

Budget Comparison Calculator Tool

By: Dr. Nick Piggott and Derek Washburn, NCSU Agricultural & Resource Economics

Please follow the below link for access to the Budget Comparison Calculator Tool for the 2019 Crop Year based on Crop Choices given the current market conditions and expected yields. Dr. Piggott and Derek Washburn developed this budget calculator jointly, combining revenue components and the costs components that utilize estimates from the enterprise budgets.

<https://cals.ncsu.edu/are-extension/wp-content/uploads/sites/27/2019/02/Crop-Comparison-Tool-1.xlsx>

Also, growers might be interested in the portfolio of enterprise budgets that Derek publishes and posts:

<https://cals.ncsu.edu/are-extension/grain-budgets/>

If you have any questions please contact Dr. Nick Piggott at nick_piggott@ncsu.edu

James W. Smith Elementary School Annual Agriculture Appreciation Day

The NCSGGA will participate in James W. Smith Elementary School's Annual Agriculture Appreciation Day tomorrow, March 31st, in Cove City. The event is a full day of hands on learning with the goal of educating K-5 classes on the importance of Agriculture. Different ag related stations will be set up throughout the school for the classes to rotate to, spending about 20 minutes learning at each station. Thank you to James W. Smith Elementary School for planning and organizing this great event and making agriculture education a top priority! Pictures from the event will be posted to our photo gallery.

National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Update

National Wheat Improvement Committee (NWIC) Holds Annual Washington Fly-In to Discuss Research Priorities for Wheat

This week a group of researchers, growers, and millers took to Capitol Hill to discuss the importance of wheat research and appropriations priorities for FY 2020. The National Wheat Improvement Committee (NWIC) is composed of 24 voting members whose mission is to communicate, educate and advocate on behalf of the scientific well-being of the U.S. wheat industry. In addition to meeting with the majority and minority staffs for the House and Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees and Agriculture Committees, the NWIC members met with most of the House and Senate Appropriations Committee Member offices, with over 60 meetings in total.

"To maintain an adequate food supply and food safety, ensure farmers can battle disease and pest pressures, and to keep the United States as the world's source of premier quality wheat, we must have robust and stable federal, state, and private investment in wheat research," said NAWG President and Lavon, TX farmer Ben Scholz. "We very much appreciate the support of Congress for continued investments in research over the years, and in particular for key provisions in the Farm Bill research title that will help wheat farmers."

During the 2018 Farm Bill deliberations, NAWG and our member states and other stakeholders were successful in getting a funding authorization increase for the US Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative (USWBSI) from \$10 million to \$15 million annually. During its meetings, the Committee advocated for full funding and

pushed for the Administration to move forward with implementation of a Farm Bill provision capping indirect costs for the USWBSI at 10 percent.

The NWIC also requested increasing the funding levels for the NIFA Hatch Act to \$250 million, maintaining Smith-Lever Formula Grants at \$300 million, and increasing the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative to \$445 million. Moreover, the Committee supports a funding increase of a total of \$940,000 for the ARS Small Grains Genomic Initiative (SGGI) to bring appropriated levels to the total \$3.44 Million.

“Through the use of these tax dollars for research, the American consumer has one of the lowest cost of disposable income expense for safe and high-quality food of any nation in the world,” continued Scholz. “Whether it be in the form of a Land Grant or ARS facility, congressional investments in agricultural research has a reach into all districts. NAWG urges Congress and the Administration to prevent cuts to funding levels for these research programs as they are vital to the entire wheat value chain.”

NWF BLOG: Feeding the Economy Study Re-Issued with Updated Data

The food and agriculture sectors in the US account for roughly one-fifth of the country’s economic activity, providing more than 22 million jobs or nearly 15% employment. The study was originally launched in 2017 and commissioned by 23 food and agriculture organizations. On March 19, 2019 the Food and Agriculture Industries Economic Impact study was re-released with updated facts and an interactive webpage. It was found that the food and agriculture sectors have created 45,582,086 jobs, \$2.06 trillion in wages, \$913.13 in taxes, \$154.4 billion in exports, and an overall economic impact of \$7.06 trillion. The National Wheat Foundation recently posted a blog highlighting the piece here: <http://bit.ly/2Wyp3fr>.

