

# Newsheat

Volume 3 • Issue 3 • Fall 2013



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**Fall drilling of wheat is well under way across most of the state. Recent rains have helped parts of Nebraska, but some areas still need moisture. Flooding along the Platte River has provided other areas with excessive moisture.**

**Stumpf family gift supports wheat research at UNL**  
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Dayton Christensen  
President  
Big Springs

Wheat planting in the southeastern Panhandle is well under way. Moisture is below normal to adequate. This past week we finally had relief from the 90=-100 degree temperatures and picked up anywhere from half an inch to an inch and a half of precipitation.

The mainstream media is now starting to bash federal crop insurance with headlines that state "Taxpayers making farmers fat cats" while continuing to encourage the SNAP program to be supported at even higher levels. Crop insurance is the one thing that has nearly unanimous support from national farm and ranch organizations. As we continue working on this Farm Bill, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Good luck with your fall planting and fall harvesting.

jdchristensen@atcjet.net



Scott Osler  
Executive Board  
Elsie

Southwest Nebraska finally got enough rain in most areas to give us nice conditions to drill wheat. We certainly had a hot and dry August, so the rain here was most welcome. Our thoughts are with our friends in Colorado who received excessive amounts of rain.

On the Washington front, Congress still can't seem to get their act together and finish a Farm Bill. With everything else going on in the world, I don't see them getting a Farm Bill done before current legislation expires September 30th. I also don't think the 1949 legislation will be allowed to go into effect. I wish I had a better feel for what will happen, but be assured the Nebraska Wheat Growers through our National Association will continue to work hard to help bring a Farm Bill to completion, which will help us wheat growers continue producing the best, safest food in the world at a fair price.

scott3y@gmail.com



Michael Thomas Jr.  
Executive Board  
Ogallala

We started drilling wheat on our farm near Ogallala on September 9th. The recent 100+ degree days made the ground hard and dry. I was very happy to see raindrops on my windows this morning, and I just checked my rain gauge and saw that we had received 0.65" of gentle rain so far today. Fantastic!

I had the pleasure of volunteering in our Mobile Baking Lab at the Nebraska State Fair again recently. It's great to meet the public and tell our story. If you ever see our truck and trailer at an event, please come by and say hello. If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know.

MTJRFarms@gmail.com



Randon Peters  
Executive Board  
McCook

We are approaching fall seeding, the soil conditions have been extremely dry. Fortunately, our immediate area of SW Nebraska has received a considerable amount of precipitation during the second week of September. The likelihood of achieving a good stand of wheat this fall is looking more promising.

With an adequate profile, producers need to examine their crop inputs, including certified seed and the advantages of varying seed treatments. Many varieties of wheat may be well adapted for your area, while some may have characteristics that you may find more desirable. I strongly encourage producers to obtain a Seed Guide or speak with a certified seed producer to find which varieties and treatments would work best on your operation.

As we step into the busy fall season, I hope your operations are safe and productive. As always, I can be reached with any questions, comments, or input.

randonpeters@gmail.com.

# \$400 million Taiwan/Nebraska ag sales agreement includes wheat

On September 6, 2013, Governor Dave Heineman announced that Lt. Gov. Lavon Heidemann and members of the Nebraska trade delegation to Asia signed agreements with Taiwanese grain and soybean trade officials for approximately \$400 million of Nebraska corn, soybeans and wheat to Taiwan.

“This is good news for Nebraska,” Governor Heineman said. “This agreement shows the value of developing and fostering relationships when it comes to trade opportunities.”

“Throughout this visit we’ve been told by the Taiwanese that they appreciate Nebraska’s efforts to develop meaningful connections with government leaders, importers and other business leaders,” Lt. Gov. Heidemann said. “They also continue to point out that they enjoy knowing Nebraska will deliver high-quality commodities.”

The letter of intent, signed by Lt. Gov. Heidemann and Agriculture Director Greg Ibach at a ceremony in Taipei, Taiwan, pledges sales valued at \$401 to \$472 million over a two-year period. Taiwanese parties to the agreement included representatives of the Taiwan Flour Mills Association, Taiwan Feed Industry Association, and the Taiwan Vegetable Oil Manufacturers Association.

