



Notes & Quotes

Officers

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John McDonnell—Vice President

MSGA Board of Directors

Patrick Lake
 John McDonnell
 John Wold
 Jim Kulish
 John Grass
 Bear Whitmer
 John Sherwood (ex-officio)

Staff

Ron Larson—Manager
 (406) 994-5121
 rl Larson@montana.edu
 Heather Rimel—Program Coordinator
 (406) 994-7372
 hr imel@montana.edu
 Tamara Vook—Program Assistant
 (406) 994-3516
 MSGA@montana.edu

Fees Are Due Once Again!

Production Fees

Production fees for seed harvested from all crops are due within 30 days after harvest. Fees for the 2007 cropping season must be received by April 15, 2008. **Fees are due on all crops which have passed the field inspection even if they do not pass final lab analysis or are not carried through certification beyond field inspection.**

Growers may not receive an invoice for crops grown under contract with a seed dealer. All fees should be calculated on a clean seed basis. To determine "clean seed" production on an uncleaned lot, deduct 10% (average cleanout) from total uncleaned production.

Prices are as follows:

Wheat-Flax-Kamut-Rye-Spelt-Triticale	.05/bu on clean seed
Barley-Oats-Buckwheat-Peas-Lentils	.08/cwt on clean seed
Oil Seeds	.12/cwt on clean seed
Perennial Crops—	
All Grass Varieties	.005/lb
Perennial Legume Crops	.005/lb
Flowering Saltbush	.25/cwt
Field Beans—No production fees are due on bean seed production.	



All Crop Directory

The 2007 All Crop Directory is out! Please check it out on our website:

<http://ag.montana.edu/msga/>

We also have hard copies available at the office.

SECAN Royalty Payments

Notices will be sent out to contractors and growers of Harrington and AC Metcalfe barley requesting payment of royalty fees for SECAN varieties sold between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007. The fee is 24 cents per bushel sold for Harrington barley and 51 cents per bushel for AC Metcalfe barley (for AC Metcalfe, fees are also due on seed a grower keeps and plants on his own land). If you have Harrington or AC Metcalfe seed from an earlier year which was sold for planting in the spring of 2007, the same rates apply and are due to MSGA. Please pay these fees promptly to ensure the continued availability of Harrington and AC Metcalfe barley seed. Royalty fees for the crop produced in the 2007 crop season will be **due in September of 2008.** Please contact the office if you have questions on what you owe. Next year's fees are not yet available, but SECAN has advised us they will most likely be going up. MSGA will have those figures available within the next couple weeks.

MSU Seed Specialists Speak

Recently Ron Larson of MSGA and Bill Grey of MSU Foundation Seeds traveled to Miles City to speak at the Montana Extension Agent Conference. The topic – Certified Seed. Joe Broesder, the Hill County Extension Agent, began the session by discussing the Hill County Drill Box Survey. This survey included data from 2004-2006 comparing certified seed vs. common seed planted in Hill



County. Ron followed this presentation with discussion of the seed certification process, the role of MSGA, the importance of proper labeling for seed, an overview of seed law, and Plant Variety Protection (PVP). Bill finished the session with a discussion about variety sources and how certified seed works for the producer in management of the Wheat stem sawfly. His topic also included discussion of solid stem characteris-

tics, wheat breeding goals, and producer acceptance of certified seed and MSU protected varieties. *If you would like more information on these topics please contact the MSGA office.*



Please Join us for an Open House!

“Science may never come up with a better office communication system than the coffee break.”

- Earl Wilson

We, the Montana Seed Growers Association and the Montana State Seed Laboratory, would like to invite all members, growers, contractors, and business associates to join us Thursday November 1st for an open house from 1-6 pm. This will be a chance for everyone to come see our new facilities, meet our staff, and see how we operate. There will also be snacks and beverages. We

have an exciting new software program in place and would like the chance to share it with you and answer all your questions. During this time it will also be MSU Ag. Appreciation weekend so come on over to Bozeman and show your support for the College of Agriculture and the Bobcats (but we still welcome the Griz fans)! We ask that you RSVP for the open house so that we know

how many to expect. If you can't make it please call us and let us know when you will be in Bozeman and we can set up a personal tour. Also, if you would like more information on MSU Ag. Appreciation Weekend checkout the College of Agriculture website or contact us. Please RSVP to Heather by October 26th at (406) 994-7372 or email hrimel@montana.edu.

Bulk Certificates

As some of you may or may not know, we now have a new bulk certificate system. With this system there is no longer a hard paper copy as there was previously. Instead, the bulk certificates will all be recorded electronically. As a brief overview we will send you

an excel spreadsheet with your bulk certificate numbers on it. Those numbers will correspond to the sticker version of the certificate that will be attached to the customer's scale ticket or receipt. This will hopefully make it easier in the long run for everyone. If

you do not have a computer, don't worry. We can send or fax you a hard copy of the spreadsheet we are using. Thank you all for your patience while we make the transition.

