



# The Seed Source

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

April-May 2019

## Important Dates

### NOTICE

**May 1 - Payment for Summer-Inspected Crops Due. Penalties may be assessed after this date!!**

**May 27 - Memorial Day  
KCIA Office Closed**

### Other Dates

May 12 - Mother's Day  
May 18 - Armed Forces Day  
June 14 - Flag Day  
June 16 - Father's Day  
June 21 - Summer begins

### Annual Meeting Wrap-Up

- 82 KCIA Members out of 159 Pre-Registrations
- 22 Exhibitors and Sponsors with 88% Satisfaction Rating for the separate Exhibitor's Hall this year
- 79% Satisfaction Rating for speaker David Dam on Business Value
- 75% Satisfaction Rating for speaker Rick Novak on Industrial Hemp
- 98% Satisfaction Rating for the facilities at the Manhattan Conference Center
- 75% Choose Manhattan, KS as preferred location (but thanks to whoever put Maui)
- 84% Satisfaction Rating for the Social Mixer

*If you would like to receive "The Seed Source" via email, please contact us at [kscrop@kansas.net](mailto:kscrop@kansas.net)*

### Tom Pauly named 2018 Premier Seed Grower by KCIA

Tom Pauly of Conway Springs, Kansas was awarded the title of Premier Seed Grower for 2018 by Kansas Crop Improvement Association on February 20<sup>th</sup> at the annual Seed and Crops Conference held in Manhattan, Kansas.

A life-long farmer, Pauly (center in photo at right), along with his wife Laura and nephew Andrew Devlin, farm over 1,500 acres as Tom Pauly Farm. Tom Pauly Farm grows wheat, corn, soybeans and has operated a very successful Certified Seed Wheat business for the past 20 years.

Pauly served as South Central Director to Kansas Crop Improvement Association from 2006-2015. Through his formal ties to KCIA and his everyday farming and seed growing practices Pauly has been a passionate advocate for quality seed production and distribution. He believes this is a necessary aspect of modern agriculture and a key foundation for healthy



family farm businesses. He is motivated by new ideas and caring for the land through no-till farming practices to be a good steward of the land and do the best he can for future generations.

The Premier Seed Grower award was presented by KCIA Board President Mike Sieck (left in photo at left).



Since its inception in 1930, 166 Premier Seed Grower awards have been presented by Kansas Crop Improvement Association (KCIA). To qualify for the award, the recipient 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. Recipients are selected by ballot with previous year's honorees casting the votes.

### Payment for field application and Inspection Due May 1<sup>st</sup>

We all know we had a wet October 2018 planting season; in fact the US had the sixth-wettest October ever recorded. All that moisture makes it harder to work in the field, so hopefully you spent those rainy days online with myFields getting ready for certification. If not, you can still submit late field applications through [www.myFields.info](http://www.myFields.info) and our goal is to review your applications within one week of receipt.

For all the lovely people who submitted applications and have all their 2018 paperwork completed, your next deadline to note is **May 1<sup>st</sup>**. The Statements for Fields Applied for Inspection were mailed last week, and your payment is due on May 1<sup>st</sup>. You can certainly pay after that, but there are steep late fees, so pay attention; you have 2 weeks left!

If you have any questions, please call our office. If you have any extra Easter candy Erica prefers dark chocolate but no homeless candy would be turned away. If you need to make any corrections, please mark it directly on the white copy of your Form B statement prior to returning it with payment. You can cancel a field by drawing a line through it and refiguring your payment. Please double check that the correct acres and certified class are listed. Remember, have your payment postmarked by Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Know Someone Who Would Make A Good Field Inspector?

We have been contacting school districts in the hopes of finding persons that would enjoy inspecting certified fields for KCIA. A flyer has been placed on the KCIA website [www.kscrop.org](http://www.kscrop.org) that explains the work somewhat and also has Steve's contact information.

We seek conscientious individuals that we will train. Teachers and retirees come to mind as those that would have time to commit to the responsibilities during the critical time prior to harvest when field inspections are conducted. Inspectors will generally work in his/her home and adjacent counties. If you know of such a person, please have them contact us. Interested individuals can learn more at our website [www.kscrop.org](http://www.kscrop.org).

### All Things Field Inspection

Despite delayed and prevented planting last fall, certified acreage will be around 90,000 acres. Of course a lot of things can happen between now and harvest and some acres will be lost and others will be added to make up for those.

**Field Preparation** – The best we can advise in this regard is to review the crop standards and ensure that your fields can meet the standards listed therein. Please avoid rejected fields and timely and costly delays fixing problems found during inspection that could have been taken care of before the inspector arrives at the field.

Not only do rejected fields requiring re-inspection present a thorn in the grower's side, they can also create bottlenecks for inspectors that may already be pushed for time trying to stay ahead of harvest.

Field inspectors are directed to handle first-time inspections as a priority and to conduct re-inspections when time permits. This is only fair to those that have properly prepared their fields. A rejected field can conceivably cause a week or two-week delay in harvesting that field, once the problems have been corrected.

As they have been for decades, rye or triticale in wheat are prohibited crops and must be removed from the field. Likewise, field bindweed, at any maturity, that is not controlled will lead to field rejection. The crop standards list prohibited crops, prohibited weeds and objectionable for the various crops.

**Rouging fields** – No one really enjoys rouging fields but if it has to be done it might as well be done correctly. Please have your rouging crews review the inspector training slides Parts 1-3 on the technical aids page under Certification resources at our website. Make sure they watch out for more than one problem don't focus for example on rye in wheat only while ignoring the field bindweed.

**Inspector Contact and Notification** – Field inspectors are directed to contact the growers as soon as they receive their field assignments. This doesn't always happen and if you don't hear from someone as harvest approaches please call KCIA. Notify your inspector 7 to 10 days prior to harvest. We can generally inspect a field at this time or at least get you scheduled for inspection.

The purpose of field inspection is not to find problems and reject fields, which we don't like to do. Rather, field inspection is to verify good practices and compliance to standards that shows certified growers are professionals and can be proud that they produce Kansas Certified Seed.

## We wish you a safe and productive harvest season!

*The road to wisdom? -- Well, it's plain and simple to express: Err and err and err again, but less, and less and less." - Piet Hein*

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