

2021 RESOLUTIONS OF THE



A G R O W I N G I N F L U E N C E

AS ADOPTED BY THE MEMBERS
ASSEMBLED FOR THE
2020 ANNUAL MEETING

DECEMBER 8, 2020
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

The South Dakota Corn Growers Association works to increase the profitability of all South Dakota Corn farmers through our membership's strong voice in all legislative activities.

What we believe:

- A commitment to meet the needs of our consumers and customers in a changing world
- Encourage national and state leaders to lead policy that promotes a thriving agricultural sector
- Improving our national infrastructure that will allow farmers to get their products to market in a safe and effective manner
- Helping secure a bright future for tomorrow's farmers and not limiting their opportunities
- Leaving our land in better shape than we found it so generations to come can meet the needs of the growing world population

1 **2021 RESOLUTIONS OF THE**
2 **SOUTH DAKOTA CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION**
3

4 **PREAMBLE**
5

6 The South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA) is a non-partisan, non-profit
7 corporation committed to promoting the profitability of South Dakota corn farmers.
8

9 The SDCGA works to promote corn and improve corn profitability; influence public
10 policy and legislative efforts; and increase corn usage through livestock feeding and new
11 domestic products to improve the quality of life in a changing world.
12

13 **GENERAL**
14

15 We support efforts of all Corn Growers Associations to increase corn profitability. (20)
16

17 We support research to understand the carbon footprint of corn production in South
18 Dakota. (20)
19

20 We support legislation strengthening property rights and vested drainage rights of
21 agricultural land in South Dakota. (20)
22

23 We support cooperative tax laws to equal the tax benefits of other business entities. (18)
24

25 We support a Productivity-Based Property Tax System. (20)
26

27 We are opposed to any new tax on ag inputs. (20)
28

29 We are opposed to taxes on dyed diesel. (20)
30

31 We support ag land property taxes based on highest and best use. (16)
32

33 We oppose ag land property taxes based on actual use. (16)
34

35 We support education for farmers, urban consumers and regulators about safe and
36 efficient use of agriculture chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides based on adequate, peer-
37 reviewed and impartial scientific evidence maintaining the current level of tolerances.
38 (18)
39

40 We support a statewide voluntary nutrient management plan for South Dakota. (18)
41

42 We will continue to support research through the precision ag major at SDSU and we
43 believe our investment in Precision Agriculture at SDSU is important to agriculture in
44 South Dakota. (19)
45

46 We will continue to support the modernization of ag facilities at SDSU. (19)

- 1 We support labeling that accurately reflects actual production methods and practices. (19)
2
3 We support the right to farm in the state of South Dakota. (20)
4
5 We support enactment of immigration legislation that will provide a sufficient work force
6 for agriculture. (20)
7
8 We support boosting and expanding broadband infrastructure for rural communities
9 across the country. (20)
10
11 We support more flexibility in cover crop management practices with the conservation
12 security program. (20)
13
14 We believe we should continue to work on Scientific-based retention of our farm inputs
15 such as herbicides and pesticides and protect existing rulemaking process for approval or
16 cancellation of products. (20)
17
18 We believe that farmers should be protected from lawsuits related to agritourism and
19 other visitors on the farm. (20)
20
21 We believe farmers own their on-farm collected data, and no outside company shall use
22 or profit from a farmer's data without proper consent and compensation. (20)
23
24 **AG PROCESSING/ETHANOL**
25
26 We encourage the use of ethanol-blended fuel and degradable corn based biodegradable
27 plastics. (20)
28
29 We support the usage of ethanol or biodiesel in all state owned vehicles. (20)
30
31 We support research to determine the maximum amount of ethanol that can be
32 productively utilized by non-flex fuel vehicles. (20)
33
34 We encourage retail fuel outlets across the U.S. to offer blends E-15 and above. (19)
35
36 We support putting blender pumps for ethanol blended fuels throughout the US that
37 would give vehicle owners the opportunity to select the blend of Ethanol and unleaded
38 that is the most cost effective for their vehicle upon appropriate federal approval. (20)
39
40 We support ethanol and other biofuels as alternative aviation fuels. (20)
41
42 We demand the full implementation of the Renewable Fuels Standard. (20)
43
44 We support the development of a dedicated ethanol pipeline system in the U.S. (20)
45

