

## South Dakota Corn Takes on Hot Topics

**C**LIMATE CHANGE, Cap and Trade, Clean Water Act, higher blends of ethanol, environmental regulations and more were high priorities for South Dakota Corn delegates to the National Corn Growers Association Corn Congress 2009 as growers worked to get their arms around the many issues facing the ag industry in Washington, DC.

**CLIMATE CHANGE**

Corn Congress set the stage for South Dakota Corn board directors to converge on Capitol Hill for visits with South Dakota's Congressional delegation. Sen. Johnson, Sen. Thune and Rep. Herseth Sandlin all met personally with the SD Corn group.

"Corn Congress is an event set aside for grower leaders to come together and make important decisions on how to advance our industry," said Bill Chase, SDCGA president and a grower from Wolsey, S.D. "We especially are appreciative of the opportunity to meet, as actual ag producers, with our state's representative and senators and tell them what's important for growers back home."

Also during Corn Congress, delegates of affiliated state associations set policy for the NCGA organization. Delegates from SD Corn to Corn Congress included: Keith Alverson, Bill Chase, Chad Blindauer, Jim Burg, David Fremark, David Gillen, Mark Gross and Jim Thyen.

"Now is a very unique time in agriculture and never before has the industry been at the center of so many important movements in policy at a national level," said Chase. "That is why it is so critically important that South Dakota Corn representatives engage in shaping the direction of the actions our leaders will take on behalf of our industry so producers' interests are protected."

In addition to Hill visits and official NCGA business, members gave reports on key issues and activities from NCGA action teams and committees on top issues and activities.

**FOOD SAFETY**

**CAP & TRADE**



**TOP: Sen. Tim Johnson talks with Keith Alverson of Chester, S.D. and Bill Chase of Wolsey, S.D. during Corn Congress.**

**MIDDLE: Darrin Ihnen, of Hurley, S.D., addresses the 2009 Corn Congress crowd as first vice president of the NCGA Corn Board. Ihnen will officially become NCGA Corn Board president this fall.**

**BOTTOM: David Gillen, SD Corn delegate from White Lake, S.D.**



# President's Message

**G**REETINGS from Wolsey!  
As I write this, the rain is coming down slowly and crops look very good in my neck of the woods. Some areas have experienced severe weather with excessive rain, wind or hail. As painful as it is when it happens on your own farm, no one ever said this business was easy. I hope you have the necessary risk management tools in place to help deal with such an event.

*Bill Chase  
SDCGA President*

SDCGA delegates recently attended Corn Congress in Washington, DC. Corn Congress is where the official business of NCGA is conducted – action teams met and formal sessions

were held where NCGA board candidates were elected and resolutions were considered. Darrin Ihnen of Hurley, S.D., received the gavel as he will be moving up to President of the NCGA board in October. We look forward to Darrin's leadership of NCGA this coming year.

It seems there is never a dull moment during this annual July gathering. Many topics that will affect agricultural producers and current legislation were discussed during the meetings, Corn Congress business sessions and during our visits with Senators Johnson and Thune and Representative Herseth-Sandlin. Topics discussed included the following:

- Climate change bill (Cap and Trade)
- Clean Water Act
- Food safety
- Environmental bills that would identify a sprayer as point source pollution
- Higher ethanol blends (E-15, etc)
- Efforts to stabilize the ethanol industry

Your membership voice is put to good use when your state farmer delegates show up to lobby and put a face with the message. Your letters and e-mails to our legislators are also very important. They all want to hear from you on issues that affect you and your operation.

Just a reminder: The ACRE program deadline is August 14, 2009. Both NCGA and SDCGA sent postcards to our membership regarding this important decision deadline, and I've also received reminders from Farm Service Agency and several farm communication networks. You don't want to miss the opportunity to see if this program fits your operation. Take time to educate yourself. There are several resources available. One of the better sources of information I've seen is available right on the SDCGA website. Check it out!

Another successful event was the 18th Annual Corn Cob Open in June. It is always a great day of relaxation and networking and helps us raise funds for our Corn Political Action Committee. The PAC helps SDCGA continue our efforts to educate and influence our state legislators.

We are now entering the farm show and fair season throughout South Dakota. SDCGA will be present at several of these events. Be sure to check us out! We have many fun activities planned for these events that you won't want to miss. You will find me or other SDCGA board members in the booth with our corn office staff, and as always, we want to hear from you about corn and the issues facing the industry. I hope to see you there!

*Bill Chase*



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Central Farmers Cooperative  
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Denny Everson –  
First Dakota National Bank  
Reed Mayberry – Pioneer

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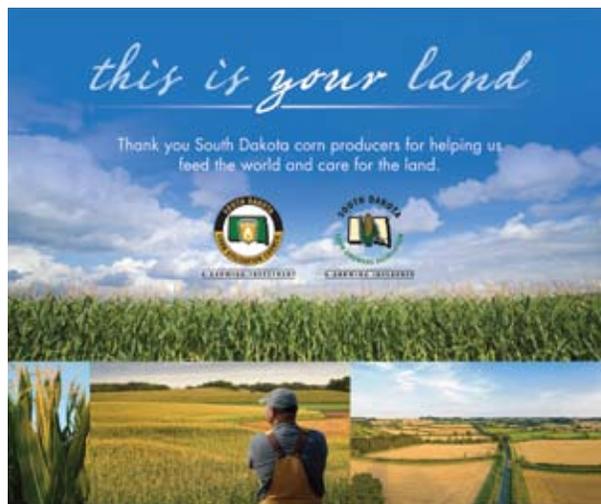
Lisa Richardson, Executive Director  
Teddi Mueller, Legislative &  
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# This is Your Land: Using Less, Growing More

**S**OUTH DAKOTA corn farmers are using less fertilizer, fewer chemicals and less land to grow more on each acre through advanced technology and sustainable management practices.

To bring attention to the incredible advances in genetics, responsible stewardship and unwavering commitment of South Dakota farmers, SD Corn has launched "This is Your Land" — a way to recognize producers for protecting our valuable resources while meeting the needs of today and tomorrow with enough corn for feed, food, fiber and fuel.

Watch for this promotion at upcoming events and positive messages throughout the year!



