



The Seed Source

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

April -May 2017

Important Dates

PAST DUE!!

March 15 - Due Date for Electronic Filing of Field Applications on myfields

May 1 - Payment Due for acres applied for inspection.

May 29 - Memorial Day - Office closed

July 4 - Independence Day - Office closed

Other Dates

April 14th - Good Friday

April 16th - Easter Sunday

May 14th - Mother's Day

June 18th - Father's Day

The Seed Source

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

Thanks To Our Membership for Successful myfields Kickoff

It has been an experience for us, as it has for most of you, this first season using the new myfields portal for submitting field applications. We thought there might be some glitches, and there were, and likely will be still, but Wendy Johnson and Brian McCornack have been on top of things, and whenever things went haywire, they were pretty quick to get it fixed.

I commend our membership for graciously accepting the challenge and doing an admirable job, in general, of adopting the new format. Many were able to complete field applications without assistance, and we gladly helped those that needed guidance. We understand that there are refinements and additional tools that will be of use to our members and in this regard, we will welcome member comments.

Beyond the field application portion, KCIA is now refining how to best process the application information received to produce the Form B statements to the members and distribute field information the field inspectors.

So, when your statement arrives, please review it with more than the usual scrutiny to ensure that the field information is correct for your operation. Make sure all of your fields are listed and are accurate for acres, variety and class produced.

My hat is off to the members of KCIA for making our new electronic field application a success so far.

Field Applications Were Due March 15

We figure we have received over 95% of expected acres applied for. However, we also know that there are some intending to certify that have not yet made application. Some may have very good reasons for not making the deadline but it is important to remember that KCIA is not obligated to accept very late fields, especially when one considers that most have been in the ground since last October. If you have fields to apply for, I suggest application be made in the next couple of days. If the electronic application is preventing your forward movement, then please call Steve Schuler and he will be happy to walk you through it.

Form B Statements

Staff is currently working on getting the Statement of Fields Applied For Certification prepared and mailed to members. As this is the first season for generating the statement using data downloads from myfields, Eric has been busy ensuring that the information on your statement is accurate. However, Eric asks your assistance by being extra diligent when reviewing your statement to ensure that the field information is correct. Be sure to confirm number of fields, acres, variety and class produced for each entry. Ensure all fields have been included.

If you wish to cancel a field on your statement, simply draw a line through that field and recalculate charges. If you find an error, such as a "registered" that should be a "certified", draw a line through the error and write in the correct entry.

Field Inspection

Even though we have entered the electronic age, the outward face of field inspection will actually change very little from what you have known. The inspector is still instructed to contact you prior to conducting inspection and give you a chance to cancel any fields. You should also be contacted when the inspector completes your fields. I plan this year to have the inspectors complete the inspection report on paper - *continued page 2*

and then upload the report into myfields. As a grower, you will be able to go into your myfields account and see your inspector's name and the status of your fields. Our plans are that myfields will give our inspectors enhanced navigation capabilities to more easily locate the correct fields.

One thing that certainly won't change is the need to ensure that your fields are properly prepared and able to pass field inspection. Remember, any problem in the field at planting is likely still a problem and will need to be addressed prior to inspection.

Field cancellation – you may cancel a field at any time up to the moment the inspector steps into the field. You will need to email your intention to cancel a field to KCIA so we have record of your request and to avoid any confusion on your part as to which field was rejected.

Re-inspection –if you have a field rejected for a correctable situation you can decide to pay to have it re-inspected. Notify the inspector of your intentions. The re-inspection will be conducted when the inspector's schedule allows.

Preparing Fields

1. Include a visit to each field at early heading. This is good time to spot loose smut as well as differences in plant color and height.
2. Make sure the field borders are clearly defined so that the inspector can tell where one field ends and another begins. All fields must be clearly demarcated.
3. Make sure the field meets separation and isolation requirements.
4. Make sure there were no planting errors that place varietal purity at risk.
5. Make sure uncontrolled prohibited weeds, at any maturity, are not present in the field, or, if present, that 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 the method used, control must be 100 percent.
6. Make sure there is no rye or triticale in the wheat fields. Rogue and remove from the field any plants found.
7. **Take some time to ensure that each member of the rogueing crew is properly trained.** Be sure to review the field standards with them. Don't send crews out with one specific goal such as "look for bindweed" but train them to spot other problems as well.

The sole task of the field inspector is to provide eyewitness verification that a field meets certification requirements. The inspector is not allowed to assist an applicant in getting a field to pass inspection as this would diminish the importance of third-party, unbiased, verification. Please be proactive with your field inspector and point out any concerns you may have regarding a particular field as it is to the benefit of all.

Best wishes for a safe and productive harvest season!

"Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil and your're a thousand miles from the corn field" - Dwight D. Eisenhower

"There are some acts of justice which corrupt those who perform them" - Joseph Joubert

Kansas Crop Improvement
Association

785/532-6118

2000 Kimball Ave.
Manhattan, KS 66502

kscrop@kansas.net
www.kscrop.org