- 1 We request that a majority of any economic development funds generated by the state of
2 South Dakota be directed toward new or expanding ag processing facilities. (20)
3
- 4 We encourage farmers to become involved with and invest in producer-owned, value-
5 added processing plants and businesses. (20)
6
- 7 We will work with all agricultural commodity groups to support promoting the
8 verification of commercial moisture tester accuracy by the Public Utilities Commission
9 (PUC) on a random basis. (20)
10
- 11 We support DDG research to develop methods, which would aid in the product handling,
12 feeding, transportation and consistency for end-users. (20)
13
- 14 We oppose any constitutional amendment creating new limitations on agricultural
15 business structures and business practices. (20)
16
- 17 We support in-state value-added agricultural processing and the efforts of SD Ag
18 Commodity Groups to promote their products and increase profitability for their
19 members. (20)
20
- 21 We support establishment of federal fuel standards which increase octane requirements in
22 finished gasoline through higher blends of ethanol for use in higher compression engines
23 for improved fuel economy and air quality. (20)
24
- 25 We support renewing EPA tax credits for E85 vehicles past 2017. (18)
26
- 27 We urge Congress to update base acres in every farm bill to more accurately reflect
28 production planting across the U.S. (18)
29
- 30 We support the recognition of soil carbon sequestration in the California and all other
31 Low Carbon Fuel Standards. (19)
32
- 33 We support Low Carbon Fuel Standards to help drive ethanol demand based on its
34 environmental benefits. (19)
35
- 36 We demand the reallocation of RINS displaced by small refinery waivers. (19)
37
- 38 We encourage automakers to produce E85 electric hybrid vehicles. (19)
39
- 40 We oppose assigning RINS to exported ethanol. (19)
41
- 42 We support consistent transparency of RIN waivers from EPA such as company name,
43 volume of waivers requested and an explanation of why it was granted. A period of
44 public comment should be a part of this process. (20)
45
- 46 We support E15 or higher as an option for ethanol blends in conventional cars. (20)

1
2 We demand that EPA and OSHA make adjustments that are needed in the regulatory
3 barriers so storing and dispensing of E-15 in existing legacy fuel infrastructure can be
4 resolved. (20)

5
6 We encourage the State and local authorities in South Dakota to adopt fire and safety
7 codes that clearly allow the use of E15 in existing gasoline/E10 equipment. (20)

8
9 We support removing restrictions on the use of program crops such as corn-based ethanol
10 for consideration as an advanced biofuel. (20)

11
12 We oppose international indirect land use in calculation of a carbon footprint for
13 renewable fuels so that renewable fuels are on an equal footing with petroleum and other
14 industries. (20)

15
16 We urge the EPA to update the corn ethanol carbon score by using the GREET model
17 used by the US Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory. (20)

18
19 **LIVESTOCK**

20
21 We support the standardization of animal units across the state (standardization based
22 upon federal regulations). (20)

23
24 We support expanding the definition of value-added agriculture used by the SD Board of
25 Economic Development to include any processes that include the feeding of commodities
26 such as corn to animals. (20)

27
28 We oppose any dumping of livestock or meat products in the U.S. meat market. (20)

29
30 We are opposed to any proposal that would tax livestock producers for their animal's
31 green house gas emissions. (20)

32
33 We oppose any efforts by township to restrict agricultural production. (20)

34
35 We support responsible science-based animal husbandry practices. (20)

36
37 We believe farmers should have protections from frivolous lawsuits related to
38 constructing or expanding their farming operations when it comes to livestock facilities.
39 (20)

40
41 We oppose any effort to curtail expansion or new development of South Dakota's
42 Livestock Industry by allowing local boards and commissions to deny permits that have
43 met all state and local regulations. (20)

44
45 We support efforts to establish and maintain programs and policies that lead to the
46 strengthening of the South Dakota Livestock Industry. (20)

1
2 We support the livestock industry on issues regarding animal activism by supporting
3 modern production and harvesting practices. (20)

4
5 We want the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and local Department of Ag to be
6 prepared for a major animal health / pandemic outbreak and how they handle it. We need
7 to be armed with guidance on faster response, disposal and biosecurity protocol. (20)

8
9 **FARM BILL**

10
11 We request our South Dakota Congressional delegation in Washington to strive for
12 fairness of trade in ag policies. (20)

13
14 We support conservation compliance for the betterment of our environment. (20)

15
16 We support conservation compliance being attached to crop insurance premium. (18)

17
18 We believe the federal government should not guarantee a profit, but it should provide
19 tools to help manage risk. (18)

20
21 We support the rural / urban / conservation coalition approach to the farm bill. (18)

