



NATIONAL SORGHUM PRODUCERS
SORGHUM
NOTES

National Sorghum
Producers

Sorghum Notes | May
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*The voice of the sorghum
industry*

Sulfoxaflor Use Cleared in 10 Additional States

Sulfoxaflor, the active ingredient in Transform WG—a Dow AgroSciences product, now has government approval for use in 11 states to treat sugarcane aphids in grain sorghum. Following last month's approval for use of sulfoxaflor in Texas, sorghum farmers in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Tennessee now have another tool available to fight the pest. The 2016 authorization includes new restrictions related to preventing exposure to bees, including a prohibition on the application of Transform from three days prior to bloom to seed set.

"Sorghum farmers in these states are now better equipped to control the sugarcane aphid and have a better opportunity to mitigate yield and revenues loss," said Tim Lust, National Sorghum Producers CEO. "NSP thanks the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for their approval of this important crop protection tool, which augments industry efforts to develop better management practices and resources to meet this challenge."

Sivanto Prime, a Bayer CropScience product, also proved to be extremely effective in the 2015 growing season and

should be considered in rotation to avoid insecticide resistance. For additional resources, including best management practices, tolerant hybrids, scouting recommendations and more, visit sorghumcheckoff.com.

NSP Signs onto Letter Requesting Extension of “Actively Engaged” Rule Implementation

This week, National Sorghum Producers, along with more than 65 other agricultural organizations, sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack about the final USDA rule that modifies the definition of “actively engaged” in farming, which determines farm bill eligibility. The letter is requesting a seven-month extension of the current status change deadline of June 1 to allow impacted farms the ability to complete the growing season and make necessary changes by the end of the year.

In many states, the local county Farm Service Agency (FSA) staff were just recently trained on these regulatory changes, which has caused a major delay in getting this information to impacted producers. The letter also states that many producers received a letter dated March 28, 2016, from the FSA notifying them of these changes. The status changes to farm structures caused by this rule are occurring after important operational decisions have already been made, including negotiated lease agreements, secured production financing, crop insurance and planting decisions. NSP will keep its members informed as new information on this process becomes available.

Lesser Prairie Chicken Threatened Designation Effort Dropped

The U.S. Justice Department this week abandoned its effort to list the lesser prairie chicken (LEPC) as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, dismissing its appeal of the

ruling by the U.S. Court for the Western District of Texas that vacated the LEPC listing. LEPC habitat stretches across much of the Sorghum Belt, and National Sorghum Producers and other agriculture organizations have been longstanding opponents to its listing under the Act because of the undue burden the listing would put on farmers and ranchers with costly regulations to meet preservation standards. Voluntary conservation measures by landowners coupled with increased rainfall have contributed to an increase in the bird's population in the last several years. Future action to re-list the LEPC remains questionable. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said in a statement the service would reassess the status of the species according to available science and the court's ruling while continuing to work with states and other federal agencies to further conservation efforts.

Vilsack Announces New Climate Change Effort

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack unveiled today a new climate change plan entitled [Building Blocks for Climate Smart Agriculture and Forestry](#). Targeted at helping farmers, ranchers and forestland owners respond to and help mitigate climate change, the plan will invest \$72.3 million toward primarily soil health initiatives and conservation programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) along with energy and lumber grants.

New Crop Sorghum Bids

This week saw another round of strong export commitments of 5.2 million bushels by China, Colombia, Japan and Mexico. Shipments were also firm at 2.5 million bushels to China, South Korea and Mexico. The gap between commitments and shipments has begun to widen, indicating potential for commitments to continue. Basis was flat after the post-WASDE corn market increase from early in the

week. Here are this week's old crop and new crop sorghum bids, where applicable:

- Cargill Houston old: +20, new: -15
- CGB West Memphis old: -40
- TMA Canton old: -73, new: -60
- AgMark Concordia old: -89, new: -70
- Aurora Coop Superior old: -69, new: -50
- WB Johnston Enid old: -50
- Gaviion Vicksburg old: +20
- CGB Henderson new: +0

Weekly Crop Update

Thirty percent of the sorghum was planted by May 8, slightly behind both last year and the 5-year average. In Kansas, the leading sorghum-producing state, the crop was 1 percent planted by week's end, two percentage points behind the 5-year average.

Sorghum in the Spotlight:

[Transform Approved in 10 States to Treat Sugarcane](#)

[Aphids](#) - Sorghum Checkoff

[Getting Ready Just in Case](#) - KGNC

[Increase Sorghum Yields by Maximizing Seed Weight](#) - The Ag Mag

[Why Sorghum's Momentum is Red-Hot](#) - AgWeb

[Research Results to Emerge in 2016](#) - Sorghum Stories

[Sorghum is Good Food](#) - KGNC

[Sorghum Markets Gain Momentum](#) - Sorghum Stories

[Leadership Program Provides Insight into Sorghum Industry](#) - Sorghum Stories

[Sorghum Checkoff Launches New, Mobile-Friendly Website](#) - Sorghum Checkoff

[Investing in the Soil](#) - Sorghum Grower

[Food Network Chef to Open Restaurant in Louisville](#) - Lane Report

[Sugarcane Aphid Populations Building in Rio Grande Valley](#) -

Southwest Farm Press

[You'll Never Be Bored With These 31 Satisfying and Scrumptious Salads](#) - One Green Planet

[10 of the Healthiest Grains You Can Eat](#) - Cheat Sheet

[Winter Tabbouleh Salad with Clementine Thyme Dressing](#) - Food + Love

[Sorghum Draws Interest From Foreign Investors](#) - Texas Farm Bureau

[How to Scout for Sugarcane Aphids in Sorghum to Achieve Effective Control](#) - Southwest Farm Press

[Sorghum Exports up 3 Percent From This Time Last Year](#) - USGC

[That's Ag-mazing!](#) - Ag 101

[Forage Sorghum a Good Fit for Stretching Feed Supply](#) - Southwest Farm Press

Upcoming Sorghum Events

May 12-14 South Texas Country Elevator Association's Convention

May 16-19 Jump with Jill Sorghum Show, *Tennessee*

May 21-24 National Restaurant Association Show, *Chicago, Illinois*

May 30 Office Closed - Memorial Day

June 17 McLennan County Row Crop Tour

For a full view of calendar events, visit the NSP website [calendar](#).

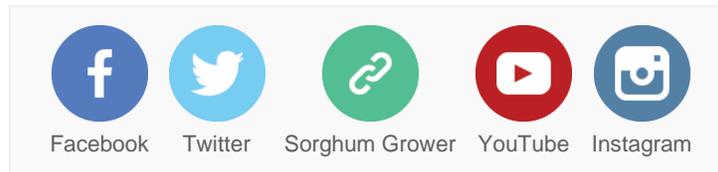
Market News - To view this week's Gulf export grain report, click [here](#).

Sign Up to Receive the Sorghum Checkoff e-Newsletter

Sorghum producers can also receive monthly e-Newsletters from the United Sorghum Checkoff Program. To receive

monthly news and information regarding the Sorghum Checkoff's efforts in sorghum research, education and market development, sign up [here](#). You can also follow the Sorghum Checkoff on Twitter [@SorghumCheckoff](#).

Sorghum Notes is a publication of the National Sorghum Producers. NSP represents U.S. sorghum producers and serves as the voice of the sorghum industry from coast to coast through education and legislative and regulatory representation.



*"Do not impose on others what you do not wish for yourself."
- Confucious*



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