



DURUM KERNEL

U.S. Durum Growers Association

Winter 2017

OPLAND RECEIVES AMBER AWARD

Doug Opland, a durum producer from Des Lacs, N.D., was presented the USDGA's 2016 Amber Award during the Crop Outlook and International Durum Forum banquet on Nov. 14 in Minot, N.D. The Amber Award recognizes individuals who have shown outstanding commitment and dedication to the durum industry in the areas of production, research or education.

Doug has farmed for the past 31 years with his dad, brothers and nephew. He graduated from Des Lacs-Burlington and went to North Dakota State School of Science in Wahpeton for welding. Doug served on the USDGA board of directors for nine years, including a term as president. In addition to farming and serving on the USDGA board, Doug was a school board member for seventeen years and continues to serve on the township board and the Berthold-Carpio Farmers Union board of directors. He currently is the location manager with United Agronomy in Parshall-New Town. He and his wife Debbie have three girls Jessica, Ashley and Chelsey, and one granddaughter, Hadley.



Doug Opland, Amber Award recipient

SUBART AND HAWBAKER AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS



AARON SUBART
Robinson, N.D.

Aaron Subart of Robinson, N.D., and **Bailey Hawbaker** of Portal, N.D., were the recipients of 2016 USDGA scholarships.

Aaron received the 2016 USDGA Scholarship. He is a student at NDSU, majoring in animal science. He is a member of Farm House Fraternity, NDSU Saddle and Sirloin and Collegiate 4-H. He also serves as a North Dakota 4-H Ambassador. He is employed by the NDSU Beef Unit and as a farm/ranch hand on his family farm. Following college, Aaron plans to continue with the family farm and rapidly expand his commercial Angus herd. He is the son of Robert and Margaret Subart.



BAILEY HAWBAKER
Portal, N.D.

Bailey is the recipient of the 2016 Monroe Scheflo Scholarship. She is a student at NDSU, majoring in agriculture economics and agriculture education. She has served as an officer with the NDSU Judging Team and NDSU Saddle and Sirloin and is currently the Little "I" manager. She also has served as NDSU Collegiate Farm Bureau president, a NDSU Agriculture Ambassador, a North Dakota Junior Beef Expo board member and a North Dakota Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers district representative. Bailey intends to pursue a career as a high school agriculture teacher. She is the daughter of Ted and Mary Hawbaker.

The Monroe Scheflo Scholarship Fund was established by USDGA in 1985 in memory of Monroe Scheflo, who served as the association's president from 1982-1984 when he lost his battle with cancer at the age of 43. The USDGA Scholarship was established by the association in 2014 in order to offer another scholarship opportunity to agriculture students in durum-producing states.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Greetings USDGA members! I am honored to be elected as your new president.

In November, we co-hosted the Crop Outlook and International Durum Forum with the North Dakota Wheat Commission

(NDWC). USDGA and NDWC staff put together another great two-day event.

I attended and was pleased with the Durum Industry Advisory Council (DIAC) meeting held prior to the event. I believe there is improved comradery between producers and industry. We all need to work together to make the durum industry successful now and into the future.

We will be busy this winter monitoring policy issues important to durum producers at the state level and working to decrease government overreach at the federal level as work begins on a new farm bill. It is important to collaborate with as many state and national groups as possible to make life better on the farm.

If you have issues with grading on your durum, please contact USDGA. We continue to work on finding an accurate and repeatable durum grading process. There was a big crop grown in the world this year, but I believe end users will have to bid for quality. Be sure to check around to get a top bid.

USDGA will be at several farm shows this winter, so stop in and say hello. Bring your neighbor so we can sign up a new member, or ten. A larger membership strengthens our voice in telling the story on how we grow the safest food in the world.

I would like to welcome Steve Perdue, Ray, N.D., to the USDGA board of directors. We still have a couple of open spots on the board. If you're interested, contact any board member or the staff.

Until the next *Durum Kernel*, stay warm, be safe, and eat pasta!

Mark Martinson
President

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Congratulations to Mark Martinson, our new USDGA president. He is a knowledgeable and hard worker, who will be a great leader. I will continue to help make the USDGA board an effective tool for producers, so we can make durum production more profitable.

As with any industry, the durum industry and producers will face new and different challenges each year. We always have to be looking ahead and learning from past experiences.