While signed by industry officials and Nebraska government leaders, the agreement pledges the purchase of crops through negotiations between importers and private suppliers. The agreement is similar to agreements signed by Gov. Heineman on his 2007 trade mission and that signed by a state delegation led by Dir. Ibach in 2010. The 2007 and 2010 agreements each pledged around \$500 million in sales of Nebraska corn, soybeans and wheat. Dir. Ibach said those agreements have been fulfilled.

“We are pleased to have another opportunity to secure sales of Nebraska soybeans, what and corn,” Dir. Ibach said. “It shows that there is value in showing up and asking for business.”

The agreement specifies the intent to purchase 500,000-600,000 metric tons of wheat, valued at an estimated \$105

million to \$120 million. The remainder of agreement will be fulfilled with corn and soybeans.

Von Johnson, chairman of the Nebraska Wheat Board, said the Nebraska wheat industry appreciates the opportunity for sales with Taiwan. “Strong export markets are critical to a supply and demand equation that means success for the Nebraska wheat industry,” Johnson said. “We appreciate the efforts of the Lieutenant Governor and Director Ibach and will do our part to raise a quality product to fulfill the agreement.”

In addition to finalizing the trade agreement, the delegation met with Taiwan Vice President Wu Den-yih. They also held meetings with officials in the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Counsel of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and attended a ceremony to sign a proclamation marking the 30th anniversary of the Nebraska-Taiwan sister-state relationship.

Taiwan is Nebraska’s 13th largest export market with \$94 million in imports in 2012, but was the state’s 10th largest agricultural export market that year.



Signing with Lt. Governor Heidemann and Director Ibach are Mr. Jong-Ming Shou, Chairman, Taiwan Flour Mill Association, Mr. Yeh-Lin Chan, Chairman, Taiwan Feed Industry Association and Mr. Y.K. Hung, Chairman, Taiwan Vegetable Oil Manufacturers’ Association. Behind them are representatives of the Taiwan Feed Industry Association, US Soybean Export Council, US Grains, Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and US Wheat Associates.

# NEBRASKA WHEAT SETS NEW RECORDS AT STATE FAIR

NWGA worked with the Nebraska Wheat Board to bring the “World of Wheat” display back to the Nebraska State Fair. This marked the fifth year Nebraska Wheat has done an interactive display, and the sixth year they have served wheat food samples. In addition to running 1,600 square feet of interactive educational displays, Nebraska Wheat set a new personal record by serving 42,000 fresh-baked cinnamon rolls, bread and chocolate chip cookies. The previous record of samples served at the state fair was 36,000.

## About the Display

Visitors to this year’s World of Wheat were able to complete a passport to earn a 2 lb. bag of Ultragrain flour. To complete the passport, fairgoers needed to visit each station within the booth and have their passport stamped. Five different stations talked about the process of taking wheat from field to flour.

Station one explained how wheat was produced. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln donated several mature wheat plants to create a miniature field.

The second station covered how wheat is harvested, complete with a table top threshing machine.

A third station explained the milling process. Visitors were able to make their own flour using a hand mill.

At the fourth station visitors learned about the science of wheat. They were able to see how a seed sorter works and learn how it could be used in lab settings. During the second weekend, Dave Shelton, a cereal chemist from the Wheat Marketing Center in Portland, Ore. demonstrated how different wheat blends affect the quality of food. He did taste-testing with visitors on small cookies made with different flours.

At the fifth and final station visitors learned about the

role grains play in your diet. A display showed how big a 1 oz. serving of grain really was and explained why it was important and healthy to keep wheat as a part of the diet.

## Fun and Games

Nebraska Wheat added two new activities to the play area of this year’s state fair. During the weekends children were able to play with playdough on tables in the play area and make their own playdough in a bag to take home.

An interactive computer game called the “Wheat Farmer Challenge” was also added. Visitors were placed in the role of a wheat farmer. They were asked to make different production decisions just like a farmer would. Those decisions, coupled with a random weather scenario (random since farmers can’t control the weather) affected the final yield players ended up with. The game was well received and will soon be uploaded to the Nebraska Wheat website.

