

National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Update

Federal Judge Rules in Favor of Agriculture Coalition's Request to Halt California's 'False and Misleading' Prop 65 Labeling of Glyphosate

Citing harm to the nation's agriculture economy, Judge William Shubb of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California issued a preliminary injunction prohibiting California from implementing its "false and misleading" Prop 65 labeling requirement for the herbicide glyphosate. The injunction was sought by more than a dozen leading agriculture groups and supported by eleven attorneys general across the U.S. The preliminary injunction will halt California's labeling requirement until a final ruling on the matter is issued by the court.

"Farmers work tirelessly to put food on America's tables, and Glyphosate is a vital tool that growers have trusted to provide safe, affordable food," said Chandler Goule, Chief Executive Officer for the National Wheat Growers Association, the lead plaintiff in the case. "Every regulatory body in the world that has reviewed glyphosate has found it safe for use and no available product matches glyphosate with a comparable health and environmental safety profile. We are pleased Judge Stubb granted our request, which is the first step in our efforts to prevent California from forcing farmers, growers and manufacturers to place false and misleading labels on agricultural products. California's erroneous Prop 65 listing of glyphosate is not based on data, facts or science and we look forward to continuing to make our case to the court."

Judge Shubb made the following statements when issuing his ruling granting the agriculture coalition's request for a preliminary junction:

"As applied to glyphosate, the required warnings are false and misleading. Plaintiffs have thus established a likelihood of success on the merits of their claim that the warning requirement violates their First Amendment rights." (p. 17)

"[Given] the heavy weight of evidence in the record that glyphosate is not in fact known to cause cancer, the required warning is factually inaccurate and controversial." (p. 16)

"However, a reasonable consumer would not understand that a substance is 'known to cause cancer' where only one health organization had found that the substance in question causes cancer and virtually all other government agencies and health organizations that have reviewed studies on the chemical had found there was no evidence that it caused cancer. Under these facts, the message that glyphosate is known to cause cancer is misleading at best." (p. 14)

"It is inherently misleading for a warning to state that a chemical is known to the state of California to cause cancer based on the finding of one organization (which as noted above, only found that substance is probably carcinogenic), when apparently all other regulatory and governmental bodies have found the opposite, including the EPA, which is one of the bodies California law expressly relies on in determining whether a chemical causes cancer." (pp. 15-16)

Glyphosate is approved for application in over 250 agricultural crops throughout the United States. Despite scientific findings from hundreds of studies and conclusions by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and regulatory agencies around the world that glyphosate is safe for use, California ignored facts, data and science, when it added glyphosate to the state's Prop 65 list.

The National Association of Wheat Growers are the lead plaintiff in the case against California filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California. The plaintiffs include the Agribusiness Association of Iowa, the Agricultural Retailers Association, Associated Industries of Missouri, Iowa Soybean Association, Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry, CropLife America, Missouri Farm Bureau, National Corn Growers Association, North Dakota Grain Growers Association, South Dakota Agri-Business Association and United States Durum Growers Association.

NAWG Applauds Senate Confirmation of Bill Northey to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services

On Tuesday the United States Senate confirmed Bill Northey to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services at the United States Department of Agriculture. NAWG CEO Chandler Goule provided the following statement:

"NAWG commends the U.S. Senate for confirming the appointment of Bill Northey to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services at USDA. Northey's experience as an Iowa farmer and state Secretary of Agriculture make him well-suited for this position.

"Northey will be a strong voice on such important issues as risk management and conservation programs, especially as we craft the next farm bill.

"NAWG congratulates Bill Northey on his confirmation and are looking forward to working with him and his team in the future."

BASF and Commodity Organizations Award \$20,000 in Academic Scholarships to Student Agriculture Leaders to Aid Future Industry Success

Wednesday at the annual Commodity Classic tradeshow, BASF awarded academic scholarships to 12 future agriculture leaders today in partnership with the American Soybean Association (ASA), the National Sorghum Foundation (NSF), the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) and the National Wheat Foundation (NWF). Below are the winners from the National Wheat Foundation.

National Wheat Foundation Scholarships

The National Wheat Foundation Jerry Minore Memorial Scholarship was named after Jerry Minore, a BASF Senior Marketing Manager and a liaison to the wheat industry. Since his unexpected death in 2012, BASF has partnered with NWF to fund scholarships to honor his advocacy efforts for wheat growers.

This year's winners of two \$1,500 National Wheat Foundation Jerry Minore Memorial Scholarship awards are talented students who are passionate about pursuing careers in agriculture: Kayla Beechinor, a junior from Walla Walla, Washington, double majoring in ag biotech and field crop management at Washington State University; and Sarah Ann Moyer, a junior from Emporia, Kansas, studying agriculture communications and journalism Kansas State University.

