

2016 RESOLUTIONS OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE

The South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA) is a non-partisan, non-profit corporation committed to promoting the profitability of South Dakota corn producers.

The SDCGA works to promote corn and improve corn profitability; influence public policy and legislative efforts; and increase corn usage through livestock feeding and new domestic products to improve the quality of life in a changing world.

GENERAL

The SDCGA supports efforts of all Corn Growers Associations to increase corn profitability.

The SDCGA supports research to understand the Carbon footprint of corn production in South Dakota. (12)

The SDCGA supports balancing the federal budget. (11)

The SDCGA supports legislation strengthening property rights and vested drainage rights of agricultural land in South Dakota.

The SDCGA supports a state income tax to lessen the property tax burden for a more equitable tax system.

The SDCGA supports the change of cooperative tax laws to equal the tax benefits of other business entities.

The SDCGA supports efforts to allow accelerated depreciation schedules and tax credits for private individuals, as well as corporations that are mandated to install pollution control measures (equipment and facilities) to help offset the costs associated with their installation.

The SDCGA supports a Productivity-Based Property Tax System. (10)

The SDCGA supports domestic drilling and exploration into other energy opportunities.

The SDCGA supports free trade agreements that do not leave sectors of agriculture vulnerable to dumping.

1 The SDCGA is opposed to any new tax on ag inputs. (15)

2
3 The SDCGA is opposed to taxes on dyed diesel. (15)

4
5 The SDCGA supports ag land property taxes based on highest and best use. (16)

6
7 The SDCGA opposes ag land property taxes based on actual use. (16)

8
9 **AG PROCESSING/ETHANOL**

10
11 The SDCGA encourages ethanol-diesel blend research to get support for marketing
12 ethanol-diesel blend, which can be made from corn, animal fat or soybeans.

13
14 The SDCGA encourages the use of ethanol-blended fuel and degradable plastics.

15
16 The SDCGA supports the usage of ethanol or biodiesel in all state owned vehicles. (11)

17
18 The SDCGA supports requiring all combustion vehicles built be flex fuel. (11)

19
20 The SDCGA supports research to determine the maximum amount of ethanol that can be
21 productively utilized by non-flex fuel vehicles.

22
23 The SDCGA encourages retail fuel outlets across the US to offer E-15. (12)

24
25 The SDCGA supports putting blender pumps for ethanol blended fuels throughout the US
26 that would give flex fuel vehicle owners the opportunity to select the blend of Ethanol
27 and unleaded that is the most cost effective for their vehicle upon appropriate federal
28 approval. (11)

29
30 The SDCGA supports the Small Producer Tax Credit.

31
32 The SDCGA supports ethanol and other biofuels as alternative aviation fuels.

33
34 The SDCGA demands the full implementation of the Renewable Fuels Standard.

35
36 The SDCGA supports science and research to enable corn-starch ethanol to qualify as an
37 advanced biofuel under RFS2. (11)

38
39 The SDCGA supports working with refineries to blend and transport ethanol, should they
40 decide to build a refinery in SD. (08)

41
42 The SDCGA supports the development of a dedicated ethanol pipeline system in the U.S.
43 (08)

44
45 The SDCGA requests that a majority of any economic development funds generated by
46 the state of South Dakota be directed toward new or expanding ag processing facilities.

1
2 The SDCGA will inform and encourage producers to become involved with and invest in
3 producer-owned, value-added processing plants and businesses.

4
5 The SDCGA will work with all agricultural commodity groups to support promoting the
6 verification of commercial moisture tester accuracy by the Public Utilities Commission
7 (PUC) on a random basis.

8
9 The SDCGA supports encouraging South Dakota's ethanol industry to sell their DDGs
10 (wet and dry) locally.

11
12 The SDCGA supports DDG research to develop methods, which would aid in the product
13 handling, feeding, transportation and consistency for end-users. (08)

14
15 The SDCGA favors a law to only require a simple majority of the zoning board to obtain
16 a conditional use permit.

17
18 The SDCGA supports state legislative changes that would allow agriculture commodity
19 groups to take an ownership position in value-added facilities.

20
21 The SDCGA opposes any constitutional amendment creating new limitations on
22 agricultural business structures and business practices.

23
24 The SDCGA supports in-state value-added agricultural processing and the efforts of SD
25 Ag Commodity Groups to promote their products and increase profitability for their
26 members.

27
28 The South Dakota Corn Growers supports establishment of federal fuel standards which
29 increase octane requirements in finished gasoline through higher blends of ethanol for use
30 in higher compression engines for improved fuel economy and air quality. (14)

31
32
33 **LIVESTOCK**

34
35 The SDCGA opposes concentration in the meat packing industry.

