



Volume 21 • Number 2

July 2005

Energy Bill with 8 billion gallon RFS overwhelmingly passes U.S. Senate

The largest Renewable Fuels Standard in U.S. history is included in a national energy bill that recently passed the U.S. Senate by dynamic proportions. The vote, 85 to 12, demonstrated the strongest support for ethanol by any U.S. Congress.

The comprehensive energy bill, S. 10, includes a national RFS to blend 8 billion gallons of ethanol into the nation's transportation fuel supply annually by 2012.

"This is exactly what we have been waiting for," said David Gillen, president of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association. "The Senate's passage of an energy bill which includes an 8 billion gallon RFS sends a strong message to Congress, consumers and corn producers that this country is prepared to deliver energy security, greater job opportunities, economic stability and a cleaner environment by passing a bipartisan, all encompassing energy policy."

South Dakota's Senators played key roles in achieving a majority vote of 70-26 for the 8 billion gallon RFS amendment in a vote on June 15.

The amendment which led to the vote for RFS was a bipartisan effort supported by Senators Domenici (R-NM), Harkin (D-IA), Talent (R-MO), Johnson (D-SD), Thune (R-SD), Obama (D-IL), Lugar (R-IN), Dorgan (D-ND), Grassley (R-IA), Nelson (D-NE), Hagel (R-NE), Conrad (D-ND), Bond (R-MO), Dayton (D-MN), Coleman (R-MN), and Bayh (D-IN) among others.

"This marks the greatest level of support for a strong renewable fuels standard the Senate has ever seen," said Sen. Tim Johnson. "The Senate supports putting ethanol and biodiesel-producing states in a position to help wean America of its dependence on foreign oil, while providing further job creation and financial incentive to those who grow corn, refine ethanol, or just fill up a tank of gas."

Johnson and Senator Jim Talent (R-MO) introduced and helped pass an amendment to the energy bill in a committee mark-up last month. On the Senate floor the day of the vote, an agreement was reached to include the 8 billion RFS in the comprehensive energy bill being debated by the Senate. An amendment was introduced by Energy Committee Chairman Pete Domenici (R-NM) and included the Talent-Johnson amendment.

The Senate passed the amendment less than 24 hours after

Domenici introduced the amendment, co-sponsored by Sen. John Thune.

"The Senate is making ethanol a cornerstone of America's energy policy. We are dramatically increasing ethanol demand, guaranteeing a good market for farmers and reducing our dependence of foreign oil" said Thune. "With the 8 billion gallon level now in the Senate bill, we are in a very strong position entering the conference."

South Dakota has 11 ethanol plants and ranks fourth in the nation for production of ethanol by producing more than 400 million gallons of the renewable fuel each year.

"As an industry this will give us continued growth," said Bill Paulsen, president of the Ethanol Producers Association of South Dakota.

"The fact that MTBE is being phased out, the industry has stepped up and a 5 billion gallon RFS was not adequate; we will be there by next year. So an 8 billion gallon RFS allows us some growth for future years."

With 8,000 South Dakota farm families invested in ethanol and more plants proposed, the impact on the state's corn producers is significant.

"As the ethanol industry grows we are seeing more plants locate not only in South Dakota but also in non-corn growing states," said Paulsen. "The day is coming when South Dakota corn growers will be impacted by the plants that are going up west of us. We're the farthest west end of the corn belt so we are naturally going to be the cheapest transportation to get to the new western ethanol plants. As

corn producers, even plants that are not in the state of South Dakota are going to impact us and impact South Dakota markets as we move forward."

The next step in the legislative process is conference committee between the House and the Senate to reconcile the differences between the two bills (H.R.6 and S.10). H.R. 6 includes a much smaller RFS requiring just 5 billion gallons of renewable fuels be blended into the fuel supply by 2012.

"The final energy bill needs the 8 billion gallon RFS for passage," said Gillen. "We've been this close before and not had a final bill. With oil toppling \$60 a barrel, hopefully Congress will not delay and will move forward on a final energy bill."



Sens. John Thune (R-SD) and Tim Johnson (D-SD) took part in a press conference held recently by the Republican Conference focusing on the importance of a renewable fuels standard as part of a comprehensive energy bill and what lies ahead for the bill when it goes to conference. NCGA emeritus chairman Fred Yoder is at the podium and Sen. Jim Talent (R-Mo) stands directly right of Yoder.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

David Gillen, SDCGA President

CSP - Conservation Security Program - do you love it or hate it? If you were in a watershed that was picked and you haven't been taking a 2 foot soil sample, you are probably not too fond of it. If you did qualify, maybe you think it is an all right program. Regardless, the first few watersheds were the guinea pigs and should not be ineligible for 10 years. They should have the right to try to sign up in a couple of years.

NRCS wants to reward the best and encourage the rest. The fact of the matter is they have a limited budget and they are trying to get the most bang for the buck. They cannot afford to have very many producers qualify. They have to keep the bar high enough to reward a few. There will be a much bigger budget for CSP in the future and NRCS needs to show that producers are earning the conservation dollars, not just receiving them.

Some say that's not fair and blame NRCS. I disagree. This is the cards and dollars that Congress dealt NRCS. Those 10 and 15 year contracts have to be fully funded. I think there is going to be some growing pains with

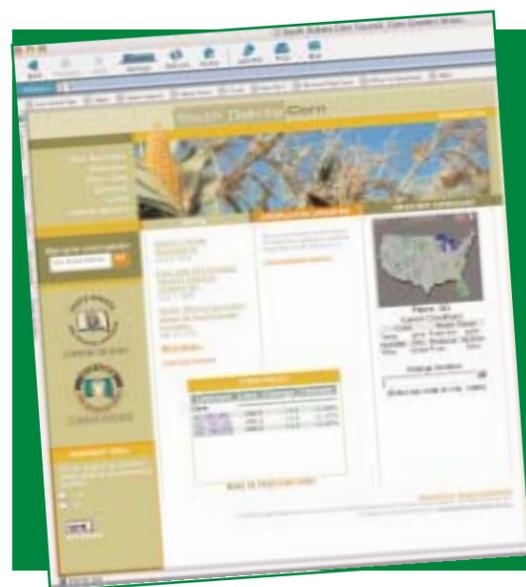
CSP, but it could evolve into something that works for everyone. Let us cut them some slack until they get the bugs worked out.

Will you qualify if your watershed gets picked? Maybe you should find out while you still have time to do something about it. This winter SDCGA will be sponsoring some CSP workshops. It will be worth your time to attend.

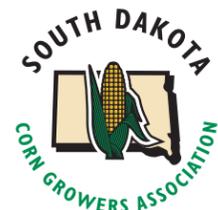
Sometimes I think we producers can be a little bit tough when we work with sales people and government employees. Most of us only have to answer to our banker and our landlords. Everybody else has to put up with our lack of professionalism. Most FSA and NRCS representatives are good people just trying to do their job. Surprise them and give them a compliment, they probably earned one.

David Gillen
President of SDCGA

Visit the SDCGA at:



www.sdcorn.org



A GROWING INFLUENCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

David Gillen
White Lake-District 11

VICE PRESIDENT

Reid Jensen
Burbank-District 1

SECRETARY

Scott Sperry
Bath-District 12

TREASURER

Bill Chase
Wolsey-District 8

CHAIRMAN

Darrin Ihnen
Hurley-District 2

Mark Klumb

Mt. Vernon-Member at Large

Jim Thyen

Waverly-Member at Large

Kurt Stiefvater

Salem-District 3

Jason Kontz

Brookings-District 4

Gary Duffy

Oldham-District 5

David Leiseth

Hayti-District 6

Bill Whipple

Wilmot-District 7

Chad Blindauer

Mitchell-District 9

Chad Johnson

Platte-District 10

Marv Schumacher

Pierre-District 12

James Krier

Herrick-District 14

INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES:

Larry Wagner
Bjorn Nelson
Kent Mulder
Tom Branhan

OFFICE STAFF:

Lisa Richardson, Executive Director
Teddi Mueller, Legislative & Industry Affairs Director
Krystil Smit, Communications Director
Katrina Luke, Office Manager
Paul Skiles, Market Development Director

South Dakota Growers Association Membership Application

PLEASE HELP US DOUBLE OUR LOBBYING POWER TODAY!

