

Plant Science Building Update

Progress is being made at the future site of the NCSU Plant Science Building. Live feed now captures work being done to clear the plot making way for this new facility. Attached in this email are a few pictures we wanted to share from the site. Establishing the PSI Building on NC State's Centennial Campus will be the tipping point in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' (CALS) ability to impact North Carolina and the world of agriculture. The brightest minds in academia, government and industry will be brought together to drive innovation that increases yields, creates new varieties, extends growing seasons, enhances agricultural and environmental sustainability and produces new and improved technology. For more information and to watch the live feed visit: <https://cals.ncsu.edu/initiatives/plant-sciences-initiative/>

2019 NC Small Grain Whistle Stop Tour

The Small Grain Whistle Stop Tour is almost finished, if you haven't had a chance to attend one of our field days please be sure to check our upcoming events section and make plans to attend one that is closest to you! Important small grain production topics will be discussed at these field days which are coordinated by the local Agricultural Extension Agent and the Small Grains Extension Team. 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 this Weekend 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://gottobenfestival.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 Applauds FSA’s Announcement to Extend CRP Contracts

On Wednesday, May 15th, the USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that it will hold a continuous signup period for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) beginning June 3, 2019 and offer extensions for expiring CRP contracts. NAWG commends the Agency for recognizing the need to provide producers an option to extend contracts by allowing for one-year extensions to existing CRP participants who have expiring CRP contracts of 14 years or less.

“CRP is an important conservation program option for many of our members and we appreciate that FSA is proactively taking steps to allow for contract extensions. This action is especially important if FSA will not hold a general sign-up before contracts expire this year,” stated NAWG President and Lavon, TX farmer Ben Scholz. “We encourage USDA to move quickly implement the 2018 Farm Bill and to allow enrollment options for producers in all the conservation programs.”

Alternatively, producers with expiring contracts may have the option to enroll in the Transition Incentives Program which provides two additional annual rental payments on the condition the land is sold or rented to a beginning farmer or rancher or a member of a socially disadvantaged group.

“Growers are on their land everyday and know more than anyone else what it takes to be a good steward of their land,” continued Scholz. “Farm Bill conservation programs help farmers ensure that their land will be productive today, tomorrow and years to come.”

NAWG CEO Participates in Crop Insurance CEO Panel

On May 16, 2019, NAWG CEO Chandler Goule participated on a Farm Group CEO panel during the 2019 RCIS National Agent Conference, “Growing Success – Together”. Agri-Pulse President Sara Wyant moderated the panel, which was also comprised of AFBF’s Zippy Duvall, NCFC’s Chuck Conner, and NCGA’s Jon Doggett. Goule

spoke on the value of crop insurance to NAWG'S members, and the work the organization has done to protect crop insurance.

JOINT PRESS RELEASE: Leading Agriculture Commodities Oppose Additional Tariffs on Chinese Goods

On Friday, May 10, 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative moved forward with increasing the tariff rate from 10 to 25 percent on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods. In response, the National Association of Wheat Growers, the American Soybean Association, and the National Corn Growers Association released a joint statement opposing the increase in tariffs. It's the first time that the three commodities, who represent around 171 million of acres of farmland in the United States, have issued a joint release.

Administration Announces as Much as \$20 Billion in Trade Aid for Farmers

The Trump administration could make as much as \$20 billion available to farmers in a second round of assistance designed to help offset losses from China's latest retaliatory tariffs, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said late Wednesday. "Our calculations initially probably range between \$15-and-\$20 billion," he said of the estimated economic damage to farmers and the scope of the potential aid package, but he reiterated that many details are still being decided.

France Announces End of Glyphosate Use by 2021

On May 10, 2019, French Agriculture Minister Didier Guillaume recently confirmed that his country would eliminate glyphosate use by 2021 with limited exceptions, the Agriculture Department's Foreign Agricultural Service said in a post on Thursday. Guillaume also said France plans to cut pesticide, insecticide and fungicide usage in half by 2025 and praised organic and biodynamic farming, FAS said. FNSEA, France's biggest farm group reacted negatively, the report said.

Agri-Pulse: EPA Overhauling Pesticide Evaluation

EPA is proposing new ways to determine when pesticides may harm endangered species, using what the agency calls real-world data. The agency says the interagency consultation process has resulted in EPA evaluations that find too many listed species could be harmed by pesticides. EPA says it wants its revised method to be "efficient, relying upon automation as much as possible, (and) protective without being overly conservative." A public meeting is scheduled on the new methods for June 10.

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 Spring Wheat at this website: <https://yieldcontest.wheatfoundation.org/> . The Spring wheat entry deadline is August 1st with an early registration deadline of June 15th.

NCSGGA Upcoming Events

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 nfjohnson0902@gmail.com / 919-809-8657.