This was the second year Nebraska Wheat sponsored a cinnamon roll eating contest. Participants were asked to eat a large cinnamon roll without using their hands. The first one to finish won a 10# bag of Ultragrain flour and a wheat recipes cookbook. The contest was judged and awards presented by Elke Roby, Nebraska’s National Festival of Breads Finalist. Congratulations to the following participants for winning their divisions:



Nick Eltze  
9 and Under



Kieren Feeney  
10-15 years old



Tyler Boden  
16 and Up



Volunteers prepare playdough in a bag mixes during setup for the Nebraska State Fair.



Competitors in the 10-15 year old division race to finish their cinnamon roll first.



Josie Hughes, Rick Larson and Diane Larson prepare cinnamon rolls on the first Saturday of the fair. They served 6,700 samples during an 8.5 hour period.

# Fun Fair Facts

- We served 42,000 samples
- More than 2,500 2lb. bags of flour were given away
- Made 300 playdough in a bags
- 40 people watched the Husker football game at the booth's mini tailgate
- Sorted 6 lbs. of Skittles and mini M&Ms in the seed sorter
- 34 volunteers worked 890 hours combined



Governor Dave Heineman stops for a cinnamon roll at the Mobile Baking Lab during his visit to the State Fair. Back row left to right: Gwelda Carlson, Mary Shipman and Dick Carlson. Front row left to right: Caroline Brauer, Gov. Dave Heineman, Jan Flohr, and Randon Peters.



Volunteer Bill Booker teaches Attorney General Jon Bruning how to mill wheat into flour during Bruning's visit to the World of Wheat booth at the State Fair.

## **NCTA hosts Student Open Houses Oct. 12 and Nov. 11**

CURTIS — Scholarship drawings, campus tours, lunch and faculty and student dialogs will be among the offerings as high school students “Discover Their Way at NCTA” during open house events this fall at the Curtis campus.

The University of Nebraska-Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) opens its doors to potential students for public tours and discussions about college programs on Saturday, October 12, and Monday, November 11, said Tina K. Smith, NCTA Admissions and Recruiting Coordinator.

“We look forward to hosting prospective students at an open house here on campus this fall, and then again in the spring,” said Smith. A highlight this year will be a \$500 scholarship drawing at each open house for students who submit paid applications to enroll in classes for Spring 2014 or for the 2014-2015 school year. Spring Open Houses will be March 10 and April 12, 2014.

Students, families, guidance counselors and teachers are invited to participate in the day long activities. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., followed by breakout sessions for individual areas of study, tours of the campus, buildings and dormitories, and opportunity for preliminary academic guidance from division heads, Smith said. Lunch will be served for students.

Information on campus resources, including costs and financial assistance will be available. In the past three years, more than 90 percent of NCTA’s students have received financial aid. Of those, the average grant or scholarship has exceeded tuition costs by about \$1,400, leaving funds for housing and books.

NCTA, which celebrated its Centennial anniversary in August, offers majors in agribusiness, horticulture, veterinary technology, and agricultural production systems. Also, concentrations within those majors include irrigation technician, welding and diesel mechanics.

A new program for fall 2014 will be training veterinary technicians in a comparative medicine program headquartered at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) campus in Omaha. An NCTA open house at UNMC in Omaha will be held this fall.

Those interested in more information about NCTA open houses can contact Tina Smith, NCTA Admissions and Recruiting Coordinator, at 308-367-4124.

## **Federal Judge Rules TMDLs Lawful in Chesapeake Bay Region**

*NAWG Update* – A federal judge in Pennsylvania ruled last Friday against agricultural groups that were seeking to get rid of the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standard for the Chesapeake Bay. EPA has used the Chesapeake Bay as a model for TMDLs, which would set limits on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment pollution discharged into the Chesapeake Bay and each of its tributaries from various sources including farms. The ruling concluded that the Chesapeake Bay TMDL proposal is legal and that the EPA has the right to oversee how the states meet the water-quality standards established under the TMDL plan. NAWG is supportive of efforts to enhance the voluntary conservation practices producers are already undertaking, and NAWG leaders favor these programs over mandatory regulation put in place through nutrient standards and TMDL requirements. NAWG also has serious concerns about this ruling expanding into other regions, becoming a model for watersheds around the country, and will follow the next steps in its implementation closely.

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## ***BNSF plans \$110 million program in Nebraska***

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) plans to invest an estimated \$110 million on maintenance and rail capacity expansion projects in Nebraska this year.

