



Iowa Seed News

A publication of the Iowa Crop Improvement Association

LAWSON AWARDED AOSCA HONORARY MEMBERSHIP



Recently one of Iowa Crop Improvement Association's own was honored by being selected as an Association of Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA) Honorary Member. There was no hesitation in recognizing the outstanding service and dedication of former ICIA Secretary-Treasurer Robert Lawson at the AOSCA Annual Meeting in Big Sky, Montana June 27-30, 2005.

Bob served ICIA in several capacities before his retirement in 2003 including Research Associate, acting co-project leader of seed certification, and Secretary-Treasurer/Director of the organization. His duties extended beyond Iowa Crop Improvement Association to serve on several AOSCA Committees such as Cooperation, Corn, Finance, General Certification, Legislation and Bylaws, Identity Preserved, OECD Advisory, and Tree, Shrub, and Native Plants. He was elected to serve as chair or vice chair on several of these committees and was also the AOSCA North Central Regional Evaluator.

Bob's interest in international agriculture led him to several corners of the world. He performed international training on seed certification in Argentina, Central America, Central Asia, East Central Africa (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda), and Ukraine. He also

was a representative at the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) meeting in South America.

In addition, Bob was instrumental in the development of several new programs or procedures. They include Hybrid Corn Blend procedures/standards within OECD, Pre-Variety Germplasm Program for Source Identified Seed allowing for establishment of seed fields from prairie remnant collections, and accreditation of Hybrid Corn Field Inspection for OECD.

Bob has shown his dedication and leadership to Iowa, United States, and international agriculture for over 25 years. We would like to congratulate him on being awarded an AOSCA Honorary Membership in 2005.

RAMKER SERVES AS 2005 ICIA INTERN

Field inspections, tag counting, training preparation, computer data entry, and more field inspections. That's just a glimpse of what Jared Ramker's summer has been like as an intern with the Iowa Crop Improvement Association. Whether he's been out on the road or in the office, Jared has been a great help to the ICIA staff from May through August.

The professional atmosphere and ability to use his agronomy education is what Jared found the most enjoyable from working at ICIA. He says that he is finding out that maintaining a good seed program takes a lot of accurate record-keeping. He has also learned that the seed industry is larger than he had expected.

Originally from the Floyd County town of Rudd, Iowa, Jared was raised on a farm and helps his family with the corn, soybean, and hog operations. He also farms 160 acres of his own near his family's farm. Jared is a graduating senior in Agronomy at Iowa State University, where he also works in the Small Grains Breeding Lab.



Jared Ramker

A Note from the Director Del Koch

Fall is fast approaching again and before we know it harvest will be upon us finalizing another busy year.

Your Iowa Crop Improvement Association has been very busy this spring and summer and we look forward to another busy fall. We continue to look for new ways to serve you and the seed industry. Our corn inspection acres will increase this year. We welcome the additional business. Soybean inspection acres this year will be about the same as last year but we are working with several groups on a 1% low linolenic IP grain program. We feel this program has the potential to increase our future activities substantially.

The Iowa Crop Performance Test report will have a new look this year. The report layout is not finalized yet but be assured the new version will be easier to read and understand. We continue to meet almost weekly addressing potential changes to the test and the report. It may take several years to incorporate all the changes, but I think you will be pleased with the end product.

It has been a tremendous joy for me to be a part of Iowa Crop Improvement Association these past two years. Like most businesses we have had challenges, but along with challenges come opportunities. Iowa Crop has an excellent staff to work with and they are always there to support your needs. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to serve you better.

We hope you have a safe and successful harvest season.

Upcoming ISU Extension Events

September

- 7 Alfalfa Management Clinic, Field Extension Education Laboratory (<http://www.aep.iastate.edu>)
- 8 Northeast Research and Demonstration Farm Crops Field Day, 1:30 p.m., Nashua
- 8 Late-season Crop Disease Clinic, Field Extension Education Laboratory
- 14 Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm Crops Field Day, 1:30 p.m., Crawfordsville

Woteki Resigns as Dean of Agriculture at Iowa State



Catherine Woteki, dean of the College of Agriculture at Iowa State University since January 2002, recently announced she will resign to take a position

with a national food company. Woteki will become global director of scientific affairs at Mars Inc. She will be located in McLean, Va.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as dean of agriculture at Iowa State, and I will miss the faculty, staff, students and the Ames community. But this is an exciting opportunity for me, and it will allow me to be closer to family in the Washington, D.C. area," Woteki said.

"Dean Woteki has done an outstanding job at Iowa State, in directing the College of Agriculture, developing important ties with public officials and agricultural interests around Iowa, and providing leadership in a number of campus projects," said Iowa State University President Gregory Geoffroy.

Mars Inc. is a privately-held, family-owned company that produces some of the world's leading confectionery, food, pet care, beverage and electronics products and operates in more than 65 countries. Headquartered in McLean, Va, the company's global sales exceed \$18 billion annually.

Woteki has served on the Iowa Crop Improvement Association Board of Directors for three years.

Wendy Wintersteen has been appointed interim dean while the search for a new permanent dean is being conducted.



WEST DELAWARE FFA WINS IOWA FFA CONTEST

The Iowa State University Agronomy Department hosted the Iowa FFA Agronomy Career Development Event on June 9, 2005. The West Delaware FFA Chapter from Manchester was named the Champion Team and the South O'Brien FFA Chapter from Paullina was named the Reserve Champion Team. Jessica Tekippe from West Delaware FFA Chapter at Manchester was named the High Individual Overall in the competition.

FFA teams including seventy-seven individuals from twenty-two chapters participated in the event, which involved problem solving activities in hay, silage, corn, soybean, and market grain evaluation as well as seed, plant, and insect identification. A written examination was included along with a team problem solving competition.

