

## **Red Oak Elementary School Science Day**

The NCSGGA participated in Red Oak Elementary School's Science Day on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. The event featured various educational stations including: Wheat, Soybeans, Sheriff's Office, Marine Fisheries, Robotics, Chickens, Bees, Astronomy, Stone, and Forestry. Approximately 240 students (Kindergarten - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade) rotated to each station spending about 10 minutes at each stop to learn the many aspects of modern day technology and how it impacts our day to day life. To see pictures from the event please visit our photo gallery on our website: <http://ncwheat.com/media-gallery/>

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

### **NAWG President Jimmie Musick's Monthly Letter to the States**

Unfortunately, Congress was unable to pass the 2018 farm bill conference legislation by the September 30th deadline. In response, NAWG issued a release expressing our disappointment that Congress was unable to come to an agreement. In our statement, NAWG urged the conferees to finish negotiations as quickly as possible. NAWG staff sent out a confidential memo outlining the implications for wheat growers when the bill expired. They will continue to update the states with any news on the process of the negotiations.

Additionally, on September 30th, the White House announced an updated NAFTA agreement to include both Canada and Mexico, referred to as the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Mexico is a top export markets for American wheat growers, and USTR moved the ball forward on grain grading issues we have with Canada, therefore this is great progress in the trade front. NAWG and U.S. Wheat issued a release applauding the Administration for moving forward with this agreement. NAWG and U.S. Wheat continue to review the new deal but have sent out talking points to help states with any media interviews. In regard to timeline, the countries' leaders are expected to sign the deal by December 1st and then Congress can take a vote as early as February/March in accordance with Trade Promotion Authority rules. Only then will the deal be implemented. The NAWG officers have been also been busy these past weeks leading into October. On September 26th, NAWG Secretary Nicole Berg spoke to the Washington state legislature on the impacts of the Administrations' current policies on trade on wheat in her state. Additionally, NAWG VP of Policy and Communications Josh Tonsager and Treasurer Dave Milligan listened in on the annual Ag Data Transparent meeting on October 3rd. Chandler continues to be busy building relationship with industry members. In September, he sat on a CEO panel at CropLife America's Government Policy weekend. Additionally, on October 9th and 10th, Chandler will travel to St. Louis to attend Bayer's GAC meeting.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone later this month at the 2019 NAWG/U.S. Wheat Fall Conference in Tampa Bay, Florida.

### **NAWG Disappointed in Farm Bill Expiration; Calls on Congress to Provide Certainty to Farmers**

The National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) is disappointed that Congress has not acted to reauthorize the farm bill before the September 30th deadline. Expiration of the current farm bill leaves farmers with uncertainty moving forward at a time when net farm income is expected to be down 13 percent this year compared to last year. NAWG calls on conferees to finish negotiations as quickly as possible on a farm bill that provides a strong safety net for growers.

### **NAWG and U.S. Wheat Respond to New Trade Deal Between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico**

NAWG and U.S. Wheat are pleased that the Administration was able to move forward with a trade agreement including Mexico and Canada. Both countries are critical trading partners for American wheat. We are pleased that Canada has agreed to eliminate the law requiring unequal treatment for U.S. grain delivered to Canadian elevators; it is a welcome step forward.

### **American Farm Bureau (AFB) Evaluates MFP Per Acre Payments**

The American Farm Bureau Federation has analyzed the initial per acre payment rates to farmers under the market facilitation program that the Trump administration has announced to assist farmers impacted by tariffs on U.S. farm products in retaliation for U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum.

### **NASS Announces Census of Agriculture Response**

On October 1, 2018, the USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service concluded data collection for the 2017 Census of Agriculture with a 71.5 percent national response rate. The Census, conducted once every five years, was mailed to more than 3 million known and potential farms and ranches across the United States late last year. The 71.5 percent response rate for 2017 came in below the 74.5 percent response rate for the 2012 Census of Agriculture.

### **NAWG Guest Blog: Tips for Establishing A Successful Wheat Crop**

NAWG member Illinois Wheat recently requested a blog contribution from Steve Joehl, Research and Technology Director for the Association, on tips for establishing a successful wheat crop. In his blog, Joehl describes some of the most successful wheat production practices he has seen during his time as Director of the National Wheat Yield Contest. He has provided these "tips" in one piece found here: <https://www.ilsoy.org/on-farm/ilsoyadvisor/tips-establishing-successful-wheat-crop> on IL Wheat's blog page.

