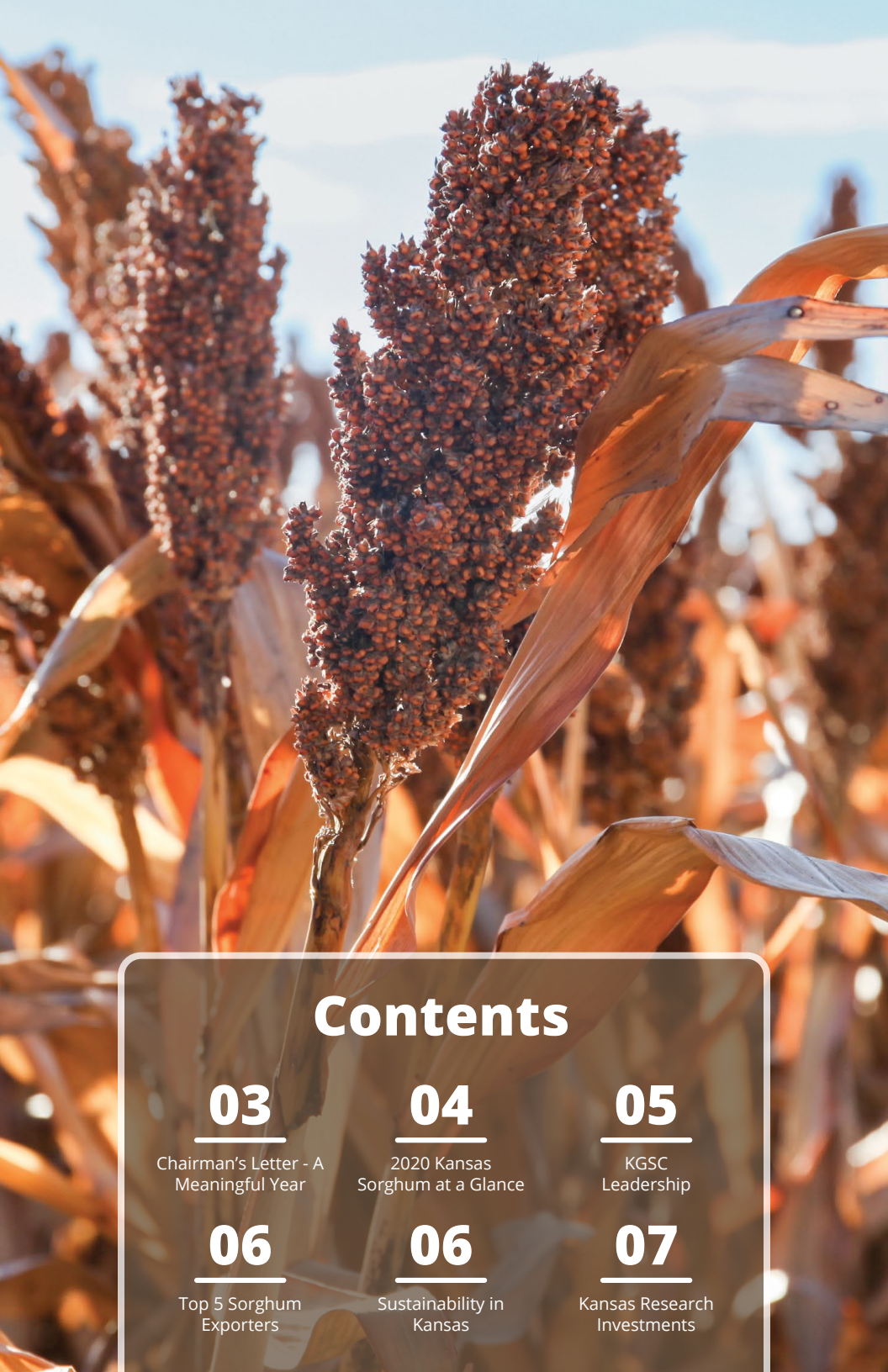




2021

Annual Report

**Kansas Grain Sorghum
Commission**



Contents

03

Chairman's Letter - A
Meaningful Year

04

2020 Kansas
Sorghum at a Glance

05

KGSC
Leadership

06

Top 5 Sorghum
Exporters

06

Sustainability in
Kansas

07

Kansas Research
Investments



Chairman's Letter — A Meaningful Year

This year has been meaningful. Anywhere, every year seems to bring change — faster. First, we have seen a change in leadership at the Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission chair as Stephen Bigge has passed the gavel.

Thank you, Stephen, for your steadfast and courageous leadership of the organization in challenging moments. Your leadership is recognized.

Second, the sorghum industry is seeing more resources as a result of export demand.

