

March 2015

Dates & Events

March 15

Form A - Winter Small Grains

April 15

Form A - Spring Small Grains

May 15

Form A - Forage Grasses

Form B - Small Grains

May 25

Holiday - Office Closed

June 1

Form A - Dry Edible Beans, Millet

Form B - Forage Grasses

June 10

Corn Applications

July 1

Form A - Certified Soybeans

Form B - Dry Edible Beans, Millet

July 3

Holiday - Office Closed

August 1

Form B - Certified Soybeans

RR Preharvest Soybeans

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Field Inspection Preparation

Field inspection is only one step in the certification process, but it is an essential step. Small grain fields can be scheduled for inspection any time after heading and before harvest. Failure to have your fields inspected and approved will **eliminate** these fields and seed from certification. Applicants will receive notification by mail informing them who their inspector is. Work with your inspector if you are not certain whether the field has been inspected before you begin harvest of the field. Do not delay getting your fields ready for inspection. Once the field is headed it can be inspected and may be scheduled for inspection at any time. Applicants should receive notification from your inspector at least 2 days prior to the inspection. If this is not occurring, please inform the NCIA.

As in the past, **if your seed field is not ready for inspection it may be rejected.** However the NCIA Board of Directors has agreed to a new emphasis on following and adherence to the certified field standards. If the reason for rejection is correctable but not an isolated problem, re-inspection will be required for certification and will be indicated on the affidavit accompanying your field inspection report. The applicant may choose to continue certification of the seed field by agreeing to a re-inspection on the affidavit and returning it to the NCIA office. The request may delay harvest and will not take priority over other first time inspections your inspector may have scheduled. An additional fee of \$2 per acre will be assessed to complete the re-inspection.

The field must be clearly defined and properly isolated according to certification standards. The field standards for Small Grains states "A field for the production of the Registered or Certified class seed should be separated from other varieties of the same crop type by either an uncropped strip 10 feet wide or a 10 foot wide strip equally divided between the two varieties shall be discarded at the time of harvest." NCIA is trusting that the 10 foot border is being discarded at the time of harvest. However, to avoid a costly second inspection, a visible border or break between fields must be visible or marked with a visible marker that is above the mature height of the crop at the time of inspection.

Roguing fields prior to inspection is recommended to remove undesirable plants from fields. Plants that should be removed include off-type plants, other crop plants, noxious weeds, and other impurities which may be growing in the field. In small grains, roguing should be done after heading since off-types and other crops are most easily detected at that time. Fields that fail NCIA standards for off-type plants will not be eligible for re-inspection unless the problem is determined to be in an isolated area of the field.

A field may also be rejected if the field inspector determines that the amount and kind of weeds present make it difficult to conduct an inspection. **Particularly, the presence of Primary or Prohibited Noxious weeds bearing seeds in any field at inspection will disqualify it for seed purposes.** If the top growth (seed producing parts) of such weeds have been completely destroyed at the time of field

inspection, the field may be approved. This means, for example, that uncontrolled Canada Thistle, Musk Thistle and Field Bindweed could result in a seed field being rejected completely, if it is a severe infestation, or be rejected with an affidavit to remove the noxious weeds. To continue with certification the field must then be re-inspected at another \$2 per acre cost. A list of all noxious weeds is available in the NCIA standards or from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

Seed Improvement Conference

The 2015 Nebraska Seed Improvement Conference was held January 12-14 at the Sandhills Convention Center, North Platte.

The Awards Banquet was sponsored by Husker Genetics, Limagrain Cereal Seeds, Nebraska Wheat Board, Prairie Sky Seed, and Syngenta.

Emery Fox, Heritage Seed, Crawford, was honored as the **2014 Premier Seed Grower.** This award is given to a Nebraska seed enterprise for outstanding achievement in certified seed production and marketing.



Emery was born in Chadron and grew up on the family ranch in Sioux County. Emery earned a Associates degree in Ag Business from Eastern Wyoming College.

Emery's early agriculture

experience was mostly with grazing livestock on their ranch. In 1986 Emery was hired by Arrow Seed, who then owned that location in Crawford. Emery gained experience and knowledge of the agricultural seed business working for Jim Girardin Sr. During that time, Emery helped to develop sales areas in Nebraska, Wyoming and South Dakota including 30 dealers. Certified production was mainly dryland and irrigated wheat varieties of Redland, Siouxland, Centurk, Centura, Buckskin, and Arapahoe.

In 1992 Emery and Sybil bought the business in Crawford and started the Heritage Seed Company.

