

On Thursday, Sept. 17 (today) the Nebraska Wheat Board is welcoming a trade mission of 15 Chinese milling executives, grain dealers and government officials to Nebraska.

The visit to Nebraska is part of a trade mission arranged by U.S. Wheat Associates.

While in Nebraska, the team will tour the Brent Robertson farm in Elsie, Panhandle Research Station in Scottsbluff, Cullan Seed Farm and Farmers Coop Elevator in Hemingford, ConAgra Mills and Western Heritage Museum in Omaha, and meet with Nebraska wheat producers and Union Pacific representatives.

Members of the mission include Mr. Jun Min Li, general manager, COFCO Agri-Trading and Logistics Co, Ltd., Guangdong office; Ms. Hong Huan Pan, sales manager, wheat division COFCO Limited; Mr. Jin Lai Ning, assistant general manager, Zhejiang Grain Reserve Management Co., Ltd.; Mr. Ming Jiang, senior engineer, Zhejiang Grain Reserve Management Co. Ltd.; Mr. Gang Wu, deputy director, development and reform bureau, Shenzhen Municipal Government; Mr. Mao Ling Chen, general manager, Dongguan Sui Feng Food Co., Ltd.; Mr. Xin Guo, vice general manager, Dongguan Sui Feng Food Co. Ltd.; Madam Hui Sun, director, purchasing department, Shenzhen Southseas Grains Industries Ltd.; Mr. Bin Yi, general manager, Shenzhen Flour Limited; Mr. Jun Ziong Chen, general manager, Guangong Heshan Dongbo Flour Col, Ltd.; Mr. Yi Zhou Liu, general manager, Guangdong Baiyan Grain & Oil Industrial Co., Ltd.; Mr. Zhijin Chen, deputy general manager, Guangdong East-Flour Mill Co., Ltd.; Mr. Hua Yu Mo, general manager, Zhanjiang Jinhai Flour Co., Ltd.; Mr. Chu Hui Chen, vice general manager, Guangzhou Runfon Flour Col, Ltd.; and Mr. Shi Pu Zhao, country director/chief representative, U.S. Wheat Associates Beijing.

Participants represent target trading, milling and handling companies within China.

U.S.Wheat Associates and COFCO hope to increase participants' knowledge of the U.S. wheat marketing system from farm to export point through a general overview of the system.

This will include information on harvest quality for various wheat classes, transportation and handling from local production to sub-terminal and export facilities, wheat grading and price discovery throughout the marketing chain.

Chinese representatives will have an opportunity to convey their quality interests and needs to the local and foreign grain trade.

Some mills represented in the delegation have an interest to include Hard Red Winter wheat, one of the two classes of wheat grown in Nebraska, in their wheat purchases when the value of CIF prices are competitive with domestically available wheat in China.

Royce Schaneman, executive director of the Nebraska Wheat Board and Zoe Olson, public information officer for Nebraska wheat will serve as guides for the group during their stay in Nebraska.

The team will depart Omaha on Sept. 20 en route to Portland.

A detailed itinerary is available by contacting the Nebraska Wheat Board office.

The Nebraska Wheat Board administers the one and one quarter cent per bushel excise tax levied on wheat marketed in Nebraska. The board invests the funds in programs of international and domestic market development and improvement, policy development, research, promotion and education.