



SOUTH DAKOTA CORN COUNCIL

# REVIEW

News from the South Dakota Corn Utilization Council

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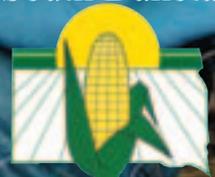
## *Check-Off Dollars Fund Research Projects*

page 3 —

## *Timing can be everything! Ten tips to weed control*

page 4 —

South Dakota



Corn Utilization  
Council

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# President's Report

## Hello!

My name is Brad Bonhorst, and recently my fellow board members elected me as President of the SDCUC. I would like to thank them for giving me this opportunity.

My wife Barb and I farm in southern Hughes County east of Pierre. My diversified farming operation consists of corn, wheat, soybeans, sunflowers, and raise cattle. We have two children, Bryan who is a student at USD and Tara who attends Mesa College in Arizona.

Over the past five years there has been a tremendous amount of growth in the ethanol industry in South Dakota. I'm proud of the role the SDCUC has played in the development of this industry. It has meant an additional 10 to 15 cents per bushel to all corn producers in South Dakota. I am also proud of the 8000 farm families who are owners of ethanol plants across South Dakota. There are still value added opportunities throughout South Dakota. The SDCUC will continue to seek out profitable farmer owned opportunities. Please investigate them, and see if they fit into your farming operation.

Biotechnology is the next era upon us. The SDCUC is committed to finding innovative ways to use this technology and most importantly profit from it. South Dakota corn producers have quickly adapted technology as it has been released. The SDCUC is researching new value-added biotech opportunities. We believe the next wave of farmer owned value added ventures will be in the biotech industry.

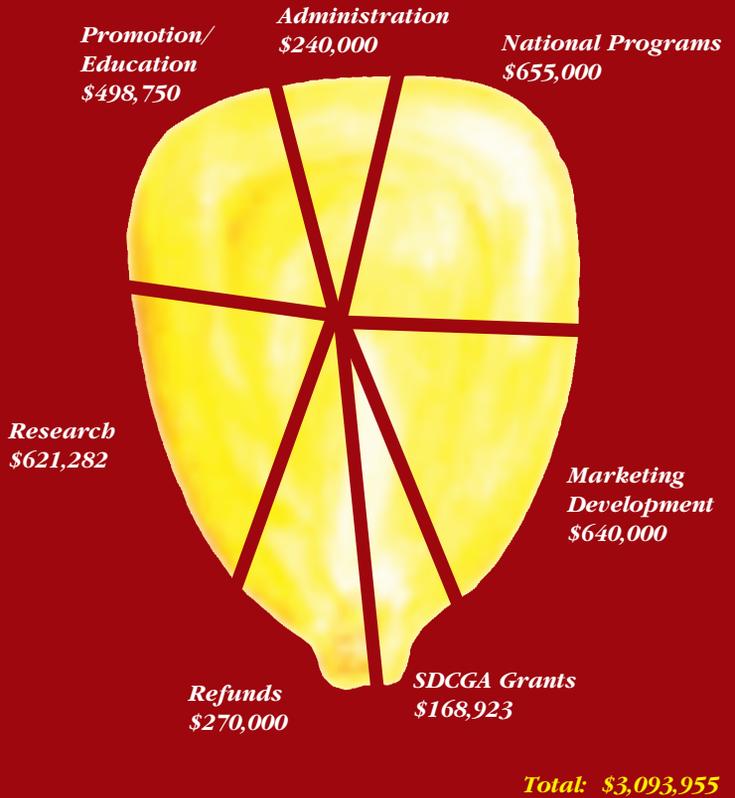
It is my goal to work with our staff, the board of directors, and farmers from all over South Dakota to provide opportunities for your success. We face many challenges but our track record shows we will prevail if we work together. I'm looking forward to serving you.

Sincerely,

*Brad L. Bonhorst*

Brad Bonhorst  
President

## 2004-2005 SDCUC Budget



*“ for everyone who loves summer, fun and baseball, your seat is waiting. ”*

**Come celebrate Ag with your fellow Corn Producers on June 15, 2004**

## Cover Story **Check-Off Dollars Fund Research Projects!**

by Lance Nixon  
SDSU AgBio  
Communications

### **SD Corn Utilization Council Funds \$386,000 in SDSU Research**

The South Dakota Corn Utilization Council will invest corn check-off dollars in 14 new or continuing research projects in the coming year at South Dakota State University.

