



The Seed Source

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Important Dates

NOTICE

February 18-19, 2020 - Annual Business Meeting and Seed and Crops Conference, Manhattan

November 28-29 - KCIA closed for Thanksgiving

**December 15 - Distribution reports due
- Bulk Retail Facility summaries due**

Other Important Dates

November 3 - Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 11 - Veterans Day

Note:

All Bulk Retail Facilities and your Bulk Distribution Centers should be renewed or registered by now

Welcome to our newest Members:

**Kara Gardens, LLC
ReQua Family Farm
Kanza Cooperative
Frontier Ag Inc
Ag Strategies of KS, LLC**

The Seed Source

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

Ardyce Kuhn Bids Farewell to KCIA After 65 Years

Ardyce Kuhn retired in August after serving KCIA members and staff in fine fashion for 65 years.

Ardyce joined the KCIA staff in 1956. Since that time she has followed KCIA from Waters Hall on the K-State campus, to temporary barracks after a fire at Waters Hall forced displacement of the office, to Call Hall then finally to its current location at 2000 Kimball Avenue, the nice new building built by membership in 1986.

Looking back, Ardyce remembers when all records were recorded by hand on paper and the many long nights printing tags and hand-typing Certificates of Inspection, as well as the progression through the years of more and more automation and computerization which made the task somewhat more efficient.

Ardyce served KCIA with various titles such as Certification Clerk, Chief Clerk, Bookkeeper and Secretary and was a very adept and willing staff member. Around the year 2000, Ardyce went to part-time employment and served KCIA well since then as bookkeeper.

Ardyce says that she intends to use her new-found freedom to do yard work, volunteer work and take weekend trips.

The office is not the same without Ardyce. We wish her a long and happy retirement. It is well-deserved.



2020 Kansas Crop and Seed Conference

We are ramping up our efforts to prepare for the 2020 Kansas Seed and Crops Conference February 18-19 at the Manhattan Hilton Garden Inn. Our website will be updated soon with registration information and hotel reservation links.

We have already arranged for two speakers at our Tuesday afternoon sessions and the information given will make it well worth your while to attend. That evening will be the mixer in the exhibitor hall. Wednesday morning is reserved for the KCIA, KSIA and KWA annual business meetings. Plan to stay through Wednesday's meetings for an opportunity to wish Ardyce well in her retirement and enjoy the annual luncheon before you head out.

His presentation at our 2019 conference was so well received that he was requested again. His company, Alterrain, helps companies realize their full potential in marketing and sales. We've invited David Dam back to continue his training session on marketing product. Especially if you missed David last year, but even if you attended, you'll want to catch part 2 at our conference this year.

We've also asked Mike Miller, a wheat farmer from the state of Washington to speak. Mike has served on the Washington Grain Commission and has served with U.S Wheat Associates both as Chair and as the Washington representative for US Wheat Associates. He has been involved in Washington's wheat industry, helping to build international trade for Washington grown wheat and also building the state's reputation for quality.

We have the Hilton Garden Inn reserved from 8:00am Tuesday to 5:00pm Wednesday. We will be seeking to fill the remaining time with speakers and business and will keep you posted on the conference through mailings and the conference page of our website.

We are currently seeking sponsors and exhibitors on a first come, first served basis.

Maddy Nichapor Takes Reserve Champion in 4H Wheat Variety Plot Contest

Maddy Nichapor, daughter of Steve and Brittany Nichapor, received \$150 and a plaque from KCIA for her Reserve Champion showing in the 2019 4H Wheat Variety Plot Contest. Maddy is a member of the Walnut Creek District, Ness City. Steve Schuler presented the prize to Maddy September 7 at the Kansas State Fair.

Contestants grow wheat variety trials then present findings in a display that is judged for its educational content and quality of the display. Maddy's display was titled *Wheat's Run for The Roses*.

Contest winners were 1st Place - Jacob Bell, Wild West District - Hugoton, 2nd Place (Reserve Champion) – Maddy Nichapor, Walnut Creek District – Ness City, 3rd Place – Ryan Myers, Central Kansas District – Minneapolis, and 4th Place – Truman Hooker, Sunflower District – Goodland. Contest sponsors are: 1st Place-Kansas Wheat Commission, 2nd Place-Kansas Crop Improvement Association, 3rd and 4th Place – co-sponsored by Kansas Grain and Feed Association and Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association.



KCIA Moves Forward With Certification Software

We are excited to announce that KCIA has signed a contract with JNT Company LLC, Manhattan to develop a web-based electronic certification system. The system as envisioned will allow better tracking of seed by both growers and KCIA staff and will enhance and eventually considerably speed up some operations such as seed transfers and resales and labeling retail sales. This will be an expansion of our current seed lab dashboard currently available to KCIA members and other seed lab clients.

We have directed the company to concentrate on ease of use by our members. Since the program will track seed movement and inventory through each season, it will eliminate having to mail in distribution reports each December. It will also ease the grower's responsibility to submit production reports to genetics providers per their associate contract agreements.

KCIA will strive to ease any trepidation our members may have as we move to a more or less paperless program. We expect the transition to take a little over a year but our goal is to get a working system in place as soon as feasible.

As always, please feel free to contact us regarding this.

Seed Lab Update

The 2019 wheat testing season is pretty well behind us now and a challenging season it was.

Between the late harvest and issues with Fusarium head scab, the lab was a very busy place for the last two months. The Fusarium issues did not impact quite as large of a geographical area as was seen in 2015 but nonetheless, those producers who had it had to work diligently to deal with the problem.

The overall germination average for untreated, new crop certified lots was 94.9%, down from the 97.2% observed last year, due almost entirely to the fungal infection. The increased awareness of the infection also resulted in the lab receiving nearly 300 more samples than last year between August 1 and October 1. In the end, certified seed producers once again showed their dedication to seed quality as the nearly all of the seed lots were able to meet standards.

Axigen® and Clearfield® Confirm testing was met with great success this season as a number of samples were tested for Kansas and Oklahoma producers. We hope that adding these tests to our services proved to be more convenient for you.



The online Lab Dashboard has had a number of registrants since its announcement and we hope you are finding it to be a useful tool for lab results. If you have not yet signed up but would like to, please visit our website at www.kscrop.org and click on "Seed Lab Dashboard" above Important Dates. As a new user, you will need to first Register and then once we have confirmed your account, you will be able to log on and view/print/email/export on demand your lab results of samples submitted to the lab.

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Association**

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