"You're just one corn producer. And so am I. But when we band together we can change things. We've proven it over and over. So take a step for the future of your family. Join today!" -David Gillen, White Lake

I've enclosed: \$500 (Lifetime membership) *includes choice of 5 Seed certificates and \$50 in Ethanol Certificates
 \$150 (3-year membership) *includes choice of 3 Seed certificates and \$15 in Ethanol Certificates
 \$75 (1-year) \$75 (1-year state only membership)

Please fill in all fields.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Title _____ Farm/Company Name _____

Membership is to be: (check one) Name Farm/Company Name

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____

Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____

I am a Farmer Yes No Total Farm Acres _____ Corn Acres _____

Spouse's Name _____ Email: _____

Recruiter Name _____ Phone: _____

Address _____

Mail Dues To: South Dakota Corn Growers Association
3801 S. Western Ave., Suite 100, Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605-334-0100 • www.sdcorn.org

SDCGA Seed Certificate Program

When you sign up to join the SDCGA for 3 years or a lifetime membership, you have the option to receive hybrid seed corn discounts from these supporting seed companies, each worth \$30 off a purchase of \$100 or more.

Your membership is important. Please take the time to join the SDCGA today. We're working hard to add value to the product you grow, and we need your support.

3 year Membership. Please select 3 seed certificates.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Diamond Seeds | <input type="checkbox"/> Kaltenberg Seeds | <input type="checkbox"/> Production Partners |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crows | <input type="checkbox"/> Kaystar Hybrids | <input type="checkbox"/> Proseed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fontanelle Hybrids | <input type="checkbox"/> Legend Seeds | <input type="checkbox"/> REA hybrids |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garst | <input type="checkbox"/> Mustang Seeds | <input type="checkbox"/> Renze Hybrids |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Lakes Hybrids | <input type="checkbox"/> Mycogen Seeds | <input type="checkbox"/> Seeds 2000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hoegemeyer | <input type="checkbox"/> Nortec | <input type="checkbox"/> Stine Seed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Integra Seed | <input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer Seeds | <input type="checkbox"/> Sucroscro Seeds |

PLUS! 3 year Receives \$15 in Ethanol Enriched Fuel.

TEAR HERE

This is your receipt for membership in the South Dakota Corn Growers Association. Contributions or gifts to the South Dakota Corn Growers Association are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. However, dues payments are deductible by members as an ordinary and necessary business expense.



South Dakota
Corn Growers Association
3801 S. Western Ave., Suite 100
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605-334-0100

Received From:

(Members Name)

Dues paid in the amount of \$ _____

Represented by: _____

Date _____

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS



If you've ever wondered what difference your membership in the South Dakota Corn Growers Association makes, look no further than the recent movement of an 8 billion gallon Renewable Fuels Standard in Congress. The influence of your membership in the SDCGA sends a powerful message to our Congressional delegation in Washington, DC, which allows them to better work on your behalf.

Having the ability to speak as a strong, collective voice for the industry is imperative as policy is made. And as an Energy Bill is finalized and with a new farm bill on the horizon, our effectiveness grows along with our membership.

The good news is membership in the SDCGA is at an all time high. We're proud of our 1,500 members and with an estimated 12,000 corn producers in South Dakota, potential for new members is tremendous. Invite your neighbor to join! If you refer a new member to the SDCGA, we will send you \$10 in ethanol certificates.

In addition to the power your membership lends to the industry, there are more reasons than ever to join or remain a member of the SDCGA. Just recently, the SDCGA secured reduced rates on supplement insurance through Aflac, but only if you are a member of the SDCGA. In fact, the amount you save on premiums will more than pay for a three-year membership in the SDCGA. Read more about the program on page 13 in this newsletter.

Another new initiative the SDCGA is pursuing is developing an email database to better communicate with our membership. Send us your email address by filling out the postcard insert in this newsletter and you will be have news alerts, market information and timely production and legislative tips sent directly to your inbox. If you send us your email address, your name will be entered into a drawing for \$50 in ethanol certificates.

The SDCGA is working to deliver value for your membership investment through lower rates on supplement health insurance, instant access to information, and discounts on industry services. Those are just a few ways to guarantee the SDCGA continues to be a growing influence.

David Leiseth, chairman
SDCGA Membership Committee

Enter Now!

**The National Corn Growers Association
2005 National Corn Yield Contest**

NATIONAL CORN YIELD CONTEST

In the 2004 Corn Yield Contest, top yields from farmers who placed first, second and third in the respective categories ranged from 248 to 339 bushels per acre.

Final entry deadline is Aug. 1, 2005. Go to www.ncga.com for entry rules and application.

*Think you can beat those?
Well, come on...sign up!*



The South Dakota Corn Growers Association welcomes CorTrust bank as the newest corporate partner of the SDCGA. The synergies are many between CorTrust and SDCGA but at a very basic level, both organizations recognize the importance of personal relationships with agricultural producers.

"We're still locally owned and that has an affect on farmers or people in agri-business. We understand because we're right here. We started here," said Craig Calhoun, marketing director for CorTrust Bank.

The history of CorTrust Bank is rooted in agriculture nearly 75 years ago. CorTrust Bank was incorporated under the name of Livestock State Bank on October 31, 1930, after the failure of two other banks in the Artesian, S.D. community. The bank's initial capitalization of \$25,000 was raised from a group of area farmers and businessmen.

Boyd B. Hopkins came to Artesian as assistant cashier in 1948. He purchased controlling interest and became president of the bank in 1961. Expansion for the bank began in 1962 when Hopkins responded to the requests of the Letcher residents to build a bank in their community. Since that time the bank has expanded to 23 locations in 16 South Dakota communities. In 1993 the bank changed its name to CorTrust Bank.

CorTrust bank has locations in Mitchell, Artesian, Letcher, Mt. Vernon, Arlington, Vermillion, Yankton, Gayville, Tabor, Freeman, Aberdeen, Leola, Bowdle, Webster, Pierpont and Sioux Falls.

"At CorTrust, partnerships are vital, that's what it's all about now especially with so many banks," said Calhoun. "Relationships are key. The one thing about CorTrust is we're big enough to keep up with technology and offer pretty competitive ag lending services, but we still know our customers' names."

CorTrust offers the advantages of full service banking for all needs including loans, mortgages and insurance.

"Loans are always serviced by the bank; that's a huge deal now," said Calhoun. "We like to build a banking relationship with everyone whether it's deposit or lending, or we also have a mortgage division and an insurance division. All those things are offered in a one-stop full service for all your financial and insurance needs. Those are some of the advantages of staying with a home grown bank."



An Evening with the Stars



The South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA) is pleased to announce the powerhouse vocal trio BlackHawk as the featured entertainment during "An Evening With the Stars" at their Annual Meeting celebration on Jan. 7, 2006. The event will mark the SDCGA's 20th Anniversary.

"The SDCGA is thrilled to be bringing in a big name band like BlackHawk to our Annual Meeting," said David Gillen, SDCGA president. "The 2006 Annual Meeting will be our biggest event in SDCGA's history which is fitting for our 20th year of representing South Dakota's corn producers."

BlackHawk's repertoire boasts 15 Top 40 hits including "Every Once in a While," "That's Just About Right," and "Goodbye Says It All." The group's sound is a distinctive style of country music blending three unique voices. VeraSun Energy will make BlackHawk's performance possible at the SDCGA Annual Meeting with their entertainment sponsorship.



In addition to the headline entertainment by BlackHawk, the SDCGA Annual Meeting will include educational seminars throughout the day with nationally-known speakers offering insight into marketing, the future of agriculture, biotechnology and farm family relationships. South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture, Larry Gabriel, will be the key note speaker at the noon luncheon that day.

The evening will culminate with a raffle drawing for a winner of a 2-year lease on a Chevrolet Silverado 4x4 extended cab. The SDCGA will be selling raffle tickets for the truck give-away this summer at events and throughout the fall. The winner will be drawn the night of the Annual Meeting.

Advance tickets for the SDCGA Annual Meeting, "An Evening with the Stars" including country music stars BlackHawk are just \$20 for members of the SDCGA or \$50 for non-members.

What do South Dakotans Think of Ethanol?

The South Dakota Corn Growers Association, South Dakota Ethanol Producers Association and the American Coalition for Ethanol recently commissioned a poll which surveyed South Dakota voters on their view of ethanol, the impact of its production, and what steps should be taken to encourage its use.