Beginning in July, SDCUC will award \$386,282 for SDSU corn research. Projects range from corn breeding and expanded uses for distillers grains in livestock feeding regimens to new processes to extract chemicals valuable to industry from corn byproducts. The SDCUC funding for those projects come entirely from the 1-cent per bushel check-off that farmers pay on corn sold through local elevators and ethanol plants in South Dakota.

"Distillers grains is one of our top areas of interest, but there are other research areas that we follow closely on an annual basis, including new value-added uses for corn," Mark Namminga, Chairman of the SDCUC Research Committee said. "This is research that is important to our core producers out there, who pay into the check-off and who benefit from the work at SDSU."

The SDCUC made additional funds available this year for projects about distillers' grains in animal nutrition, Namminga said. Ways to make use of the distillers' grains produced as a co-product of area ethanol plants remains a priority with the SDCUC, Namminga said.

Here are brief descriptions of 9 out of 14 research projects the SDCUC is funding in the coming year:

**\$50,000 for value-added uses of corn and dry-mill byproduct.** Microbiologist Bill Gibbons of SDSU's Department of Biology/Microbiology said the new, three-year project will look first at pretreatments to enhance the digestibility of whole stillage and wet distillers' grains to form a "biocrude" rich in sugars, organic acids and other products valuable to industry. The second part of the project would try use fermentation or other processes to try recover biochemicals and biopolymers. The final part of the project would try to recover oil-based products, food ingredients and feed-grade compounds.

"This technology has the potential to reduce the significant energy usage and costs associated with recovering and drying distillers' feeds," Gibbons said. He added that farmers who own ethanol plants stand to benefit if they can extract more valuable co-products such as biopolymers during the process of making ethanol.

**\$25,000 to study precision deep tillage.** Principal investigators are Dave Clay, Sharon Clay, and Gregg Carlson of SDSU's Department of Plant Science. The project looks at how deep tillage, deep fertilizer placement, and management of organic matter can increase corn and soybean yields in some locations.

**\$34,000 to study dried distillers grains with solubles as a replacement for oilseed meal.** Principal investigator Cody Wright of SDSU's Department of Animal and Range Sciences explained that although DDG contains about 30-35 percent protein, research has suggested that only about 50 percent of that protein is available to microbes in the rumen as "degradable intake protein." In contrast, sunflower meal contains about 30-35 percent protein; however, over 75 percent is rumen degradable. Microbes in the rumen require degradable intake protein to grow and proliferate, and subsequently digest fiber. Based on calculated requirements, gestating cows would need to consume in excess of 6 pounds of DDG to meet their degradable intake

protein requirement.

Wright said he and his SDSU colleagues want to investigate whether DDG can be utilized as a supplemental protein source at lower levels because of what is called "nitrogen recycling." He explained that inside the animal's body, some of the protein that is absorbed is metabolized in a process that releases ammonia, which in turn is converted by the liver into urea. That recycled urea can re-enter the rumen by passing through the rumen wall or in saliva and can help meet the need for degradable intake protein.

"Our hypothesis is that, because of urea recycling, DDG may be as effective as oilseed meals as a protein source in supplements for beef cattle," Wright said.

**\$44,245 to study energy digestibility in dried distillers grains with solubles.** Principal investigator Hans Stein, Animal and Range Sciences, plans to feed pigs on 11 different diets – a base diet by itself and diets formulated in a 50/50 mixture of that base diet plus DDGS taken from 10 different ethanol plants in the region. Stein will measure the amount of digestible and metabolizable energy in each diet. Comparing the diets formulated from the 10 ethanol plants to the base diet will show whether there is variation from plant to plant in the amount of digestible energy contained in DDGS. The study also will give the industry new, accurate measures of the energy value of DDGS.

