

Corn Growers Association Referendum Feb. 22

Media Contact: Lisa Childers, County Extension Director
(910) 321-6880 or lisa_childers@ncsu.edu

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RALEIGH - The referendum for corn growers to vote on continuation of the self-assessment program for six years will be held Feb. 22 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Cooperative Extension Centers. Cumberland County's center is at 301 E. Mountain Dr., Fayetteville. The Board of Directors of the Corn Growers Association is asking farmers assess themselves at a rate of 1.25 cents per bushel on all corn marketed in North Carolina. Corn Growers Association President Dennis Waller announced the campaign to continue the assessment at the N.C. Commodities Conference of Corn, Cotton, Soybeans and Small Grain Producers held on Jan. 13 in Durham.

Waller urged growers to continue the assessment program, which is administered by the Corn Growers Association. "As farmers, we must stay united and work together to survive in the farming industry," said Waller. The association is involved in the following areas: international and domestic marketing; research and education; grants to Cooperative Extension offices and legislation that will be helpful to corn growers and other farmers. A 24-member Board of Directors, covering all the producing areas of North Carolina, governs the organization's activities. The board also gives support to issues of a local nature that they believe will benefit farmers.

All farmers currently engaged in the production of corn, including tenants, sharecroppers, or other persons sharing in the production of income of corn, are eligible to vote. A two-thirds favorable vote is required to carry the referendum as authorized by Article 50, Chapter 106 of the General Statutes of North Carolina. If approved, the assessment shall be collected by the first handler or purchaser of the commodity from the producer, and remitted to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, which remits the proceeds to the Association. Any corn grower may get a refund of levied assessments from the Corn Growers Association of N. C. A request for a refund should be made within 30 days from the date on which said assessment is collected.

For accommodations for persons with disabilities, contact Lisa Childers at 910.321.6880, no later than five business days before the event.