Heritage Seed Company's main production is seed crops of wheat, oats, barley, millet, alfalfa, and wheatgrass varieties. After 22 years in business, Heritage Seed Company is a stable fixture in the Crawford business community.

Emery and Sybil continue to improve the operation by rebuilding their cleaner, repairing and improving buildings, and building a new greenhouse.

Emery has been member of Nebraska Crop Improvement Association since 1987. They are very involved in the community participating in many community activities. Emery and Sybil have three children, Stacy, Shelly, and Evan Fox.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Matt Keating, Syngenta. This award is presented to acknowledge individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Nebraska agriculture.

Matt graduated from Atkinson West Holt High School and the University of Nebraska. In 2004, he graduated from University of Nebraska at Kearney with a Masters in Business Administration.



Matt joined Syngenta in 1985. In 1988, joined the seed treatment group and moved to Dallas, Texas.

In 1998, a new territory was created and the Keating family moved to Kearney. Matt is responsible for the AgriPro Brand seeds and treatments for Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming and South Dakota.

Matt has served the seed industry in many ways. He served 4 years as Chairman of the Texas Seed Trade

Association and also served 2 years as Chairman of the American Seed Trade Association's Seed Treatment Committee. He has been President of the Nebraska Seed Trade Association and a member of the Nebraska Crop Improvement Association. He served on the NCIA Board of Directors and was President for a two year term in 2011 and 2012.

Matt is very active in his community serving on his church committees and as a Scout Master of Troop 158. Matt is married to Jill and they have three boys Zachary, Adam, and Jack.

NCIA Board Reorganizes

Emery Fox, Crawford, was elected to serve his first term on the board representing District 4. **Ryan Peters**, State-at-Large was reelected to serve a second term. The Board elected a slate of officers for 2015. **Dave Fuss** was elected president, **Brad Hansen** vice-president, and **Ryan Peters** Treasurer. **Ryan Peters** was appointed as Chair of the Committee of Management for NuPride. **Joe Thimm** was appointed board representative to the Nebraska Seed Trade Association Advisory Committee. **Leon Kriesel**, Kriesel Certified Seed, will serve as the NSTA representative to the NCIA board. Other board members include **Harlan Husa**, **Mark Spurgin**, **Rick Koelsch**, IANR-UNL, and **Roch Gaussoin**, Agronomy.

Changes to Late Fees

The NCIA Board made changes to late fees. The late fee for the Form A will increase from \$25 to \$50. Form B late fees will increase from \$25 for first field and \$5 for all other fields to \$50 and \$10 each additional field up to 2 weeks past the due date. Form Bs over 2 weeks past due will be \$100 for first field and \$10 each additional field. **These changes were effective January 1, 2015.**

Nebraska Crop Improvement Association

Annual Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2015

- The meeting was called to order at 10:34 a.m. by Jerry Radke.
- It was determined that a quorum of the membership was present.
- **It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.**
- **It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the 2014 annual meeting as presented. Motion carried.**
- Joe Thimm gave a preliminary treasurer's report. NCIA started with an approved budget of \$540,500. Total income was \$652,132, expenses were \$542,747 for a net gain of \$109,385. These are all preliminary numbers. **It was moved and seconded to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried.**
- Leon Kriesel presented the Nominating Committee report. Emery Fox of Heritage Seed will run for the open District 4 position. Ryan Peters is eligible for re-election for State-at-Large. Kriesel asked for nomination from the floor. There were none. It was moved and seconded to cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried.
- It was announced that Leon Kriesel, Kriesel Certified Seed, Gurley, will be the NSTA representative to the NCIA Board.
- Steve Knox gave a management report. Total acres for 2014 are 90,475 which is up from 2013. Wheat was up 37%. Phyto inspections were up for a total of 8,271. Corn acres were down. NCIA is down to four full-time staff. NCIA is still doing IRMs through AOSCA. The warehouse is fully functional. Expectation for 2015, corn acres should remain down, and overall acres should be steady. He thanked the NCIA staff and board.
- Steve Knox recognized Jerry Radke as the outgoing NCIA president and outgoing board member.
- Steve Knox discussed inspections and fees. He also discussed the definition of a field. Inspection changes for 2015 were reviewed. A field will be rejected for uncontrolled weeds. The field can be reinspected for a fee of \$2 per acre. He noted a 10 foot border must be between field. Also a new affidavit will be used in 2015.
- Steve Pageler discussed maps and what is expected. He also reviewed all ways of sampling a seedlot.
- Diane Brestel reviewed inspection forms and sales reports.
- Jerry Radke asked for old business. There was no old business
- Jerry Radke asked for new business. There was none.
- **It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned.