

2011-2012 SPONSORS

\$20,000+

Cal/West Seeds
Dairyland Seed Company
DuPont Pioneer
Forage Genetics International
Monsanto

\$10,000 - \$19,999

America's Alfalfa
CA Alfalfa Seed Prod. Research Brd.
CROPLAN GENETICS®
DEKALB®
Hay & Forage Grower
NEXGROW
WA Alfalfa Seed Commission
W-L Research

\$5,000 - \$9,999

ID Alfalfa & Clover Seed Comm.
John Deere
Producer's Choice
S&W Seed Co.
Summit Seed Coatings
Western Ag Enterprises
WY Alfalfa Seed Council

\$1,500 - \$4,999

J.R. Simplot
MacDon Industries Ltd.
Midwest Forage Association
MT Alfalfa Seed Committee
NE Alfalfa Marketing Association
The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation
WA State Hay Growers Assoc.

\$500 - \$1,499

American Seed Trade Assoc.
Calibrate® Technologies
California Alfalfa & Forage Assoc.
Colorado Hay & Forage Assoc.
Novozyme BioAg Inc
FMC
Harvest Tec
ID Hay & Forage Association
Michigan Forage Council
Nelson Irrigation Corporation
NV Alfalfa Seed Commission
Oregon Hay & Forage Assoc.
San Joaquin Valley Hay Growers Assoc.
Summit Meadow Farm

NAFA STAFF

Beth Nelson
President

Rod Christensen*
Executive Secretary

Jon Dockter

Associate Director

Shane Johnson*

Education Director

Jenna Knoblauch

Communication Director

Sherry Liu

IT Director

Sheri Nolan*

Publications Director

Chelsea Russell

Event Coordinator

Headquarter Office
4630 Churchill Street, #1
St. Paul, MN 55126
Phone: 651.484.3888
Fax: 651.638.0756

Training/Education Office*

100 N. Fruitland, Suite B
Kennewick, WA 99336
Phone: 509.585.5460
Fax: 509.585.2671
nafa@comcast.net
www.alfalfa-forage.org

NAFA - Year in Review



NAFA Drives Industry Recognition

NAFA Talks Farm Bill, Research Funding in 2nd Washington, D.C. Fly-In

Being recognized in policy and research funding decisions is critical for alfalfa to keep pace with other cropping choices. This was the message NAFA members took to Washington as it hosted its 2nd Annual "D.C. Fly-In" where nearly 50 NAFA members, representing 14 states, worked the Hill to build recognition for the nation's 4th most valuable field crop. NAFA participated in more than 110 meetings.

2013 D.C. Fly In • February 12-14, 2013 • Email NAFA if you want to participate

Senator Initiates AFRP Letter of Support

U.S. Senator Tim Johnson (SD) initiated a colleague letter in support of Alfalfa & Forage Research Program (AFRP) funding. The AFRP, authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill under the High Priority Research Area, is intended to address important industry research needs.

Senator Johnson's letter, sent to the Senate Ag Appropriations Subcommittee, urged the Committee to fund the program with \$3 million for 2013. The letter was signed by four other Senators including Senator Jeff Bingaman (NM), Senator Maria Cantwell (WA), Senator Tom Udall (NM), and Senator Tom Harkin (IA). The effort by Senator Johnson represents continued progress in the effort to secure funding for the AFRP in Washington.

Thanks to those who participated in NAFA's email blitz to Congress

NAFA Chair Provides Comments to Senate Ag Committee Farm Bill Hearing

NAFA Chair Dave Miller (DuPont Pioneer) provided written comments to the March 15th Senate Ag Committee hearing on Risk Management and Commodities in the 2012 Farm Bill. The hearing evaluated the need for and cost effectiveness of farmers' risk management tools and how government can provide these tools while making the best use of limited resources.

Miller commented on a number of topics including crop insurance, which many in the industry believe is inadequate. While crop insurance provides coverage for alfalfa/forage, Miller indicated the current program could be improved. Currently, crop insurance for alfalfa/forage does not provide an equitable guaranteed price, does not accurately consider yield base, and is viewed as too expensive for the level of coverage available. This results in the unintended consequence of a shift in acres away from alfalfa/forage to other crops which are perceived to have greater risk mitigation or, in some cases, offer more attractive revenue protection options.

Miller also expressed NAFA's apprehension with the possibility of re-coupling farm payments to planted crops. Since alfalfa is not a program crop and would have no established target price, any such program holds the potential to distort future planting decisions.

NAFA Continues to Foster Industry Coexistence

An annual third-party review found the NAFA Best Management Practices (BMP) are working on a commercial scale. NAFA continues to foster industry coexistence between producers of genetically enhanced, conventional, and organic hay and alfalfa seed production.

NAFA has validated 15 GE Grower Opportunity Zones (GOZ) and 2 APS GOZs

Alfalfa Added to Fieldprint Calculator

As a Field-to-Market (FTM) member, NAFA is in the process of adding alfalfa to FTM's Fieldprint Calculator. FTM creates opportunities across the agricultural supply chain for continuous improvements in productivity, environmental quality, and human well-being.

The Calculator is a free online tool for farmers to voluntarily and securely analyze their impact on natural resources and operational efficiency. It does not provide a precise evaluation, but it allows farmers to benchmark performance against county, state, and national averages. Farmers can look at scenarios and see how those changes may affect their overall outcomes.

NAFA recognizes end-users are demanding information relating to environmental, social, economic, and health components of crop production from their suppliers and that alfalfa can play an integral role in improving the overall environmental footprint of production agriculture. NAFA believes participating in FTM will serve in part to enhance alfalfa's reputation as one of the most environmentally friendly crops on the landscape.

NAFA 2011-2012 Annual Report available at: www.alfalfa-forage.org