



Wheat Producers Advantage

South Dakota Wheat, Inc.

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Wheat Advocate Award Presented to Senator Thune



South Dakota Wheat Inc. President Julian Roseth, Executive Director Caren Assman and Vice President for the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG), Gordon Stoner, presented the Wheat Advocate Award to Senator Thune on February 3, while attending the Winter Wheat Meeting held in Washington DC.

Senator John Thune was chosen to receive the Wheat Advocate Award for his work as a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee and Chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee.

“Senator Thune has been in a key position to advocate a number of NAWG priorities. He has been a staunch supporter of crop insurance and has been active on ensuring conser-

vation compliance requirements are implemented in a reasonable way. Additionally, he was a key player in developing and passing the highway bill, and he wrote important reforms as part of his legislation to reauthorize the Surface Transportation Board (STB)” quoted President Roseth.

Hill visits also included Senator Mike Rounds. “Agriculture is our state’s greatest economic engine,” said Rounds. “Farmers and ranchers all across South Dakota are helping to fuel a growing global population. In the Senate, I continue to work to limit the amount of burdensome federal regulations that impact the farming community, to make sure our producers can continue their important work of feeding the world. I thank the South Dakota Wheat Commission and South Dakota Wheat Incorporated for their dedication to growing the wheat industry in our state.”

Due to scheduling conflicts we were unable to meet with Representative Kristy Noem.

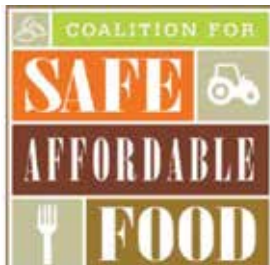


Senate Vote Failed On GE-Labeling Bill; SD Senators Voted To Support

*The Honorable Pat Roberts, Chairman
Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry*

Dear Chairman Roberts,

On behalf of the Coalition for Safe and Affordable Food, we want to thank you for your strong leadership aimed at enacting a national uniform solution on biotech labeling. We represent



all segments of the U.S. food chain—producers, cooperatives, agribusinesses, processors, seed makers, handlers, food and feed manufacturers, lenders, and retailers. It is vitally important for the Senate to take expedited action in order to avoid the economic costs of a patchwork of state laws that will directly impact consumers, farmers, and the entire food value chain.

Mr. Chairman, we strongly support your Substitute Amendment #3450, building on the Biotechnology Labeling Solutions Act, which was approved by the Senate Agriculture Committee 14 – 6 on March 1st. The issue of biotech labeling is one of the most significant issues that the agriculture and food industry has faced in recent years. The U.S. agriculture and food industry creates over 17 million jobs, representing nearly 10% of all U.S. employment and creating 5% of U.S. economic activity. This very system—which produces the most abundant, the highest quality, and the most affordable food supply in the world—will be

threatened with large economic costs without a national uniform solution to the biotech labeling issue.

The application of biotechnology to agricultural production has led to increased crop yields, decreased use of pesticides, and lower food costs for consumers. Congress must ensure we avoid senseless mandates that will thwart agricultural advancement and hurt consumers—especially those low income Americans who can least afford to pay more to feed their families.

Last fall, you chaired an extensive hearing on biotech and biotech labeling. Witnesses from the three government agencies that have principal oversight of biotech approvals—the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—all reaffirmed their long standing recognition of the safety of the technology. There was also broad discussion at the hearing about the need for a national uniform solution and that any solution should not stigmatize this important tool for our nation’s farmers. Mandatory on-pack labeling of foods produced using biotechnology would mislead consumers and drive up their grocery bills.

Mr. Chairman, again we thank you and other Members of the Committee for the strong leadership that you are providing on this issue. We also thank you for your recognition of the deep sense of urgency to address this patchwork of state laws that threatens the U.S. agriculture and food industry. We stand ready to work with you and other Members of the Senate to ensure there is expedited Senate floor action on this important legislation.