"Recently published values are either based on data that were obtained more than 20 years ago or from data that have been calculated rather than measured in pigs," Stein said. "Because the chemical composition of DDGS has changed over the past 20 years, it is likely that the energy concentration in DDGS has also changed, but there are no newer data available that have been directly measured in pigs."

Consequently, Stein said, feed companies often assign a lower value to DDGS than seems reasonable. In addition, the feed industry is concerned about variability in energy content and digestibility among different sources of DDGS.

"Data from the experiment will enable swine producers and the feed industry to assess a correct energy value to DDGS without having to discount the product because of outdated information," Stein said.

**\$56,600 for determination of net energy of distillers grains in finishing cattle.** Principal investigator Chad Mueller, Animal and Range Sciences, said the project will use calorimetry and total collection protocols to determine total digestibility, nitrogen retention and energy utilization.

"We are also using procedures to determine passage rate, an important component in determining nutrient digestibility/utilization," Mueller said.

Passage rate in this case refers to the amount of time a feed particle remains in the rumen (being exposed to bacterial digestion) before passing into the small intestine. Since ruminal digestion is important in obtaining feed energy, changes in passage rate can change the amount of energy (and protein) the animal can acquire from the feed.

"Most research studies have used gain performance to estimate the net energy of distillers grains, which is considered a cheaper but crude method of determination," Mueller added. "This project will produce a clearer picture of what is happening to intake energy, and thus how the

energy is being partitioned between maintenance and gain."

**\$17,500 for corn breeding and genetics.** Principal investigator is Zeno Wicks III. The ongoing SDSU program develops and releases inbred lines and improved populations that can be used to develop hybrids for livestock feed, grain production and value-added uses of corn. The program also will evaluate and select corn adapted to South Dakota for phosphorus and nitrogen content; develop open-pollinated varieties for sustainable ag operations such as organic farms; and continue to develop white corn as an alternative crop. Wicks' program also breeds other types of specialty corn such as waxy or high-oil corn.

**\$38,140 for studying hydrology of ag waterways in eastern South Dakota.** Principal investigator Todd Trooien, Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, said the project will intensively monitor water tables and drain-flow in selected waterways. The study runs for two years, after which Trooien will use the data in simulation models.

**\$27,750 to study corn distillers grains vs. forage in dairy diets.** Principal investigator Kenneth Kalscheur of SDSU's Department of Dairy Science said adding corn distillers grains (CDG) to diets of lactating dairy cows as a replacement for forage would be valuable to dairy producers during times of low forage supplies and high feeds costs. Corn distillers grains contain high amounts of highly digestible fiber and abundant energy, making them a good replacement for corn silage. Kalscheur's study will determine the amount of corn silage, the predominant forage source in South Dakota dairy cow diets, that can be replaced by feeding CDG. During the study researchers will feed cows diets containing between 0 and 21 percent CDG on a dry matter basis in place of corn silage.

**\$30,000 to study use of dried distillers grains additions in improving sow performance.** Principal investigator SDSU Extension Swine Specialist Bob Thaler will feed gestating sows a diet that is made up of 40 percent DDGS, and lactating sows a diet made up of 10 percent DDGS.

Most of the work that has been done so far has been in feeding DDGS to pigs has been done in grow-finish diets. But Thaler said it makes sense to explore ways to incorporate DDGS in feeding sows because they consume over 1 ton of feed per sow per year. Gestating sows have lower amino acid requirements so DDGS would work well in those diets. Also, with their high phosphorus requirement, the large amount of available phosphorus in DDGS makes it an ideal feedstuff for gestating sows.

Thaler said a Minnesota study used DDGS to make up 40 percent of gestation diets, and 20 percent of a sow lactation diet. The gestation diet worked fine, but researchers found that lactating sows on the diet didn't consume as much feed. This could potentially lead to a decrease in milk production and litter weight. However, it is a flavor issue and appears to have nothing to do with DDGS's nutritional value, said Thaler. His study will evaluate how well lactating sows perform on a diet made up of 10 percent DDGS.

To learn more about SDCUC agricultural research projects with SDSU visit our web site at [sdcorn.org](http://sdcorn.org) or SD Agricultural Experiment Station Web site, [sdaes.sdstate.edu/](http://sdaes.sdstate.edu/).

