

## **Revised NC Wheat Yield Contest Winners and Entries**

A revised version of the 2019 North Carolina Wheat Yield Contest Winners as well as the 2019 Wheat Yield Contest Entries has been released and is posted on our website ([ncwheat.com](http://ncwheat.com)) in the "Research" section. All entries in the summary file in white are ineligible due to a higher yielding entry already submitted from that farm. The eligible entries are color coded by region.

## **NC State University Breaks Ground on Plant Sciences Building**

On Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> The NCSGGA attended the much anticipated Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Plant Sciences Building on NC State University's Centennial Campus. The state-of-the-art facility is expected to be the global hub for advanced plant sciences research and innovation to expand agricultural productivity. The five-story 185,000-square-foot building will allow for what the architects call "creative collisions" — ones that would spark problem-solving. Unlike many buildings on NC State's campus, the Plant Sciences Building will not house a specific discipline or department. Instead, it's being built with the flexibility to allow teams of scientists working on specific projects to move in and out of the building. The building will also feature rooftop greenhouses, shared equipment and laboratory spaces as well as meeting areas, seminar rooms and board rooms. The building is expected to be completed by late 2021.

The day kicked off with a Special Guest Reception starting at 9 a.m. in the Hunt Library followed by the Groundbreaking Ceremony which unfortunately, due to Hurricane Dorian, was moved inside the Hunt Library instead of on the actual future building site. The ceremony consisted of formal remarks, recognition of ALL partners/donors for their contributions in the Plant Science Initiative, and finally ceremonial dig photos. Lunch was served immediately after the groundbreaking ceremony then at 12:30 guests had the opportunity to participate in one of two Extraordinary Experiences activities which allowed them to tour some of the other spectacular things going on within the University. To see pictures from the event please visit our photo gallery on our website at: <http://ncwheat.com/media-gallery/>

## **CALS Tailgate**

The NCSGGA participated as an exhibitor in CALS Tailgate on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> before the NCSU Football game at the Close-King Indoor Practice Facility. NC State's largest alumni tailgate has a proud tradition of providing a family-friendly atmosphere and highlighting the people, programs and partners that make the college great. The 2019 CALS Tailgate was held in conjunction with the Seventh Annual Ag Day. Ag Day is a significant opportunity to promote the connection between NC State and the agriculture, agribusiness and biotech industries in North Carolina in front of thousands of fans at Carter-Finley Stadium. Approximately 1,000 people attended the event, to see pictures please visit our photo gallery on our website at: <http://ncwheat.com/media-gallery/>

## **Hurricane Dorian Damage Update**

***By: Dan Weathington, NCSGGA Executive Director***

I have talked with several farmers east of I-95 and especially along the coast, most say the corn that is left in the field is blown over but NOT flat down, it can be harvested but it will be slower with some loss but not major. I would say that corn had about 65-75% of the crop harvested. Soybeans were blown over but not beaten down. The damage there is how much salt water was moved inland by the storm and how far it came in. In 2-3 days we will see some burning of the leaves if the salt moisture was carried inland. Cotton was blown some not sure how much leaf damage occurred. Depending on the maturity of the bowls they could set and not open or could open if there are still leaves on the plants. Tobacco is another story, according to NCSGGA Past President Steve Griffin, "there could be 50 million pounds lost from Wilson County to Beaufort

County (east and west) Duplin County to Virginia Line (north And south.)". We may see some grain sorghum damage reported.

### **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.

### **National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Updates**

#### **NAWG Holds Fly-In to Complement Farmers for Free Trade Rally**

On September 12, 2019, Farmers for Free Trade held a rally on Capitol Hill to raise support for the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). Members of Congress, including House Committee On Agriculture Chairman Collin Peterson and Ranking Member Congressman Mike Conaway, as well as farm leaders attended the event to discuss how USMCA provides growers with improved market access while maintaining the zero-tariff platform. With NAWG being a member of Farmers for Free Trade, President Ben Scholz was slated to provide brief remarks during the rally. Additionally, NAWG tacked on a trade fly-in to complement the Farmers For Free Trade Rally.

#### **USDA Resources Available for Farmers hurt by 2018-2019 Disasters**

USDA Sonny Perdue has announced that producers that were affected by natural disasters from 2018 and 2019, including Hurricane Dorian, can apply for assistance through the Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program Plus (WHIP+). Signup opened on September 11, 2019. Through WHIP+, \$3 billion is available and will be applicable to producers who lost certain crops, trees, bushes, or vines within counties with a Presidential Emergency Disaster Declaration. The cause of losses must be derived from hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, typhoons, volcanic activity, snowstorms or wildfires from 2018 and 2019. Included with the package is a provision providing for a supplemental disaster ("bonus") payment equal to 10 percent of a producers' prevent plant indemnity, plus an additional 5 percent will be provided to those who purchased harvest price option coverage. Additionally, the program will provide assistance for losses of eligible farm-stored commodities due to eligible disaster events in 2018 and 2019.

#### **EPA, Corps Scrap 2015 WOTUS with Repeal Rule**

On September 12, 2019, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Army finalized a rule to repeal the Obama administration's overreach in the federal regulation of waters and wetlands. The action will make pre-2015 Clean Water Act regulations the law of the land. After the Trump Administration took office, it tried to prevent implementation of the 2015 rule, but court battles in various states resulted in a patchwork of regulations. NAWG opposes the 2015 regulation and welcomes this news. Additionally, NAWG has been providing comments throughout the regulatory review process.

### **Sept 12th WASDE Report Shows Wheat Supply and Demand to Remain Unchanged**

On September 12, 2019, the USDA released its World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report. According to the report, "the 2019/20 U.S. wheat supply and demand outlook is unchanged this month but there were offsetting by-class changes for wheat exports. The projected season-average farm price is \$4.80 per bushel, down \$0.20 on NASS monthly prices reported to date and expectations for cash and futures prices for the remainder of the marketing year (MY). For wheat, NASS is projecting production of 53.9 million tons, up from 2018s figure of nearly 51.3 million tons. Globally, however, the wheat outlook is for lower supplies, reduced consumption and exports, and higher ending stocks," the WASDE said.

### **OSTP's Bioeconomy Request for Information**

In the September 10, 2019 Federal Register, the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) published a Request for Information on the U.S. Bioeconomy. Through this Request for Information (RFI), OSTP seeks input from the public, including those with capital investments, performing innovative research, or developing enabling platforms and applications in the field of biological sciences, to include healthcare, medicine, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, manufacturing, energy production, and agriculture. The deadline for comments is October 22, 2019.

### **SHI Releases Report Highlighting the Impact of the Farm Bill on Soil Health**

On September 12, 2019, the Soil Health Institute and the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition released a comprehensive review of each farm bill provision and its role in advancing soil health. Read here: <https://soilhealthinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Impact-of-2018-Farm-Bill-Provisions-on-Soil-Health.pdf> the report "Impact of 2018 Farm Bill Provisions on Soil Health".

### **Registration and Housing Officially Open for the 2019 NAWG/USW Fall Conference**

Registration and housing have officially opened for the 2019 NAWG/USW Fall Conference. This year's conference will take place at the Hilton Santa Fe Buffalo Thunder Hotel in Santa Fe, NM., from Monday, November 4 through Wednesday, November 6, 2019. For more information visit NAWG's website here: <https://www.wheatworld.org/newsroom/meetings-events/fall-wheat-conference/>

## **NCSGGA Upcoming Events**

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

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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.*