

North Carolina FFA Mega Leadership Conference

This year the NCSGGA helped fund North Carolina FFA's premier leadership event called "MEGA", which is a two day conference held once a year in Greensboro. Dan Weathington, Executive Director of NCSGGA, was invited to provide remarks on behalf our Association in the opening session on Saturday, March 10th to over 400 attendees!! Students who attended had the opportunity to choose from five different tracks, developed to help students to focus on personal growth for their age group. Tracks include a freshman/sophomore path, a junior path, a senior path, spring training - for state officer candidates, and Chapter President's Conference where members will decide on four delegate issues that be voted on at State convention. Our Association is happy to support such a great program where students are given the opportunity to expand their leadership skills as they grow as leaders and strengthen agriculture. To see pictures from the event please visit our photo gallery on our website at: <http://ncwheat.com/media-gallery/>

2018 Union County Field Day

The 2018 Union County Small Grains Research Field Day was held Tuesday, March 13th at Cox Brothers Farm in Monroe. The event kicked off at 8:00am with breakfast and opening remarks followed by a few indoor presentations before heading out to the field. Once in the field attendees were able to see the latest research projects in small grains and the official variety trials. The event concluded around 11:00am, wrapping up with door prizes and of course cookies and ice cream. Despite cold temperatures the field day was well attended with approximately 125 in attendance. Thank you to everyone that attended and especially those that planned and organized the event, we appreciate your hard work and dedication to small grains. To see pictures of the field day please visit our photo gallery on our website at: <http://ncwheat.com/media-gallery/>

If you didn't have a chance to make it to one of the larger field days this year don't worry, you are in luck! This year we have helped fund through NCSU 20 smaller field days across the state in an effort to reach more people and discuss topics that are related to that specific area. The schedule for these smaller field days is soon to come!

Also we wanted to share this video, courtesy of Austin Brown Agriculture Extension Agent for Camden County, which showcases the 2018 Northeast Ag Expo Small Grains Field Day: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jcs2zKMqCXQ&feature=youtu.be>. Great work!!!

Harnett County AG Science Field Day

On Thursday, the NCSGGA participated in Harnett County's Annual AG Science Field Day in Lillington. Approximately 500 Fifth graders from surrounding schools attended the event, spending the day rotating from station to station learning all about the many aspects of Agriculture including Wheat, Soybeans, Corn, FFA, Wood Working, Farm Equipment, Oils, and Forestry. A big Thank you to the Sandhills Antique Farm Equipment Club for planning and organizing this event and making Agriculture Education a top priority! To see pictures from the event please visit our photo gallery on our website at: <http://ncwheat.com/media-gallery/>

National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Update

WSJ Editorial: A Cancer Scare Defeat in California

On March 14, 2018, the Wall Street Journal released an editorial piece highlighting California's Proposition 65 listing of Glyphosate as carcinogenic. In November 2017, NAWG joined a coalition of leading agriculture groups across the country as the lead plaintiff in a federal lawsuit against the State of California for its inaccurate classification of glyphosate under Prop 65. In early March, California District Court Judge William Shubb issued a preliminary injunction blocking the state from compelling businesses to issue warnings about a chemical known as glyphosate. This WSJ editorial highlights the case and the District Court's decision to uphold the injunction.

National Wheat Improvement Committee (NWIC) Comes to Washington, D.C.

From March 18-20, 2018, wheat farmers and researchers from across the country will fly in to discuss with Members of Congress and their staff the importance federal funding of research to the wheat industry. Researchers will focus their remarks on the research priorities affecting wheat and funding needs, along with the 2018 Farm Bill's Research Title. NWIC members will also have a meeting with the USDA ARS Administrator to learn more about the issues surrounding the hiring freeze and the Agency's research needs and where researchers can help. The researchers will also have a meeting with Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy, Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

Secretary Perdue Applauds DoT Secretary on Extension of Agriculture Exemption from ELD Mandate

On March 13, 2018, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue applauded Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao for her announcement of an additional 90-day extension of the agriculture exemption from the Electronic Logging Device (ELD) mandate. Agricultural compliance with the mandate would have been problematic for the agriculture industry because the devices do not accurately account for the agricultural exemptions currently provided in the law. Read the release [here](#).