The winners of two \$1,000 National Wheat Foundation Jerry Minore Memorial Scholarship awards are future agribusiness professionals who have exhibited strong academics: Kennedy Klein, a junior from Fargo, North Dakota, majoring in crop and weed science with a minor in botany at North Dakota State University; and Matthew Klopfenstein, a sophomore from Haviland, Ohio, studying ag engineering at Ohio State University.

"This year's scholarship recipients are helping to carry on Jerry Minore's dreams, legacy and love for wheat," said Phil McLain, NWF Chairman and Northern Carolina wheat grower. "We are very proud to honor this year's winners, and are excited to see what the future has in store for them."

"The long-term success of agriculture relies on passionate students who have a true desire to take part in advancing our industry," said Scott Kay, BASF Vice President of U.S. Crop Protection. "I'm looking forward to following the paths of these intelligent students, knowing we may one day have the privilege of employing them."

Steel, Aluminum Tariffs Raise the Risk of Retaliation Against U.S. Agriculture

U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) and the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) are extremely disappointed in the decision announced today to impose sweeping tariffs on imports of steel and aluminum. We have repeatedly warned that the risks of retaliation and the precedent set by such a policy have serious potential consequences for agriculture. It is dismaying that the voices of farmers and many other industries were ignored in favor of an industry that is already among the most protected in the country.

If the United States is taken to dispute settlement at the World Trade Organization (WTO) for imposing these tariffs, we call on the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to avoid invoking the essential security exception under GATT Article XXI. The recent Department of Defense memorandum made it clear that imported steel and aluminum did not threaten its ability to acquire enough from domestic suppliers to meet its needs. The USTR should not take the extraordinary step of invoking Article XXI to defend what we believe is protectionism.

At NAWG's board of directors meeting this week, a new resolution was passed urging the Administration to avoid imposing national security-based trade barriers on commonly traded products. NAWG's newly instated President Jimmy Musick, a wheat farmer from Sentinel, Oklahoma, said "at such an economically hard time for wheat growers, we do not want to see

trade barriers brought against us from some of our top customers who are impacted by this decision.”

Wheat farmers battling a market in which China holds almost 50 percent of world ending wheat stocks can sympathize with steel and aluminum workers on the economic effects of Chinese policies leading to global oversupply. However, we hope that our legitimate concerns with this action are heard and taken into consideration in this process.

NAWG and the National Wheat Foundation Named New Board Officers at the 2018 Commodity Classic

The National Association of Wheat Growers and the National Wheat Foundation wrapped up the 2018 Commodity Classic with a new slate of officers. Both NAWG and NWF have elected female wheat growers to their executive teams.

NAWG President and Montana farmer Gordon Stoner has passed the gavel down to Vice President Jimmie Musick, a farmer from Southwest Oklahoma. Texan Ben Scholz moved up the ranks of leadership becoming NAWG’s next Vice President. Cass City, Michigan wheat farmer Dave Milligan will now serve as NAWG’s new Treasurer. Nicole Berg, wheat farmer from Paterson, Washington, becomes the newest face in NAWG leadership with her election as Secretary. Nicole is the next woman since Washington wheat grower Judy Olson (1994) to be elected to the board. Gordon Stoner will continue to serve on the executive committee in the role of Past President.

“We are excited to announce the officer team for the 2018-2019 NAWG fiscal year,” stated NAWG CEO and NWF Executive Director Chandler Goule. “With our new board in place we are ready to represent America’s wheat farmers during the 2018 Farm Bill negotiations.”

NAWG also had one new addition to its Board of Directors. Rockland, Idaho wheat grower Jamie Kress replaces Joe Anderson, representing the Idaho Grain Growers Association.

Additionally, the National Wheat Foundation added a new face to its Board of Directors. Director Ryan Findlay left the Foundation’s board to pursue the position of CEO at the American Soybean Association. Kim Magin, Director of Industry Affairs for Monsanto, will replace Ryan on the board and continue to amplify the Foundation’s strong connection with industry. Idaho wheat farmer Wayne Hurst has also moved up the ranks to replace North Carolina Phil McLain as President.

“NWF again congratulates Ryan on his new role and is excited to bring Kim Magin on to the team,” continued Goule. “Kim’s experience as Director of Industry Affairs for Monsanto and her knowledge of industry will help move the NWF forward with its 2018-2019 projects.”

NCSGGA Upcoming Events

March 6th / 12:00 noon – 3:00pm
Central Piedmont
Small Grains Field Day
Piedmont Research Station
8350 Sherrills Ford Rd.
Salisbury, NC 28147

March 13th / 8:00am
Union County Small Grains Field Day
Cox Brothers Farm
6409 Rape Rd,
Monroe, NC 28112

March 15th / 9:00am - 2:00pm
Harnett County Ag Day
Lillington, NC

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 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 18th - 20th
Got to Be NC Festival
NC State Fairgrounds
Raleigh, NC

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

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.