

Notes & Quotes

Montana Seed Growers Association

Board of Director Update

The annual Board of Directors meeting was held at the MSGA office in Bozeman February 22-23. Bob Hodgskiss of Choteau was elected president and Pat Lake of Ronan was elected vice president. Ron Larson was re-instated as manager and Heather Rimel was re-instated as secretary/treasurer. Items that were discussed included the manager's report, treasurer's report, approval of the hybrid alfalfa seed standards, the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) inspection program, the re-organization of the Noxious Weed List, and the Roundup Ready Alfalfa/EIS hearing and implications for the seed program. The updated Handbook was also reviewed and will be going into print next month. Please check the website by the middle of April for the updates. We will be sending out hard copies before the 2010 application season.

Once again several big issues pertaining to alfalfa were discussed. Ron Larson attended the EIS hearing in Las Vegas earlier this year and there were over two hours of comments, each two minutes. Comments were generally favorable at this particular APHIS hearing but had been measuring about 50/50 for each side overall as the comment period came to an end. The EIS has extended the comment period and is expecting 10,000 comments. There is potential for Roundup Ready alfalfa will be released by late summer. The AOSCA Alfalfa Seed Stewardship Program (ASSP) is an additional inspection that may be integrated into the MSGA certification program for non-Roundup Ready alfalfa varieties destined for GMO sensitive markets. This program would require verifications and auditing to be made by MSGA of applicant's cleaning procedures for field equipment and cleaning plants, followed by insurance of an AOSCA certificate if the stewardship agreement criteria are met.

Honorary MSGA membership was given to Dave Howard of Conrad, past owner/manager of Northern Seed Service, and Harry Johnson of Townsend, past owner/manager of Townsend Seeds. For the second year in a row the Board also elected to donate \$500 to the Montana FFA Foundation to co-sponsor the State Agronomy contest.

Seed Industry reports were given by: Dr. Bill Grey, MSU Foundation Seedstocks and Mitch Heimark, MSU Undergraduate in Finance and Marketing; Court Jensen and Greg Ames, MT Department of Ag; Luther Talbert, MSU Spring Wheat Breeder; Dr. John Sherwood, Dept. Head of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology; and Dave Wichman, MSU Central Ag Research Center.

These are a few of the topics that were discussed at the Board of Directors meeting. If you have any questions please contact the MSGA office.

March 2010

Board of Directors

Bob Hodgskiss-
President
Pat Lake-Vice
President
John Wold
Bear Whitmer
Jim Kulish
Lloyd Harris
John Sherwood (ex-
officio)

Staff

Ron Larson-Manager
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Program
Coordinator
(406) 994-7372
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Tamara Vook-Program
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SeCan Royalties

Due by September 1st
on seed sold July 1,
2009-June 30, 2010.
AC Metcalfe:
\$0.77/bu
Harrington:
\$0.44/bu



Good luck Carli... we're going to miss you

For those of you lucky enough to have worked with Carli Lofing at the State Seed Lab I wanted to let you know that she has accepted a job with the MT Dept. of Agriculture and will be leaving the lab in the middle of April. We wish her the best of luck and she will be greatly missed. If you would like to contact her before she leaves you can send her an email at clofing@montana.edu.



The 59th Annual Montana Seed Show - Harlem by Ron Larson

The Montana Seed Show in Harlem, Montana's oldest running seed show, occurred March 11-13 at Harlem, MT. The previous few years that I have been involved with the show, most of the seed samples presented for judging were common seed samples. This year we asked permission from a number of growers and seed dealers to enter the excess of lab samples sent to the State Seed Lab, so we could have a good representation of Certified classes of seed in the show. MSGA called various producers and seed dealers to get permission from many of you who agreed to let some of your seed samples that had been submitted to the State Seed Lab also be entered into this seed display and contest. Since all the samples that were entered were finally certified and had lab reports to prove it, this made for a good representation of quality seed that is being sold in Montana. Below is a list of the winners in the various seed classes.

