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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE ASKS FOR EMERGENCY WHEAT TEAM TO LATIN AMERICA ON YELLOW HARD WHEAT PROBLEM

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole has asked the Department of Agriculture to organize and dispatch a special wheat team to Latin America to attempt to overcome objections of customers in that area to the Yellow Hard wheat being harvested in South Central Kansas and Oklahoma this year.

The wheat is being graded Yellow Hard due to the coloration of the kernel the past two years as a result of late rains during the growing season. Latin American buyers are cautious about the wheat because it resembles low protein wheat they have received in the past from the spring soft wheat areas of the eastern states. "This Kansas Yellow Hard wheat tests 10.5 to 11.5% protein," Dole said, "and a team of specialists could assure Latin American customers that it is of the quality they desire, regardless of coloration."

"Farmers in South Central Kansas are now receiving from 20 to 30 cents less per bushel because of this problem," Dole said. "It is important that our customers learn that the color does not affect the protein content of the grain nor the milling or baking quality and therefore should not affect the price."

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