



The Seed Source

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

August 2009

Important Dates

August 15

Wheat Harvest Report Due

September 1

Payment for Certification of Fall Inspected Crops Due

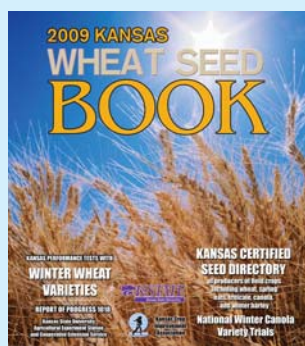
September 1

Soybean Distribution Reports Due

September 7

Labor Day
KCIA Office Closed

Reminder about seed testing! If you wish to receive your lab test results via email, let Eric know by emailing him at efkcia@kansas.net.



Keep your eyes open for the 2009 Kansas Wheat Book in the August 3rd issue of the High Plains Journal.

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

Do You Use Custom Planters?

In the last few years, custom farming operators are being utilized more and more. Among them are custom planters. As part of their service, custom planters may provide seed, treatments, and fertilizer. Some seed dealers have been concerned about farmers receiving proper information and documentation of the seed obtained from custom planters.

As noted in the KCIA standards and procedures, retailers have the responsibility of providing a seed purchaser with the seed label. They are also required to inform the customer of PVPA regulations and patents that might exist on the seed variety. This is to ensure the customer understands their responsibilities and rights as a grower, and to make certain there are no violations of the law regarding protected or patented varieties. Retailers want to make sure growers that use custom planters are getting the information they need and have a right to.

After hearing the concern of retailers, the KCIA board created a committee to investigate whether there is a need for additional provisions for custom planters. The committee has been in contact with

the Kansas Department of Agriculture to determine their thoughts on the situation. They have not formally responded with their position.

In the meantime, the committee decided to draft a program that would allow custom planters to transfer seed to the grower should the state determine this exchange to be another sale. In this instance, a custom planter would be considered a seed dealer and need to get



approved as a Bulk Retail Facility. They would be required to apply to KCIA for Bulk Retail Facility status. Since they do not possess a facility, no inspection would be required. However, protocol for equipment cleaning to ensure no cross contamination of varieties or other crops would need to be submitted. This status would then allow custom planters to seek out and buy eligible certified seed and properly distribute the label to the customer. However, keep in mind the transfer of seed from the custom planter to the grower would constitute a transfer or sale, and the limitation on the number

See "Custom" on reverse

Crop Insurance for Certified Seed

AgSeCo and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) have been discussing two possible programs for crop insurance for those that grow Certified Seed.

Program number one discusses crop insurance that specifically covers Certified Seed. In this program, RMA would set price levels for Foundation, Registered, and Certified Seed, much like they do for commodities. These levels would have a range of coverage the grower could choose from. For example, the grower could choose the commodity price for their coverage level, or higher amounts within a set range. As price selection increased the premium would also increase, as with traditional insurance coverage. The goal is to have this program into effect by August 2010.

The second program proposes to reduce premiums for those that plant Certified Seed compared with those that don't. This program will take a little more time to develop, as the value of Certified Seed compared to non-certified will have to be researched. Once the value has been thoroughly researched and quantified, premium reductions will be assessed accordingly. RMA would like several years' worth of data to determine value; therefore this project will take three to four years before it would go into effect.

Custom Continued

of transfers of certified seed would still apply.

Individuals that hire custom planters need to be aware of their rights and responsibilities. They should always receive the blue label, or a copy of the label, to verify what was planted on their property. If they have any issues with the crop, they will then have documentation of the seed planted and the contact information of the retailer. Growers also need know if the seed planted has variety protection or a patent that might prevent them from saving seed for future planting.

For more information on certified seed, or if you have questions about custom planters, please contact the KCIA office.

Ohlde Receives Seedsman Award



Left to right, Rodney Ohlde, Carol Ohlde, and Maurice Miller.

Rodney Ohlde was the recipient of the Kansas Seed Industry Association Outstanding Seedsman Award, July 27 at the 2009 Summer Seed Conference in Salina.

In 1965 Rodney joined his father Raymond at Ohlde Seed Farms in Linn, KS, which specialized in

brome, wheat, and oats. In 1981 Rodney expanded the business by adding soybeans, which were quickly followed by corn, grain sorghum, and forage in 1984.

Although he retired this year, he still functions as the financial advisor for Linn Willow Creek Dairy, and participates in many organizations and activities in his community. Currently the seed business is managed by Rodney's nephew Shane.

Rodney has been a member of KSIA for many years, serving on the Board of Directors and as president from 1992-93.

Congratulations to Rodney for his receipt of the Outstanding Seedsman Award, and his dedication to the seed industry in Kansas.

Polansky Named to Farm Service Agency

Kansas Secretary of Agriculture, Adrian Polansky, has been chosen as the head of the Farm Service Agency in Kansas for the USDA. Polansky previously held this position during the Clinton Administration from 1999 to 2001.

In 1972 Polansky graduated from Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in agronomy. Besides his positions in government, he is also the owner of Polansky Seed in Belleville, KS. He is active in many agricultural programs in Kansas, including KCIA, which he has been a member of since 1964. He served as president of KCIA from 1986 to 1987, and received the Premier Seed Grower Award in 1986.

Polansky has received several other awards related to agriculture from the USDA, Kansas Association of Wheat Growers, Kansas Crops and Soils Industry and the Biotechnology Industry Association to name a few.

In 2003, Polansky was appointed as Secretary of Agriculture for Kansas. This position has been filled by John Svaty from Ellsworth county.

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) manages programs to improve agricultural economic stability. State offices directly implement FSA programs such as disaster payments, conservation programs, commodity operations, and economic policy to name a few. For more information on the FSA, please visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

Get to know your KCIA Board and Staff: Herb Mattson



Name: Herb Mattson

Business: Mattson Farms

Position: Board Member, KSIA Representative.

Family: Wife Brenda;

Sons Jason, Justin, Ben, Nic; daughter Cassie.

Organizations: Kansas Seed Industry Association, Kansas Wheat Alliance, Kansas Wheat Growers, Trinity Lutheran Church.

Hobbies/Interests: Cattle, grandchildren, and family get-togethers.

Most important issues for KCIA: Quality programs for the future of wheat, ongoing efforts working with KWA, increasing certification acres, and maintaining a happy and content staff.

Goals in life are. . . Faith and family.

Editor's Note

If you are up for a challenge, Kansas Wheat is hosting their first wheat yield contest. The state will be divided into three regions, and a winner from each region will be awarded \$1000.

If a Certified Crop Advisor assists any of the winners, they will be awarded \$500 for their services.

The cost per entry is \$50, which must be submitted with a completed entry form by January 15, 2010.

For more info about the contest please visit www.kansaswheat.org.



Kansas Crop Improvement Association

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