



Missouri Crop Improvement Association News and Notes

October/November – 2020

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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.

Happy Thanksgiving

2020 has presented challenges in many areas and the seed industry is no exception. Throughout it all, we have tried to remain focused on the many things in our lives to be thankful for and atop that list are the members and clients we are blessed to work with each day. From all of us at the MCIA office, thank you for the opportunity to work with some of the finest seed producers in the world and best wishes to you all for a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and a joyous holiday season.

2019-20 Soybean and 2020 Wheat Royalty Refunds Deadline

It is that time of year when MCIA is in the process of reconciling and closing out the royalty accounts for soybeans and wheat. You may be eligible for a refund of royalties paid for soybean and/or wheat seed that you were unable to sell in 2019-20. In order to receive a refund, please return any unused soybean and/or wheat tags/labels to the MCIA office no later than December 11. Please indicate the number of tags/labels returned for each variety, as MCIA will not count your tags and labels for you. Please note that this is a hard deadline and any tags/labels received after the respective deadlines **will not** be eligible to receive a credit due to the fact that genetics suppliers have moved up their deadlines for reporting and paying royalties.

REMINDER - any certified or quality assurance seed sold in bulk form should be accompanied by a bulk sales certificate. If you sold seed in bulk form without a certificate, please contact the MCIA office so we can insure the buyer receives the proper documentation. All bulk sales documentation should be submitted to the MCIA office no later than December 11.

2021 Spring Seed Directory

We have already received a few inquiries at the MCIA office from producers looking for information on availability and sources of soybean seed for 2021 planting. Due to an extremely late harvest in many areas, we are just now processing the last of the field inspection reports and are in the process of compiling the information for the seed directory. Our intent is to have the final 2021 spring seed directory posted online by mid-December and a distributed via email to all MCIA active, affiliate and associate members with the January newsletter mailing. If anyone needs information with regard to availability and sources of seed prior to receiving your copy of the seed directory, please feel free to contact the MCIA office and we will be happy to provide you with the information you need.

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2020 Soybean Quality Update

Much like everything else associated with 2020, soybean germinations started out very good and rapidly began to deteriorate. Unfortunately, a lot of production was not harvested “timely” and stood in the fields as seed lost moisture, leading to an increase in mechanical damage. To make matters worse, patterns of wet weather set in across much of Missouri the third week of October and several cycles of wetting and drying lead to loose seed coats and a further increase in mechanical damage. MCIA has performed 749 germination tests to date on samples from the 2020 crop and can report the following germination averages. Standard wet towel germinations have been performed on 562 samples with an average germination of 91.82%. Treated (CruiserMaxx Vibrance) wet towel germinations have been performed on 99 samples with an average germination of 92.21%. Sand germinations have been performed on 88 samples with an average germination of 91.53%. There have been instances where treatment and/or sand have made a significant difference, however, these samples were primarily on production from locations outside of Missouri where disease was more of a contributing factor than mechanical damage. As would be expected, visual quality of early harvested production is very good and average to poor with later harvested seed. For those producers that have preliminary samples showing lower than expected germination results, MCIA’s seed testing lab offers optional sand germination and lab treated germination services. Please feel free to contact the MCIA seed testing lab if you have questions or would like to discuss testing options for your 2020 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 (AA) test. Based on past experience, MCIA believes the AA test is a more reliable and repeatable tool for measuring vigor and predicting storability for soybeans than a cold test. We offer the AA test in house and can accommodate requests for cold tests through one of our partnerships with other seed testing labs.

AA 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 2020 performance testing for corn and soybean are available via the internet at <http://varietytesting.missouri.edu/> or via a link under the Variety Trials tab on MCIA’s website (www.mocrop.org). The variety testing crew is posting preliminary results online as data from each location is harvested. Please keep in mind that all results are preliminary until the final data is tabulated and validated. Feel free to contact the MCIA office if you would like to receive a printed copy once they become available.

MU Online Crop Conference Set for December 1-2

Farmers and crop specialists can hear updates from some of the nation’s leading agricultural researchers Dec. 1-2 at the 2020 University of Missouri Crop Management Conference. Topics include:

- “35 years of nitrogen management research,” Peter Scharf, University of Missouri.
- “Ag technology across generations,” Terry Griffin, Kansas State University.
- “2021 corn and soybean economics: market and policy drivers,” MU Extension economist Scott Brown.
- “Assessing Missouri fields for fungicide resistant *Cercospora sojina* isolates, the pathogen of frogeye leaf spot,” Bruna Just and Kaitlynn Bissonnette, University of Missouri.
- “Attract-and-kill management for Japanese beetle,” MU Extension crops entomologist Kevin Rice.
- “Electrocuting weeds and grinding up weed seeds—insight into some non-conventional management tools for use in our conventionally minded agricultural systems,” MU Extension weed scientist Kevin Bradley.
- “Emerging diseases in Missouri field crops: a spotlight on corn tar spot,” Kaitlynn Bissonnette, University of Missouri.
- “Comparisons of off-target movement of dicamba and 2,4-D,” Mandy Bish, University of Missouri.
- “Greenhouse gases in agriculture,” MU Extension economist Ray Massey and Missouri Soybean Association director of environmental programs Darrick Steen.
- “Impact of cereal rye cover crop on phosphorus loss with surface runoff in corn-soybean rotations managed with no-till or tillage,” Antonio Mallarino, Iowa State University.
- “Missouri’s changing climate,” MU Extension climatologist Pat Guinan.
- “New initiatives in Missouri Strip Trial Program,” MU Extension specialists John Lory and Kent Shannon.
- “How much potassium is too much?” Dave Franzen, North Dakota State University; Daniel Kaiser, University of Minnesota; Shaun Casteel, Purdue University.
- “Corn planting depths in highly variable soils,” Stirling Stewart and Newell Kitchen, University of Missouri.
- “Soybean breeding updates,” MU soybean genetics professor Pengyin Chen.

Details and registration info can be accessed at:

https://web.cvent.com/event/be189509-2bd8-4939-826b-5f915741718a/summary?tm=E64w6khDGOa9lZXohZQzsKNrwXon_F90uuUy1jKsu0o

Thanksgiving Office Hours

The MCIA office will be closed on November 26 and 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday. The office and seed lab will resume a regular schedule on Monday, November 30