



NEBRASKA SEED FOCUS

A Publication of the Nebraska Crop Improvement Association
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**2027 Nebraska Seed
Improvement Conference**
January 11-12, 2027
Holiday Inn
Kearney, NE

Seed Industry Scholars Investing in the Next Generation

NCIA is helping support a new effort at the University of Nebraska to introduce students to careers in the seed industry.

The Seed Industry Scholars program, offered through the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture, combines seed-focused coursework, an industry internship and interaction with seed professionals.

NCIA provided a \$10,000 grant to support the development and launch of the program. This summer, the students participated in a two-day tour of Nebraska seed businesses, visiting Rob-See-Co, Green Cover, Corteva Agriscience, and Tomes Farm. The tour exposed students to areas including variety development, seed production, conditioning, sales and logistics.

This fall, the students will also get hands-on experience in the NCIA Seed Laboratory, giving them an opportunity to learn about seed testing in general and see firsthand how laboratory testing fits into the seed industry.

As part of the program, students will complete Seed Industry Enterprises this fall and The Science of Variety Selection in spring 2027, along with a seed-industry-focused internship.

Applications for the second cohort are expected to open in spring 2027.

NCIA is pleased to support the Seed Industry Scholars program and help connect University of Nebraska students with Nebraska's seed industry.

DATES and EVENTS

November 26-27
Office and UNL Closed

December 1
Sales Reports - Winter Small Grains, Grasses

December 11
NCIA Board Meeting

December 24-January 1
Office and UNL Closed

January 11-12, 2027
Nebraska Seed Improvement Conference - Kearney, NE

January 18
Office and UNL Closed

Labeling Certified Seed

As we wrap up the fall seed sales season, NCIA wants to remind members that certified seed must be properly labeled at the time of sale. Labeling is not a paperwork step that can be completed after the seed has been sold to finish sales reporting.

For certified seed sold in bags or bulk, the appropriate official certification documentation must accompany the sale. For bagged seed, an official NCIA certification label must be affixed to each bag or other sealable container; Nebraska Certified Seed labels are generated or printed only by the NCIA office or through nciacert.org. For bulk seed, an official Nebraska Bulk Sales Certificate must accompany each sale and is generated through the NCIA certification system. Both the certification label and Bulk Sales Certificate identify the certifying agency, variety, kind, class and lot number, and neither can be generated until the representative sample has met the applicable certification standards. For bulk sales, the buyer signs the certificate and receives a copy.

Important Reminder

NCIA has encountered instances where certification labels are being generated after certified seed has already been sold, shipped, and likely planted. This is a violation of Nebraska certification requirements and applicable state and federal seed labeling laws.

The certification label or Bulk Sales Certificate is an important part of the certified seed sale. It connects the certified seed lot to the certification process and provides the buyer with the information and assurance that the seed being purchased is certified.

The required label or certificate must be in place before certified seed is moved or delivered to the buyer.

Field Inspection Update

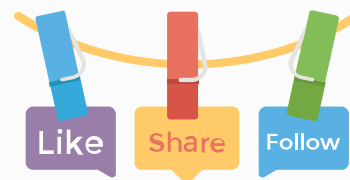
Crop inspection season 2026 was dominated by the presence of persistent drought which resulted in a large number of cancelled fields. We appreciate everyone who worked to keep us updated in a timely fashion during this stressful time.

Corn acres rose significantly which resulted in a busy July but by and large the weather was cooperative in the center part of the state. We saw the addition of three new inspectors who did an excellent job for us.

Again, we appreciate everyone who communicated with the inspectors. This allows them to complete their job in an efficient manner.

Inspected Acres 2026 (does not include Foundation Seed Division)

Crop	2026	2025	Change
Field Peas	2,805	1,590	+1,215
Grasses	582	741	-159
Corn	32,862	21,642	+11,220
Millet	1,807	1,756	+51
Miscellaneous	247	212	-35
Oats	1,574	2,327	-753
Phytosanitary	5,911	4,646	+1,265
Soybeans	617	1,175	-558
Triticale	2,573	1,916	+657
Wheat	14,157	17,899	-3,742
TOTALS	63,135	53,904	+9,231



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MEDIA. CHECK US OUT.