



MONTANA SEED GROWERS ASSOCIATION

NOTES & QUOTES

DECEMBER 2013

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

The staff at the Montana Seed Growers Association would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of our growers, contractors, handling facilities, county agents and associates for making this this another successful year; and extend warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a New Year of health, happiness and prosperity to you and your family.



Left to Right: Bridget Westfall (SL), Nancy Cooke, Bill Grey (MT Foundation Seed), Faye Jorgensen (SL), Ron Larson, Jeff Todd (POST Farm), Bernie Schaff (Retired POST Manager), Dave Gettel (POST Farm Manager). Not Pictured: Heather Rimel (Someone had to take this picture!)

BOARD OF DIRECTOR RESULTS

The final votes have been tallied for districts 4 and 6. We had some great candidates and congratulations go to Steve Grove from Moccasin and Charlie Cahill from Scobey. Both directors have been elected to again serve three year terms. The MSGA would like to say a special thank you to all producers who took the time to cast their vote. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held in February. Please contact your district representative or MSGA office if you have subjects you would like brought up at the meeting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pat Lake-President
John Wold-Vice President
Rod Kitto
Steve Grove
Charlie Cahill
Kirby Lohr
John Sherwood-Ex-officio

Staff

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FOUNDATION SEED UPDATE.....BILL GREY

Seasons Greetings. Thank you for your support of MSU varieties and the Foundation Seed Program. The last two years have been exciting and I trust rewarding for you with the new varieties from our breeding programs.

What's the New Year to bring? I will suggest at least one New Year's resolution is to keep up on the new varieties and their performances. We are trying to make the information available as quickly as it unfolds yet the industry is rapidly changing with new varieties.

Bookmark the Foundation web page and note the links for:

New releases from MSU "2014 Motions for Release and Recommendation".

Performance info "Variety Quick Facts" on winter wheat and spring wheat varieties.

Thank you for your support and compliance of the Research Fee program. Recently, I got a question on why we are collecting fees on seed sales from years back and was there any hope for improving the process. A light-bulb went off after I received an email from a trade member with an attached spreadsheet reporting sales and a request to be invoiced. The excel file had the variety, a MSGA identifier, bushels sold and research fee amount due. Quite easily, this MAES person generated an invoice with the info provided and requested payment. From the accounting side, this method will keep the income and expenses within the same calendar year. Following this line of thought, a spread sheet could include the cancelled seed lot(s), seed sold for grain and certified seed-on-hand. From our compliance point of view, the information can be verified from MSGA production and bulk certificates. Feel free to employ this easy method for reporting research fee sales or if comfortable with the current method, an invoice will be mailed in the New Year with production figures from MSGA.

If you have any additional suggestions, please send them along, or mail fire starter with directions to light up our life here at MSU. Enjoy the Holidays, have a Merry Christmas, and see you in the New Year.



UPCOMING DATES

- January 1st—Closed for the New Year
- January 2-3-Crop Pest Management School—Bozeman
- January 16-18-MAGIE Show—Great Falls
- January 20th—Closed for Martin Luther King Day
- January 27th—MAES Variety Release Committee— Bozeman
- February 20-22— MATE Show—Billings
- February 24-25— MSGA Board of Directors Meeting-Bozeman
- February 26th— Pulse Day— Wolf Point



SEED LICENSING REMINDER

Through its seed regulatory program, the Montana Department of Agriculture works to ensure that seed offered for sale in Montana is of the highest quality. The department strives to ensure that consumers get a quality product that is truthfully labeled for identity, purity and viability. The department strives to accomplish this by licensing all seed dealers, seed labelers, seed growers and seed conditioners. Approximately one hundred facilities are inspected, and random seed samples are collected and sent to the Montana State University Seed Lab for analysis.

Who needs a seed license?

- a person who sells seed in packages that weigh more than 10 pounds
- a person who has more than \$1,000 in gross seed sales
- a Montana grower who has more than \$5,000 in gross annual seed sales

Who needs a seed labeler license?

- a person who has their name and address on the seed label

Who needs a seed conditioner license?

- facilities located in the state that condition seed other than their own production
- portable facilities that come into the state to condition seed

Who needs a seed growers license?

- a Montana certified seed grower who labels seed not of his own production
- a Montana producer selling their own production with a gross annual sales value of more than \$5,000

Contact the Montana Department of Agriculture with any seed licensing or labeling questions at 406-444-3950.

CROP PEST MANAGEMENT SCHOOL

Enrollment is limited, register now for the Crop and Pest Management School held at Montana State University January 2-3, 2014. The two-day workshop will include a variety of topics related to crop production in Montana. Daren Mueller, editor of the book "Fungicides for Field Crops" published in 2012 by the American Phytopathological Society, will join us from Iowa State University as a guest speaker. Corn will be discussed as a potential crop in Montana by a panel, with interactive discussion and questions from the audience. In addition, eleven MSU staff from four departments will cover topics in weed, disease, insect and nutrient management as well as pollinator safety.

A registration fee of \$195 provides workshop supplies, morning and afternoon refreshments, parking and the traditional pizza dinner at Colombo's. Crop consulting (14 credits), private pesticide applicator (9 credits) and commercial/government pesticide applicator (11 credits) credits will be available. The schedule that includes instructions for registration can be found online at: <http://plantsciences.montana.edu/mtproducerinfo.html>

For more information contact Kevin Wanner, kwanner@montana.edu