

2023

Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association



ANNUAL REPORT

PRESIDENT'S LETTER — RESILIENCE

Dear member,

If any year showed the resilience of sorghum farmers, it was 2023. We faced an uphill battle as we recovered from one of the worst droughts on record, only to be met with a surge of pests such as chinch bugs and aphids, all while awaiting outcomes of the farm bill and unfair, restrictive EPA regulations. However, sorghum farmers are some of the most adaptable individuals I have ever known. Despite the challenges mentioned above, Team Sorghum always finds ways to find the light in some of the darkest situations, such as:

- A successful event in Dodge City for the Sorghum PAC
- Funding an ethanol pump in Garnett, KS
- Building our role in food aid legislation
- Sharing sorghum's contribution to conservation & water work in Topeka

With these accomplishments, it's in our best interest to support a crop that demonstrates such innovation and sustainability. This year was truly the year of survival, and thanks to the

support of our growers and industry partners, we have managed to come out on top. Sorghum is becoming more and more recognizable by the day as a useful tool in a variety of sectors, whether one raises livestock; is trying to minimize expenses in his operation; or is looking for new ways to stretch precious water resources. I remain hopeful that sorghum will continue to stand tall in 2024 and beyond.

At this time, I invite those who are not already, to consider becoming a member of the association. By becoming a member of the KGSPA, you will not only learn and grow alongside farmers across the state, but you will also become an essential part of sorghum's expanding success. With the achievements listed above, it is clear that there is no better time to become involved.



Warm regards,

President + Farmer
Andale, Kansas

KGSPA LAUNCHES MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

The Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association has recently announced its newest membership campaign. Inspired by the Kansas Grain Sorghum tagline, Growers Working Together, the **Grow With Us Membership Campaign** will benefit both new and current members by enhancing the network of sorghum growers across the state, and in turn, will allow them to grow their operations and leadership abilities through shared knowledge of the sorghum industry.

The campaign will run from October 1, 2023, to October 1, 2024. As an incentive, for every new member they recruit, current members will have their name entered into a drawing for a chance to win a personalized decorative KGSPA garden stone; one of two \$150 gift cards; and an entertainment package for the 2025 National Commodity Classic (March 2-4, 2025, Denver, CO). For more information, visit the KGSPA website.

ABOUT KGSPA



STATE POLICY PRIORITIES

- Continue to cultivate positive relationships with the legislature in order to secure research funding.
- Continue to support the ethanol industry.
- Remain a key player in water conservation discussions.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Kent Winter**, Andale, President
- **Shane Ohlde**, Palmer, Vice President
- **Andy Hineman**, Scott City, Secretary
- **Kelsey Baker**, Scott City, Treasurer
- **Bob Atkisson**, Stockton
- **Jim Harden**, Ashland
- **Daniel Riffel**, Stockton
- **Tom Willis**, Liberal
- **Brian Yunker**, Spearville

STAY IN THE KNOW

Hear our monthly industry **Sorghum State Podcast** on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, or any other platform you choose to listen.

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

KGSPA ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

All association members are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting to hear updates, discuss and adopt 2024 policy resolutions, set priorities and conduct elections.

The board is made up of three directors from each tier of crop reporting districts in Kansas. The Northern tier includes the northwest, north central and north east crop reporting districts. The Central tier includes the west central, central and east central districts. The Southern tier includes the southwest, south central, and southeast districts. Positions up for election are:

North: Currently held by Daniel Riffel, Stockton

Central: Currently held by Andy Hineman, Scott City

JOIN US FOR

KANSAS
Commodity Classic

1.26.24

HILTON GARDEN INN IN SALINA

The Annual Convention of the Kansas Corn, Grain Sorghum, Soybean + Wheat Associations

FREE EVENT COVERS MARKETS, TRADE, CLIMATE + MORE

KANSASCOMMODITYCLASSIC.COM

ADVOCACY

KGSPA is your local voice in legislative and regulatory matters in Topeka and Washington D.C. Working together, we fight hard to clear the deck and secure opportunities for sorghum's fullest potential today and tomorrow as a vital tool in your farming operation.

SEE YOU AT OUR
ANNUAL MEETING

1.25.24
AT 3:30PM

American AgCredit
925 W. Magnolia Rd, Salina

Held Day Before Kansas
Commodity Classic

If you are interested in running for the board, please contact the office at (620) 640-5388. Your intentions will be shared with the nominating committee.

South: Currently held by Kent Winter, Andale

If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact the office at (620) 640-5388. Your intentions will be shared with the nominating committee.

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT



Last spring, the Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association hosted its fourth collegiate policy fellow. Adelaide Easter is a junior at Kansas State University majoring in agricultural economics and global food systems leadership. A Salina, Kansas native, Easter was very active in her local 4-H club and therefore no stranger to agriculture. 4-H had opened leadership opportunities for Easter as well as inspired her to pursue a career path in ag and food policy. During her time as a Kansas Grain Sorghum policy fellow, Adelaide conducted research pertaining to international food aid and represented the organization in Topeka along with fellow sorghum leaders.

INDUSTRY PARTNER SUPPORT

Thank you industry partners for providing **\$70,412.26** in support in 2023.

GOLD

CONESTOGA

SILVER



BRONZE



PARTNER



POET

CONTRIBUTORS



**KANSAS
GRAIN
SORGHUM**

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