Rosette for best of show- Certified Shoshone Sainfoin – Treasure State Seed, Inc., Choteau
Grand Champion -Certified Seed Class – Choteau Spring Wheat – Hodgskiss Seed, Choteau

Blue Ribbons

Otana Oats – Westland Seed, Ronan
Hockett Barley – Heartland Seed, Moccasin
Stockford Barley – Townsend Seeds, Townsend
Arragorn Field Pea – Hodgskiss Seed, Choteau
Alzada Durum – Northern Seed Service, Conrad
Nick Soft White Spring Wheat – Westland Seed, Ronan
CDC Falcon Hard Red Winter Wheat – Barber Seed, Denton
Genou Hard Red Winter Wheat – Golden Harvest Seed, Big Sandy
Cooper Alfalfa – Seed Source, Inc., Toston
Choteau Hard Red Spring Wheat – Zellmer Seed & Grain, Hoagland
AP604CL Hard Red Spring Wheat – Heartland Seed, Moccasin
Jedd Hard Red Spring Wheat – Westland Seed, Ronan

For other winners and participants, please see our web site.



The Grain Superintendents were Rick & Mischelle Fisher and the Forage Superintendent was Dean Baker. This year's seed judges were Gregg Carlson, Superintendent, Northern Agricultural Research Center (NARC), Peggy Lamb, Research Associate, NARC, and Ron Larson, MSGA. Thank you all again for helping to make this seed show a success by including your samples in this contest.

Please note the following 2 items in this news letter. The first item is the Clearfield Wheat Seed Production Guidelines. MSGA has not yet included these requirements as part of their standards, but neighboring states are currently doing so. We do urge producers and seed dealers to follow these guidelines and thus reduce potential liability issues for all parties involved. Second we have included the latest list of Noxious Weeds, in the new categories recently developed by the Montana Department of Agriculture. Please note the new category (Priority 3), which contains names of species of concern that need to be regulated, but are not actually on the Noxious Weed List.

CLEARFIELD® Wheat Seed Production Guidelines



This document is meant to serve as a quick reference for **CLEARFIELD** wheat foundation, registered and certified seed producers and is not all inclusive of the guidelines required for foundation, registered and certified wheat seed production. Additional documentation is referenced within and its thorough review is recommended. Additional production and certification guidelines may be required by BASF and your local seed foundation or seed certification agency.

Field Management

- Choose seed production fields that are free of jointed goatgrass, feral rye, downy brome, Italian ryegrass and noxious weeds.
- Choose fields that have been never used for wheat containing genetically modified (GM) or other regulated events.
- **CLEARFIELD** wheat may only be planted two consecutive years on the same field.
 - If **CLEARFIELD** wheat is planted two consecutive years, it must be the same variety.
- Fields may not be grazed until 30 days after **Beyond**® herbicide application.
- Maintain a minimum of 50-meter isolation buffer (meet or exceed state certification recommendations) to adjacent wheat crop or field.
 - Recommend planting whole fields or utilize alternative crops for buffers
- Rogue production fields for off-types and weedy relatives.

State Seed Certification and **CLEARFIELD**® CONFIRM TEST for Tolerance Purity

- Purchase Foundation or Registered **CLEARFIELD** Wheat seed. Do NOT use “bin-run” seed.
- Field must be weed-free of jointed goatgrass and noxious weeds. Seed producers must follow application state certification standards.
- All **CLEARFIELD** wheat seed (sample size ~3,000 seeds) must be submitted to a BASF certified seed testing lab prior to its sale and distribution as certified seed to confirm the acceptable, minimal herbicide tolerance level of 92% to imazamox or Beyond herbicide.
- Records pertaining to **CLEARFIELD** CONFIRM TEST must be maintained for at least five (5) years.
- Certified Seed Producer must submit **CLEARFIELD** CONFIRM TEST results to the state certification authority for each seed lot.
- Any seed lot which does not pass the **CLEARFIELD** CONFIRM TEST shall not be sold as certified seed or saved for planting for subsequent year of **CLEARFIELD** wheat crop.

