

From: [John Mullet](#)
To: [Walter Nelson](#)
Cc: [Peter Schuerman](#); [Bill Rooney](#); [Brian C. Schmitt](#); [Jaklevic, Burnley E.](#); [Wilfriede van Assche](#); [Bill McCutchen](#)
Subject: Third party MTA/energy sorghum
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2009 3:29:29 PM

Walter,

Thanks for the clarifications on guidelines for MTA's that involve energy sorghum. I am summarizing our discussion below for distribution and follow up.

As per our agreement, AgriLife Research will inform Ceres about potential collaborations involving third parties involving energy sorghum. Also, as per our agreement, no confidential information from Ceres or the Ceres/AgriLife collaboration will be shared with third parties without agreement by all parties.

MTA guidelines on collaborations involving the transfer of AgriLife Research energy sorghum materials to third parties.

1. Description of materials being transferred.
2. Description of what will be done with the materials and for what purpose (i.e., testing materials in a conversion process).
3. Description of how information obtained using the materials will be disseminated.

In particular, it is recommended that AgriLife Research and the Third Party need to approve before data generated on transferred materials is released to the public either through public talks, reports, or publication. In most cases, data release will involve joint publications where all co-authors involved in the collaboration agree to the publication of data.

4. Description of how IP generated will be handled (I assume the same way all other IP is handled by TAMUS).

Everyone please send feedback to Brian for further discussion so we can finalize our general MTA guidelines.

Thanks,

John

From: [Barbara Bracken](#)
To: [Delroy Collins](#)
Cc: [Bill L Rooney](#)
Subject: TimeTraQ approver
Date: Monday, September 21, 2009 10:01:09 AM
Attachments: [FY10 Pay Dates.pdf](#)

Good morning...

Since Karen has left and will be retiring soon, you have been requested to be the time sheet approver for the student workers. Time sheets are due every other Thursday by noon. Attached is a schedule for FY10. If you have questions, please let me know. The next time sheets are due is next Thursday, October 1....by noon :)

If you have questions about hiring new students, feel free to drop by.

The employees you will need to approve are:

Gerald de la Fuente
Jenna Jakubik
Robin Jakubik
Michael Klepac
Bill Lyles
Brandon Reynolds
Catherine Lettunich

Thanks,
B

Barbara Bracken
Business Coordinator I
Texas A&M Agriculture
Soil & Crop Science Department
2474 TAMU
phone: 979-845-3042
fax: 979-845-0456
e-mail: bbracken@ag.tamu.edu

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Texas A&M AgriLife

SCHEDULE OF 2009 -2010 BIWEEKLY PAY PERIODS

September 1, 2009 - August 31, 2010

Pay Period No	Pay Period		Working Days	TIMESHEET DUE	Pay Date	Longevity
	From	Thru				
1	1-Sep	9-Sep	7	9/10/2009	9/18/2009	L
2	10-Sep	16-Sep	5	9/17/2009	9/25/2009	
3	17-Sep	30-Sep	10	10/1/2009	10/9/2009	L
4	1-Oct	14-Oct	10	10/15/2009	10/23/2009	
5	15-Oct	28-Oct	10	10/29/2009	11/6/2009	
6	29-Oct	11-Nov	10	11/12/2009	11/20/2009	L
7	12-Nov	25-Nov	10	11/24/2009**	12/4/2009	
8	26-Nov	9-Dec	10	12/08/2009**	12/18/2009	L
9	10-Dec	23-Dec	10	12/15/2009**	1/4/2010	
10	24-Dec	6-Jan	10	1/7/2010	1/15/2010	L
11	7-Jan	20-Jan	10	1/21/2010	1/29/2010	
12	21-Jan	3-Feb	10	2/4/2010	2/12/2010	L
13	4-Feb	17-Feb	10	2/18/2010	2/26/2010	
14	18-Feb	3-Mar	10	3/4/2010	3/12/2010	L
15	4-Mar	17-Mar	10	03/16/2010**	3/26/2010	
16	18-Apr	31-Mar	10	4/1/2010	4/9/2010	
17	1-Apr	14-Apr	10	4/15/2010	4/23/2010	L
18	15-Apr	28-Apr	10	4/29/2010	5/7/2010	
19	29-Apr	12-May	10	5/13/2010	5/21/2010	L
20	13-May	26-May	10	5/27/2010	6/4/2010	
21	27-May	9-Jun	10	6/10/2010	6/18/2010	L
22	10-Jun	23-Jun	10	6/24/2010	7/2/2010	
23	24-Jun	7-Jul	10	7/8/2010	7/16/2010	L
24	8-Jul	21-Jul	10	7/22/2010	7/30/2010	
25	22-Jul	4-Aug	10	8/5/2010	8/13/2010	L
26	5-Aug	18-Aug	10	8/16/2010**	8/27/2010	
27	19-Aug	31-Aug	9	8/21/2010**	9/10/2010	

**Time sheets are being called in early due to holidays or end of fiscal year--
THESE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!!

