



IOWA SEED NEWS

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A NEW HOME FOR ICIA AND CAD



By the time this publication reaches you, the Iowa Crop Improvement Association will have a fresh, new look. The association staff and staff for the Committee for Agricultural Development will be moving to a new office location at 4611 Mortensen Road in Ames on November 8, 2004.

The offices have been constructed by Jensen DesignBuild of Ames and are part of their new Westport Center district. They feature offices on the ground level and two levels of apartments above the businesses. ICIA has had the opportunity to be involved with each phase of the construction and have been able to customize the space to fit any specific needs.

The long-anticipated move will accommodate the staff and members to a higher extent. The new location is located just off U.S. Highway 30 (exit 144) and will have a conference room facility available for members' use.

The staff is very excited about the move and encourage visitors to stop by the new location at any time. Our new address is:

***Iowa Crop Improvement Association
4611 Mortensen Road, Suite 101
Ames, Iowa 50014-6228***

ICIA's telephone numbers, fax number, and email addresses will remain the same as they have in the past. We look forward to being more accessible than ever for our members and visitors!

OECD Experiences Organizational Changes

Recently the administration of the U.S. Program for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) was transitioned to the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), which is a branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Previously the program was being handled by the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA).

Through the change, seed companies will continue to interact with the ICIA in the same capacities as they have in the past.

The program was funded partially through the Agricultural Research Service, however, ARS will no longer be providing funds for the program. This will cause rate changes to cover AMS' administrative costs. The new rates are effective as of October 1, 2004.

ISU Crops Team Places Third at Competition

Congratulations are in order for the 2004 ISU Crops Team (Mary Gilles, Andy Michels, Aaron Nelson, Luther Roit, Jason Haegele, Matt Klein, Paul Reicks, Ryan Schnoes, and Coach Lance Gibson) for placing third overall at the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Crops Contest in Monmouth, IL in April.

The team also placed second in the math exam portion and third in the lab practical portion of the competition. Mary Gilles placed fourth overall individually and Luther Roit received seventh place overall individually. Aaron Nelson placed second in the math exam and tenth in the agronomic exam individually as well.

The team is sponsored by ICIA.

From the President's Desk -- Mike Bielenberg

Fall has snuck up on me again. I hope you are better prepared than I am.

I think for the most part yields are even better than expected. Likewise seed quality seems to be pretty good at least on all the samples I have seen so far. I hope you are having similar experiences.

Your Iowa Crop Improvement Association has been very busy this summer and fall. In addition to the normal work items, Del has been looking for a new office and coordinating all the things that need to be done prior to moving in. I think the new office will be more accessible and I'm sure parking will be much simpler.

Another area that is getting a lot of attention is the Iowa Crop Performance Test. Technology has changed dramatically in the last few years, not only in regards to the seed but also seed treatment technology and the options available have changed as well. We certainly all know technology has changed the way and speed we are able to receive information. Your ICIA staff and others associated with Iowa State University are working hard to make sure the way the test is conducted and the information is disseminated keeps up. It is critical to the farmers in this state to have unbiased third party test results available to them so that they can make informed decisions. Surveys have been conducted, meetings have been held and a committee has been formed to make sure that all aspects of the "Test" are analyzed and improved where possible. I am very impressed and pleased with the efforts and dedication of all that are involved in trying to make the "Test" the best possible. If you have thoughts on how you feel the Crop Performance Test should be conducted or the results presented, I would urge you to contact Del or other ICIA staff members or Board members. We would welcome your input.

We plan to have the annual meeting in February again this year, I hope you will make plans to attend. We felt last year's change of bringing in outside speakers that could provide you with ideas of new potential opportunities for your business was well received. If you have ideas of speakers or topics you would like to see addressed please let Del or I know and we will try to accommodate your request.

New Faces Join ICIA Staff

Recently Iowa Crop Improvement Association added two new faces to the office staff. During the summer of 2004, Kelly Dunlay and Crystal Ostrem came on board to fill staff positions that had been previously vacant. Kelly and Crystal join the staff to continue the support of ICIA and its members. The ICIA staff includes: (L-R Front) Carol Cornelious, Eileen Wuebker, Jan Perkovich, (L-R Back) Del Koch, Doan Schmitz, and Rick Erickson.



Kelly Dunlay joined the ICIA staff in May of 2004 as a Program Assistant. She has been and will be working closely with the foundation corn, native species, and safety programs. In addition, Kelly has been performing corn, native species and foundation ear corn inspections. Kelly is a native of Ames, Iowa and graduated from Iowa State University in 2001 with a B.S. degree in Agronomy. Prior to coming on board at ICIA, she was employed with Allendan Seed in Winterset, Iowa. You may contact Kelly directly at (515) 294-2310 or kdunlay@iastate.edu.

Crystal Ostrem became part of the ICIA team in July 2004 and will be working in the areas of Marketing and Member Relations. She will be working with many of the publications ICIA distributes during the year including directories, Iowa Seed News, as well as updating the association web site. Additionally, she will assist in coordinating meeting and training materials for the various events ICIA offers. Crystal is originally from the rural Stratford, Iowa area. She graduated in May 2004 from Iowa State University with a B.S. degree in Agricultural Communications and Advertising. You may contact Crystal directly at (515) 294-6921 or costrem@iastate.edu.



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2004 Iowa Crop Performance Test Updates

Results of the Iowa Crop Performance Tests will be posted on the ICIA website at www.agron.iastate.edu/icia/ as they become available.