The poll reveals that South Dakota voters:

- Believe ethanol is very important to the state's economy.
- Feel the state should do more to promote ethanol, including a standard to allow all gasoline to contain 10% ethanol.
- Oppose increasing costs for consumers by raising taxes on ethanol-blended fuel.

The poll shows that 96 percent of those surveyed feel that ethanol is important to South Dakota's economy.

"Over 8,000 farm families are invested in ethanol across South Dakota, and it has been one of the largest rural development creations in South Dakota's history," said David Gillen, president of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA).

The survey reveals that 80 percent believe ethanol production is a good way to stimulate rural economies.

"South Dakota ethanol plants are financed by local investors – farmers and local community people just like you and me – and are serving to revitalize rural areas and provide jobs for young people to stay in South Dakota," said Bill Paulsen, president of the South Dakota Ethanol Producers Association. "These plants utilize locally-produced corn and help farmers tremendously with a built-in market for their product, and at the same time, provide significant job opportunities. Ethanol truly benefits all areas of South Dakota."

Of those surveyed, 85 percent believe the lower gas tax for ethanol-blended fuel should be kept.

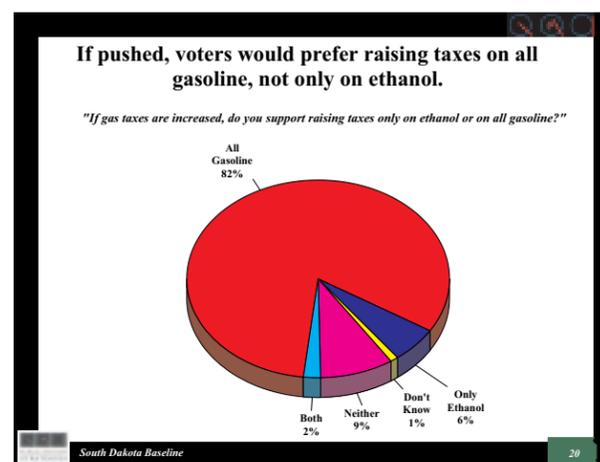
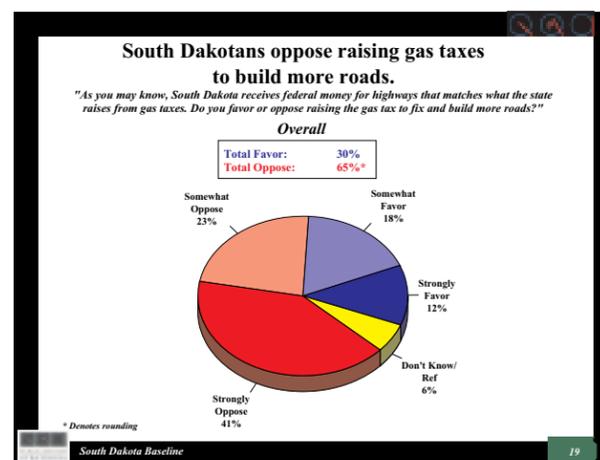
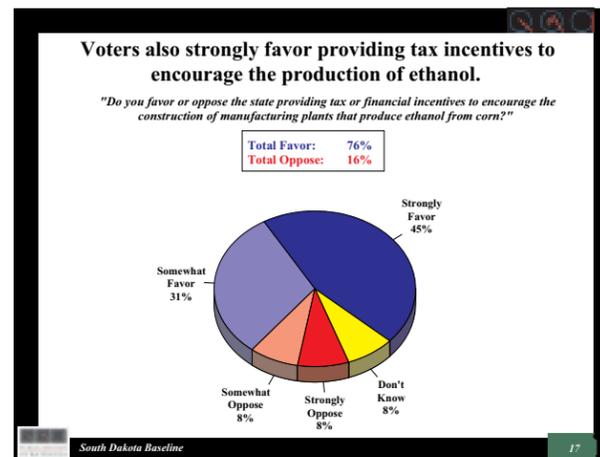
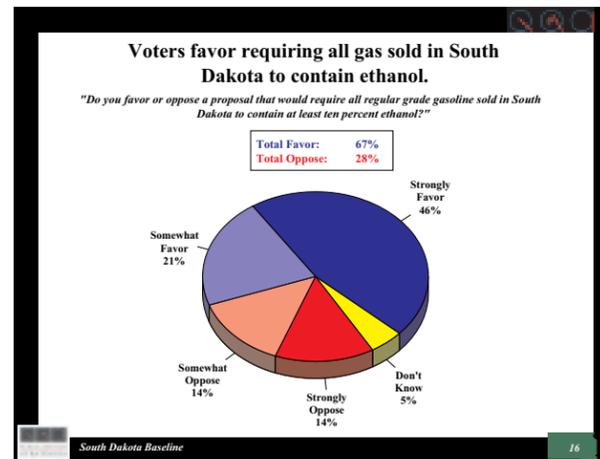
"The poll indicates that South Dakota voters overwhelmingly support ethanol production and use, and oppose raising taxes on the consumers of ethanol," said Brian Jennings, American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) Executive Vice President.

Ethanol-blended fuel in South Dakota is currently taxed at two cents less per gallon than gasoline, a pump incentive that benefits motorists by lowering their fuel cost.

The poll surveyed 500 South Dakota voters on May 2 and 3, 2005. The poll was conducted by Glen Bolger of Public Opinion Strategies. Bolger is a respected pollster who has done numerous polls in South Dakota for various political leaders and on various issues.

The organizations commissioned the poll in response to the rising price of gasoline across the state and nation and to determine the importance of ethanol in South Dakota.

South Dakota is the nation's fourth largest ethanol producer, behind Iowa, Illinois, and Nebraska. The state's 11 plants have the capacity to produce 455 million gallons of ethanol annually and 1 million tons of dried distillers grain (DDG).



VeraSun Energy and Get-N-Go Stations Partner to offer E-85

Country's First Branded 85% Ethanol Fuel, Now Available at all Sioux Falls Get-N-Gos



Market leaders, VeraSun Energy and Get-N-Go, recently implemented city-wide availability of E-85 to the Sioux Falls market. On May 5, the companies began offering

VeraSun's branded VE85 fuel at 35 pumps around the metro area. The initial price for the new VE85 is set at \$1.69 per gallon, representing a 30-cent discount to regular unleaded.

With the launch, the companies will be promoting the "Fuel Up for Good" campaign to highlight the benefits of VE85. The campaign points out how 85 percent ethanol fuel is good for the vehicle, good for the environment and good for the economy.

The new VE85 pumps are clearly identified with distinctive pump handles and special markings showing that they dispense this alternative fuel made up of 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline for use in Flexible Fuel Vehicles (FFVs).

"With over 5 million FFVs on the road today and a growing number of consumers looking for an alternative to gasoline, we felt it was time to launch this offering. In order for E-85 to serve as

a viable alternative to gasoline, it must be convenient and the public must be made aware of its benefits," said Don Endres, CEO of VeraSun Energy. "We aim to achieve this with the VE85 brand and our partnerships with leading retailers, such as Get-N-Go."

"It's no secret that as Americans and South Dakotans, we consume a great deal of fuel – we've built a business on meeting that need," said Todd Olson, president of the Sioux Falls Get-N-Go stores. "Being able to offer a renewable fuel source that has a real impact on South Dakota's economy and environment is an added bonus for us as we meet the needs and growing demands of FFV owners."

The following Get-N-Go stores now offer VE85:

Get-N-Go #5
611 S. Cliff Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Get-N-Go #2
1500 W. 12th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Get-N-Go #12
1224 E. 57th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Get-N-Go #7
600 S. Minnesota Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Get-N-Go #15
6729 W. 41st Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57106

Get-N-Go #14
5100 S. Louise Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Get-N-Go #16
2401 S. Louise Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57106

For a complete list of S.D. E-85 stations go to www.ethanol.org

Opportunities grow as South Dakota ethanol production expands

Three new ethanol plants are being proposed in South Dakota while an expansion at a fourth plant is planned. The South Dakota Corn Growers Association is working to make sure South Dakota corn producers have the opportunity to benefit from the growth of the ethanol industry in the state.