## Calendar of Events

**Aug. 12, 2009**

Farmer Appreciation Day  
Sioux Empire Fair  
Sioux Falls, SD

**Aug. 11-14, 2009**

American Coalition for  
Ethanol Conference  
Milwaukee, WI

**Aug. 17-20**

Turner County Fair  
Parker, SD

**Aug. 18-19**

ProExporter Conference  
Kansas City, MO

**Aug. 18-20, 2009**

Dakotafest  
Mitchell, SD

**Aug. 25-26**

Land Use Conference  
St. Louis, MO

**Sept. 1-3, 2009**

Midwest Specialty Grains  
Conference  
Sioux Falls, SD

**Sept. 3, 2009**

Value-Added Agriculture Day  
SD State Fair, Huron, SD

**Sept. 3-7, 2009**

South Dakota State Fair  
Huron, SD

**Sept. 9, 2009**

SDCUC Board Meeting  
Sioux Falls, SD

**Sept. 16, 2009**

SDCGA Board Meeting  
Sioux Falls, SD

**Sept. 17, 2009**

SD Biotech Summit  
Sioux Falls, SD

**Nov. 11-13, 2009**

USMEF Conference  
Denver, CO

**Nov. 14, 2009**

CornPac Bus Trip  
Minneapolis, MN

**Dec. 1-4, 2009**

GrowingOn 2010 Seminars  
Various locations

**Dec. 7, 2009**

SDCGA & SDCUC Board Meeting  
Sioux Falls, SD

**Jan. 9, 2010**

SDCGA Annual Meeting  
Sioux Falls, SD

**Mark your calendar for  
Saturday, November 14!**



*Reserve your spot today on the SDCGA Bus trip!*

**SDSU Jackrabbits vs.  
U of M Gophers**

**Football Game • Minneapolis, MN • Nov. 14**

Plans are to leave in the early AM and return in the late PM on Saturday, November 14. Cost: \$175 per person. Package includes: Bus travel, meals, and game ticket.

**Limited space available!  
RSVP today at**

**605-334-0100!**

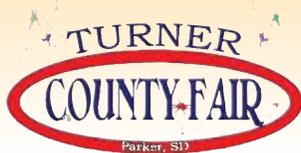
*Proceeds go to the SD CornPAC*



**CORNPAC**  
A GROWING INFLUENCE

# Join us for Summer Fun

At Dakotafest, the South Dakota State Fair, and Turner County Fair!



## Cow Pie Bingo at Turner County Fair:

SD Corn will make their inaugural appearance at Turner County Fair in Parker, S.D., with a promotion sure to grab the attention of fairgoers! Don't miss your chance to hit it big in Corn Fed Cow Pie Bingo!



Anytime during the week of Turner County Fair, Aug. 17-20, purchase a numbered "square" for \$5. Then on

Aug. 20 at 8 p.m., you are invited to fill the stands at the livestock show ring to see where our the bovine guest of honor will make a cow pie. The first square a cow pie lands on wins ethanol enriched gas totaling up to half the pot of the tickets sold for the event. You do not have to be present to win, but who wants to miss? See official rules at the time of ticket purchase for additional details.



The South Dakota Corn Utilization Council (SDCUC) and South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA) will host special events each day of Dakotafest at our tent, #118!

## TUESDAY, AUG. 18 -

### Sweet Corn Feed

Don't miss a complimentary Sweet Corn Feed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the SD Corn tent, #118

## WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19 -

### SDCGA Membership Appreciation Day

SDCGA members are invited to stop by the tent and sign up for a Members-only prize give-away! Our way of saying 'thanks' for your support!

## THURSDAY, AUG. 20 -

### Ethanol Day at the SD Corn Tent

The first 100 people to the tent will receive \$5 in ethanol!



## Huron, SD

Join SD Corn for a complimentary Sweet Corn Feed during Value-Added Agriculture Day at the South Dakota State Fair!

## THURSDAY, SEPT. 3 -

### Value-Added Agriculture Day

Complimentary Sweet Corn will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Value-Added tent just south of the Freedom Stage!



South Dakota Corn Growers Association & Pedersen Machine, Inc present

## "GOING GREEN" Raffle

\$5/one ticket, \$10/3 tickets

Purchase your raffle tickets for a chance to win a John Deere Z225 riding mower. Winner will be announced at a special event in September at Pedersen Machine, Inc. in Beresford, SD.

Watch for more info to come!



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## Membership Incentives at Summer Shows

Have lunch on us  
and get GAS!

GET A FREE LUNCH on SD Corn and \$20 in ethanol if you renew your membership in the SDCGA OR if you bring a new member to the organization! This special membership campaign will only be offered at our Summer Show events which include:

- **Turner County Fair in Parker: Aug. 17-20**
- **Dakotafest: Aug. 18-20**
- **SD State Fair Value-Added Day: Sept. 3**

Simply stop by the SD Corn booth at any of these events and renew or bring a new member and you will receive a free lunch coupon and \$20 in ethanol! This is in addition to all the other great incentives you receive for joining which are listed on this page. If your membership is set to lapse, this is a great time to rejoin! (Offer valid for 3-year and lifetime memberships)

Check out the membership packages:

### 3-year SDCGA Membership: \$200

Incentives: \$90 toward seed purchases  
12-month subscription to DTN Mobile  
\$25 QuickRoots Credit

### Lifetime SDCGA Membership: \$800

Incentives: \$150 toward seed purchases  
12-month subscription to DTN Mobile  
\$25 in ethanol certificates  
\$50 in QuickRoots Credit

## Seed Program

Seed certificates can be used for \$30 off a hybrid seed purchase of \$100 or more from any of these supporting companies:

<i>Black Diamond Seeds</i>	<i>Integra Seeds</i>	<i>Nortec Seeds</i>	<i>Seeds 2000</i>
<i>Crows</i>	<i>Kaltenberg Seeds</i>	<i>Pannar Seeds</i>	<i>Stine Seeds</i>
<i>Fontanelle Hybrids</i>	<i>Legend Seeds</i>	<i>Proseed</i>	<i>Sucroscos Seeds</i>
<i>Great Lakes Hybrids</i>	<i>Mustang Seeds</i>	<i>REA Hybrids</i>	<i>Wensman Seed</i>
<i>Hoegemeyer Hybrids</i>	<i>Mycogen Seeds</i>	<i>Renze Hybrids</i>	

## DTN Mobile

Join SDCGA at the 3-year or lifetime level & receive a 12-month subscription to DTN Mobile.



FARM SMARTER

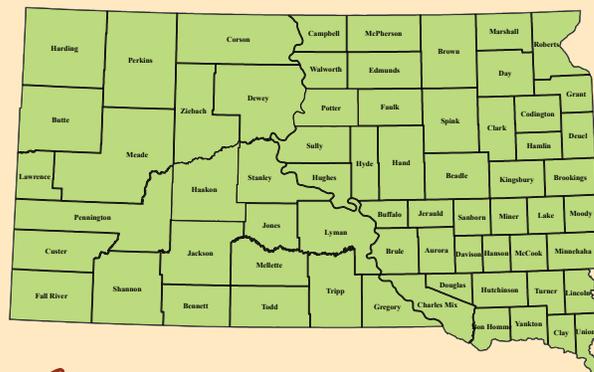
## QuickRoots™ Certificate Program

Join SDCGA at the 3-year or lifetime level and receive a certificate towards a \$100 minimum purchase of QuickRoots™ - \$25 certificate for a 3-year membership or \$50 for a lifetime membership..

### About QuickRoots™ –

*The microorganisms in QuickRoots™ have been shown to increase availability of certain plant nutrients and can increase plant nutrient uptake.*

## SD Agriculture and the Federal “Stimulus” Package



THE AMERICAN RECOVERY and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), which President Obama signed into law on February 17, allocated approximately \$28 billion of the \$787 billion package to agriculture. All \$28 billion, which is roughly 3.5 percent of the total, is designed to supplement existing programs. Many of these funds are administered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Out of the portion designated for agriculture, the ARRA allocated more than \$20 billion for food and nutrition programs, with most of the remainder for rural development.

In South Dakota, “stimulus” funding has been awarded for several rural development projects. Two facilities projects in Ziebach County received a total of \$177,000, and several rural water projects have earned funds as well. The Aurora-Brule water system obtained \$3.6 million; the city of Waubay received \$918,000; and \$12 million will go to Mid-Dakota Rural Water.

The U.S. Forest Service is also allocating funds for forestry-related projects. While South Dakota did not receive any funding in the initial round of disbursements, the S.D. Department of Agriculture is working on funding for fuels reduction projects in Custer State Park. With these funds, the Department hopes to address some critical forest health and fire hazard issues within the Park.

“Overall, production agriculture did not receive a lot of direct funding in the federal stimulus package,” said S.D. Secretary of Agriculture Bill Even. “But, rural areas should see some benefits, especially with rural water projects, the broadband initiative, and tax provisions for renewable energy, especially renewable fuels like ethanol.”

Millions of dollars in ARRA funds are still available as competitive grants, so producers and organizations are encouraged to visit [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov) to determine if funding may be available for projects to improve and stimulate job opportunities in their local communities.



# Activism in Action

## Use your voice and organize your community

By Steve Hildebrand  
Hildebrand Strategies

***“It’s important to know what your enemies are doing in order to fight back.”***

**T**O PUT THINGS INTO PERSPECTIVE, it’s important to know what your enemies are doing in order to fight back.

The grocery industry blamed the increased production of ethanol for the rise in food costs last year, hurting the image of American grown corn and it’s place in our food supply. And too many in this country believed their lies.

Liberal environmental groups lobby Congress and feed information to national news services, using out-dated and misleading information in order to curb the expansion of corn production and use of ethanol.

Reputable universities on the east and west coasts have accepted millions of dollars from big oil companies to fund so-called “research” that is being used by policy makers and regulators, shutting down markets like the state of California and hurting corn growers and ethanol producers.

Hollywood film makers release films like “King Corn” and “Food, Inc.” that spread lies and launch unfair attacks on American agriculture, corn producers and the ethanol industry.

Politicians are talking about renewable energy and a green economy, but too many fail to recognize that America’s corn growers and the related ethanol industry are the revolutionary leaders that actually created thousands of new jobs and provided the first viable alternative to imported oil.

At a time when the economy in rural America is tenuous at best and the future of corn-based ethanol is in question, the image of American agriculture has taken a big hit. The list of enemies is growing. The attacks are aggressive and well funded. As a result, elected officials aren’t as vocal as we need them to be. Some are less willing to wage the battles we need in order to have a strong and secure future.

That’s why the South Dakota Corn Growers Association, along with the National Corn Growers and our allies are putting forth a renewed effort to step up our game and create an unprecedented level of activism. Your leadership, your organizing skills — and most importantly, your voice — are needed now more than ever before.

The 300,000 corn growers across this country, along with other farmers and ranchers, ethanol producers, seed and feed suppliers, equipment manufacturers, and our rural communities all need to come together to show strength in numbers. We need all of you to become community organizers who help us rebuild our place in the economy and put us in a strong position moving forward.

I am excited to be working with you to achieve your critical goals. I hope you understand how powerful you can be if you use your voice, organize your community and show the leadership we all need. Embrace a movement mentality and all that it means to gain the strength needed to prosper long into the future.



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# Questioning Food Safety:

## 'Danger' is more than meets the eye

**W**HEN YOU THINK OF THE SAFETY of your food, what is the first thing that enters your mind? Food borne illness, E.coli, proper storage and handling?

The new face of food safety has grown to encompass issues such as animal welfare, traceability, policy development and even PR attacks by big food companies, media fodder and even movies. For food producers, the danger is the perception of their practices.

Agriculture and food production have been under a microscope over the past several months and a few of latest attacks on the industry from a food safety perspective are the movie, Food, Inc., and efforts by the United States



### Food Safety Bill Provisions affecting Agriculture

- **Exempts livestock production completely from the bill's provisions**
  - Animal disease and food safety for meat, poultry and egg products is regulated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, so any regulation by the Food and Drug Administration would be unnecessary and duplicative
- **Exempts grain farmers from new safety standards and record access provisions because of their lower risk of contamination**
  - FDA does not need additional authority for these lower-risk products
- **Authorizes the establishment of scientific, risk-based food safety standards for growing, harvesting, processing, packing, sorting, transporting, and holding of certain agriculture commodities**
  - Standards may apply to fruit, vegetables, nuts, and fungi
  - The Secretary of Health and Human Services must coordinate with Secretary of Agriculture to establish standards
- **Exempts farm to farm sales, sales directly from farmer to consumer, and items sold at farmers market from the bill's facility definition and fees.**
  - The definition of a facility does not include farms, on-farm storage, farms that sell directly to consumers or farms that manufacture grains or other feedstuffs that are grown on that farm and are distributed to other farms.
- **Requires the Food and Drug Administration to coordinate with the U.S. Department of Agriculture on important issues, including the establishment of food safety standards for fruit, vegetables, nuts, and fungi; access to farm records for certain commodities and traceability**
  - USDA can provide useful and necessary expertise in these areas.
- **Includes more suitable traceability requirements, established with extensive public input**
  - Grains and similarly handled commodities will not require traceback prior to arrival at grain elevators
  - Other producers must maintain normal business records indicating where they got products and where they were sent—not every step in the production chain must be recorded by the producer

Humane Society to impose legislative regulation on animal agriculture.

"We as agriculture producers must be diligent in making sure our consumers are confident in our ability to provide a safe source of food for our nation and beyond," said Bill Chase, president of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association. "We simply cannot sit back and assume they know — we must be diligent and actively engaged in proving to consumers that our production practices are environmentally friendly, humane to animals and take precautions at all levels."

