



The Seed Source

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

March 2009

Important Dates

March 8

Daylight Saving Time
"Spring Forward"

March 15

Application for Field
Inspections on Summer
Inspected Crops Due

March 17

St. Patrick's Day

March 20

First day of Spring

March 24

Salina Growers Meeting
4pm, Holiday Inn

March 26

Hutchinson Growers Meeting
12pm, Sirloin Stockade

March 31

Hays Growers Meeting
12pm, Golden Coral

KSIA coloring books are available for schools, churches, or whatever you please. Just contact the office to make arrangements.

THE SEED SOURCE

Sarah E. Velasquez, Editor

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

2009 KCIA/KSIA Annual Meeting

The 2009 KCIA/KSIA Annual Meeting was held this year in Wichita, KS, February 4-5.

The agenda included business meetings for the Kansas Crop Improvement Association, the Kansas Seed Industry Association, and the Kansas Wheat Alliance. These business meetings included elections for board members and officers. All the KCIA positions up for election retained their previous officials. The KSIA elections resulted in Brett Myers, McPherson, as President, Sam Datteri, St. Paul, as 1st Vice President, and JR Miller, Sedgwick, as 2nd Vice President. Tom Morton of Oxford was elected to the at-large seat on the KWA board.

A variety of speakers presented on seed related topics. One of the more popular sessions was the Seed Certification Forum presented by Eric Fabrizius, KCIA Seed Laboratory Manager, and Steve Schuler, Director Certification Services.



This forum covered submission of laboratory samples, changes in the Standards and Procedures, and a new form to be implemented this year.

The meeting also offered a trade show and an awards luncheon.

Ahring Honored with Premier Seed Grower Award



Steve Ahring of DeLange Seed, Girard, was given top honors by the Kansas Crop Improvement Association at its annual meeting in Wichita. Ahring was named the 2008 Premier Seed Grower at the luncheon banquet on February 4th.

To qualify for the award, members must have several years of experience as a certified seed producer, their business must have certified seed as a major project, must exhibit quality

See "Ahring" on reverse

Late Field Fees Increase

March 15th is the deadline for the *Application for Field Inspection* form (Form A) on summer crops. Processing these applications has already begun, and a *Statement of Fields Applied For* form (Form B) will be mailed by the second week of April. Please review your statements for accuracy before returning them to KCIA. Also remember this statement needs to be postmarked by May 1st or earlier to avoid the assessment of a penalty.

Previously the late filing fee was \$50 a field. However, this late fee has been revised to \$100 a field. If you have any questions about the procedures for applying for certification, please contact the KCIA office.

Field Inspectors Needed

Do you know a teacher, recently retired individual, or a reliable person that is looking for a summer employment? If so, KCIA is looking for a few more inspectors for the upcoming wheat harvest.

The position of field inspector entails outdoor exposure, walking certified seed fields, and recording data. Training is provided. This position is seasonal, however we always welcome good inspectors to return the following year. If this sounds like something you are interested in, or know someone that might fit the bill, please contact Steve Schuler, Director Certification Services, at 785-532-6118.

Get to know your KCIA Board and Staff: Eric Fabrizio



Name: Eric Fabrizio

Position: Seed Laboratory Manager

Family: Wife Jennifer; Children Madison, 15, and Ethan, 13.

Hobbies/Interests: Hunting, fishing, and coaching my kids in baseball and softball.

Most important issues for KCIA: Keep doing what we do best ~ provide high quality, genetically pure seed to Kansas producers.

The best things in life are... Seeing the sun rise in the morning... and getting to enjoy it.

Spring Growers Meetings Heading Your Way

Spring certification is quickly coming upon us, and to keep ahead of the game you should attend a growers meeting. These meetings provide an opportunity to ask questions, stay on top of changes in the Standards and Procedures, and discuss seed production and certification practices.

Three meetings will be offered this spring. The first meeting will be in Salina at the Holiday Inn, 1616 W. Crawford, at 4pm following the Agripro Kickoff. The next meeting will be held March 26th in Hutchinson at the Sirloin Stockade, 1526 East 17th, at 12pm. The last meeting will be March 31st in Hays at the Golden Coral, 383 West Mopar Drive, at 12pm.

All of the growers meetings will include a meal. To ensure we have enough food for everyone it is important for us to have an approximate head count. If you plan to attend any of these events, please RSVP to the office or email me at sevkcia@kansas.net.

“Ahring” continued

consciousness in all production and sales practices, and must be involved in public service activities.

Ahring grew up in Oklahoma, and came to Kansas to attend college. He is a graduate of Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in Agronomy. Agriculture has been a significant part of his life with his dedication to the seed industry for over 20 years.

His accomplishments in the industry include participation in the making of the video “What About Tomorrow,” published by the Kansas Seed Industry Association, emphasizing the importance of certified seed. Further highlighting his leadership, our recipient has served on both the Kansas Crop Improvement Association and the Kansas Seed Industry Association board of directors. He has also served on committees and boards of various other seed related organizations. He is quite active in developing relationships and marketing education within the industry to help his company and others succeed.

In recognition of his service and leadership in the seed industry he has been the recipient of prestigious awards from other organizations such as ASTA and KSIA.

Editor's Note

Is there something you would like to see in a newsletter or on the website? Do you have ideas for promotional materials or events? If so, please let me know. At KCIA we are constantly looking for better ways to serve and educate.

If you have ideas outside of the box, don't be afraid to suggest them. We are open to different ways of reaching out to our members and the public. For example, check out our video on youtube.com. Just search for “More Than Seed in the Bag” and click on the link to watch. If you have other ideas of how we can promote certified seed, please let us know.

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