Beyond® herbicide Application

- Wheat must be sprayed with Beyond at labeled rate of 4 to 6 oz per acre according to label recommendation for each wheat type and **CLEARFIELD** (i.e., “1-gene”) or **CLEARFIELD Plus** (i.e., “2-gene”) wheat genotype. For **CLEARFIELD Plus** wheat varieties, MSO must be added in spray tank at the minimum suggested rate if the tank-mix partner herbicide – if used – allows MSO.
- Follow **Beyond** label for details of application instructions.
- Do not apply any other ALS-inhibiting herbicide to the **CLEARFIELD** wheat crop.
- Additional, broad-spectrum herbicides, ex., **Clarity**® herbicide, may be used for weed control as needed with exception to other ALS-inhibiting herbicides.

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Always read and follow label directions.

Noxious Weed List Restructure

The Noxious Weed list has been restructured. We have included the new table below for your reference. If you would like more information please contact the MSGA office or the MT Dept. of Agriculture.

Priority 1A	<p>These weeds are not present in Montana. Management criteria will require eradication if detected; education; and prevention.</p> <p>Yellow starthistle (<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>)</p>
Priority 1B	<p>These weeds have limited presence in Montana. Management criteria will require eradication or containment and education.</p> <p>Dyer's woad (<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>) Flowering rush (<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>) Japanese knotweed complex (<i>Polygonum spp.</i>) Purple loosestrife (<i>Lythrum spp.</i>) Rush skeletonweed (<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>) Eurasian watermilfoil (<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>) Scotch broom (<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>) Curlyleaf pondweed (<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>)</p>
Priority 2A	<p>These weeds are common in isolated areas of Montana. Management criteria will require eradication or containment where less abundant. Management shall be prioritized by local weed districts.</p> <p>Tansy ragwort (<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>) Meadow hawkweed complex (<i>Hieracium spp.</i>) Orange hawkweed (<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>) Tall buttercup (<i>Ranunculus acris</i>) Perennial pepperweed (<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>) Yellowflag iris (<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>) Blueweed (<i>Echium vulgare</i>) Hoary alyssum (<i>Berteroa incana</i>)</p>
Priority 2B	<p>These weeds are abundant in Montana and widespread in many counties. Management criteria will require eradication or containment where less abundant. Management shall be prioritized by local weed districts.</p> <p>Canada thistle (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>) Field bindweed (<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>) Leafy spurge (<i>Euphorbia esula</i>) Whitetop (<i>Cardaria draba</i>) Russian knapweed (<i>Centaurea repens</i>) Spotted knapweed (<i>Centaurea stoebe</i> or <i>maculosa</i>) Diffuse knapweed (<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>) Dalmatian toadflax (<i>Linaria dalmatica</i>) St. Johnswort (<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>) Sulfur cinquefoil (<i>Potentilla recta</i>) Common tansy (<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>) Oxeye daisy (<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i> or <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>) Houndstongue (<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>) Yellow toadflax (<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>) Saltcedar (<i>Tamarix spp.</i>)</p>
Priority 3	<p>Regulated Plants: (NOT MONTANA LISTED NOXIOUS WEEDS)</p> <p>These regulated plants have the potential to have significant negative impacts. The plant may not be intentionally spread or sold other than as a contaminant in agricultural products. The state recommends research, education and prevention to minimize the spread of the regulated plant.</p> <p>Cheatgrass (<i>Bromus tectorum</i>) Hydrilla (<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>)</p>

We would like to extend a huge thanks to the Montana Seed Growers Association for paying to get our germinators fixed! It is truly appreciated!

The Montana State University Seed Lab has conducted approximately 2930 samples so far this year. There are just a few other things we would like to recognize as we finish our fiscal year.

Bridget Westfall, MSU seed analyst was nominated to the Executive Board of the Association of Official Seed Analysts. Congratulations and Good Luck Bridget!

