



Notes & Quotes

Board of Directors

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2009 Production Fees Are Due

Production fees for seed harvested from all crops are payable within 30 days after harvest. Fees for the 2009 cropping season must be received by April 15, 2010. 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 (on large seeded crops). Contact the MSGA for cleanout questions on small seeded crops.

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.	

Director Elections for Districts 1 & 5:

It is time once again for district elections for our Board of Directors. This year elections will be conducted for Director of District 1, Currently held by Patrick Lake of Ronan, and is comprised of Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders, Lake, Mineral, Missoula, and Ravalli counties; and District 5, currently held by John Grass of Box Elder comprised of Glacier, Toole, Liberty, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Pondera, Teton, and Choteau counties. All growers enrolled in the program in Districts 1 and 5 for the 2009 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 consecutive years (as shown by signing an Application of Certification) may be elected to serve as director. The term of office for each director is three years. Primary election ballots will be on their way soon! The three candidates with the most votes in the primary election will then move on to the general election. **Please be sure to cast your vote for a representative!**

Please make sure you have turned in all of your bulk certificates for the season!!!! Thank you.

NOTICE ON SECAN, NORTH DAKOTA, AND SOUTH DAKOTA VARIETIES:

Notices of research fees due on certain varieties produced in 2008 or earlier and sold between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009 have been sent to growers and contractors, and are now due if they have not already been paid. Please call the office if you have any questions.



Notes & Quotes

Summary of 2009 Growing Season..... Ron Larson

As with every growing season in Montana, this one has proven to be interesting. In general crop harvest has been delayed, by as much as several weeks in some places. Yield reports are also quite varied, but most likely should be described as average overall. Central Montana had some droughty conditions and lower reported yields than other places in the state. Summer temperatures have been lower than some years with the corresponding reduction of heat units that may have affected some crops. The crop types with the most acres applied for were hard red spring wheat – 18,979 acres, hard red winter wheat – 16,555 acres, and Barley – 10,724 acres. This year we had a relatively large number of pulse crops applied for, about 6500 acres. Some 3800 acres of alfalfa were applied for this year with relatively average yields being reported.

This seems like a good place to discuss some of the problems I saw as field inspections progressed. This first problem is more of an observation and something many producers are facing. That is a growing problem with sawflies that seemed to be on the increase in terms of damage done and area covered. I noticed they were even working on barley in some areas and having a negative yield impact on that crop.

A second significant problem especially for small grain seed, is the amount of volunteer grain that seemed to show up from previous years of production. It seems imperative to me that some type of heavy harrowing after harvest along with pre-plant spraying for volunteer and weeds be performed to try to minimize the amount of volunteers left to contaminate certified seed fields. That, of course, is still no guarantee of elimination, but should at least reduce the number of volunteer plants appearing. Chem fallow practices without some kind of attempt at getting potential volunteer seed in contact with the soil for elimination prior to seeding may lead to increased contamination problems.

Finally, I noticed a tendency among producers in certain cases not to leave an easily identified border between classes or fields of a given variety. The standards definitely call for a border which clearly indicates the edge of any certified seed field. Acceptable border identification could be a narrow strip left unplanted, use of stakes or steel posts, or even an edge identified by driving down the crop with a 4-wheeler or pickup. At any rate, this next year, I want to do a better job of enforcing this part of the standards, so our inspectors are dealing with fields that have clearly marked boundaries. Your cooperation as producers and contractors will be greatly appreciated.

CERTIFICATION ACREAGE SUMMARY BY YEAR

Year	Acreage Applied For	Acres Cancelled	Acres Inspected
2004	45,259	5513	39,746
2005	60,761	3205	57,555
2006	58,514	5859	52,655
2007	59,027	5747	57,425
2008	69,520	2494	62,624
2009	66,501		

Seed Lab News Carli Lofing

Please contact the Seed Lab with any questions or if we can be of service to you this fall.

(406) 994-2141

clofing@montana.edu

- The Seed Lab has conducted 727 samples for the Fiscal Year 2009.
- We will be doing BSMV testing on Barley samples through the rest of October and November and again in February and March.
- The MSU Seed Lab price increase did not pass so the prices will remain the same.
- Due to our staffing cut we will no longer be conducting the Clearfield test. If you need this test please send it to another lab. Call if you have any questions.

We greatly appreciate all those who have hung in there with us!



October 2009

Foundation Seed News.....Bill Grey

Fall Allocations: Genou 445 bu, Rampart 116 bu, Yellowstone 20 bu, Willow Creek 130 bu, Frank Spelt 350 lbs. A small amount of Genou is available and there is plenty of Yellowstone for those who can still plant this fall.

Supplies for next spring ? Among the legumes, there is a supply of Morton Lentil and Windham field pea. Next spring we will have good stocks of Hockett malt barley, limited Haxby or Eslick feed barleys and a cornucopia of hooded barleys, Lavina, Hays and Haybet . Spring wheat supplies of Vida will be good, Choteau may be short and we will have Fortuna for those interested. Otana and Monico will be in good supply.

What's new among varieties for the future? MT0552 is a hard red winter wheat with hollow stem and improved winterhardiness and yield plus rust resistance. It has been planted this fall at Williston, Sidney and Havre in larger acres for evaluation so be sure to check out MT0552 during Research Center field days next summer. We expect foundation seed available in fall 2010 pending the variety release process. The spring wheat program will be increasing line rows of a solid stem with a target date of spring 2012 to allocate foundation seed to qualified growers. Among the hooded barleys, Lavina has higher seed production than Hays under dryland, whereas, Hays is adapted to the irrigated systems. Forage hay yields are being conducted at the CARC station among the barley varieties.

Bill

From the Desk of Brent Sarchet—MT Department of Ag.

The Montana Department of Agriculture wears many hats. One of these hats we wear is protecting Montana's producers. With this in mind, the department is evaluating the possibility of an indemnity fund to assist Montana's producers in the event of non-payment for their delivered agricultural commodities. Starting this fall, the department will be talking with the different agricultural organizations to discuss the possibility of an indemnity fund. One of the organizations the department will be contacting for input is the Montana Seed Growers Association. If you have any questions on an indemnity fund or want to provide some input on the topic, please contact me at 444-3950 or by email at bsarchet@mt.gov. I hope everyone had a successful harvest, and I look forward to talking with you later this fall and winter.

"...the department is evaluating the possibility of an indemnity fund to assist Montana's producers in the event of non-payment for their delivered agricultural commodities."

Brent Sarchet

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Montana Seed Growers Association

MSU - Marsh Laboratory Phone: (406) 994-7372
P.O. Box 173146 Fax: (406) 994-1725
Bozeman, MT 59717-3146 Web: www.montana.edu/msga

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"Look for the Tag on the Bag"

Dates to remember:

November 11th: Closed for Veteran's Day

November 13-14: MSU Ag. Appreciation Weekend – Bozeman

November 26-27: Closed for Thanksgiving

December 1-4: MGA Annual Convention – Great Falls

December 7-8: Winter Seed Trade Meeting – Helena

December 24-25: Closed for Christmas

January 1st: Closed for New Year

January 5-7: Crop Pest Management School (Pulse & Forage Crops) - Bozeman

Phone: (406) 994-5663

Email: kwanner@montana.edu

January 21-23: MAGIE Trade Show – Great Falls

January 26-28: MABA/MAEG Joint Convention – Great Falls

February 18-20: MATE Show – Billings

Please be sure to visit the MSGA booth at the MGA Convention and the MATE Show this year!