



Missouri Crop Improvement Association News and Notes

Fall 2023

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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

From our family to yours, we hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday

Introductory Message From Ryan Barnes – MCIA's New Assistant Director and Field Services Manager

I'm excited to introduce myself as the new Field Services Manager/Assistant Director at the Missouri Crop Improvement Association. My background is in plant science with a focus on breeding, biology, and biotechnology, and I'm thrilled to bring my expertise to the seed industry.

My wife Christyl and I have strong ties to the University of Missouri, where we first met. Christyl is an Assistant Teaching Professor for the MU Sinclair School of Nursing, where she earned her Master's in Nursing degree. We reside in south Columbia with our two dogs, Rocky and Barlow, and we're eagerly awaiting the arrival of our first child in January. Outside of work, we enjoy supporting Mizzou and Kansas City sports teams and cooking on our Traeger grill.

I look forward to this exciting new chapter and welcome your engagement and insights as we work together to advance crop improvement initiatives.

Soybean Variety Testing Performance Results

Regional summaries of yield results from the University of Missouri's 2023 soybean performance trials are attached as a separate PDF file. The highlighted entries indicate varieties that are available for licensing through MCIA under the Momentum brand or a company's own brand. A complete copy of the results can also be accessed online at <https://varietytesting.missouri.edu/soybean/>. FYI – the variety testing program is not publishing a printed version of the results this year and will only be distributing them digitally. For those that prefer to have the results in printed form, please contact the MCIA office and we will send you a printed copy from their web site.

Soybean and Wheat Royalty Refunds

You may be eligible for a refund of royalties paid for soybean and/or wheat seed that you were unable to sell in 2022-23. In order to receive a refund, please return any unused tags/labels to the MCIA office no later than December 15 and indicate the number of tags/labels returned for each variety. **MCIA will not count your tags/labels for you and any tags/labels received after the December 15th deadline will be ineligible for a refund.**

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2023-24 Board of Directors and Officers

MCIA's Board of Directors and annual membership meetings were held on July 31st in Columbia where the following officers and directors were selected to serve for the following year.

Region I	Rennie Davis	Davis Seed Farms, Vandalia	Steve Fleming	MFA, Inc., Columbia
Region II	E. L. Reed	Reeds Seeds, Chillicothe	Dan Weber	Weber Seeds, Marshall
Region III	Lynn Andrews	Andrews Farm & Seed, Carthage	Bruce Strobel	Strobel Seed, Concordia
Region IV	Kevin Mainord	Gemeinhardt Seeds, East Prairie	Pam Rowland	Stoddard County Feed & Seed, Dudley
At-large	Eddie Hoff	Hoff Farms, Boonville		

2023 Premier Seed Grower Award

Each year, the MCIA presents a Premier Seed Grower Award to an active/affiliate member or company that has demonstrated a commitment to producing high quality seed throughout the years. We are pleased to announce Pam and Gene Rowland of Stoddard County Seed & Feed in Dudley, MO as the recipient of the 2023 Premier Seed Grower Award.

2023 Seed Wheat Quality and Tagging Update

It isn't often that we get to say this, but the 2023 seed wheat crop turned out to be one for the record books in terms of overall seed quality. As it turns out, quality of the 2023 crop is the best that many can ever remember. Yields didn't tip the scales to the extent that they did in 2021-22 but test weights were far better than expected and overall quality was excellent. With conditioning virtually completed, MCIA's seed lab has tested 1,029 soft red winter samples (up 57 from 2022) with an average germination of 96.60%, 6 hard red winter samples (down 1) with an average germination of 97.17% and 191 service (non-certified) samples (down 40) with an average germination of 95.52%. One disappointing statistic to pass along is that tagging volume is down 212,174 units from the same period in 2022. Harvest is winding down and a lot of wheat is already in the ground so we don't look for much in terms of in-season sales. Hopefully, we can get enough rainfall to get it up and well established to set us up for another good crop in 2024.

One thing we did want to note and make you aware of is the possible negative consequences associated with using dry fertilizer on certified and/or quality assurance seed wheat production acres. With the increased use of cereal rye as a cover crop and applied at the same time as fall fertilizer, we are noticing a large number of seed wheat fields each year with rye contamination. MCIA's field standard allowance for certified and/or quality assurance wheat is 1 rye plant per acre, resulting in many rejected fields in 2023 that exceeded this threshold. If you plan to use dry fertilizer this fall, it would be in your best interest to make sure the equipment used for blending, transporting and application are clean and free from cereal rye contamination to avoid problems in the field next year.

Missouri Crop Production Report Based on November 1 Conditions *(Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service)*

Corn planted area is estimated at 3.85 million acres, up 15% and harvested area is forecast at 3.67 million acres, up 18% from 2022. Yield is forecast at 147 bu/ac, down 14 bu/ac from last year. Production is forecast at 539 million bushels, 8% above 2022.

Soybean planted area is estimated at 5.60 million acres, down 8% and harvested area is forecast at 5.55 million acres, down 8% from 2022. Yield is forecast at 45 bu/ac, down 0.5 bu/ac from last year. Production is forecast at 250 million bushels, 9% below 2022.

Cotton harvested area is forecast at 335,000 acres, down 7% and harvested area is forecast at 330,000 acres, down 3% from 2022. Yield is forecast at 1,229 lbs/ac, down 11 lbs/ac from last year. Production is forecast at 845,000 bales (480 lbs), 4% below 2022.

Rice planted area is estimated at 208,000 acres, up 34% and harvested area is forecast at 203,000 acres, up 36% from 2022. Yield is forecast at 7,500 lbs/ac, down 440 lbs/ac from last year. Production is forecast at 15.2 million cwt, 29% above 2022.

Alfalfa hay harvested area is forecast at 225,000 acres, up 73% from 2022. Yield is forecast at 3.25 tons/ac, 0.65 tons/ac above last year. Production is forecast at 731,000 tons, 116% above 2022.

Other hay harvested area is forecast at 3.0 million acres, down 2% from 2022. Yield is forecast at 1.30 tons/ac, 0.50 tons/ac below last year. Production is forecast at 3.9 million tons, 29% below 2022.

Calendar

November 23-24	Thanksgiving Holiday – MCIA Office Closed	
December 5-8	ASTA Field Crop Seed Convention	Orlando, FL
December 25-27	Christmas Holiday – MCIA Office Closed	
January 1, 2024	New Year's Holiday – MCIA Office Closed	

Happy Thanksgiving