Holidays

- November 26-27, 2009 -- Thanksgiving (2 days)
- December 23, 2009 - January 1, 2010 -- Christmas/New Years (8 days)
- January 18, 2010 -- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day -- (1 day)
- March 18-19, 2010 -- Spring Break (2 days)
- May 31, 2010 -- Memorial Day (1 day)

From: [Rafael Nieves](#)
To: ["Gharabegian, Areg"](#); ["Kendrick Wentzel"](#); ["Bill Rooney"](#) [REDACTED]
Subject: Tourist visas
Date: Saturday, September 26, 2009 2:13:03 PM

All,

Just a reminder. Recommendations from folks that have traveled to Indonesia is that you should request a visitor's (tourist) visa when you arrive at the Jakarta airport. I believe it's \$30 but you should get local currency first. You'll be staying at the Dharmawongsa Hotel. If you state it's business it can become difficult.

Rafael

From: [Rene Clara](#)
To: [Joan Frederick](#)
Cc: [Bill Rooney](#); [Vilma Ruth Calderon](#); [Salvador Zeledón](#)
Subject: Trip report
Date: Monday, September 28, 2009 10:01:31 AM

Dear Joan,

I have been late in sending to you the report of expenses of the PCCMCA meeting in Campeche because Vilma and Salvador have not presented his reports yet to me. Mine I have it ready since I returned from the meeting, but I will send them in the same bundle of the courier.

I think that at the latest I send them to you in this week.

Best regards,

René Clará V.
INTSORMIL
Host Regional Coordinator

CENTA, Apdo. Postal 885,
San Salvador, El Salvador, C.A.
Tel. (503) 2302 0239 - (503) 7815 2238 cel.
Fax: (503) 2302 0239

E-mail 

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From: [Delroy Collins](#)
To: [Terry](#); [Bill](#); [Catherine](#); [Chad](#); [Dan](#); [Dustin](#); [George L Hodnett](#); [Karen Prihoda](#); [Leo](#); [Matt](#); [Michael](#); [Miguel](#); [Mohan](#); [Nilesh](#); [Payne](#); [Rebecca](#)
Cc: [Beto Garza](#)
Subject: trip to Weslaco
Date: Monday, November 09, 2009 10:52:50 AM

Everyone:

We need to make a trip to Weslaco for (1) putting on cloth bags on our bagged heads, and (2) help Robert and Wayne to harvest and process about 100 sweet plots. All plots are on the Hiler Farm. Beto says that birds are beginning to get into bagged heads and taking the seed. I am planning to leave early tomorrow morning and return on Friday at the latest. If you can make this trip, please let me know this afternoon. A group leaving on Wednesday would be ok also. Robert and Wayne will be helping us in putting on cloth bags, so there's a trade off on work. Sorry about the late notice, but I was informed of these this morning.

Mr. S. Delroy Collins, Research Associate
Sorghum Breeding and Genetics
Dept. of Soil & Crop Sciences
Texas A&M University
370 Olsen Blvd.
College Station, TX 77843
delroy@tamu.edu
(979) 845-2151

From: [Bryan Gentsch](mailto:Bryan.Gentsch@tamu.edu)
To: wlr@tamu.edu; b-bean@tamu.edu; ctrostle@ag.tamu.edu; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; dfromme@ag.tamu.edu; dbaltensperger@ag.tamu.edu; croptest@ag.tamu.edu; [REDACTED]; g-peterson1@tamu.edu; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; jblumenthal@ag.tamu.edu; kerry_mayfield@tamu.edu; mhussey@tamu.edu; sethmurray@neo.tamu.edu; t-isakeit@tamu.edu; td-miller@tamu.edu; [REDACTED]
Subject: TSTA Weekly Update October 1, 2009
Date: Thursday, October 01, 2009 9:07:20 AM
Attachments: [TSTA Weekly Update October 1, 2009.pdf](#)

Dear TSTA Friend,

Remember the deadline for room block reservations at the Hyatt Lost Pines is October 14th!

Attached please find the October 1, 2009 edition of the TSTA Weekly Update.

In this issue:

Sen. Grassley: Cap-and-Trade Climate Change Bill Unlikely This Year

More About the Roundup Ready Sugarbeet Ruling

Crop Progress: Only 37% of Corn is Mature, Five Year Average is 72%

Golden Acres Introduces Trait Value Calculator Connecting Farmers to a Digital Age

New Tool to Analyze Seed Test Plot Data Released

U.S. 2009/10 Rough-Rice Crop Forecast at 218.6 Million Cwt

NuFarm Enters Agreement to Be Acquired By SinoChem

Bryan J. Gentsch
Executive Vice President
Texas Seed Trade Association
P.O. Box 29987
Austin, TX 78755
Ph 512-944-5052

Bryan J. Gentsch, Ph.D.
Managing Director
Association Strategies
P.O. Box 685064
Austin, TX 78768-5064
Ph 512.458.8991
Cell 512.413.9766
www.associationstrategies.net

Texas Seed Trade Association

Weekly Update



October 1, 2009

CONVENTION NEWS

Great news concerning our upcoming Annual Convention! Mr. Jim Thrift, Vice President for Legislative & Regulatory Affairs, for the Agricultural Retailers Association in Washington, D.C. has confirmed as our guest speaker at the President's Breakfast on Tuesday morning November 17th. Jim serves on a large number of committees and panels representing agricultural interests with various agencies in D.C. including Homeland Security and the Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Thrift is a consummate D.C. insider, who happens to have started out as a California farm boy, who will share his insights about how and where we might expect the Obama Administration to direct policy that affects agriculture. Mr. Thrift possesses not just considerable insight but is a gifted communicator as well. Don't miss this!