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DISTRICT 2

Julian Roseth, Midland

DISTRICT 3

Tanner Handcock, Wall

DISTRICT 4

Doug Simons, St. Lawrence

DISTRICT 5

Todd Mangin, Gettysburg

DISTRICT 6

Carl Schwab, Andover

DISTRICT 7

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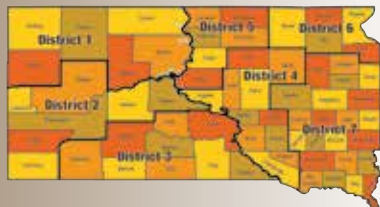
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Highlights of USDA's 2015/16 Supply and Demand Estimates

- 1. 2015/16 global wheat production 7% higher than the 5-year average at 735 MMT, the third consecutive record crop**
 - Global supplies estimate at record 948 MMT; up 3% from the 2014/15 record
 - Russia wheat production estimate increased to 61.0 MMT, 24% above the 5-year average
 - Wheat production for Uruguay an estimated 28% lower than the 5-year average at 1.00 MMT
 - Brazil wheat production estimate reduced 7% from 2014/15 to 5.60 MMT
- 2. Consumption forecast at 716 MMT, up 2% from 2014/15**
 - Algeria domestic consumption to increase to 10.2 MMT, 9% above the 5-year average
 - Domestic consumption in Indonesia forecast to reach 7.95 MMT, up 8% from 2014/15
 - U.S. domestic consumption expected to be 2% below the 5-year average at 32.2 MMT
- 3. World wheat trade estimates projected at 162 MMT, 6% greater than 5-year average, but down from 164 MMT in 2014/15**
 - Canada exports to reach 20.5 MMT, down 15% from 2014/15
 - Uruguay exports on par with 2014/15 levels, but 50% below the 5-year average of 400,000 MT
 - US exports to reach 21.8 MMT down 6% from 2014/15, well below 5-year average of 29.3 MMT
- 4. World beginning stocks estimated at 213 MMT, 10% higher than 2014/15 and the 5-year average**
 - India beginning stocks to reach 17.2 MMT, down 8% from the 5-year average of 18.7 MMT
 - Beginning stocks in Indonesia decreased 13% from 2014/15 to 1.30 MMT
 - Russia beginning stocks assessed at 6.28 MMT, 21% higher than 2014/15, but 36% lower than the 5-year average of 9.90 MMT
- 5. Global ending stocks projected at record 232 MMT**
 - Estimated Chinese ending stocks account for 38% of global ending stocks at 87.3 MMT, 18% greater than 2014/15
 - US ending stocks to grow 25% year over year to 25.6 MMT, 28% above the 5-year average of 20.0 MMT
- 6. U.S. farm gate average price forecast 16% lower than 2014/15**
 - Projected average range: \$4.90 to \$5.10/bushel (\$180-\$187/MT)* *Average U.S. farm gate price, marketing year weighted average*





*South Dakota Wheat, Inc. Board Members
Shannon Depoy, Doug Simons, Tanner Handcock, Julian Roseth, Todd Mangin, and Paul Hetland.*

Letter from National Association of Wheat Growers to the House & Senate Budget Committees

February 24, 2016

House and Senate Budget Committee Chairs and Ranking Members:

The agriculture community is strongly committed to the belief that balancing the Federal budget is important, which is why the sector supported passage of the 2014 Farm Bill with savings of billions of dollars from within our own interest areas. However, overreliance on savings from the agriculture community in the future will greatly undermine rural economies that have already faced an estimated 55 percent decline in net farm income from 2013 to 2015. It is Federal crop insurance that will provide lenders the assurances they need to provide capital to farmers to put seed in the ground another year in the face of these challenging economic circumstances. As the Budget Committees develop and consider budget proposals for the year, we respectfully urge you to protect crop insurance and recognize its central importance to farmers, lenders and all of rural America.

The 2014 Farm Bill places greater emphasis on risk management than previous farm bills and in doing so protects the interests of the American taxpayer. Farmers spend approximately \$4 billion per year of their own money to purchase insurance from the private sector. Crop insurance allows producers to customize their crop insurance to their individual

farm and financial needs. Federal crop insurance is actuarially sound, which means high risk areas and high value crops pay higher premiums for insurance, just as the market would dictate. This emphasis on crop insurance and risk management has replaced constant cries for ad hoc disaster assistance, which is subject to the whim of Washington, is paid for entirely by the taxpayer, and is not delivered in a timely manner.

All told, the 2014 Farm Bill is a careful balance of priorities and should not be reopened before its expiration in 2018 to achieve additional budget savings. While the Farm Bill comprises just 2 percent of the total Federal budget, and with the entirety of the farm safety net constituting less than one third of one percent of the overall budget, the bill still makes a significant contribution to deficit reduction above and beyond the contributions made through sequestration. No other sector of the economy has made similar contributions to deficit reduction, yet many who benefit from the food, fuel, feed and fiber produced in rural America continue to look to agriculture for additional cuts.