On Capitol Hill last week, the U.S. House approved the biggest overhaul of food-safety laws in decades. The body voted 283 to 142 to approve a \$3.5 billion measure that would direct the Food and Drug Administration to write new regulations to safeguard the food supply, require more frequent inspections of processing plants and force companies to keep better records to help regulators trace outbreaks.

The plan would be partly financed by a \$500 annual fee on food producers. The \$500 fee, which would be indexed for inflation, would generate an estimated \$1.4 billion over the next five years, according to the Congressional Budget Office. Farms and restaurants would be exempted from the fee.

Groups such as the Grocery Manufacturers Association and Food Marketing Institute, support the measure saying it would give FDA the resources it needs to ensure food safety. Critics of the far reaching bill say the bill goes too far and the rules and tax would likely be passed along to consumers through higher food prices.

The measure now heads to the Senate where a food- safety bill introduced by Dick Durbin, an Illinois Democrat, is awaiting committee approval.

President Barack Obama, in a statement, called the House legislation a "major step forward in modernizing our food safety system and protecting Americans from food-borne illness."

The push for the bill followed food recalls involving cookie dough, spinach and peppers, among other items. Earlier this year, an outbreak of salmonella-tainted peanuts killed at least eight people and sickened 600. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates there are 76 million cases of food-borne illnesses annually, 5,000 of which prove fatal.

According to news reports, the FDA oversees 80 percent of the nation's food supply, with meat, eggs and poultry falling under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture.

Several agricultural groups including South Dakota Corn and the National Corn Growers Association fought to impact several provisions in the bill so agriculture would not be unfairly burdened.

# Showplot Update

## Growing & growing...

**S**OUTH DAKOTA CORN GROWER ASSOCIATION showplots are progressing well in South Dakota's unique 2009 growing season. The plots are sure to reveal interesting results from growing conditions across the state this year. The SDCGA would like to thank all the producers who take time to plant and harvest these plots as the data will be very useful as producers make planting decisions for next season.

The SDCGA is committed to providing a non-biased program with accurate and timely results. We would also like to thank the seed companies who participate in the showplot program; without the help of our seed dealers the showplot program would not be a success!

This fall as the SDCGA showplots are harvested, the results will be immediately posted on our website at [www.sdcorn.org](http://www.sdcorn.org). We will also email the final showplot results directly to you by request. If you would like to be on the email distribution list, email your request to [katrina@sdcorn.org](mailto:katrina@sdcorn.org).

### 2009 SHOWPLOT COOPERATORS

**Clay County – District 1**

Travis Mockler

**McCook County – District 3**

Steve and Melvin Dick

**Lake County – District 4**

Keith Alverson

**Codington County – District 6**

John Kittelson

**Beadle County – District 8**

Bill Chase

**Davison County – District 9**

Chad Blindauer

**Aurora County – District 11**

David Reinesch

**Hughes County – District 12**

Marv Schumacher

**Spink County – District 13**

Rodney Bade

**Tripp County – District 14**

Bryan Jorgensen



**Photographs from the SDCGA Showplot field day at Jorgensen Land and Cattle in 2007**



### SDCGA Showplot field day slated for Aug. 27

**T**HE SOUTH DAKOTA CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION is pleased to offer a special look at growing conditions in central South Dakota during a field tour at an SDCGA Showplot Cooperator location.

A corn variety test plot sponsored by the SDCGA and hosted by Jorgensen Land & Cattle Partnership will be held near Ideal, S.D., on Aug. 27 at 2 p.m.

There are 12 hybrid companies and 34 hybrids represented in this plot. This is a tremendous opportunity to see these hybrids selected by their represented companies for this area of South Dakota. Come view the hybrids and listen to the company representatives talk about their hybrids.

The Jorgensens will have their planter on display as well and Bryan Jorgensen will give a short presentation on planter setup and fertility management.

An evening meal will be provided after the tour along with a marketing presentation by Steve Koenig from Progressive Marketing.

**Where:** Next to the Ideal Post Office, Ideal, South Dakota

**When:** 2:00 PM Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009



# New Hydrology Indicators to be used by NRCS

ON JUNE 25, 2009, the South Dakota (SD) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) adopted the Great Plains and Midwest Regional Supplements to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual. The adoption of these supplements is required by the multi-agency SD Wetland Mapping Conventions, federal regulations, and NRCS policy.

The major change is the adoption of 20 "new" hydrology indicators. The SD NRCS will no longer be using hydric soil and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetland Inventory as a secondary indicator of wetland hydrology.

The SD NRCS will also continue to use the 9 remaining "original" hydrology indicators. In an effort to promote consistent and proper use of hydrology indicators, field personnel are asked to submit digital photographs of the new indicators to the field support office for approval when they are encountered in the field prior to their use.

Field personnel will also receive additional training on the use of the new indicators which will then allow them to use the indicators without additional approval. The NRCS anticipates that the use of the new indicators will provide an opportunity to save time while maintaining a high quality wetland determination product for producers.

## Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Interim Final Rule Posted in Federal Register

The final interim rule for the Conservation Stewardship Program was posted July 29, 2009, in the Federal Register and is open for public comment. The deadline to submit comments is September 28, 2009. The CSP rule will be finalized in FY 2010. For more information go to <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmland/2008/pdfs/E9-17812.pdf>

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) amended the Food Security Act of 1985 to establish the Conservation Stewardship Program. The purpose of the Conservation Stewardship Program is to encourage producers to address resource concerns in a comprehensive manner by undertaking additional conservation activities, and improving, maintaining and managing existing conservation activities. This interim final rule, with request for comment, sets forth the policies, procedures, and requirements necessary to implement the Conservation Stewardship Program as authorized by the 2008 Act amendments. The Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has delegated authority to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to administer CSP.

For the initial signup period, NRCS recommends that the CSP program design place equal weight on the considered program ranking factors until program performance is established. Given that program performance has not been established, NRCS seeks public comment on which option best enables NRCS to meet program objectives.

Through CSP, NRCS will provide financial and technical assistance to eligible producers to conserve and enhance soil, water, air, and related natural resources on their land. Eligible lands include cropland, grassland, prairie land, improved pastureland, rangeland, nonindustrial private forestlands, agricultural land under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe, and other private agricultural

land (including cropped woodland, marshes, and agricultural land used for the production of livestock) on which resource concerns related to agricultural production could be addressed.

The State Conservationist, in consultation with the State Technical Committee and local work groups, will focus program impacts on natural resources that are of specific concern for a State, or the specific geographic areas within a State. Applications will be evaluated relative to other applications addressing similar priority resource concerns to facilitate a competitive ranking process among applicants who face similar resource challenges. NRCS will make funding for CSP available nationwide on a continuous application basis.

