

Join us for the “Got to be NC” Festival May 18th – 20th

Join us next weekend at the Got to be NC Festival as we celebrate North Carolina Homegrown Products! The event will be held at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds in Raleigh on Friday, May 18th thru Sunday, May 20th. General Gate Admission and Parking are Free!! Attractions include: Farm Animals, Antique Farm Equipment, Carnival Games and Rides, Fireworks, Homegrown Marketplace, Entertainment, and plenty of good food!!

The NC Small Grain Growers will be exhibiting once again in the Homegrown Marketplace which will be located in the Expo Center (Building with Red Roof). North Carolina food companies, Commodity Associations, Breweries and Wineries will be sampling and selling some of the most delightful flavors North Carolina has to offer. Be sure to stop by our booth and get a warm Gluten FULL Cookie, compliments of our North Carolina Small Grain Farmers! The cost to get into the Homegrown Marketplace is \$3 (Children ages 6 and under are FREE). Each ticket to the Homegrown Marketplace, presented by Lowes Foods, will get you \$2 in Lowes Bucks to spend inside the Marketplace!

Festival Gate Hours

Friday: Noon – 10 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Sunday: 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Building and Exhibit Hours (Homegrown Marketplace)

Friday: Noon - 8 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Carnival Hours

Friday: Noon – 10 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

For more information about the festival please visit: <http://gottobenfestival.com/default.htm>

Small Grain Whistle Stop Tour Continues

This week the Small Grain Whistle Stop Tour continued to Franklin County, Duplin County and Robeson County. The first stop was held Tuesday, May 8th at RC Perry Farms near Rolesville (Franklin County) from 11:00am to 1:00pm. The focus at this field day was on Malting Barley, topics included Improving Malting Barley Grain Quality, Comparison of Barley Varieties in the field, and Management of Small Grain Diseases. The next stop was held in Teachey (Duplin County) on Wednesday, May 9th from 8:30am to 10:30am. The crop focus at this field day was on Wheat Fungicide and compare/contrast of Plant Population Trials. The final stop of the week was held in Pembroke (Robeson County) on Thursday, May 10th from 8:30am to 10:30am

focusing on wheat fungicide, using the nitrogen rich strip, and looking at plant population trials. Thank you to everyone that was able to attend these field days and we hope that the information provided at these events will be helpful on your farm. The Whistle Stop Tour will conclude next week in Beaufort County on May 16th, we hope to see you there!! For complete details on the final field day please see our “Upcoming Events” section below. To see pictures from the Small Grain Whistle Stop Tour please visit our photo gallery on our website: <http://ncwheat.com/media-gallery/>

National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Update

NAWG Press Release: As Farm Bill Heats Up, NAWG Officers Hold Annual Fly-In

This week, NAWG officers are traveling to Washington D.C. for their annual Fly-in to meet with Members of Congress and their staff to discuss the importance of passing a Farm Bill this year. A few NAWG state associations are also hitting the Hill with the officers including the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers, Texas Wheat Producers Association, and Washington Association of Wheat Growers. NAWG held meetings with nearly the entire Senate Ag Committee and their staff. Read NAWG’s release highlighting the Fly-In here and follow us on Twitter @wheatworld, #WheatinDC and Facebook!

NAWG/USW Respond to USTR Challenge to India’s Farm Subsidy Report

On Wednesday, May 9th, Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue announced that the United States has challenged India’s report to the World Trade Organization on its levels of market price support for wheat and rice. In a joint release, U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) and the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) commended the Administration on this move and consider the counter notification “an appropriate and welcome step that further brings transparency to countries’ farm support programs.”

NWF Blog: NAWG’s Craig Berning Shares His Experience of the 2018 Kansas Wheat Quality Tour

Last week, NAWG’s Coordinator of Federal Government Relations Craig Berning participated in the Hard Red Winter Wheat Quality Tour of Kansas. Hosted by the Wheat Quality Council, the tour left Manhattan on Monday, swinging west to the town of Colby on Tuesday and then south to Wichita on Wednesday, before ending back in Manhattan. Berning provided updates of the tour along the way through his posts on @wheatworld and #WheatTour18 but also recapped his experience in a recent National Wheat Foundation blog which can be found here: <https://wheatfoundation.org/category/blog/>.

House Ag Approps Approves FY19 bill

The House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee on Wednesday approved the fiscal year 2019 appropriations bill for the Agriculture Department, the Food and Drug Administration, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Farm Credit Administration. The full House

Appropriations Committee is expected to take up the bill next week. Total discretionary funding in the legislation is \$23.27 billion, which is \$14 million above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level. In total, the bill allows for \$145.09 billion in both discretionary and mandatory funding — \$922 million below the fiscal year 2018 enacted level.

House Panel OK's Bill to Ax WOTUS

As reported in AgriPulse, the House Appropriations Committee's energy and water subcommittee advanced a spending bill for fiscal year 2019 that would increase funding for the Army Corps of Engineers and repeal the "waters of the U.S." rule...EPA and the Corps have not finalized their proposal to rescind the rule, which means they also have not offered a replacement. The energy and water spending bill would repeal WOTUS until the agencies come up with a new rule. The bill would fund the Corps at \$7.28 billion, an increase of \$451 million from the current fiscal year.

On another note, a new WOTUS rule won't be final until September 2019, nine months later than EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt has told Congress the agency would come up with one. That's according to the latest regulatory agenda released by the Trump administration. EPA plans to issue a proposed rule in August and a final rule in September 2019, according to the agenda.

Agri-Pulse Publishes Fourth Article in "Export or Bust" Trade Series

Agri-Pulse has published its fourth in a new series of Agri-Pulse in-depth stories, "Export or Bust," dealing with the challenges and opportunities for U.S. agriculture when it comes to selling more commodities and value-added products to overseas customers. This piece focuses on Brazil's "agricultural revolution" and the steps its taking to boost exports. Read Brazil, Other Competitors Aim to Win U.S. Export Markets here: <https://www.agri-pulse.com/articles/10943-brazil-other-competitors-close-gaps-on-us-export-markets>

Ag Groups Urge Trump to Support Farmers and Biofuels

On May 7th, NAWG, the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA), American Farm Bureau Federation, National Farmers Union, and the American Soybean Association sent a letter to the President expressing concerns about how farmers have been negatively impacted by recent EPA actions in light of the lowest net farm income in over a decade expected this year. They asked the White House to allow sales of E15 all year, halt the abuse of "small refinery exemptions," and uphold a strong Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), without "causing additional harm to the farm economy."

NWF National Wheat Yield Contest: Winter Wheat Deadline – May 15!

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 how to apply, visit <https://yieldcontest.wheatfoundation.org/>. The deadline for Winter Wheat submissions is May 15th!

NCSGGA Upcoming Events

May 16th / 8:30a – 10:30a
Small Grains Whistle Stop Tour
Beaufort County Field Day
4151 Beech Ridge Road
Belhaven, NC

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

May 24th -25th
NC Ag Export Seminar
Koury Convention Center
Sheraton Greensboro Four Seasons
Greensboro, 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

October 9th - 10th
Agriculture Awareness Days
Onslow County

October 23rd – 25th
Hoke County Ag Days
Hoke-Robeson Gin
Maxton, NC

November 2nd, 2018
Person County Ag Field Day
Huck Sansbury Park
425 Long Ave
Roxboro, NC 27573

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

December 6th – 7th, 2018
NCSGGA Board Meeting
Sheraton Imperial Hotel
Durham, 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.