



VIRGINIA GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

WHO IS VGPA?

The Virginia Grain Producers Association (VGPA) is a non-profit, farmer-run state commodity association representing the corn and small grain producers of Virginia. VGPA provides representation for growers on a variety of issues, advocacy for Virginia grains, producer education, end-user relations and public outreach. VGPA strives to bring value to the surrounding industry as an information source and producer advocate.

Through a combination of checkoff dollars* and Association funds, VGPA works with regulatory agencies, state and federal legislators, conservation & environmental organizations, research facilities, academic institutions, end-users and other trade & commodity associations. Statewide, nationwide and globally, VGPA forms partnerships to better promote and protect grain producers and production agriculture.

VGPA Working, Advocating, Uniting

American grain production is one of the most efficient, most innovative industries worldwide. VGPA has successfully represented Virginia producers in policy and programs that allow our farmers to keep the land in production. VGPA's highest priority is securing effective, efficient programs and policy that positively impact Virginia's corn and small grain producers.



*Note: Checkoff Funds are collected from each bushel of grain grown and/or sold in Virginia. This fee is collected at the first point of sale and is monitored directly by Virginia Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services. This is a farmer self-imposed fee used for promotion, marketing, education and research for Virginia grains. This is not tax-payer money and cannot be used for lobbying purposes.

VGPA:

- Promotes Grain Production through outreach and education
- Increases Market Opportunities for Growers
- Is the information resource for Growers, Industry and Legislators
- Represents and Advocates

“Striving to promote and protect Virginia Grain Producers and Production Agriculture.”

QUICK FACTS:

- Virginia's grain producers represent approximately 1 million acres statewide with appx. 60% in continuous “no-till” conservation practice
- In 2008, Virginia's feed corn crop was the Commonwealth's largest crop (acres)
- 85% of VGPA producer members are currently implementing conservation practices
- According to the 2004 Virginia Tech Extension Service Producer Survey, approximately 75,600 acres in Virginia's Coastal Plain growing area were in “continuous no-till” production conservation practice.
- ONLY 5,630 acres of that 75,600 were implemented through incentive-based government conservation programs
- The total economic impact of agriculture and forestry-related industries in Virginia was almost \$79 billion in total industry output in 2006 making it Virginia's largest economic sector.
- Virginia is a grain-deficit state which means appx. 90% of Virginia's animal feed is shipped in from out of state. Most of Virginia's corn is exported.

For More Information Visit:
www.VirginiaGrains.com



VGPA WORKS TO PROTECT PRODUCERS:

- Chesapeake Bay Restoration – thriving agriculture with healthy waters
- Secure, Dedicated Conservation Funding for Best Management Practices
- Federal Clean Water Act – limit regulatory authority
- Cap & Trade – oppose higher production costs and fees for agriculture
- Nutrient Management Program Reform – no “one-size fits all”
- 2008 Farm Bill Reform – Revenue-based program to protect farms only when needed the most
- Establishment of a comprehensive Energy Policy including robust Renewable Fuels Standard
- Educate to Prevent Harmful and Burdensome Regulations
- Promote Science-Based Facts
- Promote Production Research
- Industry Accountability
- State Inspections Program
- Transportation Infrastructure and Funding
- Carbon Trading
- Feasible Environmental Regulations
- Soil Analysis Standard
- Farm Labor Standards
- Virginia Nutrient Trading
- Global Trade Agreements – DOHA Round
- Import/Export Tariffs and Regulations

VGPA's Goal

is to brand Virginia Grain Producers Association as the representative on issues pertaining to corn and small grains and as such, provide value to agriculture and to all Virginia.

Not a Member of VGPA? Membership Dollars Support:

- All Advocacy and Lobbying Efforts – Direct and Indirect
- Legislator Education
- VGPA Day on the Hill (state and federal)

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DID YOU KNOW?

- VGPA works to better secure market opportunities for its producers through public and private industry outreach such as export development, container shipping and grains-based energy production.
- VGPA works to provide opportunities and initiatives such as biotech wheat and genome mapping.
- VGPA works throughout the mid-Atlantic with the area agencies, environmental organizations and policy groups to make the area more sustainable.
- VGPA works to secure legislation and regulations that will be beneficial for Virginia grain producers such as import tariffs on fertilizer or biofuels production.
- VGPA works to make Virginia's grain producers viable and profitable for long-term sustainability through the use of such things as feasible on-farm implementation of conservation programs.

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