

September 2017

Dates & Events

NCIA Office Hours
7:30-12:00 and 1:00-4:30

November 23-24

NCIA Office Closed

December 1

Sales Reports Due-Winter
Small Grains

December 1

Sales Reports Due-Grass

December 8

NCIA Board of Directors
Meeting

December 25-29

NCIA Office Closed

January 1, 2018

NCIA Office Closed

January 15-17, 2018

Nebraska Seed
Improvement Conference -
Embassy Suites, Lincoln -
**Attendance will
complete your
Continuing Ed Credits**

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5 Steps to a Healthy Wheat Crop

1. Use recommended planting date

Research years ago by UNL personnel indicated that planting date recommendations should be made in relation to elevation. For areas of western Nebraska, the general guideline for planting to minimize stress and early infection of plants was to use 4,000 feet as a baseline and Sept. 10 as a base date. Each 100-foot difference in elevation from that base would be a one-day difference in planting date. The lower the elevation, the later the best planting date. For example, Banner County (3,800 feet) would have an optimal planting date of Sept. 15. Box Butte or Cheyenne County (4,000 feet) would be Sept. 10, and Kimball County (5100 feet) would have a date of Sept 1.

2. Plant tolerant cultivars

Using cultivars with some resistance to a disease (for example, stripe rust and/or wheat streak mosaic) wherever possible will help avoid or at least delay infection. In general, plants that become infected later also lower their chance of severe damage. Disease tolerance also may delay infection enough that a fungicide application will not be necessary, depending upon environmental conditions.

3. Plant into a firm, but yet mellow seedbed

The chances that pathogens will cause crown and root rot disease increase when planting in either a loose or compacted seedbed. This puts another stress on affected plants, predisposing them to other problems later.

4. Control weeds and volunteer wheat in wheat fields and summer crops

These plants remove soil moisture, resulting in greater drought stress to plants, which in turn predisposes plants to other stresses (rot and crown infection, stripe rust, etc.) later. Volunteer wheat also can serve as a reservoir for wheat curl mites, vectors of the wheat streak mosaic virus pathogen. Volunteer wheat creates a "green bridge" which the mites use to travel from one wheat crop to the next. Early

infection by the wheat streak mosaic virus will cause greater damage in spring when plants come out of dormancy and temperatures begin to rise. This was the primary factor in the high incidence and severity of virus problems in 2017. Most problem fields were damaged by or near fields damaged by hailstorms in 2016; in these fields the resulting volunteer was not controlled and served as green bridge.

5. Treat seeds with an appropriate fungicide

The pathogens causing root rots (*Fusarium*, *Rhizoctonia*, *Bipolaris*) are naturally occurring residents in the soil and never go away once established. When they infect early after planting in the fall, they do not always kill the plants, but can cause a subtle, often unnoticed yield drag that provides another stress predisposing plants to other problems the following spring. Fungicide treatments help the plants avoid early infection, establishing healthy stands.

White Kernels in Red Wheat Varieties

Last year you may have noticed "OFF TYPES" in the "Other Determination box" on the lab report. AOSCA had passed a standard that all purities on wheat must include a separation of wheat of contrasting colors. If you submit hard red wheat for purity, all the white kernels found in the purity (even though it may be the same variety) were considered off type kernels. In 2017, AOSCA voted to rescind this standard so you will not need to be concerned with white kernels in hard red wheat varieties. However, red kernels in a hard white wheat variety purity will continue to be considered off type kernels as they have impact on marketing.

Sending Packages to NCIA

When sending seed samples via the postal service remember that we only receive mail through UNL on the odd days of the week. So if you need to get your samples to the lab as fast as possible you will need to send them UPS or FedEx. Otherwise your sample will be delayed getting to the NCIA Seed Lab.

Certified Seed Bags

NEW Certified Seed bags are available through the NCIA office. They are the same size as the old paper bags, but they are made out of a woven poly laminated material. These bags should not tear as easily and should be more moisture proof than the old bags. We are offering these bags at our cost (\$0.63). Please contact the NCIA office to schedule a pickup at the NCIA warehouse at 3301 North 33rd Street.

NCIA Certified Seed Books

The 2017 - 2018 Certified Seed Books are printed and ready for your use. The books are free for your use. Members who would like us to send them free seed books will only be responsible for the postage.

Sales Reports Due Dates

Winter small grains and all grass sales reports are due December 1. Reports will now be considered delinquent if not postmarked by December 1. So reports not postmarked by December 1 will be assessed a \$10 per field late fee. This fee will be assessed each month until reports are received.

2018 Seed Improvement Conference

The 25th annual Nebraska Seed Improvement Conference brings together the memberships of the Nebraska Crop Improvement Association and the Nebraska Seed Trade Association. It will be held January 15 - 17, 2018, at The Embassy Suites in downtown Lincoln, Nebraska.

Inspected Acres 2017

(does not include Foundation)

Crop	2017	2016	Change
Field Peas	7,723	6,655	+1,068
Grasses - Total	744	851	-107
Cool Season	27	84	
Warm Season	717	767	
Hybrid Corn - Total	40,965	48,324	-7,359
Certified/ OECD	46,508	46,508	
Quality Assurance	1,816	1,816	
Millet	1,126	919	+207
Miscellaneous	151	330	-179
Oats	2,324	2,047	+277
Phytosanitary	7,257	6,619	+638
Soybeans - Total	4,065	3,059	-1,006
Certified	210	225	
Quality Assurance	610	71	
Roundup Ready	3,245	2,763	
Triticale	1,075	1,026	+49
Wheat - Total	19,009	27,057	-8,048
Hard Red Winter	17,477	25,139	
Hard White Winter	1,532	1,918	
Hard Red Spring	0	0	
TOTALS	84,439	96,887	-12,448