As we reported last week Mr. Bob Treadway will be our primary General Session facilitator. Bob is one of very few true "futurists" to be found anywhere. Webster's defines "futurist" as: one who studies and predicts the future especially on the basis of current trends, 2: one who advocates or practices futurism. You need to come and participate in Bob's session so you don't get tired of hearing "You really missed it!" You will undoubtedly gain value working with Bob that you can use in your own business.

Remember too that Texas Agricultural Commissioner Todd Staples is playing golf with us on Monday morning November 16th and will share some insights with us at the golf luncheon. As of September 1, 2009 Commissioner Staples has statutory authority over the Texas State Seed & Plant Board and the importance of this board to our association cannot be overstated.

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Sen. Grassley: Cap-and-Trade Climate Change Bill Unlikely This Year

Sep. 30, 2009 source: Brownfield AgNews reports *Editor's note: this is an update on last week's lead story.*

A day after telling reporters that cap-and-trade climate change legislation was dead for the year, Republican Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa today says he's learned that Senate Environment and Public Works Chair Barbara Boxer is going to introduce a draft climate change bill in early October with tentative markup - minus the Senate Ag Committee's input.

"I've heard there might not be consideration by the committee. That there'll be just suggestion, changes in language. But I think we need to make sure that agriculture has one voice on this cap and trade legislation," says Grassley.

"If there's any segment of the American economy outside of utilities that could be hurt by a cap and trade bill it would be American agriculture."

Still, Grassley tells reporters that of the three hottest issues in Congress - health care, banking reform and cap & trade, he believes it's cap & trade that's the most controversial and least likely to come up on the Senate floor this year, "So I might suggest that the effort to push it through so fast through the House of Representatives might have done some harm to the possibility of getting cap and trade passed." The House bill narrowly passed before the Fourth of July recess.

And with next year being an election year, Grassley says he believes it would be difficult to pass cap & trade in 2010. Although Grassley says he's no expert on predicting how things will play out.

Grassley says he does believe Senate Ag Chairman Blanche Lincoln will want to be involved in the process, "I think with her practical approach and her new leadership that she would want to make sure she's got her handprint on this piece of legislation."

House Ag Chairman Collin Peterson took a strong stand on the House cap-and-trade bill, ensuring that ag provisions benefitting farmers were included.

More About the Roundup Ready Sugarbeet Ruling

September 29, 2009 source: Red River Network reports: *Editor's note: this is a continuation of a story that began last week.*

A federal U.S. court has ruled that USDA failed to prepare an environmental impact statement before deregulating Roundup Ready sugarbeets.

The ruling is a win for critics of biotech beets, including the Center for Food Safety, Organic Seed Alliance and the Sierra Club. About 1.1 million acres were seeded to Roundup Ready sugarbeets this year in the U.S., nearly 95 percent of the total beet acreage.

The U.S. District Court for the northern district of California ordered USDA to conduct a rigorous assessment of the environmental and economic impacts of Roundup Ready beets on farmers and the environment and will evaluate other remedies in a meeting of the parties next month.

American Sugarbeet Growers Association Executive Vice President Luther Markwart looks forward to the next phase in the legal proceeding. Markwart says the question of seed availability will be brought up during the remedy phase of the proceedings. "You've got 95 percent of North America using this new technology and planting the crop; clearly, the judge has to look at that."

What the court ruling means for sugarbeet growers at this point is unclear. "We really don't know yet; as of this stage, all that happened is the judge says USDA must go back and do an environmental impact statement," said American Crystal Sugar Company President and CEO David Berg, "The judge did not say, I repeat, did not say you can't plant Roundup Ready sugarbeets; there's another meeting in the court at the end of October and in that meeting they'll discuss that additional steps will be taken and the remedies phase of the case."

Regarding seed purchases, Berg says it is "business as normal."

Monsanto Manager of Public Relations Garrett Kasper sees no change in the status of Roundup Ready sugarbeets. Kasper says the ruling was between the plaintiff and the USDA. "The ruling itself wasn't about the sugarbeets, it was about the process involved that USDA needs to take further steps in the form of an environmental impact statement; the environmental assessment was submitted as part of the deregulation process, however, Judge White has seen it differently and has requested a full EIS."

Kasper says Monsanto is looking forward to the next phase of hearings that begins October 30th. "Up until now, it's been the merits phase and now we're going to enter into the remedies phase and this will give us an opportunity to work with growers and see distributors and the industry to be able to convey to the judge why this technology is so important to farmers."

Crop Progress: Only 37% of Corn is Mature, Five Year Average is 72%

Sep. 29, 2009 source: Browfield AgNews reports

After a slow start to planting, variable weather during the growing season and recent cool temperatures, corn development and maturity remain quite a bit behind the average pace.

As of Sunday, 90% of the crop has denting, compared to 97% on average, only 37% is mature, compared to 72% for the five year average and 5% is harvested, compared to 18% on average.