MSGA DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

It is time again for elections for MSGA board members. This year, elections will be conducted for Director for Experiment Station District 4, currently held by Jim Kulish of Stanford, and comprised of Cascade, Judith Basin, Fergus, Petroleum, Musselshell, Golden Valley, and Wheatland counties; and District 6, currently held by Bear Whitmer of Bloomfield, and comprised of Valley, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt, Garfield, McCone, Richland, Dawson, Prairie, and Wibaux counties.

All growers enrolled in the program in District 4 and 6 for the 2007 growing season are eligible to vote, and any grower living within the two districts who has been a member grower of MSGA for the last three years (as shown by the signing of an Application for Certification) may be elected to serve as a director. The term of office for each director is three years. Primary election ballots are on their way! The three candidates with the most votes in the primary election will then move on to the general election.

MSGA will have a booth at the Montana Grain Growers Association Convention and the MATE Show so please stop by and say hello!

2007 Crop Summary

The 2007 crop season progressed very quickly this summer due to warm, extremely dry conditions over most of the state. In many areas, inspections were required up to 3 weeks ahead of last year. Dryland growers reported good yields generally on winter wheat, but most spring crops suffered from the dry conditions, resulting in generally low yields. Preliminary information from alfalfa growers indicate some good yields in that crop as well.

This year the certification program was close to the record 2005 applied acreage, at 59,027 acres. We had fewer total applicants but

number of acres per application increased significantly. Total acres applied for as spring wheat decreased again this year and winter wheat acres increased. Current seasonal growing conditions and moisture patterns seemed to be favoring fall seeded crops.

CERTIFICATION ACREAGE SUMMARY

<u>Year</u>	<u>Acres Applied For</u>	<u>Acres Cancelled</u>	<u>Acres Inspected</u>
2003	47,682	6644	41,097
2004	45,259	5513	39,746
2005	60,761	3205	57,555
2006	58,514	5859	52,655
2007	59,027	1602	57,425



Welcome Tamara Vook!

The MSGA would like to take this opportunity to welcome Tamara Vook to our staff. She is the new MSGA Program Assistant. Tamara will be working mornings at MSGA and afternoons for the Montana State Seed Lab.

Tamara is a returning Montana native after her husband's retirement from the Navy. In 2004 she graduated from the University of Hawaii with her Bachelor's Degree in Botany. She enjoys traveling, photography, and long distance motorcycle rides with her husband.

Is Your Head Spinning From Watching the Wheat Prices? By Bill Grey

“The high demand for seed also caused a shortage of certified winter wheat seed, including Genou.”

Who would have predicted the boom in wheat prices! Well, this market has definitely caused a huge shortage of winter wheat seed this fall as producers are in the “furrow” to plant a record number of acres. The table below shows foundation sales of recent MSU varieties that are PVP title V and with a research fee. The high demand for seed also caused a shortage of certified winter wheat seed, including Genou. The pattern of foundation sales for Genou may

provide a clue as to why we were so short this fall. For the 2006 seed crop year, there were only 250 acres of registered seed enrolled with MSGA. When the low acreage is compounded with low purchases of foundation seed in 2006 (378bu) and 2007 (170bu), the stage is set for a shortage of certified seed when demand is high. What’s the magic number of registered acres to enroll and certified seed to carry as inventory? That’s where the opportunity lies for seed producers, just in case of.....high wheat prices!

Foundation sales: Variety, Bu & Seed crop year

Variety	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Genou	na	1288	378	170	517
Yellowstone	na	na	1234	410	596
Choteau	658	1446	851	600	??
Vida	na	na	na	513	??

CHECK-OFF SHEET FOR SEED LABELERS requesting INTERAGENCY TAGS

By Ron Larson

For those members/dealers buying seed from an out-of state source, the 3 steps listed below will help facilitate efficiency of processing and delivery of tags or bulk certificates.

1. Labeler must supply the Seed Certifying Agency (MSGA) a copy of the Inter-State Shipping (or “Ship-for-Process”) Permit, as issued by the originating State Seed Certifying Agency. The seed producer or originating seed dealer should supply this document with the lot of seed as it is trucked out. This is seed certifying agency documentation that the lot has passed field inspection in the originating state or province and shows the amount that is being shipped.

OR

A copy of the completed field inspection form showing that the field passed inspection.

2. If seed has been tested in a seed lab other than the Montana State Seed Lab., the labeler (tag requestor) must submit the lab analysis report to the certifying agency which is supplying the tags or bulk seed sale certificates. The analysis on the report must meet MSGA Standards.
3. Seed originating in Canada should be re-tested in order to be properly labeled and insure it meets MSGA standards.

WARNING: Selling Common Seed of PVP Title 5 Protected Varieties is Illegal

Recent reports of potential PVP violations have prompted us to remind our producers that selling of PVP Title 5 protected varieties, whether private or public, for seed is not legal unless they have been certified by MSGA or a certifying agency from another state. While we do not have control over illegal seed sales by non-MSGA members, we can remind you, our members, to obey the law and avoid selling common seed of these varieties, as per the PVP law. Most people do not like turning in their neighbors for such violations, so please do all you can to educate your customers and neighbors with regard to the restrictions on seed sales of these varieties. MSGA has indicated which varieties are protected in the grower directory. Included with this newsletter is a list of the varieties that currently have PVP protection.

