

NC Small Grain Growers Association - Job Opening

The North Carolina Small Grain Growers Association is seeking to hire an Executive Director to lead the day to day operations of the Association. The mission is to promote the goals of the Association which are: Promotion of Small Grain Industry, Consumer Agriculture Education and Leadership in directing research that will help farmers to increase yields and their bottom line for growing North Carolina Agriculture.

Scope: Full time job in Raleigh at the NC Small Grain Growers Office located at 3822 Bland Road working along with NCSU, NCDA&CS, All Agriculture Groups, North Carolina Legislature, National Wheat Organization, and National Legislature. Travel will be mostly statewide with some national travel involved.

Education: Four-year BS Degree in Agriculture Business, Agronomy, Business Administration or at least 2-year experience in Agriculture will be considered.

Salary range: \$55,000 to \$70,000 and Benefits included.

The job application is attached in this email, please send printed resume and job application to: NCSGGA, Attn: Timmy Thomas, 3822 Bland Road, Raleigh, NC 27609. Any questions please call 919-809-8657. Resumes will be accepted until October 15, 2019.

American Farmers Hail U.S.-Japan Trade Deal

American farmers on Monday welcomed a trade agreement reached in principle between the United States and Japan, saying the tariff-cutting deal would help them gain competitiveness instead of continuing to lose ground to foreign rivals.

“We are very happy that this agreement will end the growing competitive cost advantage that Canadian and Australian wheat imports got” under a revised Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade pact, which went into effect last year without the United States, a national wheat association said in a statement.

The United States had initially been among the TPP members, which includes countries like Australia, Canada and Japan. But it pulled out of the pact in 2017, with President Donald Trump saying he preferred to forge bilateral trade deals. He has also pushed for a deal to reduce the country’s hefty trade deficit with Japan.

Trump and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who met on Sunday on the sidelines of the Group of Seven summit in France, agreed in principle on the bilateral trade deal and to step up remaining work to sign it in September.

While the details of the agreement are yet to be announced, Japan is expected to cut tariffs on U.S. farm products such as beef, pork, wheat and dairy products to around the same levels as in existing free trade frameworks such as the revised TPP.

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue also hailed the agreement, saying that the United States can sell more to Japanese markets by “removing existing barriers for our products.”

“At the same time we will be able to close gaps to better allow us to compete on a level playing field with our competitors,” he said in a press release issued on Sunday.

National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Updates

Joint Statement from USW and NAWG Wheat Industry Welcomes U.S.-Japan Trade Deal

On August 25, 2019, President Trump announced a trade agreement in principle between the United States and Japan that will keep exports of U.S. wheat flowing to a very large and crucial market for U.S. farmers. NAWG and U.S Wheat Associates welcomed the announcement.

Soil Health Partnership Wheat Field Day

The National Wheat Foundation (NWF) has finalized with the Soil Health Partnership its second wheat field day. The field day is scheduled for September 3rd in Beloit, KS on Mike Jordan's farm. NAWG's Environmental Policy Advisor and SHP Steering Committee Member Keira Franz along with Foundation Chairman Wayne Hurst will be attending the field day. A complete list of field day events can be found here: <https://www.soilhealthpartnership.org/field-days-events/>.

2019 NAWG/USW Fall Conference

NAWG has distributed its agenda for the 2019 Fall Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The conference is set to take place from November 2-6, 2019 at the Hilton Buffalo Thunder Santa Fe. It will kick off with two full days of WOLF Programming (November 2&3) and conclude by 11:00am on Wednesday, November 6th. Registration will be open in early September. For more details and the agenda, visit NAWG's site.

USDA Details Trade Damage Estimate Calculations

On August 23, 2019, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Office of the Chief Economist published a detailed accounting of how estimated damage from trade disruptions was calculated for its support package for farmers announced on July 25, 2019. It notes that the methodology used to estimate damages is often employed in WTO arbitrations. To estimate trade damages USDA used a longer time-series by surveying trends in U.S. bilateral trade over a 10 year period as they viewed this to be more representative and account for other contributing variables, like other longstanding trade barriers used by China. NAWG sent an overview of USDA's report to the states.

NAWG Joins US Farmers & Ranchers Alliance (USFRA)

As a NEW funding organization of US Farmers & Ranchers Alliance, NAWG is excited to announce the launch of USFRA's new film, "30 Harvests." The film features two farmers, Jay Hill and Meagan Kaiser, who are excited about the positive impact agriculture can have on the environment. Farmers are the change agents that will help feed an unprecedented population while solving for climate change. We encourage you to watch the short film and share your sustainability story with your neighbors, community, or on your social media platforms. Contact us Caitlin Eannello (ceannello@wheatworld.org) with questions or to get involved!

Farmers for Free Trade Update

Earlier this summer, Farmers For Free Trade (FFT) launched a sign-on letter to Congress from farmers, ranchers, and other individuals in ag in support of the USMCA. So far, this effort has generated 1,400 signatures. Please share this letter with your networks as appropriate to ensure maximum participation from farmers and ranchers. Please note that this letter is focused on individual producers and ag business owners and employees.

Additionally, on September 12, FFT will be holding a DC fly-in focused on USMCA and related trade issues. After the fly-in, Farmers for Free Trade will be hosting its final Motorcade for Trade roundtable on September 13th from 10:00am to 11:00am in Washington, D.C. at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Building. If interested or looking for more details, email Caitlin Eannello, NAWG's Director of Communications at ceannello@wheatworld.org.

Release of 2018 ISAAA Report on Adoption of GMO Crops

“A total of 70 countries adopted biotech crops through cultivation and importation in 2018, the 23rd year of continuous biotech crop adoption,” according to the Global Status of Commercialized Biotech/GM Crops in 2018 (ISAAA Brief 54) released by the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA). “Twenty-six countries (21 developing and 5 industrialized countries) planted 191.7 million hectares of biotech crops, which added 1.9 million hectares to the record of plantings in 2017. The continuous adoption of biotech crops by farmers worldwide indicate that biotech crops continue to help meet global challenges of hunger, malnutrition, and climate change.”

NCSGGA Upcoming Events

September 6th, 2019
PSI Ground Breaking Celebration
NCSU Centennial Campus
Raleigh, NC

September 7th, 2019/ 9am-Noon
CALs Tailgate
Close-King Indoor Practice Facility
Raleigh, NC

September 19th, 2019 / 3pm-5pm
UMO Ag Fest Career Fair
University of Mount Olive
Mt. Olive, 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 2nd - 6th, 2019
NAWG Fall Mtg.
Santa Fe, New Mexico

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

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

December 5th – 6th, 2019
NCSGGA Board Meeting
Sheraton Imperial Hotel
Durham, 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.