The 2008 Act requires NRCS to manage CSP to achieve a national average rate of \$18 per acre, which includes the costs of all financial and technical assistance, and any other expenses associated with program enrollment and participation. NRCS will use a producer self-screening checklist to help potential applicants decide for themselves whether CSP is the right program for them and their operation. The process focuses on basic information about CSP eligibility requirements and contract obligations.

The NRCS will establish a national target to set aside five percent of CSP acres for socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers and an additional five percent of CSP acres for beginning farmers or ranchers. State Conservationists will obtain advice from State Technical Committees and local working groups on State program technical policies, outreach efforts, and program issues.



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# 2009 Corn Cob Open Recap

*"A great day of golf and camaraderie!"*

**T**HE SPRING CREEK COUNTRY CLUB near Harrisburg, S.D., set a stellar stage as nearly 300 farmers, businessmen and dignitaries converged on the greens for the South Dakota Corn Growers Association's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Corn Cob Open on June 19.

Two shot-gun starts kicked off the four-man best ball tournament with a morning and afternoon flight at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. Despite a rainy morning greeting them, golfers got on the greens with just a 15 minute rain delay as the 26 teams shot right through the morning; and the next flight enjoyed a beautiful afternoon of golf featuring 36 teams.

The hole-in-one prize up for grabs that day was a 2009 flex fuel vehicle, providing golfers the incentive to make their best attempt to sink a hole-in-one. Although no one took home a vehicle, a few golfers came within a couple of feet of a hole-in-one and countless golfers lowered their handicaps trying.

This year's Mulligan Game was a big highlight for golfers as they had the opportunity to toss bean bags in the official Corn Hole game to earn a mulligan point. Several golfers shaved off a point or two while raising money for the SDCGA Corn Pac.

After each golf tournament, golfers retired to the club house to find out how they performed against other teams vying for the tremendous line-up of prizes which included DVD players, grills, get-a-way packages and more for top performers. Prizes were also awarded to the teams who placed first, second and third.

"The SDCGA Corn Cob Open is the premier summer event for industry friends and members of the SDCGA and this year's tournament was no exception," said Reed Mayberry, an industry representative from Pioneer on the SDCGA board. "This event allows industry and producers the opportunity to come together and enjoy a great day of golf and camaraderie."



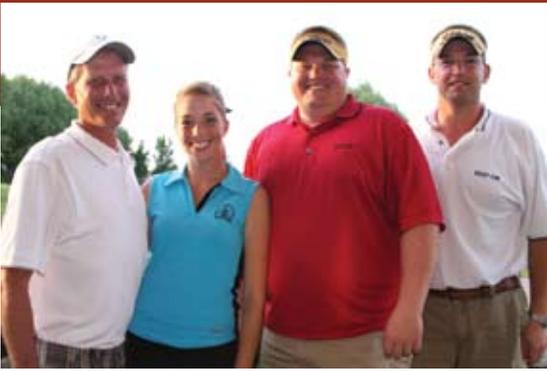
## Morning Flight: Top Three Teams

**First place:** NK Seeds—Score: 61  
Ryan Dinger, Mike Boomsma, Jim Krebsbach. (Not pictured: Brian Nordick)

**Second place:** Pioneer (photo unavailable)  
—Score: 62  
Nathan Antonen, Brent Antonen, Reed Mayberry, Doug Berven

**Third place:** Pioneer—Score: 62  
Adam Smith, Jim Ruhland, Jessie Larson, Cody Larson





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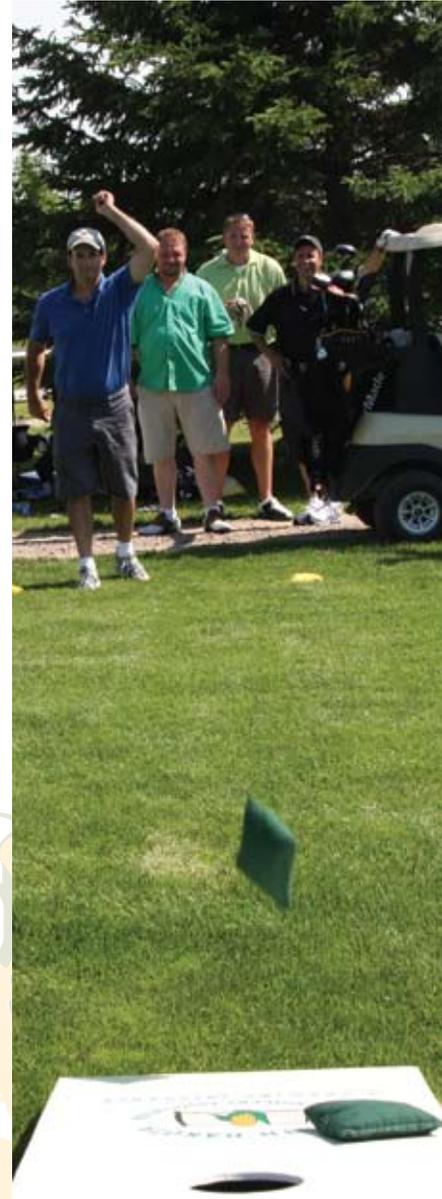
Business Printing & Graphics

## Afternoon Flight: Top Three Teams

**First place:** Croplan Genetics—Score: 58  
Todd Hanten, Brittany Hanten, Tom Ryan,  
Jay Boomsma

**Second place:** Mycogen Seeds—Score: 59  
Steve Hansman, Jeff Dickens (Not  
pictured: David Axelsen, Jim Fields)

**Third place:** Croplan Genetics—Score: 60  
Mark Comes, Monica Hanten, Steve  
Bucholz, Matt Erickson



# NCGA Policy Update

## Climate change, food safety and the Clean Water Act on the agenda

THE 111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS has been exceptionally busy as the new administration seeks to move its priorities through the House and Senate at a rapid pace. The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) and the South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA) have been active with a number of priorities this year, including climate change, food safety and the Clean Water Act.

### Climate Bill/Cap-and-Trade

Besides the ongoing healthcare debate, no issue has received more attention in Congress this year than climate change. The American Clean Energy and Security Act, H.R. 2454, was introduced this spring by House Energy and Commerce Chairman Henry Waxman (D-CA). The bill would cap greenhouse gas emissions and establish a carbon trading market to help reach emissions reduction targets.

Earlier this year, more than a dozen agriculture organizations, including NCGA, adopted a number of consensus priorities to help guide the climate debate in the House. The agriculture sector urged a strong role for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in a carbon offsets market, a recognition of those “early actors” who have been sequestering carbon through conservation practices for many years, and most importantly a total exemption for agriculture from the regulatory requirements in the bill.