It's nearly the same story for soybeans with 63% dropping leaves, compared to the five year average of 77% and 5% harvested, compared to 18% on average.

However, both crops are still in better than a year ago condition with 68% of corn in good to excellent condition and 66% of soybeans rated in the good to excellent category.

Thirty-six percent of the winter wheat crop is planted, compared to 39% on average with 13% having emerged, compared to 14% for the five year average.

The spring wheat harvest is nearly complete at 94%.

Forty-eight percent of U.S. pastures and rangelands are in good to excellent shape, up 1% from last week and 7% more than last year.

Golden Acres Introduces Trait Value Calculator Connecting Farmers to a Digital Age

The thought of farmers calculating their potential yield income on an iPhone would have sounded like madness a decade ago. It's now become a reality.

Golden Acres has introduced the [Trait Value Calculator](#). Now anyone can compare Golden Acres' Genuity VT Triple Pro hybrids to double-stack or triple-stack hybrids, as well as to any competitor's seed. Input the actual unit price of seed and planted acres, and it provides an estimated return on investment based on each farmer's yield target, acreage, trait technology advantages and the current commodity price for corn. Using the new tool Golden Acres says farmers can get a good idea which seed will yield them the most money on their farm before they buy it.

It's a calculation process that could become complicated with pen and paper, but the Trait Value Calculator makes it clear and easy. The Trait Value Calculator can be easily utilized by clicking the icon on the Golden Acres home web-page or by visiting the App Store and searching Golden Acres to download it on your iPhone or iTouch. The increasing portability of technology has allowed Golden Acres to offer farmers an added advantage in choosing the corn hybrids that make the most financial sense for their situation. As agronomic decision-making gets more complex Golden Acres feels that the Trait Value Calculator represents an important additional tool that can add substantially to a grower's peace of mind. Click on the link above to give Trait Value Calculator a try.

New Tool to Analyze Seed Test Plot Data Released

Sep. 28, 2009 source: PLAN, Inc. news release

SeedMatrix is a web-based application that simplifies variety/hybrid data management for seed companies by enabling users to analyze a myriad of seed test plot data in a simple format.

Offered by PLAN, Inc., SeedMatrix currently handles variety/hybrid data on cotton, corn, soybeans, rice, wheat and sorghum. Other crops can be added as needed.

SeedMatrix represents a revolution in advanced seed comparison technology, according to the company's CEO, Dale Logan. "There's absolutely nothing like it," he says. "Our web-based program provides seed companies the ability to access real time data updates on the internet to use internally. If seed companies are struggling with how to handle their internal test plot data, this service solves that problem, obsolescing whatever they're using today."

Other benefits include the automatic addition of public official variety trial (OVT) data. Each seed company no longer has to laboriously track down and standardize public data from multiple sources.

"Seed companies just send us their internal plot data and we import it into their database-along with pertinent public data," Logan explains. "We standardize all the data. You now have the ability to view only your data, only public data, or a composite of the two. This service benefits the smaller regional-type seed companies as well as global corporations; our clients are representative of both of those categories."

SeedMatrix can analyze the data to find the best varieties/hybrids based on multiple criteria selections, including geography, soil texture, irrigation type, as well as technology traits. For example, when it analyzes a specific variety/hybrid geographically, color coded data points are plotted on Google Maps to

vividly illustrate a variety/hybrid's strengths and weaknesses, based on its performance where it was tested.

Clients can perform numerous comparisons with their varieties/hybrids versus their competitors. "The user-friendly design enables seed companies to easily access point-and-click variety/hybrid comparisons," Logan says. "The program also customizes reports. Once the user finds a desired comparison, the software can print or email a personalized brochure or sales sheet that has been designed by the client's marketing department."

SeedMatrix also runs on the BlackBerry or iPhone. "For example, say a client's sales rep is on the turnrow and finds out that a grower or consultant is thinking about planting a competitive variety/hybrid," Logan says. "The rep can whip out his phone, run a quick comparison and show how his product outperforms a competitor's. The report can also be emailed to the grower or consultant directly from the phone."

The latest innovative web security safeguards are implemented to ensure that only the client can access his encrypted data. All data is secured and backed up. Each user has a user name and password that is linked to the client's data. Clients control and create infinite user names and passwords for their employees/customers.

PLAN, Inc. is headquartered in Collierville, Tennessee. Its CEO, Dale Logan, has been involved in data management for more than 20 years.

For more information about SeedMatrix and other PLAN, Inc. innovations, go to www.SeedMatrix.com or call or email Dale Logan at 901.277.6764 or [REDACTED]

U.S. 2009/10 Rough-Rice Crop Forecast at 218.6 Million Cwt

September 28, 2009 source: USDA

This month USDA raised the 2009/10 U.S. rough-rice crop forecast 4 percent to 218.6 million cwt, primarily due to a higher area estimate. At almost 3.13 million acres, rice plantings are up 107,000 acres from the June survey. The average field yield is projected at 7,051 pounds per acre, up 12 pounds from last month's forecast. By class, the long-grain production forecast was raised almost 2 percent to 152.8 million cwt, while the combined medium/short-grain production forecast was raised 8 percent to 65.8 million cwt.

