

NC Agricultural Products Dinner

On Wednesday, May 8th the NCSGGA attended the 2019 Agricultural Products Dinner held at the State Fair Grounds in Raleigh. Commodity Associations, Agribusiness Companies and the NCDA&CS organize and sponsor this great event to celebrate and recognize North Carolina's Agriculture Industry with our state legislature members. The event highlights commodities and products that help make agriculture and agribusiness North Carolina's leading industry at \$87 billion with a fantastic reception and dinner showcasing NC's finest foods, beverages and decor.

2019 NC Small Grain Whistle Stop Tour

The Small Grain Whistle Stop Tour is underway and making its way through North Carolina! Join us this spring as we tour the state covering important small grain production topics. Most locations are coordinated by the local Agricultural Extension Agent and the Small Grains Extension Team. Come out to the one nearest you! For more information contact Angela Post: Phone (919) 625-9850 or Email angela_post@ncsu.edu.

*****See the tour dates below in our Upcoming Events Section.****

Join us at the "Got to be NC" Festival!

Join us May 17th – 19th at the Got to be NC Festival located at the State Fair Grounds in Raleigh for three great days of down-home celebration North Carolina-style! Gate Admission and Parking are FREE!

Attractions include:

Farm Animals
Antique Farm Equipment
Carnival and Rides
Carolina Pig Jig
Fireworks
Homegrown Marketplace
Tractor Pulls
Free Family Entertainment Shows
Music

Our booth will be located inside the Exposition Center in the Homegrown Marketplace where North Carolina food companies, breweries and wineries will be sampling and selling some of the most delightful flavors North Carolina has to offer. Cost: \$3 (Children ages 6 and under are FREE). We will be sampling our famous chocolate chip "Gluten Full" wheat cookies so make sure to stop by and see us!!!

Building and Exhibit Hours:

Friday: Noon - 8 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

For additional information please visit: <https://gottobencfestival.com/default.htm>

NCSGGA Announces Assessment Referendum Voting Date

The North Carolina Small Grain Growers Association (NCSGGA) has announced that an Assessment Referendum will take place on **August 7, 2019**. Polling places will be located throughout the state in each county extension office. This assessment is for a six year period on all small grain (wheat, rye, oats, barley,

rape seed/canola and grain sorghum). The North Carolina Board of Agriculture approved the request for this referendum at their meeting in Raleigh, NC on February 26th, 2019. The assessment will be ½ of 1 % on wheat, rye, oats, barley, rape seed/canola and grain sorghum for a six year period. This assessment period will begin on January 1, 2020 and will continue until December 31st 2025.

NCSGGA President Timmy Thomas of Timberlake NC, said, “This assessment is important to the small grain growers of North Carolina to continue the work of the association in Grower Education, Research, Marketing, Administration and enhancing ways to grow small grain more profitable for farmers in North Carolina”.

All North Carolina Farmers who grow small grain over the age of 18, as of August 7, 2019 are eligible to vote during regular business hours of their local county office of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. Voting will also be available at the Blacklands Farm Mangers Field Day this year which will be held at the Coastal Carolina Cotton Gin in Fairfield on August 7th. For more details, contact Dan Weathington, NCSGGA Executive Director: 910-736-8258, Nikki Johnson, NCSGGA Communications & Outreach Education: 919-809-8657, North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, or your local county office of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service.

National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Update

NAWG Member North Dakota Grain Growers Association (NDGGA) Chooses to Leave NAWG

It is with much disappointment to announce that the North Dakota Grain Growers Association (NDGGA) has decided to withdraw their membership from the National Association of Wheat Growers, effective June 30, 2019, the end of NAWG’s current fiscal year. In response, NAWG President Ben Scholz is issued the following statement:

“Despite tremendous effort and NAWG conducting hundreds of meetings with members of Congress and the Administration on behalf of all our states including North Dakota, NDGGA leadership has indicated they will leave NAWG. NAWG leadership and staff did everything possible to address NDGGA’s concerns, from private briefings to ramped up communications to our states to traveling to North Dakota with a third-party facilitator to address issues, and yet they have still decided to resign their membership. As the President of a trade association, it always disappoints me when one of our members isn’t pleased with productivity.

“In this case, NAWG went above and beyond to meet the concerns of NDGGA by giving them a national voice on Capitol Hill. NDGGA chose to put their own priorities ahead of the national organization, which is not how a national association can run effectively. The past two years North Dakota put their interests ahead of all wheat growers across the country by withholding half their dues, making it difficult to carry out the overall mission of the organization.

