



The Seed Source

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

August 2010

Important Dates

July 25 - Application for field inspection on fall-inspected crops was due

August 15 - Wheat Harvest Reports due

September 1 - Payment for fall-inspected crops due

September 1 - Soybean distribution summaries due

September 1 - Bulk site renewals due

September 6 - Labor Day - KCIA office is closed

Other Significant Dates

September 11 - Patriot Day
September 23 - First day of Autumn

"To me, every hour of the day and night is an inspeakably perfect miracle"- Walter Chrysler

THE SEED SOURCE

If you would like to receive "The Seed Source" via email, please contact us at kscrop@kansas.net

KSIA Recognizes Johnson, Kuhn, Urbauer, For Service to Kansas Seed Industry

Chuck Johnson formerly with AgriPro, and Ardyce Kuhn and Nancy Urbauer, KCIA staffers, were recognized at the Kansas Seed Industry Association (KSIA) summer meeting in Salina, July 27, for their years of service to KSIA and the Kansas seed industry. Sam Datteri, president of KSIA, presented Chuck with an honorary lifetime membership in KSIA. Ardyce and Nancy each received a dried-flower arrangement as a token of appreciation for their service.

Chuck (pictured with wife Monette) had been a Regional Business Manager for AgriPro for 16 years up to his retirement in 2005. Prior to that he had worked for family-owned Johnson elevators. He has been a member of KSIA for 30 years, serving as a Board member from 1988 to 1994 and as Board President in 1993. The AgriPro wheat variety "CJ" was named in honor of Chuck. He is well-known and well-thought of in the seed wheat community. He is also notorious for his sense of humor and ability to tell a good story.



Ardyce had worked at KCIA full-time since May of 1957 before going part-time as bookkeeper in 2005.

Over the years Ardyce has served as Certification Clerk, Office Manager, and Bookkeeper. Ardyce has followed KCIA from its offices in Waters Hall and Call Hall on the KSU campus to the current KCIA office. Ardyce says she can remember when inspectors had to be on hand to seal every bag of certified seed and when many more kinds of crops such as corn and watermelon were certified.



Nancy began with KCIA in August 1985 and will complete 25 years this August. She was hired, according to Nancy, as a "tag lady". Today, as Records Specialist, Nancy is responsible for maintaining certification records, including the unsavory job of issuing notifications of violations for non-compliance to seed law and certification standards. Nancy also takes care of planning meetings and arranging accommodations, and preparing materials such as the grower directories and arranging material for advertisements. Nancy is generally the main point of contact for people calling the KCIA office. In 2007 Nancy completed requirements at K-State for a BS degree in Arts & Sciences with emphasis on history and psychology.

Noteworthy Items

*Harvest Reports for certified wheat fields due August 15.

*When submitting certified samples, if you are sending sample bags in a box, please DO NOT put the Form D in the bag. Simply write the D number on the bag and leave the form loose in the box. This speeds up the sample preparation time and entry into the computer.

*Fall crop applications have been sent out. If you did not receive applications and have fields for certification, please contact the KCIA office.

*Lab reports are available by email. If you would like your results immediately upon completion in .pdf format, please make your request to efkia@kansas.net.

Seed Laboratory Update - *Eric Fabrizius*

The seed testing laboratory is in high gear right now, as wheat samples are coming in quite heavy. Seed quality, in general, is very good. Once again, we have not totally escaped having to deal with Head Scab (*Fusarium* spp.) infections in some lots. Several samples from the central and eastern parts of the state have shown some level of infection in the germination tests, however, most have not caused dramatic reductions in germination. Germination is currently averaging 96.4% on final certification samples, with test weight averaging 62.0 pounds per bushel and a high of 65.1.

Many of you who have dealt with scab in the past have heard some of my recommendations on dealing with the situation. First, good cleaning of the seed is critical. Removal of the “tombstone” kernels is very important. These shriveled, chalky looking seed are the most heavily infected seed in which the fungus has likely killed the embryo. Ideally, running the seed over a gravity table will remove the majority of these problematic seeds.

When tombstone kernels are present in a lot, it means that the other “normal” looking seed also has some level of infection in the seed coat; however, the fungus has not likely killed the embryo. Time can be the best remedy for these seeds. The *Fusarium* fungus is very short-lived and can die out rather quickly. While an initial germination test after harvest may show significant reductions in germination, another test closer to planting time may improve significantly, as the fungus has died out.

Finally, fungicide seed treatments can also be very effective for improving the germination of the seed. The KCIA laboratory offers an in-house treated germination test, in which we will apply a fungicide and conduct a second germination test. We have seen germination results increase by as much as 20 percentage points, however the improvement will vary by lot. There are several fungicides available in the marketplace and it is recommended that should you decide to treat a seed lot to improve the germination, that you treat a sample with the product you select and submit the sample for a germination test.

2010 Kansas Wheat Seed Book in August 2 High Plains Journal

The 2010 Kansas Wheat Seed Book can be found in the August 2 edition of the High Plains Journal. The seed book is also on our website at www.kscrop.org. A notable change to the directory is the addition of carryover seed. Certified seed producers that produced a variety in 2009 but not in 2010 are listed under that variety if they have carryover seed on record with KCIA.

Harvest Reports Due By August 15th

Please ensure that harvest reports for certified wheat fields are in the KCIA office by the August 15th due date. KCIA mailed harvest report forms to producers in July. Total harvested seed from each certified field is reported to KCIA using this form. Exact amounts are not required, but reasonable estimates are. KCIA uses this information to reconcile seed amounts for seed lot samples submitted for testing.

Fall-inspected Crops

Applications for field inspection of fall-inspected certified crops were due July 25. If you have not received field applications for your crops please contact KCIA to request them. Payment for certification of fall-inspected crops is due by September 1.

Bulk Retail Facilities (BRF) and Bulk Distribution Center (BDC) Renewal

Annual renewal is required for bulk retail facilities and bulk distribution centers to continue handling Kansas Certified Seed in bulk. Applications for renewal were sent to current BRFs and BDCs in July and are due Sept. 1. If planning to renew bulk-handling status for 2010, please submit applications to KCIA prior to receiving bulk seed for sale.

For new facilities wishing to handle bulk Kansas Certified Seed, a facility inspection is required prior to receiving or handling seed. Information on standards and requirements for either BRFs or BDCs can be found at www.kscrop.org, or by calling KCIA.

Weed Control In Certified Fields

Certified seed producers dealing with problem weeds in certified fields may want to explore options that might be available for fall application. In addition to your local herbicide expert, a good source of information on chemical weed control in Kansas is the 2010 *Chemical Weed Control for Field Crops, Pastures, Rangeland, and Cropland*. This is extension publication SRP1007 and can be found online at <http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/crpsl2/srp1007.pdf>.

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