



Farm Bill Regional Meeting Set For Yankton Jan. 13

BROOKINGS — The first deadline for sign-up for the 2014 farm bill is Feb. 27. SDSU Extension and Farm Service Agency will be hosting a series of informational meetings to provide information to producers on farm bill choices and requirements.

A regional meeting will be held at JoDean's in Yankton on Tuesday, Jan. 13, starting at 1 p.m.

"At these meetings, you will receive an explanation of updating yields, base acre reallocation, and election of programs between Agricultural Risk Coverage-County (ARC_CO), Agricultural Risk Coverage-Individual (ARC_IC), and Price Loss Coverage (PLC)," said Jack Davis, SDSU Extension Crops Business Management Field Specialist. He encouraged producers to attend the sessions to learn about Farm Bill decision tools.

46th Annual South Dakota Pork Congress To Be Held Jan. 14-15

SIoux FALLS — The South Dakota Pork Producers Council (SDPPC) announces their 46th annual Pork Congress to be held at the Sioux Falls Ramkota Hotel and Exhibit Hall Jan. 14-15.

The two-day trade show will run from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 14, and from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15. Exhibitors will display the latest in technology, equipment, feeds and vet supplies.

The 2015 Pork Congress kicks off Wednesday, Jan. 14, at 8 a.m. with the SDPPC Checkoff meeting of the members in Amphitheatre I of the Ramkota Hotel. Dale Norton, president of National Pork Board, will be a featured speaker at this meeting. Along with discussion on council and industry topics, elections of the SDPPC Executive Board Members and the Pork Act Delegates for 2016 will be held. All South Dakota Pork Producers that paid the Checkoff assessment in 2014 are eligible to vote at this meeting.

At 11 a.m., join Dallas Hockman of NPPC and Bryn Jenson of National Pork Board to learn more about "What the Future Holds for Packer Audits."

On-farm audits have become increasingly more important to assure both our domestic and international customers that the pork we are producing is a safe product and being handled utilizing humane animal handling practices. Both the National Pork Board and the National Pork Producers Council have been working with pork harvesters in the United States to develop a unified audit that will satisfy a broad segment of the industry as well as address the requirements of our foreign trading partners that are currently consuming approximately 27 percent of the United States pork production. Dallas Hockman and Bryn Jenson have played a major role in developing the audit specifications and will also be involved in the implementation of the audits. They will provide an overview of the process and be available to answer any questions you may have regarding unified packer audits.

Admission to the trade show is FREE and a pork burger lunch for \$7 is available to all who attend on Wednesday beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the Ramkota Exhibit Hall Annex.

At 1 p.m. in the Seminar Area, Dr. Bob Thaler, swine specialist with South Dakota Extension, will be offering you the chance to get PQA Plus certified or recertified. Youth PQA Plus is offered the SDSU Extension office in the front lobby area. Also, at 3 p.m., Kurtis Sweeter from John Morrell will go step by step through the TQA certification process that is not only beneficial to you, but your employer and the pork industry.

Check out all the items at the silent auction and bid for your favorites, the silent auction will end at 3 p.m.

Attendees will be wrapping up the first day with the South Dakota Master Pork Producers Recognition Banquet and the always popular SDPPC "Sold! What's Next?" live auction.

Thursday morning begins at 8 a.m. with the SDPPC Non-Checkoff annual meeting of the members and SIP investor producers where they will engage in discussion on council and industry topics and set policy for the coming year. Neil Dierks, CEO of NPPC will update attendees on issues impacting the Pork Industry. Delegates to the NPPC 2015 Pork Forum will also be elected at this meeting.

Thursday morning, the annual trade show floor opens at 9 a.m. Come and see your equipment, feed, genetics, animal health and other suppliers. Don't forget to bid for your favorite item at the silent auction which will end at 1:30 p.m.

The Awards Luncheon takes place at 11:30 a.m., during which outstanding pork producers, industry leaders and students will be recognized. The South Dakota Pork Producers Council will honor Bob Thaler with the Pork All-American Award for his outstanding leadership and involvement. Brad Hohn will receive the Friends of the Industry Award for all that he has done for our industry; Brad and Peggy Greenway of Mitchell will receive the Pork Promoter of the Year Award for their dedication and commitment to the Pork Industry; and Tally's Silver Spoon of Rapid City will be awarded the Restaurant of the Year Award. Dave Uttecht, past president will be presented with this year's Dedicated and Distinguished Service Award. The Odegaard Family will be honored for their years of contribution to the long-term success of the industry through leadership and pork promotion on the local, state and/or national levels. They will be presented with this year's Family of the Year Award.

At 3 p.m. in the Washington Room, there will be an educational seminar on "Managing the Health of South Dakota Swine Herd." This seminar brings together three different perspectives of swine health management. Dwight Mogler, a producer from northwest Iowa, will share his experiences dealing with PEDv in their facilities. Scott Dee DVM, veterinary on staff at Pipestone Systems, will address the practicing veterinarian's perspective of assisting producers with maintaining herd health and reestablishing the herd health in the event of a disease outbreak. Jane Christopher-Hennings DVM, Department Head of the Animal Disease Research Diagnostic Laboratory at SDSU, will address the new technologies that have been developed to reduce the time required to identify disease organisms and allow producers to move toward disease management. There will be a question-and-answer session to address specific questions from the audience.

All SIP investors and interested parties are invited to attend the rack of pork reception at 4:30 p.m. in the Ramkota Roosevelt Room. There will also be the fifth annual Pork PAC silent auction during the SIP reception.

A full schedule of events is available at www.sdpork.org/.

Matters Of Time

National Agricultural Genotyping Center Hopes To Speed Up Scientific Ag Process

BY RITA BRHEL
P&D Correspondent

FARGO, N.D. — The current scientific culture moves incredibly slowly, it seems. Discoveries made years ago may only now be making it into commercial development and may still be years from widespread use.

According to the U.S. Department of National Agricultural Research, Education and Economics Advisory Board, there is currently a 25-year lag time between research results to commercialization.

Seeking a way to circumvent accessibility limitations of agricultural research and commercial development, the Chesterfield, Missouri-headquartered National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) in partnership with the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), based in Los Alamos, New Mexico, has proposed the establishment of the National Agricultural Genotyping Center (NAGC) in Fargo, North Dakota.

"When realized, the Center will truly benefit all growers by furthering the sorts of applied research that fuel change," said DeVonna Zeug, chairperson of the NCGA's Research and Business Development Action Team.

The NCGA sees two potential results of the NAGC: an overall safer food supply, and a more competitive U.S. agricultural product.

Founded as a nonprofit organization, the NAGC will provide independent, third-party results at a relatively affordable rate. Genotyping results will be available for all agricultural crops as well as livestock for both disease detection and breeding improvement.

"In furthering the science behind improved corn varieties in a way that is avail-



able to a larger pool of researchers, NCGA ensures that the most innovative, effective solutions reach farmers' fields in an efficient, responsible manner," Zeug said.

The NAGC will utilize high-throughput genotyping technology from LANL, whose contracts include the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"As a national security science laboratory, we find the prospect of working with NAGC exciting," said David Pesiri, technology transfer director for LANL. "Agricultural security is a key element of national security."

High-throughput genotyping refers to a method that quickly processes millions of

tests. The results provide starting points for understanding the role of a particular biochemical process. High-throughput screening is currently used most often in pharmacological research, specifically for initializing drug design.

The goal of the NAGC is to make genotyping information, such as the maize genome project, more available to production agriculture, food safety, food development, bioenergy and national security. Essentially, the NAGC will help fill the

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gap left by a lack of federal agricultural research dollars, which have gradually declined since the 1970s. Today, China, India and Brazil are not only the largest public investors in production agricultural research but also the United States' largest competitors in agricultural products.

"In the coming years, genotyping is expected to be a part of every aspect of agriculture, from breeding to production to the table," Zeug said. "NAGC will be a driver for business development and a conduit for new technology into agriculture."

The NCGA will provide a two-way access of NAGC genotyping information to its more than 42,000 member-producers and to the 300,000-plus growers who participate in their states' corn checkoff programs.

"This is a first-time-ever, huge step for a farmer-led association that gives growers more influence on research agendas," said Richard Vierling, research director at NCGA. "This can help growers increase production and lower costs."

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Drop in Corn Prices Due to Trade Disruption with China

If you lost corn profits, you will want to read this.

The drop in corn prices due to disruptions in international trade has affected every corn grower in America. If you suffered loss in *your* corn profits, please join our friends and agricultural professionals at one of our Town Hall meetings listed below. Many of our neighbors will be there, along with local lawyers to answer your questions and offer a *solution* to recovering your losses. We know you'll want to be a part of that discussion. Your opinions are welcomed, and we look forward to seeing you there. Snacks and beverages will be provided at no charge.

• **Corn Growers - Town Hall Meeting Schedule** •

Thursday - January 8	Friday - January 9	Friday - January 9
8 am Chrome Country Inn 211 US 18 in Algona, IA	8 am Best Western - Minerva's 1607 SD50 in Yankton, SD	2 pm The Depot 715 3rd Street West in Redfield, SD
10:30 am Softtail Saloon 811 1st Avenue in Superior, IA	8 am Ramada Inn 1525 W. Havens in Mitchell, SD	5 pm Ramada Inn 2727 6th Ave. SE in Aberdeen, SD
3 pm Kings Pointe 1520 E. Lakeshore Dr., Storm Lake, IA	11 am Best Western 2000 Dakota Ave S. in Huron, SD	5 pm Ramada Inn 1500 E. College Drive in Marshall, MN
6:30 pm Golden Pheasant 44028 Iowa highway 3 in Remsen, IA	1 pm McCrory Gardens 632 22d Ave. in Brookings, SD	Saturday - January 10
		8 am Jubba's 219 South Main St. in Blue Earth, MN
		11 am Americinn 240 Stadium Road in Mankato, MN

Check us out online:
www.LostCornIncome.com

These Town Hall events have been scheduled and are sponsored by your neighboring agricultural professionals:

James Law, PC 721 Douglas Ave S. Yankton, SD 57078 605-665-0574	Dan Homolka Daniel M. Homolka, PA 6400 Timber Ridge Minneapolis, MN 55439 612-341-2433 Hutchinson, MN 320-587-0305	Lonald Gellhaus, PC 120 South Lincoln Street Aberdeen, SD 57401 605-277-1010
Fenchel, Doster & Buck, PLC 107 N. Harlan Street Algona, IA 50511 515-295-9361	Hovland & Rasmus PLLC 6800 France Avenue S., #190 Minneapolis, MN 55435 612-874-8550	