

# Notes & Quotes



*Montana Seed Growers Association*

**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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rlarson@montana.edu
- Heather Rimel**-Program  
Coordinator  
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- Whitney Wankel**-Program  
Assistant  
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## **Production Fees are now due on 2010 crops**

Production fees for seed harvested from all crops are payable within 30 days after harvest. Billing will be sent out during the month of October. Fees for the 2010 cropping season must be received by April 15, 2011. 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.

## **Election time! Cast your vote for your District Director.**

It is time once again for district elections for our Board of Directors. This year elections will be conducted for Director of District 4, currently held by Jim Kulish of Stanford, and is comprised of Cascade, Judith Basin, Fergus, Petroleum, Wheatland, Golden Valley and Musselshell counties; and District 6, currently held by Bear Whitmer and comprised of Valley, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt, Richland, Dawson, McCone, Prairie, Garfield and Wibaux counties. All growers enrolled in the program in Districts 4 and 6 for the 2010 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!**





## From the Manager....

**Ron Larson**

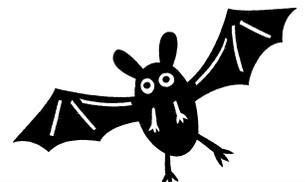
Another growing season has all but passed, with only a few certified seed fields yet to be harvested. Some of our statistics for the season include 64,717 acres of seed crops applied for (56,890 acres have passed inspection so far), and the crop with the highest acreage is spring wheat with 17,546 acres applied for (15,506 acres passed). We are swiftly moving toward final field inspections of the latest maturing crops.

As we were processing applications for the 2010 crop season, it became apparent that there was some confusion regard to the MSGA Standards for Small Grains, particularly the Land Requirements to qualify for certification. I thought it would be worthwhile at this time to review this issue. The current Land Requirement Standard reads:

“A crop of small grain or flax will not be eligible for certification if planted on land on which the same kind of crop was grown the year previous unless the previous crop was the same variety and passed field inspection and lab analysis (exceptions may be allowed due to crop loss from hail, fire, or drought). *If the Certified class of a variety is produced in a given year, the succeeding year the same variety could be planted so as to produce either a Registered or Certified class of seed.* (Exception for production of Foundation class seed: the previous crop must have been a different crop kind, followed 2 successive years of summer fallow, or produced a Foundation class of the same variety the previous crop year). One year of summer fallow will not be accepted as a crop year between different varieties of the same crop species (kind). (MSGA strongly encourages the use of light tillage, heavy harrowing or rotary harrowing on summer fallow, or in re-crop, to facilitate germination and destruction of as much volunteer grain as possible prior to planting a small grain seed crop).”

While this probably seems long and convoluted, the intent was that we cover as many situations as possible. This standard is easy to meet if the previous crop was of another kind, such as one of the pulse crops, alfalfa, safflower, etc., but it becomes a bit more complicated with other grains. So, Wheat following a barley crop would meet the requirement. Winter wheat following a spring wheat crop, or vice-versa, meets the requirement, although volunteer wheat could still be a problem at field inspection time in either scenario. Since a year of summer fallow is not counted as a crop year, you must go back to the actual crop last planted in the field as the reference point. For example, a field that was Vida spring wheat seed in 2009 could not be planted to a seed field of Choteau spring wheat in 2011, even though there was a year of fallow in 2010.

Another misunderstanding concerns the requirement that, if the same seed variety is being planted either as re-crop or after a year of summer fallow, the previous crop must have been inspected and passed by lab analysis in order to verify what the previous variety was. So, certified class seed of Choteau spring wheat planted to produce common seed in 2009 would render a field non-eligible for planting of Registered Choteau to produce a certified class in 2011, if 2010 is a summer fallow year; it also means that it would not be eligible to produce that same seed class in 2010 if it was a re-crop situation.