BNSF's 2013 capacity expansion projects in Nebraska include completing construction of a new bridge over the Missouri River between Plattsmouth, Neb. and Pacific Jct., Iowa; construction of almost a mile of new westbound wye track between the Bellwood and Ravenna subdivisions near Seward, Neb.; improvements to BNSF's car and locomotive shops in Lincoln; and signal upgrades for federally mandated positive train control (PTC).

BNSF will also continue its robust track maintenance program in Nebraska, which will include nearly 3,800 miles of track surfacing and undercutting work, and the replacement of nearly 130 miles of rail and about 115,000 railroad ties.

"BNSF's capital investments in Nebraska will help ensure our network is prepared for growing demand for freight rail," said Matthew K. Rose, chairman and chief executive officer. "We are focused on investing to meet our customers' expectations and on expanding capacity where growth is occurring. Given the importance of a low cost supply chain to the U.S. economy, our privately funded rail infrastructure is well positioned to help Nebraska compete in global markets."

The planned capital investments in Nebraska are part of BNSF's record 2013 capital commitment of \$4.3 billion. The largest component of the capital plan is spending \$2.3 billion on BNSF's core network and related assets. BNSF also plans to spend approximately \$1 billion on locomotive, freight car and other equipment acquisitions, many of which will serve Nebraska. The program also includes about \$200 million for positive train control and \$800 million for terminal, line and intermodal expansion and efficiency projects.

Unlike other modes of transportation, U.S. freight railroads use their own private dollars, not tax dollars, to build and maintain their freight rail networks. Since the year 2000, BNSF has invested more than \$42 billion to improve and expand its freight rail network.

## **BNSF Nebraska Rail Facts**

- Owns more than 1,500 miles of rail
- Moved more than 2 million carloads of freight through NE
- Moved nearly 140,000 carloads of corn wheat and ag products out of NE
- Shipped more than 30,000 carloads of ag products to NE
- More than 4,800 employees with BNSF in NE
- Major BNSF facilities are located in Alliance, Lincoln, McCook and Omaha



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# STUMPF FAMILY GIFT SUPPORTS AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AT UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

Article and photo by Robb Crouch, NU Foundation



A generous gift of more than \$3 million provides the University of Nebraska with potential to take wheat breeding and cropping systems research to a new level of innovation not seen since the early days of plant genetics.

Marvin H. Stumpf III of Grant, Neb., has made the gift to the University of Nebraska Foundation to establish the Stumpf Family research and Development Fund to support agricultural research and university extension services. The contribution includes a \$1 million outright gift and donation of 640 acres of land in Perkins County, located in southwest Nebraska, with an appraised market value of more than \$2 million.

“This gift is about honoring my family and our Nebraska heritage,” Marvin Stumpf said. “This state has meant so much to generations of my family, and it’s a privilege to give back in a way that will further agricultural research and service well into the future.”

Ronnie Green, University of Nebraska vice president and Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources Harlan vice chancellor, said Marvin Stumpf’s rich and active legacy will live on through these gifts, providing researchers, faculty and students the opportunity to make new discoveries on his land.

“We are excited about the additional opportunities this donation creates for the wheat industry in Nebraska and even more excited about the future impact our partnership will have on our state, region and world, since as much as 50 percent of Nebraska’s wheat is annually exported to international markets,” Green said. “The wheat industry is big business in Nebraska, with between 65 and 75 million bushels grown each year.”

Archie Clutter, dean of the Agricultural Research Division at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said, “UNL’s robust wheat and cropping-systems research programs will grow even stronger with the help of this generous gift from the Stumpf family. This Perkins County location will add important representation of high-plains, semi-arid production to the UNL system of integrated research and allow accelerated progress in the development and application of new plant science biotechnologies.”

A Nebraska native, Marvin Stumpf worked for the U.S. Postal Service in Denver and received a degree from Metropolitan State University in Denver. He returned to Nebraska to help his parents, Henry J. and Darlene Stumpf, with the family farm. Through hard work and determination, the family built the farm into a successful enterprise in Perkins County, Neb., where Stumpf continues to live and work. The family’s use of dryland cropping techniques, combined with organic farming experience, are the tangible results of their willingness to experiment with new ideas while using the land to its fullest potential.

