



The Seed Source

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

March- April 2020

Important Dates

NOTICE

March 15, 2020

Field Applications for summer-inspected crops due.

Applications are to be made via myFields

2019 paperwork must be completed to continue certification in 2020

May 1, 2020

Payment for summer-inspected crops due to avoid penalties!

May 25 - Memorial Day
KCIA closed

Other Important Dates

March 19 - Spring Begins

April 12 - Easter
April 22 - Earth Day
May 10 - Mothers Day

Ken Horton Recognized as 2019 Premier Seed Grower

Ken Horton, Horton Seed Services, Leoti, was named the 2019 Premier Seed Grower on February 19th at the 2020 Kansas Seed and Crops Conference in Manhattan. The award is in recognition of Ken's dedication to producing quality certified seed. KCIA Board President Mike Sieck made the presentation during the conference luncheon.

Ken began producing and selling certified seed in 2003 as a way to diversify the farm without taking away from the focus of using top quality farming practices. He attended KCIA meetings and solicited the help of KCIA staff to learn the procedures for producing certified seed and has earned a reputation for selling quality seed and dealing with customers with honesty and integrity.

Ken farms with his wife Toni, and sons Rick, Alec, and Matt. His daughter Meaghan is a dental hygienist in the Leoti area. His sons also farm and operate a KCIA Approved Portable Conditioner as a part of RAM Enterprises.



Since its inception in 1930, 167 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.

Dan Rhine New Central District Director

Dan Rhine was elected as Central District Director during the annual business meeting held February 19th during the Kansas Seed and Crops Conference. Dan succeeds Howard Behnke who had completed his 3rd term. Dan is affiliated with Phillips Seed, Hope.

The KCIA Board of Directors provides governance and leadership for the common good of KCIA membership and ensures that policies are in place to keep your Association strong and relevant.

In addition to Dan, the 2020 KCIA Board includes: Northwest District and President Mike Sieck, Edson; Southeast District and VP-Research Marvin Tischhauser, Wilsey; Central District-at-Large and VP-Standards, Dustin Miller, Haven; Northeast District, Alex King, Manhattan; East-At-Large, Steve Ahring, Girard; West-At-Large, Tyler Ediger, Meade; South Central District, Chris Boyd, Medicine Lodge; North Central District, Shane Ohlde; Southwest District, Matt Lobmeyer, Garden City; *ex officio* KSU Dept of Agronomy, Dr. Michel Ransom; KSIA Representative to KCIA, Durango Schmidt.

Field Applications Due March 15

Everything old is new again. As I listened to some electric swing music this morning, I looked for historical perspective in our old newsletters from the 1930's for inspiration on today's newsletter. What I found was delightful writing and perennial reminders. Namely, our membership has always had a few growers who delay and risk their own production by not sending in their distribution reports, annual membership fees, and currently relevant, field inspection applications, in a timely manner.

In 1930 wheat inspection applications were due only a few weeks before inspection, but with changes to field size and the seasonal hiring now required we now have applications due March 15th, which is fast approaching.

We have only received about 1/3 of the expected *myFields* applications so far. Don't repeat the mistakes of the past and miss these deadlines. Late applications suffer a late fee, and squeeze the entire membership when we can't plan to hire enough inspectors in this critical season.

Everything on *myFields* should look familiar, but if like those old newsletters your memory is yellowing around the edges, check our website help page or call our office for help. - Erica

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

Maurice Miller, Tom Lutgen Receive Honorary KCIA Membership

KCIA members in attendance at the KCIA annual business meeting unanimously voted to bestow honorary KCIA membership upon Maurice Miller and Tom Lutgen for their long history of service to the Kansas seed industry and to Kansas Crop Improvement Association.

Nomination for the honor was made by Steve Ahring. Maurice and Tom will be recognized as Honorary Members of KCIA at the 2021 annual business meeting next February.

2020 Kansas Seed And Crops Conference

If you didn't attend the Seed and Crops Conference February 18 & 19 then you missed a nice chance to connect with your seed industry friends, old, new and yet to be made. Maybe next year?

We had good attendance for our conference with a slightly higher number than last year. Based on feedback from attendees the breakout sessions were successful and will be a part of future conferences.

Whether you attended or not, we welcome your input to help us continue to grow the conference as a valuable resource to KCIA members and the Kansas Seed Industry. Please call or email to share your thoughts.

As we go through our photos of the event, if we find some that aren't out of focus, we'll post them on our conference page at www.kscrop.org. We've added a few below.

Photos from left, clockwise: Ardyce Kuhn is honored for her 63 years of service to KCIA; Relaxing and visiting during the social mixer; Mike Sieck presents exiting board member Howard Behnke with a plaque; Dan Rhine is the new Central District Director; A discussion at the Trade Show.



We sincerely thank our sponsors and exhibitors for their support in making the conference a success.

Kansas Crop Improvement
 Association

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