Due to the overload of legumes this year, Ascochyta testing is taking a little bit longer so please have patience with the disease lab as they are working as hard as they can to get the samples out in a timely manner.

BSMV testing was done in February and March and the next time the MSU lab will be conducting these tests will be in October and November. If you missed out this spring you can always catch up in the fall or send it to another lab.

Due to staff reduction this summer, we may be contacting you regarding turn-around time and different sample possibilities.

The Montana State Seed Lab website has been updated so feel free to visit it if you have any questions.

Neither the price increase nor the grant went through so we are continuing to try to find alternatives for the seed lab and we appreciate your support!

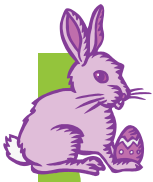
Good Luck in the harvest season and we look forward to continuing to serve you during the summer and fall seasons!

Things to remember when turning in applications...



1. A separate application is required for each kind, variety, class, grower and county.
2. Cell phone numbers are very useful to our inspectors so if you have them, include them.
3. The application page must have complete three year crop history. If you can include the variety name of past crops.
4. Include two copies of a good quality map. Color is great, so is highlighting. We don't want our inspectors to get lost.
5. A tag must be included.
 - If using a tag from a bag we prefer one of the actual tags. If you must a photo copy will work but we need both sides of the tag copied.
 - If using a bulk certificate we need a copy of the actual bulk certificate that was issued (the big sticker showing the class sold and individual number) and a copy of the stamped lab report. Both things are required.
 - If you are a contractor who is having a farmer produce seed for you, you must also write a bulk certificate showing sale of seed. Any questions please call.
 - If you are a farmer using your own seed we need a copy of the stamped lab report. No tags or bulk certificates are required.
6. We will begin taking applications May 1st. Applications before this will not be processed until after this date. Perennial crops, peas, lentils and canola are due May 25th. All other crops are due June 15th. After these dates a late fee will apply.
7. Payment must accompany applications. \$30 per application + \$2.50 per acre.
8. If any of your applications are incomplete they will all be held back until the problem is resolved so please get back to us as soon as possible. This is especially important if you are contracting seed.

Thank you for your help in making this a smooth application season. If you have any questions when filling out the forms don't hesitate to call.



Spring time in Montana.....and Easter egg Hunts! Bill Grey

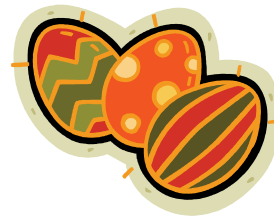
The bears are slowly emerging, the crocus are trying, the dog woods twigs are coloring up , even a errant robin has been spotted and it is time for new varieties coming out of MSU. But just like the month of March in Montana, one variety will shine this fall, others may be a fleeting snow squall and some may just stay buried under the snow banks of the breeding programs. Let's take a look at what the long winter has brought in the form of varieties and future potentials.

'Decade' winter wheat, will shine this fall and be available as foundation seed as a joint release with NDSU. Decade is appropriately named for the 10 years of cooperation between Phil Bruckner and Neil Riveland, at the Williston Research & Extension Center, where they have worked to develop winter hardi-lines and improved yields. Decade matches up very well with AC Falcon in the Triangle and will duke it out with Jerry in winter damaging areas. It is a bit shorter than Yellowstone so it could be an option with the higher rainfall, irrigated growers. Don't consider this as a replacement for Genou to combat the sawfly as Decade is hollow stem.

What lies next under the frozen crust of the wheat programs? Well, just like the Montana snow birds, five promising winter wheat lines flew south to Arizona for seed increase. Three of the lines are hard red with a solid stem character, MTS0705, MTS0713 and MTS0721 and two lines are hard whites, with a low PPO quality and a solid stem; MTS04114L and MTS05321L. These materials will be evaluated in 2010 and 2011 in Montana for yield, quality and sawfly tolerance. Luther Talbert is also on the easter egg hunt for new sawfly lines and will be increasing three hard red springs in Bozeman this summer; MT0827, MT0832 and MT0852. These lines are a cross of Choteau with Vida that have a solid stem slightly less than Choteau while sticking with the stay-green, improved agronomics under drought of Vida. Hidden in the snow bank and waiting for the thaw are three hard- white wheats, one each of Vida, Choteau and Outlook, and you might say they are eggs without the coloring. And speaking of future Easter eggs, Joyce Eckhoff has an improved Durum, MT0302, that will be increased as breeder seed this summer in Sidney and following a successful release there is a good chance for foundation seed in spring, 2011.