I also want to appreciate the investment the State of Kansas has made in sorghum research investment and market development. Thank you.

Agriculture is competitive and research and market tools for sorghum farmers are finally coming.

The Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission is renewed and always dedicated to steward "checkoff

dollars" in ways that enhance your profitability.

Ask yourself — hasn't that happened in recent years? The answer for me is yes.

At the same time, I want to invite this state — the largest producer of milo — to step up to take command of ideas and investment to drive more value forward. There are opportunities here.

More market opportunities and leadership positions — and the need to expand the message — are available now more than ever.

We take the assessment of your dollars seriously and consciously work to make sure Team Sorghum works on your behalf at all levels.



Kevin D. Kniebel

Kevin Kniebel,
Chairman & Farmer
White City, Kansas

2021 Kansas Sorghum at a Glance

3.6
MILLION
ACRES

Farmers **planted** 3.6 million acres, up 20%

3.4
MILLION
ACRES

3.4 million acres were **harvested**, up 21%

265
MILLION
BUSHELS

265 million **bushels** of grain sorghum were produced, up 11%

78
BUSHELS
PER ACRE

Farmers harvested an average of 78 **bushels per acre**

Kansas Market Uses

- 196 MBU Exports
- 39 MBU Feed & Residual Use
- 7 MBU Industrial Use

Farmers received a national average price of **\$5.85 per bushel** of sorghum.

\$5.85

\$2.7 B

The national crop was valued at **\$2.7 billion** – the most valuable in history.

Kansas farmers grew **55 percent** of all U.S. grain sorghum between 2015-2019.

+55%

Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission Board

- Kevin Kniebel, *Chairman*, White City
- Stephen Bigge, *Vice Chairman*, Stockton
- Nathan Larson, *Secretary/Treasurer*, Riley
- Jon Berning, Scott City
- Clark Bibb, Coldwater
- Kevin Harris, Abilene
- Evan Lesser, Palco
- Brant Peterson, Johnson
- Mike Rosebrook, Beverly
- Max Tjaden, Clearwater

Kansas growers **gave \$6,080,056 million** in assessments to the Sorghum Checkoff in 2021.

Kansas **received \$1,497,952** in passback dollars to invest in research, market development & education.

Sorghum Checkoff Board

Five Kansas currently serve on the Sorghum Checkoff Board of Directors:

- Jeff Zortman, Fowler
- Kendall Hodgson, Little River
- Macey Mueller, Halstead
- Kim Baldwin, Inman
- Shayne Suppes, Scott City

Leadership Sorghum

Five Kansans are members of the Sorghum Checkoff Leadership Sorghum Class V:

- Daniel Hopper, Leonardville
- Deanna Lanier, Valley Center
- Matt McCune, Plainville
- Brant Peterson, Johnson
- Kirk Zerr, Quinter

Sorghum State Podcast

Listen to full episodes of the Kansas Grain Sorghum podcast at ksgrainsorghum.org.



Top 5 U.S. Sorghum Exporters

267
MILLION
BUSHELS

CHINA

2.8
MILLION
BUSHELS

SUDAN

2.4
MILLION
BUSHELS

MEXICO

2.4
MILLION
BUSHELS

ERITREA

1.9
MILLION
BUSHELS

KENYA

~\$1 Billion

The value of sorghum exports from Kansas was approximately **\$1 Billion**

Sustainability in Kansas

Kansas is in the game with national projects and initiatives focused on sustainability, including the KansCAT database initiative and the Sorghum Checkoff's B.I.R.D.S. program (Building Innovative, Resilient, and Diverse agricultural systems). The Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission also budgeted potential matching dollars for grants that may involve conservation and sustainability projects. The Kansas Sorghum internship program also focuses heavily on advancing sorghum sustainability while providing new opportunities to student conservationists.



Kansas Research Investments

In 2021, the Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission board invested in the following research and projects to help Kansas farmers gain more value.

- DropXL Sorghum: A trait technology package to deliver water-optimized sorghum varieties
- Center for Sorghum Improvement: **\$200,000**
- Breeding Sorghum for Improved Dryland Productivity and Utilization: **\$100,000**
- Rapid advancement of sorghum traits with genomics-assisted breeding: **\$94,300**
- U.S. Grains Council: **\$47,500**
- Ethanol market development and promotion: **\$25,000**
- IGP Market Development Grant: **\$20,000**

Kansas RFP Process

JANUARY	Review research priority and request for proposal language
LATE SPRING	Review concepts and make decisions on specific projects for solicitation of a full proposal
JULY	In-person meeting with researchers.
AUGUST	Review full proposal and prepare Committee funding recommendations
SEPTEMBER	Report recommendations and approve funded projects



GROWERS WORKING **TOGETHER**



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