

# About the Sorghum Checkoff

## Sorghum Promotion, Research & Information Program

The Sorghum Promotion, Research and Information Program, which is commonly known as the United Sorghum Checkoff Program, was established in 2008 under the Commodity Promotion, Research and Information Act of 1996.

The United Sorghum Checkoff Program is governed by the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, which oversees more than 20 national research and promotion programs serving a variety of commodity industries.

## Sorghum Checkoff Assessment

The United Sorghum Checkoff Program is a 100 percent farmer-funded program to increase producer profitability through research, promotion and education.

An assessment of 0.6 percent of the net market value per bushel of grain sorghum (and 0.35 percent of the net market value of forage sorghum) is collected by the first purchaser to which a farmer sells the grain.

## How to Calculate the Sorghum Checkoff Assessment

*Grain assessment = Net Market Value x .006*

*Forage assessment = Net Market Value X .0035*

This may be an elevator, ethanol plant or livestock operation. For forages, collection only occurs on forages sold.

## For More Information

For more information on how the checkoff works, visit [SorghumCheckoff.com](http://SorghumCheckoff.com).



For more information on how you can become involved as a United Sorghum Checkoff Program board member, visit [SorghumCheckoff.com](http://SorghumCheckoff.com), or contact the Sorghum Checkoff office directly through the contact information listed below.

You can also contact the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service Office of Outreach at 202-690-0487 to find out how you can get involved on commodity research and promotion program boards.

## United Sorghum Checkoff Program

4201 North Interstate 27

Lubbock, Texas 79403

800-643-8727 toll free

806-687-8727

806-749-9002 fax

[www.SorghumCheckoff.com](http://www.SorghumCheckoff.com)



# REPRESENT

*the industry you love*

Shape the future of the sorghum industry as a United Sorghum Checkoff Program board member



# USCP Board of Directors

The United Sorghum Checkoff Program is led by a board of directors comprised of 13 U.S. sorghum farmers.

The board makeup includes:

- Five seats for the largest sorghum-producing state
- Three seats for the second largest sorghum-producing state
- One seat for the third largest sorghum-producing state
- Four at-large national positions from any sorghum-producing state other than the top three producing states.

## How does a farmer become a board member?

To become a member of the United Sorghum Checkoff Program board of directors, a farmer must first be nominated by a Certified Producer Organization (CPO), and then appointed by the USDA Secretary of Agriculture.

## CPOs\* and QSOs† include:

Arkansas Corn and Grain Sorghum Board\*†

Colorado Sorghum Producers Association\*†

Kansas Farm Bureau\*

Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission\*†

Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association\*

Kentucky Small Grain Growers Association†

Louisiana Soybean and Grain Research & Promotion Board†

National Black Growers Council\*

National Sorghum Producers\*

Nebraska Grain Sorghum Producers Association\*

Nebraska Grain Sorghum Board\*†

Nebraska Farm Bureau\*

New Mexico Sorghum Association\*†

Oklahoma Sorghum Commission\*†

Oklahoma Sorghum Association\*

South Dakota Corn Growers Association\*

South Dakota Farm Bureau\*

South Dakota Farmers Union\*

Texas Farm Bureau\*

Texas Grain Sorghum Association\*

Texas Grain Sorghum Board\*†

U.S. Grains Council\*

# Board Member Expectations

The United Sorghum Checkoff Program board of directors is charged with the task of identifying the most pressing issues facing the sorghum industry and working to develop solutions to improve the industry.

The board of directors also works to implement its strategic model, which involves a dynamic relationship between demand and productivity enhancements that will allow for increased producer profitability, which can result in acreage increases.

As a board member, you will:

- Attend three meetings per year (6-15 days)
- Receive reimbursement for travel costs
- Help direct how assessment money is spent
- Protect the industry's reputation
- Collaborate and network with stakeholders and board members from across the sorghum industry
- Develop personal leadership and communication skills
- Serve on committees within the board to focus industry priorities



## Board Member Eligibility

A person is eligible to be nominated for the United Sorghum Checkoff Program board of directors if he/she is a U.S. sorghum grower. The Sorghum Checkoff prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability and, where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program.

Representation and nominations to the board are outlined in the *Sorghum Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Final Rule in Establishment of Representation and Nominations*. As outlined in these provisions, CPOs and the Secretary of Agriculture have the ultimate authority and responsibility of submitting and approving nominations to the board. As such, the Sorghum Checkoff serves in an advisory capacity in providing information and education to potential leaders, as well as CPOs.