Total U.S. supplies of rice in 2009/10 are projected at 270.1 million cwt, up 15.2 million from last month. At 30.4 million cwt, carryin is 34 percent larger than last month's forecast. Imports remain projected at 21.0 million cwt, the second highest on record.

Total use of U.S. rice in 2009/10 is projected at 225.5 million cwt, down 5.5 million cwt from last month's forecast. U.S. exports are projected at 96.0 million cwt, down 3 percent from last month's forecast. Total domestic and residual use was lowered 2.5 million cwt to 129.5 million. The U.S. 2009/10 ending stocks forecast was raised 87 percent from last month to 44.6 million cwt. Forecasts for both long- and combined medium/short-grain ending stocks were raised this month. The 2009/10 season-average farm price (SAFP) remains projected at \$13.65-\$14.65 per cwt, down from the year-earlier revised estimate of \$16.80 per cwt.

The global production forecast for 2009/10 is virtually unchanged from last month at 433.5 million tons (milled basis). Reductions for Pakistan, Japan, North Korea, and Taiwan were offset by larger forecasts for the Philippines and the United States. This month's global stocks forecast for 2009/10 was raised 1 percent from last month to 84.9 million tons, down 4.5 million tons from 2008/09. The U.S. and Vietnam account for most of the upward revision.

The 2009/10 U.S. rough-rice crop is forecast at 218.6 million cwt, up almost 4 percent from last month's forecast and more than 7 percent larger than last year. This month's upward revision is primarily due to a higher area estimate. At almost 3.13 million acres, rice plantings are up 107,000 acres from the June survey and more than 4 percent larger than last year. The average field yield is projected at 7,051 pounds per acre, up 12 pounds from last month's forecast and 205 pounds above the 2008/09 average field.

By class, the long-grain production forecast was raised almost 2 percent to 152.8 million cwt, virtually unchanged from a year earlier. Combined medium/shortgrain production is forecast at 65.8 million cwt, up 8 percent from last month's forecast and more than 30 percent larger than a year earlier. In 2009/10, the share of the U.S. medium/short-grain crop planted in the South is larger than last year.

Area estimates were raised this month for Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and **Texas**. Estimated plantings were raised 55,000 acres from the June survey for both Arkansas and Louisiana. Missouri's 2009/10 area estimate was raised 6,000 acres and the **Texas** estimate was raised 1,000 acres. In contrast, the planting estimate for California was lowered 10,000 acres. The Mississippi area estimate was unchanged. Average yield forecasts were raised this month for **Texas** and California and lowered for Mississippi. The **Texas** yield was raised 400 pounds per acre. Other yield revisions were much smaller.

For the complete report please go to:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1285>

NuFarm Enters Agreement to Be Acquired By SinoChem

Sep. 30, 2009 source: NuFarm news release

Editors note: NuFarm has recently acquired at least one Texas Seed Trade Association member company

Nufarm Limited (Nufarm), world headquarters Laverton, Australia, U.S. headquarters Burr Ridge, IL, today announced that it has entered into a Heads of Agreement with Sinochem Corporation (Sinochem) in relation to a non-binding proposal for Sinochem to acquire all of the issued ordinary shares in Nufarm by way of a scheme of arrangement for a price of \$13.00 per ordinary share (the Proposed Acquisition).

Nufarm has declared a final dividend in respect of the year ended 31 July 2009 of \$0.15 per ordinary share. The proposed acquisition price of \$13.00 per ordinary share will not be reduced by the amount of this dividend.

The Heads of Agreement provides for Nufarm to work with Sinochem for a period ending 3 December 2009 (unless terminated earlier) on an exclusive basis to negotiate a Transaction Implementation Agreement. This includes a five week period in which Sinochem will undertake due diligence on Nufarm.

The execution of a Transaction Implementation Agreement is subject to Sinochem being satisfied with

the results of its due diligence enquiries and approval by Sinochem and the Nufarm Board.

Consequently, there is no certainty that a Transaction Implementation Agreement will be executed.

If a Transaction Implementation Agreement is executed, the Nufarm Board intends to unanimously recommend the Proposed Acquisition, in the absence of a superior proposal and subject to an independent expert finding that the proposed scheme is in the best interests of Nufarm shareholders.

The Transaction Implementation Agreement would be subject, among other things, to Australian (including FIRB) and Chinese regulatory approvals, Nufarm shareholder approval and court approval.

In accordance with the terms of issue of the Nufarm Step- p Securities (NSS), if the Proposed Acquisition is approved by the Court, Nufarm will have the option to redeem the NSS for cash in accordance with the NSS terms of issue. If the Proposed Acquisition is approved by the Court, the holders of NSS may also request redemption of their NSS for cash in accordance with the NSS terms of issue.

About Sinochem

Sinochem is a Beijing based state-owned enterprise with core businesses in agriculture, chemicals and energy. Sinochem is the leading fertilizer, crop protection and seeds company in China and generates revenues in these businesses of more than US\$4 billion.

