

North Dakota Welcomes
You to...

NASDA 2008

“Strength from the Soil”



Program Highlights

- US Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer
- Tours highlighting sustainable agriculture, manufacturing and energy
- Historical visits and entertainment
- And much more...



The NASDA gavel changed hands
in September 2007...



...and it has been an exciting year!



NASDA Officers

- *Roger Johnson, ND* President
- *Ron Sparks, AL* President-elect
- *Michael Scuse, DE* Vice President
- *Leonard Blackham, UT* Secretary-Treasurer
- *Gene Hugoson, MN* Past President
- *Katy Coba, OR* At-Large
- *Philip Prelli, CT* Northeastern Region
- *Terry Peach, OK* Southern Region
- *Robert Boggs, OH* Midwestern Region
- *A.G. Kawamura, CA* Western Region



NASDA Highlights

- Congressional Testimony
 - Bronson on ag inspection – 10/07
 - Givens on freeze/drought damage – 11/07
 - Johnson on rail competition – 4/08
- Appointments
 - Kawamura – USDA Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee
 - Blackham – EPA Ag Advisory Committee



NASDA Highlights

- Mid-year meeting - policy/action on:
 - Cuba Trade
 - Carbon Markets
 - Food programs/local producers
 - Pesticide Cancellation
 - Ag Transportation
 - Rail Reforms
- Global Food & Style Expo (First time)
- NRA Show (New focus)
- November trip to China
- Tri-National Accord



Farm Bill Highlights

- 2008 Farm Bill
 - Many of NASDA's recommendations part of final package
 - Major victories on:
 - Interstate Meat Shipment
 - Country of Origin Labeling
 - Permanent Disaster Program
 - Fruits and Vegetables



Farm Bill Highlights

Interstate Meat Shipment

- Consumer groups place misleading national ads
- NASDA and other affiliates respond
- Deal is reached on farm bill language (10/08)
- New provisions part of final farm bill package



Would You Like Your Hamburger With E. Coli or Without?

For more than 100 years, USDA has been working to keep us safe from deadly diseases caused by contaminated meat.

Now meat and poultry interests want to allow meat processors to avoid federal inspections. They just convinced the U.S. House to open new loopholes that could keep federal inspectors out of thousands of meat processing plants.

Having weaker inspections is the wrong move for American consumers, particularly when food safety is more important than ever. USDA just announced that a meat processing plant is recalling its hamburger products because they may be contaminated with E.coli. You can check out www.fsfs.usda.gov/Fsfs_Recalls to learn more.

We should be working to strengthen federal inspection of meat and poultry—not going backward.

Please call your Senators at (202) 224-3121. Tell them to keep our meat *federally* inspected.

Protect Food Safety. Keep Federal Inspections.

Paid for by American Federation of Government Employees and Consumer Federation of America.

Organizations in Coalition:
Consumer Federation of America • Food & Water Watch • S.T.O.P. – Safe Tables Our Priority
AFGE • AFL-CIO • United Food & Commercial Workers



Farm Bill Highlights

Country of Origin Labeling

- Covers animal meats; perishable commodities, fruits and vegetables; and nuts.
- Interim rule goes into effect – September 30, 2008.



Farm Bill Highlights

Permanent Disaster Program Principles

- Must not undermine crop insurance/NAP
 - Mandatory linkage with insurance/NAP
 - Reward higher insurance protection
- Must reflect whole-farm losses
- Insurance/disaster revenue must not exceed normal projected production revenue
- Must include livestock provisions



Farm Bill Highlights

Permanent Disaster Program

Subject to USDA implementation rules

- Authorized for crop years 2008-2011
- Whole farm revenue-based for crop losses
- Livestock indemnity program for death losses
- Hay considered crop for disaster program
- Assistance for forage drought losses
- Tree assistance
- Livestock, Honeybee and Catfish assistance



Farm Bill Highlights

Fruits and Vegetables

- \$33 million for direct producer to consumer marketing and Farmers Market Promotion
- \$230 billion for specialty crop research
- \$400 million for pest and disease control
- \$466 million for Specialty Crop Block Grants
- Permanent Disaster Program protection



Farm Bill Highlights

Commodity Title

- Maintains Core Safety Net Programs
- New Counter-Cyclical Program Option (ACRE)
- Reforms Payment Limits
- Rebalances Target Prices and Loan Rates
- Spending reduced



Farm Bill Highlights

Conservation Title

- Total increased spending of \$4 billion
 - Extends Conservation Reserve Program
 - Environmental Quality Incentives Program
 - Wetlands Reserve Program
 - Conservation Security Program



Farm Bill Highlights

Energy Title

- \$1 billion for new technologies and feedstocks
 - Loan guarantees for advanced feedstocks
 - Creates Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)
 - Biomass Research and Development Program
 - Bioenergy Program
 - Biomass Crop Assistance Program
 - Sugar-to-Ethanol Program
 - Biobased Markets Program
 - Biodiesel Education Program



Farm Bill Highlights

Other Titles

- Nutrition Title
 - Additional \$10.361 billion invested in nutrition
 - Virtually all spending over baseline is for nutrition
- Credit Title
 - Increases loan limits to \$300 thousand
 - Prioritizes socially disadvantaged and beginning farmer programs
- Research Title
 - Additional \$690 million in mandatory and discretionary funding
 - Reorganizes USDA research offices
 - Priority organic and specialty crop research



Farm Bill Highlights

Other Titles

- Horticulture/Organic Title
 - \$22 million for organic certification cost-share
 - \$5 million for organic data collection
 - High priority research for bee colony collapse
 - \$466 million for Specialty Crop Grant program
- Livestock Title
 - Mandatory COOL for meat and produce
 - Strengthens contract dispute arbitration rights
 - Interstate shipment of state inspected meat and poultry



Farm Bill Highlights

- Good farm bill – NASDA’s efforts paid off!
- Implementation still ahead
 - Some efforts already to undermine provisions
 - Amendments via appropriations
 - Regulations need monitoring
- NASDA needs to provide input at every opportunity!



A Year of Transition

- Retirement of CEO Rick Kirchoff
- Hiring of CEO Stephen Haterius
- Evaluating NASDA program priorities
 - Current program activities
 - Legislative activities
- Budget priorities
 - Proposed dues increase
 - Other budget adjustments



Thank you for making this a
successful year for NASDA!

***Thank you for allowing
me to serve as your
President!***





NASDA
National Association of
State Departments
of Agriculture