

NATIONAL CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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**NCGA Pleased with USDA Decision Regarding Roundup Ready Alfalfa**

WASHINGTON (January 27, 2011) -- The National Corn Growers Association is pleased with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's decision to issue a full deregulation for glyphosate tolerant alfalfa events J101 and J163 as published in the Final Environmental Impact Statement this past December.

"We would like to thank Secretary Vilsack for keeping grower choice as a priority. Farmers need access to technology so that they can choose the option that is best for their farm," said NCGA Chairman Darrin Ihnen, from Hurley, S.D. "Biotechnology can improve a farm's efficiency and decrease the amount of chemical needed for that crop. We need choice to raise more food, feed, fiber and fuel for the world's growing needs."

"This is the right decision," said Jim Zimmerman, vice chairman of NCGA's Trade Policy and Biotechnology Action Team, a grower from Rosendale, Wis. "A clean, full deregulation is the best decision for producers and lets farmers plant the kind of alfalfa they choose this spring."

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Founded in 1957, the National Corn Growers Association represents 35,000 dues-paying corn farmers nationwide and the interests of more than 300,000 growers who contribute through corn checkoff programs in their states. NCGA and its 48 affiliated state associations and checkoff organizations work together to create and increase opportunities for their members and their industry.