The Nebraska Corn Growers Association has dedicated their time to promote the use of American Ethanol. The benefits of American Ethanol are clear, and NeCGA has carried this theme throughout a variety of events. At Husker Harvest Days this year, NeCGA educated visitors about the benefits of using American Ethanol:

- American Ethanol saves you money at the pump.
- American Ethanol is about fuel, feed and food!
- American Ethanol improves our nation’s energy security.
- American Ethanol is good for the environment.
- American Ethanol creates jobs and economic vitality.

The Biofuels Mobile Education Trailer attended Husker Harvest Days as well. This was a great tool to educate visitors about renewable fuels. As always, Husker Harvest Days allows us and other commodity groups to connect with farmer-members and speak about issues happening in the industry.

Thank you, to all of our members who took the time to join us at Husker Harvest Days!
Ethanol Night at the Races

This summer, the Nebraska Corn Growers Association hosted four Ethanol Night at the Races events around Nebraska. The locations this summer were Junction Motor Speedway in McCool Junction, I-80 Speedway near Greenwood, Dawson County Raceway in Lexington, and Beatrice Speedway. These events were free to Nebraska Corn Grower members and their families. We were happy to welcome the American Ethanol Show Car and the Biofuels Mobile Education Trailer at a couple of these events. It was enjoyable to see people interacting and learning more about American Ethanol.

Thank you, to all of our members who took the time to participate in NeCGA’s summer events!

Summer Plot Tours

Local Corn Grower Associations held their annual plot tours at the end of the summer. The Locals that held events were: Custer, Hamilton, Dawson, Southeast, York, and Buffalo-Hall. Each plot tour had an excellent group of speakers that provided information about production and management practices. At the various locations across the state, Growers learned about irrigation practices, drones, weather stations, cover crops, and more. Another tour this summer was the Soil Health Partnership hosted by Greg Whitmore. Area growers had the opportunity to interact with soil health experts to learn more about innovative agricultural practices.
Agriculture is the engine of Nebraska’s economy, fueled in many ways by our state’s abundant corn production. In 2014 alone, our farmers produced 1.6 billion bushels of corn. This output contributes to the viability of our state in the form of livestock feed, biofuels production, and exports across the globe. But in order to maintain this progress, federal policies must focus on encouraging economic growth without inhibiting our producers or harming Nebraska families.

As a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, I have an active role in promoting the right policies that will provide greater certainty for our corn producers. For example, this year I introduced legislation to ensure the viability of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). This bill would expand the market for biofuels production. It does so by increasing the Reid vapor pressure waiver for ethanol blends above 10 percent, which would enable more E15 blended gasoline to be consumed annually. The RFS is critical to Nebraska’s rural economy and supports nearly 1,200 jobs in our state.

We are also making advances in promoting biotechnology here in Congress. In July, the House of Representatives approved a bipartisan bill known as the Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act. This legislation would prohibit a complicated, state-by-state patchwork of labeling laws that make it harder for farmers and food manufacturers to comply with regulations. While we are waiting on companion legislation in the Senate, I am continuing to support this field of innovation. The advances in biotechnology have literally fed the world by offering access to an affordable, safe, and abundant food supply.

Meanwhile, Nebraska producers continue to voice their frustrations with burdensome regulations. To alleviate these burdens, I introduced a bill to block harmful mandates like the administration’s “waters of the United States” rule (WOTUS). The legislation, known as the Federal Water Quality Protection Act, would direct the administration to issue a revised proposal. It would also set clear limits on federal regulation of water, require consultation with states and impacted stakeholders, and ensure a thorough economic analysis is conducted.

Protecting our water is not enough. Corn production remains an energy-intensive industry and depends on affordable and reliable electricity. But the federal government is making this harder as well. New regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are threatening this delicate balance and forecast higher electric bills for Nebraska farmers and their families.

The EPA’s clean power rule is one example. It would directly impact producers by raising electricity rates due to new carbon emission reduction requirements. As the only 100 percent public power state, Nebraska families cannot afford these new mandates and will be disproportionately impacted. That’s why I joined Senator Shelley Moore Capito of West Virginia to cosponsor ARENA – a bill that would halt the damaging effects of this proposal and hold the EPA accountable.

These are just a few highlights of my work on behalf of Nebraska’s corn producers. As we are all aware, successful production depends on the right policies – and for Nebraska’s corn growers, this means eliminating roadblocks to growth. From energy and trade to taxes and good roads, the wrong policies can limit potential and harm Nebraska families. With your help, I will continue to fight for solutions and maintain the right balance between effective oversight and the freedom to create your own future.

Deb Fischer is serving her first term and is Nebraska’s senior senator, serving since 2013. In the U.S. Senate Senator Fischer is a member of: the Armed Services Committee; the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee; the Environment and Public Works Committee; and the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee.
NEWS FROM
THE NEBRASKA CORN
GROWERS ASSOCIATION
"YOUR EYES, YOUR EARS"

SAVE THE DATE!
Annual Meeting is December 3rd at Raising Nebraska Building in Grand Island.

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