Mitchell:

The news of new ethanol opportunities were kicked off when Sioux Falls-based Broin Companies announced a plan on May 23 to build a new plant in Mitchell. The Mitchell plant would be Broin's 24th and its fifth in South Dakota. The company has not yet announced the size of the Mitchell plant.

Redfield:

Less than a week after the Broin announcement, Watertown-based Glacial Lakes Energy announced a \$65 million plant near Redfield. A feasibility study will study issues such as the labor pool, rail availability, and natural gas, water and electrical supplies, but is proposed to employ about 35 people and have an annual payroll of \$1.5 million to \$1.6 million, according to Tom Branhan of Glacial Lakes.

Marion:

The Fremar Farmers Co-op in Marion is exploring the possibility of bringing a plant there. Feasibility studies are underway.

VeraSun Expansion

Also, VeraSun in Brookings expanded its Aurora plant from 100 million gallons to 120 million gallons a year starting June 15.



The SDCGA will deliver information about equity meetings in the earliest possible timeframe to all SDCGA members.

South Dakota Governor Presented with E85 Fueled Chevrolet Avalanche

The South Dakota Corn Growers (SDCGA) and South Dakota Corn Utilization Council (SDCUC) co-sponsored a patriotic event for South Dakota Governor Mike Rounds when he accepted an E85-fueled Chevrolet Avalanche from General Motors on March 31. The free use of the vehicle is part of a campaign by GM and the Governors' Ethanol Coalition to promote the use of ethanol and to increase the awareness of flexible fuel vehicles and E85.

The event, held at the Sioux Empire Fairgrounds, was sponsored by the SDCGA, SDCUC, the American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) and the South Dakota Ethanol Producers.

E85, the blend of 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline, is for use in flexible fuel vehicles (FFVs). The flexible fuel option is becoming increasingly available from General Motors and other major automakers. FFVs can run on any blend of ethanol, from zero up to 85 percent. There are more than 4 million FFVs on America's roads today.

"South Dakota is one of the nation's top producers of ethanol and we have the largest percentage of farmer-owned ethanol plants in the nation," said David Gillen, SDCGA president. "It's symbolic that the governor of a leading ethanol state will be utilizing E85 fuel in this flex-fuel Chevrolet Avalanche as he and state employees travel throughout South Dakota. It truly is a rolling billboard for one of South Dakota's most important



From left: David Gillen, president of the SDCGA; SD Gov. Rounds; Doug Dittrich, regional sales manager, GM; Brian Woldt, president of the SDCUC; and Bill Paulsen, president of the SD Ethanol Producers Association.

economic drivers. Ethanol has been an important driver of economic development in South Dakota – strengthening corn prices, providing high-skill jobs, expanding tax bases, and generating additional revenue for state and local government."

There are currently 29 E85 refueling locations across South Dakota, and several more are under development. In many places across the state, E85 is currently selling for up to 40 cents less per gallon than gasoline without ethanol. For a complete list of flexible fuel vehicles and E85 refueling locations, visit www.ethanol.org.



Gov. Mike Rounds in the E-85 Avalanche given to the state by General Motors Company.



E85 Avalanche is given to SD Gov. Mike Rounds by Doug Dittrich, GM regional sales manager.

Truckin' through 2005

Dakotafest will provide the perfect venue for the South Dakota Corn Growers Association to launch "Truckin' through 2005," a promotion that will culminate at the SDCGA Annual Meeting in a grand prize drawing for some lucky producer to win a two-year lease on a Chevrolet Silverado 4x4 extended cab.

The truck giveaway is just the grand prize in a package lineup that also includes a trip to Cancun, Las Vegas or Orlando as the second prize and a third prize of ethanol fuel. The SDCGA will be selling raffle tickets for the prizes beginning at Dakotafest and leading up to the Annual Meeting on Jan. 7, 2006 in Sioux Falls.

"We are very excited to debut the truck, trip and fuel raffle at Dakotafest 2005," said David Gillen, SDCGA president and White Lake, S.D. farmer. "The truck giveaway will allow us to bring awareness to flex-fuel vehicles and ethanol-blended fuels such as E-85 throughout the rest of the year."

A Chevy Silverado will be on display at the SDCGA booth at Dakotafest to entice attendees to purchase their chance to win. Tickets for the truck, trip and ethanol raffle are \$10 for one or three for \$20. Proceeds from the raffle will help fund legislative activities of the SDCGA.

To accommodate the truck on display, the SDCGA along with the South Dakota Corn Utilization Council (SDCUC), have secured a larger booth space for the 2005 Dakotafest event. The booth will be number 118 at the corner of Main Street and First Street near Seed Row. Also at the SDCGA/SDCUC booth, South Dakota race car driver, Shaun Schnathorst of Huron, S.D. will display his ethanol-powered race car.

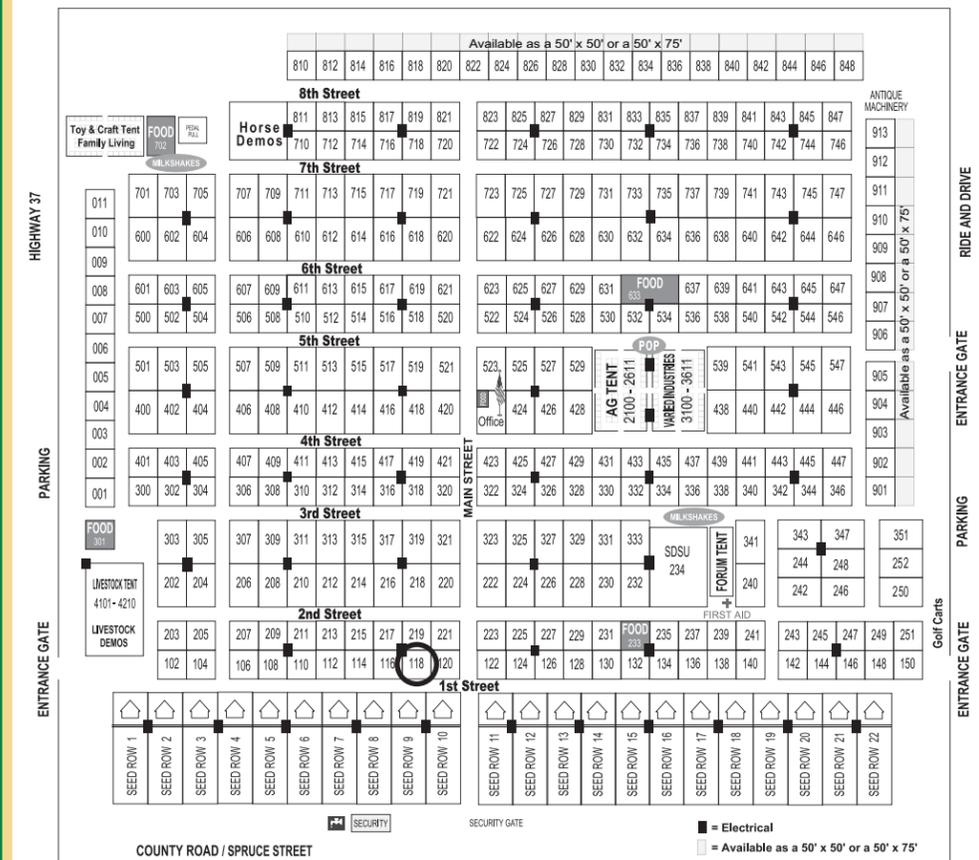
Several other promotions and prize giveaways will be featured each day at the SDCGA/SDCUC Dakotafest booth where visitors to the booth can sign up to win ethanol certificates, t-shirts, coolers and more.



Show Map

August 16 - 18, 2005

Schlaflman Farm, Mitchell, SD



BROOKINGS HOSTS 14TH ANNUAL CORN COB OPEN

More than 200 golfers took to the Brookings Country Club greens in Brookings, S.D., on June 20 to show their support for the South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA) and its annual Corn Cob Open tournament.

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. A pleasant morning greeted the first round of golfers who wrapped up their game just as the day's heat arrived. Temperatures reached 90 degrees as the golfers retired to the clubhouse where steaks by Ridgefield Farms were served.



Mark Thomas and his racing crew displayed their ethanol-powered car at the 2005 Corn Cob Open.

