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Fall 2022

A Quarterly Update from the Montana Seed Growers Association

The Sprout

Board of Directors

Jack Lake (District 1)

Bob Hofman (District 2)

Cavin Steiger- Vice President (District 3)

Steve Grove (District 4)

Terry Peters (District 5)

Bill Edwards- President (District 6)

Mike Giroux-Ex. Officio MSU

MSGA Staff

Heather Unverzagt-Executive Director
hunverzagt@montana.edu
(406) 994-7372

Rebecca Papke-Certification Manager
Rebecca.papke@montana.edu
(406) 994-5121

Nancy Cooke-Office Manager
Nancy.cooke@montana.edu
(406) 994-3516

Proper Seed Sampling

As the winter wheat samples have been rolling in, it is a great time to remind everyone of the proper seed sampling procedures. A seed sample must be representative of the entire lot and need to be taken in accordance with the AOSA Rules for Testing Seed. If you are cleaning two separate lots of seed, each lot needs to have its own number, or you need to wait to send in a sample until both the samples from the cleanings can be combined to represent one lot. Samples taken at the beginning of the seed cleaning process cannot be used for testing seed for certification.

General seed sampling procedures are listed below, however, if you would like additional resources, please refer to the MSGA Handbook, or contact the office.

- A. To secure a representative sample, equal portions must be taken from evenly-distributed parts of the quantity of seed to be sampled. Access must be had to all parts of that quantity.
- B. For free-flowing seed in bags or bulk, a probe or trier long enough to sample all portions of the bag or bulk must be used.
- C. Non-free-flowing seed, such as chaffy grass seed, which is difficult to sample with a probe or trier, must be sampled by thrusting the hand into the bulk and withdrawing representative portions.
- D. As the seed is sampled, each portion must be examined. If there appears to be a lack of uniformity, the portions must not be combined but must be retained separately for laboratory analysis. If the portions appear uniform, they may be combined to form a composite sample.
- E. Composite samples must be obtained to determine the quality of a lot of seed, such as the percentages of pure seed, other crop seed, weed seed, inert matter, noxious weed seed, germination, varietal purity, freedom from disease, and effectiveness of seed treatment.

Production Fees for 2022 Seed Fields

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 that 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 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.

Production Fees by Crop:

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

District Elections

It's time to elect a new set of Board members for 2022. Each year 2 board members from 2 different districts are elected/re-elected. They all serve a 3year term and attend one annual board meeting in Bozeman, MT. All growers who have grown through MSGA from Districts 4 & 6 for the 2022 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 a director. The three candidates with the most votes in the primary election will move on to the final election. Ballots will be sent out soon for director nominations for District 4 and District 6. These seats are currently held by Steve Grove of Moccasin, MT (District 4 is comprised of Cascade, Judith Basin, Fergus Petroleum, Wheatland, Golden Valley, and Musselshell Counties.) and Bill Edwards of Lindsay, MT (District 6 is comprised of Valley, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt, Richland, Dawson, McCone, Prairie, Garfield, and Wibaux Counties.) will then move on to the general election. **Please be sure to cast your vote for your representative!**

Notice From Montana State Seed Lab

Change In Report Delivery

As more and more clients are requesting email copies only of their feed testing results, hard copies will now be offered on a per-request basis. Please Indicate on your sample submission form that you prefer a hard copy.

Bridget Westfall; Manager, Montana State Seed Lab

MSGA Field Inspection Season Update

Thank You MSGA Field Inspectors

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 105,000 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:

Brian Bedord
Lisa Bedord
Brianna Nelson
Roger Brookie
Tom Davis
Erin Miller

Susan Engstrom
Lary Holzworth
Roger Hybner
Red Lovec
Elisha Otis
Thad White

Mike Morgan
Mary Nagle
Dan Hodges

Acres Applied for 2022 vs. 2021

Crop	Acres Applied for 2022	Acres Applied for 2021
Spring Wheat	23,518.84	21,774.71
Winter Wheat	33,179.68	27,360.94
Barley	16,728.02	14,025.43
Pea	10,888.43	9,727.99
Lentil	1,672.04	2,101.33
Durum Wheat	3,357.68	2,424.09
Triticale	2,065.14	1,467.30
Chickpea	1833.87	1,914.33
Alfalfa	1934.14	1,986.20
Grasses	3,376.53	3,810.67
Misc.	7,304.26	5,743.23
Total	105,858.99	92,336.22

Research Fee Collection

MSGA is responsible for collecting research fees on some varieties for other states. MSGA sent letters out to those who grew varieties that have research fee agreements associated with them. South Dakota, North Dakota: Both North Dakota Crop Improvement Association, and North Dakota Research Foundation, and Wisconsin.

You will be reporting the seed you sold between July 01, 2021, and June 30, 2022. These are the sales that you will owe the royalties on. Please make sure you send back the completed sheet with payment to MSGA. MSGA will then distribute funds to the appropriate parties.

MSGA does NOT collect for Montana State University, Doug Holen is the individual who will collect all of MSU variety fees.

If you have any questions please reach out to Rebecca Papke: Rebecca.papke@montana.edu or (406) 994-5121.

Montana Foundation Seed Program

>>Doug Holen



Another growing season has passed as the next one already started. 2022 was overall a good year for the MSU Foundation Seed Program recognizing what we were able to accomplish and harvest. We experienced many of the same production problems seen at your facilities and farms. Multiple germination events in the same field, extended hot and dry to end the campaign along with pests that included disease, insects, and wildlife. Harvest was long and we are never distanced from the equipment problems common to running everything at once in the heat. That being said, we now have everything in bins, fall grains mostly processed and distributed, and planting underway.

New to our portfolio this year was harvesting Foundation Seed of MT Blackbeard durum, MT Cowgirl forage barley, MT WarCat winter wheat, and MT 457 green peas. All are available for the 2023 growing season. We produced more Foundation Ray, Bobcat, and Dagmar in 2022 as they have sold out each year since release.

Our five breeding programs are very busy with new materials quickly following those just mentioned. A total of nine experimental varieties were harvested this fall as Breeder Seed with release discussions at the January variety release meeting.

On a side note, you will notice a couple of changes with the Program moving forward. The MSU university council quickly approved our name change proposal in September. It is now officially; the "Montana State University Foundation Seed Program" to bring the focus back to where the genetics are being invented. Also new this fall is having our logo put on the totes used for seed shipping. We went far too long with plain white totes and my terrible handwriting.

BranDee is working feverishly to coordinate a booth at many trade shows beginning soon. Please stop by her table to talk about everything MSU and genetics. She also has gone far in increasing our visibility with emails, Facebook, and attendance at everything agriculture this past summer while visiting seed grower facilities. Her position, supported by the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee and MT Department of Ag has added tremendously to what we should and can do to fully expose what is being done at the MSU College of Agriculture and Plant Science/Plant Pathology Dept.

Together we are hoping for rain across your regions this fall and a restful winter leading toward rejuvenated enthusiasm for what 2023 brings.

You can contact me at (office) 406-994-5687, (cell) 406-404-5726, and douglas.holen@montana.edu. Or BranDee at 406-749-4154 and brandee.johnston@montana.edu

You can also visit our website: <https://plantsciences.montana.edu/foundationseed/> for current variety availability, pricing, and descriptions.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Montana Seed Growers Association
MSU-Marsh Laboratory
P.O. Box 173146
Bozeman, MT 59717-3146