Production Fees

What are production fees, and why do we have them?
Production fees are based on all production from the acreage which passed field inspection. This includes seed which is marketed or retained by the grower for their own use. Even if the seed is not going to be sold as seed, production fees are still due. Production fees are designed to even out the cost for growers. By not charging a flat rate we allow for variations in production which can be caused by rain, hail, dryland, irrigation, and other events that are out of your control. Production fees allow MSGA to keep our per acre prices on inspection low. Contractors are responsible for paying production fees to MSGA. We will not individually bill growers.

Cleanout percentage
All fees should be calculated on a clean seed basis. To determine your “Clean Seed” amount before a seed lot is actually cleaned, simply deduct 10% from the total seed harvested. This will account for the average amount of seed that will be lost during the conditioning process. For small seeded crops please call the MSGA office for clean out percentages.

Wheat-Flax-Spelt-Triticale $0.05/bu on clean seed
Barley-Oats-Buckwheat-Large Legumes $0.08/cwt on clean seed
Oil seed types $0.12/cwt on clean seed
Sorghum $0.05/bu on clean seed

Perennial Crops
All grass varieties $0.005/lb on clean seed
Perennial Legume crops $0.005/lb on clean seed
Fourwing Saltbush $0.005/lb on clean seed
Small Burnet $0.005/lb on clean seed
From the Executive Director >>>
Heather Unverzagt >>>

Executive Director’s Report

Fall is finally here and the acres are in. This year MSGA had 104,200 acres applied for, making this one of the largest years to date. Hopefully harvest is wrapped up, and fall planting decisions have been made. For those still shopping for seed you can find the winter crop directory online at www.mtseedgrowers.org. As you put your seed in the bins and store it for cleaning and final certification we encourage you to check and double check your labeling process on bins to prevent varietal mixtures. Such mixtures of certified seed will render lots ineligible for certification. Labels on bins that are not protected from weather can deteriorate and cause problems in the spring. Seed that is sold incorrectly under the wrong name, certification number, or class are subject to fees from PVP violations, lost research fees and royalty collections, state and federal seed law violations, and private contract agreements such as Certified Seed Only (CSO). If you suspect that seed is mislabeled, or contaminated, varietal identification can be conducted before final certification.

Seed Testing for Final Certification
Seed can only receive final certification once a lab analysis confirms that purity and germination results meet the minimum requirements for MSGA’s seed standards. At this point, you may sell on a Montana tag or bulk certificate. Bulk certificates can only be used for Foundation, Registered, and Certified classes of seed.

Out of State Seed Testing
If you are sending seed lots to another lab (not Montana), the lab must be an approved public AOSA (Association of Official Seed Analysts) lab in order to receive final certification through MSGA. For a list of approved AOSA labs outside of Montana please call the MSGA office. When testing small grains out of state it is your responsibility to ensure that the purity test is conducted on 1000 grams instead of the AOSA standard of 500 grams. It is also your responsibility to submit lab reports to MSGA for final certification before selling. MSGA encourages you to use the Montana State Seed Lab as samples are received and processed by our office before being submitted to the lab.

Interagency Bulk Seed Sales
All certified interagency (out of state or country) seed that is shipped into Montana, must first be approved by MSGA. To sell interagency seed in Montana the retailer must submit a copy of the interagency bulk certificate and lab analysis to MSGA in order to receive final certification in Montana.

Bulk Seed Sale Reminders
When a bulk certificate is written it is only valid for that one time sale. If the seed is then sold again, a new tag or bulk certificate must be issued to the new purchaser. Keep in mind that per federal AOSCA (Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies) rules there is a maximum of two physical transfers that are permitted after the seed lot has been certified. This is to ensure that the integrity of the seed is maintained. Examples: seed is moved from the applicant completing the final certification to an approved retailer or consumer, or from an approved retailer to consumer. If the seed lot needs to be physically moved more than twice it must be bagged or placed in bulk bags and tagged.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Acres Applied 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring Wheat</td>
<td>26504.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Wheat</td>
<td>20734.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>13664.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lentil</td>
<td>6466.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pea</td>
<td>10548.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickpea</td>
<td>8633.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfalfa</td>
<td>4314.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc.</td>
<td>13334.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>104200.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**District Election**

Ballots will be sent out soon for Directors nominations for District 1 and District 5. These seats are currently held by Patrick Lake of Polson, MT (District 1 comprised of Lincoln, Flathead, Lake, Sanders, Mineral, Missoula, and Ravalli Counties) Kirby Lohr of Shelby, MT (District 5 comprised of Glacier, Pondera, Teton, Toole, Liberty, Chouteau, Hill, Blaine, and Phillips Counties.) All growers who have grown through MSGA from Districts 1 & 5 for the 2018 growing season are eligible to vote. 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 for Certification) may be elected to serve as director. The term of office for each director is three years. 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 your representative!**

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**SAMPLES FOR TESTING**

Please remember to properly package your pulse crops when sending samples in the mail. Many times we receive packages that have open bags of seed inside of the box. Also, shipping can cause pulses to split and break during the mailing process. Please use bubble wrap, newspaper, or some other type of packaging to keep your seeds stationary while shipping.

