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

A House-Senate farm bill deal will be formally filed on Monday, finally revealing its contents to the public. But the shroud of secrecy surrounding the deal was no accident. House and Senate Ag leaders and their staffs have hidden details on a farm bill compromise from the press for days, even as some lawmakers leaked tidbits here and there.

That will end Monday when the bill's dropped in the legislative 'hopper' and votes scheduled for later in the week. But days of delay in unveiling the deal while it was put into final form, cost-scored, and the process slowed by former President George H.W. Bush's funeral, now leaves little time for lawmakers and the public to digest its contents. Senate Ag Chair Pat Roberts hinted earlier at the need for secrecy...tape

Cut 1 :08 OC..."not helpful"

Top Senate Ag Democrat Debbie Stabenow also rebuffed reporters' pressing for details...tape

Cut 2 :07 OC..."joint announcement"

Doud Comments on China Trade Developments

Audio with Chief Ag Negotiator Gregg Doud

We have all been clamoring for more information about the meeting between President Trump and Chinese President Xi. Today, at the Iowa Farm Bureau Convention we had the chance to hear from Chief Ag Negotiator Gregg Doud.

The first question on everyone's mind was concerning the agreement reached with China last weekend. Doud says it is China's decision how far they want to go on easing the burden on U.S. Ag producers...tape

Cut #1 :28 OC:..."resolving this."

Doud was asked if he knew what Ag purchases China would make, or how much. His response...tape

Cut #2 :03 OC:..."ask China."

Normally this is the time of year which China makes more soybean purchases from the United States to fill their demand until the Argentine harvest gets going. Doud was asked if this could have been a motivator for China. Doud's response...tape

Cut #3 :15 OC:..."and China."

Doud says the issues we have with China did not just develop in the past few months. They built up over time...tape

Cut #4 :11 OC:..."a long time."

That's Chief Ag Negotiator Gregg Doud.