

2024 RESOLUTIONS

KANSAS GRAIN SORGHUM PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE

The KANSAS GRAIN SORGHUM PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION (KGSPA) is committed to promoting and improving the general profitability of Kansas sorghum farmers, by developing and maintaining domestic and international markets to utilize Kansas and United States sorghum production. KGSPA is dedicated to focusing attention and resources on the areas that most vitally affect production, marketing, education, research and expanded domestic and international trade. The combined effects of these efforts are essential in achieving increased profitability of Kansas sorghum production. Notwithstanding any other goals, the KGSPA recommends and adopts the following General Resolutions:

REGULATORY OVERREACH

KGSPA opposes the current regulatory overreach that negatively impacts our farms, communities and the U.S. economy. We support efforts by Congress to provide oversight and relief.

KGSPA further opposes all attempts at overreach by Kansas regulators.

EDUCATION and RESEARCH

KGSPA supports increased general funding appropriations for sorghum in Kansas. Further, we support an emphasis on funding for research that leads to improved sorghum yields and production.

KGSPA supports continued funding of the Center for Sorghum Improvement and Collaborative Sorghum Investment Program.

KGSPA supports increased emphasis on agricultural education in our schools and recognizes the need to integrate agricultural education into existing curriculum.

KGSPA encourages rapid adoption and funding by the Kansas Legislature on priorities associated with responsible expansion of crop options like sorghum in concert with the Kansas Water Authority

KGSPA believes the Kansas Legislature should appropriate adequate funding towards sorghum and agricultural research at Kansas State University.

ETHANOL

KGSPA supports the increased availability of all ethanol blended fuels in Kansas. We further support the expansion of blender pumps to allow greater consumer choice.

KGSPA supports the implementation and availability of E-15 and higher blend fuels to provide fueling choices for consumers.

KGSPA supports efforts of the ethanol industry to self-promote their production.

FEDERAL FARM PROGRAM

KGSPA supports full implementation and funding of the current farm program.

KGSPA strongly supports a balanced approach to deficit reduction that distributes reductions to all segments of the federal budget.

KGSPA supports conservation and wildlife incentives that benefit sorghum producers.

TAXATION

KGSPA supports the current method of agricultural property taxation and classification in Kansas.

KGSPA supports the continued sales tax exemption of agricultural production related items and services.

KGSPA supports that land taken out of private ownership for "conservation" reasons should not place additional tax burdens on remaining land.

KGSPA supports the elimination of federal and state estate taxes. Absent elimination, we further support that exemptions on the taxation of estates, both state and federal, be indexed for inflation.

KGSPA supports the reinstatement of investment tax credit programs for farmers.

KGSPA supports a reduction in the capital gains tax.

KGSPA supports permanent income averaging for farmers and other small businesses including family farm corporations.

KGSPA supports the 100% deduction of health care costs incurred by self-employed individuals and their families.

KGSPA supports an increase in the Heavy Use Vehicle Tax Exemption from 7500 miles to 15,000 miles annually.

KGSPA supports property tax relief by placing a greater reliance on sales *and income* tax to fund necessary government spending.

KGSPA opposes efforts to modify the use-value appraisal methodology that would be detrimental to agriculture.

KGSPA supports valuation of farm use elevators based on farm use value and not based on commercial value.

KGSPA believes that the legislature needs to review inequitable taxation of stationary farmer owned non-commercial grain handling equipment.

KGSPA strongly opposes efforts that would shift other forms of taxation to property tax.

KGSPA opposes the full funding of schools through property taxes and supports a balanced reliance on income tax and other non-property tax sources for the financing of local school districts.

HIGH TANNIN GRAIN SORGHUM

KGSPA opposes the sale of high tannin grain sorghum seed and the planting for commercial sale without full disclosure to the first and all subsequent purchasers in the State of Kansas. Furthermore, we urge similar disclosure nationwide.

COMMODITY GROUP COOPERATION

KGSPA supports and encourages greater communication and cooperation between all commodity groups at the state and national level. We further support that these groups should work together to present a united voice for agriculture.

PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

KGSPA opposes any legislation that would infringe upon private property rights without compensation, including rights of usage relative to the Endangered Species Act and Clean Water Act.

CHECK-OFF PROGRAMS

KGSPA supports the Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission and encourages said commission to work with the Kansas and National Sorghum Producers to provide expanded marketing, educational, and promotional opportunities.

KGSPA opposes any attempts to assess fees on commodity checkoffs that are not based on actual services provided.

KGSPA supports the United Sorghum Checkoff Program and encourage greater cooperation and collaboration among all programs at the state and national level.

PESTICIDES / FERTILIZERS / FUEL

KGSPA supports continued federal and state pre-emption of local units of government in the area of pesticide regulation.

KGSPA supports that the State of Kansas should provide collection locations for agricultural chemical wastes in Kansas. We further support that participating producers should be granted amnesty when participating in said program.