# "Timing Can Be Everything!"

by Leon Wragy  
SDSU Extension Agronomist

"When" may be more important than "what" in a successful weed control program. There are several herbicide programs that have a proven record. There are data sources that help pick the best treatment for specific weeds. The key is to be sure the competition is removed before weeds have caused unrecoverable loss.

Weed density, the kind of weed and other stress such as fertility and moisture are involved. Some research shows that point can be as early as the 2-leaf stage of the crop. Where there is less weed competition and stress, it might be 2 weeks or more later. That gives a much bigger "window" for postemergence spraying. In the SDSU tests, an 8-day delay in postemergence programs lowered corn yield nearly 20 bu/A where there was at least moderate grass pressure. It is best to error on the side of too early. Where early weeds are heavy,

control at 3 to 4 weeks after planting was required to yield potential. Late emerging weeds are much less competitive. We find it is more important to control some of the weed pressure early than it is to have 100% later.

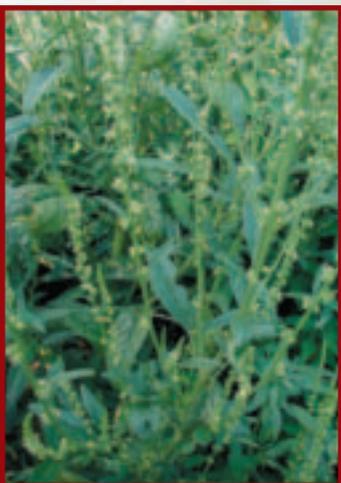
It can also pay to control late scattered weeds that may not affect yield. It is an important part of managing weed shifts. For example, a few velvetleaf per acre may not lower yield in that field but if each plant produces up to 10,000 seeds, control will head-off major problems in the next crop. Common waterhemp, woolly, cupgrass, and lambsquarters are other weeds on a high priority "watch" list. It is easy to miss the first plants unless there is extra effort to scout more carefully in large fields. Late season, during harvest is the last opportunity to check for changes so the plan for next year can be adjusted.

## Ten Tips

- Pick a program that has a proven record for your target weeds.
- Use a program that has flexibility.
- Use a full residual program or a split program where there are early weeds (i.e. foxtail, lambsquarters) and late emerging weeds (i.e. waterhemp, velvetleaf) in the field.
- Split pre/post or post/post programs give consistency and spread the timing on large acreages.
- Use combinations with different modes of action to reduce risk of resistance.
- Don't underestimate the value of burndown if weeds are emerged at planting.
- Apply post treatments early.
- Don't base hybrid selection only on "herbicide genetics"; agronomic characteristics are a big factor in yield.
- Be sure equipment is cleaned when switching herbicide types and crops.
- Do a harvest time weed check.



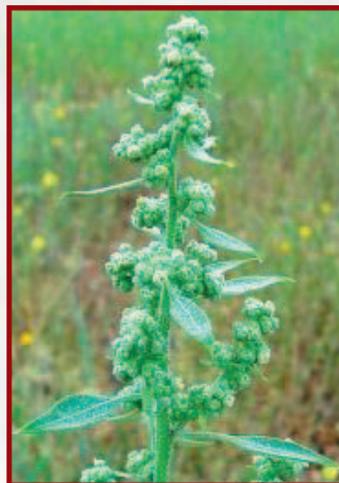
**Woolly Cupgrass**  
Fast spreading; competitive  
extended emergence and seed production



**Common Waterhemp**  
Big Problem—1.7 million seeds,  
extended emergence



**Kochia**  
Known ALS resistance;  
early emergence



**Common Lambsquarters**  
Problem in "fast tract"—Variable Control;  
variable plant form and growth

# Methane Digesters

by Joel Dykstra  
CEO SDAPV

In mid-March South Dakota Ag Producer Ventures, along with the SDSU Ag Experiment Station, S.D. Dept. of Ag and S.D. Public Utilities Commission and through the generous sponsorship of S.D. Corn Utilization Council the South Dakota Methane Digester Summit was held in Brookings, SD.

The Summit was designed to bring together a broad range of stakeholders in the application of methane digesters to establish a base line of understanding about the state of technological development, economic realities facing adoption of those technologies to address various applications and any regulatory or other systemic barriers to more aggressive and more accelerated adoption of digester technology in the State. The main questions was, "How do we make South Dakota a more digester friendly place so that more of these projects develop and more uses are found for digesters that will facilitate agricultural development and other uses.

The group of stakeholders that were invited to take part was intended to represent as many groups with interests in the technology as possible without overwhelming the numbers by attempting to include every individual who might have an interest. In particular it was decided to try not to make the event a vendors parade so that underlying issues could be addressed without becoming confused by differences among the various competing technologies.

The Summit attendees heard presentations from participants across the spectrum about the various applications, value streams produced and potential roadblocks to broader adoption. Those presenters included representatives of the electric utilities addressing the challenges of accommodating third party generated power within the system and the value that can be paid in South Dakota for such power. Experts from the SDSU Engineering Department provided an introduction to digester basics. SDSU and the Midwest Dairy Institute outlined their respective projects set for construction later this year.

The primary objective of the organizers was to conclude the Summit with a workshop session to develop a specific "to do list" to follow up the conversation of the Summit with positive action to implement the improvements identified by the Summit to help promote Digester technologies in South Dakota. That list includes the following:

- Build and operate an AD demonstration unit for use in education and for development of operating and management skill sets
- Refine and utilize an odor model for development of environmental and zoning regulations
- Develop statewide design guidelines in support of permitting
- Develop regional integrated resource model to provide a

context within which development and permitting can take place

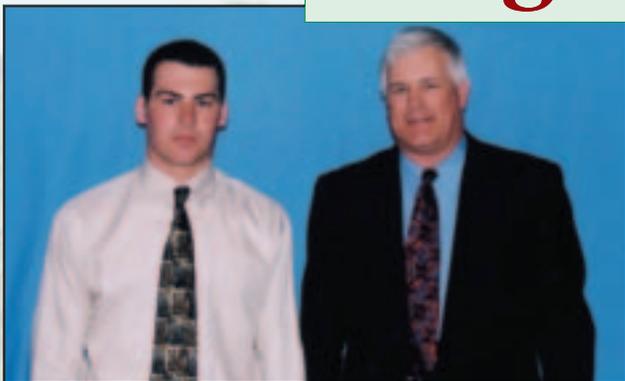
- Develop a renewable portfolio standard for South Dakota in support of project economics
- Develop appropriate educational materials for communicating benefits and values from adoption of anaerobic digestion technology to various state stakeholder groups, including the general public, County Commissions, state environmental and agricultural agencies, commodity groups, banks and capital sources, etc.

All participants agreed to work towards achieving the goals set at this Summit and come together in a follow-up conference to review progress and reset goals, tasks and responsibilities for future action.

The organizers hope that a public conference can be presented as early as this summer to expand the discussion to anyone and everyone in South Dakota who wants to participate in the dialog and allow for an exchange of information from a wide variety of vendors and technologies to provide municipalities and livestock project developers with many alternatives to guide them to wider use of digester applications.

If you would like to see a copy of the final report on the South Dakota Methane Digester Summit contact SDAPV at 605-764-6905.

## Congratulations!



John Holzbauer, a General Ag major from Wagner, South Dakota received the South Dakota Corn Utilization Council Scholarship at the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences Scholarship Banquet on April 7, 2004.



During the 2004 SD State FFA convention the McCook Central FFA Team Received the Grain Production Placement Proficiency award that is sponsored by the SDCUC. Receiving this award: (from left to right) Dan Palmquist, Josh Blindert and Drew Peterson.

# Value Added Center working with **Corn Council** to bring Ridgefield Farms to South Dakota

By Dallas Tonsager

The staff at the Value Added Center, The South Dakota Corn Council and South Dakota Corn Growers, the State of South Dakota and the community of Huron has been working on a project with Ridgefield Farms Connecticut to bring a food processing plant to South Dakota. In March Ridgefield Farms announced its plans to build a beef packing plant in Huron. The company has plans to harvest 600 head per day (156,000/year) currently; the company processes approximately 1200 head per week in their current location.

