

CCPC ATTENDS THE US GRAINS COUNCIL CONFERENCE IN GUATEMALA CITY

U.S. Grains Council (USGC) members gathered for the 21st International Marketing Conference and 64th Annual Membership Meeting in Guatemala City for the first time since the meeting was held there in 2009. The event was held February 14-16, 2024.

The event provides members with an overview of the Council's strategy for the coming year and includes several Advisory Team (A-Team) sessions, where experts in various agricultural commodities and markets come together to conduct market and commodity-specific deep-dives and share experiences relevant to their industry for this year.

USGC Chairman Brent Boydston opened the event with a welcome address and an overview of his tenure thus far. Boydston then introduced the day's first speaker, Deputy Chief of Mission for the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala Patrick Ventrell.

"My theme for this year, Growing the Future, reflects both the opportunities and challenges of the current trade environment," Boydston said. "At this meeting, we gather to discuss issues facing our industry and explore future demand for feed grains, distiller's dried grains with solubles and ethanol around the world."

Chief Agricultural Negotiator from the Office of the United States Trade Representative Doug McKalip addressed attendees later in the morning, highlighting the importance of his office's work in Guatemala and

Central America.

Panels featuring deep dives into Guatemala's feed grain and ethanol markets followed, beginning with a discussion moderated by Juan Antonio Assante, grain procurement manager at CMI Alimentos. Wednesday's agenda also included a panel on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Regional Agricultural Promotion Program (RAPP), designed to reimburse nonprofit agricultural trade organizations for their work in international markets.

Members also met for Action Team meetings as well as the board of delegates meeting. USGC President and CEO Ryan LeGrand said this in his closing address.

"We are ready, we are willing, and we are already doing the hard work it takes to keep established markets open, open new markets and maintain robust trade for the commodities you grow as we head into a bright future beyond today, this year and for years to come."

CCPC Executive Director Nicholas Colglazier, board member Jeremy Fix and corn producer (and past board member) Mike Lefever attended the conference. Mike was also recognized for his five years of service to the organization.

"The more Colorado and the rest of the corn-growing states can do to promote corn trade, the better chance we have of moving more corn and maintaining a profitable price at the farm gate," said Mike Lefever.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD WINNERS AT WINTER ROUNDUP

At our recognition banquet, we had the opportunity to thank producers and industry partners for their dedication and contribution to the CCPC. Congratulations to the following people, and thank you for your service to our organization!

- Mark Sponsler
- Rod Hahn
- Allyn Wind
- John Sullivan
- Mike Lefever
- Troy Schneider

- Josh Hasart
- Tom Lipetzky

Did you attend our annual Winter Roundup? We had a great lineup and heard from a variety of speakers. Did you miss it? Join us next year! We plan to make it an annual event.

We want to thank our sponsor, AgRisk Advisors, for their support of this event. It would not have been possible without their generous donation.



*CCPC ED Nick Colglazier
and Rod Hahn*



*CCPC ED Nick Colglazier
and Josh Hasart*



*CCPC ED Nick Colglazier
and Mike Lefever*



*CCPC ED Nick Colglazier
and Tom Lipetzky*

LEADERS IN AGRICULTURE HONOREES

The Colorado Corn Promotion Council congratulates Matt Mulch (top), CCPC President and Ryan Taylor (bottom), CCPC Director of Sustainability, Research and Industry Relationships on their recognitions as 2024 Leaders in Agriculture Honorees. They will be recognized at a ceremony held on March 28 at the Hydro Building on the CSU SPUR campus.



CCPC ANNUAL SURVEY

The CCPC is conducting our annual survey. It is very important to the Board of Directors and the staff that we are serving the corn producers of the state in the best way that we can - and that means we need your feedback! Please fill out the short survey, and let us know how we are doing. Please visit <https://bit.ly/CCPCSurvey24> or scan the QR code.



CITIZEN ADVOCATE WEBINAR: HOW TO RESEARCH A LAWMAKER AND CREATE A REPRESENTATIVE PROFILE

THE PARTNERSHIP FOR
A More Perfect Union

Despite the narrative presented by Hollywood and the media, lawmakers are people too. Before being elected, they had careers, attended schools and universities, or volunteered in their community. This presentation will explain how the best citizen advocates research their Members of Congress; use their Members' profiles to map personal or professional connections to their lawmakers; adjust their communications with those Members; and connect the dots between issues advocates care about to those that their Members care about.

This program is based on exclusive and private surveys of congressional staff conducted by CMF and is available only to members of CMF's Partnership for a More Perfect Union. The webinar will be conducted by Bradford Fitch, President and CEO of CMF.

Date: March 19, 2024 at 1:00 PM MST

Please register online at
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CORN GROWERS WELCOME DECISION BY EPA ON ACCESS TO YEAR-ROUND E15 WHILE CALLING FOR LEGISLATION TO ELIMINATE NATIONWIDE PATCHWORK ON ETHANOL

The Environmental Protection Agency announced on February 22 that it will grant the request by eight Midwestern governors to allow the year-round sale of fuel with a 15% ethanol blend, or E15, in their states beginning in the summer of 2025.

The announcement was welcomed by the National Corn Growers Association, which has been fighting to break down barriers to the environmentally friendly biofuels.

"We are glad to hear this decision from EPA, as it puts us on the road to providing more certainty to America's corn growers and consumers who will save money at the pump," said NCGA President and Minnesota Farmer Harold Wolle. "However, given that this decision will not take effect until the summer of 2025, we question and are concerned about the implications of the timeline for growers and consumers this summer."

The sale of E15 has been banned during the summer months to meet federal clean air standards that have been shown to be unnecessary and outdated. The U.S. EPA has granted waivers over the last few years to allow drivers continued access to environmentally friendly and affordable E15.

Even after today's announcement, NCGA says a permanent legislative fix is still needed.

"While we are pleased with today's decision, we still need a law that codifies access to higher levels of ethanol and that eliminates the patchwork of state regulations on the issue," said Wolle. "That is why we are pushing for the passage of the Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act in the Senate to solve this issue once and for all."

NCBA CATTLE CON 2024: STRENGTHENING INDUSTRY BONDS AND PROMOTING CORN'S ROLE

In early February, the National Corn Growers Association's (NCGA) Market Development Action Team (MDAT) converged with industry leaders at the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) annual convention in Orlando, Florida. During the week Matt Frostic, Troy Schneider (Colorado), Denny Vennekotter, Sarah McKay, and Michael Granché engaged in crucial discussions with NCBA's executive leadership, highlighting shared priorities and emphasizing the significance of bolstering their symbiotic relationship.

Schneider joined Cattlemen to Cattlemen show host Kevin Ochsner for an exclusive RFD-TV interview. Together, they illustrated the integral partnership between beef and corn, showcasing how these industries collaborate to drive progress and

maintain profitability for farm operators.

The next day, Michael and Kristen Schneider (Colorado) took part in the annual #BeefIt5k race, a vibrant event symbolizing the energy and dedication within the industry fueled by the power of beef. Following this, they engaged in an interview on RFD-TV, discussing how corn-fed beef contributes to nutrition and can seamlessly integrate into diverse dietary preferences.

Matt, Troy, and Denny took center stage that afternoon, hosting a dynamic Learning Lounge session moderated by AOA's Radio's Jesse Allen. The session explored corn's sustainability goals, emphasizing the added value of transitioning corn into beef and discussing the positive impact of corn-fed intramuscular fat relating to overall carcass quality.



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