36
37 The SDCGA supports state legislation that would set zoning laws and environmental
38 regulations on a statewide basis and once these regulations have been met and a state
39 permit has been issued for a new or expanding livestock facility, the permitting and
40 zoning process is complete.

41
42 The SDCGA supports the standardization of animal units across the state (standardization
43 based upon federal regulations).

44
45 The SDCGA supports statewide standardization of conditional use permits.

1 The SDCGA supports an agricultural easement to protect agricultural activities in
2 agriculture areas/zones in counties.

4 The SDCGA supports statewide tax efforts including access to Tax Increment Financing
5 (TIF) districts to expand livestock production in South Dakota.

7 The SDCGA supports expanding the definition of value-added agriculture used by the SD
8 Board of Economic Development to include any processes that include the feeding of
9 commodities such as corn to animals.

11 The SDCGA opposes any dumping of livestock or meat products in the U.S. meat
12 market. (09)

14 The SDCGA is opposed to any proposal that would tax livestock producers for their
15 animal's green house gas emissions. (09)

17 The SDCGA opposes any efforts by township to restrict agricultural production. (09)

19 The SDCGA supports responsible science based animal husbandry practices. (10)

22 **FARM BILL**

24 The SDCGA request our South Dakota Congressional delegation in Washington to strive
25 for fairness of trade in ag policies, including the enforcement of existing US trade
26 regulations.

28 The SDCGA urges Congress to maintain the payment limits set forth in the 2007 Farm
29 Bill. (10)

31 The SDCGA supports using a five year Olympic average to determine price levels for
32 crop insurance. (12)

34 The SDCGA supports across the board cuts in federal spending to balance the US
35 Government Budget. These cuts include USDA programs. (11)

37 The SDCGA supports crop insurance enterprise and whole farm coverage across county
38 and state lines so there will be one unit per crop per entity. (10)

42 The South Dakota Corn Growers Association supports conservation compliance being
43 attached to crop insurance premium assistance if the Natural Resource Conservation
44 Service is able to give accurate certified wetland determinations within 12 months of a
45 producer making application. (14)

1 The South Dakota Corn Growers supports conservation compliance for the betterment of
2 our environment. (14)

3 4 5 **EXPORT/TRADE**

6
7 The SDCGA urges Congress to increase its efforts to remove sanctions to free trade.

8
9 The SDCGA supports Trade Promotion Authority to provide fair treatment for U.S.
10 producers. (08)

11
12 The SDCGA does not support U.S. cooperatives using patronage money in developing
13 businesses in foreign countries that compete with U.S. Ag producers.

14
15 The SDCGA emphasize that biotech issues not be used as a trade barrier.

16
17 The SDCGA supports and encourages U.S. Grains Council and all corn organizations'
18 efforts to promote the export of corn in all forms whether it be whole-kernel corn or
19 through value-added products such as ethanol and DDGS. (16)

20 21 22 **ENVIRONMENT**

23
24 The SDCGA will work with interested groups who are concerned with clean air and
25 water to come up with positive legislation that not only protects the environment, but also
26 ensures a strong viable agricultural industry.

27
28 The SDCGA believes that all Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) should remain
29 voluntary, be incentive based, and that farmers should be part of the decision-making
30 process concerning TMDL assessment and monitoring.

31
32 The SDCGA supports the placing of only environmentally sensitive farmland into the
33 Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) program and at rates that do not exceed average
34 county rental rates for land of similar production capabilities.

35
36 The SDCGA supports research to understand the economic and environmental impact of
37 water management on agricultural land. (12)

38
39 The SDCGA supports a long-term drainage management plan organized in watersheds.
40 (12)

41
42 The SDCGA supports the reporting for CAFO's under the EPA's Clean Water Act to
43 remain the same. (12)

44
45 The SDCGA opposes EPA's consideration to impose control over all non navigational
46 waterways. (11)

1
2 The SDCGA supports better, clearer, and more objective definitions for a wetland,
3 farmed wetland, or prior converted wetland, which are not open to discretionary
4 interpretation by the various governmental levels of Natural Resources Conservation
5 Services (NRCS).

6
7 The SDCGA supports a wetland mitigation process. (08)

8
9 The SDCGA encourages producers to continually work on improving their nutrient
10 management practices for the economic and environmental benefits it would provide.
11 (11)

12
13 The SDCGA supports the use of modern technology and more accurate information that
14 is presently available to update the soil survey maps across South Dakota. (12)

15 The SDCGA supports changing permanent easements to no more than 99 years.

16
17 The SDCGA supports the option for current surface landowners to buy back U.S. Fish
18 and Wildlife Service and NRCS perpetual conservation easements at market value with
19 the proceeds to reduce the national debt. (12)

20
21 The SDCGA supports the procedural adjustments made by South Dakota Natural
22 Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) (to comply with Swampbuster provisions of
23 the 1985 Farm Bill), which put South Dakota producers on a level playing field with the
24 rest of the nation when it comes to how wetlands determinations are made.