Honey Bee Health Coalition, Partners Secure \$475,000 Grant to Test Potential Treatments for Destructive Varroa Mite Infestations

On March 14, 2018, the Honey Bee Health Coalition announced that it has collaborated with an international team of 12 scientists to secure more than \$475,000 in grant funds from the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research to facilitate the testing of chemical compounds that could help beekeepers more effectively treat Varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*) infestations. This funding, matched by participants and industry members to provide more than \$1 million in total support, also will document how mites develop resistance to such treatment.

NWF National Wheat Yield Contest: Winter Wheat Early Registration, April 1!

The National Wheat Foundation's (NWF) annual National Wheat Yield Contest continues to drive innovation in the industry by spotlighting the best practices among American wheat growers. In its third year, the contest added a quality requirement, raising the bar for what constitutes the greater grain among U.S. wheat growers. For more information on contest guidelines, deadlines and prizes, visit <https://wheatfoundation.org/rules-and-registration/> . Enroll in the winter wheat early registration by April 1, 2018

NCSGGA Upcoming Events

March 20th / 8:30am
Duplin Grows
Duplin County Events Center
195 Fairgrounds Dr,
Kenansville, NC 28349

March 21st-22nd / 9:00am – 2:00pm
NCSU Farm Animal Days
Beef Educational Unit
4505 Mid Pines Rd.
Raleigh, NC

March 28th / 8:30am
Ag Science Day
Mattamuskeet Elementary School
60 Juniper Bay Rd,
Swanquarter, NC 27885

April 5th / 9:30am - 11:30am
"Just A Growing"
Flint Rock Farms
6510 S. Plank Rd.
Cameron, NC

April 10th/ 8:30am - 9:45am
Small Grains Presentation
Wilkes Community College
1328 South Collegiate Dr.
Wilkesboro, NC 28697

April 11th / 9:00am - 1:30pm
Ag Day
University of Mount Olive
634 Henderson Street

Mount Olive, NC 28365

April 12th / 9:00am – 1:00pm

FFA Day

Heritage High School

Wake Forest, NC

April 19th / 8:30am – 2:30pm

AG Day

Southeastern Academy School

12251 NC Highway 41 N,

Lumberton, NC 28358

April 20th / 9:00am – 2:15pm

AG Science Day

Bailey Elementary School

6288 Pine St,

Bailey, NC 27807

May 1st - 3rd

Wake Up to Agriculture

Iredell County Fairgrounds

211 W Sharpe St

Troutman, NC 28166

May 18th - 20th

Got to Be NC Festival

NC State Fairgrounds

Raleigh, NC

June 8th / 7:00pm

Ag Appreciation Night

Kinston Wood Ducks Baseball Game

400 E Grainger Ave

Kinston, NC 28502

June 19th-20th / 10:00am – 4:00pm

NC State FFA Convention

Career Show

Raleigh Convention Center

July 12th / 9:00am – 3:00pm

NCSGGA Research & Education

Committee Meeting

NCSGGA Office
3822 Bland Road
Raleigh, NC 27609

July 26th, 2018
Northeast Ag Expo
Field Day

August 1st, 2018
Blackland Farm Managers Tour

August 7th / 10:00am – 12:00pm
North Hills Kids Series:
Touch a Tractor
4020 Market At North Hills St.
Raleigh, NC 27609

August 8th – 10th, 2018
NCSGGA Summer Board Mtg.
Hampton Inn
1956 13th Avenue Drive SE
Hickory, NC 28602

September 8th, 2018
CALs Tailgate
PNC Arena
Raleigh, NC

October 9th - 10th
Agriculture Awareness Days
Onslow County

November 6th - 8th, 2018
9:00am - 2:15pm
Stanly County Ag Days
Stanly Co. Agri Civic Center
Albemarle, NC

The North Carolina Small Grain Growers Association, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation formed to encourage, promote and develop more efficient and effective small grain marketing and production practices and to participate in all matters relative to the interests of small grain producers. For more information please contact Dan Weathington, Executive Director of NCSGGA at danweathington@gmail.com / 910-736-8258 or Nikki Johnson for Outreach Events and Communications at nfjohnson0902@gmail.com / 919-809-8657.