In the final days of the House negotiations, Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson (D-MN) was able to include a robust, voluntary agricultural offsets program in the legislation, which will allow farmers to sequester carbon in the soil or capture methane from livestock and sell those credits to the regulated community. The Peterson amendment gave sole authority over the offsets program to USDA rather than the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and also explicitly exempted agriculture from a greenhouse gas emissions cap, which means growers will not need to monitor or limit their emissions except to

participate in a voluntary market.

Also of interest, the Peterson amendment set aside an EPA rule that would have considered so-called international indirect land use effects when calculating the carbon footprint for corn based ethanol. EPA’s modeling had little or no basis in sound science but made the assertion that ethanol was responsible for deforestation in Brazil. H.R. 2454 now includes language that prohibits the agency from factoring international indirect land use change until a study is completed within the next five years.

The American Clean Energy and Security Act passed the House floor by a vote of 219 – 212 on June 26. NCGA opposed an earlier draft of the bill but took a neutral position on the final version since it included a number of positive agricultural provisions inserted by Chairman Peterson. Meanwhile, NCGA has commissioned a study to understand the overall economic impacts of H.R. 2454 on corn production. The results of this study should be available in time to affect the Senate negotiations, which will begin in earnest in September.

### Food Safety

On July 30, the House of Representatives passed The Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009, HR 2749, by a vote of 283 to 142. The bill contained three key improvements in areas important to corn growers, including a grain exemption for both the safety standard and on-farm records access issues, as well as improvements to the traceability portion of the legislation.

However, there is still work to be done on some issues, including the quarantine provision, in the U.S. Senate. NCGA supported passage of this bill, as significant improvements had been made regarding on-farm issues. NCGA looks forward to working further on this legislation to continue on the improvements made in the House.

### Clean Water Act issues

NCGA fought hard to defeat the Clean Water Restoration Act (CWRA) during the previous Congress; however, the bill was reintroduced this year in the form



## Evolving Ethanol Industry: Protecting VEETC and the Tariff

*By Lisa Richardson, Executive Director  
South Dakota Corn Growers &  
South Dakota Corn Utilization Council*

**W**HAT WILL THE ETHANOL INDUSTRY look like in two years? Will it continue to grow? Who will own it? These are questions that are constantly asked from the Board of Directors of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association.

The SDCGA recently undertook the process of strategic planning. One of the most important issues to the SDCGA was the continuation of the Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit (VEETC) and the extension of the tariff.

In order to understand its importance, it is helpful to know the history of the ethanol incentive. The original incentive was called the partial excise tax exemption and was 60 cents a gallon. In the fall of 2004, VEETC was passed as a 53 cent volume tax. It changed how it was financed and used. It was extended in 2006 at 51 cents per gallon; and in the 2008 farm bill, it was lowered to 45 cents a gallon.

Simply put, the VEETC is a blender's credit. It is not paid to the ethanol plant, which is a common misconception. It does allow ethanol an opportunity to compete with the oil monopoly. The VEETC is set to expire in the December 31, 2009.

The tariff was initiated to stop the U.S. ethanol incentive from being used by the Brazilian sugar ethanol industry. The tariff is 54 cents a gallon and generates over \$270 million for the United States Government.

This historical perspective is key in understanding the critically important role VEETC and the tariff have played in the development of the United States ethanol industry.

I am always amazed at the controversy projected by some competitors of ethanol. As we have been working on our strategic plan at the SDCGA, it has become evident that ethanol has been under an organized, well-funded campaign to stop its growth over the past 18 months. I believe it is all orchestrated to limit its growth and has put the industry advocates on the defense.

As we move forward, the SDCGA will work with our industry partners, national representation and Congressional delegation to make sure the ethanol industry remains viable by protecting VEETC and the tariff.

of S. 787 by Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI). The proposed legislation would eliminate the term 'navigable' from the Clean Water Act as a limit on federal jurisdiction, which would give EPA authority over all isolated waters including ditches and ponds. The bill would place unnecessary and burdensome restrictions on the agriculture industry, as well as the agencies tasked with enforcing it.

In its current form, the CWRA would create significant new expenses for farmers, would mean less local control of land and water resources and cause complexity and confusion around routine activities such as pesticide applications. In fact, farmers could be required to acquire permits for routine agricultural activities such as creating a culvert. The SDCGA believes the CWRA would cause harm to the agriculture industry and urges growers to contact their Senators and urge them to oppose S. 787 or any similar congressional efforts to expand the jurisdictional reach of the Clean Water Act.

### **Pesticide Applications – Need a Permit?**

A related issue is a recent decision by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals requiring Clean Water Act permits for many pesticide applications. The court ruled that pesticides should be considered "pollutants" under the Clean Water Act just like any kind of industrial waste and that a spray nozzle is effectively a "point source." Under this ruling, all pesticide applications with the potential for reaching any body of water would be required to apply for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. These permits could cost thousands of dollars and could cause serious delays if the issuing agency has a backlog of applications.

The court granted EPA a two year extension to develop a nationwide permitting program for hundreds of thousands of pesticide applications, which must be finalized by April of 2011. NCGA and several other agricultural groups have requested a rehearing of this case although the court has not yet ruled on whether to grant this request. NCGA remains very concerned with this decision and its potential implications to the agriculture sector.

NCGA and the SDCGA are working closely together to achieve the best possible outcome on these issues in 2009. While these various pieces of legislation and court decisions are extremely important to our members, new areas of concern routinely come to the forefront.

"The SDCGA asks members to continue their advocacy efforts on behalf of our industry," said Bill Chase, president of the SDCGA and a member of the NCGA Public Policy Action Team. "Our grassroots always have been and always will be the most powerful and effective element of our public policy activities."

# Congressional Delegation Updates:



## Creating New Job Opportunities by Producing Domestic Clean Energy

By U.S. Senator Tim Johnson (D-SD)

**T**HE COUNTRY is facing a twin challenge of meeting growing demand for energy with the imperative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused from

producing many different types of energy. According to the non-partisan Energy Information Administration, electricity demand is projected to increase by about 26 percent over current levels by 2030. At the same time, I am convinced that we need to take advantage of South Dakota's abundant energy potential. Through the use of clean, renewable energy, we can meet our energy demand while improving our natural resources.

The Senate is poised to tackle comprehensive energy legislation later this fall and consider the first-ever policy to cap heat-trapping gases like carbon dioxide causing long-term changes to our climate. I have heard from constituents wanting to cut reliance on fossil fuels but not saddle consumers with new costs. I agree. So, it is important that the Congress acts deliberately in fully understanding the effects of any policy change.

