

March 2021

## Dates & Events

### May 1

Field Applications - Winter & Spring Small Grains, Cool & Warm Grasses, Peas, Vetch

### May 31

Holiday - Office Closed

### June 1

Field Applications - Corn, Industrial Hemp

### July 1

Field Applications - Millet, Sorghum

### July 5

Holiday - Office Closed

### August 1

Field Applications - Soybeans

### September 6

Holiday - Office Closed

### November 25-26

Holiday - Office Closed

### December 24-31

Holiday - Office Closed

### January 10-12, 2022

Seed Improvement Conference - Embassy Suites in Lincoln, NE

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Nebraska Crop Improvement Association  
PO Box 830911 - Lincoln, NE 68583  
402-472-1444 - 402-472-8652 (fax)  
[www.necrop.org](http://www.necrop.org) - [dbrestel@uni.edu](mailto:dbrestel@uni.edu)

## Nebraska Seed Tracking System

Now is a good time to login to the tracking system and apply for your fields of your fall planted seed crops. No fields will be invoiced until after the due date of May 1, 2021.

ALL bulk sales and pending sales (transfer in dirt) for new crop must be done through the NSTS. Please contact the office if you need help to walk through this process..

**The NSTS needs to have the weight of your lot.** Please include it with your seed sample. Bulk sale certificates or labels cannot be made **if this weight is not entered.**

Please call the office with any questions regarding this new software program.

## Field Application Due Dates

Small Grains, Grass, Peas	May 1
Corn	June 1
Industrial Hemp	June 1
Millet, Dry Edible Beans	July 1
Soybeans	August 1

## Seed Improvement Conference

The 2021 Nebraska Seed Improvement Conference was held January 12 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney.

**Larry Flohr, V & F Farms**, Chappel, Nebraska, was honored as the **2020 Premier Seed Grower**. This award is given to a Nebraska seed enterprise for outstanding achievement in certified seed production and marketing.

In 1978 Larry's father-in-law asked him to join his farming operation that he had been running since after World War II.

Larry began looking to purchase quality seed for the farming operation. He soon recognized that clean, pure varieties produced healthier plants, better yields, and better quality grain. Realizing this he decided to become a Certified Seed grower in 1994 and produce good quality seed for others.

Larry and his son currently farm 8,000 acres, raising three Nebraska released wheat varieties of Certified seed. At one point in time he was producing as many as five Certified wheat varieties, as well as oat and millet varieties.

Larry's seed sale philosophy is this: "Nebraska Wheat Seed Varieties For Nebraska Producers". He knows that the seed is one of the most important inputs a grower can control. Larry has chosen to only raise and sell Nebraska released varieties. Through his own production he has found that Nebraska Certified varieties are better adapted to the area soils, elevation, and climate. With Certified seed he and his customers see better stand establishment, tillering, disease resistance, quality and yields.



Larry also has had the opportunity to travel abroad representing the Nebraska Wheat Board on trade missions and hosting trade teams from other countries to give them a look at production agriculture in Western Nebraska.

Larry is a graduate of the Nebraska LEAD program as well as serving on many boards and committees. He is currently serving on the Nebraska Wheat Board, Frenchman Valley Coop Board, Plains Grain Board, Chappell Chamber of Commerce, Chappell Berea Lutheran Church Council and the Chappell Masonic Lodge.

Larry enjoys visiting his children and grandchildren and traveling domestically and to other countries. He is a huge Husker fan and Green Bay Packers fan.

Larry and Janet have two children, son Kevin in Chappell and daughter Kris Forney of Batavia, Illinois.

**Thirty year members** were recognized at the Awards Luncheon. They were New Alliance Bean & Grain, Alliance; D.K. Buskirk & Sons, Hemingford; Kamterter Products LLC, Waverly; and AgReliant Genetics, Battle Creek. These members have been active members of NCIA for a 30 year period.

## NCIA Board Reorganizes

**Duane Muhlbach**, Ravenna, was elected to serve on the board representing State-at-Large (District 3). The board elected a slate of officers for 2021. **Emery Fox** was elected president, **Dave Rezac** vice-president, and **Jim Girardin** treasurer. **Chris Cullan** was appointed as Chair of the Committee of Management for NuPride. **Stan Friesen** will serve as the NSTA representative to the NCIA board. Other board members include **Conrad Nelson**, **Ruben Wehnes** and **Roch Gaussoin**.

## 2022 Seed Improvement Conference

The 29<sup>th</sup> 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 10 - 12, 2022, at The Embassy Suites in Lincoln.

## Seed Source Verification

Seed source requires official documentation when making application for field inspections. A basic principle of certification and a key aspect of traceability is that seed moves with an official label. An official label, whether a tag, label, or certificate, is issued by the state agency that has certified the seed. This document is how certification agencies communicate with each other to track seed. The official document, no matter if a tag, label, or certificate, must be issued by the certification agency. A **tote placard is not an official label**, regardless of how well it is designed or how complete the information. Everyone involved with certified seed should recognize an official document and be advised on the need to retain the seed labels.

## Farewell

As of March 1, 2021, I have worked with Nebraska Crop Improvement for 23 years. I plan on retiring on July 1, 2021. So this will be my final Seed Focus. It has been my pleasure to work with the membership of NCIA. Most of you are not just members of an association to me but are actually my friends and colleagues! I wish all of you and NCIA my best wishes for the future. Thanks to all of you!

Steve Knox

## Nebraska Crop Improvement Association

### Annual Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2021, Kearney, NE

- The meeting was called to order at 12:43 p.m. by Emery Fox, President.
- It was determined that a quorum of the membership was present.
- The agenda was reviewed. **It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.**
- **It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the 2020 annual meeting as presented. Motion carried.**
- Jim Girardin gave a preliminary treasurer's report. NCIA's total income was \$494,904. Expenses were \$580,706 for a net loss of \$97,866. These are all preliminary numbers. **It was moved and seconded to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried.**
- The Nominating Committee report was presented. Emery Fox will run for re-election in District 4. Duane Muhlbach will run for election as State-at-Large director. Fox asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. **It was moved and seconded to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried.**
- Steve Knox gave a management report. Total acres for 2020 were better than 2019 but still not good. Total acres inspected were 46,068. This is an increase of 4,431 acres. Corn saw an increase but still low. Phyto acres took the largest jump. The seed lab samples have been stable this year. Knox updated on the fee increase approved by the board in December. Knox announced his retirement in 2021.
- Steve Knox recognized Emery Fox as the outgoing NCIA President. He also recognized Jeff Olson as the outgoing board member.
- An education update was held. The NSTS was reviewed, and questions and ideas from the membership were discussed.
- Emery Fox asked for old business. There was no old business.
- Emery Fox asked for new business. There was no new business.
- **It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned.