



# The Seed Source

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

May 2010

## Important Dates

**May 1- (postmarked by) Form B is due** - Payment for Certification of Summer-Inspected Crops (Form Bs) Due. *Penalties will apply after this date.*

**May 31- Memorial Day**  
KCIA office Closed

**July 26 - KCIA Board of Directors Meeting** - Salina

**July 27 - KSIA Summer Seed Conference** - Ramada Conference Center, Salina

## Other Significant Dates

May 9 - Mother's Day  
June 14 - Flag Day  
June 20 - Father's Day

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## THE SEED SOURCE

*If you would like to receive "The Seed Source" via email, please contact us at [kscrop@kansas.net](mailto:kscrop@kansas.net)*

## Plan Ahead To Train Roguing Crews

A necessary step to certified seed production is preparing each field for field inspection. Varietal purity is a cornerstone of certified seed and it is common for the seed producer to hire individuals to walk certified fields and remove or "rogue" off-type plants. It is important, however, that roguing crews fully understand all aspects of what it takes for a field to pass a certification inspection. In this way, crews will be able to identify potential obstacles to certification and prevent rejection of a field.

Rejection of a field so near harvest places strains on the seed producer as well as on the time-strapped field inspector that may have to schedule a re-inspection. In addition to time delays, additional costs related to field rejection and re-inspection are something everyone would like to avoid.

A certified seed producer should review and explain the crop-specific field standards prior to the crew entering a field. Let crews know that they are performing an important (though admittedly tedious) task. Stress the importance of varietal purity but also point out that uncontrolled noxious weeds or the presence of prohibited crops such as rye in a wheat field are grounds for field rejection. Make it known that rye must be carried from the field and that even one head left behind is a problem. A crew will be less likely to leave a problem in the field if the difference between

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## KSIA Summer Seed Conference

Please mark your calendar for the annual KSIA Summer Seed Conference. The event kicks off with a golf outing at 1 p.m. Mon., July 26. The conference will be at the Ramada Conference Center in Salina Tues., July 27. Pre-registration information will be sent to members in early June. The format will be the same as last year with AgriPro, Agseco/Westbred and KWA as sponsors. If you have questions, please contact Roberta Donohue, 785-867-2160.

## Noteworthy Items

- Form B statements must be postmarked by May 1, after which a significant late fee will apply.
- Form B statements will show an acreage fee increase of \$0.25 per acre, as approved at the December 2008 board meeting.
- Lab reports are available by email. If you would like your results immediately upon completion in .pdf format, please make your request to [efkcia@kansas.net](mailto:efkcia@kansas.net).

*Things ain't what they used to be, and never were. - Will Rogers*

## ***Wheat Heading Best Time To Observe Loose Smut***

The best time to observe loose smut in a field of wheat is just as the head has emerged from the boot or shortly after. This is when the powdery, dark chocolate-colored, symptoms are most readily observed (left photo). It is important for seed producers to visit fields at this time in order to ascertain if loose smut is present.



Later in the season, as the wheat matures, wind and rain remove the powdery mass leaving only the rachis (right photo). The bare rachis is more difficult to observe among the maturing heads of wheat.

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prohibited and objectionable weeds and how to deal with each is explained.

Weed identification can often be troubling for persons new to the task. Properly identifying and isolating or removing prohibited weeds is important. Likewise, it is important that a roguing crew not waste time isolating weeds that are not an issue.

Members should already have a copy of both the certification standards and the procedures. The standards and procedures are also posted on the KCIA website at [kscrop.org](http://kscrop.org) under resources. In addition, on the website under technical aids will be listed some links that will serve as an aid to weed identification.

Lastly, be sure to stress the importance of drinking plenty of water and dressing appropriately to avoid heat exhaustion or potentially deadly heat stroke should the weather turn warm.

## ***Some Reminders When Preparing Wheat Fields For Inspection***

1. Make sure the field borders are clearly defined so that the inspector can tell where one field ends and one begins.
2. Make sure the field meets separation and isolation requirements. While it may suffice to indicate your isolation intentions on the field map, if uncontrolled prohibited weeds are in that isolation strip, then either the isolation strip or the problem weed areas must be staked to isolate it from the rest of the field.
3. Make sure there were no planting errors that place varietal purity at risk.
4. Make sure there are no uncontrolled prohibited weeds at any maturity present in the field, or, if present, they are properly controlled by mowing, chemical spray, or staking. If staking to isolate problem areas, stakes must be visible above the canopy and clearly define the problem area while fully enclosing the prohibited weeds. Regardless of method used, control must be 100 percent.
5. Make sure there is no rye or triticale in the field. Rogue and remove from the field any plants found.

As harvest nears, if you have not heard from a field inspector 7 to 10 days prior to harvest, contact the KCIA office immediately. If you have questions do not hesitate to call KCIA.

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Association

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