

March 2016

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 30

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 4

Holiday - Office Closed

August 1

Form B - Certified Soybeans

RR Preharvest Soybeans

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Field Inspection Preparation

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. 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. 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.

Changes to Certified Lab Fees

The NCIA Board made changes to the Certified lab fees. Please check out the new fee chart on the web site. www.necrop.org. **These changes were effective January 1, 2016.**

Seed Improvement Conference

The 2016 Nebraska Seed Improvement Conference was held January 18-20 at the Ramada Conference Center, Kearney.

The Awards Banquet was sponsored by AgriPro Syngenta, BASF, Husker Genetics, Limagrain Cereal Seeds, Nebraska Wheat Board, and WesBred/Monsanto.



Leon Lutkemeier, Campbell, was honored as the **2015 Premier Seed Grower.** This award is given to a Nebraska seed enterprise for outstanding achievement in certified seed production and marketing.

Leon was born in Campbell and grew up on the family farm. Leon graduated from Adams Central High School and then attended Hastings College and earned a degree in Business Administration and Economics.

Leon then worked for PRO-AG Supply who sold veterinary supplies. He worked out of the Wichita, Kansas, office as the inventory control manager and purchasing agent for three of their warehouse locations.

In 1984, Leon returned to the family farm where he farmed with his father for many years.

Currently Leon farms with his son Mark. They own 1200 acres. Half of these acres are currently in grass. Approximately 200 acres of the highly erodible acres have been in the Conservation Reserve program for more than 25 years.

Leon became a member of Nebraska Crop Improvement Association in 1999, and has been producing and selling up to 10,000 bushels of seed wheat each year.

He is a lifelong member of the Campbell Presbyterian Church. Currently he is serving as Vice-President of the Campbell Chamber of Commerce and is in his 5th year on the Silver Lake School Board. Leon is also a member of the Adams/Webster County Corn Growers.

Leon serves on the Cemetery Committee and is involved in the upkeep of the grounds, and has taught classes and coached youth sports teams.

The **Distinguished Service Award** was presented to Jeff Noel, Husker Genetics/Foundation Seed Division. This award is presented to acknowledge individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Nebraska agriculture.



Jeff graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1981, the American Seed Trade Association Management Academy in 2004, and Advanced Management Academy in 2005.

Jeff joined Husker Genetics and UNL in 2003. During his tenure he has worn many hats including Interim Assistant Director of the Agricultural Research Division and the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station.

Jeff has served the seed industry in several states, in many ways. His start was on his co-owned family farm and pallet company right out of school. He then worked for a seed company at Hopkinsville Elevator Company and WILFARM before its merger with Land O Lakes. Jeff is a past member of the Kentucky Seed Improvement Association. He served on the Nebraska Seed Trade Association Board for 13 years and as its Vice President for 2 years and President for 2 years. He has also served and continues to serve on many committees with the American Seed Trade Association for the past 13 years as well. Jeff is currently an Ex Officio of the Wheat and Sorghum Commodity boards in the State of Nebraska. He also received the Nebraska Wheat Growers Association Outstanding Achievement Award in 2010.

Jeff is active and attends Lincoln Berean Church and enjoys ballistics, rifles, handguns and long range target shooting. Jeff is married to Tema, and they have a very spoiled cream golden retriever named Millie.

NCIA Board Reorganizes

Andre Hoyt, Omaha, was elected to serve his first term on the board representing District 1. **Chris Cullan** and **Joel Maschmann** were elected to State-at-Large positions. The Board elected a slate of officers for 2016. **Ryan Peters** was elected president, **Harlan Husa** vice-president, and **Emery Fox** Treasurer. **Ryan Peters** was appointed as Chair of the Committee of Management for NuPride. **Dennis Bracht** was appointed board representative to the Nebraska Seed Trade Association Advisory Committee. **Dennis Bracht**, will serve as the NSTA representative to the NCIA board. Other board members include **Mark Spurgin** and **Roch Gaussoin**.

Annual Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2016

- The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Dave Fuss.
- It was determined that a quorum of the membership was present.
- The agenda was reviewed. "Update on NCTA in Curtis" was added under B. **It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.**
- **It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the 2015 annual meeting as presented. Motion carried.**
- Conrad Nelson gave an update on NCTA in Curtis. The Irrigation Technician program is new. Ag Mechanics is just starting. The NCIA donated \$5,000 to the Agronomy lab.
- Ryan Peters gave a preliminary treasurer's report. NCIA started with an approved budget of \$540,500. Total income was \$632,217, expenses were \$571,211 for a net gain of \$63,935. These are all preliminary numbers. **It was moved and seconded to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried.**
- Andre Hoyt, United Seed, will run for the open District 1. Fuss asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. Tom Bargaen, Nora, and Chris Cullan, Hemingford, will run for the open State-at-Large position. Fuss asked for nomination from the floor. There were none. Brad Hansen will run for re-election for a State-at-Large position. Fuss asked for nominations from the floor. Leon Kriesel nominated Joel Maschmann, Deshler. **It was moved and seconded to close nominations. Motion carried.** Ballots were distributed to all members.
- It was announced that Dennis Bracht, Seitec Genetics, Fremont, will be the NSTA representative to the NCIA Board.
- Steve Knox gave a management report. Total acres for 2015 were down 27%. Total acres inspected was 66,073. Wheat was down 10%. Corn acres were down 46%. Peas, millet, soybeans, and grasses were all up. Scab was severe in eastern Nebraska. All sales were good. Lab numbers have increased, and NCIA is working on advertising the lab. For 2016 corn should be up. Overall acres should see an increase. The staff of four is working hard. Knox thanked the NCIA staff, members, and board.
- Steve Knox recognized Dave Fuss as the outgoing NCIA president and outgoing board member. He also recognized Joe Thimm as an outgoing board member.
- Steve Pageler discussed maps and what is expected.
- Steve Knox reviewed the increase in certified lab fees approved by the Board. He also noted QA inspections will increase. Minimum inspection fees have also increased. Knox reviewed new software and electronic applications the board and staff have been discussing and looking to purchase.
- Fuss asked for old business. There was no old business.
- Fuss asked for new business. There was no new business.
- Fuss announced election results. District 1-Andre Hoyt, State-at-Large-Chris Cullan, and Sate-at-Large-Joel Maschmann.
- **It was moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.**