

Today is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about \_\_\_\_\_ when we return

## **First Monsanto Cancer Trial Begins**

**A trial is underway this week in California as witnesses will begin to testify in the first case alleging that Monsanto's Roundup weed killer causes cancer. Politico says Lee Johnson, a groundskeeper for a California school district, alleges that years of spraying hundreds of gallons of the product caused him to develop non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a form of cancer. Opening statements took place on Monday. This case is a separate one from a class-action suit that involves more than 300 plaintiffs who argue that their exposure to Monsanto's weed killer caused them to also develop non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. That case is waiting on a judge's evidentiary decision that could determine if the case will proceed. The Johnson case is taking place on its own because attorneys feared he would die before the proceedings could begin. While the jury's decision won't have any effect on the class-action suit, it will likely be a bellwether for other future proceedings. Monsanto says in court filings that glyphosate has been deemed safe by "every major regulatory agency." The company notes that cancers "take many years to form," and says Johnson wasn't exposed to Roundup long enough to make a connection between the product and his diagnosis.**

## **Perdue Hopeful A Farm Bill Will Be in Place by September**

### **Audio with Ag Secretary Sonny Perdue**

Roughly 12 weeks remain on the current Farm Bill. One of the biggest questions before the Ag community right now is whether or not a new Farm Bill will be approved before the current one expires. With the House and Senate passing their respective pieces of legislation, and now committee work underway, Ag Secretary Sonny Perdue says he's hopeful something will be agreed upon soon. However, during his recent trip to Pullman, Washington, Perdue acknowledged there's a way to go on the Farm Bill process...tape

Cut 1 :12 OC..."Bill there"

Perdue noted with so many questions of trade wars and tariffs, American farmers need a Farm Bill now and into the future...tape

Cut 2 :14 OC..."the future"