

SIFTINGS

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NEWSLETTER OF THE COLORADO SEED GROWERS ASSOCIATION

2008 Application For Field Inspection!

It is that time of year again and the CSGA Office is gearing up for field inspection season. If you are a wheat, grass or alfalfa grower you will soon receive your field application materials. Other CSGA growers will receive their packets as the summer progresses.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that it is important to be sure that your application is complete when you send it in. Common mistakes made when completing applications include: not sending proper seed source, incomplete land history and lack of/or inadequate maps. Proper seed source consists of either a copy of a bulk sales certificate or bag tag from the Foundation or Registered seed source; if the seed source was your own - a cert number is sufficient. An example of incomplete land history would be either leaving that box empty on the application or simply writing 'wheat' ... we need to know what type of wheat was planted - i.e. HRWW or HWWW. Finally, it is very helpful to our field inspectors when growers send detailed maps with their applications. In cases where the inspector is unable to make contact with the grower, a well drawn and detailed map will allow the inspector to locate

and inspect the field without wasting valuable time driving around looking for the field or waiting on the grower.

The CSGA staff works very hard to make sure the field inspection process is as efficient as possible. Your help with the items mentioned as well as any suggestions you may have, are greatly appreciated. As always we are only a phone call away. We wish you a productive and plentiful season and look forward to seeing you 'out there'!

Deadlines!

Alfalfa & Grasses	May 1
Winter Wheat	May 1
Barley, Oats & Spring Wheat	June 1
Canola	June 15
Beans	July 10
Millet	August 1

CSGA Hires New Wheat Inspectors

This March, the CSGA office trained five new inspectors for Eastern Colorado. Their main focus will be conducting wheat inspections in the summer. This represents a philosophical shift for CSGA. In the past, we've been able to hire Agronomy college students to inspect fields. They were able to use their farm background on the job, and we helped fulfill the educational mission of CSU. These students have been harder and harder to find in recent years. Our goal now is to employ residents of Eastern Colorado that will be able to learn your farm, and return year after year to do your inspections. Here's a list of the people you will get to know this summer:

Danielle Woolert – Lamar
Gordon Hatfield – Seibert
Doug Dean – NE Colorado
Ken Namuth – Sterling
Connie Klausner – Keenesburg

Another difference with the new inspectors will be the timing of inspections. We would like to get started a little sooner than in the past, since each geographical area will only have one inspector available to check all the fields in that area. However, they won't need to travel halfway across the state to get to the next farm. In 2008, we will be scheduling inspections about a week earlier relative to harvest date than in the past. We look forward to another successful seed year working with you!

CSU Releases Multiple Disease Resistant Pinto with Semi-upright Architecture

Mark A. Brick, J. Barry Ogg, Howard F. Schwartz, Jerry J. Johnson, Fred Judson 1, Phil Miklas 2, and Shree P. Singh 3.

1 Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, 2 USDA-ARS Pullman, WA, and 3 Univ. of Idaho, Kimberly, ID.

The Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station announces the release of ‘Croissant’, disease-resistant pinto bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris L.*) variety. Croissant was developed at Colorado State University and tested in the Western Regional Bean Trials, Midwest Regional Performance Nursery, and Colorado State University Dry Bean Variety Testing Program as CO23704.

Croissant was derived from a single F5 plant selection in 2001 from the pedigree BelDakMi-RR-3/CO07010-2//WM2-93-5. BelDakMiRR-3 is a pinto line released by the USDA-ARS for resistance to rust; CO07010-2, is a pinto line from the Colorado State University Breeding Project that has semi-upright architecture, resistance to rust caused by *Uromyces appendiculatus*, and excellent pinto seed quality; and WM2-93-5 is an experimental pinto line from Dr. Dermot Coyne, University of Nebraska Dry Bean Breeding Project. WM2-93-5 possesses resistance to rust, field tolerance to common bacterial blight caused by *Xanthomonas*

campestris pv. phaseoli and has semi-upright architecture. Hybridization of parental lines was made at the Colorado State University greenhouse, Fort Collins, CO. The line was selected at the Agricultural Research, Demonstration, and Education Center, Fort Collins, and pure seed was increased at the Western Colorado Research Center, Fruita, Colorado.

Croissant has semi-upright architecture (IIb) in most environments, however, in high yield environments it expresses semi-vine architecture (IIIa). It possesses resistance to the prevalent races of rust in the High Plains and BCMV caused by Bean common mosaic virus (a potyvirus), and medium harvest maturity (92 to 95 d). The specific rust resistant gene(s) has not been characterized but appears to be conditioned by either the Ur-3 allele from WM2-93-5 or UR-11 from BelDakMi-RR3. Resistance to BCMV appears to be conditioned by the recessive allele bc22. Mean seed yield was 2589 and 2602 pounds/acre over four locations in the Midwest

Regional Performance Nursery and Western Regional Bean Trials, and mean seed weights were 37.1 and 34.8 g/100 seeds, respectively. In Colorado, mean seed yield was 2536 pounds/acre over two locations in 2007.