*Remember Chickpeas and Lentils must have an Aschochyta test done in order for MSGA to assign final certification and issue tags.*

Sample Sizes for Laboratory Test on Certified Seed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>TZ Only</th>
<th>BSMV</th>
<th>Germ Only</th>
<th>Purity Only</th>
<th>Germ, Purity, &amp; BSMV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small Grains/ Safflower</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td></td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peas</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td></td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfalfa</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td></td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grass</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td></td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>1 ½ lb</td>
<td>1 ½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lentils</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td></td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sainfoin</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td></td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>1 lb</td>
<td>1 lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clover</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td></td>
<td>½ lb</td>
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<td>½ lb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canola &amp; Crambe</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td></td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>1 lb</td>
<td>1 lb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Ordering Tags, Bulk Certificates and Sample Submission**

Please be proactive with your tag and bulk certificate requests and with sample submissions. We often do not get mail in only 2 days, so please send off your samples in enough time to fit your needs. Also, order tags ahead of time so that we can get them made and in the mail to you. We try and get tags printed the same day they are requested, but often they do not go out in the mail until the following day.

**MSGA Website**

[www.mtseedgrowers.org](http://www.mtseedgrowers.org) has all of our newsletters, information, and seed standards for your convenience. We also provide a printable online application as well as other forms used in seed certification. Check back in November for the completed 2018 All Crop Directory.

**NDSU and SDSU Royalty Fees**

Letters have been sent to those who produced North Dakota or South Dakota owned varieties over the past 3 years. Fees will be collected on any seed sales that occurred between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. These fees are due back to MSGA no later than November 1, 2018. Please call Rebecca Papke at (406) 994-5121 with any questions you may have.
NEW VIGOR TEST OFFERED BY SEED LAB

ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY

The electrical conductivity (EC) test is a valuable seed vigor test for many crops and has been a recommended test for many large-seeded legumes such as peas. The conductivity test offers a quick vigor test that can be easily conducted with minimal requirements for equipment and training. Conductivity test results have shown closer relationships with seedling field emergence than the standard germination test for many large-seeded legumes.

According to the Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA) Vigor Handbook 2009: “The test measures the leakage of solutes such as amino acids and inorganic ions from cell membranes. Low quality seeds have poor membrane structure that allows the leakage of ions during imbibition. These can be detected by monitoring the electrolytes present in the steep water (Simon and Mills, 1983). As a result, high levels of leakage are characteristic of low vigor seed lots, even those with acceptable laboratory germination levels. Low or poor field emergences are expected from these lots, particularly after exposure to less favorable or stressful conditions. Seed lots with low electrolyte leakage during imbibition are considered of high vigor.

Why do a Vigor Test?

Test results are mainly used as a quality assurance tool to rank seed lots for field and/or storage potential. Vigor tests can help predict:

- Rate and uniformity of seed germination and seedling growth
- Field performance, including extent, rate and uniformity of seedling emergence
- Performance after storage and transportation
- **Vigor testing is not a substitution for germination testing**

A germination test tells you what percentage of your seed lot will start to grow under ideal conditions. A vigor test, on the other hand, is an indicator of how that seed will perform under less than perfect environmental conditions, taking into account the seeds’ genetic constitution, size, physiological maturity, and any effects related to production and storage the previous year. If you are interested in this test, please submit a sandwich size bag of seed. If your sample is submitted for a purity, we will have enough seed to conduct the electrical conductivity test.

Upcoming Meeting and Events

- Celebrate Ag days at MSU Bozeman, MT November 9th & 10th
- MT Pulse Day November 11th & 12th in Billings, MT.
- Montana Grain Growers Association Convention and Trade Show November 27th-29th Great Falls, MT
- Montana Seed Trade Association Winter Meeting December 4th-6th in Bozeman, MT.
- CARC Research Roundup Pulses and Oilseed Crops December 11th in Moccasin, MT.
- Crop Pest Management School January 14th-16th in Bozeman, MT
- MABA/MGEA January 23-25th in Great Falls, MT
The growing season has finally ended for the MSU Foundation Seed Program. The last field harvested was Vida spring wheat on Sept. 27th at the Post Farm in Bozeman which was immediately followed by winter wheat planting that concluded on Oct. 4th. All things considered (Father’s Day frost, July 4th frost and a small hail event, this year was very good in terms of bushels and quality of seed. Foundation seed produced at Havre’s NARC, Moccasin’s CARC and Sidney’s EARC was also above average. Like any seed operation we had a couple fields not make it to harvest but all priority seed was harvested.

This fall we were able to turn around a couple new winter wheat varieties for distribution across MT with our partnering seed producers. Winter wheat grain variety “FourOsix” and forage variety “Ray” were well requested and distributed. Both performed solidly in our Foundation fields so we are excited to see them in production outstate. Fall planting included these two varieties in addition to a couple promising experimental’s that will come up for variety discussion and decisions this winter. One is a very solid stem with high yield and another everything Yellowstone with reduced height and early maturity.

Another direction our program continues to explore and implement is the upgrading and expansion of facilities and land. With the addition of pulse crops to our inventory we have been reminded that improvements to both are needed. Our cleaning plant will be organized to now include an industry sized de-bearder while shopping for a gravity table to get modernized and better equipped to handle new crops and larger seed lots. Small improvements have led to efficiencies but tours of many seed plants display a lot of room for improvement. Positioning MSU’s Foundation Seed Program for the future has been an emphasis for me and will continue to be.

As always, feel free to call on me anytime at (office) 406-994-5687, (cell) 406-404-5726 or douglas.holen@montana.edu. You can also visit our website: http://plantsciences.montana.edu/FoundationSeed/

Hoping to see many of you during Montana’s Ag conventions, expos and seminars.
We want you to submit photos of harvest, or of your fields this growing season to use on the cover of our seed directories for 2018. Please submit photos to rebecca.papke@montana.edu. The winner will have their photo on the cover of the directory and will receive some MSGA swag with our new logo. So please take lots of pictures and send them in!

*Photo by: Chris Westergard*