Pork sandwiches, sponsored and grilled by the South Dakota Pork Producers Council were served throughout the morning and enticed the afternoon flight of golfers to arrive early to socialize and feast before heading out to the greens. Shortly after the 2 p.m. gun shot fired, rain moved through the area forcing golfers to take cover at the clubhouse or under shelter on the greens. The half hour rain shower didn't discourage golfers from enjoying a round of golf so when the clouds cleared, all picked up where they left off to complete their 18 holes.



The hole-in-one prize at hole 3 was a Chevrolet Silverado 4x4 extended cab sponsored by GM. The other hole-in-one prize was a Wishek disc from Rock-Tuff Rental & Sales.

Two incredible hole-in-one prizes were up for grabs during the day at two separate holes. A Chevrolet Silverado 4x4 extended cab, sponsored by GM, was displayed at hole 3, providing golfers the incentive to make their best attempt to sink a hole-in-one. The other hole-in-one prize was a 24-foot Wishek disc, sponsored by Rock-Tuff Rental & Sales. Although no one sunk a hole-in-one, many other prizes, such as gas grills, putters, iPods, patio furniture and more were awarded to numerous golfers. Prizes were awarded to the teams who placed first, second and third.

Golfers were also given the chance to win a four-day/three-night roundtrip to Las Vegas, Orlando or Cancun donated by Karen Schroedermeier with All About Travel. Golfers purchased a chance to try to drive a marshmallow the furthest. Jason Pieper of Watertown, S.D. won the contest with his 123-foot marshmallow drive. The proceeds from the contest help support the SDCGA Corn Pac.

"The Corn Cob Open is a premier summer event for industry friends and members of the SDCGA," said Bill Chase, SDCGA board member. "Team numbers grow each year and it's a great opportunity for producers and friends of agriculture to socialize and support the organization."



Gary Lemme, SDSU Dean of Ag/Bio College, Bruce Jamerson with VeraSun, David Gillen, SDCGA president and John Lauck with Sen. John Thune's office at the 2005 Corn Cob Open.

GOLF TOURNEY WINNERS

MORNING

1st Place team:

Walter Farms
Joe Walter
Wyatt Walter
Greg Schmieding
Jordon Leighton

Tie for 2nd Place team:

On Display Media
Jay Mueller
Scott Ellenbecker
Dean Lucid
Dave Geubauer

Tie for 2nd Place team:

Wendell Falk
Jill Falk
Jason Pieper
Rick Asleson

3rd Place team:

Bob Laird
Bob Fylling
Wayne Knutson

AFTERNOON

1st Place team:

Garst/Agri-Pro
Roger Plooster
Mike Blum
Tobin Dailey
DJ Jewett

2nd Place team:

Monsanto
Bjorn Nelson
Craig Treiber
Terry Feterl
Joe Sheppards

3rd Place team:

Mycogen
Dave Axelsen
Jeff Fuls
Steve Hansman
Jim Fields

The SDCGA appreciates everyone who helped make this tournament a huge success!

A BIG THANK YOU

goes out to the following businesses that sponsored the 14th Annual Corn Cob Open:

HOLE SPONSORS

Agrisolutions
ACE
Bayer CropScience
Citizens State Bank of Sinai
Croplan Genetics
Dakota Media Group
East River Electric
Eastern Farmers Coop
Fagen
First Dakota National Bank
Home Federal
KIKN/KXRB
KOKK
KWAT
Legend Seeds
Mycogen
Nortec Seeds
Paulsen Marketing
SD Ag Producer Ventures
Syngenta
Tri-State Neighbor
Valley Bank
Wells Fargo
WNAX

PORK LUNCH SPONSOR

SD Pork Producers

DINNER SPONSOR

Broin Companies

STEAK SPONSOR

Ridgefield Farms

HOLE IN ONE SPONSOR

GM
Rock-Tuff Rental & Sales

BEVERAGE CART

Pioneer
Miller Beer
Coca-Cola

EVENT SPONSORS

SD Corn Utilization Council
Dakota Ethanol
Great Plains Ethanol
Northern Lights Ethanol
James Valley Ethanol
Heartland Grain Fuels
Glacial Lakes Energy
VeraSun Energy
Sioux River Ethanol

SCORE CARD SPONSOR

Dakota Radio Group
Garst/Agri-Pro
Monsanto

The 14th Annual Corn Cob Open wouldn't have been a success without help from these generous sponsors. Thanks again for all your support! A special thanks also goes out to the producers and agri-businessmen who took time out of their busy day to come and show their support for the SDCGA! The money raised from this event will help sponsor legislative, educational, and promotional activities for the SDCGA.

WEEDS to WATCH FOLLOWING WET CONDITIONS

Darrell Deneke, SDSU Extension IPM Coordinator

The extreme wet conditions over much of the corn producing areas of South Dakota have growers reassessing their weed management programs.

Wet soils and earlier cool temperatures slowed early weed growth. Now with more favorable growing conditions, the weeds, especially grassy weeds have really taken off. The wet field conditions over the normal optimum window of application for many postemergence herbicides has allowed for a flush of the competitive weeds.



Early foxtail competition in corn.

Grasses need to be stopped before they have irreversible yield effects. If the foxtails emerge with the corn and if there is soil fertility stress, that point can be as early as the one to two leaf crop stage.

Results from field studies at SDSU have shown moderate and high foxtail densities cutting yield from 10 to 30 percent. Also as much as 15 to 20 bushels per acre can be lost within a seven to ten day delay in removal. Under ideal conditions, the target to have competitive levels of foxtail removed is within two weeks after emergence.



Early broadleaf weed flush in corn.

Broadleaf weeds are competitive and can reduce yield if not controlled early as well. Another problem that weeds like waterhemp, velvetleaf, or lambsquarters can cause is continued or delayed emergence. Like the foxtails, if we miss the early windows of opportunity for best control, corn yields can be compromised. As the crop starts getting taller, use of drop nozzles may be considered. Several herbicide programs will allow for later treatment to help reduce broadleaf weed flushes. The herbicide tolerant hybrids allow for later applications and can be quite effective. However, growers need to remember the early competition from weeds has the most effect on yield.

continued or delayed emergence. Like the foxtails, if we miss the early windows of opportunity for best control, corn yields can be compromised. As the crop starts getting taller, use of drop nozzles may be considered. Several herbicide programs will allow for later treatment to help reduce broadleaf weed flushes. The herbicide tolerant hybrids allow for later applications and can be quite effective. However, growers need to remember the early competition from weeds has the most effect on yield.

Bt corn offers proven bushel advantage

BROOKINGS, S.D. - South Dakota State University research shows mixed performance for Bt corn hybrids, but there is an advantage more than half the time for growers who use Bt varieties to control European corn borers.

South Dakota growers have planted Bt corn for the 10th consecutive year in 2005, and SDSU has tracked its performance since Bt varieties first arrived.

"In five out of nine years, Bt corn, averaged across seed companies, gave us at least 5 bushels per acre increase in yield over untreated non-Bt (conventional) isolines," SDSU Extension Entomologist Mike Catangui said. "However, there were years when Bt corn actually yielded less than untreated non-Bt hybrids. Thus, in terms of actual bushel increase, the nine-year average is 5-7 bushels per acre."

Catangui added that it's important to remember that Bt corn has changed as new Bt products have targeted a variety of insects:

- YieldGard Corn Borer offers protection only against European corn borers.
- YieldGard Rootworm targets corn rootworm.
- YieldGard Plus is lethal to both European corn borers and corn rootworms.
- Herculex I protects against European corn borer, western bean cutworm, and black cutworm.

"There is no perfect Bt corn. Each kind has strengths and limitations," Catangui said. "Growers need to keep that information in mind so that they can prepare and supplement with an insecticide or seed treatments for any of the Bt corn weaknesses."

South Dakota is home to both univoltine corn borers, those whose moth flights peak only once per year; and bivoltine corn borers, whose moth flights peak twice.

Catangui's studies in the univoltine area near South Shore showed that in 1997 and 1998, Bt corn had yield advantages of 16 and 15 bushels per acre, respectively. But in 1999 and 2000, conventional corn had yield advantages of 3 bushels and 9 bushels, respectively.

Catangui's research in the bivoltine area near Beresford showed a 32-bushel advantage for Bt corn in 2002; but in 2000, conventional corn outperformed Bt by 9 bushels.

