



The Seed Source

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS

September-October 2020

Important Dates

July 25- Application for for field inspection on Fall inspected crops due

September 1 - Payment for Fall-inspected crops due.

September 7 - Labor Day - KCIA office closed

November 26-27 - KCIA closed for Thanksgiving holiday

Other Important Dates

September 22 - Autumn Begins

November 11 - Veterans Day

The Seed Source

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

Bulk Certified Seed

Bulk seed offers convenience and ease of handling over the use of bagged seed for any large quantities. However, bulk seed is also more vulnerable to contamination than is seed safely sealed and labeled within a bag or tote. Every time bulk seed is moved, there is the risk of contamination from improperly cleaned handling equipment.

While a few seeds of another variety of the same crop will likely not be a concern, the impartation of another crop, especially a prohibited crop (i.e. rye or triticale into wheat seed), as can happen by delivering seed in a fertilizer tender previously used to broadcast a fertilizer/rye mix is a significant failure and one that will cause significant customer dissatisfaction. It also harms seed certification.

There are standards in place to preserve the integrity of bulk seed. Every person involved in the certification program either as a grower, approved conditioner, bulk retail facility or bulk distribution is bound to those standards. This responsibility extends to ensuring that all employees and/or family members are adequately trained and up to the task of handling seed in the proper manner.

There are restrictions on how bulk seed can move, and to whom.

Category 1 growers and Category 1 Approved Conditioners can receive unconditioned seed harvested from a field that has passed field inspection and complete certification by conditioning and testing and sell that seed on their label. This is called a **seed transfer**. A properly completed *Transfer or Resale of Kansas Certified Seed in Bulk* form is required for a seed transfer. This form transfers the right to complete certification to the receiver.

Category 1 growers, Category 1 Approved Conditioners and Approved Bulk Retail Facilities (BRF) are eligible to receive seed that has completed all certification requirements and sell that seed on their label. This is called a **seed resale**. A properly completed *Transfer or Resale of Kansas Certified Seed in Bulk* form is required for a seed resale. This form transfers both the seed and the certification to the receiver. Seed moving in resale has slightly higher test requirements such as minimum germ of 90% so make sure seed is eligible.

Seed can move no more than twice, as a first resale or as a second resale. The only option for second resale seed is retail, final sale to the farmer.

KCIA considers the current holder of the certification as the party responsible for that seed. In the event seed moves improperly KCIA will hold that entity responsible for rectifying the error.

Bulk Retail Facilities

Outside of Category 1 Growers and Category 1 Approved Conditioners, Bulk Retail Facilities (BRFs) are the only other entities that can purchase the certification along with the bulk seed and sell that seed under their own name on a certified label.

Any facility with suitable seed handling facilities and willingness to adhere to standards may make application to KCIA for consideration to operate as a BRF. Approval requires an on-site inspection and training of key personnel by KCIA staff. Application forms and other information can be found at kscrop.org on the bulk site page. Annual renewal is required.

Each BRF has one designated manager that is responsible for oversight of the facility.

Bulk retail facilities have become an important part of our certification program by enhancing

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the marketing and convenient delivery of quality certified seed to the farmer, while strengthening their product line and customer service.

If you are an existing BRF and have not yet renewed for the 2020 selling season, please do so immediately before receiving seed. Call KCIA if you need support. Information and forms are available on the bulk site page of our website.

Bulk Distribution Centers

Bulk Distribution Centers (BDCs) are not the same as a bulk retail facility. BDCs do not buy and sell certified seed on their own label. Rather, a BDC is contracted by certified grower to sell that grower's seed for them. The certified grower supplies the seed and the necessary labels for the retail sale of bulk certified seed.

A certified grower is required to complete registration, including an inspection of the site and submit the completed registration to KCIA. The grower is responsible that the seed is properly labeled when sold and for all reports to KCIA. Information and forms are available on the bulk site page of our website.

Since the grower retains the certification, and thus the responsibility for the seed, it is imperative that BDCs are chosen for their ability and willingness to maintain the integrity of the seed through the retail sale.

Other Points to consider

The retail sale to the farmer terminates that seeds presence in the certification program. Standards do not permit bulk seed, once sold and placed in the farmer's conveyance, to be returned. If you have a policy of taking returned bulk seed back from customers, plan on dumping that seed as grain and do not return it to the bin.

Bulk certified seed moving into Kansas will require a 10-pound CSI sample for each 5000 bushels quantity, just like for Kansas certification if a Kansas label is desired. So, plan ahead. Only the purity portion is required so turn-around is fairly quick although germination testing will still be conducted to confirm the stated analysis.

Bulk certified seed must be sold using official bulk retail sales certificates or official bulk invoice labels that are under the control of the certification agency. Our website Technical Aids page has information on labeling seed.

Get an "A" with Proper Paperwork

Summer is almost over and school is starting again. While it may be different this year, the basics stay the same and students must remember their name, date, and class or school at the top of the assignment. The importance of proper paperwork was important to a good grade then, and important to selling quality seed now.

While you may prefer to work off a handshake deal now, it is important to complete and submit the paperwork in full and on time to maintain the standards of your quality seed program.

For a bulk retail sales certificate you must write the correct names and certification/D number, test dates, PVP level...or you can choose to order bulk invoice labels and simply stick the correct label to your scale ticket and be done.

For a transfer or resale of bulk seed the form must be signed by both parties and mailed, faxed, or emailed to our office within 5 days of the seed actually moving.

If you have questions on how to complete your paperwork you can call or email Erica in the office, don't wait until the 11th hour and distribution reports are due to start. Even if you're not being graded anymore, proper paperwork is still important.

“Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant.” — Robert Louis Stevenson

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Association

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