

# **Corn Grower Update**

**Summer Edition 2014** 

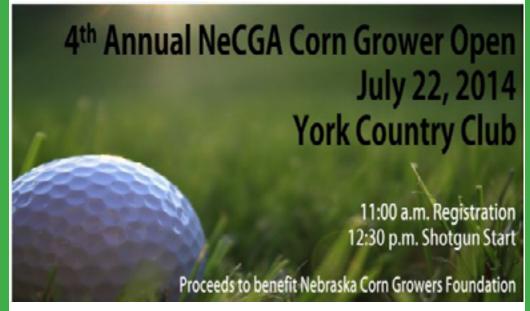
"Your Eyes, Your Ears"

#### Silent Auction to Benefit the Food Bank of Nebraska

For the next two years, the Nebraska Corn Growers Association will be focusing their philanthropic efforts on the Food Banks of Nebraska. "When we learned the alarming statistic that one in every five children are food deprived in Nebraska, we knew we wanted to find a way to help out. The food banks in Nebraska are doing a great job of addressing this issue and it is an honor to team up with them," said Joel Grams, NeCGA President. The food bank distributes 36,902 meals a day and feeds over 10,000 people a week.

To kick off this initiative the Nebraska Corn Growers are holding a silent auction at the 2014 Corn Grower Open. The proceeds from this auction will be donated to the Food Bank of Lincoln.

### 4th Annual Corn Grower Open



Please join us for the Nebraska Corn Growers Association 4th Annual Corn Grower Open. This year's four person, best-ball scramble will be hosted at the York Country Club in York, Nebraska on Tuesday, July 22nd. We will kick off the day with registration and a buffet lunch beginning at 11:00 am. Golfing will begin with a shot gun start at 12:30 pm followed by an awards ceremony and formal dinner to conclude the day.

We greatly appreciate the support we receive for this event, and hope everyone can join us on the course to network with a number of Nebraska's finest corn producers, allied members, and friends of the industry!

#### Thank you to all of our sponsors!

- Plains Equipment Group
- Valmont Industries
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- Nebraska Fárm Bureau
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- Wilbur-Ellis



### **Corn and Soy Ag Study Tour**

The Corn and Soy Mentors teamed up with the Nebraska Pork Mentors on a bus study tour that took them to different agriculture related facilities in Omaha. Some of the stops included CLAAS Assembly Plant, Union Pacific, Harriman Dispatch Center, Gavilon, Farm Credit Services of America and Just Good Meats. "I like how it introduced us to the various areas related in agriculture careers," said Chrisinda Scheideler of Nebraska.

"If you are excited about having a career in the agricultural industry, then I would without a doubt apply to the Corn Soy Mentor Program," said Morgan Zumpfe, of Friend, Nebraska. "The Ag industry is so broad that it is very difficult to know which part you want to fill during your career. The Mentor Program provides you with the opportunity to explore various parts and pieces of the industry, which enables you to make a more informed decision on the role you personally can play in the future."

Pictured below are both the Pork Mentor and Corn and Soy Mentor students that attended the Ag Study Bus Tour.





Corn, Soy and Pork Mentors learning about Just Good Meats

Back L-R: Jared Seier (Petersburg, NE), Jacob Hinrichsen (Burr, NE), Lukas Fricke (David City, NE) Chrisinda Scheideler (Scotia, NE), Brad Meusch (Bellwood, NE), Rebekah Spader (Waco, NE), Abigail Wehrbein (Plattsmouth, NE)

Front L-R: Mark Lundeen (Minden, NE), Toni Rasmussen (Albion, NE), Morgan Zumpfe (Friend, NE), Michelle Dvoracek (Elba, NE), Amanda Clymer (David City, NE), Sarah Schalm (Medford, MN).

Not Pictured: Haley Oser (Morrison, CO), Matt Hiebner (Hampton, NE)

## **Grain Engulfment Rescue Training**

National statistics show that farming is one of the most dangerous occupations in America. So it doesn't make sense to take short cuts when it comes to your personal safety on the farm. At the Nebraska Corn Growers Association, we ask all farmers to slow down and take a second for safety.

That is especially true when working around stored grain. Over the past 50 years, more than 900 cases of grain engulfment have been reported and the fatality rate is 62 percent. With a 10-inch auger, it takes just 25 seconds for a 6-foot person to be completely buried in grain.

On July 7th the Dawson County Corn Growers held a grain engulfment rescue training workshop in Lexington. The following day, July 8th, the Saunders County Corn Growers held a grain engulfment rescue training workshop in Ceresco. The grain rescue training was intended for industry personnel that actively work in the grain and commodities

industry as well as firefighter emergency rescue personnel who might be called to an engulfment rescue. These workshops were sponsored by GSI, NeCGA, NCB, DuPont-Pioneer and many local companies. At the conclusion of the workshops, the local Corn Grower Associations listed above presented two local fire departments in their counties with grain rescue tubes. The fire departments that received grain rescue tubes include: Lexington Fire Department, Cozad Fire Department, Wahoo Fire Department and Yutan Fire Department.

### **Update from President Joel Grams**

Dear Corn Growers,

There has been a lot of activity in the state of Nebraska since my last update. All of the crops have been planted and unfortunately some have been planted twice. Some areas had a lot of spring rains to delay planting, but as we all know, we better not complain too much about rain. I am writing this the day after the Pilger tornados. This storm, along with many others across the state has destroyed a lot of crops, pivots, grain bins and unfortunately some farms and homes. My sympathies go out to all affected by the storms.

NeCGA has been working with other Ag groups to develop comments that have been submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Waters of the United States (WOTUS). WOTUS proposes changes to the Clean Water Act, that could make things more difficult for Nebraska agriculture.

In July members of NeCGA will be participating in National Corn Growers Association Action Team meetings and Corn Congress. Corn Congress is where delegates help shape policy for NCGA, and elect members for NCGA Corn Board. Lynn Chrisp is running for re-election to the board; good luck to Lynn. NeCGA delegates will also be meeting with the Nebraska congressional delegation to discuss issues such as WOTUS and Farm Bill implementation.

On July 22 NeCGA will be hosting its annual golf outing at York Country Club with registration starting at 11:00 am and a shotgun start at 12:30 pm. The format is a 4 person scramble, so gather your team and come join us for a fun day!

Thanks for letting me share some random thoughts with you. We hope to see you at York on the 22nd. In the meantime, check out our calendar of events on the back page.

God Draws

President - Nebraska Corn Growers Association

#### Waters of the U.S.

The Nebraska Cattlemen, Nebraska Corn Growers, Nebraska Farm Bureau, Nebraska Pork Producers, Nebraska State Dairy Association and Nebraska Soybean Association joined together early this month to demand the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency withdraw its "Waters of the U.S." interpretive rule. The proposal would widely expand the agency's oversight of business and farms by changing the definition of waterways subject to regulation. The agency last year announced it was using the process of a draft guidance document to more clearly define which water bodies should be protected from pollution under the Clean Water Act. EPA argued then that "important waters now lack clear protection under the law, and businesses and regulators face uncertainty and delay." In effect, this new draft guidance would clarify whether EPA can regulate all waters in the county or only those which can be navigated by boat.

Bringing such dry waters under EPA's control will make impossible many common and important practices like weed control, fertilization and manure spreading near them. Even routine tasks like building fences will require permits if they will be built in or near a ditch. Many farming practices are time-sensitive and farmers cannot afford to wait on a government agency to process a permit and the regulation would leave EPA with too much flexibility in defining exactly what is and is not a "pollutant" subject to regulation.

Nebraska agriculture organizations have joined forces under the umbrella of 'Common Sense Nebraska', a new coalition formed to push back on EPA's "Waters of the U.S." rule. Last week the coalition kicked off their grassroots efforts with a press conference at a farm outside of Alda, Nebraska. Moving forward, the group will continue to build awareness and address this issue through its #DitchTheRule campaign.



#### **Summer Schedule of Events**

- Ethanol Night at the Races
  - July 25th- Beatrice Speedway-Beatrice, Nebraska
  - August 3rd- Lexington 104 Speedway-Lexington, Nebraska
  - August 16th- Junction Motor Speedway-McCool Junction, Nebraska
- Grain Safety Clinics
  - July 7th- Lexington, Nebraska- 5:30 p.m., Dawson County Fairgrounds- Exhibit Hall
  - July 8th- Ceresco, Nebraska- 5:30 p.m., American Legion of Ceresco
- Corn Congress
  - July 15th-17th- Washington D.C.
- 2014 Corn Grower Open
  - July 21-NeCGA Committee Meeting at Chances R- 5:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.
  - July 22
    - -Board Meeting 8:00-11:00 a.m. at York Country Club
    - -Registration for tournament will begin at 11:00 a.m., shot gun start at 12:30 p.m.
- Nebraska State Fair
  - August 27th-NeCGA and NCB volunteer in Beef Pit
- Husker Harvest Days
  - September 9th- 11th- Grand Island, Nebraska

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