Introductory Course Provides Flour Milling Process Overview

The IGP Institute hosted nine participants for the IAOM–KSU Introduction to Flour Milling course held February 5–9, 2024.

The course began with an overview of the U.S. milling industry and a discussion of the classes of wheat and their uses in different types of products. The group then toured the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center for a look at the breeding process used to develop new wheat varieties with desirable characteristics.

Participants received a tour of the Hal Ross Flour Mill where they learned about the equipment used in a commercial mill. Following the tour, the group had hands-on exercises in the Shellenberger Hall tabletop milling lab and additional lectures about the basic milling process.

Topics including flour extraction, milling math, and flowsheet terminology were covered before another visit to the Hal Ross Flour Mill to see the mill in action and learn about break releases, purifiers, sizings, reduction rolls, and the flour stream that was illustrated by building a sample board showing the milled wheat and flour at various steps in the milling process.

The course ended after additional hands-on exercises in the Shellenberger Baking Lab where they learned about flour functionality by baking products using different types of flour and observing the results.
February Trainings and Activities

- Conducted the IAOM–KSU Introduction to Flour Milling Short Course: 9 participants
- Met with Buhler to discuss programming opportunities
- Attended the Wheat Quality Council Annual Meeting, Kansas City
- Presented at the Farm Profit Conference in Manhattan, Kansas
- Met with milling companies in South Africa
- Traveled to Egypt to work with the World Bank on a grain storage project
- Participated at the meeting of USSEC’s Animal Nutrition and Aquaculture Strategic Utilization Team
- Traveled to the Dominican Republic to provide technical assistance to feed mills on behalf of USSEC
- Attended GEAPS Exchange in Kansas City
- Attended the NC-213 meeting in Kansas City
- Recap of Weekly U.S. Grain and Oilseed Export Shipment and Sales – A weekly set of analysis and data recapping the recent and year to date export shipment and sales. Distributed internally to IGP and to key stakeholders, and an international audience, as well as being posted on the https://www.agmanager.info/ website.
- Attended the Barry Flinchbaugh Symposium – KSU Ag Econ, Manhattan, Kansas
- Global Agritrends – “Super-Cycles and where are we now...?” Virtual Podcast – A 60 minute recorded podcast presented on-line with Simon Quilty, Brett Stuart and Richard Fritz.
- KSU Agriculture Today, with Shelby Varner – Podcast: USDA International Markets and Trade Highlights: The 20-minute podcast covered: “Highlights of Issues Facing the International Grain Trade” reflected in this month’s USDA WASDE International Trade Markets Report. The program is available via podcast at www.agtoday.net, as well as being made available to IGP for posting on the website.
- Attended the U.S. Grains Council International Marketing Conference Guatemala City – Sat in on Innovation and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee, and the Corn Committee
- Hosted StoneX Australia Futures Brokers visit to IGP Center. Spent a day discussing and comparing U.S. and Australian wheat market and supply chain issues, including grain storage and handling in the U.S., a tour of IGP, and the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center
- Charles Sturt University – “Strategic Discussion on Grain” 21st February 2024, Presented On-Line, on “Strategic Opportunities in the Current Industry Environment”