## From the Manager continued...

I'm sure I haven't covered all the scenarios in this short treatise, but, hopefully, this will clear up some of the confusion. If you have questions on a particular situation, feel free to call the office. Since we don't see applications before fields are planted, it is in our best interest to encourage producers to ask before planting, and thus avoid problems with the Crop Requirements portion of this standard.

SECAN ROYALTY Fees – At this time it appears the MSGA may be terminating its agreement for collection of these fees after collection of the SECAN fees for the 2009 crop. SECAN has indicated that it expects producers of these varieties must become members for the 2011 crop season, and they will be collecting fees directly from producers of seed in this crop season. Currently, fees are due for seed of Harrington and AC Metcalfe produced in 2009 or a previous crop year, and sold between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010. Fee collection letters will be sent out soon.

North Dakota State University Foundation Fees – Collection invoices for these fees will be sent out shortly for ND varieties sold from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. Fees will be due as soon upon receipt.

### OTHER MSGA BUSINESS

- MSGA Acreage cancellation fees will be refunded in October, as soon as all inspections have been done.
- MSGA production fee invoices will be sent out in October. Fees are due upon receipt. Thank you for your cooperation in these matters.




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*Please turn in filled out bulk certificates to the office. Thanks.*

## New Program Assistant...

After three years with the MSGA as program assistant, Tamara Vook has decided to pursue other opportunities. We wish her well in her future endeavors. Please join us in welcoming Whitney Wankel who will be with us through December. Whitney comes to us with a strong agricultural background in farming and ranching, and a bachelor degree from MSU in Ag. Education (relations/extension option).



## Get To Know Your Directors Part 2!!!!

### JOHN WOLD

**District 3:** Stillwater, Carbon, Southern Yellowstone, Big Horn, Treasure, Rosebud, Custer, Powder River, Carter and Southern Fallon

**Name:** John Wold

**Town:** Laurel

**Years on the Board:** 5

**Family:** Wife Shelly, daughters Kendra and Heather and granddaughter Xylia

**Background/Education:** Graduated high school in 1970 and then attended MSU. Has been raising certified alfalfa seed for 26 years.

**Organizations/Activities:** Italian Ditch Board of Directors for 30 years, Director and past president of Montana Alfalfa Seed Growers Association, Director and present chairman of Montana Alfalfa Seed Committee and a member of Montana Seed Growers Association for the last 6 years.

**Hobbies/Interests:** Flying, sailing, growing crops and teasing my granddaughter.

**Most important issues for MSGA:** Maintain quality inspections for certified seed in Montana and trying to organize our seed lab into a high quality, efficient facility.

**Most important issues for the seed industry:** Maintain high quality certified seed in Montana.

**The best things in life are...** Rain at the right time and harvesting a bumper crop (as well as doing these little favors for Heather).



### BOB HODGSKISS

**District 5:** Glacier, Toole, Liberty, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Pondera, Teton, Northern Chouteau

**Name:** Bob Hodgskiss

**Town:** Choteau

**Years on the Board:** 4

**Family:** Wife Mickey and kids JoLynn Miller (Husband Chad and kids Brigid-8, Maili-5 and Nick-3), Ben, Bill (wife Heather and son Blake-5 mo) and Nichole.

**Background:** Grew up on a ranch at Choteau which I am still on. Went to college in Bozeman for 1.5 years and then transferred to Helena VoTech. I was married in 1974. Received my Airline Mechanic Degree and then moved home to Choteau.

**Organizations/Activities:** Church, Church religious education teacher for 18 years, Stockman Bank Advisory Board, AgriPro Seed Consultant

**Hobbies/Interests:** Hunting (if it's brown it's down), fishing and bench shooting.

**Most important issues to MSGA:** Being able to keep pace with what is going to be coming from plant breeders as a lot of what is will be very interesting.

**Most important issues for the seed industry:** Keeping the public informed on new technology and GMO's from a beneficial to them standpoint.

