



Missouri Crop Improvement Association

News and Notes

October – 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.

2019 Wheat Update

A later than normal soybean harvest combined with a lack of enthusiasm for commercial wheat production has contributed to a dismal outlook for wheat seed sales this fall. To date, MCIA has issued certification tags or bulk sales certificates for 233,552 units of certified and/or quality assurance seed, down 118,798 from 2018 (33.7%), 129,924 from 2017 (35.7%) and 145,980 from 2016 (38.5%). MCIA's seed lab has tested 580 soft red winter wheat samples (down 26 from 2018) with an average germination of 92.36%, 10 hard red winter wheat samples (up 2) with an average germination of 92.20% and 296 commercial wheat (VNS) samples (up 37) with an average germination of 91.36%. **REMINDER - any certified or quality assurance seed sold in loose bulk form must be accompanied by a bulk sales certificate. If you sold seed in loose bulk form without a certificate, please contact the MCIA office for a bulk sales certificate request form to insure the buyer receives the proper documentation.**

2019 Wheat Royalty Refunds

While wheat seeding is far from completed for 2019, it is never too early to be reminded that you may be eligible for a refund of royalties paid for wheat seed that you were unable to sell in 2019. In order to receive a refund, please return any unused tags/labels to the MCIA office no later than November 30 and indicate the number of tags/labels returned for each variety. **MCIA will not count your tags and labels for you.** Tags/labels received after the November 30 deadline **will not** be eligible to receive a credit due to early payment requirements imposed by variety developers.

2019 Soybean Yields and Quality

Fall inspections are progressing rapidly in most areas. Reports from our inspectors indicate yields higher than 2018 for all but the very late planted fields with estimates ranging from the mid 50's to mid 60's. We have not received enough samples to make any definitive statements, however, quality appears to be very good for production harvested prior to mid-October. Visual quality in particular is much better than we were noticing during the 2018 harvest. We have yet to receive any samples harvested after the hard frosts/light freezes of the week of October 14 but should have something to report in the November newsletter. We strongly recommend submitting a representative sample for preliminary analysis as soon as possible after harvest and prior to initiating any conditioning activity.

One thing to keep in mind as we move later into harvest and begin sampling 2019 production is that MCIA's seed testing lab offers optional sand germination and lab treated germination services. In some instances, sand germination testing can show improved results in samples with light seed borne infections and no mechanical damage. Treated germination testing can show the response of a sample to application of a standard fungicide treatment. MCIA is currently using a treatment package of CruiserMaxx Beans + Vibrance. 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 (AA). Based on past experience, MCIA believes the accelerated aging test is a more reliable and repeatable 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, if needed.

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. This doesn't necessarily indicate stand establishment problems, however, seed from high germ, low vigor lots should be planted in the most optimal conditions possible to achieve the desired stand. Please contact the MCIA office if you have questions or would like to discuss vigor testing in greater detail.

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Missouri Crop Production *(Source: Missouri Ag Statistics Service)*

Corn harvested area is forecast at 3.05 million acres, down 8% from 2018. Based on October 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 155 bu/ac, up 15 bu/ac from 2018. Production is forecast at 473 million bushels, 1.4% above 2018.

Soybean harvested area is forecast at 5.03 million acres, down 13% from 2018. Based on October 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 46 bu/ac, up 1.5 bu/ac from 2018. Production is forecast at 231 million bushels, down 10% from 2018.

Cotton harvested area is forecast at 368,000 acres, up 14% from 2018. Based on October 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 1,265 lbs/ac, down 108 lbs/ac from 2018. Production is forecast at 970,000 bales (480 lb.) up 5% from 2018.

Rice harvested area is forecast at 173,000 acres, down 21% from 2018. Based on October 1 conditions, yield is forecast at a record 7,500 lbs/ac, down 270 lbs/ac from 2018. Production is forecast at 13.0 million cwt, down 24% from 2018.

Alfalfa hay harvested area in 2019 is estimated at 280,000 acres, up 4% from 2018. Yield is estimated at 2.80 tons/ac, up 0.40 tons/ac from 2018. Production is estimated at 784,000 tons, 21% above 2018.

Other hay harvested area in 2019 is estimated at 2.9 million acres, up 4% from 2018. Yield is estimated at 2.20 tons/ac, up 0.50 tons/ac from 2018. Production is estimated at 6.38 million tons, 34% above 2018.

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 are usually posted as soon as a location is harvested but keep in mind they are only preliminary results until all data has been checked and verified.

Links to Items of Interest

Future Proofing Cereals for Drought Conditions <https://european-seed.com/2019/09/future-proofing-cereals-for-climate-change-drought-conditions/>

Grassland Diversity is Blowing in the Wind <https://biology.missouri.edu/news/grassland-biodiversity-is-blowing-in-the-wind/>

Corn and Soybean Rotation Could Pose Long-term Tradeoffs for Soil Health <https://www.news.iastate.edu/news/2019/10/02/croprotation>

BASF Launches Operation Weed Eradication <https://agro.basf.us/campaigns/operation-weed-eradication>

Arcadia Biosciences Granted for U.S. Patent for Reduced Gluten Wheat <https://www.agrimarketing.com/s/126378>

Arkansas Study Shows Climate Change Could Cause Drought in Wheat Growing Areas <https://news.uark.edu/articles/50090>

Frost Damaged Soybean Seed Needs Special Attention http://agebb.missouri.edu/news/showall.php?story_num=8665

Weather Challenges Still Plague Missouri Farmers <https://extension2.missouri.edu/news/weather-challenges-still-plague-missouri-farmers-4147>

Temps Didn't Drop: September Felt Like August <https://extension2.missouri.edu/news/temperatures-didn-t-drop-september-felt-like-august-4153>

Excavating Company Helped Restore Flooded Farmland With 15-ton Plow <https://extension2.missouri.edu/news/st-charles-county-excavating-company-helped-restore-flooded-farmland-with-15-ton-plow-4160>

Calendar

November 1-4	Western Seed Assn. Annual Convention and ASTA Farm & Lawn Seed Conference	Kansas City, MO
November 16	Hemp Workshop - CBD, Grain, & Fiber: Agronomics, Regulations and More	Warrenton, MO
November 28-29	MCIA Office Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday	
December 9-12	ASTA Corn, Sorghum & Soybean Seed Expo 2019	Chicago, IL
December 17-18	MU Crop Management Conference	Columbia, MO
December 24-26	MCIA Office Closed – Christmas Holiday	
January 1, 2020	MCIA Office Closed – New Year's Holiday	
January 13-15	Independent Professional Seed Association Annual Conference	Kansas City, MO
January 18-20	Southern Seed Association Annual Convention	Savannah, GA
February 1-4	ASTA Vegetable and Flower Seed Conference	Monterey, CA
February 4-6	Corn Belt Seed Conference	Indianapolis, IN
February 21-23	59 th Annual Western Farm Show	Kansas City, MO
February 27-29	2020 Commodity Classic	San Antonio, TX