A table of Catangui's data tracking Bt performance in the univoltine area near South Shore is available online at this link: http://plantsci.sdstate.edu/ent/entpubs/05_bt-corn_lt_uni.gif.

SDSU data tracking Bt performance in the bivoltine area near Beresford is available online at this link: http://plantsci.sdstate.edu/ent/entpubs/05_bt-corn_lt_bi.gif.

Editors note: The new SDSU Extension Weed Specialist is starting Sept. 1. Dr. Michael Moechnig, was hired in the position previously held by Leon Wrage, who recently retired. Darrell Deneke, has been serving as the interim Extension weed specialist. Moechnig is currently finishing work at the University of California at Davis.

AFLAC PROGRAM OVERVIEW

As a member of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association you can expect certain benefits of belonging. And today, those benefits are growing.

From the benefit of having a strong legislative voice, to having prime access to educational opportunities throughout the year, to being invited to fun activities like the Corn Cob Open or Value-Added Day at the State Fair, your membership in the SDCGA is valuable.

But while the quarterly newsletter "Corn Talk", seminars and Annual Meeting fill a need in offering information for your farming operation, the SDCGA recognizes a greater personal need in rural South Dakota: Healthcare.

To help fill a portion of that need, the SDCGA is excited to announce a brand new membership benefit. The SDCGA has secured discounts for members of the SDCGA on supplemental insurance through AFLAC. Choose from Accident, Cancer and Long-term Care policies at a savings you can only take advantage of as a SDCGA member. And the discounts you'll receive will more than pay for a three-year membership in the SDCGA.

As a courtesy, a postage-paid postcard is inserted in this newsletter to request more information about AFLAC through the SDCGA. Or contact the AFLAC agent directly: Pamela Kreber (605) 332-7838; or e-mail her at pkreber2@sio.midco.net.

The SDCGA, through the national organization, National Corn Growers Association, is also offering a medical discount plan by AmeriPlan. As a member of the SDCGA, producers have an opportunity to save significant dollars on prescription drugs, vision care, dental care and chiropractic care. AmeriPlan USA® (APUSA) offers discount health-care access in the areas of dental, prescription drugs, vision care and chiropractic. Members can receive discounts up to 80 percent. The cost for the membership for an individual grower is only \$11.95 per month and only \$19.95 per month for an entire household.

For more information, contact the SDCGA office at 605-334-0100 or log on to <http://www.mybenefitsplus.com/12663385>

A Great New Benefit for SDCGA Members

Accident Indemnity Plan Level #2

(Covered 24 hours a day 7 days a week)

Policyholders receive cash benefits for...

- Emergency & Follow up treatments
- Hospital Confinement
- Wellness Benefits
- Specific-Sum Injury benefits
- Accidental Death & Much more



Personal Cancer Indemnity Plan Level #2

(Policyholders receive cash benefits for...)

- First Occurrence Benefit (Builds annually)
- Hospital Confinement
- Radiation & Chemotherapy
- Surgery & Anesthesia & More
- Cancer Screening Wellness Benefits

Long Term Care/Nursing Home Care:

Rates are based on age and level of coverage selected.

Ethanol, lock modernization, transportation and budget reconciliation were the key issues on the National Corn Growers Association's legislative agenda this spring. And two of those key issues—an energy bill containing an 8-billion-gallon Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and the introduction of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2005 authorizing new navigation locks on the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers—made progress.

In addition to the RFS and WRDA legislation, Sen. Conrad Burns (R-Mont.) introduced The Railroad Competition Act of 2005 in May, which will enhance competition and ensure efficient rail service and reasonable rail rates for shipping. The bill was cosponsored by several senators, including both South Dakota senators, Republican John Thune and Democrat Tim Johnson.

Ethanol

Ethanol use received its biggest news in this legislative session, with South Dakota Sens. John Thune (R) and Tim Johnson (D) playing key roles in passing a renewable fuel standard (RFS) in energy bills.

On June 15, the Senate passed a bipartisan 8-billion gallon RFS amendment offered by Chairman Pete Domenici (R-N.M.) of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) by a 70 to 26 vote. Domenici, Chairman James Inhofe (R-Okla.) of the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee and the bipartisan coalition of senators worked together to ensure the 8-billion gallon RFS remains in the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

The Domenici amendment represents a compromise between Inhofe (R-OK) and the Senate EPW Committee legislation, Sen. Jim Talent's (R-Mo.) amendment, co-sponsored by Sen. Tim Johnson, included in the Senate ENR Committee legislation and the Senate's bipartisan RFS legislation. The biparti-

san-compromised Domenici amendment includes the Clean Air Act provisions in the EPW legislation, the 8-billion-gallon RFS included in the Talent amendment, and the credit-trading program language that limits the credits to the year when they are generated that was included in the bipartisan RFS legislation.

In March, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, of which Thune is a member, passed the Act, which would have established a RFS of 6 billion gallons by 2012. The committee then sent the bill to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, which adopted an amendment, cosponsored by Johnson, which increased the RFS to 8 billion gallons by 2012.

In April, the House passed the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which includes an RFS of 5 billion gallons by 2012. The bill also includes other important provisions or farmers, such as clarifying the government's role in siting liquefied natural gas facilities and providing for an efficient approval process, promoting clean coal technology and providing incentives for renewable energy, such as biomass, wind and solar.

Lock Modernization

The House and Senate introduced versions of WRDA 2005, both of which would authorize new locks on the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, in April. Thune was among the co-sponsors of the legislation in the Senate. The bill is expected to receive a vote in the Senate in the next quarter.

The legislation authorizes seven new 1,200-foot locks and an expansive ecosystem restoration program for the Mississippi River basin. The bill also requires immediate implementation of smaller measures, such as guide-wall extensions and helper boats to relieve congestion. Also included in the bill are provisions to reform the Army Corps of Engineers.

PED for the Upper Mississippi River System in FY2006 is necessary to continue the interim phase between completing a feasibility study and Congressional authorization for construction. Large scale navigation improvements and many ecosystem restoration projects will require at least 3 years of PED before construction could be initiated. Full funding of PED will ensure that when authorized the modernization program can aggressively proceed.

Railroad Competition Act

The Railroad Competition Act of 2005 revamps the current federal policy that allows a railroad to determine how traffic will move on the railroad system even if the route is away from points where the customer may gain access to rail competition. The bill would: 1) Require railroads to quote rates to their customers, 2) Provide arbitration for rail rates and service, 3) Allow the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to declare all or part of a state to be an area of inadequate rail competition and all allow special rail customer remedies to apply in such areas, and, 4) Require the development of a new, more realistic market-based standard for determining the reasonability of rates in cases brought before the STB.

The legislation also calls for an increase from \$3.5 billion to \$35 billion to provide loan and loan guarantees to entities for rail infrastructure improvements.

Sen. Burns introduced the bill in May. Cosponsors include Sens. Johnson, Thune, Larry Craig (R-Idaho), Mark Dayton (D-Minn.), David Vitter (R-La.), Norm Coleman (R-Minn.), Jay Rockefeller (D. W.Va.), Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.) and Max Baucus (D-Mont.).

Budget Reconciliation

In early June, the House passed a \$99.65 billion fiscal year 2006 agriculture spending bill, which matches fis-

cal year 2005's spending. However, some programs received funding cuts. Conservation programs received \$794 million, which is \$60 million less than 2005. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program, which pays farmers to make environmental improvements to equipment and working lands, is funded at more than \$1 billion, the same as last year's levels but \$200 million below the farm bill number. The Conservation Security Program, which aims to reward farmers who practice conservation and to provide incentives to help further their efforts on working lands, received \$258 million—more than \$50 million higher than the program has received in the past but not up to the levels of envisioned in the farm bill. The Ground and Surface Water Conservation Program is funded at \$51 million, approximately 15 percent below farm bill levels. Wildlife Habitat Incentives would come in at \$60 million, approximately 30 percent below farm bill levels.

There was some good news in the bill, as the bill restores the renewable energy and energy efficiency grant program to farm bill levels of \$23 million.

The Senate is expected to look at its agriculture spending bill by the end of June, but a final decision probably won't be reached until the middle of September.

National Security and Bioenergy Investment Act of 2005

Sens. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) and Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) introduced the National Security and Bioenergy Investment Act of 2005 on June 9, which would encourage the federal government to use biobased products in order to reduce the United States' dependence on foreign oil. Plastics, solvents and packaging, in addition to other consumer goods, may be provided by U.S.-grown crops instead of petroleum.

