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The final votes have been tallied for districts 1 & 5. We want to thank everyone who voted for our great candidates. Congratulations to Jack Lake (District 1) from Ronan, and to Terry Peters (District 5) from Ledger, MT. Both board members were re-elected for a 2nd 3 year term. We are excited to continue to work with them in the coming years.

MSGA wants to wish all our associates a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Board of Directors
Jack Lake (District 1)
Bob Hofman (District 2)
Cavin Steiger (District 3)
Steve Grove (District 4)
Terry Peters (District 5)
Bill Edwards (District 6)
Mike Giroux-Interm Ex. Officio

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Board of Director Election Results
The final votes have been tallied for districts 1 & 5. We want to thank everyone who voted for our great candidates. Congratulations to Jack Lake (District 1) from Ronan, and to Terry Peters (District 5) from Ledger, MT. Both board members were re-elected for a 2nd 3 year term. We are excited to continue to work with them in the coming years.

MSGA Board of Directors Meeting 2022
The MSGA Board of Directors meeting will be held in Bozeman February 8th-9th. If you have comments or concerns that you wish to have discussed, feel free to call your district’s elected board member or the MSGA office. Please call the office if you need the contact information for you respective board member.
Update From MSGA

2021 was a hard year for everyone with heat, fires, and pests wreaking havoc on crops across the state. As we wrap up this season we anticipate some seed shortage issues come spring. We saw about 7,000 acres cancelled across the state mostly due to the above stated environmental factors. Most of these fields were withdrawn early in the growing season.

On a happier note, we here at MSGA want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We look forward to kicking off 2022 with a mini webinar series. We will start on January 11th and run through February 8th. These one-hour meetings will be hosted via Zoom on Tuesdays from 9-10am. MSGA will be sending out a reminder post card as well as updates on our website. These webinars will lead us right up to our Board of Directors meeting February 8th and 9th. Following we will host our 2nd annual membership meeting webinar on February 23rd.

Our office will be closed Christmas eve, Friday the 24th of December.

Sincerely,
Heather, Rebecca, and Nancy

Montana State Seed Testing Lab

>>Bridget Westfall

Ho Ho Ho!! Merry Christmas to all from the Montana State Seed Lab. The year flew by, we had a record breaking number of samples submitted in August and they continue to trickle in, keeping us busy but not swamped.

We hired a new analyst – Malia Vollmer who was forced to hit the ground running. Rest assured all of her work is checked and we are happy to have the help. After two years of on-the-job training, she will be eligible to take the Certification exam. She is a local girl with deep roots in the Bozeman area. Anyone remember Charles McGuire who ran the Cereal Quality Lab here on campus for many, many years? Well, that is her grandfather! We are expecting 2022 to bring more surprises. We are ready.
Positive thoughts and Prosperity to you and yours.

Fall Crop Field Applications

With MSGA’s new system you can go ahead and enter in all your winter crops now. Save time by entering in your applications early. We will not review applications or bill for them until the deadlines May 25th for pulses and perennials and June 15th for all other crops.
Planning for Spring Seeding

Even though it is only December, it is a good time to start thinking about your crop rotations and possible options for spring seeded crops. **Make sure to check and double-check MSGA’s specific land history requirements for all fields before planting for the 2022 growing season.**

**Field Peas** cannot be planted on land that has grown the same crop in 2 cropping years for Certified, 3 years for Registered, and 3 years for Foundation. **Chickpeas** cannot be planted on land that has grown the same crop in 2 years for Certified, 3 years for Registered, and 3 years for Foundation. **Small Grains** A crop of small grain or flax will not be eligible for certification of Certified or Registered class if planted on land where the same kind of crop was grown the previous year unless that crop was of the same variety and class and passed field inspection. **Foundation class:** The previous crop must have been a different crop kind, followed by 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). **Please call the MSGA office with questions on land history requirements.**

Production Fees 2021

Please remember that production fees must be paid on all seed that was field inspected. We send out the first notice for production fees the end of November. Production can be calculated without cleaning seed. Simply deduct 10% for the cleanout amount and pay on that quantity. For prices please refer to the Handbook of Seed Certification, the Directory, or look online at [www.mtseedgrowers.org](http://www.mtseedgrowers.org). Production fees must be paid no later than April 15th, 2022.