22
23 We believe the primary method for providing a revenue safety net should be federally
24 subsidized revenue insurance. (20)

25
26 We support rural/urban coalition approach to farm and nutrition legislation as related to
27 the farm bill. (20)

28
29 We support a permanent change to allow for haying and grazing Prevent Plant Acres on
30 September 1st in South Dakota if over 30 percent of a county is prevent plant. (20)

31
32 We are in favor of payment limits being treated equitably among all ownership structures.
33 (20)

34
35 **EXPORT/TRADE**

36
37 We urge Congress to increase its efforts to remove sanctions to free trade. (20)

38
39 We emphasize that biotech issues not be used as a trade barrier. (20)

40
41 We support free trade agreements that do not leave sectors of agriculture vulnerable to
42 dumping. (20)

1 We support and encourage the efforts of the U.S. Grains Council (USGC), the Foreign
2 Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDAFAS), the U.S. Meat
3 Export Federation (USMEF), and others to increase exports of corn, meats, ethanol,
4 DDGs, and other agriculturally related value-added products. (18)

5
6 We support increased funding for foreign market development, market access and
7 research programs. (18)

8
9 We support reauthorizing the President's Trade Promotion Authority (TPA). (18)

10
11 We support trade policies that do not result in targeted, market distorting and export
12 limiting retaliatory tariffs on our agricultural products. (19)

13
14 We support the use of WTO processes for trade dispute resolution. (19)

15
16 We support legislation and policy that would allow U.S. farmers greater access to world
17 markets. (20)

18
19 We support legislation, policy and/or funding that would promote both blended biofuel
20 and straight biofuel in the international market. (20)

21
22 We support Corn's involvement in Maizall coalition. (20)

23
24 We believe the government should support trade and put efforts towards maintaining
25 current exports markets. (20)

26
27 We believe that government should support trade and put all efforts towards maintaining
28 current trade agreements as well focusing on new bilateral and/or multilateral
29 agreements, as exports are our third largest market for corn. (20)

30
31 **WATER**

32
33 We believe the goal of maintaining and achieving quality groundwater is the mutual
34 responsibility of all private, public and government users of water. (20)

35
36 We support funding for research on water quality, usage and management. (20)

37
38 We support a voluntary approach to nutrient management rather than a regulatory
39 approach. (20)

40
41 We support cost share and/or tax credits for conservation and/or environmental practices.
42 (20)

43
44 We will continue to work with Congress to regulate navigable waters of the United
45 States. (20)

46

1 **ENVIRONMENT**

2
3 We will work with interested groups who are concerned with clean air and water to come
4 up with positive legislation that not only protects the environment, but also ensures a
5 strong viable agricultural industry. (20)

6
7 We support the placing of only environmentally sensitive farmland into the Conservation
8 Reserve Program (CRP) program and at rates that do not exceed average county rental
9 rates for land of similar production capabilities. (20)

10
11 We support research to understand the economic and environmental impact of water
12 management on agricultural land. (20)

13
14 We support the reporting for CAFO's under the EPA's Clean Water Act to remain the
15 same. (20)

16
17 We oppose EPA's consideration to impose control over all non-navigational waterways.
18 (20)

19
20 We support better, clearer, and more objective definitions for a wetland, farmed wetland,
21 or prior converted wetland, which are not open to discretionary interpretation by the
22 various governmental levels of Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS). (20)

23
24 We support the current wetland mitigation process. (20)

25
26 We encourage producers to continually work on improving their nutrient management
27 practices for the economic and environmental benefits it would provide. (20)

28
29 We support the use of modern technology and more accurate information that is presently
30 available to update the soil survey maps across South Dakota. (20)

31
32 We support changing permanent easements to no more than 99 years. (20)

33
34 We support the option for current surface landowners to buy back U.S. Fish and Wildlife
35 Service and NRCS perpetual conservation easements at market value with the proceeds to
36 reduce the national debt. (20)

37
38 We support the procedural adjustments made by South Dakota Natural Resources
39 Conservation Services (NRCS) (to comply with Swamp buster provisions of the 1985
40 Farm Bill), which put South Dakota farmers on a level playing field with the rest of the
41 nation when it comes to how wetlands determinations are made. (20)

42
43 We support corn and ethanol industry research and investment into economic and
44 sustainable low-carbon technologies to further improve our Green House Gas (GHG)
45 accounting score including encouraging the EPA to use the GREET model. (19)

