



## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

*Kent Hance, Chancellor*

March 10, 2009

The Honorable Randy Neugebauer  
1424 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Neugebauer:

On behalf of the Texas Tech University System, I respectfully ask for your support of FY2010 funding in the amount of \$2.5M for the Great Plains Sorghum Improvement and Utilization Center.

This initiative builds a critical mass of research, service and education on sorghum by pooling and integrating the research and extension resources for sorghum improvement, utilization, production, and marketing located at Texas Tech University, Kansas State University, and Texas A&M University (including USDA-ARS scientists located on those campuses with assigned sorghum responsibilities).

The Center's research will develop new uses for grain sorghum in food, feed, and renewable bioenergy applications, emphasizing the grain's many desirable characteristics, such as absence of gluten and low glycemic index, as well as suitability for use in biofuel production. Additionally, this initiative will focus on domestic and trade policy matters of the United States and major trading partners and their impacts on U.S. trade and the sorghum industry.

As the sorghum industry faces many challenges in global competition, funding for this program will bring new technologies and knowledge together and focus on improvement of profitability in each stage of sorghum production, processing, and marketing and the viability of the U.S. sorghum industry.

I am grateful for your assistance and truly appreciate your continued support of Texas Tech and all that you do for the great State of Texas. Please feel free to contact me if I or my staff can assist you in any way.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kent Hance". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kent Hance