The product, marketed as Ridgefield Farms Premium Hereford Beef or PHB, is sold in major metropolitan areas mostly on the East and West Coasts. The Company President Phil Friend has spent several days in Huron along with his consultants and some staff. They recently opened an office in downtown Huron to head quarter the projected plans of opening a beef packing plant.

"The Ridgefield Farms announcement is exactly what our 2010 Initiative is intended to do," Gov. Mike Rounds said. "We have worked hand in hand with the Huron community to attract a quality company."

"I have personally met with the leadership of Ridgefield Farms, and am happy that they have chosen Huron as the site for their new processing plant," he said.

Several leaders through out the state have joined together to form a board to head up this exciting project. The members of the board are Lud Hohm Chairman, Mike Stahly, Earl Nordby, Lynn Schneider, Bill Chase, Art Donnell and Shawn Lyons, all of the Huron area; Jerry Rubendall of Mitchell, Brian Simon of Seneca, Boyd Dvorak of Lake Andes, Jill Hotchkiss of Reva and Phil Friend, Ridgefield Farms president and chief executive officer of Ridgefield, Conn.

The company hopes to launch an equity drive this spring with plans for a ground breaking for a 125,000 square foot, state-of-the-art packing plant this summer. The Ridgefield Farms packing plant will bring over 250 jobs to the Huron Community.

More information on this project will be made available to the public soon. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Ridgefield Farms office in Huron at 375 Dakota Ave South, Suite 107, Huron South Dakota 57350 or call them at 604-352-8500.



Vince Boddicker  
Farmers Trading  
Company Broker/  
Business Manager

## Market Update:

### YOU DON'T SAY!

When the price of corn futures reach \$2.80 or higher, emotionally for many producers it becomes difficult to sell because the news is so friendly and appears it will never change. They tell

themselves, this time it's different, we're now at a new price plateau, domestic and export demand is high and stocks to use ratios are the lowest in years. Will it be different this time? Only time will tell, but history is a good teacher and if it follows previous patterns prices will move lower by harvest. The news is the friendliest at the top and the worst at the bottom.

Let's take a look at the fundamental information for corn as of late April. Expected ending stocks for the U.S. this year are projected to be 634 mln. bu. This would be the second lowest in the past 20 years. Stocks to use ratio is pegged at 8.3%, just 1% above 1995/1996 levels. Exports are up approximately 20% above 2003. Ethanol demand has increased 500 mln. bu. since 2001 edging up domestic use to and expected 8.4 bln. bu. Just 10 years ago domestic use was less than 6 bln. bu. World stocks are at 20-year lows. Commodity markets as a whole are in the beginning stages of an overall 30-year inflationary phase. With this type of news prices can't go lower can they? They can and they might but there is a long

growing season ahead that could vastly change the complex of expected ending stocks.

On the flip side the March 31 planting intentions report increased corn acres by a mere 300,000 acres. Don't be surprised if USDA's original projection of an increase of 1.6 mln. acres isn't closer to the final numbers in July. From March 1st when the survey was completed until the end of March when the report was issued, new crop corn prices advanced \$0.40/bu. which will likely switch anticipated acres from beans to corn. Disease and insect problems the past few years along with less than desirable bean yields in 2002 and 2003 will add to the possibility planted corn acres will increase over March 31 projections. The only deterring factor we see to corn acres not increasing is too much rain causing planting delays.

Projected corn demand both domestic and export is based on the idea the end user will buy corn at any price and demand won't be curtailed by futures prices above \$3.20. With the inflationary phase the commodity markets are in, it is a possibility but in past history it has never happened. The function of the futures market in times of good demand and short supply has always been to ration demand through higher prices. When the rationing is done prices will move lower. We don't see that changing in 2004.

Over the next 3-5 years commodity prices and corn prices in particular should

remain at profitable levels but be prepared for violent swings now and in the future. To win at the marketing game it is imperative to sell at profitable levels and not wait to see what prices are when one needs to generate cash.

