



Important Dates

Due Dates

May 1 - Payment for summer-inspected crops due.

Memorial Day - May 31 - KCIA office closed

Other Important Dates

Mother's Day - May 9

Father's Day - June 20

1st Day of Summer - June 21

NOTE!!!

2021 certification services will not be permitted for those that have failed to submit final paperwork for 2020.

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

KCIA Annual Meeting Held Via Zoom Conference Platform

KCIA held its annual business meeting via Zoom conference March 16, 2021. There were 42 attendees. The meeting, which lasted a little less than one hour, allowed KCIA to meet its corporate obligations to its membership, as outlined in the Association bylaws.

President Mike Sieck, Steve Schuler and Eric Fabrizius each gave reviews on Association activities and status.

Chris Boyd, Shane Ohlde and Matt Lobmeyer were each elected by unanimous vote to serve an additional term as South Central, North Central and Southwest Directors, respectively.

Dr. Rajiv Khosla was introduced as the new Kansas State University Head of the Department of Agronomy and *ex officio* member of the KCIA Board of Directors. He gave a short presentation to attendees.

Dr. Michel Ransom was thanked for his service to the Board since 2018, while he served as interim Head of the Department of Agronomy during the search for the full-time Department Head position, filled by Dr. Khosla.

The Kansas Seed Industry Association held their annual meeting immediately after KCIA's, therefore the KCIA reorganizational meeting, usually held after the annual meeting, was postponed to the next week. Mike Sieck, Marvin Tischhauser and Dustin Miller were again selected to serve additional terms as President, VP-Research and VP-Standards.

The 2021 KCIA Board of Directors are: Mike Sieck, President; Marvin Tischhauser, VP-Research; Dustin Miller, VP-Standards; Chris Boyd, South Central; Shane Ohlde, North Central; Matt Lobmeyer, Southwest; Alex King, Northeast; Dan Rhine, Central; Steve Ahring, East-at-Large; Tyler Ediger, West-at-Large; Durango Schmidt, KSIA representative to KCIA; Dr. Rajiv Khosla, *ex officio* representing KSU Department of Agronomy.

Field Applications Payment and Cancellation

Payment for field inspections is *due postmarked May 1st* as usual.

All field inspection applications were due March 15th but some folks are still working on theirs. A late submittal does not change the date payment is due, and it risks a late payment fee by leaving little time to review your applications, remedy errors, and receive timely payment by mail. Late paid fields cannot cancel inspections for a refund except in cases of natural disaster, while on-time payments avoid this restriction.

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If you decide to cancel inspection on a field, you can do it on your Form B Statement or by emailing Erica in the office up to the week of your inspection. You can also cancel inspection directly with your inspector, but they have been instructed to ask you to email Erica also for documentation completeness, so there is no delay in your refund process.

Please call the office if your myFields application does not have the status “Reviewed” or the recommendation “Pending.”

Prepping For Field Inspection

Fore-warned is fore-armed the saying goes. Now is a good time to start planning your strategy for prepping fields to pass certification field inspection. A good place to begin is by reviewing the crop-specific (i.e. wheat) standards to refresh your memory on just what it is the inspector will be looking for. Ensure also, that any contract growers are aware what can be a problem in a certified field, especially if they are responsible for field prep.

You likely have fields that you know will pass inspection easily and, maybe some fields that you know will require some extra work. It doesn't hurt to visit the fields early to avoid being blind-sided by an unexpected problem such as field bindweed that you've never seen in a particular field before.

It's also important that the rogueing crew you send through the field knows what constitutes a problem in a certified field. Sure, they need to be on the lookout for rye or triticale in a wheat field, but they also need to know that field bindweed, uncontrolled, will also get a field rejected. I have posted on our website, www.kscrop.org, several items that may be of use in field preparation.

On the *Inspector Training* page of our website, I have posted my inspector training slides Parts 1-3, which give an overview of what one might see in the field. I also have posted here my *Inspector Guidelines* which explain how a field inspector interprets what is seen in the field. I also post a table of morphological characters and allowed variants (soon to be updated for 2021). This table will give an idea how much, if any, rogueing must be done to meet varietal purity standards.

My training slides are also available on the *Technical/Certification* page of our website where I also have some links to weed identification aids.

By any estimation, it is much better to ensure that a field will pass inspection than to take a chance on having a field rejected during the busy early harvest season. A field rejected is no longer eligible for certification unless the problem is corrected and the field passes a re-inspection. Re-inspections however do incur an added fee and may be difficult to schedule quickly as inspectors are very busy and first-inspections take priority over re-inspections.

Good luck with the field preparation.

***“Together we do this and more
Not because it's very easy or nice
But because it is necessary”***

- Amanda Gorman, Earthrise

Kansas Crop Improvement
Association

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