

Field Inspected

KCIA Field Inspections

The purpose of a field inspection is to view a field as it is intended to be harvested for seed and to verify that it meets standards set by KCIA for the class of seed being produced.

KCIA field inspectors are trained at seed clinics to inspect fields in a uniform and reliable manner. A field inspector will inspect a field to determine if the field meets standards adopted by KCIA after the crop has begun to ripen, but before harvest.



It is the seed producer's responsibility that the field meets the set standards; it is the field inspector's responsibility to examine each field and make a fair and knowledgeable decision as to whether or not the field meets standards.

Quality Assurance & Identity Preserved Programs

KCIA can also provide field and laboratory services beyond seed certification to support Quality Assurance and Identity preserved programs for seed and grain production. Where seed certification is not required, companies may choose to use certification standards as guidelines or may customize guidelines to meet their customer's specific requirements.

As new technologies enter the marketplace, KCIA will deliver new testing procedures and standards critical to the success of seed producers. As the seed industry evolves to accommodate the products of biotechnology, so will the Kansas Crop Improvement Association.

Laboratory Tested

Why should seed be tested?

The crop you harvest can only be as good as the seed you plant. No amount of extra fertilizer, favorable weather or chemicals can make up for poor quality seed.

The easiest and safest way to determine seed quality is to have it tested at a qualified seed testing laboratory. KCIA is recognized by the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists (SCST) and the Association of Official Seed Analysis (AOSA).



KCIA Laboratory Tests

- Protein
- Germination
- Cold Test
- Purity Analysis
- Seed Size
- Noxious Weed Examination
- USA Noxious Weed Examination
- Caryopsis Count
- Tetrazolium (TZ)
- Accelerated Aging (AA)

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Kansas
Crop Improvement
Association



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History

Est. 1902

KCIA was organized in cooperation with the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station in 1902 to improve the kinds of corn grown in Kansas. The group was first known as the Kansas Seed Corn Breeders Association.

In a short time, it was realized that varietal improvement of other crops should be included as well. In 1914, the group changed its name to the Kansas Crop Improvement Association. In 1919, Kanred wheat became the first variety inspected for certification. Since then, KCIA has certified seed of all principle crops in Kansas.

KCIA has been the sole agency responsible for seed certification in the state. In 1937, the state legislature passed the Kansas Certification Law, authorizing Kansas State University to designate the state's official seed certifying agency.

Organization



The Kansas Crop Improvement Association (KCIA) is the official seed and plant part certifying agency in Kansas. It is incorporated as a not-for-profit organization. KCIA consists of an open membership of growers and seed dealers who elect from among themselves ten members to serve on the 13-person KCIA board of directors.

Mission

To create the opportunity for our members to participate in integrity based quality assurance programs that provide superior seed and plant products. We utilize research, education, certification and uniform standards that result in safe, stable, secure seedstock supply.

Membership

All activities of the Association are financed entirely through fees. Anyone interested in and supportive of the objectives of KCIA may become a member by paying an annual membership fee.

Location

KCIA's office and headquarters are located on the Kansas State University Agronomy Farm in Manhattan, Kansas.



Cooperation

Coordination with other state certification agencies is accomplished through the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA). A close working relationship is maintained with state and federal seed law enforcement agencies and seed laboratories.



Board of Directors

The ten elected directors, from various regions of the state, along with one director appointed by the Kansas Seed Industry Association, the head of the Agronomy department at K-State and the director of the Kansas Cooperative Extension Service, govern and establish policy for the membership. Officers are elected from the existing board members. Serving under the Board is the Executive Director and staff of professional employees.

Staff

Steve Schuler, Exec. Dir./Inspections Manager
Eric Fabrizius, Assoc. Dir./Laboratory Manager
Nancy Urbauer, Records Specialist
Ardyce Kuhn, Bookkeeper
Pam Steinmeyer, Registered Seed Technologist
Rayshell Colson, Registered Seed Technologist