If weather is ideal and demand backs off a bit, December corn futures could decline to near the \$2.50 level at harvest. Lower prices than \$2.50 are possible but not likely with current tight stocks. If any weather problems occur, price appreciation above \$3.40 December futures is likely. Exactly how far above \$3.40 is hard to predict, as there is very little price history at those levels. With futures prices above \$3.00 it makes good economic sense to forward price part of your expected 2004 production. Do your pricing in small increments so if a weather problem does arise you have more to sell at higher prices. If prices decline into May, you can buy call options to cover an unexpected weather problem but what will your financial picture look like if you sell nothing at current profitable levels and for the next year, futures prices decline and don't get above \$2.60? In our opinion the corn market has topped unless a weather problem arises. If you are going to base marketing decisions on a potential weather problem, then you should also drastically cut back on seed, chemical and fertilizer inputs because you won't need them. That may be a bit harsh but the point is, if you are going to plant for a normal or bumper crop you must market accordingly.

## Chalk up another Milestone *in the* **ETHANOL INDUSTRY**



*VeraSun Energy celebrated its grand opening on March 13, 2004. As the nation's largest ethanol plant, Vera Sun will process more than 35 million bushels of corn to produce 100 million gallons of ethanol and 320,000 tons of distillers grains each year at its facility in Aurora, SD.*

Another milestone for South Dakota's growing ethanol industry took place recently when Sioux River Ethanol, LLC and VeraSun Energy hosted their grand openings. The South Dakota Corn Utilization Council congratulates them for creating a new market for corn supplies, providing jobs and economic opportunities in rural areas. The additions of Sioux River Ethanol and VeraSun Energy increases South Dakota's total ethanol production capacity to over 400 million gallons annually.



*Sioux River Ethanol, LLC celebrated its grand opening on May 1, 2004. The facility is located in Hudson, SD and will process nearly 16 million bushels of corn into 45 million gallons of ethanol and 135,000 tons of Dakota Gold Plus distillers dried grains with solubles.*

### "CORN" NEWS

- Record corn pace.** Across the Cornbelt, corn planting has been at record pace. With the early start, analysts predict more corn will be planted than estimated in the March 31st USDA prospective planting report. Rich Balvanz of Ag Management Services believes a million to one and a half million more corn acres will be planted. "That would put us up significantly in terms of potential total final yield and certainly does pose the prospect of producing more corn than we thought we might." Balvanz says volatile grain markets will be with us for the rest of the growing season.
- U.S. corn is returning to Russia.** Russia, a country which did not import U.S. corn in 2003, received its second shipment of U.S. corn. The 18,000 metric ton shipment was delivered to St. Petersburg and joins a 16,000 ton shipment that arrived earlier this month. U.S. corn imports to Russia have been limited over the past decade, due largely to Russian livestock producers utilizing feed wheat instead of corn. However, the combination of a shortage of feed wheat and a competitive price advantage has given U.S. corn a more favorable edge.
- U.S. Supreme Court lets Amendment E die.** The U.S. Supreme Court said it will not grant a hearing in the appeal of the law intended to keep corporate farming out of South Dakota. The denial leaves supporters of the amendment nowhere else to turn effectively killing it and upholds those who said the law would harm agriculture. Because the South Dakota law was challenged and defeated, the state now faces a legal bill in the hundreds of thousands of dollar, perhaps \$1 million, said Attorney General Larry Long.
- Study reconfirms ethanol's energy benefits.** A University of Nebraska researcher has confirmed earlier USDA studies showing that ethanol delivers a positive energy balance. According to Dan Walters, ethanol provides 30-40 percent more energy than is used to produce, transport, and process corn into fuel. He cited better ethanol output bushel and improving the energy balance.
- Toyota predicts bioplastics market growth.** Toyota Motor Corporation says it expects its production of bioplastics to grow into a \$38 billion business by 2020, according to a recent report from Reuters. Toyota and Cargill Dow's polyactic acid (PLA), Toyota's bioplastics are made from crops such as sugar cane, corn, and tapioca.
- Biobased products available on web.** Groups interested in using corn-based polyactic acid (PLA) plates, cutlery, and cold drink cups can now purchase the disposable picnic war in bulk quantities of 1,000 to 2,000 via the Internet. Details, pricing and order information for the biobased products are available from the following website: [http://www.brenmarco.com/natureworkspla/nw\\_main.html](http://www.brenmarco.com/natureworkspla/nw_main.html).
- States working on their own I-D plan.** Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa are investigating a regional animal identification system. "It's important that ultimately we be in the position to have these programs be able to cross state borders," said Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Gene Hugoson. Hugoson says data privacy must be maintained in any animal I-D plan.
- Don't allow Canadian cattle in yet.** "We do believe that in the future it will happen, but it has to be based upon the time when sound science would dictate that it is appropriate," said South Dakota Governor Mike Rounds. Rounds says the elimination of BSE is critical to the economies of South Dakota and surrounding states. "Clearly, it is in everybody's best interest to identify and eliminate BSE from the chain." South Dakota was one of the first states to establish rules ensuring ruminant livestock feeds would not contain prohibited mammalian protein.
- CSP sign-up by mid summer possible.** The USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service is evaluating public comments on the Conservation Security Program. NRCS Chief Bruce Knight would like to see enrollment begin in mid-summer. "As quick as we can make announcements, we will because once we have those we can begin training with staff and move forward with the program.
- Ethanol Futures—**The Chicago Board of Trade has approved an ethanol futures contract. It will begin trading in the fourth quarter of this year. The recent boom in U.S. ethanol production and projected strong growth is behind the new futures contract.



## Calendar Events

### June 2-4, 2004

USGC Trade Team from Japan  
Sioux Falls, SD

### June 7-9, 2004

Corn Utilization & Technology Conference  
Indianapolis, IN

### June 15, 2004

SDCGA Board Meeting  
Sioux Falls, SD

### June 15, 2004

Salute to Agriculture night at the Canaries  
Sioux Falls, SD

### June 16, 2004

SDCUC Board Meeting  
Sioux Falls, SD

### June 16-18, 2004

NCGA Corn Board Meeting  
Coronado, CA

### June 21, 2004

SDCGA Corn Cob Open  
Dell Rapids Rocky Run Golf Course

### June 24, 2004

SDSU Dakota Lakes Research Farm Tour  
Pierre, SD

### June 28, 2004

SDSU Brookings Agronomy Farm Tour  
Brookings, SD

### June 30, 2004

SDSU Central Crops and Soils Field Tour  
Highmore, SD

### July 1, 2004

SDSU Northeast Research Farm Tour  
South Shore

### July 4, 2004

Independence Day

### July 8, 2004

SDSU Southeast Research Farm Tour  
Beresford, SD

### July 11-12, 2004

NCGA Action Team Meetings  
Washington, DC

### July 13-14, 2004

NCGA Corn Congress  
Washington, DC

### July 16, 2004

Ethanol Promotion with AgriTalk  
Sturgis, SD

### July 25-27, 2004

US Grains Council Conference  
Montreal, Canada

### August 5, 2004

SDCGA Board Meeting  
Sioux Falls, SD

### August 10, 2004

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

### August 10-12, 2004

ACE Conference  
Duluth, MN

### August 13, 2004

Ethanol Promotion with AgriTalk  
Aberdeen, SD

### August 17-19, 2004

Dakota Fest  
Mitchell, SD

### August 18-21

NCGA Leadership Academy  
Greensboro, NC

### August 26-27, 2004

SDCUC Board Meeting  
Pierre, SD

### August 26, 2004

Yellow Dime  
Pierre, SD

### September 4-11, 2004

SD State Fair  
Huron, SD

### September 8, 2004

Value Added Day at the SD State Fair  
Huron, SD

### September 16, 2004

SDCGA Board Meeting  
Sioux Falls, SD

### September 23, 2004

SDCUC Board Meeting

### November 3-5, 2004

US Meat Export Federation Conference  
Albuquerque, NM

### November 18, 2004

SDCUC Board Meeting  
Sioux Falls, SD

### November 25, 2004

Thanksgiving Day

### December 1-2, 2004

NCGA Corn Board Meeting  
St Louis, MO

### December 2-3, 2004

NCGA Action Team Meetings  
St Louis, MO

### December 7, 2004

SDCGA Board Meeting  
Sioux Falls, SD

### December 11-15, 2004

US Grains Council International Meeting

### December 24, 2004

Christmas Eve

### December 25, 2004

Christmas Day