KGSPA supports the agricultural site remediation program in Kansas. We further support that a broad base of funding be continued, however that no funds derived from the state fertilizer fee fund be used.

KGSPA supports reasonable farmer exemptions for pesticide, fertilizer, and fuel containment, when the presence of such products are incidental to application or use by the farmer in possession of the product.

KGSPA supports a science based process for all pesticides at the U.S. EPA.

CROP INSURANCE

KGSPA supports that Federal Crop Insurance be offered with an increased level of government financial participation for increased levels of crop insurance.

KGSPA supports that actual insured county average yield should be used as the average yield rather than historical FSA county yields.

KGSPA supports that Federal Crop Insurance price elections for grain sorghum be set at a minimum of 100% of the corn price election.

KGSPA supports the development of new crop insurance products for growers facing several years of crop losses that cannot be adequately covered by current crop insurance products.

KGSPA supports the development of new crop insurance products for growers implementing limited water use irrigation practices.

TRANSPORTATION

KGSPA supports the removal of barriers to international trade of grain sorghum, sorghum products, as well as livestock, poultry, and aquaculture products and the prevention of the establishment by other nations of barriers to the importation and consumption of U.S. grain sorghum, sorghum products, as well as livestock products.

KGSPA supports a limited seasonal tolerance exemption on weight limits for trucks moving grain from field to original destination.

POSTED COUNTY PRICES

KGSPA supports that the Posted County Price should reflect the actual county cash price.

WETLANDS

KGSPA supports a rational policy in determining wetlands that allow for a balance between economical agricultural production and wetland conservation.

KGSPA further supports that any government policy relative to wetlands or any other government designation of privately owned property, should be subject to public comment prior to finalization of any such policy.

WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

KGSPA supports the right of the State of Kansas to determine water quality standards for Kansas. We oppose any effort of the U.S. EPA to usurp those, or any other rights relative to the Federal Clean Water Act. We further encourage the State of Kansas to defend states' rights issues to the full extent of judicial process.

KGSPA opposes any attempt by U.S. EPA to promulgate water quality standards for Kansas.

KGSPA opposes any changes in definitions of the waters of the U.S., especially as it relates to classification of navigable waters of the U.S.

WATER QUALITY INITIATIVES & TMDLs

KGSPA supports research and voluntary outreach programs that are designed to help producers implement Best Management Practices. KGSPA further support current efforts to implement TMDLs in Kansas with education and voluntary Best Management Practices as the cornerstone.

WATER

KGSPA supports the concepts set forth by the Kansas Water Authority in Vision for the future of Water Supply in Kansas.

KGSPA supports the concept of protecting producers that are conserving water.

KGSPA agrees the Kansas Water Authority should be the agency for water management in Kansas.

KGSPA supports the Kansas Water Plan Fund for cost sharing of land treatment for highly erodible lands and riparian areas, construction of livestock waste management facilities, grazing land management, plugging abandoned wells and upgrading rural septic systems.

KGSPA supports the concept of water flex accounts to provide water right holders greater flexibility in water utilization and profitability while at the same time protecting the source of supply and respecting existing water rights.

KGSPA supports the Kansas Groundwater Management District (GMD) Act which gives local water users a voice in determining the use of groundwater. Provisions of the act relating to governance, powers and authorities, and statutory parameters for the Board of Directors composition should continue to apply to all GMD's uniformly. Any changes regarding assessment mechanisms should not be a disadvantage to agricultural producers. KGSPA supports efforts to ensure that policies or guidelines of a groundwater management district are only applicable once they have been finally adopted as a regulation through the rule making process.

KGSPA supports the Blue Ribbon Task force recommendations for a funding mechanism to generate annual funding to implement Technology and Crop Varieties, namely, less water-intensive crop research and ag research.

COMMODITY LOAN RATES

KGSPA supports that the Secretary of USDA establish the loan rate for grain sorghum at a minimum of 100% of corn, including rates established at the county level.

GRAIN STORAGE

KGSPA supports financial incentives for the expansion of grain storage in Kansas.

IMMIGRATION

KGSPA supports reasonable immigration reform that provides a needed legal workforce for agriculture.

TECHNOLOGY

KGSPA supports responsible use of unmanned Aerial vehicle(s) in crop production including reasonable laws and regulations ensuring public safety and privacy. KGSPA encourages expeditious development of said regulations by FAA.

NSP RESOLUTIONS

KGSPA supports the National Sorghum Producers Resolutions for the current year; upon review and consensus by the KGSPA board; and where applicable, said resolutions shall also be considered resolutions of KGSPA.

KGSPA BOARD of DIRECTORS

KGSPA supports the right of the KGSPA Board of Directors to make additions or other adjustments as necessary to KGSPA resolutions. All changes shall clearly be in the best interest of KGSPA and its members. Any changes shall be reported to the membership in a timely manner and such changes shall be reviewed by the full membership at the next annual meeting.