Farmers and lawmakers agree that crop insurance is a linchpin of the farm safety net and is crucial to the economic security of rural America. As the Budget Committees develop their budget proposals for the year, we respectfully urge you to protect crop insurance and in doing so, the financial stability of much of rural America.



Bob and Diane Fuoss Wheat Yield Contest Winner 1991

South Dakota Wheat Inc., has not promoted a wheat yield contest for many years. As we kick off the “Wheat Yield Contest” for 2016, we were excited to learn about a winner from 1991, Bob and Diane Fuoss. Their story includes some of the first uses of a fungicide in South Dakota!

Twenty five years ago, in the spring of 1991, Ciba-Geigy, a European chemical company and the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) had a wheat yield contest. Ciba-Geigy had a wheat fungicide called “Tilt” and was trying to promote the use of the product as it was successful overseas.

Bob Fuoss, a Draper, SD farmer, entered the contest and purchased Tilt. A Pierre aerial spray service applied the product at flag leaf emergence using a Rockwell Thrush spray plane and the local county agent measured and verified the production.

Fuoss’ wheat yielded 65.8 bushels per acre, a 35 bushel increase over the county five year yield so Fuoss had won his county and also the state. Fuoss was recognized at the Ag Horizons Conference in Pierre on December 12, 1991.

In February of 1992, with grandparents lined up to watch their kids and Bob’s dad, Orville, ready to care for livestock, Bob and his wife Diane, flew to the NAWG convention which was held in Disney Land Resort in Anaheim, Ca. Fuoss’ yield placed 4th in the USA. Monsanto awarded him the “Young Farmer Award Winner”

at the reception in the Pacific Room within the Disneyland Resort, Anaheim, CA.

Fuoss’ Farm also holds four District 15 1st Place no-till Corn Yield Awards and county conservation award called “Take Pride in American”.

Seed Treatments for Spring Wheat

This article was copied from the iGrow.org website and was written by Bob Fanning, retired SDSU Plant Pathology Field Specialist.

Fungicide seed treatments are used when planting many agricultural crops and are helpful in promoting stand establishment and seedling vigor. Seed treatments also help preserve yield potential and prevent quality losses in grain by preventing certain seed and soil-borne diseases.

There are many pathogens found in the soil which cause seedling diseases and contribute to the root/crown rot complex in wheat. The root/crown rot complex can include one or more of the following diseases: Common Root Rot, Fusarium Root Rot, Take-All, Rhizoctonia Root Rot, and Pythium Root Rot. These pathogens are always present in the soil at some level. They become a problem when environmental situations lead to slow germination and slow early development.

The root/crown rot pathogens have similar symptoms and can cause poor overall health and vigor of the plant. This can result in thin, uneven stands, stunted plants, small spikes, empty/white heads, yellowing of foliage, and reduced yield and quality. The primary recommendation to avoid the effects of the root/crown rot complex is a diverse crop rotation which includes one or more broadleaf crops. The proper choice of fungicide seed treatments can also help protect the young seedlings and get them off to a good start.

Loose Smut and Common Bunt (also known as stinking smut) appear in some wheat fields every year. These are two pathogens can be effectively controlled with the use of a labeled seed treatment. It is strongly believed that Loose Smut and Common Bunt could be virtually eliminated if all wheat producers used recommended seed treatments.

In general, seed treatments: 1) aid in managing the biotic stresses 2) Are effective only days to weeks (although new chemistry is promising longer periods of protection) 3) are used as the principal insurance against pests and 4) help the seed and seedlings make it to the stage when they can make their own energy (get the seed up and out of the ground).