46

1 We demand that scientifically verifiable data be used when considering indirect Green
2 House Gas (GHG) emission effects such as Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC), and
3 believe that all energy sources should be held accountable for their indirect effects, based
4 on equal boundaries. (20)
5
6 We support using marginal petroleum source emissions as the petroleum baseline when
7 calculating Green House Gas (GHG) reductions for biofuels. (20)
8
9 We believe if biogenic carbon emissions are counted in calculations for Green House Gas
10 (GHG) emissions from combustion of biomass and/or biofuels, full credit must be given
11 for the GHG uptake and sequestration from the growing crop. (20)
12
13 We oppose EPA's consideration to require a permit for every application of a pesticide.
14 (20)
15
16 We urge EPA to use sound science in determining environmental impacts when it comes
17 to the use of crop protection products. (20)
18
19 We support proper water management programs and the opportunity to increase land
20 productivity. (20)
21
22 We support a value on carbon, while recognizing corn's ability to sequester carbon in the
23 soil. (17)
24
25 We support the use of site-specific radar generated rainfall data in determining normal,
26 wet and dry years in regards to wetland determination methods. (17)
27
28 We support the use of private 3rd party wetland consultants and engineers in regards to
29 NRCS wetland determinations and wetland mitigation. (17)
30
31 We support an appeals process on pesticide application violations. (19)
32
33 We support tile drainage as a means to improve soil quality, prevent excess soil run-off,
34 increase land productivity and allow greater opportunity for reduced tillage and cover
35 cropping. (19)
36
37 We believe all nutrient management plans should remain voluntary. (19)
38
39 We support financial incentives in which the SD farmer be rewarded for stewardship
40 practices that are compliant with California Air Resource Board (CARB) standards. (20)
41
42 We support a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) that addresses the multiple
43 environmental challenges of soil erosion, water quality, and wildlife habitat and allows
44 producers to continue to make environmentally compatible improvements to these acres
45 under an approved plan. (20)
46

1 We support funding for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). (20)

2
3 **TRANSPORTATION**

4
5 We support a competitive infrastructure of rail, waterways and trucks to provide service
6 for all ag products. (20)

7
8 We support anti-trust rail legislation. (20)

9
10 We support ag production having a right of standing in any rail rate case that may be
11 brought forward. (20)

12
13 We support reduction in filing fees for rail rate cases and a concrete deadline for ruling
14 on rate cases. (20)

15
16 We support a preamble of the law to reflect greater priority for shippers. (20)

17
18 We support having the surface transportation board being fully operational and required
19 to provide regulatory assistance. (20)

20
21 We support railroad improvements in South Dakota, which enhances competition. (20)

22
23 We support efforts to improve and expand transportation for the movement of
24 agricultural products by all forms of transportation. (18)

25
26 We support increased funding and flexibility for counties and townships to update their
27 roads, culverts and bridges. (20)

28
29 We support the preservation and the maintenance of the current rail system as it is
30 important to the Agriculture Industry. (20)

31
32 **BIOTECHNOLOGY**

33
34 We support the positive contributions of biotechnology as it relates to human health, the
35 environment, grain quality, and production benefits. (20)

36
37 We support the commercial release of biotech corn hybrids or products that have been
38 fully approved by the relevant U.S. regulatory agencies and for which the product
39 registrant is aggressively pursuing approval in every country or bloc that requires
40 approval prior to importation of corn, corn products, or food containing corn ingredients.
41 (20)

42
43 We support the U.S. regulatory system, including the Food and Drug Administration
44 (FDA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Environmental Protection
45 Administration (EPA), and their use of sound science in determining regulations for
46 utilization and development of biotechnology traits. (20)

- 1
2 We support the strict enforcement of science-based isolation and containment
3 requirements for the research, production and processing of all crops that are not
4 approved for food and feed use in the United States and key export markets in order to
5 protect the commercial grain industry and food supply. (20)
6
7 We support refuge in the bag in order to protect against insect resistance. (20)
8
9 We support the development of internationally accepted science-based tolerance
10 standards. (20)
11
12 We support the technology agreements indemnify farmers from liability once they follow
13 regulations and guidelines provided by the biotech provider and seed companies. (20)
14
15 We support the establishment of a publicly funded research center at a land grant-
16 institution including South Dakota State University (SDSU) to disseminate information,
17 science, etc. about biotech. (20)
18
19 We support licensing all seed and technology discovered at SDSU. The SDCGA also
20 supports that the ownership of all germ plasm remains at SDSU. (20)