### **The National Wheat Foundation is Officially Accepting Applications for Scholarship Honoring Ag Students**

The National Wheat Foundation is officially accepting applications for the Jerry Minore Scholarship, honoring a student pursuing a career in agriculture. The scholarship is available to both high school and college students for the 2019-2020 academic year with an application deadline of December 01, 2018. For more information on how to apply, read the Foundation's release here: <https://wheatfoundation.org/press-release-the-national-wheat-foundation-begins-accepting-applications-for-scholarship-honoring-ag-students/>

### **Housing and Registration Opens for the 2018 NAWG/USW Fall Conference**

NAWG and U.S. Wheat will be holding their 2018 Fall Conference at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay in Tampa Bay, Florida from October 30th to November 2nd. NAWG's schedule of events, registration, and information on housing can be found here: <https://www.wheatworld.org/newsroom/meetings-events/fall-wheat-conference/>.

## **NCSGGA Upcoming Events**

October 8<sup>th</sup> / 12:00pm

Smithfield Grain Wheat Seed Program Lunch Mtg.

<http://smithfieldgrain.com/home/>

Union County Ag Center

3230-D Pearson Rd,

Monroe, NC 28112

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October 8<sup>th</sup> / 5:30pm

Smithfield Grain Wheat Seed Program Dinner Mtg.

<http://smithfieldgrain.com/home/>

Village Station Restaurant

2744 N Roberts Ave

Lumberton, NC 28358

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October 9<sup>th</sup> / 12:00pm  
Smithfield Grain Wheat Seed Program Lunch Mtg.  
<http://smithfieldgrain.com/home/>  
VA Diner Restaurant  
408 County Road  
Wakefield, VA 23888

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October 9<sup>th</sup> / 5:30pm  
Smithfield Grain Wheat Seed Program Dinner Mtg.  
<http://smithfieldgrain.com/home/>  
Montero's Restaurant  
414 North McArthur Street  
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

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October 10<sup>th</sup> / 12:00pm  
Smithfield Grain Wheat Seed Program Lunch Mtg.  
<http://smithfieldgrain.com/home/>  
Wilber's BBQ,  
4172 Hwy 70  
Goldsboro, NC 27534

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October 10<sup>th</sup> / 5:30pm  
Smithfield Grain Wheat Seed Program Dinner Mtg.  
<http://smithfieldgrain.com/home/>  
Clinton Ag Expo Center  
414 Warsaw Rd  
Clinton, NC 28328

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October 11<sup>th</sup> / 12:00pm  
Smithfield Grain Wheat Seed Program Lunch Mtg.  
<http://smithfieldgrain.com/home/>  
Mikes Farm/Restaurant  
1600 Haw Branch Rd  
Beulaville, NC 28518

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October 12<sup>th</sup> / 12:00pm  
Smithfield Grain Wheat Seed Program Lunch Mtg.  
<http://smithfieldgrain.com/home/>  
The Seahorse Restaurant  
2301 Stantonsburg Rd  
Greenville, NC 27834

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

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Oct. 29th – Nov. 1st, 2018  
Wheat Industry (NAWG)

Fall Conference  
Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay  
Tampa Bay, FL

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Oct. 29th / 10:00am  
Ladies Garden Club  
Ag Education Day  
Flint Rock Farms  
Cameron, NC

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

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

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December 6th - 7th, 2018  
NCSGGA Board Meeting  
Sheraton Imperial Hotel  
4700 Emperor Blvd. Durham, NC

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December 14<sup>th</sup> / 8am – 11:30am  
Academy of Moore County  
Agriculture Field Day  
Aberdeen Post Masters House  
204 E South St.  
Aberdeen, North Carolina 28315

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January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 / 1:00pm  
NCSGGA Board Meeting  
Sheraton Imperial Hotel  
4700 Emperor Blvd. Durham, NC

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January 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
NC Commodities Conference  
Sheraton Imperial Hotel  
4700 Emperor Blvd. Durham, NC

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January 30th – February 1st, 2019  
Southern Farm Show  
NC State Fairgrounds Raleigh, NC

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February 28th – March 2nd, 2019

Commodity Classic  
Orlando, Florida

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March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 / 8am – 11:30am  
Academy of Moore County  
Agriculture Field Day  
Aberdeen Post Masters House  
204 E South St.  
Aberdeen, North Carolina 28315

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*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 njjohnson0902@gmail.com / 919-809-8657.*