Utilizing a fungicide seed treatment builds the foundation for a healthy plant. Healthy roots are the first step to building the yield potential you desire. Without that strong base, your yield potential is limited from the start and all other inputs become less valuable. Seed treatment has been and continues to be a very economic and effective disease management tool in South Dakota wheat production. To see the complete list of Seed Treatment products available, consult the new 2016 Wheat Crop Protection Guide at <http://igrow.org/up/resources/03-3018-2015.pdf>

A banner for "Sign Up for Scab Alerts". The text says "Subscription Is Free" and provides the URL http://www.scabusa.org/fhb_alerts.php. It lists benefits: "Receive alerts via cell phone or email, per your preference", "Frequency and timing of alerts dependent upon your area's risk for scab problems", and "Available to growers, crop advisors and grain industry personnel at no cost". It also mentions "A Service of the U.S. Wheat & Barley Scab Initiative" and includes the website www.scabusa.org. There is a small logo for the U.S. Wheat & Barley Scab Initiative and an image of a smartphone displaying the alert service interface.

2016 Wheat Yield Contest

Seven Districts will award two prizes each

1st - \$500 2nd - \$300

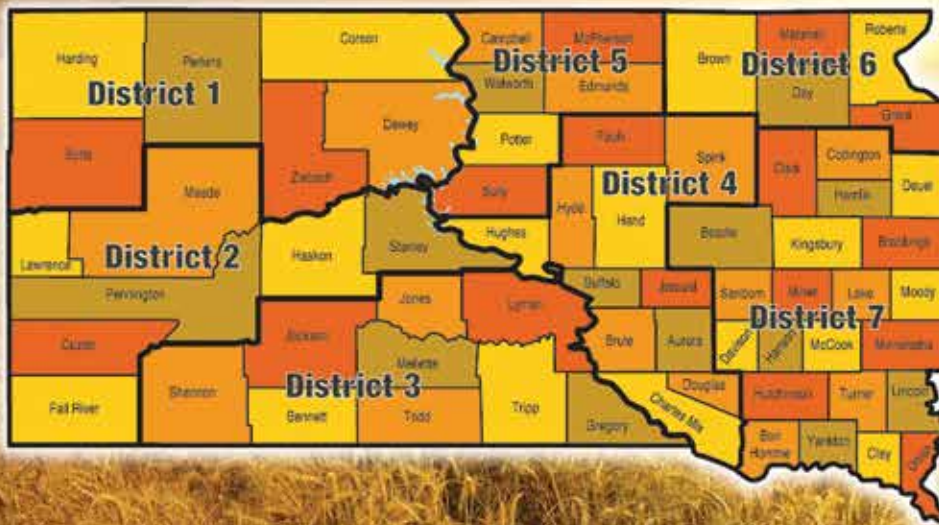


One Strong Voice

April 15, 2016, is the application deadline for spring and winter wheat.

Contact the SD Wheat, Inc. office for an application, rules page and/or a Director in your area.

1-605-224-4418 or sdwheat.org



Sponsors:



Legislative Update

During this Legislative Session these bills passed. HB1140; to improve the county zoning process; SB98 to treat hog production the same as other livestock under the Family Farm Act.; and HB1094 to establish the Nutrient Research and Education Council. Key provisions of HB1094 include the generation of \$1 million for research and education. Directed through South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, the funds will be used for fertilizer-related, nutrientrelated, and water quality-related research and education purposes in conjunction with the Nutrient Research and Education Council. Beginning in fiscal year 2020, a minimum of ten percent of the fund will be used to support water quality projects. Voting members of the council will include:

- Three representing the fertilizer industry
- Three representing grower organizations
- One person from the specialty fertilizer industry
- One person representing a certified agronomy association
- One person representing the State Conservation Commission

And Non-voting members:

- Two people representing environmental organizations
- One representing the Director of the South Dakota Experiment Station
- One representing the Department of Agriculture
- One representing the Department of Environment and Natural Resources

SB 2 which would revise the \$14M annual alcohol beverage tax distribution to have 1/3 of all revenues deposited into the fund, be reverted to the municipalities determined by population of each municipality. Passed House and Senate Floor, Sent to the Governor.

SB 3 revises the definition for determining ag land property by revising income criteria (gross income equal to at least 10% of the assessed value of the bare land) and including a management unit definition; Passed House & Senate and sent to the Governor.

SB 16 proposes to increase the nursery inspection fees The State intends that the nursery certificate of inspection (aka license) program be self-supporting but it has operated as a deficit for several years. Current estimated cost is \$97,000 annually. SD Dept of Ag issues about 437 biennial "licenses" to nurseryman (growers) and dealers. SD Ag proposes "licenses" may be issued annually with an accompanying fee increase 80%. Passed House & Senate Floor, sent to the Governor.

