



January 2023 MGFA Newsletter



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- Registration is Now Open for the MGFA 116th Annual Convention & Industry Trade Show – March 13-15, 2023 in St Cloud
- State Agriculture Officials Seek Additional \$117 Million Over Next Four Years
- CHS to Build a New Grain Shuttle Facility in Southeast South Dakota
- FDA: Existing Regulatory Frameworks Not Appropriate for Cannabidiol
- OSHA's Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program Revised



Registration is Now Open for the MGFA 116th Annual Convention & Industry Trade Show – March 13-15, 2023 in St Cloud

Please make plans to join your friends and colleagues at the 116th Annual MGFA Convention & Industry Trade Show on March 13-15 at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud. This annual event is your opportunity to learn, network and visit a variety of industry providers in our trade show. We have pulled together a great agenda for you and hope to see you all in March! Make sure to share the following information with your staff, board of directors and spouses and make your plans to attend today. The registration form is available on our website and our tentative convention agenda is posted below.

Monday, March 13, 2023

Afternoon MGFA Board Meeting

Evening Hospitality Suites Poolside - Best Western Plus Kelly Inn

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

7:00 a.m. Convention Registration & Breakfast

8 – 10:00 a.m. Concurrent Session Breakouts

1. Co-op Directors Session

- Co-op Board Duties & Responsibilities - Speaker TBA
- **Ag Outlook & Farm Bill Topics**
 - Kent Thiesse, MinnStar Bank

2. Manager/Employee/Owner Session

- **Who's Leaving Next? Strategies You Can Use to Retain Employees**
 - Erin Mies & Kristen Ireland, People Spark Consulting
- Topic / Speaker TBA

10:15 a.m. 116th Annual MGFA Meeting

11:00 a.m. General Session Keynote Speaker

- **Katie Pinke, Publisher at AgWeek & Forum Communications**

From rural North Dakota, Katie Pinke works as the publisher and general manager of Agweek. Katie and her team create daily digital ag news, a weekly magazine, and regional television show that showcases agriculture “from field to fork” and investigates important issues for the farming and ranching community. The fifth-generation farmers' daughter spent more than 12 years in marketing, then ventured out on her own as a communications consultant and event speaker before joining Agweek full-time in 2016. In addition to her Agweek duties, she remains a keynote speaker across North America. Katie and her husband have three children and own a small business. Outside of her work, Katie is a 4-H leader and active community volunteer.

11:00 a.m. Spouse Program - TBA

Noon – 5:30 p.m. Trade Show Opens / Silent Auction –*Lunch in Trade Show*

4:30 –5:30 p.m. Happy Hour in the Trade Show
Sponsored by AgVantage Software, Inc.

Evening Hospitality Suites Poolside – Best Western Plus Kelly Inn

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

7:00 a.m. Convention Registration

7:30 –9:30 a.m. Re-opening & Closing of Trade Show –*Breakfast in Trade Show*

9:30 a.m. Closing Session - Market Outlook

- ***Al Kluis, Managing Director, Kluis Commodity Advisor (tentative)***

Al has been a commodity advisor and broker since 1976. Al is an introducing broker with Wedbush Futures, and writes a column, *Your Profit*, which appears in every issue of *Successful Farming* magazine. Al has published two books on commodities trading, and is commonly quoted in major publications including the *Wall Street Journal*, and is a featured speaker at commodity conferences nationwide. He is a frequent market analyst for the Linder Farm Radio News Network. Alan, a Minnesota farmboy, was awarded his degree in Ag Economics from the University of Minnesota in 1974, after which he was executive director of the Minnesota Soybean Association before entering the markets full-time. Alan's family still farms in southwest Minnesota and Al enjoys helping with fieldwork when the markets allow.

10:30 a.m. Closing Session Keynote Speaker

- ***Devin Henderson, Entertainer / Humorist***

In 2014, Devin was honored when the producers of *America's Got Talent* invited him to Hollywood to audition for Howard Stern, Heidi Klum, Mel B, Howie Mandel, and an audience of 5,000. It was an amazing and pivotal moment in Devin's career and life, even though it went very differently than expected. After being the first person in the history of *America's Got Talent* to facilitate live on-stage audience participation and delivering what he considered one of his best performances to date, he did not pass the audition and the segment never aired. Learning how to rise through such an intense and unexpected disappointment was a result of his lifelong pursuit to always strive toward "Something Greater."

To secure hotel rooms at either of our convention hotels, the Best Western Plus Kelly Inn (\$109/night) or the Courtyard by Marriott (\$139-\$149/night), click on the following link: <https://www.visitstcloud.com/mgfa-2023-convention/>. Each hotel is connected to the convention center via skyway.

We look forward to seeing you in March!



State Agriculture Officials Seek Additional \$117 Million Over Next Four Years

The Department of Agriculture comprises less 0.5% of the total state budget, and like other departments, it, too, is looking for more money.

And Gov. Tim Walz would like to oblige.

Commissioner Thom Petersen told the House Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee Tuesday the governor's budget seeks an additional \$45.5 million above its base appropriation for the 2024-25 biennium and \$71.1 million for the following two budget years. Money would be used to expand

staff in a few key areas, offer new services, update technology and provide more money to popular grant programs.