From: [Blair Fannin](#)
To: [Juerg Blumenthal](#); [Jeff Gwyn](#); [Edith Chenault](#); [Brenda Bridges](#); [Nael El-Hout](#); [Russell Jessup](#); [Ron Lacey](#); [Steve Searcy](#); [Sergio C Capareda](#); [Travis Miller](#); [Bill L Rooney](#)
Cc: [Adam Helms](#); [Bob Avant](#); [Ed Smith](#); [Kendra Zak](#); [Larry Boleman](#); [Marty Dickman](#); [Mark A Hussey](#); [Shay Simpson](#); [Bill A Dugas](#)
Subject: Tx AgriLife Research Media Tour-Clips
Date: Friday, August 07, 2009 8:32:29 AM
Attachments: [080709agtour2_w300.jpg](#)
[080709agtour1_w301.jpg](#)
[banner_shot.jpg](#)
[cropmeeting.jpg](#)

All - I wanted to thank each of you for an incredible showcase yesterday depicting the various bioenergy research projects as part of Texas AgriLife Research.

We had numerous media that covered the event here at the College Station tour from both the U.S., internationally. That group included Popular Mechanics' reporter Jennifer Bogo from New York.

I will forward you news clips as they become available. Below this email is the early morning cycle of clips.

Again, thanks to all of you for your hard work and making this event a success.

I look forward to working with you again in the very near future.

Regards,
Blair Fannin

Blair L. Fannin

Associate News Editor, Media Relations
Texas AgriLife Research,
AgriLife Communications
(979) 845-2259
(979) 845-2414 fax
b-fannin@tamu.edu

.MP3 Audio of Bob Avant interview,
WTAW 1620, College Station:
http://wtaw.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1978:agri-life-research-hosts-international-media-day&catid=1:local&Itemid=13

First part of a continuing series of stories on Texas AgriLife Research Bioenergy that will run all next week.

Texas AgriLife Research took a group of about 60 media representatives and professors on a tour of Texas A&M farmland in Burleson County Thursday.

Throughout the course of the day we had the chance to talk with Bill Rooney, Travis Miller and Sergio Capareda about their research into bioenergy.

A&M farms thousands of acres in Burleson County alone, and they have Agri Life research facilities in 13 locations across Texas.

The annual Agri Life budget is \$190 million, with \$30 million of that committed to bioenergy research.

In our interviews from the media event we learn more about sorghum, sawgrass, potential plant oils to replace soybeans for fuel purposes and the possible future of energy from the farm instead of the Middle East.



The international media event drew reporters from Texas, Mississippi, Oregon, Popular Mechanics magazine sent a reporter from New York and the international press included representatives from Finland, Slovakia, Canada, Belgium, Holland and the Netherlands.

We'll highlight these stories over the next few days here on wtaw.com and during the local newscasts on News Talk 1620 WTAW.

The Bryan-College Station Eagle:

AgriLife showcases efforts

<http://www.theeagle.com/local/AgriLife-showcases-efforts>

By VIMAL PATEL



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Alex Klattshoff harvests stalks of energy sorghum to be analyzed at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Eagle photo/Stuart Ymanueva bioenergy program Thursday.



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Robert Avant Jr., director of the bioenergy program, leads a tour through a sorghum field.
Eagle photo/Stuart Villanueva

Bill Rooney, a plant scientist and Texas A&M associate professor, gripped two types of sorghum as he explained how cutting-edge breeding of the two led to the creation of the towering 12-foot-tall sorghum behind him. The grass species serves as feedstock for bioenergy production.

The explanation came in a field next to F.M. 60 outside College Station as Texas AgriLife researchers showed off the agency's ground-level bioenergy research to a group of reporters Thursday. The tour snaked through the nearby Texas A&M Research Farm and included a demonstration of a cotton module builder that lifted a five-ton stack of chopped sorghum. The machine showed how large amounts of the feedstock could be stored and hauled.

"We need to have a diverse energy program in our country," said Robert Avant Jr., director of the AgriLife Research bioenergy program. "Bioenergy is just one of the tools in our energy toolbox."

He noted that even a 15 percent shift in consumption to biofuels would wean the country off Middle Eastern oil. That's the percentage of U.S. oil imported from the region, he said.

Texas AgriLife Research is based in College Station, but its 13 centers span Texas, and the state agency with a \$170 million budget employs 1,700 people.

It studies agriculture, natural resources and the life sciences. It is one of seven state agencies within the Texas A&M University System, which also includes 11 universities and a health science center.

The group -- which included agricultural journalists from Finland, Holland and Belgium -- also heard about switchgrass. Like energy sorghum, it can be converted into biofuel, but the bushy grass also grows perennially.

Also during the tour, Ron Lacey, a biological and agricultural engineering professor, described efforts to turn microscopic organisms -- including algae -- into diesel oil. The process is possible, but the fuel would cost about \$20 a gallon. He hopes that engineering advances can slice that to near \$2.

"It's not going to happen next year, but hopefully in my lifetime," the 54-year-old said. "Nobody's going to pay \$20 for diesel fuel, and I don't expect them to ... but it's not going to [get to \$2] unless we do the research."

Blair L. Fannin

Associate News Editor, Media Relations
Texas AgriLife Research,
AgriLife Communications
(979) 845-2259
(979) 845-2414 fax
b-fannin@tamu.edu



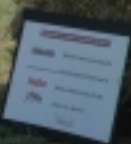




AgriLIFE RESEARCH
Texas A&M System



Biofuels Program:
From Field to Fuel Tank



Small informational sign with text and logos, partially obscured by the hay bale.