The excitement of an Easter egg hunt continues with the pulse crops. The USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council, chaired by Tim McGreevy, have kindly included me as an Advisory Member to their variety release committee. MFSP does have access to the new materials from the USDA-ARS breeding programs in pulses at WSU-Pullman, WA. Dr. Rebecca McGee, recently hired away Jolly Green Giant, did release a yellow pea, PS03101822, with improved yield in the trials. A green pea winter type, PS03101269, will be in the Montana trials to see how it compares to Windham. WSCIA will have foundation seed of Sawyer Chickpea, a large seed with Café type habit, and a disease tolerance equal to Sierra. George Vandemark released two Kabulis, CA469C025C, small seeded, excellent Ascochyta blight resistance plus top yielder and CA04900421C, large seeded, higher yield with similar disease resistance to Sierra.

"That's all folks", Have a wonderful Easter.



New Grass Fields...

New fields of grass seed planted before June 30 are required to have a seedling inspection the year of planting. Anyone planting Newhy Hybrid Wheatgrass needs to have a pre-plant field inspection to verify the absence of quackgrass, one of the parents of this variety. A seedling inspection is also required about 30-40 days after planting.

Get to know your directors!!!!!!

District 1: Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders, Lake, Mineral, Missoula and Ravalli counties

Name: Pat Lake

Town: Polson

Years on the Board: 12

Family: Wife Sheila and four children Jessamy (16), Josh (15), Abby (14), and Ace (7).

Background/Education: Grew up on a family farm and graduated with a degree from MSU in Ag. Business

Hobbies/Interests: Skiing, triathlons camping with family

Most important issue to MSGA: Creating a grower friendly organization to enhance the use of certified seed.

Most important issues for the seed industry: Enhancing the lives of growers through growing the most productive seed lots available.

The best things in life are....Investing time into friends and family, being allowed and allowing those around me to be able to excel in the use of their gifts and talents to live a life-enhancing life.



District 2: Granite, Powell, Lewis & Clark, Deer Lodge, Silver Bow, Jefferson, Broadwater, Meagher, Park, Gallatin, Madison, Beaverhead and Sweetgrass

Name: Lloyd Harris

Town: Bozeman

Years on the Board: 2

Family: Wife Susie and three children Amy, Elaine, and Ted

Background/Education: Early career in Forrest Service along with growing Native Seed

Organizations/Activities: Watching the grandkids grow and spoiling them

Hobbies/Interests: Ice fishing, bow hunting and visiting the kids with Susie

Most important issues for MSGA: Maintain seed standards and promote certified seed to all landowners-small acreages to government agencies.

Most important issues for the seed industry: Similar standards as surrounding states and the seed lab.

The best things in life are....free. Family, friends and good health.



Dates to Remember...

- *April 15th MSGA Production fees due
- *June 17th Central Ag. Research Center Field Day, Moccasin
- *June 17th Plant Materials Center, Bridger @ 10am (Please call Roger to RSVP for lunch (406) 662-3579 x100)
- *June 20th Seed Trade Summer Meeting begins, Fairmont Hot springs
- *June 29th Northern Ag. Research Center Field Day, Havre
- *July 7th Southern Ag. Research Center Field Day, Huntley
- *July 8th Post Farm Field Day, Bozeman
- *July 22nd Northwestern Ag. Research Center Field Day, Creston
- *July 28th Eastern Ag. Research Center Field Day, Sidney
- *Sep. 1st Secan Royalties due
- *Oct. 1st ND and SD Research Fees due