South Dakota can build a strong economic foundation on cost effective alternatives to fossil fuels that improve our energy mix by adding to, not replacing, traditional energy sources. We can increase the amount of energy produced from wind, solar and biofuels and, over several years, develop technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions from coal -- a difficult but not impossible transformation. And, it is not a fool's errand as some naysayers would lead you to believe.

So, what is working thus far? We can grow our economy and reduce the demand for oil, much of which is imported and driving up our trade deficit and enriching hostile foreign governments. As a consequence of the forward-looking 2007 Energy Bill that boosted renewable fuels production and reformed fuel efficiency rules for cars and trucks, consumption of petroleum-based gasoline is predicted to decline by over 1 million barrels per day below the country's daily total in 2007. Less demand for oil means fewer climate changing greenhouse gas emissions and greater economic growth here at home. We are displacing oil with homegrown biofuels and making our cars and trucks use energy more efficiently.

It's possible that with the right policy and incentives we can increase the amount of electricity that is produced from renewable energy sources. According to a 2008 Department of Energy analysis, utilizing existing technological know-how, wind energy can meet 20 percent of nationwide electricity demand by 2030. Earlier this year, I worked with my colleagues on the Senate Energy Committee pass the nation's first Renewable Electricity Standard (RES). We've got ample wind resources in our state and a fast growing wind energy sector. An RES coupled with a long-term extension of clean energy tax incentives can create a wind energy industry on par with the state's vibrant biofuels economy.



## Environmental Activism Threatens Biofuels Success

By U.S. Senator John Thune (R-SD)

**S**OUTH DAKOTA FARMERS are well acquainted with the successes of the biofuels industry. In addition to reduc-

ing our national dependence on imported oil, biofuels create good jobs in rural communities and provide farmers with an additional reliable market for their crop. Congress recognized that biofuels are good for America, too, when it expanded Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) in the 2007 Energy Bill. The RFS sets a high bar for renewable fuels production (36 billion gallons by 2020), but South Dakota farmers and ethanol producers are confident they can exceed it. Of course, that is if environmental political games do not derail all of the progress biofuels have brought.

The RFS requires that biofuels must be certified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as having lower carbon outputs than the conventional fuels they replace. Numerous studies have shown that ethanol has a significantly lower carbon output than regular gasoline, which is an important benefit on top of its economic impact. Unfor-

We are already witnessing these results. South Dakota's burgeoning and fast-growing clean energy economy has added good-paying jobs at an annual job growth rate of 7.9 percent over the past decade. A new federal policy that drives demand for wind power will sustain these jobs and create more of them.

Technology and alternative ways to produce energy are important, long-term solutions. We also need a strategy to reduce emissions from the nation's existing energy infrastructure. Developed over the past 100 years, an economy based on fossil fuels provides low-cost energy, but with unsustainable environmental effects. Experience proves that given enough time and access to the right technologies, electric utilities can burn coal and natural gas more efficiently.

Commercializing laboratory technologies to capture greenhouse gas emissions are not cost free, however. Any national policy that reduces heat-trapping greenhouse gases at the disproportionate expense of one region versus another is not a wise path. A flexible, long-term program that allows for least-cost reductions must be embedded in our energy policy. That means investment in federal research and development to lower the cost of capturing carbon dioxide from power plant smokestacks and investments in carbon offset projects or renewable energy plants as a way to meet new clean air rules.

I am optimistic that bringing South Dakota's strengths to this debate will produce the best policy to create new job opportunities at home by producing more clean energy in the United States.

# Taking South Dakota Priorities to Washington

Unfortunately, earlier this year the EPA proposed to rely on unproven models to calculate ethanol's carbon score, which could have a significant impact on future renewable fuels production.

The EPA carbon score for ethanol includes "indirect land use" calculations. This method means that carbon outputs as a result of land use decisions in other countries will be counted against the carbon score of American-produced ethanol. The EPA's model erroneously assumes that American ethanol alters land use decisions around the world, and therefore the carbon resulting from those decisions is a result of ethanol production in this country.

As a result of this approach, the EPA has reached the conclusion that corn ethanol actually has a worse carbon output than regular gasoline. Consequently, new corn ethanol production would not qualify for the RFS. Using the same measurements, biodiesel would be similarly disqualified.

The RFS was written by Congress to promote biofuels as a critical component to reducing our nation's dependence on imported energy, but now EPA bureaucrats pushing a political agenda are using the rulemaking process in a way that could impede the progress that has been made in recent years. I

have introduced legislation that if enacted would terminate the EPA rule and put ethanol on an equal playing field with petroleum-based gasoline. I believe that stopping the EPA from implementing this indirect land use rule is the best way to move the biofuels industry forward.

The indirect land use issue is an example of how the Obama Administration and the Democrat Congress are failing to address rural priorities. The so-called "cap and trade" bill passed recently by the House of Representatives amounts to a national energy tax hike on all families and businesses, but it would have a disproportionate effect on rural states. The EPA has also proposed to regulate greenhouse gasses, including methane, which could result in the taxation of naturally occurring livestock emissions—something that I refer to as the "cow tax."

Agriculture is the backbone of South Dakota's economy. The federal government has many tools that can be used to support the rural economy, just as there are many tools that can hurt it. I will continue working to ensure South Dakota's farmers and rural communities are well represented, and that their interests are not trampled by narrow, ideological, concerns.



## Climate Change, Biomass and a New Energy Economy

By U.S. Representative Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (D-SD)

**B**ELIEVE IT'S IMPERATIVE for Congress to address climate change. I agree with the scientific consensus that human activity has substantially increased the

accumulation of greenhouse gases and is contributing to a rise in average global temperature. With much of South Dakota's economy dependent on agriculture, which in turn depends on our climate, global warming could have a profound effect on South Dakota's economy and our way of life.

The House of Representatives took up climate change legislation in June, passing H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act. I was supportive of many of the changes made to the bill that stand to benefit agriculture, however, I voted against the bill because serious substantive and process concerns remained when it comes to doing right by rural America.

For example, as the House was considering H.R. 2454, I heard from several utilities serving South Dakota, such as Black Hills Corporation, which serves tens of thousands of South Dakotans, that the allowances for emissions in the bill still aren't fairly distributed and this disparity could mean dramatic rate hikes for its customers in South Dakota. That's not something I could support.

Additionally, the bill does not adequately fix the flawed definition of renewable biomass. While the language on biomass is

improved, it doesn't go far enough in recognizing the essential role forests can and should play in sustainably generating renewable energy, ensuring our nation meets the cellulosic biofuels mandate in the Renewable Fuels Standard, moving our nation toward energy independence, and creating jobs in rural communities.