SB 18 request continued support for \$1,000,000 expenditure authority for Coordinated Natural Resources Con-

servation Fund. Joint Appropriations hearing held Tuesday, January 19. No action taken because, as noted above, the Committee cannot yet vote on bills. Parties apply for project grants from this Fund. While \$500,000 plus interest automatically deposits in the fund each year, the Department of Agriculture must have expenditure authority to spend the funds.

Signed by the Governor.

SB 23 would allow School & Public Lands five years to complete a land exchange instead of the current two so that SPL has time to negotiate with the federal land managing agency. Passed House & Senate sent to the Governor.

SB 58 revises certain restrictions for the use of night-vision equipment for hunting under certain conditions by allowing up to two guests to participate in a night hunt. Passed Senate vote 18 – 14. Passed House Floor. Sent to the Governor.

House Bills

HB 1007 seeks an appropriation of \$175,000 to SDSU. SDSU research would update SD Dept of Revenue production data and assess impact if additional factors are considered in determining "highest and best use." Current highest and best use uses only what is physically possible; recommendation is to also consider what is financially feasible (accessibility, market access, marginal productivity, risk) and what will provide maximum profitability (long-term sustainability, environmental practices, etc). Passed amended; the House Floor. Passed Senate Floor. Signed by the Governor.

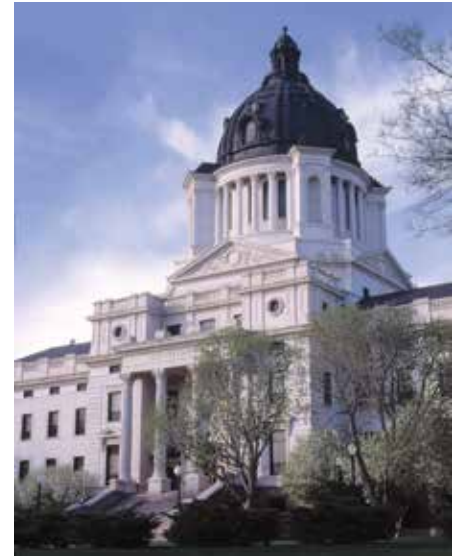
HB 1018 defines certain terms related to commercial fertilizer and soil amendments by defining manipulated manure that is sold as commercial. Passed by House Senate. Signed by the Governor.

HB 1024 requests a \$250,000 appropriation for the maintenance and repair of state owned dams and to declare an emergency. The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Commissioner of School and Public Lands. Passed by Joint Appropriations. Passed by the Senate. Signed by the Governor.

HB 1031 revise certain provisions pertaining to weights and measures. The Committee on Commerce and Energy at the request of the Department of Public Safety. Passed House, Passed Senate, Signed by the Governor.

HB 1043 revise the state aid to special education formula. The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Bureau of Finance and Management. Referred to Joint Appropriations Committee; passed.

HB 1044 revise the state aid to general education formu-



Bake and Take Day

The South Dakota Wheat Commission annual “Bake and Take Day,” occurring this year on March 26, invites home bakers of all ages to slow down, relax and embrace community spirit by baking home-made goodies and sharing them with friends, neighbors or folks who may not be able to bake themselves.

And if you participate in Bake and Take Day, you just might win a prize. Contestants who write in to tell about

la. Signed by the Speaker & Signed by the President.

HB 1046 requests a \$1,000,000.00 appropriation to the railroad trust fund and to declare an emergency. HB1046 is a bill brought at the request of the Department of Transportation to appropriate \$1 million to the railroad trust fund. This bill easily passed the House and is scheduled for a Senate vote. In 2006, the Legislature transferred \$38 million from the railroad Trust Fund to the Property Tax Reduction Fund. As of today, \$13.2 million has been paid back. The South Dakota Rail Authority has approximately \$31 million of outstanding loans to 16 entities.

HB 1080 makes an appropriation of \$175,000 and to transfer certain money to the Bureau of Administration to fund a design study for a potential expansion and upgrade to the State Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory and to declare an emergency. Passed House and Senate. Sent to the Governor.

HB 1084 defines when concurrent employment may be used to calculate earnings in workers’ compensation case. Passed House and the Senate and Signed by the Governor.

HB 1094 increases the commercial fertilizer inspection fee for purposes of fertilizer-related research and education and to create the Nutrient Research and Education Council to promote such research and education. Passed the House & Senate. Sent to the Governor.