25
26 The SDCGA supports and encourages the United States Fish and Wildlife Services
27 (USFWS) to do a five-year review of the Endangered Species Act and the economic cost
28 associated with it.

29
30 The SDCGA supports corn and ethanol industry research and investment into economic
31 and sustainable low carbon technologies to further improve our Green House Gas (GHG)
32 accounting score. (11)

33
34 The SDCGA demands that scientifically verifiable data be used when considering
35 indirect Green House Gas (GHG) emission effects such as Indirect Land Use Change
36 (ILUC), and believe that all energy sources should be held accountable for their indirect
37 effects, based on equal boundaries. (11)

38
39 The SDCGA supports using marginal petroleum source emissions as the petroleum
40 baseline when calculating Green House Gas (GHG) reductions for biofuels. (11)

41
42 The SDCGA believes if biogenic carbon emissions are counted in calculations for Green
43 House Gas (GHG) emissions from combustion of biomass and/or biofuels, full credit
44 must be given for the GHG uptake and sequestration from the growing crop. (11)

45 The SDCGA opposes EPA's consideration to require a permit for every application of a
46 pesticide. (10)

1
2 The SDCGA urges EPA to use sound science in determining environmental impacts
3 when it comes to the use of crop protection products. (11)
4

5 The South Dakota Corn Growers Association supports proper water management
6 programs and the opportunity to increase land productivity. (14)
7

8 9 **TRANSPORTATION**

10
11 The SDCGA supports a competitive infrastructure of rail, waterways and trucks to
12 provide service for all ag products. (08)
13

14 The SDCGA supports anti-trust rail legislation. (10)
15

16 The SDCGA supports ag production having a right of standing in any rail rate case that
17 may be brought forward. (10)
18

19 The SDCGA supports reduction in filing fees for rail rate cases and a concrete deadline
20 for ruling on rate cases. (10)
21

22 The SDCGA supports a preamble of the law to reflect greater priority for shippers. (10)
23

24 The SDCGA supports having the surface transportation board being fully operational and
25 required to provide regulatory assistance.
26

27 The SDCGA supports railroad improvements in South Dakota, which enhances
28 competition. (11)
29

30 The SDCGA urges the State Legislature to develop a living snow fence program for
31 county roads, state roads, interstates and highways to keep our roads safer during the
32 winter.
33

34 The SDCGA supports a federal feasibility study of national transportation corridors as a
35 means of transporting people, goods, energy and services in a clean and efficient manner.
36 (09)
37

38 39 40 41 **BIOTECHNOLOGY**

42
43 The SDCGA supports the positive contributions of biotechnology as it relates to human
44 health, the environment, grain quality, and production benefits.
45

1 The SDCGA supports the commercial release of biotech corn hybrids or products that
2 have been fully approved by the relevant U.S. regulatory agencies and for which the
3 product registrant is aggressively pursuing approval in every country or bloc that requires
4 approval prior to importation of corn, corn products, or food containing corn ingredients.

5 The SDCGA supports the U.S. regulatory system, including the Food and Drug
6 Administration (FDA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and
7 Environmental Protection Administration (EPA), and their use of sound science in
8 determining regulations for utilization and development of biotechnology traits.

10 The SDCGA supports the strict enforcement of science-based isolation and containment
11 requirements for the research, production and processing of all crops that are not
12 approved for food and feed use in the United States and key export markets in order to
13 protect the commercial grain industry and food supply. (08)

15 The SDCGA supports requiring the seed industry to aggressively promote Insect
16 Resistance Management (IRM) in their seed sales strategy. (08)

18 The SDCGA supports enforcement policies that require producers to follow the refuge
19 requirement in order to protect against insect resistance. (08)

21 The SDCGA supports the development of internationally accepted, science based
22 tolerance standards.

24 The SDCGA request the seed industry to clearly label and identify the approval status of
25 all varieties and to augment this effort with an aggressive communications program
26 targeting grower customers.

28 The SDCGA supports the technology agreements indemnify producers from liability
29 once they follow regulations and guidelines provided by the biotech provider and seed
30 companies.

32 The SDCGA supports the establishment of a publicly funded research center at a land
33 grant-institution including South Dakota State University (SDSU) to disseminate
34 information, science, etc. about biotech.

36 The South Dakota Corn Growers Association supports licensing all seed and technology
37 discovered at SDSU. The SDCGA also supports that the ownership of all germ plasm
38 remain at SDSU. (14)