

2019 NC Small Grain Whistle Stop Tour Dates Announced!

Join us as this spring as we tour North Carolina Small Grains covering important 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.

May 7th / 9:30am – 12:15pm

Syngenta Field Day:

1111 Harrlee's Bridge Rd.

Dillon, SC

Topics: Wheat- Heading Date & Official Variety Test

May 9th / 9:30am – 12:15pm

Syngenta Field Day:

2415 W. Vernon Ave.

Kinston, NC

Topics: Wheat-Heading Date & Official Variety Test

May 10th / 8:00am – 10:00am

Rowan County:

8530 Sherril's Ford Road

Salisbury, NC

Topics: Small Grain Silage and Forage

*Agent training to follow

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 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

Whistle Stop Tour Recap

This week started the first of our small grain research field days in our Whistle Stop Tour of North Carolina. The first stop was held in Smithfield located in Johnston County on Tuesday, April 30th at 11:00am. Tim Britton, County Agent, along with Angela Post, Small Grains Extension Director and Ryan Heiniger, Official Variety Testing Program Director, led the field day discussing topics such as insect and weed control, diseases, and OVT Trials. The second stop in the tour was held in Belhaven located in Beaufort County on Wednesday, May 1st at 8:00am. Rod Gurganus, County Agent, led the field day along with Angela Post and Ryan Heiniger where growers were able to see the results of the Wheat Official Variety Test and discuss various wheat issues they saw in the field. To see pictures, please visit our photo gallery on our website: <http://ncwheat.com/media-gallery/>

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

Trade Dictates Conversation During NAWG Officer’s Annual Fly-In

This week NAWG officers traveled to Washington D.C. for their annual Fly-in to meet with Members of Congress and their staff to discuss trade, 2018 farm bill implementation, and other issues of significance to wheat growers. NAWG’s member states Washington Association of Wheat Growers and the Oregon Wheat Grower’s League also accompanied the officers on several of their visits to Congressional offices.

“Implementing programs in the 2018 farm bill and trade continue to remain NAWG’s overarching priorities for the fiscal year,” stated NAWG President and Lavon, TX farmer Ben Scholz. “NAWG views these fly-ins as opportunities for policymakers to hear firsthand accounts of how these programs are impacting wheat farmers, and why we continue to advocate for new trade deals.”

In its meetings, NAWG stressed how vital it is for growers to have access to a strong crop insurance program and urged Members to protect the program from potential cuts made through the appropriations process. Additionally, NAWG called for the programs within the bill to be fully funded, especially wheat research programs. NAWG officers also spoke to the importance of conservation, and the types of healthy soil practices growers are incorporating more and more into their operations.

“Overall, NAWG officers geared their talks with members and their staff around trade, focusing on the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA),” continued Scholz. “NAWG supports a yes vote from Congress on USMCA because it creates jobs, boosts the rural economy, and is a win for agriculture. Additionally, wheat farmers are also excited to see the Administration build on the momentum of USMCA by initiating negotiations with Japan.”

NFU: Farmer’s Share of the American Food Dollar Falls to All-Time Low

According to a recent report by the USDA’s Economic Research Service (ERS), for every dollar American consumers spend on food, US farmers and ranchers earn just 14.6 cents. This value marks a 17 percent decline since 2011 and the smallest portion of the American food dollar that farmers have received since the USDA began reporting data in 1993. The ERS report supports a larger point about the weakened state of the farm economy: net farm income is estimated to be just \$66.3 billion for 2018, a 12 percent drop from 2017 and a nearly 50 percent drop since 2013.

EPA Reaffirms Glyphosate Unlikely to Cause Cancer

On April 30, 2019 the EPA reaffirmed its conclusion that glyphosate, is “likely” not carcinogenic, in a proposed registration decision that would allow the herbicide to continue to be used in the United States. “EPA has found no risks to public health from the current registered uses of glyphosate,” said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler in a news release. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said “USDA applauds EPA’s proposed registration decision as it is science-based and consistent with the findings of other regulatory authorities that glyphosate does not pose a carcinogenic hazard to humans.”

USDA Extends Deadline for Producers to Certify 2018 Crop Production for MFP Payments

On April 29, 2019, the USDA announced that it will be extending the deadline from May 1 to May 17 for agricultural producers to certify 2018 crop production payments through the Market Facilitation Program (MFP). MFP helps producers who have been significantly affected by foreign tariffs, resulting in the loss of traditional exports. Producers of corn, cotton, sorghum, soybeans, wheat, dairy, hogs, fresh sweet cherries and shelled almonds qualify for MFP. Payments will be issued only if eligible producers certify before the updated May 17 deadline. Producers can certify production by contacting their local FSA office or through farmers.gov.

CBO Releases Updated Budget Projections for 2019 to 2029

The Congressional Budget Office projects the deficit for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30 will come in at \$896 billion, little changed from January's forecast. Over the next decade, deficits will total \$11.4 trillion under assumptions that current laws remain in place, the agency predicts. That's about \$250 billion less than projected in January. The CBO's updated 10-year budget and economic outlook can be found here: <https://www.cbo.gov/>

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

May 8th, 2019 / 6:00pm
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
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.