

Sunflower

Highlights

May 11, 2015



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NOMINATIONS FOR NSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS BEING ACCEPTED

The National Sunflower Association is looking for one new board member. BASF has held a board seat for the past 12 years; their term will end in July. The position is open to all regular members of the NSA. We are taking nominations for the position. Our bylaws entitle board members to serve up to four three-year terms. Email nominations to Tina Mittelsteadt at tinam@sunflowernsa.com. Nominations should be emailed by Friday, May 22. If you have questions, call Tina at 701-328-5138.

SUNFLOWER PLANTING POINTERS

With sunflower planting just around the corner, paying attention to planter calibration and planter speed can go a long way to achieving a successful, uniform sunflower stand. Check out the top ten sunflower planting pointers at this link: www.sunflowernsa.com/magazine/details.asp?ID=286&Cat=16.

REGISTER ONLINE FOR 2015 SUMMER SEMINAR

June will be here before we know it, so register now for the 2015 NSA Summer Seminar, which will be held June 23-25 at Madden's Resort in Brainerd, MN. You can register online at www.sunflowernsa.com/events. You will find hotel information and a tentative schedule for the event there as well. See you in Minnesota!

www.sunflowernsa.com

NSA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Anyone requesting a special accommodation should notify NSA within a reasonable time frame. NSA will accommodate reasonable requests.

Markets

CBoT soybean oil futures rallied early last week on concerns about a strike by workers at crushing plants in Argentina. There was fear that it could spread to ports and this helped to spur buying in oil futures. The rally in oil values did lose some steam after a drop in crude petroleum oil prices. The drop in crude oil was considered a little bearish for biodiesel use. Favorable US weather offered resistance to oilseed prices as well. Recent rains across the Midwest are expected to help US 2015 crop conditions. Warmer and drier weather is forecasted for this week. On May 12 USDA will give their first estimate of US and World Supply and Demand. The trade is expecting world and US 2015/16 soybean carryout stocks to show an increase versus this year's levels. On the plus side a drop in the dollar was supportive to US crops as it might help them be more cost competitive with foreign supplies. Overall market attention will continue to be on events in South America, US weather and planting progress in the Midwest.

NSA SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE THIS WEEK

The deadline to apply for the Curtis Stern Memorial Scholarship is this week. Applications are due by Friday, May 15, 2015. This year's scholarship is \$4,500. Funds assist students who study in the field of agriculture with special emphasis on sunflower production, promotion, or research. Preference will be given to students who are in their last two years of undergraduate studies or in graduate level studies and have maintained at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA on a 4.0=A scale. The scholarship is a tribute to the dedicated work of Curtis Stern, an industry advocate, and former NSA board member. Applications can be submitted directly from the ND Community Foundation website at www.ndcf.net/Scholarships/entryform.asp?id=65. Contact Tina Mittelsteadt at tinam@sunflowernsa.com with any further questions.