

## Small Grain Whistle Stop Concludes

The Small Grain Whistle Stop Tour made its final stop today in Goldsboro. Over the past month the tour made its way throughout North Carolina making stops at various counties discussing area specific small grain production and management topics as well as OVT Trials. Thank you to everyone who attended these field days as well as the presenters at each location. To see pictures from the final stops please visit our photo gallery on our website: <http://ncwheat.com/media-gallery/>

## Wheat Test Lab Address

Below is the address for the wheat test lab for you to send in wheat samples. The lab will perform quality tests for milling wheat and test weight:

Dr. Angela Post  
3709 Hillsboro St  
Raleigh, N.C. 27607

## Safety Reminder: Preventing an Unwanted Baler Fire

Hot dry conditions these past few weeks have reminded many how quickly fires can ignite causing damage, destroying equipment, future feedstuffs and hopefully NOT injuring you in the process. In fact, just yesterday a hay baler caught fire in North Carolina over a field of dry straw burning down a brand new combine. We need to be cognizant at all times of the potential for fires to start while baling hay or straw and take measures to minimize the potential of a fire occurring.

### **Baler Maintenance Checklist**

*Before you head out to bale take the time to do the following maintenance checks on your baler with the objective of fire prevention:*

- Remove any trash or plant material accumulation on the baler and take time to blow off dust, leaves, and dry stems.
- Keep the baler free and clean of oil, grease or hydraulic fluid accumulation, which also attracts and holds dust while baling and is highly ignitable.
- Carry an “ABC” fire extinguisher on the baler or in your tractor at all times. Make it easily accessible and check it to make sure it is still adequately charged with fire retardant and not beyond its expiration date. (An “ABC” rating on fire extinguishers means that it is rated to control “A”-Trash, Wood, Paper; “B”-Liquids; “C” – Electrical).
- Carry a minimum of 4 gallons of water to use if a fire would ignite.
- It is also recommended to have a shovel or spade with you to throw dirt on a fire or pat out the “hot” spots.
- Take time to inspect all moving parts for wear or friction before heading out to bale.
- Do not over fill the fuel tank as the overflow of fuel can have a potential to become ignited. These spills should be cleaned up immediately. Shut off the engine and electrical equipment while filling the fuel tank. The fuel nozzle should be grounded against the filler neck to avoid sparks.
- Immediately repair any hydraulic or fuel leaks and clean up any spills. Hydraulic fluid is flammable.
- If welding repairs are required, take care not to weld near pipes, tubes or hoses filled with flammable fluid such as gas, oil or hydraulic oil.
- Do not smoke near the baler or tractor as this adds to the potential for a spark to cause a fire ignition.
- Carry a charged cell phone with you to make an emergency call if necessary.
- Be able to give directions to your location in an emergency situation.

- Do not park and leave your baler in dry field areas in case a fire does break out potentially burning down the field and/or other equipment in the field.

### Other Considerations

Lastly, make sure that you communicate with others where you will be working so that they also will know where to locate you if an emergency situation would arise. Prevention and maintenance only takes a few minutes versus trying to recover from a catastrophic loss caused by a potentially avoidable fire.

### **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 31<sup>st</sup>, 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 7<sup>th</sup>. 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**

#### **Agri-Pulse: Myanmar Breaks In First Bulk Import With US Wheat**

The first shipment to arrive at Myanmar’s first-ever port terminal capable of receiving bulk commodities was a 22,000 metric ton load of U.S. wheat. Although the terminal was in working order, local officials didn’t know how to set up procedures for inspecting large shipments, according to USDA’s Foreign Agricultural Service. FAS, the U.S. Federal Grains Inspection Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Wheat Associates and U.S. Grains Council all chipped in to offer guidance. USW spokesman Steve Mercer says the shipment should be the first of many.

#### **Planting Struggle Continues Across Heartland**

According to USDA’s latest Crop Progress report, only 58 percent of the forecast corn acres had been planted as of Sunday. According to Reuters analyst Karen Braun, 99 million expected acres of corn and soybeans haven’t been planted yet. “That’s by far the largest amount of unplanted acreage at this point in the spring. The next largest amount, just over 70 million acres”.

#### **China Pledges To Adhere To WTO Ag Trade Rulings**

China will start living up to promises to import more corn, wheat and rice while scaling back its domestic subsidies, Chinese officials pledged Tuesday at the World Trade Organization in Geneva. China isn't fighting two cases it lost to the United States, and the U.S. has agreed to a Chinese request for time to come into compliance.

An Iowa State University study concluded U.S. wheat exporters lost roughly \$700 million because of China's domestic support programs that kept the price of Chinese wheat as high as \$10 per bushel. Those high prices pushed Chinese farmers to over-produce, robbing U.S. farmers of sales.

### **New Study: "Worldwide Phylogeography And History Of Wheat Genetic Diversity"**

A team of researchers from Université Clermont Auvergne and BreedWheat in France and the International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium in the U.S. has conducted genomic testing of thousands of wheat types to trace the genetic history and diversity of wheat. To develop the genetic history, the researchers studied more than 4,500 samples of wheat from 105 countries. Read the published paper here: <https://advances.sciencemag.org/content/5/5/eaav0536>

### **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**

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

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

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

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August 7th, 2019  
NCSGGA Assessment Referendum Voting Day  
All NC County Cooperative Extension Services Offices

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August 7th, 2019  
Blacklands Farm Managers Tour  
Coastal Carolina Cotton Gin

1100 N Lake Rd.  
Fairfield, NC 27826

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

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

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

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October 22nd - 24th, 2019  
Stanly County Ag Awareness Week  
Stanly County Agri-Civic Center  
Albemarle, NC

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November 6th, 2019  
Northeast Regional Ag Expo  
Bob Martin Eastern Agricultural Center  
Williamston, NC

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November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Person Co. Ag Field Day  
Huck Sansbury Park  
Roxboro, NC

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December 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
NCSGGA Board Meeting  
Sheraton Imperial Hotel  
Durham, NC

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