THE Olinger REPORT

by Ron Olinger



SDCGA Lobbyist-Pierre

Corn producers in South Dakota received good news as the planting season wrapped up this spring in the form of a poll done by Glenn Bolger, Public Opinion Strategies, a noted polling company from Alexandria, Virginia who is used by many Republican office holders in South Dakota. This poll was conducted with 500 registered voters to discover the feeling of South Dakotans toward ethanol. The poll had a margin of error of plus or minus 4.38 percent. The South Dakota Corn Growers were a participant in funding the poll.

The results of the poll revealed that ethanol is extremely popular in South Dakota as an energy source followed only by electric and solar power. In addition, 74 percent felt that the national energy situation was likely to have a major impact on the state's economy in that there was likely to be a national energy shortage within five years. Ninety-six percent of those polled thought that ethanol was overwhelmingly important to South Dakota's economy.

As the poll goes on, there is only positive and overwhelming support for the ethanol industry and two-thirds of the people feel that South Dakota is not doing enough to promote the manufacturing and use of ethanol and 67 percent of those polled favored requiring gasoline sold in South Dakota to contain ethanol. Of those polled, 76 percent strongly favor providing tax incentives to encourage the promotion of ethanol and 85 percent favored keeping the 2 cent per gallon lower tax level on ethanol which benefits consumers.

This should be a message to the Governor and the legislature that the people in South Dakota don't favor Middle East oil or the Big Oil complex but prefer the manufacturer of ethanol and the use of its by-products in South Dakota.

It appears that there will be attempts made to roll back the 2-cent tax incentive that goes to the consumer by the contractors of South Dakota. The message to them is that the poll found that South Dakotans oppose raising gas taxes to build more roads by a 65 percent to 30 percent margin.

Our Governor and Legislature should note that Montana passed legislation that would require most gasoline to require 10 percent ethanol and the law goes into effect when they produce 40 million gallons of ethanol on an annualized basis. Minnesota, who already has a requirement for use of ethanol, will raise that standard to 20 percent from 10 percent by the year 2013 if certain levels of E-85 used are not reached by that time. It is time for South Dakota, being the rural state we are, to get on the bandwagon and respond to the citizen's wishes rather than Big Oil and contractors.

SDCGA Showplot Program

The South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA) hosts a showplot program each year for members of the SDCGA to participate in. This year, 15 cooperators have showplots throughout the state. As farmers travel in their communities this summer, all are encouraged to view the SDCGA showplots at the following locations.

2005 Showplot Cooperators:

Reid Jensen – Burbank
Darrin Ihnen – Hurley
Jake Volkers – Brookings
John Kittleson – Henry
Joe and Keith Ebbers – Castlewood
Shawn & Kelly Olsen – Hayti
Jim Thyen – Waverly
Mike Hunter, Kirk Olson & Bill Chase – Huron
Rodney Bade – Northville
David Reinesch – White Lake
Mike Gilbertz – White Lake
David Gillen – White Lake
Mark Garber – Pierre
Scott Sperry – Bath
Justin Bieber – Bowdle

"Showplots are an excellent way for producers and seed dealers to showcase their products," said Chad Blindauer, chairman of the SDCGA Showplot Committee. "Our showplots are spread out across the state, so results should be varied."

Showplots are an unbiased way to compare various corn hybrids side-by-side under unique growing conditions tailored to that area of the state. After harvest, both raw and adjusted data is published and a book is sent out to SDCGA members so they can use the data to make planting decisions for the next season.

To become a showplot cooperator, one must be a member of the SDCGA, have not refunded their corn checkoff for three years and be willing to agree to the showplot rules. For more information, call the SDCGA office at 605-334-0100.

South Dakota Corn hosts International Journalists on biotechnology tour of South Dakota agriculture

South Dakota Corn recently showcased the state's agricultural advancements to eight international journalists recently when the visiting group toured a farm, ethanol plant and grain handling facility in eastern South Dakota.

The South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA) and South Dakota Corn Utilization Council (SDCUC) hosted the "front-page" writers representing the countries of Japan, Taiwan, Romania, Bulgaria, Spain, Brazil, Pakistan and Argentina. Biotechnology crops, markets and regulations were top issues of interest for the international reporters.



Steve Domm of Fremar Farmers Coop explains the grain handling system to international journalists during a tour of the facility.

Domm answers questions by journalist Hsui-chin Lin who writes for the Commercial Times in Taiwan.



South Dakota was the perfect venue for these information seekers as South Dakota has the world's highest percentage of farmland growing genetically enhanced crops. Seventy-nine percent of crops harvested in South Dakota this fall will be transgenic, compared to 45 percent nationally. The visitors had the opportunity to see some of those genetically enhanced crops growing in fields when they toured Brian Woldt's farm near Wentworth, S.D. Woldt's farm is an example of how South Dakota farmers have incorporated the latest technology in their production agriculture operations.

"There is strong acceptance of biotechnology in the United States, but in other countries, the perception is not as good," said Woldt, who is the president of the SDCUC. "The ability to educate news writers in international markets will ultimately serve our domestic demand well."

The group also toured the Dakota Ethanol plant at Wentworth before traveling to Marion, S.D. where the state-of-the-art grain handling facility, Fremar Farmers Coop, offered the opportunity to see how the end product is handled.

"These media professionals disseminate the news of biotechnology in their countries so it's imperative that we dispel the myths of GMOs and lend assurance about the safety of our products and standards," said Reid Jensen, farmer from Burbank, S.D. and director on the SDCGA board.

The "study tour" was part of a U.S. Grains Council program designed to create new foreign markets through national media.



International journalists toured Brian Woldt's grain farm near Wentworth, S.D.

What's Up



in the Industry

→ Waiver Denied

The Environmental Protection Agency has denied the Clean Air Act waiver request from California, Connecticut and New York. Renewable Fuels Association President Bob Dinneen says it good news for consumers. "The EPA affirmed the effectiveness of using clean-burning gasoline additives in fuel, like ethanol."

→ Farm Equipment Sales Rise

Farm equipment sales increased during May. Sales of 40 to 100 horsepower tractors rose 22 percent over year earlier levels. According to the Association of Equipment Manufacturers, sales of tractors larger than 100 horsepower rose 20 percent from one year ago.

→ Cool Summer

The recent cool spell has prompted questions about the likelihood of another cool summer. Meteorologist Drew Lerner of World Weather Inc. predicts the Eastern Cornbelt will likely have a bias for a cooler than normal summer. In the Northern Plains and the Canadian Prairie, Lerner believes the temps will bounce around more than last year. "We should see overall a little bit more normal accumulation of degree days," said Lerner.

→ Studying Land Use

North Dakota State University has been awarded a \$465,000 grant to study agricultural land management in the Northern Plains. The four-year study will analyze the implications for multiple-use land management for wildlife, agriculture and outdoor recreation.

→ Another Biodiesel Plant

Cargill plans to build a biodiesel and glycerin refinery in Iowa. The facility will be near Cargill's soybean crush plant in Iowa Falls and will produce 37.5 million gallons of biodiesel per year.

→ AUSD Web site

Agriculture United for South Dakota (AUSD) announced that they have launched a new Web site, www.agunited.org to serve as a resource tool for South Dakota's farm and ranch families. Regular features on the web site included Ag United news, a weekly agriculture news update as well as a regular featured called "Faces of Rural South Dakota." In addition the site features links to 27 different agriculture organizations' site that provide services ranging from agriculture news to education to helpful agriculture production tools.

→ ID Comment Period Extended

USDA has extended the comment period for the National Animal Identification System proposal. Comments can be submitted to the Federal Register until July 6th, one month beyond the original deadline. USDA wants to implement a mandatory animal ID system by 2009.

→ Thaler Named Interim Animal & Range Science Head

South Dakota State University Swine Specialist Bob Thaler is the interim head of SDSU's Animal and Range Sciences Department. In his interim role, Thaler will replace Don Boggs, who is heading to Kansas State University. A search for a replacement for Boggs is underway and will take six months to a year.