Montana Plant Variety Protection 'Working List'.

The Montana PVP Working List contains varieties with PVPA title V, or PVPA and enrolled in the Montana Seed Certification Program. October 15, 2007.

Montana Seed Growers Association, Ron Larson 406-994-5121

Montana Foundation Seedstocks Program, Bill Grey 406-994-5687

Google Search "Montana Foundation Seed" to download this document

HRWW	CDC Falcon	Genou	Eddy
Bynum CL	CDC Buteo	Yellowstone	Ledger
Norris CL	Morgan	BigSky	Pryor
MT1159 CL	Wahoo	Paul	Ripper
AP502 CL	Millennium	MDM	Hatcher
Bond CL	Jagalene	Hawken	Above CL
SWWW	Mohler		
HWWW	NuWest	NuHills	NuHorizon
NuDakota	NuFrontier	Hyalite CL	Wendy
Golden Spike			
HRSW	Vida	Freyr	Parshall
WestBred936	Scholar	Kuntz	Glenn
Granite	Choteau	Norpro	Alsen
Express	Outlook	Saxon	Howard
Espresso	Jedd	Kelby	Ernest
Conan	AP603 CL	Gunner	Reeder
Hank	AP604 CL	Knudson	Buck Pronto
Corbin	Snow Crest		
HWSW & SWSW	WB-528	Nick	Pristine
Explorer	Idaho 377s	Plata	MTHW9420
Durum	Ben	Lebsock	Voss
Alzada	Divide	Mountrail	Utopia
AC Avonlea	Grenora	Pierce	Maier
Malt barley	Excel	Moravian 37	Tradition
B1202	Legacy	Stellar-ND	Conrad
Merit			
Feed & hay barley	Xena	Valier	Bestford
Baronesse	Spaulding	Westford	Stockford
Oat	Croa 126	Paul	
Triticale	Trical 102		
Safflower	Montola 2003	Montola 2004	Nutrasaff
	Morlin	Centennial	
Flax	Carter		
Lentils	CDC Viceroy		
Field Peas	Cruiser	K2	SW Marquee
	SW Midas	SW Salute	Tudor

Plant breeders, seed and crop producers are partners. They depend on each other. This partnership is defined by the Plant Variety Protection Act of 1970 (PVP), which offers legal protection in commerce for plant varieties reproduced by seed.

Recent U.S. Supreme Court and District Court rulings and 1994 Amendments to PVP state that:

A farmer may increase and save seed of a new PVP variety to plant on his own farm. He cannot sell any saved seed without express permission from the variety owner. Also, if it was PVP title V protected, the seed must be sold as a class of certified seed.

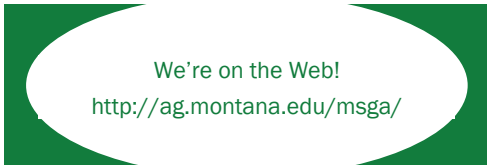
A seed processor is potentially liable if he cleans seed for another party who sells unauthorized seed.

The variety owner can recover damage relating to unauthorized seed sales as well as crop production resulting from those sales.

Labeling of seed is irrelevant in determining liability. The rules cannot be circumvented by marketing a PVP variety as "variety not stated" (VNS) or "grain", or buying grain or feed and converting it to planting purposes.

Montana Seed Growers Association

MSU-Marsh Laboratory
P.O. Box 173146
Bozeman, MT 59717-3146



"Look for the tag on the bag!"

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Dates to Remember:

- November 1st: MSGA/Seed Lab open house
- November 1-3: MSU Ag. Appreciation Weekend
- November 12th: Closed for Veteran's Day
- Mid November: District 6 meeting in Sidney (We will send out dates when plans have been finalized)
- November 22-23: Closed for Thanksgiving
- December 4-6: Montana Grain Growers Convention in Great Falls
- December 11th: Montana Seed Trade Association Meetings in Helena
- January 17-19: MAGIE Show in Great Falls
- January 21st: Closed for Martin Luther King Day
- January 22-24: MAES Annual Planning Conference
- February 14-16: MATE Show in Billings
- February 25-26: MSGA Board Meeting in Bozeman

News from the Seed Lab:

- After a great job over the last three months, Bridget Westfall will continue to serve as the interim manager of the lab along with Ron Larson, as the lab awaits reorganization decisions.
- Remember to send in your samples for BSMV as the lab only conducts this test in October, November, February, and March. If a sample is sent to the lab requesting this test in other months it is sent to North Dakota and billed according to their price list.
- The lab has received numerous samples for the Clear-field test and will continue to conduct this test as requested.

Please remember that the lab is extremely busy with RUSH BLM samples and if you send your sample in at this time it may take longer. We appreciate your patience and we will work hard to get the samples out as quickly as possible.