



**Missouri Crop Improvement Association
News and Notes**

December - 2019

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MCIA's News and Notes is designed to provide members and other interested individuals with information about MCIA programs and services, as well as timely access to information that impacts the seed industry and agriculture in general. Our format is structured to provide a brief introduction to topics of interest along with contact information or links to sources where you can obtain more detailed information. Many of the articles and items listed in this newsletter contain web addresses or hyperlinks by which you can obtain additional information. If you do not have internet access and would like additional information on any of the topics mentioned in this newsletter, please contact the MCIA office and we will forward you the information. Please feel free to contact the MCIA office if you have questions or suggestions for items to be included in future issues.

*Season's Greetings and
Best Wishes for a Joyous
Holiday Season and
Prosperous New Year
from the Staff of the
Missouri Crop
Improvement Association*

Soybean Quality Update and Testing Issues

As of December 18, the MCIA seed lab has completed germination testing on 898 samples from the 2019 crop with an average germination of 93.61%. This compares to an average germination of 88.20% on 963 samples at the same time in 2018. With very few exceptions, production harvested before the end of October has good moisture, very little mechanical damage and excellent visual appeal. Seed size is variable but seems to be generally larger than 2018 production. The 93.61% average germination represents results from all four methods (regular towel, treated towel, regular sand and treated sand). We do not have enough of a sample size at the present time to make any kind of statistical analysis between the different methods, however, we can say that we have seen very little difference in germination from any of the four methods.

For those producers that do have preliminary samples showing low germination results, MCIA's seed testing lab offers optional lab treated towel germination, regular sand germination and lab treated sand germination services. In some instances, sand germination testing can show improved results for samples with light seed borne infections and no mechanical damage. Treated towel germination testing can show the response of a sample to testing with a standard fungicide treatment. MCIA is currently using CruiserMaxx Vibrance and can access other fungicide treatment options upon request. Please feel free to contact the MCIA seed testing lab if you have questions or would like to discuss testing options for your 2019 soybean seed production.

Vigor Testing for Soybeans

There are basically two types of vigor tests for soybean, namely a cold test or an accelerated aging test. Based on past experience, MCIA believes the accelerated aging test is a more reliable tool for measuring vigor and predicting storability for soybeans than a cold test. We offer the accelerated aging test in house and can accommodate requests for cold tests through one of our partnerships with other seed testing labs.

Accelerated aging tests should be conducted in conjunction with and compared to the results from a normal warm germination exam. High vigor lots should not exhibit more than a 5-10% spread between the 2 tests. Spreads over 10% indicate that the vigor level is dropping and the higher the spread, the lower the vigor. Please contact the MCIA office if you have questions or would like to discuss vigor testing in greater detail.

Variety Testing Performance Results

Results from the University of Missouri's 2019 performance testing for corn and soybean are available via the internet at <http://varietytesting.missouri.edu/> and may also be accessed via a link on MCIA's web site (<http://mocrop.org>). Preliminary results were posted as soon as locations were harvested, but keep in mind they are only preliminary results until all data has been checked and verified. It should be noted that the same late planting and unseasonably wet conditions that plagued much of Missouri did not spare the variety testing plots. Some locations had to be abandoned completely and other locations experienced a high degree of variability. Please contact the MCIA office if you would like to receive a printed copy of the 2019 results when they become available.

2020 Spring Seed Directory

A copy of the 2020 Missouri Spring Seed Directory will be posted to the MCIA web site shortly after the first of the year. In the interim, please contact the MCIA office if you have questions regarding the availability of any particular type and/or variety of soybeans.

MCIA Holiday Office Hours

The MCIA office will be closed on the following days during the upcoming holidays.

December 24

December 25

December 26

January 1

Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 13-15	Independent Professional Seed Association Annual Conference	Kansas City, MO
January 17-20	Southern Seed Association Annual Convention	Savannah, GA
January 18	MU Extension Industrial Hemp Production Workshop	Hillsboro, MO
February 1-4	ASTA Vegetable and Flower Seed Conference	Monterey, CA
February 4-6	Corn Belt Seed Conference	Indianapolis, IN
February 11-12	Midwest Cover Crops Council Annual Conference	Kansas City, MO
February 21-23	59 th Annual Western Farm Show	Kansas City, MO
February 27-29	2020 Commodity Classic	San Antonio, TX

Happy Holidays