Montana Department of Agriculture

>>Ryan Solberg

After 15 years as a field inspector located in Gallatin County, I am thankful for the opportunity to now work as the Seed, Feed and Fertilizer Program Manager and Field Staff Supervisor for the Montana Department of Agriculture. I am humbled by the opportunity to work in a regulatory compliance capacity in these important segments of Montana Agriculture.

The field staff located throughout the state will continue to be the folks that interact with Montana agribusinesses. They will be out this winter and spring to help protect the industry by conducting inspections and collecting samples to submit to the lab for labeling assurance while enforcing licensing compliance. The inspectors are impressive public servants who work hard and have the knowledge and skills to help safeguard many different programs beyond seed.

We are here to assist if you have concerns or see issues that could cause damage to the reputation of Montana’s fine seed industry. If you have questions about exporting seed to a foreign country, need a 3rd party unbiased seed sample collected for a federal or state contract, or are working towards your organic certification this motivated and helpful team can assist you. Look at our website or contact me for more information. [https://agr.mt.gov/Seed-Program](https://agr.mt.gov/Seed-Program)

Have a nice winter,

Ryan Solberg
Montana Department of Agriculture
[Rsolberg@mt.gov](mailto:Rsolberg@mt.gov)
It felt good to re-appear at this year’s MT Grain Grower Convention and MT Seed Trade Winter Convention. So much more work can get done at meetings when in person. It is also great to catch up on the personal side of professional relationships not to mention meeting new industry people not seen yet. While we all have a sour taste leftover from the 2021 growing season, seeing smiles and discussing lessons learned with future plans means it is time to move on.

A couple of MSU updates of recent development. Jason Cook has transitioned easily into the role of our spring wheat breeder and our new winter wheat breeder should be starting sometime in January. Our new Winnifred Asbjornson Plant Sciences Endowed Chair Dr. Venugopal Mendu will begin at MSU the 1st of January. We are currently advertising for a new position that will work closely with the five breeding programs and foundation seed. This individual will work mostly in genetic promotion of MSU varieties in addition to best management practices in pulse/specialty crops. The three year position is funded by the MT Wheat & Barley Committee and MT Dept. of Ag. The job description was officially posted to the MSU website in early December with hopes of having someone in place by February 1. Look for more MSU media highlighting our variety portfolio in the very near future.

Our January will include the usual MSU Variety Release Meeting on January 19th. At that meeting there will be variety discussions on a new winter wheat, durum and forage barley. Full variety descriptions and data submissions are released prior to the discussion. I’ll recap the results of that meeting while highlighting any new releases in the Spring Newsletter. Results can also be found on our website shortly after the meeting date. One decision already made with official adoption at this meeting, will be the naming of all MSU variety releases branded with “MT” prefixes. Example would be MT-Cowgirl.

Like you, we are hoping for the best in 2022 and the upcoming planting season. On hand and available for Foundation seed sales will include forage barleys Hays, Haybet, Lavina; malting barleys Hockett and Buzz. Spring wheat inventory consists of Dagmar (sold out), MT Sidney, Lanning, Vida, Egan and Duclair. Lustre and MTD18313 (speculating January approval) are our Durum varieties available. Also in our inventory is Foundation production of Delaney sainfoin. Any seed questions or requests can simply be made by calling, emailing, and texting.

Hoping your holiday season is restful and includes those closest to you while wishing you a safe and profitable 2022 season.

As always, feel free to contact me 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/ for current variety availability, pricing and descriptions.

Foundation Seed Program Seed
House located at the Post Farm in Bozeman, MT. All MSU Foundation Seed is cleaned, treated, and stored at this facility.