“It is unfortunate that a major wheat-producing state, who provided unique insight into national policy and influenced others in the industry, won’t be moving forward with NAWG.

Ag Groups Send Joint Letter in Support of USMCA to Congress

On May 6, 2019, sixty-eight food and agriculture associations, including NAWG, sent a letter to Congress expressing their support for the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). In the letter, the groups stated that “this new agreement includes important improvements that will enable food and agriculture to trade more fairly, and to expand exports of American agricultural products to our North American partners.”

NAWG Organizes and Participates in Hill Briefing on USMCA

On May 9, 2019, from 2:00pm to 3:00pm in the Longworth House Building, NAWG co-organized and participated in a briefing panel on “USMCA and Agricultural Trade in North America.” The briefing was hosted by Rep. Jimmy Panetta (CA-20), Rep. Jim Costa (CA-16), Rep. Don Bacon (NE-02), and Rep. Roger Marshall (KS-01). Additional panelists included a representative from the American Farm Bureau Federation, American Soybean Association, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, National Milk Producers Federation, National Pork Producers Council, and the Western Growers. NAWG’s trade policy advisor Molly O’Connor acted on behalf of the Association and discussed the benefits of USMCA for wheat while addressing the issue of Canada’s grain grading system which is discriminatory against U.S. wheat.

Administration to Add on Additional Tariffs to Chinese Goods

On Thursday, May 9, 2019, President Trump said that the United States would raise tariffs on \$200 billion of worth of Chinese goods on Friday morning and begin the process to tax nearly all of China’s imports as he accused Beijing of trying to “renegotiate” a trade deal. The Administration first imposed a 25 percent duty on \$50 billion worth of Chinese goods in July 2018, and later, a 10 percent duty on an additional \$200 billion worth of Chinese products, which resulted in the retaliatory tariffs on U.S. goods.

USDA Announces Top Sites for ERS and NIFA Relocations

On May 03, 2019, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced the finalists of 136 Expressions of Interest received from parties in 35 states vying to become the new homes of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Economic Research Service (ERS) and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). As part of the rigorous site selection process, USDA narrowed the Expressions of Interest list using a set of established criteria defined by USDA, NIFA, and ERS leadership.

EPA Launches Reviews on Glyphosate

On May 6, 2019, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officially began accepting comments on a pair of issues related to glyphosate. There will be a 60-day comment period on a proposed registration decision that includes some new restrictions on how the herbicide is used. EPA is proposing label changes designed to limit spray drift to “reduce the extent of environmental exposure and risk to non-target plants and animals.” Separately, EPA is taking comment for 30 days on a petition from organic food companies and the Environmental Working Group to restrict the use of glyphosate herbicide. NAWG will draft and submit comments.

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. ***For more information please see the attachment included in this email.***

NCSGGA Upcoming Events

May 13th / 7:30am – 9:30am
Union County:
6521 NC-218

Marshville, NC

Topics: Wheat- Official Variety Test, N-rich strip & PGR

May 13th / 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Haywood County:

265 Test Farm Road

Waynesville, NC

Topics: Small grain silage and forage

May 14th / 7:30am – 9:30am

Onslow County:

150 A.I. Taylor Road

Richlands, NC

Topics: Wheat- Scouting Problems, Yield Estimations

May 17th – 19th, 2019

Got to be NC Festival

State Fairgrounds Raleigh, NC

May 28th / 8:00am – 10:00am

Henderson County:

455 Research Drive

Mills River, NC

Topics: Wheat-Maximizing Yield, Barley-Malting Quality, Nitrogen Programs

May 30th / 8:30am – 10:30am

Lenoir County:

3994 Research Farm Rd.

Hookerton, NC

Topics: Wheat- Official Variety Test, Population x Nitrogen, Barley-Nitrogen

May 30th / 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Wayne County:

151 May Road

Goldsboro, NC

Topics: Wheat- Scouting Problems, Yield Estimations, Corn- Variety Test

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
All NC County Cooperative Extension Services Offices

August 7th, 2019
Blacklands Farm Managers Tour
Coastal Carolina Cotton Gin
1100 N Lake Rd.
Fairfield, NC 27826

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

November 6th, 2019
Northeast Regional Ag Expo
Bob Martin Eastern Agricultural Center
Williamston, 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 njjohnson0902@gmail.com / 919-809-8657.