→ Informa Estimate

Informa Economic's latest corn acreage estimate is 1.3 million acres higher than USDA's March estimate. Informa's soybean acreage estimate is down one million acres from USDA's latest number. The analytical firm's spring wheat acreage estimate is down nearly 500,000 acres from USDA's March report.

→ Farm Bill Listening Session

A series of USDA farm bill listening sessions will kick July 7th. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns says the first session will be broadcast on RFD TV. Farm broadcaster Orion Samuelson will moderate the program. Farm bill forums will be held throughout the year. Dates and locations for future sessions will be announced at a later date.

EXPORT UPDATE ●●●●●●●●●●

• **Potential Distiller's Dried Grains with Solubles (DDGS) buyers learned the value of the product during a series of US Grains Council-sponsored conferences in Mexico.** Council representatives, including Value Added Advisory Team member Robert White of the Kansas Corn Commission and Terry Davis of Alternative Power Generation participated in the series. While some DDGS is being imported by Mexico, there is a need to educate buyers and animal nutritionists about the product as well as how to value DDGS in their ration formulas, explained White. In addition to providing education, the conferences also connected potential buyers with those importing the product. More than 66,000 metric tons of U.S. DDGS were exported to Mexico in Calendar Year (CY) 2004, up 45 percent from CY2003.

• **Monitoring the corn situation in China should be viewed as an "inexact" science.** That's the message delivered by Dr. Todd Meyer, the US Grains Council's senior director in China. Part of the problem with economic projections in China is that data is suspect from the start, which in most cases means either inflated or deflated, Meyer said. However, even though the numbers may be questionable, Meyer and others believe that demand for all commodities holds great potential and will continue to grow in the years to come. Forces underpinning China's feed grain demand such as strong economic development, growth of purchasing power, urbanization, expansion of

the supermarket industry and population growth will lead to robust growth in key feed grain consumption sectors. "China's declining corn stocks, the increased utilization of corn in its domestic livestock industry and the strong development of the country's ethanol industry leads us to believe that China will eventually become a net importer of corn," said Meyer.

• **Taiwanese representatives received increased exposure to new bioplastic products when attending the 2005 Aichi Japan EXPO recently.** The US Grains Council sponsored a team of corn-based bioplastic industry representatives to attend the trade show to learn about the Japanese experience of applying bioplastics in everyday life. "We learned that Japan and Taiwan differ concerning the application of polylactic acid (PLA), a corn-based polymer used to make a variety of products," said Clover Chang, the Council's assistant director in Taiwan. "In Taiwan, corn-based PLA's major applications are low-valued single-use bioplastic products, including food containers, trays and cups. However, in Japan, the bulk of their PLA market consists of higher-end products such as textiles, TV sets, computers and cell phones." The Council projects that commercial production of corn-based bioplastic products in Taiwan will likely grow to 10,000 metric tons of PLA resins, which is equivalent to 25,000 tons (984,000 bushels) of corn in 2006.



Gallery of Corn PHOTO CONTEST

Corn is of itself a work of art - from its majestic green stalks and graceful silks, to its distinctive cobs with the nearly perfectly aligned rows of bright yellow kernels.

The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) invites its members and their families to showcase nature's artwork — in its various production stages — through the NCGA "Gallery of Corn" Photo Contest.

Entrants may submit photos in the following categories:

• Planting	• Livestock	• Scenic
• Growing	• Families on the farm	• Miscellaneous
• Harvesting		

PRIZES
A Grand Prize contest winner and first, second and third place winners will be named in each category.

Grand Prize Winner: \$500
First Place each category: \$75
Second Place each category: \$50
Third Place each category: \$25

So grab your camera and join in the fun showing off America's bountiful corn crop! Deadline for entries is November 30, 2005. Winners will be announced December 2005. All winning photographs will be displayed at Corn Congress at the 2006 Commodity Classic in Austin, Texas.



National Corn Growers Association
632 Cepi Drive
Chesterfield, MO 63005
Telephone: (636) 733-9004

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED
Please go to www.ncga.com
for more rules and registration form

"CORN" COOKING

Cooking corn with the husks on adds a sweet, smoky flavor. You can grill very fresh corn without the husks, but be careful not to burn them (although a golden charring greatly enhances the flavor). Or, wrap husked corn with seasonings in heavy duty foil.

BASIC METHOD WITH HUSKS:

Pull down the husks but leave them attached. Remove the silks. Pull the husks back over the corn. Tie the ends of the hunks with string or a metal twist tie. Soak the corn in water 15 minutes. Grill over medium heat until done, turning on each side, about 10 to 15 minutes.

Tip: This method streams the corn, but if you want more toasted kernels, leave just a thin layer of husk and some areas where the kernels can peek through.

HUSKS AND FOIL, MEXICAN STYLE:

Remove silks and husks. Soak husks in water. Squeeze lime juice on each ear. Sprinkle salt and chile powder on each ear. Wrap in husks and then in foil. Grill until done, turning on each side, about 10 to 15 minutes. Variation: Cook the corn according to the basic method but add the seasonings at table, after cooking.

FOIL ONLY, LIME-BARBECUE STYLE:

Mix together 2 tablespoons barbecue sauce or Worcestershire Sauce, 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice and 1 teaspoon mayonnaise. Place each corn cob on a piece of heavy foil, about 12-inches in length (or double wrap if using regular foil). Brush mixture on corn. Seal the edges of the foil, folding down the excess until the corn is tightly wrapped, and tightly sealing the ends. Grill 15-20 minutes, turning occasionally. (Makes enough for 3 to 4 ears of corn.)

SUMMER CORN CHOWDER

Ingredients:

- 8 slices bacon, diced
- 1 small onion, diced
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- salt and pepper to taste
- 3 cubes chicken bouillon dissolved in 3 c. water
- 3 ears fresh sweet corn, kernels removed (about 2? c.)
- 2 cups small new potatoes, cut into one-half-inch slices
- 1 (4.25 oz jar) diced green chilies
- 1 1/2 cups half and half cream

In a small stock pot, over medium-high heat, cook bacon eight minutes or until crisp. Remove bacon with a slotted spoon. Discard all but 2 tbsp. bacon fat. Add onion, celery, thyme, salt and black pepper to pot. Cook over medium heat four minutes or until onion is tender. Add broth, corn potatoes and diced green chilies. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium and simmer 10 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Remove and discard thyme. Add cream. Heat thoroughly. Serve in bowls. Sprinkle top with bacon.

Calendar of Events

JULY 12, 2005

NCGA Action Team Meeting
Washington, DC

JULY 13-14, 2005

Corn Congress
Washington, DC

JULY 21, 2005

C-Express Ethanol Promotion
Aberdeen, SD

JULY 24-26

USGC Board of Delegates
Conference
Seattle, WA

AUGUST 8-13, 2005

Sioux Empire Fair
Sioux Falls, SD

AUGUST 10, 2005

Farmer Appreciation Day
at the Sioux Empire Fair
Sioux Falls, SD

AUGUST 16-18, 2005

ACE Conference
Omaha, NE

AUGUST 16-18, 2005

Dakotafest
Mitchell, SD

AUGUST 26, 2005

Kickstart Travel Center
Ethanol Promotion
Sturgis, SD

SEPTEMBER 3-10, 2005

South Dakota State Fair
Huron, SD

SEPTEMBER 7, 2005

Value-Added Day
at the SD State Fair
Huron, SD

SEPTEMBER 5, 2005

Labor Day

OCTOBER 10-12, 2005

Biofuels Workshop
Atlanta, GA

OCTOBER 10, 2005

Columbus Day

NOVEMBER 2-4, 2005

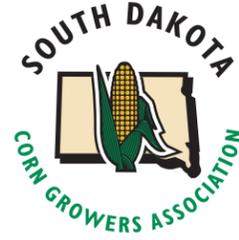
USMEF Strategic Planning &
Marketing Conference
Santio, TX

NOVEMBER 11, 2005

Veteran's Day

NOVEMBER 24, 2005

Thanksgiving Day



A G R O W I N G I N F L U E N C E

SOUTH DAKOTA CORN TALK is published by the South Dakota Corn Growers Association, a non-profit South Dakota organization. Any articles pertaining to corn, corn products and the corn industry are encouraged and welcomed.

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1209
Sioux Falls, SD

South Dakota Corn Growers Association
3801 S. Western Ave., Suite 100 • Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605-334-0100 • Fax 605-334-0505