Foundation seed of Croissant will be released to seed producers in May 2008. Application for Foundation Seed can be made to Mr. Fred Judson, Western Colorado Research Center, 3168 B 1/2 Road, Grand Junction, Colorado 81503-9621. Plant Variety Protection under Title V will be sought. A “Technology Fee” paid to the Certification agency in the state of production will be assessed on all Registered and Certified seed produced. Seed for testing is available from Mark Brick, Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523, 970-491-6551 or Mark.Brick@Colostate.edu.

Small Grains Standards Changes from 2007 Annual Meeting

A couple of years ago, in an effort to further improve the image of Colorado certified seed, CSGA adopted a zero tolerance policy for feral rye in wheat, whether it be in the field or in the seed sample. At the 2007 Annual Meeting, the zero tolerance policy for rye was extended beyond just wheat. Among participants, there was consensus that our Certified seed need not have any tolerance for feral rye in triticale, barley, or oats, either. Concern was expressed by Ethan Waltermire, Colorado Seed Lab Manager, that rye seeds would be very difficult or impossible to distinguish from triticale seeds in a lab sample. A new Standards book is coming out in the Spring of 2008, and it will read “zero tolerance for rye in wheat, triticale, barley, or oats” in the field inspection, and “zero tolerance for rye in wheat, barley or oats” in the seed sample. Please take note of this as you prepare your small grains fields for inspection, and let’s keep feral rye out of Certified seed!



Now More Than Ever, Certified Seed Pays – by Brad Erker

If you're a wheat or barley grower, have you pinched yourself lately, just to make sure you're not dreaming? With wheat grain prices hovering in the \$10-12 range for the past several months, many growers are taking a close look at their production practices to make sure they're maximizing every possible bushel. One of the things you as a certified seed grower need to make sure they're considering is the quality of the seed they plant.

Can your customers afford NOT to plant Certified seed? The 2001 Kansas State University study* titled "Economic Issues with Certified and Farmer-Saved Wheat Seed" shows that with a market price of wheat at \$2.75 or higher, it only takes 1.5 bu/ac improved yield for Certified seed to pay off.

USDA research has shown a 1.2 to 3.5 bu/ac advantage to planting Certified seed.

Now wait a minute! \$2.75 wheat? What about when wheat is 12 bucks!? Obviously, my crystal ball is no better than yours, and I can't predict what price we'll have for wheat in August '08 or in August '09. Nevertheless, the higher the wheat market goes, the smaller the yield advantage required to pay for planting certified seed; and, the greater the opportunity to miss out on income if poor seed results in low yields. Plus, this doesn't even consider the impact of using the newest, highest yielding genetics.

So I'll say it again. Can your customers afford NOT to plant Certified seed?

True cost of planting bin run seed (\$/acre) :

Wheat (per bushel)	\$10.00
Cleaning**	\$0.33
Cleanout**	\$0.22
Labor**	\$0.23
Storage**	\$0.07
Interest**	\$0.08
Yield Loss @ 1.2 to 3.5 bu/ac	\$12-35

Bin run seed cost (per bushel)
\$22.93 – 45.93

**For a complete copy of this study, contact Colorado Seed Growers Association ... ask for publication MF-2498.*

***Cost data from Kansas State University study 1992-99.*

Colorado Seed Growers Association Provides Verification Services for Chicago Climate Exchange

Employees of CSGA this fall conducted field inspections to verify that land enrolled in the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) carbon credit trading program met its requirements. CSGA provided the services for AOSCA, the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies. These field inspections are to verify that the landowner is successfully capturing carbon from the atmosphere by maintaining a no-till field or planting a grassland cover. Land enrolled in CCX programs earns annual payments at rates based on the amount of atmospheric carbon it sequesters.

"Working with Colorado Seed Growers Association highlights the increased efficiency our system brings to this project by managing it from a central point of contact from the AOSCA office," said Chet Boruff, CEO of AOSCA.

AOSCA delegates responsibilities regionally across the country to capable people with expertise in field inspection such as Colorado Seed Growers Association. "We were excited to participate in the CCX project," said Brad Erker, Director of Seed Programs at CSU. "It gave us an opportunity to learn something new, diversify our operations, and utilize our field inspectors living in Eastern Colorado."

In addition to the no-till and long term grassland projects, there is a possibility for a rangeland project to be available also in 2008.

Landowners or operators who want to learn more about how to sign up for Chicago Climate Exchange programs may contact Tony Frank at Rocky Mountain Farmers Union at tony.frank@co-ops.org or call 303-283-3532.

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Siftings is published by the Colorado Seed Growers Association, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO (970) 491-6202

Just A Reminder ...

*The CSGA Office will be closed Monday, May 26th
in observation of the Memorial Day Holiday.*



**Colorado
State**
University

Knowledge to Go Places

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