



# Missouri Crop Improvement Association

## News and Notes

March/April 2020

Vol.16 – No. 2

*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.*

### Operations Update

MCIA has been fortunate to continue normal daily operations during the recent stay at home and social distancing orders imposed by state and local governments. Samples were tested, results were reported and tags/certificates were issued on time and without delay thanks to staff working efficiently and safely to deliver the services needed by our membership and seed industry customers. We hope that the absence of extra communication from the MCIA office was not construed as a lack of awareness regarding the gravity of the situation that our nation, state and local communities have been forced to deal with the past few months. Rather, we decided early on that the best thing we could do was continue with a business as usual approach and not contribute to the flood of communication with multiple updates each week that we were continuing to perform our duties. With that said, if anyone experienced or is experiencing difficulty related to conditioning, testing, labeling or logistics in any way, please let us know and we will do our best to assist in any way possible.

### Soybean Quality Update

As of April 30, MCIA's seed testing laboratory has completed germination analysis on 1,832 soybean samples with an average germination of 92.42%, a decrease of 0.50% from the 92.92% reported in February. As has been the case since harvest, the 2019 crop has proven to be above average in terms of germination, vigor and overall quality. Of note is that the 1,832 samples tested is down 602 samples when compared to the same date in 2019. Part of this is due to the fact that the 2018 crop was below average in quality and many seed production sources were tested 2, 3 and even 4 times in an attempt to find anything that would meet Certification, Quality Assurance or individual company standards. With that said, it does appear that overall conditioned seed volume is down across the board. Please feel free to contact the MCIA office if you have questions or concerns with regard to the quality of your 2018 soybean seed production.

### 2020 Small Grains Applications

Field inspection request applications for small grains and cereal crops were due at the MCIA office on April 15. We have had excellent response to the deadline this year and are only missing applications from a few producers. Based on applications received to date, it appears that 2020 acreage is holding steady and could possibly even increase a few acres over 2019 totals, which were at 15 year lows.

Based on conditions as of May 1, it appears the crop will maturity a little earlier than normal in many areas. We are currently planning to begin inspections in SE Missouri around May 15 and move to SW Missouri shortly after. We are encouraging everyone to submit an inspection request for any production eligible for certified or quality assurance class seed and would ask that you submit your applications and supporting documentation as soon as possible if you have not already done so. Please remember that all fields may be cancelled without penalty up until the time of inspection. Please feel free to contact the MCIA office if you have any questions regarding the application process or the status of your 2020 wheat production fields.

### Missouri Wheat Council Update

As mentioned in the last issue, MCIA is continuing to lead an effort to establish a state wheat commission and ultimately a wheat check-off. We were making good progress towards collecting the signatures of Missouri wheat producers needed to accompany the initiative petition to form the organization when the pandemic forced activity to come to a halt. As a result, we are still approximately 100 signatures shy of the minimum needed to proceed with the process. If anyone would be willing to provide your signature to the petition and/or help collect signatures in your local community, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the MCIA office and we will make arrangements to provide you with the necessary materials.

(over)

## Foundation/Parent Soybean Seed Orders

Missouri Foundation Seeds still has availability of good quality seed for several conventional and glyphosate tolerant soybean varieties. New offerings for 2020 include the lines listed below. A copy of the 2020 Missouri Seed Guide is attached that lists all of the recent releases from the University of Missouri that are available for licensing and production as either a “public” variety or company branded variety. Please contact MCIA or the Missouri Foundation Seed office at (573) 884-7333 to check on availability and pricing.

SA13-2699C	3.9 maturity	Conventional	See attached Seed Guide for Phenotypic and Agronomic Info
S14-15138GT/STS	4.6 maturity	Glyphosate Tolerant + STS Tolerant	See attached Seed Guide for Phenotypic and Agronomic Info
S16-16641GTHO	4.8 maturity	Glyphosate Tolerant + High Oleic	See attached Seed Guide for Phenotypic and Agronomic Info
S15-17812HOLL	4.8 maturity	High Oleic + Low Linolenic	See attached Seed Guide for Phenotypic and Agronomic Info
S15-10434C	5.5 maturity	Conventional	See attached Seed Guide for Phenotypic and Agronomic Info

## Missouri Prospective Plantings

Corn is projected at 3,600,000 acres, up 13% from 2019. Soybeans are projected at 5,800,000 acres, up 14% from 2019. Cotton is projected at 400,000 acres, up 14% from 2019. Rice is projected at 199,000 acres, up 6% from 2019. Winter wheat seeded in the fall of 2019 is estimated at 480,000 acres, down 13% from 2018 and 27% from 2017. Oats are projected at 50,000 acres, unchanged from 2019. Projected harvest for all hay is 3,250,000 acres, down 3% from 2019. (*Source: Missouri Ag Statistics Service*)

## Links to Articles of Interest to MCIA Members

Making Real a Biotechnology Dream: Nitrogen-fixing Cereal Crops	<a href="http://www.csbi.mit.edu/news_2020/2020_imperiali.html">http://www.csbi.mit.edu/news_2020/2020_imperiali.html</a>
Boost Soybean Yields by Adapting Photosynthesis to Fleeting Shadows	<a href="https://cropsciences.illinois.edu/news/article/7634">https://cropsciences.illinois.edu/news/article/7634</a>
Illinois Study Shows Universally Positive Effect of Cover Crops on Soil Microbiome	<a href="https://cropsciences.illinois.edu/news/article/7647">https://cropsciences.illinois.edu/news/article/7647</a>
Stem Rust Discovery Solves Decades Old Genomic Puzzle	<a href="https://www.seedquest.com/solutions.php?type=solution&amp;id_article=114447">https://www.seedquest.com/solutions.php?type=solution&amp;id_article=114447</a>
Photosynthesis Varies Greatly Across Rice Cultivars – Natural Diversity Could Boost Yields	<a href="https://emails.illinois.edu/newsletter/266467.html">https://emails.illinois.edu/newsletter/266467.html</a>
Making Rice Even Nicer	<a href="https://tellus.ars.usda.gov/stories/articles/making-rice-even-nicer/">https://tellus.ars.usda.gov/stories/articles/making-rice-even-nicer/</a>
Microbes Play Important Role in Soil’s Nitrogen Cycle	<a href="https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/03/200311082946.htm">https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/03/200311082946.htm</a>
NSF Grants \$2.6 million to Study Weedy Invader of Rice	<a href="https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-03/wuis-rkt030920.php">https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-03/wuis-rkt030920.php</a>
Bayer’s Top Seed Faces U.S. Soybean Challenge from Corteva	<a href="https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-soybeans-seed-focus-idUSKBN20R1QG">https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-soybeans-seed-focus-idUSKBN20R1QG</a>
States Fight Back on Dicamba	<a href="https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2019/04/12/state-regulators-ask-epa-allow-state">https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2019/04/12/state-regulators-ask-epa-allow-state</a>
Dicamba Limits Sought	<a href="https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2020/04/30/state-regulators-ask-epa-ban-dicamba-2">https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2020/04/30/state-regulators-ask-epa-ban-dicamba-2</a>
State Regulators Ask EPA for Help With Dicamba	<a href="https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2020/02/06/800397488/pesticide-police-overwhelmed-by-dicamba-complaints-ask-epa-for-help">https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2020/02/06/800397488/pesticide-police-overwhelmed-by-dicamba-complaints-ask-epa-for-help</a>

## Calendar

May 25	Memorial Day – MCIA Office Closed	
July 3	Independence Day ( <i>Observed</i> ) – MCIA Office Closed	
July 9-10	2020 MO-AG Summer Meeting	Lake of the Ozarks
August 13-23	2019 Missouri State Fair	Sedalia
September 7	Labor Day – MCIA Office Closed	
November 3	ASTA Farm & Lawn Seed Conference	Kansas City, MO
December 7-10	Corn, Sorghum & Soybean Seed Expo	Chicago, IL

***Reminder – Small Grains Applications Were Due at MCIA Office on April 15***