While I was not able to support H.R. 2454, significant improvements were made from the original version. The inclusion of an agricultural offsets program will enable producers to fully participate in a market-based carbon offset program, earning income for activities they undertake to address global climate change while also ensuring environmental integrity and protecting early actors. Importantly, these provisions put the U.S. Department of Agriculture, not the Environmental Protection Agency in charge of regulating the use of farm and forestry projects intended to offset carbon dioxide emissions from industrial sources. Underscoring the significant potential for agriculture in efforts to address climate change, Secretary Vilsack recently testified that an analysis conducted by USDA demonstrates that the economic opportunities for farmers and ranchers can potentially outpace - perhaps significantly - the costs from climate legislation.

I was also pleased that the bill corrects the controversial and unproven methods for calculating indirect emissions through the lifecycle greenhouse gas analysis for biofuels. The bill also makes it very clear that agriculture and forestry sectors will be exempt from greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements.

Going forward, I hope that as legislation comes together in the Senate and the legislative process unfolds, the concerns I've raised will be addressed. We need to take time to get it right so we ultimately enact legislation that moves the nation toward a new energy economy, fully recognizes the contributions that agricultural producers can make, and addresses the threat of climate change in a common-sense way that is fair to rural America.

# Property Tax Update

## Productivity-based system begins with 2010 assessments

HERE'S A NEW LAW IN THE STATE and as of July 1, new cropland valuations now are based on productivity instead of market sales.

South Dakota's new productivity-based property tax system is complicated at best but aims to correct a decades-old inequitable and unreliable market valuation system for tax assessments.

The new law shifts ag land tax assessments away from unpredictable market fluctuations and instead bases them on the land's average earning capacity. Average earning capacity will be computed by SDSU's economics department using the

eight - year Olympic average yield for crops and cash rents for livestock.

The intrinsic value of agricultural land is its ability to produce crops or support livestock. However in the past most county directors of equalization use "market value" as the basis for valuing ag land for tax purposes. A variety of factors completely unrelated to agricultural production may influence a decision to buy a particular tract of land (e.g., viewshed, future development potential, hunting pressure). These factors prevent agriculture uses.

In the early 1990s, South Dakota enacted the "150% Rule"

to help separate non-related market factors from agricultural land tax assessments. The resulting number of usable ag land sales steadily decreased until, in 2007, assessors had only 121 usable sales in 2007 for valuing 43.7 million acres, compared to 1,496 usable sales in 1998.

The productivity-based system will begin with the 2010 assessments (for taxes payable in 2011). The Department of Revenue and Regulation will contract with the Economics Department of South Dakota State University (SDSU) to produce the "productivity value" for the new valuation system. This value is the starting point for valuing all agriculture land in the state.

The productivity value formula multiplies the gross revenue by the landlord share percentages, and then divides this amount by the capitalization rate:  $[\text{gross revenue} \times \text{landlord share percentage}] \div [\text{cap rate}]$ . The gross revenue for cropland is determined by using an 8-year Olympic average of yields and commodity prices. The landlord share percentages are 35% for cropland and 100% for non-cropland. The capitalization rate is 6.6%. The following examples show how the formula works:

1) Cropland: If a county has a gross revenue of \$300 an acre for cropland, the formula would produce a value of \$1,590.90 an acre ( $\$300 \times 35\% \div 6.6\%$ ). This represents the assessed value per acre of the average cropland in the county.

2) Non-cropland: If a county has a gross revenue of \$25.00 an acre for non-cropland, the formula would produce a value of \$378.79 an acre ( $\$25 \times 100\% \div 6.6\%$ ). This represents the assessed value per acre of the average non-cropland in the county.

### Other specifics include:

- Each county director of equalization may make adjustments to the county average to account for variations unique to each property (climate, topography, location, size, soil survey statistics, etc.).
- A "safety net" provision limits assessment increases to no more than 10% for three years.
- The "150% Rule" for non-agricultural and owner-occupied property has been repealed. On average, owner-occupied assessed values would increase statewide 5.38%. Non-agricultural property assessed values would increase 4.93%. A "safety net" provision would limit assessed value increases for the first five years to no more than 5% above the normal increase from the current sales used to determine market value.
- Neighbors with similar land in different counties will have similar assessments.
- Statewide, the ag share of total property taxes collected will not increase under this system.

The South Dakota Corn Growers Association was just one of many ag groups in the state to take an active role in making sure the new tax assessments were fair and equitable for producers. Ag land assessments could have increased by more than \$13 billion, or about 73 percent. By avoiding this, family farmers and ranchers will not be taxed off their land.

Property owners continue to have the right of appeal. If you disagree with the assessment of your property by the county director of equalization, you may still appeal the productivity-based valuation the same way you would have appealed a market-based valuation.





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# Brazil: World biofuels market begins with access to U.S.

HERE IS NO SECRET BEHIND an agenda by Brazil to come after the United States' fuel market and corn growers recently heard first hand Brazil's intentions during an Ethanol Summit held June 1-3 in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Darrin Ihnen, board director of the South Dakota Corn Utilization Council from Hurley, S.D., and first vice president of the National Corn Growers Association, joined other industry allies in traveling to Brazil to participate in the summit which was attended by nearly 1,500 representing researchers, political leaders from around the world and the press.

"The theme of the conference was a 'world biofuels market' but the Brazilians felt that wasn't possible unless there were no trade barriers," said Ihnen. "Thus, they wanted full access to the U.S. market with no tariff"

Without the current tariff, according to Ihnen, U.S. taxpayer dollars would support the Brazilian ethanol industry.

In Brazil, approximately 200 million acres could be broken for agricultural use. Classified as under-grazed pasture land in Brazil, Ihnen said some of the same land in the U.S. would be comparative to CRP acres here as it is highly erodible, contoured land. Brazil gets a free pass to break this ground for farming, yet they do not see such action as 'land use change' as they believe sugar ethanol is an advanced biofuel.

"Brazilians see sugar cane ethanol as environmentally friendly and the cane industry is trying to change the definition of advanced biofuels to include sugar cane ethanol," said Ihnen. "They believe they scored a huge victory with the CARB decision in California."

Ihnen said Brazilians do not consider sugar a food and thus breaking of ground for sugar cane ethanol should not be considered land use change. The Brazilians believe that the CARB decision will set the stage for fuel policy throughout the U.S. and sugar cane ethanol is poised to be a good fit in such policy.

"Two U.S. companies from California made several bold statements promoting Brazilian ethanol at the expense of corn ethanol," said Ihnen. "One quote was 'what California does especially in fuel regulations over time is accepted and used by all states and the EPA as fuel policy. We want Brazilian ethanol in California; we will let the corn industry have the rest of the fuel market for now.'"



Brazilians do not consider sugar a food. Sugar cane is harvested in the photo above.

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# GrowingOn 2010

## GrowingOn 2010 Seminars with Steven Johnson December 1 - 4, 2009



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