HB 1140 revises certain provisions regarding county zoning. Passed House and Senate. Sent to the Governor.

Senate Bills

SB 12 authorizes the Board of Regents to sell certain extraneous real property in Brookings County and to deposit the proceeds with the state treasurer to be credited to a fund designated as the real property acquisition and capital improvement fund for South Dakota State University. The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Board of Regents. Passed Joint Appropriations. Passed Senate 35 – 0. Passed committee and passed House Floor.

SB 59 revises certain provisions regarding the application of the special annual road funding levy. Passed the Senate, Passed House. Sent to the Governor.

SB 68 annual omnibus water funding bill. Passed the Senate and House. Signed by the Governor.

SB 98 revises and repeals certain anti-corporate provisions regarding pork production. Passed Senate, passed the House.

SB 107 clarifies the 660’ safety zone restriction on hunting. Passed Senate, passed the House. Sent to Governor.

SB 127 revises provisions for placement of a utility facility across a railroad right of Way. Passed Senate and House. Sent to the Governor.

Wheat Producer Advantage

their Bake and Take activity will be entered into a random drawing for \$50 cash in one of four categories. Participants need to indicate a category -- youth individual (4-17), youth group, adult individual (18 plus), or adult group – on the entry form. If no category is indicated, the entry will be placed in the category that most fits the information provided. All eligible entries collected via e-mail and U.S. mail by April 15, 2016 will be included in the drawing.

“Bake and Take Day has a long tradition in South Dakota as an activity designed to educate consumers in the importance of home baking and wheat foods consumption,” says Caren Assman, for South Dakota Wheat. “The personal visit to members of the community is as rewarding and important as the baked goods you take them.”

Send a summary of your activity to the South Dakota Wheat Commission, Box 549, Pierre, SD 57501 or e-mail the information to the SDWC at info@sdwheat.org. Include any community service aspects, and comments regarding how the activity strengthened the bonds between individuals.

Bake and Take Day participants may obtain free recipe pamphlets by sending their name, complete mailing address, and the number of recipe brochures needed by emailing info@sdwheat.org. Any one that bakes and takes a wheat product is eligible for the contest.

The featured recipe this year is “English Lemon Cookies”. It is not necessary to use the recipes provided but if participants would like copies of the recipe to accompany their baked goods, please request copies at the South Dakota Wheat Commission.

Whole Wheat Muffins

1/2 cup margarine or butter
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup light brown sugar
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 egg
1/4 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup milk, 2%
2 cups whole wheat flour *

Preheat oven to 400°F. Have ingredients at room temperature.

Line the muffin tin using paper baking cups or use cooking spray to coat the bottom of the muffin tin.

With electric mixer; cream margarine, granulated sugar, brown sugar and baking soda together, scraping bowl with spatula.

In a small bowl, using a fork, beat together the egg and vanilla; add to creamed mixture. Beat until light and fluffy. Add the milk to the creamed mixture. Gradually add the whole wheat flour and lightly stir the ingredients together so dry ingredients are barely moistened. Over mixing will make the muffins tough with tunnels.

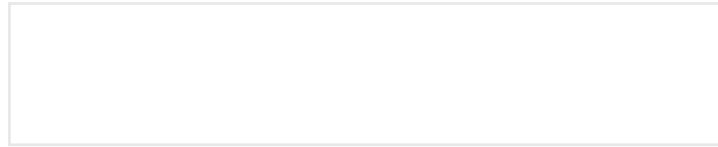
Fill muffin tins 2/3 full and bake 15 to 17 minutes or until browned and done. Remove from muffin tin and cool on wire rack.



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| Pulse USA, Emily Paul | 1-701-530-0734 |
| Ring Neck Energy, Ed Eller | 1-605-258-2900 |
| RX Ag Service, Eric Muller | 1-605-520-2109 |
| SDSU Plant Diagnostic, Connie Tande | 1-605-688-5545 |
| SD Crop Improvement, Neal Foster | 1-605-688-4606 |
| SD Pulse Growers, Ruth Beck | www.sdpulsegrowers.com |
| Shelbourne Reynolds, Daniel Morris | 1-785-462-6299 |
| Sorghum Partners, Dean Sombke | dsomke@chromatininc.com |
| Sunbird Inc, Lee Klocke | 1-605-353-1321 |
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