

June 2020

Dates & Events

- July 1**
Millet Applications
- July 3**
Holiday - Office Closed
- July 15**
Sales Reports - NuPride Soybeans
- August 1**
Soybeans Applications
- August 1**
Sales Reports - Spring Small Grains, Peas
- September 1**
Sales Reports - Millet, Soybeans
- September 7**
Holiday - Office Closed
- December 24-31**
Holiday - Office Closed
- January 1, 2021**
Holiday - Office Closed
- January 11-13, 2021**
Seed Improvement Conference - Younes Conference Center - Kearney, NE

Verification of Your Seed Source

Verification of the seed source of your Certified fields is **not** a new concept. Yet we are receiving more and more pallet labels for proof of seed source. This does not meet the AOSCA Standards. NCIA Standards states this in section 11 C:

- 1) **Establish source and class of seed by submitting a Foundation or Registered label or bulk seed certificate from the containers of the seed that was planted.**
- 2) A grower planting his own Registered seed should list appropriate lot numbers. Seed from a field which has passed field inspection but from which a seed sample has not been submitted for an official quality analysis will not be eligible for re-certification when planted the following year.
- 3) When a lot of seed is downgraded from the Registered class to the Certified class for any reason other than genetic factors, the lot may be recognized as the Registered class when used as planting stock by the original applicant.

The NCIA is required to have complete verification of the source, class, and quantity (pounds or bushels) of Foundation or Registered seed used in establishing each field for the production of certifiable seed. In the case of fields producing Foundation class seed, a statement from the owner of the variety authorizing the applicant to produce foundation class is required.

Labeling is mandated in the Federal Seed Act and these are the rules certification agencies follow. Those who supply Foundation and Registered seed to growers also have to follow the Federal Seed Act rules for labeling and must put Foundation or Registered labels on those bags. In the race to get seed planted in the fall, many growers are discarding those labels when they open the bag.

Record keeping is part of producing Certified seed. So remember to keep the

label that is attached to the bag to verify your seed source. This label needs to be uploaded into the Nebraska Seed Tracking System when you apply for field inspections.

Carryover and New Crop Testing

Now is the time to test your carry-over seed! It must be retested prior to any sales this fall. Many growers forget and find themselves with ineligible seed during the short sales season. Don't forget to send in a sample of any carryover seed and get the germination updated. Be sure to include the field name and lot number to assist in processing your samples as rapidly as possible. Samples of newly harvested small grains require an extra 5 days to break the dormancy. New crop samples will take essentially 14 days to test. Include the NCIA field name and tests needed. If you don't put that information on the sample, it will delay the testing process. Call the office and we will send you seed sample bags! Bags are free.

Sample Bag Information

Why do we need the field name(s) on the sample bag? The Nebraska Seed Tracking System (NSTS) uses the name that you gave your field to track the seed from that field.

Why do we ask for the weight of the lot on the sample bag? The Federal Seed Act requires us to know the amounts of certified seed that is available and track it until its final disposition. The NSTS requires us to enter a weight before we can create a seed lot in the system. The best part is as you sell the seed with a bulk sale certificate and/or print tags through the NSTS, this is preparing your Disposition Report. So in November you only have very few things to enter to complete the report.

Why do we need your email? The NSTS uses your email to communicate with you when changes have happened with the field or seed. It sends you an email when the seed sample is received and entered into the system. When tests are complete, you will receive an email with your report and invoice attached. So we need to know if your email ever changes.

What happens when you send in a sample for a preliminary test? This preliminary test will receive a certified lot number. This number will be listed on the preliminary seed test document. So when you send in the sample for a complete test, please put that number on the sample bag!

Hopefully, this will help you understand why we need these numbers and how the NSTS works. Not receiving this information slows the seed testing process down.

Field Cancellations

Only an applicant (not contract grower) may cancel a field or portion of a field. The applicant must contact the NCIA office before that time of inspection.

Office Hours

Due to COVID-19, the University has limited the access to Plant Science Hall and asked employees who are able to work from home. The NCIA office is open and all staff are in the office. The building is currently locked. If you have samples for the seed laboratory, you can place them in the NCIA sample can located on the east side of Plant Science Hall (by the loading dock). If you need to come to the office, please call us when you arrive in the parking lot; and we can come down and meet you at the east loading dock door. As things change on campus, we will continue to keep you up-to-date.

Affidavit vs Re-Inspection Required

If an affidavit is issued on your seed field, you will need to correct the problem, sign and date the affidavit, and send or scan and email it back to the NCIA office. If you receive an Re-Inspection Required on a bright yellow sheet of paper, you will need to decide if you want to try to correct the problem and have it re-inspected at the cost of \$2.50 per acre. This is why it is important to check your field before the inspector arrives!

You may enter your field corrections into the Nebraska Seed Tracking System to expedite notification to the NCIA office. You will still need to send the signed form to the NCIA office. To enter the corrections follow these instructions:

Log into www.nciacert.org

1. Click on the Field Inspections tab
2. Click on the Fields Requiring Correction tab
3. Find the field that was corrected
4. Check the box indicating the field corrections have been made
5. Find the comment box and describe the corrections you made
6. Click the Save button