Harvest Summary of HRW July 10, 2009 To July17, 2009

By Mark Hodges, Director, Plains Grains, Inc.

- Percent of Harvest **Complete by Location**:
  - Texas/Oklahoma with the exception of Panhandles 99%
  - Texas/Oklahoma Panhandles 99%
  - South Central Kansas (South of Wichita) 99%
  - South Central Kansas (McPherson to Wichita) 99%
  - Kansas south of I-70 (General) 99%
  - Kansas North of I-70 (General) 95%
  - Southeast Colorado to Central Colorado 90%
  - Northeast Colorado 30%
  - Southeastern Nebraska 95%
  - South Central Nebraska 80%
  - Western Nebraska 10%

Harvest is now concluded in Texas, Oklahoma, virtually all of Kansas and most areas of SE Nebraska and SE Colorado. NE Colorado is reporting 30% complete with harvest with Nebraska reports ranging from 95% complete in the SE portion of the state to just 10% complete in far western Nebraska.

Generally, test weights in Texas into the southern half of Oklahoma have been in the 59 lbs./bu. (78 kg/hl) range with outstanding proteins (above 13%). Test weights have increased from central Oklahoma to the Kansas border. As has been discussed in earlier harvest reports, the lower test weights south of Kansas is very likely a function of a late season freeze and drought that severely affected northern Oklahoma southward into Texas. The higher test weights in Kansas can be attributed to late season moisture received in May during the final stages of plant development (grain fill). Unfortunately, that moisture was not uniform or consistent in nature and resulted in a mosaic pattern of values as they relate to test weight and protein, in some cases extremes in protein have occurred in an area as small as a 15 mile radius.

This scenario is more extreme in eastern Colorado and across Nebraska which has generally resulted in significantly lower proteins. This is again a function of late season moisture received in May and June along with cool temperatures during crop maturity resulted in very little stress. Storms lined up over the course of several weeks in June and July resulting in not only heavy consistent rain storms, but hail and high wind that caused significant damage in many areas. A high pressure system had set up over Oklahoma during that time and with a clockwise rotation any moisture that was available spun up over eastern Colorado and Nebraska. As was outlined in Kansas, this weather pattern resulted in very good test weights, very good thousand kernel weights and very good kernel diameters, but significantly lower proteins.