

October 14, 2011

Taiwan & China Delegates Tour North Dakota

FARGO, N.D. – North Dakota Soybean Council (NDSC) Directors and employees joined a Taiwan & China Crop Sampling Tour in North Dakota October 9-10, 2011. The group, which included representatives from the companies: Chinatex, Great Wall Enterprise, Liangyou Group Shanghai and Cofco Beijing, traveled through the Red River Valley to collect samples of crops and meet with farmers. During their trip to the U.S., the trade team toured farms throughout the Midwest, including Paul & Vanessa Kummer's farm in Colfax, N.D.; Claude & Rita Richard's farm in Fargo, N.D.; and Harvey & Marlyce Pyle's farm in Casselton, N.D. NDSC board members Jason Martodam of Mylo, N.D. and Art Wosick of Minto, N.D. were part of the farm visits with the international guests, along with United Soybean Board member Joel Throstrud of Hillsboro, N.D.

"These international representatives, which included delegates from some of the world's most important soybean importers, learned about the high quality soybeans grown right here in North Dakota," said Jason Martodam, soybean producer from Mylo, N.D. and NDSC board member. "With every other row of soybeans being sent overseas, building these friendly relationships is extremely important. When our international customers see for themselves how North Dakota soybean farmers provide a reliable and safe supply of top-quality soybeans, their trust in us and our product grows."

The purpose of the trade team visit was to develop relationships with farmers, show the team first-hand North Dakota's high quality crops, allow them to take samples of crops and visit farms. The samples of soybeans taken during their visit will be tested for moisture, protein, amino acids and oil. These samples allow the major feed and food buyers for these countries to see exactly what they are buying; an abundant, secure, safe, clean and quality product for their families, companies and fellow countrymen.

North Dakota soybean farmers across the state are represented on the North Dakota Soybean Council Board, which oversees a grass roots promotion, research and marketing program funded by soybean checkoff dollars. The Council's mission is to invest and leverage North Dakota soy checkoff resources to provide a high quality competitive product in a global marketplace. The North Dakota Soybean Council policies are established by a board consisting of eight soybean growers. The Council is organized by North Dakota State law.

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