

March 2023

## Dates & Events

### May 1

Field Applications - Small Grains, Peas, Vetch

### May 29

Holiday - Office Closed

### June 1

Field Applications - Corn, Industrial Hemp

### July 1

Field Applications - Millet, Sorghum

### July 4

Holiday - Office Closed

### August 1

Field Applications - Soybeans  
Sales Disposition - Spring Small Grains, Peas

### August 14

Board Meeting - Murdock

### September 1

Sales Disposition - Millet, Soybeans

### September 4

Holiday - Office Closed

### November 23-24

Holiday - Office Closed

### December 1

Sales Disposition - Winter Small Grains, Grasses

### December 22-29

Holiday - Office Closed

### January 1

Holiday - Office Closed

### January 8-10, 2024

Seed Improvement Conference - Embassy Suites, Lincoln

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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. So do not delay getting your fields ready for inspection. Applicants should receive notification from your inspector at least 2 days prior to the inspection. If this is not occurring, please inform the NCIA office.

As in the past, if your seed field is not ready for inspection, it may be rejected. If the reason for rejection is correctable but not an isolated problem, re-inspection will be required for certification and will be indicated on your field inspection report and the reinspection required form. The applicant may choose to continue certification of the seed field by agreeing to a re-inspection on the reinspection required form and returning this form 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 \$3 per acre will be assessed to complete the re-inspection.

Your fields must be clearly defined and properly isolated according to certification standards. Small grains isolation standards require at least ten feet of isolation from the same crop. To avoid a costly second inspection, have your fields properly isolated before the inspection occurs. Roguing fields prior to inspection is also 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. 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 destroyed at the time of field inspection, the field may be approved. This means, for example, that the presence of Canada Thistle, Musk Thistle and Field Bindweed could result in

a seed field being rejected completely. To continue with certification, any non-isolated items found to not conform with certification standards must be corrected and this correction confirmed by a re-inspected at another \$3 per acre cost. A list of all noxious weeds is available in the NCIA standards or from the NE Department of Agriculture.

## Seed Improvement Conference

The 2023 Nebraska Seed Improvement Conference was held January 9-11 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney.

The 2022 **NCIA Premier Seed Grower** was awarded to Jon Carter of Carter Certified Seed.



The 1979 Premier Seed Grower was awarded to Jon's father Burt.

Jon received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Nebraska where he worked in the weed science department. After

college, in 1982, Jon moved back to the farm with his wife, Connie.

Jon and his father then continued the seed business including multiple improvements of the seed plant. Jon has tried many certified varieties from public sources such as Nebraska and Colorado and private certified varieties from Limagrain and WestBred. Jon says, "Certified seed pays in the long run because you know what you are planting is clean and weed free."

Jon and Connie were on the Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee and are members of Nebraska Farm Bureau. Jon has also been a lifelong member of the Chappell United Methodist Church and a member of the Chappell Lions Club for 35 years.

In August, the Carter family received the Nebraska Pioneer Farm Award from the Aksarben Foundation and the Nebraska Farm Bureau which honors the families who have held the same family ownership of land for 100 years.

Congratulations to Carter Certified Seed.

**Thirty year member** was recognized. Pioneer Hi-Bred International, York, NE, has been an active member of NCIA for a 30 year period.

## NCIA Board Reorganizes

**Ruben Wehnes** and **Conrad Nelson** were both re-elected to their District 2 and 3 positions. The board elected a slate of officers for 2023. **Emery Fox** was elected president, **Jim Girardin** vice-president, and **Ruben Wehnes** treasurer. **Conrad Nelson** was appointed as Chair of the Committee of Management for NuPride. **Mike Fritz** will serve as the NSTA representative to the NCIA board. Other board members include **Chris Cullan**, **Eric Nelson**, **Duane Muhlbach**, **Dr. Martha Mamo**, and **Dr. Mike Boehm**.

## 2024 Seed Improvement Conference

The 31<sup>st</sup> annual Nebraska Seed Improvement Conference will bring together the memberships of the Nebraska Crop Improvement Association and the Nebraska Seed Trade Association. It will be held January 8-10, 2024, at the Embassy Suites in Lincoln.

## 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

## Sales Disposition Due Dates

Spring Small Grains, Peas	August 1
Millet, Soybeans	September 1
Winter Small Grains, Grasses	December 1

## 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.

## Nebraska Crop Improvement Association Annual Meeting Minutes January 11, 2023, Kearney, NE

- The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.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 2023 annual meeting as presented. Motion carried.**
  - Ruben Wehnes gave a preliminary treasurer's report. NCIA's total income was \$648,486. Expenses were \$507,637 for a net gain of \$138,673. These are all preliminary numbers. **It was moved and seconded to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried.**
  - Pageler gave an NGN Committee of Management report. Conrad Nelson was recommended as the Chair for 2023. Two new members were appointed for vacant spots. Sales and financial reports were reviewed.
  - The Nominating Committee report was presented. Ruben Wehnes and Conrad Nelson will run for re-election as District 2 and 3 positions. 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.**
  - Emery Fox asked for old business. There was no old business.
  - Emery Fox asked for new business. A resolution was read asking acres be included in the Seed Book. **It was moved and seconded to approve this resolution. Motion carried.** There was discussion regarding fields and allowing more than area in a section be considered one field. **It was moved and seconded to recommend NCIA Board to research allowing multiple fields within a section with the same variety to be one field. Motion carried.**
  - Pageler gave a management report. He noted his title change to Certification Manager. Total acres for 2022 were up about 9%. Which is the largest since 2017. Corn is the same and small grains are up. Phytosanitary saw a large increase. The seed lab samples continue to be steady. The treasurer's report shows an increase for the second year.
- Pageler noted a new employee was hired in May. Cody Harris joined as Field & Lab Technician. Pageler thanked the NCIA staff and the Agronomy and IANR representatives on the board. He noted a stronger relationship with IANR will only strengthen NCIA.
- The approved budget and financial reports were reviewed and discussed.
- Pageler recognized Emery Fox as the past president. He also recognized Diane Brestel for 35 years of service to NCIA.
- **It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned.