



# The Seed Source

December 2020

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

## Important Dates

**December 15** - Distribution Reports and Bulk Retail Facility Reports Due

**December 25** - Christmas Day, KCIA closed Dec 24, 25

**January 1, 2021** - New Year's Day, KCIA office closed

## Other Important Dates

December 21 - Winter Begins

**Please remember to submit your end-of-year reports by December 15 or earlier.**

## The Seed Source

2000 Kimball Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66502

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

### *Practice Zoom Sessions Offer An Opportunity To Experience A Virtual Meeting*

The Covid-19 pandemic is affecting practically every aspect of our lives currently, with some families and businesses being especially impacted. Conferences and organizational meetings are similarly affected, with many cancelled or going to an electronic format. KCIA has a responsibility to do its part in protecting the health of its staff, members, and extended families. To that extent, while we are hoping to hold an annual conference in March, we must allow for the reality that such a meeting may or may not be prudent.

In the event that an in-person meeting is not possible based on the advice of medical experts, we'll have two options available to us: 1: the Board may declare an emergency and postpone the annual meeting until sometime in the second quarter, or 2: Hold a virtual meeting with members attending via the internet or phone call.

Holding a virtual meeting of the membership would be a first for KCIA. Several issues would need to be overcome but are not insurmountable. Kansas statutes that cover nonstock corporation remote meetings require that every attendee is able to hear and participate in the meeting and also, in the event of a Board election, voting members present have ample opportunity to vote in a fair election.

If we were to have a virtual meeting, KCIA would use the Zoom platform which allows participants to attend either by phone for audio participation only, or by clicking a link sent by me via email which would allow participation with both audio and video. I suspect that many of our members have participated in an electronic meeting of some kind through Facebook, Zoom, or other platform either for business or visiting with family and friends. I have attended several meetings virtually but am by no means expert in the realm of electronic video conferencing.

I am planning to hold two Zoom sessions for the sole purpose of providing members a chance to familiarize with Zoom if they have not yet had the opportunity to do so. There is no agenda, just join and say hi or ask questions and hang as long as you wish, leave when you want. I can hold more sessions if I need to.

I will send a few days prior, an email to the member-of-record with the necessary information to join the session. If you have employees that would like to try it, you can forward the link to them. There will be directions to either join by phone call or by computer, smartphone, or tablet with audio and visual.

A webcam and microphone is necessary to fully participate in a Zoom meeting or you just call in for audio only participation. Most smartphones and tablets have the needed camera but this option will use data if you are not on wifi at the time. On computers, if you don't have a webcam or microphone it is relatively easy and inexpensive to buy a camera with built-in microphone that plugs into a USB port on your computer. You have the option of turning off your camera and muting your microphone when in a Zoom meeting if you have privacy concerns, but it's nice to have the option.

We want to be prepared for all annual meeting options and I'd appreciate any feedback from the membership on this issue.

### Zoom Intro Schedule

December 16, 2020 10:00am – 11:00am, invite email will be sent Dec 10

December 17, 2020 7:00pm – 8:00pm, invite email will be sent Dec 10

# Season's Greetings



From your staff at Kansas Crop Improvement Association

*We wish you peace, prosperity and goodwill  
this Holiday Season and through the  
New Year*



*It has been our privilege to serve you in 2020  
We look forward to serving you in 2021*

Steve, Jordan, Rayshell, Erica, Heidi, Eric