



The Seed Source

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

April-May 2016

Important Dates

!!March 15 - Past Due!! - Field applications due in office.

!!May 2 - Form B payments due in office

May 30 - Memorial Day- KCIA Office Closed

July 4 - Independence Day - KCIA Office Closed

July 25 - Applications for Fall-inspected crops due

Other Important Dates

April 15 - Tax Day

April 22 - Earth Day

May 5 - National Day of Prayer

May 8 - Mothers Day

June 14 - Flag Day

June 19 - Fathers Day

June 20 - First Day of Summer

“By the time you get close to the answers, it’s nearly all over.” - Merle Haggard

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

Nicholas Recognized As KCIA Premier Seed Grower

Wendell Nicholas (right), Johnson, Kansas was named 2015 Premier Seed Grower by Kansas Crop Improvement Association at the 2016 Kansas Seed and Crops Conference held in Manhattan on February 17.

KCIA President Darwin Ediger (left) announced the winner.

To qualify for the award, members must have several years of experience as a certified seed producer, with certified seed being a major component of their business, must exhibit quality consciousness in all production and sales practices, and must be involved in public service activities.

Nicholas grew up on the farm his family has owned since 1919, and upon graduating from Fort Hays State University, returned to that farm to continue to help his father produce corn, wheat and sorghum. Today he produces certified wheat seed, and commodity wheat and corn.

In 1988 Nicholas started growing hybrid wheat for Hybritech Seed and since that time has developed and grown his seed business. In recent years he has grown hard white winter wheat, being one of the staple forces in the promotion, production and sales of high quality white wheat seed and white wheat grain. He has served his industry well, both as a certified seed grower and as a KCIA approved conditioner.

In 2014, Nicholas was recognized as an innovator in farming by Kansas Water & Energy Progress for the contributions he has made with subsurface drip-irrigation in Stanton County. He is also a leader in his community, having served on the local school board and various boards within his church. He currently serves on the Senior Center Board.

Wendell and his wife Nancy have two daughters; Becky, a physician in the Kansas City area, with her husband Steve and their two sons Jacob and Lucas; and Niki, a veterinarian in Ft. Collins, CO, with her husband Cody and their 6-month-old daughter Emory.

Since its inception in 1930, 163 Premier Seed Grower awards have been presented. Recipients are selected by ballot with previous year’s honorees casting the votes. The award presentation is sponsored by the High Plains Journal.

Statement of Fields Applied for Inspection (Form B)

Statements for fields applied for inspection will be sent the week of April 11. Payment must be received at our office by Monday May 2 to avoid the potential of having penalties applied. Due to the short turn around, please give the statement your immediate attention. **(continued, page 2, Statements)**



Statements (from page 1)

Surprisingly, we are still awaiting applications from a few members, and this will make it exceedingly difficult for them to meet the payment deadline. We would like to take this opportunity to remind our members that it is important for planning purposes that we have a good estimate of what inspection needs will be, to have

inspectors in place and, to ensure that inspectors receive their field assignments in a timely manner.

Please remember, any field listed on the statement can be cancelled by simply drawing a single line through that item, and recalculating your payment.

Please check the field information listed on the statement, and correct any errors. Pay particular attention to the variety listed for each field, and class of seed being produced.

Read the acknowledgement prior to signing your statement, sign, and return to us with payment by May 2. If you have a credit on your account with us, please inform us if you wish to apply that to your payment.

www.kscrop.org

We would like to remind you that your Association website contains information useful to you as a certified seed grower. Not only will you find the current Standards, but also procedures that will help you meet your responsibilities as a certified grower.

In addition, we would like to remind you that we have placed under “certification resources > technical aids”, a clear and concise outline of all steps involved in Kansas seed certification we call a “Quick Guide to Kansas Seed Certification” which will allow you in just a few minutes to understand the proper, and legal way to participate in seed certification. There is also information posted on completing forms, conducting consolidations and meeting inspection requirements.

Your rogueing crews may find some of the information useful.

As always, if you have a question, especially if you are a new member, we prefer you give us a call rather than find yourself in violation of seed law, intellectual property rights, or having a field or seed sample rejected.

This is your Association, and we the staff are here to help you meet your obligations in maintaining a strong seed certification program for the benefit of the membership as a whole, and to the seed buying public.

Beta Testing of myfields Electronic Form Submittal Proceeding

We have solicited the help of several members to help us beta test our new electronic form submittal program, which will be fully implemented Fall of 2016, barring any unforeseen circumstances. It has been going well, and we have caught and repaired a couple of glitches. We are also gaining insight into how best to train members in using the new program.

I think everyone, even the skeptical, will find this program easy to use. It was designed to be so. Just how easy it will be will depend largely on how each member is prepared when the time comes to enter fields and it is probably appropriate to develop those habits now. We will cover these items in our training sessions later this summer.

Internet access will be necessary, either in your home, the public library, or, if you have a tablet or wireless laptop computer, a local wifi spot. So, now is the time to get up to speed in using a computer, or accessing the internet, if you have been avoiding it up til now.

Also, if you are not in the habit of using planting records, or requiring your contract growers to, now is the time to start. GPS coordinates will also be a big assist in locating fields when using our new program.

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Association

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