In making this gift to the university, Marvin Stumpf said he wishes to honor the legacy of his family, including his late wife, Pearl Stumpf, his grandparents, Henry J. and Margaret Stumpf, his parents Henry J. and Darlene Stumpf, and his wife’s late husband, Sam Peterson.

“The Stumpf family devoted their lives to acquiring and improving their land through the use of good farm management practices,” Green said. “Their desire to honor the hard work and sacrifices of their family members by using the property for the benefit of the citizens of Nebraska and the United States is commendable.”

The gift also provides support to the University of Nebraska’s current fundraising initiative, the Campaign for Nebraska: Unlimited Possibilities, and a top priority to increase support for agriculture and life sciences programs.

The University of Nebraska Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization raising private gifts to support the University of Nebraska for more than 75 years. In 2012, donors provided the university with \$165 million for scholarships, medical and other research, academic programs, faculty and buildings. All foundation funds are donor designated. The foundation’s comprehensive fundraising campaign, the Campaign for Nebraska, has raised more than \$1.2 billion for the university and concludes in 2014. For more information, visit [campaignfornebraska.org](http://campaignfornebraska.org).

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# Fall Grebbles Recipe

## INGREDIENTS:

4 eggs  
1/4 c. sugar  
1 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. baking soda  
16 oz. sour cream  
4 tsp. baking powder  
4 1/2 c. flour  
1/4 c. oil  
1/4 tsp. vanilla

## NUTRITION:

Calories: 112  
Total fat: 1.8 g  
Cholesterol: 7 mg  
Sodium: 105 mg  
Total carbs: 21.6 g  
Dietary fiber: 0.5 g  
Protein: 2.3 g

## DIRECTIONS:

Add baking soda to the sour cream. Mix in eggs, sugar and salt.

Sift the flour and add baking powder. Add to the cream mixture.

Refrigerate overnight before frying. (If dough seems too soft, add a little more flour.)

Roll dough to about 1.8-inch thick and cut into rectangles, about 3 inches by 5 inches. Cut 2 parallel slits lengthwise through the dough. Fry in deep oil until a light brown.

Sprinkle with sugar and enjoy.



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who helped to  
make this trade  
show season a  
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### **Name of Main Contact:**

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### **Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **County:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Referred by:** \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your commitment to the Nebraska Wheat Growers Association! NWGA frequently needs help from its members to influence issues. Sometimes that help is a simple letter or phone call to a legislator; sometime it involves representing NWGA at a meeting, simply sharing your opinion on an issue, help with an NWGA committee or meeting consumers when helping in the Mobile Baking Lab.

Please check below the issue area (s) you would be interested in assisting NWGA in its mission of enhancing profitability for grain producers. Thank you!

State Affairs

International Policy

Membership

Educational Events

Research/Value Added

Environmental Policy

Baking Lab Events

Domestic Policy (Transportation/Basis/Federal Farm Policy/Risk Management/Taxes)

Return Service Requested



## NWGA finishes successful trade show season



NWGA President, Dayton Christensen, dishes up chocolate chip cookies at the Chase County Fair.

In addition to the Nebraska State Fair, NWGA attended the Chase County Fair, several Certified Seed Days and Husker Harvest Days.

NWGA started by attending certified seed days in Sidney, Hemingford and Chappell. NWGA visited with growers about what NWGA is and how NWGA helps represent Nebraska's wheat farmers.

Following the certified seed days, NWGA traveled to the Chase County Fair where volunteers helped bake chocolate chip cookies from the Mobile Baking Lab. In addition to visiting with area producers about the benefits of wheat in a crop rotation, volunteers visited about the benefits of wheat in the diet. Fairgoers were also able to pick up 2lb. sample bags of Ultragrain flour.

Husker Harvest Days was the final event in the August-September trade show season. NWGA worked with NWB to educate people about the advantages of using wheat in a corn/soybeans rotation as well as the nutritional benefits of wheat. Donut hole and pizza role samples were also provided to the public, with more than 900 samples served.



First time Mobile Baking Lab volunteers Joyce Booker, Marlene Weeder and Bunny Priester pause from baking chocolate chip cookies at the Nebraska State Fair.



A wheat farmer and NWB and NWGA member, Larry Flohr shows how the milling process works while letting kids make their own flour with a table hand mill.