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 inspections low.

Contractors are responsible for paying production fees to MSGA. We will not individually invoice 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 $0.005/lb on clean seed
- All grass varieties
- Perennial Legume crops
- Fourwing Saltbush
- Small Burnet

Sorghum $0.05/bu on clean seed

Wheat-Flax-Spelt-Triticale $0.05/bu on clean seed
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Fall is finally here and the acres are in. This year MSGA had 94,331.16 acres applied for in 2019. Hopefully harvest is wrapping 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 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring Wheat</td>
<td>26,673.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Wheat</td>
<td>22,884.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>15,892.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lentil</td>
<td>1,861.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pea</td>
<td>9,824.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickpea</td>
<td>904.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfalfa</td>
<td>1,818.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc.</td>
<td>1,4471.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,4331.16</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**District Election**

Ballots will be sent out soon for Directors nominations for District 4 and District 6. These seats are currently held by Steve Grove of Moccasin, MT (District 4 comprised of Cascade, Judith Basin, Fergus, Petroleum, Wheatland, Golden Valley, and Musselshell Counties) Bill Edwards of Lindsay, MT (District 6 comprised of Valley, Daniels, Roosevelt, Richland, Dawson, McCon, Prairie, Garfield, and Wibaux Counties.) All growers who have grown through MSGA from Districts 4 & 6 for the 2019 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!**

**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>Crops</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>½ lb</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 cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfalfa</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>1 ½ lb</td>
<td>1 ½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grass</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lentils</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>1 ½ lb</td>
<td>1 ½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sainfoin</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
<td>2 ½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clover</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
<td>½ lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canola &amp; Crambe</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>½ cup</td>
<td>1 lb</td>
<td>1 lb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 2019 All Crop Directory.

**Research Fees**

Letters have been sent to those who produced North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota owned varieties over the past 3 years. Fees will be collected on any seed sales that occurred between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. These fees are due back to MSGA no later than November 1, 2019. Please call Rebecca Papke at (406) 994-5121 with any questions you may have.
BYE BYE CHEATGRASS
HELLO HERBICIDE TOLERANCE

As of August 31, 2019, Montana State Seed Testing Lab has received approval to perform the Axigen Seed Assay by the CoAxium Executive Committee. The Executive committee is composed of two representative from each partner in the CoAxium Wheat Production System: Colorado Wheat Research Foundation, Albaugh and Limagrain.

CoAxium wheat production system will help growers by controlling winter and spring annual grasses in winter wheat. We all know and love Downy Brome or Cheatgrass, Feral Rye, Jointed Goatgrass, Wild Oat and those volunteer cereals. This herbicide tolerance technology will deliver performance and value to wheat farmers across Montana.

As an approved seed lab, we are a trusted partner in the effort to bring this technology to our Montana growers.

The Montana State Seed Testing Lab plays a key role in ensuring successful use of the system by confirming that certified seedlots are tolerant of Aggressor herbicide before planting. The Axigen Seed Assay is an Additional Certification Requirement of AOSCA required for all CoAXium wheat varieties prior to certification by an AOSCA-member agency.

Key attributes of the test include:

- Seed samples are to be tested 1) after field inspection 2) prior to final certification
- Seed from conditioned or unconditioned seedlots may be tested
- Seedlots may be subjected to a maximum of two tests.
- A passing result is a seedlot that has equal to, or greater than, 92% tolerant seedlings
- Approved seedlots should contain the following statement on lab reports: Axigen Seed Assay – Passed. This seedlot can be marketed in the CoAXium Wheat Production System as being tolerant to Aggressor herbicide.

Varieties with the AXigen trait are identified with the “AX” suffix. Fusion AX and Incline AX are the two varieties we have had in the laboratory.
MSGA wants to thank all our hard working field inspectors for another successful season. Our inspectors put in long hours walking fields in order to get all 94,000 acres inspected before harvest. We could not have this certification program without our dedicated inspectors who continue to work for us every year! Our inspectors knowledge of their areas, fields, and growers is invaluable when it comes to creating a working and personal relationship with the grower members of MSGA. Thank you again:

Lisa Bedord
Brian Bedord
Brianna Bernhardt
Roger Brookie
Alexis Clingingsmith
Tom Davis
Susan Engstrom
Larry Holzworth
Red Loved
Erin Miller
Micheal Morgan
Mary Nagle
Richelle O’Leary
Elisha Lewis
John Ranney
Thad White
Roger Hybner

Photo by: Susan Engstrom
Photo by: Thad White
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Photo by: Thad White
IT’S TAILGATE SEASON!!!!!

Montana Seed Trade Association Style

WHAT? Tailgate Sponsored by MSTA
WHERE? Bobcat Stadium Tailgate C13 East Side
WHEN? November 2, 2019 Bobcats vs. Southern Utah

Tailgate Starts at 9am Game Kickoff at 12pm
MSTA welcomes Montana certified seed growers and customers to come by and grab some free food and beverages!