Crop	Publication	Issue
Alfalfa	Iowa Farmer Today	December 4
Corn	Iowa Farmer Today	December 11
Soybean	Iowa Soybean Review	December
	Iowa Farmer Today	December 25

Alfalfa--Mark Smith

The 2004 growing season got under way with planting at the Ames Agronomy Farm, on April 7th and at Nashua on April 14th. The commercial and experimental entries at both locations were combined into a single test. The Miscellaneous Legumes Grazing Test was planted on April 16th at the ISU Zumwalt Farm just South of Ames.

All the new tests emerged well and have good stands. The 2004 variety test at Nashua had high weed pressure, therefore we only collected third cutting data on this test. There have been four good cuttings on the established tests. All tests have had good growth and yield due to mild temperatures and ample rainfall. The Alfalfa Leafhopper Resistant Tests have shown good differences in appearance and yield despite low numbers of the leafhoppers. All other tests have been sprayed after each cutting, to control insect populations.

All data was analyzed and distributed by mid-September and is available on the ICIA website.

Corn--Clint Turnbull

This year's corn crop is a little later than normal, however the frost in late September has accelerated the dry-down and things are catching up with us. Yields are coming in higher than average throughout the state, with some sites exceptionally high. It seems one must always accept some bad with the good, and this year there is some severe lodging scattered throughout the region due mostly to some high winds with wet soil in late July and early August. Heavy rains and cool temperatures in the northern part of the state may have slowed down the maturation process slightly, but the yields seem to be unaffected. Minimal leaf disease and corn borer damage have been noted thus far. The corn reports will be on the ICIA website in late November.

Small Grains--Jean-Luc Jannink

The weather in 2004 was favorable for small grains. Mildly dry conditions during April and early May were followed by cool and wet conditions through the rest of the season. Spring sown crops were able to be planted in a timely fashion, between March 23rd and April 6th. This allowed for excellent yields and test weights.

Disease was not a major problem in oat or barley this year, though some crown rust and barley yellow dwarf virus were apparent. Yield and test weight of spring triticale, however, were lower than in our previous experience. The crops planted in fall of 2003, namely winter wheat and winter triticale, experienced no winter kill. In central Iowa (Ames) winter wheat experienced disease problems reducing yield and test weight. Winter triticale was affected at all locations. Results from this year's variety trials for oat, barley, spring triticale, winter wheat, and winter triticale are up on the ICIA website.

Winter wheat and winter triticale variety trials were planted at Lewis in southwestern Iowa, Ames in central Iowa, and Crawfordsville in southeastern Iowa between September 21st and 23rd. Wet conditions in Sutherland in northwest Iowa delayed planting there until October 5th.

Soybeans--Bruce Voss

Harvest is progressing at a very fast pace with the dry weather. Anticipated completion should be around October 20-25, which is on schedule. Yields are ranging from the upper forties to mid sixties. Harvest started in the Central district, progressed to the Northern district and will conclude in the south. Preliminary data on the ICIA website some time in early to mid November.

Certification Update

Eileen Wuebker

The 2004 field inspection season has quickly drawn to an end. As we process in all the applications, train inspectors, and conduct our field inspections, I always appreciate the excellent cooperation we receive from seed growers and farm operators. Thank you for this assistance, we really do appreciate the opportunity to work with each of you.

During the 2004 season we were excited to develop and take part in several new programs including:

Altered Fatty Acid (AFA) soybeans

– In 2004 we inspected or were involved in the certification of over 10,000 acres of low linolenic soybeans across several states. These varieties were developed by ISU soybean breeder, Walt Fehr. These inspections involved over 25 growers, many of who were new to soybean seed production. In addition to providing assurance of the quality of these seed production acres, we are also assisting the Iowa State University Research Foundation by providing them with the mechanism to trace each lot of seed back to the production field by its GPS coordinates. Seed samples will be analyzed for the usual tests of varietal purity, seed purity, and germination. In addition, they will be evaluated for linolenic acid content to assure specifications are met.

CystX™ soybeans – In a joint effort with ACCESS Plant Technology and Indiana Crop Improvement Association, we offered field inspection services for seed production fields of CystX™ soybeans. This project involved making contact with all seed companies in Iowa who have licenses for this technology and assisting them in meeting the quality assurance criteria for this production. We offered both a full service field inspection component and an audit component for these companies.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for improvements in our field inspection, seed inspection, or approved conditioner programs please contact me at (515) 294-0546.



2004 ICIA INTERN: KYLE POPPENS

Iowa Crop Improvement Association had an extra member to its staff this summer as Kyle Poppens completed an internship with us. Kyle assisted with several of the association's activities such as corn, small grain, soybean, and native species field inspections throughout the summer. He also helped with quality assurance, office, and lab work during his three-month stint with the association.

During his internship, Kyle enjoyed having the opportunity to travel, work outdoors and with hands-on activities. He felt this internship gave him insight into what steps are needed to assure that quality seed is being produced.

Kyle is originally from a family farm near Aplington, Iowa and is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Agronomy from Iowa State University.

Dates to Remember

November

- 1 Iowa Organic Conference, Scheman Building, Ames
- 4 Approved Conditioner Training, First American Bank, Ames
- 25-26 Happy Thanksgiving! ICIA offices closed

December

- 8-10 ASTA Soybean Seed Research and Corn & Sorghum Seed Research Conferences and Seed Expo, Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL
- 23-31 Happy Holidays! ICIA offices closed

January

- 19-21 Independent Professional Seedsman Association Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO