



Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission
ANNUAL REPORT



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Chairman's Letter: A Producer's Perspective of 2022

I would like to share with you a producer's perspective of the past year in the Kansas sorghum industry, and the promising future I see. The weather challenges have shown even more the sustainability that sorghum brings to the table. How do I define sustainability? Actually, stewardship and sustainability are terms I find hard to separate, so I will expound on both.

Sorghum offers water management opportunities that enable both dryland and irrigated operations options for conservative water usage. The 2022 national sorghum yield winner is a producer from the extreme drought area of western Kansas and achieved 245 bushel per acre with only 5 inches of rainfall and 10 inches of irrigation. This shows one of the reasons the state and the Center for Sorghum Improvement (CSIP)'s investment through Drop XL and the state water program, is so important.

Adding sorghum into a crop rotation not only increases biodiversity for wildlife habitat but also soil health. It provides taller residue above ground and root structure below ground to decrease wind and water erosion, while increasing snowfall retention for an improved soil moisture profile. Sorghum is a hardy resource-conserving and enhancing crop.

Because of water management concerns, one of the many items of interest has been gaining more

interest from dairies and feedlots in both grain sorghum and forage sorghum. The demand from dairies is only going to be increasing with the new milk processing facilities in southwest Kansas.

Because of the amount and quality of sorghum residue, cattle producers use it for economical grazing during the winter. This decreases cow feed costs and is a huge benefit to their bottom line. Ethanol continues to be an important market for grain sorghum as well as demand for distillers by-products for feeding. Ethanol is also another step forward to increased energy security.

We very much appreciate a partnership with Kansas State University as a key stakeholder with Kansas Sorghum. CSIP resides there and together with K-State and others, great research is being conducted for the benefit of the sorghum industry.

We thank you, Kansas leaders, for your continued interest and support of the Kansas sorghum industry and look ahead to a productive alliance.



Sincerely,

Kevin W. Kniebel

Kevin Kniebel
Chairman & Farmer
White City, Kansas

2022 Kansas Sorghum at a Glance



3.1 million acres were harvested, down 9%



124 million bushels of grain sorghum were produced, down 53%



Farmers harvested an average of **40 bushels per acre**, down 38 bushels



82 MBU Exports

23 MBU Livestock Feed

20 MBU Ethanol

14 MBU Carryover

\$1.8
BILLION

The 2022 Kansas crop was valued at **\$1.8 billion**

Kansas growers **gave \$8.4 million** in assessments to the Sorghum Checkoff in 2022

Kansas **received \$2.1** in passback dollars to invest in research, market development & education

Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission Board



Board members help prepare the 2023 fiscal year budget in Great Bend

The Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission Board is committed to sorghum promotion, research, and information designed to strengthen, expand and develop new foreign and domestic markets for sorghum.

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

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Subscribe to our free monthly e-newsletter, the Kansas Sorghum Leader, at KSGrainSorghum.org/Subscribe.



Sorghum Checkoff Board

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

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

Leadership Sorghum

Three Kansans are members of Leadership Sorghum Class VI:

- Jeremiah Nicholson, Dodge City
- Clint France, Scott City
- Brad Haynes, Hays

Top 5 Exporters by Bushels + Value

U.S. SORGHUM 2021/2022 MARKETING YEAR



1

104 MBU
\$2,261,634,833



4

1.9 MBU
\$44,226,354



2

5.7 MBU
\$98,040,478



5

1.5 MBU
\$28,205,732



3

2.2 MBU
\$44,604,185

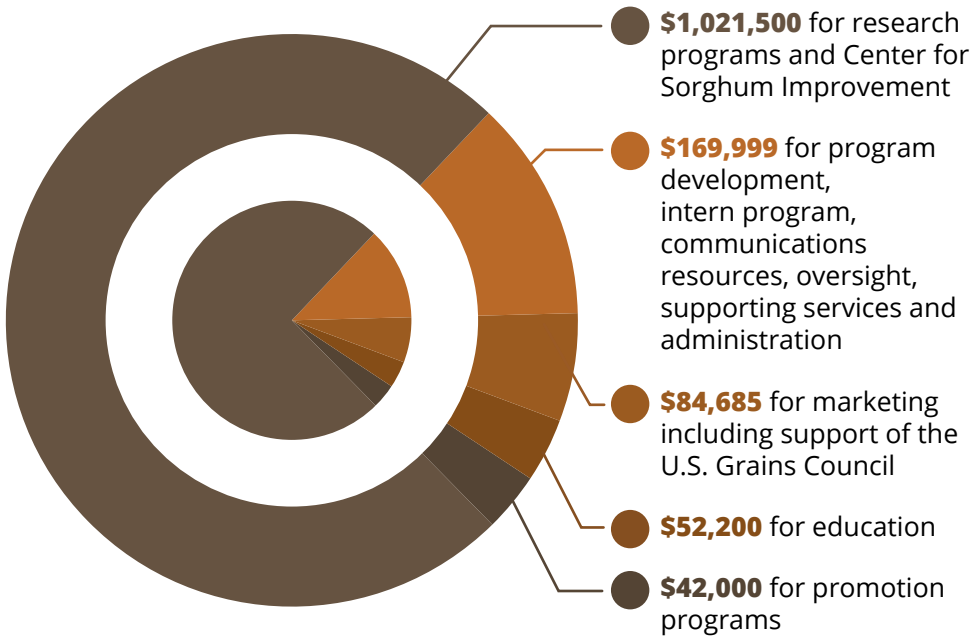
\$869 MILLION

The value of sorghum exports from Kansas was **\$869 million**



This year defined sorghum as the sustainable crop. With many of the acres of the USDA's 2022 \$65 million grant being located in Kansas, the opportunities to improve production practices are nearly sky high. As a result of the generous funding, KGSC took the initiative to fund two-year research projects conducted by the Center for Sorghum Improvement that focus on genetic advancement, improving sorghum water-sipping qualities, and more.

2022 KGSC BUDGET



Kansas Sorghum Investments

In 2022, the Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission board invested in the following research and projects to help Kansas farmers gain more value.

- Center for Sorghum Improvement: **\$200,000**
- Rapid advancement of sorghum traits with genomics-assisted breeding: **\$110,000**
- Sorghum improvement for enhanced productivity, nutritional attributes and resilience: **\$100,000**
- Developing value-added food ingredients from waxy sorghum: **\$90,500**
- Match fund for selected federal grants and joint projects: **\$300,000**
- Application of biotechnology technology for the management of Palmer amaranth in grain sorghum: **\$90,000**

GROWERS WORKING TOGETHER



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