House Ag Approps to ERS-NIFA Hearings

On March 26, 2019, the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee held two hearings this week on relocation of the USDA’s Economic Research Service and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The first hearing was on Tuesday, March 26 at 2:30pm, where members of the House were invited to testify on the programs under House Ag Approps jurisdiction. The second hearing was on Wednesday, March 27 at 11:00am, where the subcommittee held a hearing on the Trump administration’s plans to move most of ERS-NIFA’s employees out of Washington, D.C.

White House States Major Push for USMCA

As of March 26, 2019, the White House began a new offensive to gain congressional approval of the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement. On March 26, 2019, the Trump administration held a conference call for farm and business leaders asking them to pressure lawmakers to support the overhaul of the North American trade pact. On that same day, 23 Republican House members went to the White House to sit down with US Trade Representative Bob Lighthizer, Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney and others. One White House official on the call said the administration is not ready to let go of steel and aluminum tariffs on Mexico and Canada.

NWF Accepting Entries for 2019 National Wheat Yield Contest

The National Wheat Foundation (NWF) is currently accepting grower enrollment for the 2019 National Wheat Yield Contest! The Contest is divided into two primary competition categories: winter wheat and spring wheat, and two subcategories: dryland and irrigated. The Foundation is accepting entries for Winter and Spring Wheat at this website: <https://yieldcontest.wheatfoundation.org/> . The deadline for Winter Wheat entries is May 15th with an early registration deadline of April 1st. The Spring wheat entry deadline is August 1st with an early registration deadline of June 15th.

NCSGGA Upcoming Events

April 5th / 9am - 3pm
Science Enrichment Day
Fuller Elementary School
Raleigh, NC

April 5th / 9am - 12pm
Ag Day
University of Mount Olive
Mt. Olive, NC

April 9th / 9:00am – 2:15pm
Onslow County Ag Day
Richlands Farm
420 Francktown Rd.,
Richlands, NC

April 11th / 8:00am
Surry County Ag Day
Veterans Memorial Park
691 W Lebanon St,
Mt Airy, NC 27030

April 16th, 2019
AG By the Slice
Guilford County 4-H

April 17th / 10:00am – 1:00pm
Small Grains Field Day
Piedmont Research Station
Salisbury, NC

April 18th / 8:30am
Environmental Field Day
Senator Bob Martin Eastern Agricultural Center
Williamston, NC

April 24th - 26th / 9:00am-2:00pm
Farm Animal Days
NCSU Beef Unit
4505 Mid Pines Rd.
Raleigh, NC

May 8th, 2019
NC Ag Products Dinner
State Fairgrounds
Raleigh, NC

May 17th – 19th, 2019

Got to be NC Festival
State Fairgrounds Raleigh, NC

June 18-19, 2019
NC State FFA Convention & Career Show
Raleigh Convention Center

June 25th, 2019
Touch A Tractor Kids Series
4020 Market At North Hills St,
Raleigh, NC 27609

August 1st/ 9:00am
Research & Education Mtg.
NCSGGA Office
3822 Bland Road
Raleigh, NC 27609

August 7th, 2019
NCSGGA Assessment Referendum Voting Day
Blacklands Farm Managers Tour

August 15th – 16th, 2019
NCSGGA Board Meeting
Sheraton Imperial Hotel
Durham, NC

September 7th, 2019
CALs Tailgate
PNC Arena
Raleigh, NC

October 15th – 17th, 2019
Hoke Co. Ag Awareness Week
Hoke-Robeson Cotton Gin
Maxton, NC

October 22nd - 24th, 2019
Stanly County Ag Awareness Week
Stanly County 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 njohnson0902@gmail.com / 919-809-8657.