The budget proposal includes \$17.6 million annually for the **Agricultural Growth Research Innovation Program**, which grew out of ethanol producers' payments and currently assists in the development of new products. The department would also like to extend the program's sunset date from 2025 to 2035.

<https://www.house.mn.gov/SessionDaily/Story/17556>

Source: Session Daily



CHS to Build a New Grain Shuttle Facility in Southeast South Dakota

CHS Inc. will begin construction this spring on a new grain shuttle facility in southeast South Dakota, a strategic location in its Pacific Northwest corridor.

"We continue to reinvest in projects that bring even more value to our owners while expanding customer-focused retail solutions for area farmers," says Rick Dusek, executive vice president of CHS ag retail operations. "Our continued focus is on making investments on behalf of our farmer-owners that will strengthen rural America and help meet the growing demand for agricultural products and services."

The new facility will include industry-leading technology and the latest safety features in the new 1.1-million-bushel grain facility. It will be built near the intersection of Interstate 29 and State Highway 44 in southeast South Dakota and tie into an existing rail loop currently used for CHS agronomy operations. The facility will feature fast and efficient receiving and loadout capabilities to bring area farmers even more market access in the Pacific Northwest grain corridor and other important markets.

"This investment in infrastructure and supply chain capabilities is part of a coordinated and focused effort to drive operational and efficiency gains throughout our expansive CHS network," says Kent Mulder, CHS vice president of operations in South Dakota and the Southern Plains. "Our operational footprint and assets are the strength of our supply chain and this important project delivers on our strategy to have safe, efficient assets in the right places to best serve our farmer-owners' increasing need for speed and space and connect them to global markets."

The new facility will create a safer environment for employees, farmers and community members through cleaner operating conditions and updated equipment with enhanced safety features.

"The strength of rural America relies on agriculture, and CHS is well-positioned to grow and expand opportunities for our farmer-owners through these strategic investments," Mulder says.

Source: CHS Inc



FDA: Existing Regulatory Frameworks Not Appropriate for Cannabidiol

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Jan. 26 **announced** it has concluded that a new regulatory pathway for cannabidiol (CBD) products is needed and the agency is prepared to work with Congress to develop a strategy for the regulation of these products to protect the public's health and safety. In doing so, FDA denied three citizen petitions that had asked the agency to conduct rulemaking to allow the marketing of CBD products as human dietary supplements.

FDA's announcement is the outcome of a high-level internal working group review that examined published scientific literature, information submitted to a public docket, and studies both conducted and commissioned by the agency. Based on the review, FDA said it is not apparent how CBD products could meet safety standards for dietary supplements or food additives. For example, the agency stated it has not found adequate evidence to determine how much CBD can be consumed by humans, and for how long, before causing harm.

FDA also stated CBD poses risks to animals, and people could be unknowingly exposed to CBD through meat, milk and eggs from animals fed CBD. Because it is not apparent how CBD products could meet the safety standard for substances in animal food, FDA does not intend to pursue rulemaking allowing the use of CBD in animal food and suggested that a new regulatory pathway could provide access and oversight for certain CBD-containing products for animals.

Meanwhile, FDA currently is evaluating the use of hemp in layer feed but has not yet approved the use of any hemp product in animal food.

Source: NGFA Newsletter



OSHA's Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program Revised

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued a revised Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program (NEP). Any combustible material can burn rapidly when in a finely divided form. If such a dust is suspended in air in the right concentration, under certain conditions, it can become explosible. The purpose of the revised emphasis program is to continue OSHA inspections of facilities that generate or handle combustible dusts likely to cause fire, flash fire, deflagration and explosion hazards.

The NEP was revised based on enforcement history and combustible dust incident reports. In 2018, wood and food products made up an average of 70% of the materials involved in combustible dust fires and explosions. Incident reports indicate that the majority of the industries involved in combustible dust hazards are wood processing, agricultural and food production and lumber production, but others are susceptible as well.

The revised program sets forth a new approach for locating and inspecting subject establishments. The following industries were added to the program because OSHA found they had a higher likelihood of having combustible dust hazards or experienced combustible dust-related fatalities/catastrophes:

- 311812 - Commercial Bakeries
- 325910 - Printing Ink Manufacturing
- 321912 - Cut Stock, Resawing Lumber, and Planning
- 316110 - Leather and Hide Tanning and Finishing
- 321214 - Truss Manufacturing
- 424510 - Grain and Field Bean Merchant Wholesalers

OSHA initiated the Combustible Dust NEP in October 2007 after a number of combustible dust incidents that resulted in numerous fatalities and serious injuries. The agency reissued the emphasis program in March 2008 after a combustible dust explosion at a sugar refinery in Georgia. Since 2007, the agency has conducted about 600 inspections annually under this emphasis program.

“The combustible dust NEP is one the agency’s important programs for proactively inspecting the nation’s most hazardous facilities before a catastrophic incident occurs,” stated Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health Doug Parker. “The results of a combustible dust fire or explosion can be catastrophic to workers and the facilities that they work.”

The revised NEP directive replaces the March 2008 directive and remains in effect until OSHA issues a cancellation notice. This revised directive does not replace another similar OSHA directive referred to as the grain handling facility directive, but it may cover operations involving grain processing that are outside the scope of the grain handling directive.

Source: Feedstuffs



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