**The best things in life are...** 3 G's. Grandkids, God and gone hunting!



**Foundation Seed News.....Bill Grey**

Since the advent of MSU’s research fee and PVP title V policy on Choteau, Genou, Yellowstone and Vida, the seed growers and producers have provided over 1 million \$\$ to MFSP, MSGA and MAES Research Fee programs. Is this a surprising number? This is revenue over six years for the purchase of MSU-foundation seed, plus the fees associated with MSGA certification and the MAES Research Fee on seed sold. The following Table is for Crop year 2004 through 2009 with the sales and fees received from Choteau, Genou, Yellowstone and Vida. The receipts are roughly 30% from foundation seed, 30% certification services and 40% to new variety development with the MAES research fee.



Program	Choteau (6 yrs), Genou (5 yrs), Yellowstone (4	Crop Year 2004 to 2009
MT Foundation Seedstocks	12,231 bu	\$339,549
MT Seed Growers Association	650 applications	\$17,550
MT Seed Growers Association	66,628 acres in program	\$166,670
MT Seed Growers Association	1,900,890 bu production fees	\$95,044
MSU MAES- Research Fee	1,272,485 bu seed sold	\$399,659
		\$1,018,472

What’s it all mean? There is tremendous support by the seed growers and producers for MSU varieties and the services that is provided by the three programs. I would venture an opinion that the MSU policy on PVP title V has extended the value of a variety and the sales of certified seed. It certainly hasn’t harmed the adoption of the successful varieties. The information presented indicates a Research Fee has been submitted on 2 out of every 3 bushels of certified seed produced, about 67% over the six years (1.250 Mill Research fee Bu / 1.900 Mill Production Bu). The percentage of Research fees submitted has climbed to 75% in 2009, an indication of a positive response by the seed producers. The research fee monies are used for PVP licensing, new variety development by the breeders and in support of educational efforts by the Farmers Yield Initiative.

MFSP saw a bumper allocation of “Decade” this fall with 1409 bu received by MSGA seed producers. North Dakota Foundation Seed Stocks Program allocated a little over 1600 bu of Decade to their members. Gregg Carlson, as Merlin the Magician, passed his wand across the Decade crop at NARC to produce a phenomenal 80 bu / AC and with his able juggler Jim Whitmus they were able to capture every kernel of the bountiful harvest. At CARC, Joe Vavrovsky did a stellar job of seed processing while Dave Wichman and Lorrie Linhart ensured that all seed found a happy home with the owners. Jerry Bergman and Ron Brown dodged weekly rains to harvest their Decade at EARC and with the assistance of Neil Riveland and Sanford Qvale at Williston R&E, their seed was allocated along with ND’s production. With thanks to MSGA members and the ND seed producers, the joint release of Decade can be considered a success. Additional foundation seed allocations included: Yellowstone 270 bu, Genou 180 bu, Rampart 28 bu, Willow Creek 72 bu, 9.6 cwt Frank Spelt and Windham pea 2000 lbs.

Bill Grey



Return Service Requested

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*Montana Seed Growers Association*

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Fax: (406) 994-1725  
[www.ag.montana.edu/msga](http://www.ag.montana.edu/msga)

**"Look for the Tag on the Bag"**

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## UPCOMING DATES:

- November 2nd—Office closed for General Election Day
  - November 5-6th—MSU Ag. Appreciation Weekend & Football Game—Bozeman
  - November 11th—Office closed for Veterans' Day
  - November 17-20th—NationalWIFE Meetings—Billings
  - November 25-26th—Office closed for Thanksgiving
  - December 1-3rd—Grain Growers Association Meetings—Great Falls
  - December 7-8th—Seed Trade Meetings—Helena
  - December 24th—Office closed for Christmas
  - January 1st—Office closed for New Year Day
  - January 26-28th—MABA-MGEA Joint Convention—Great Falls
  - February 17-19th—MATE Show—Billings
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