From: [Anna J Fox](#)
To: [undisclosed-recipients:](#)
Subject: Undergrad Computer Lab
Date: Monday, August 24, 2009 11:14:09 AM
Attachments: [UNDERGRAD COMPUTER LAB USERS.doc](#)

Hi Everyone,

Attached is a handout for students using our undergrad computer lab in room 112.

We now have more stringent access rules because of the ISAAC audit.

Please share with any professors using the lab.

Thank you.

Tami Hons
Communications Coordinator
Soil & Crop Sciences Department
Texas A&M University
t-hons@tamu.edu

370 Olsen Blvd | College Station, TX 77843.2474

Tel. 979.458.4044 | Fax. 979.845.0456

<http://soilcrop.tamu.edu>

Welcome To Aggieland

UNDERGRAD COMPUTER LAB USERS

Soil & Crop Sciences Department

All students using Undergrad Computer Lab must have the following:

1. A NetID

<http://gateway.tamu.edu/>

2. Their NetID account ACTIVATED (if not already activated)

<https://services.tamu.edu/netid-activate/>

3. Their OPEN ACCESS LAB ACTIVATED (allows students to use any Open Access Lab on Campus)

<https://oalinfo.tamu.edu/Account/ContentPages/Login.aspx>

From: [Delroy Collins](#)
To: [Bill](#)
Subject: updated 09 WF file
Date: Monday, August 10, 2009 2:17:33 PM
Attachments: [09WF Nursery.xls](#)

Mr. S. Delroy Collins, Research Associate
Sorghum Breeding and Genetics
Dept. of Soil & Crop Sciences
Texas A&M University
370 Olsen Blvd.
College Station, TX 77843
delroy@tamu.edu
(979) 845-2151

From: [Jones, Brenda A.](#)
To: [REDACTED]; [Bill Rooney](#)
Cc: [Jones, Brenda A.](#)
Subject:

Date: Wednesday, September 09, 2009 9:29:42 AM
Attachments: [TAMC004asg.pdf](#)
[TAMC004USDec.pdf](#)
[TAMC005USAsg.pdf](#)
[TAMC005USDec.pdf](#)
[TAMC006USP1Asg.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Respectfully,

*Brenda Jones
The Texas A&M University System
Office of Technology Commercialization
3369 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-3369*

*979-862-4547 direct
979-845-1402 fax*

From: Jones, Brenda A.
Sent: Monday, August 31, 2009 10:44 AM
To: Bill Rooney; 'George L Hodnett'; 'Stelly_David'; 'Keerti Rathore'; [REDACTED]
Cc: Jones, Brenda A.
Subject:

Importance: High

*The Texas A&M University System
Office of Technology Commercialization
3369 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-3369*

*979-862-4547 direct
979-845-1402 fax*

From: Hanson, Robert E [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2009 1:47 PM
To: Jones, Brenda A.
Cc: Schmitt, Brian C.; Hurley, Janie C.; Toney, Charlotte; Bailey, Patricia
Subject:

████████████████████

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|

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From: [Ron Lacey](#)
To: [Ron Lacey](#); [Sergio Capareda](#); [Raghupathy Karthikeyan](#); [Cady Engler](#); [Nikolov, Zivko](#); [Steve Searcy](#); [Alex Thomasson](#); [Calvin Parnell](#); [Mark Holtzapple](#); [Patricia Klein](#); [Bill Rooney](#); [Dirk Hays](#); [Travis Miller](#); [Don Vietor](#); [Joshua Yuan](#); [Kalyan Annamalai](#); [Karen Vierow](#); [Pavel Tsvetkov](#); [John Ford](#); [Gioia Falcone](#); [Peter Valko](#); [Anhmad Ghassemi](#); [Hisham Nasr-El-Din](#); [Sukesh Aghara](#); [Kim Jones](#); [Patrick Mills](#); [Jean Escudero](#)
Cc: [Christine Economides](#)
Subject: URGENT: Volunteers needed for IGERT Committees
Date: Wednesday, September 02, 2009 11:20:04 AM
Attachments: [ron-lacey.vcf](#)

Greetings,

I have been tasked with requesting volunteers for initial assignment to the various IGERT committees outlined below. Note that this is for the proposal, which has not yet been funded, so what I am requesting is to agree to serve on a committee that might exist in the future. For our focus group, listed below, committee members will serve an initial 2-year term.

If you are willing to serve an initial term on one of these committees, please reply to me with your preference by the end of this week (Sept 4). Please don't make me beg.

