House Committee on Agriculture will be holding a series of Farm Bill listening sessions. The listening session schedule is August 03, 2017 in Morgan, MN; August 05, 2017 in Modesto, CA; and August 30, 2017 in Decatur, IL.

NAWG urges readers to attend the House Committee on Agriculture's listening sessions and townhall meetings and speak to lawmakers on the bad economic conditions farmers are facing and how the Farm Bill provides several critical programs to help them through these tough times. This is why it is important to remind lawmakers that timely completion of the Farm Bill reauthorization process will be even more important this cycle than it was during the last reauthorization cycle.

### **Secretary Perdue's "Back to Our Roots" RV Tour**

Announced on Monday, August 1st, Secretary Perdue will be embarking on a five-state RV tour from August 3 – 8. During his route through Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana, Perdue will be meeting with farmers, ranchers, foresters, producers, students, Members of Congress, U.S. Department of Agriculture employees, and others. The intention of the trip is to gather input on the 2018 Farm Bill and how to increase rural prosperity.

### **CFTC Confirmations Approved by Full Senate**

On Thursday, August 3rd the senate voted to approve the confirmation of J. Christopher Giancarlo to serve as Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), and Rostin Behnam and Brian D. Quintenz to serve as Commissioners of the CFTC. The voted was unanimously approved.

## **NCSGGA Upcoming Events**

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

---

September 29th / 8:00am - 2:00pm  
Halifax County Harvest Days  
4-H Rural Life Center  
Halifax, NC

---

October 10th - 12th / 8:30a-2:00p  
Stanly County Ag Awareness Week  
Stanly County Agri-Civic Center  
26032 Newt Rd # B,  
Albemarle, NC 28001

---

October 13th / 8:30a - 2:30p  
Agriculture Science Day  
Red Oak Elementary School  
5603 Red Oak Rd,  
Red Oak, NC 27868

---

October 16th - 20th  
Fall Wheat Industry Mtg. (NAWG)  
Charleston, SC

---

October 24th - 26th / 8:30a-2:00p  
Hoke County Ag Awareness Week  
Hoke Robeson Gin  
7480 Old Maxton Rd,  
Red Springs, NC 28377

---

*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. \*\*\**