We cannot control the weather, but we can continue to develop better durum varieties that will adapt to adverse weather conditions, along with the development of more effective fungicides to combat disease.

Grading has always been a critical part of durum production. Some progress in more consistent and accurate grading has been made with the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) alignment programs. USDGA appreciates the joint efforts by the North Dakota Wheat Commission (NDWC) and FGIS in implementing this

program. Hopefully, an acceptable testing machine will be approved industry wide in the near future to grade hard vitreous kernels of amber color.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of USDGA. A special thank you goes to the staff for all their good work for organization.

Russell Doe
Past President

2017 MEMBERSHIP

Thank you for your ongoing support of USDGA. Through membership investment, USDGA is able to provide a voice for producers on agricultural policy and the durum industry, while keeping producers informed about the latest technology in durum production.

Please remember to renew your membership for 2017. We look forward to working closely with you as USDGA continues to pursue its mission of increasing the profitability of durum production through effective domestic policy development and promotion and coordinated communication and educational outreach.

2016 CROP OUTLOOK AND INTERNATIONAL DURUM FORUM A GREAT SUCCESS

The North Dakota Wheat Commission (NDWC) and USDGA hosted the 2016 Crop Outlook and International Durum Forum on Nov. 14-15 at the Holiday Inn Riverside in Minot, N.D. The event brought together industry experts and producers to discuss the latest trends impacting the wheat and durum industries.

Tommy Grisafi, commodity risk management advisor at Advance Trading and president and CEO of Indiana Grain Company was the keynote speaker at the event's banquet. He discussed the major influences affecting the United States grain market, including the election of President Trump and what his administration will mean for the future of agriculture. Katie Dilse, USDGA member and nationally-known keynote speaker from Slope County, was the luncheon keynote speaker. She shared her own personal experiences and discussed how producers can take care of the business of agriculture as well as the business of keeping family first.

The agenda also included hard red spring wheat and durum crop overviews with information on what producers learned about production, quality and demand in 2016. The National Pasta Association provided an update on pasta consumption trends, along with details on its new social media campaign. A durum policy panel discussed the strengths and challenges of the current Farm Bill as well as areas of focus for the 2018 Farm Bill. There was also discussion on USDGA's efforts to address producer concerns regarding consistency of grading for hard vitreous kernel and vomitoxin.

THANK YOU 2016 SPONSORS!

USDGA POLICY COMMITTEE ENGAGED IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The USDGA Policy Committee, comprised of Mark Martinson (chair), Keith Deutsch, Russell Doe, Blake Inman and Art Schilke, have been monitoring policies impacting durum producers during North Dakota's 2017 Legislative Session. The group meets frequently to review proposed ag-related bills and determine positions for the organization. You are encouraged to contact any USDGA board member if you have concerns regarding legislation or send an email to office@durumgrowers.com.

Each Friday, USDGA provides members with a legislative update via email. This update includes information on the past week's events as well as upcoming hearings. If you are not receiving the Legislative Update, email your request to office@durumgrowers.com or call 701-214-3203.

eUPDATE REMINDER

USDGA is electronically distributing the monthly *Durum Kernel eUPDATE* to members in an effort to provide more timely and constant communication to durum producers and industry stakeholders.

We welcome story ideas, pasta recipes, upcoming events and other relevant producer information for inclusion in the *eUPDATE*. Please email your submission to office@durumgrowers.com by the 13th of each month. If you are not receiving the *eUPDATE*, please email your request to office@durumgrowers.com or call 701-214-3203.



Tommy Grisafi makes a point during his keynote presentation.



Dalton Henry, Gordon Stoner and Grant Buck were panelists in the policy discussion on current and future durum policy.

ADM OFFERS SOLUTION FOR SALVAGE GRAIN

Several producers have reported 2016 durum that is unsalable due to excessive vomitoxin. ADM has offered to pick up the grain and re-direct it to the farmland disposal biomass boiler facility in Enderlin, N.D., free of charge to the producer. ADM does not want this high infection durum to be returned to the land as it can ruin soil health and potentially harm future crops. If you are interested in this opportunity, contact Guy Christensen with ADM at 701-551-2871 or christensen@adm.com.



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USDGA's mission is to increase the profitability of durum production through effective market development and promotion and coordinated communication and educational outreach.

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