Thanks,

Ron

Focus Group 2 – Ron Lacey Focus Group Leader

Bioenergy: Ronald Lacey, Bio&Ag Eng–Track Leader

Chem. Eng: Mark Holtzapple;

Bio&Ag Eng: Sergio Capareda, Karthi Karthikeyan, Cady Engler, Zivko Nikolov, Steve Searcy, Alex Thomasson, Calvin Parnell, Jr.;

Hort Sci: Patricia Klein;

Soil & Crop Sciences: Bill Rooney, Dirk Hays, Travis Miller, Don Vietor;

Plant Path & Microbiol: Joshua Yuan;

Mech Eng: Kalyan Annamalai;

TAMUK Env Eng: Kim Jones;

TAMUK Chem E: Patrick Mills;

TAMUK Bio: Jean Escudero

Nuclear Energy: Sukesh Aghara, PVAMU Chem Eng-Track Leader

Nuclear Eng: Karen Vierow, Pavel Tsvetkov, John Ford

Geothermal Energy: Gioia Falcone, Petrol Engr –Track Leader

Petr Eng: Hisham Nasreldin, Ahmad Ghassemi, Peter Valko

The committees are:

The **Trainee Selection Committee** will prepare a document describing the trainee selection criteria and a formal process for trainee selection. This committee will also prepare the trainee application form and will work with the Recruiting and Pathways Director and the IGERT-ESE Administrative Assistant to develop the recruiting program.

The **Training Coordination Committee** will develop formative and summative mechanisms to monitor the effectiveness of the curriculum and other facets of the trainee experience to ensure continuous improvements in the overall training program. This committee will also actively look for opportunities for complementary doctoral programs and monitor their progress. It will also supervise the mentoring process.

The **Annual Symposium Committee** will establish the symposium date, location, program, speaker invitations, and sponsors. This will be an opportunity for IGERT trainees and faculty to share research progress and results. The meeting format may include formal presentations, informal discussions, poster presentations, and social networking. It may also include invited presentations from collaborating researchers or other IGERT programs according to the decisions of this committee.

The **Partner Universities Committee** will consist of the PI, coordinators from PVAMU and TAMU, and Recruiting and Pathways Director. This committee will teleconference as needed to coordinate communications among the PUs. Of particular importance will be recruiting and research coordination and remote access to seminars and committee meetings, attract undergraduates to TAMU REU and other summer research programs designed to facilitate graduate student recruiting. Further, this committee will follow progress of pre-IGERT Fellows located in partner universities and facilitate involvement of professors from the PUs on trainee committees.

The **National Laboratory Relations Committee** will work to establish or reinforce relationships with national labs regarding trainee internships and placement upon graduation, membership on the IGERT-ESE advisory board, collaboration opportunities, and project funding. The **Industry Relations Committee** will have the same objectives, but as they apply to private industry. These committees will work together to organize meetings twice a year of the IGERT-ESE **Advisory Board** (IAB) consisting of recruited national lab and industry members.

The **Annual Retreat Committee** will establish the retreat date, location, program, and sponsors.

The **Monthly Seminar Committee** will develop the monthly seminar program, which will target a rotation among the research themes and among the various research tracks. Seminar speakers can be IGERT-ESE faculty or trainees, or they may be outside speakers a track would like to bring. In addition, this committee will work on ways to encourage less formal brownbag lunch meetings on a more frequent basis.

The **International Relations Committee** will ensure MOAs are established to enable international exchanges to be supported by IGERT-ESE. This committee will also establish criteria for selecting trainees for international exchange and will work with the recruiting effort to institutionalize the exchanges as an international component of IGERT-ESE, making this element a visible attraction for trainee applicants.

From: [Avant, Bob](#)
To: dbaltensperger@ag.tamu.edu; riskowski@tamu.edu; s-searcy@tamu.edu; [Bill Rooney](#); jblumenthal@ag.tamu.edu; [Capareda, Sergio](#)
Cc: bmccutchen@tamu.edu; r-lacewell@tamu.edu; shay-simpson@tamu.edu
Subject: USAF AFRL Executive Summary
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2009 8:51:16 AM
Attachments: [USAF.doc](#)

Attached is a draft executive summary intended for distribution to the USAF AFRL (Wright Pat AFB, Ohio). This is a result of participation (Searcy, Lacewell, Fernando, Outlaw, Avant) in the USAF Biofuels Summit back in September. Shay Simpson is also leading an effort on a companion executive summary on oilseeds production which the USAF views as an immediate priority.

I realize this is the first time many of you have heard about this, but this may be an opportunity to engage the USAF AFRL. Most of you have seen versions of this in other incarnations, but I added a new task on preprocessing which I think will be crucial. Your comments and edits are appreciated.

David and Gary, please suggest additional faculty if you think they would add to the depth of the project.

Ron, should we add an economics task?

Bob Avant
Program Director
Texas AgriLife Research
979/845-2908
512/422-6171 (Cell)
bavant@tamu.edu
<http://agbioenergy.tamu.edu>

From: [Vice Chancellors Office](#)
To: [Vice Chancellors Office](#)
Subject: Volunteers solicited to serve as University Hosts during Borlaug Memorial Tribute
Date: Monday, September 21, 2009 1:13:53 PM
Attachments: [Hosts for Borlaug Memorial.pdf](#)

Please forward to faculty and staff as appropriate.

September 21, 2009

Attached please find a memorandum providing information for those interested in serving as University hosts for visitors to the Norman Borlaug Memorial Tribute. For any additional information, please contact Ms. Patricia Gerling at 979.845.4756 or p-gerling@tamu.edu.

Thanks,

Mark A. Hussey
Vice Chancellor & Dean
Agriculture and Life Sciences

Phone: (979) 845-4747
vcoffice@ag.tamu.edu