NSP Statement on Proposed USDA Biotechnology Regulations

National Sorghum Producers Board of Directors Chairman Dan Atkisson, a sorghum farmer from Stockton, Kansas, made the following statement in response to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's proposed new <u>SECURE</u> rule, which updates biotechnology regulations and other agriculture innovations.

"National Sorghum Producers appreciates the efforts of Secretary Perdue and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) in aggressively pursuing the needed updates to USDA's 30+ year biotechnology regulations. Innovations through new breeding methods are vital to sorghum growers achieving improved production, meeting sustainability goals and maintaining our competitiveness in the global marketplace. We have been encouraged by the level of engagement and transparency USDA has displayed while evaluating this important issue. NSP looks forward to reviewing the biotechnology proposal and submitting substantive comments to further assist the department toward final rule making."