The event was coordinated by Agronomy Associate Professor Lance Gibson and more than 30 other faculty, staff, and graduate students in the Agronomy Department. Iowa Crop Improvement Association sponsored the student's lunch.



Students compete in the team portion of the CDE Event.

Volume LIX, Number 3 September 2005

Iowa Crop Improvement Association
4611 Mortensen Rd., Suite 101
Ames, Iowa 50014-6228
Telephone: 515-294-6921
Fax: 515-294-1897
E-mail: iowacrop@iastate.edu
Website: www.agron.iastate.edu/icia/

President Mike Bielenberg
Vice President Jim Fevold
Editor Crystal Ostrem

Permission to reprint any articles in this publication is expressly granted to ICIA members and publications in the seed industry. All others must receive prior permission from ICIA.

Iowa Crop Performance Test Update

Results of the Iowa Crop Performance Tests will be posted on the ICIA website at www.agron.iastate.edu/icia/ as they become available. For more information regarding printed results, please contact the ICIA office.

Alfalfa--Mark Smith

The 2005 growing season is rapidly coming to an end for our forage plots. The new legume plots have established well and have had good growth. We have had establishment problems with the new grass tests due to heavy weed pressure and will decide soon if we will replant this fall.

Yields have been average for the alfalfa plots. We should be finished with the 4th and final cutting by Sept. 1st. The Alfalfa Leafhopper Resistant Tests have shown good differences in appearance and yield because of the leafhopper pressure. All other tests were sprayed after each cutting, to control insect populations.

The weather has not had any real effect on yields this year. We have had adequate moisture most of the season.

All data will be analyzed and distributed by the end of September.

Corn and Soybeans--Jim Rouse

The corn and soybean trials are looking very good overall. For most of the locations, we're anticipating some very good information from the research plots, with yields ranging from average to slightly above average. Our plots do represent the condition of the state though, and that means we have a couple sites that are suffering from drought stress. It's unlikely that we'll generate useful statistics from those locations, but we'll make the final decision after analyzing the data.

Soybean aphids have been found in or near some plots, but so far the numbers aren't near threshold levels so we haven't done any insecticide applications yet. We continue to monitor the aphid populations, and we keep our fingers crossed. Like everyone else, we're thankful the much-anticipated threat of Asian soybean rust is yet to materialize.

For harvest information, our intention this year is to be able to provide electronic

updates (web access) within 48 hours of harvesting a field. District means will also be posted online as soon as possible after the final harvest within a district. The final printed version will be made available as soon as all data are in and all district means compiled.

Small Grains--Ron Skrdla

The 2005 winter wheat variety was harvested in early July with the yields ranging from 82 bu/A at Ames to 67 bu/A at Lewis. The statewide average of 74 bu/A was slightly above our long term average of 71 bu/A. The test weights were nearly at our long term average at 57.9 lbs/bu.

Winter triticale yields were lower than the long term averages. The yields ranged from 50 bu/A at Sutherland to 71 bu/A at Crawfordsville. The statewide test weight average was 49.4 lbs/bu.

The barley and oat variety tests yielded very well because of a combination of early planting and great growing conditions. Mild conditions early in the season along with adequate moisture allowed the plants to produce a large number of tillers. Warm to hot conditions during June caused heading dates to be about one week earlier than normal.

Oat yields ranged from 190 bu/A at Crawfordsville to 137 bu/A at Nashua with a statewide average of 162 bu/A. This was nearly 35 bu/A above our long term average. Test weights were average at 34.5 bu/A.

Sutherland had the highest barley yield at 122 bu/A with Nashua the lowest at 76 bu/A. The statewide average of 105 bu/A was 20 bu/A above the long term average. Test weights were slightly lower than the long term average.

The preliminary data in the form of excel files can be found on the web at <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~jjannink/VarietyTrials.htm> The final results should be distributed in early October.

Certification Update Eileen Wuebker

The summer inspection season has quickly wound to a close. The season seemed to go fast with the drought presenting some challenges in hybrid corn production. The fall inspection season is underway with foundation ear inspectors evaluating bins and soybean inspectors just beginning to check fields.

In the fall we spend a good deal of time reviewing the inspection season and considering any changes for the coming production year. Currently there are no major changes in standards or procedures anticipated for the coming year. We would welcome any comments or suggestions you may have regarding field inspection, sampling, testing, or labeling services the association offers. Contact me at 515-294-0546 or Doan Schmitz at 515-294-6268 to discuss your thoughts. We really do appreciate any input you may have.

As the conditioning season nears, please check your supplies to be sure you have enough forms, sample bags, and certification labels. If you anticipate needing a large volume of certification labels call us by mid-September so that we can include your needs in our new label purchases. Also, please let us know if you are an Approved Conditioning facility with new personnel. Our next training for agents and samplers will be on October 20th. We would like your new personnel to sign up for this training and would be glad to assist them with any questions until then.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide you with certification services.



ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL SEED CERTIFYING AGENCIES ELECTS NEW LEADERSHIP

During its 87th Annual Meeting held June 27-30 in Montana at The Big Sky Resort, The Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA) approved a revision of its bylaws and elected its new Board of Directors.

The restructured Board of Directors will include: President Daryl Strouts, Kansas Crop Improvement Association; Vice President Bennie Keith, Mississippi Crop Improvement Association; Past President Allan Simons, Arizona Crop Improvement Association; Dale Adolphe, Canadian Seed Growers Association; John Davidson, New Zealand Seed Quality Management Authority; Terry Hollifield, Georgia Crop Improvement Association; Steven Knox, Nebraska Crop Improvement Association; Mike Moore, Wyoming Seed Certification Service; Larry Svajgr, Indiana Crop Improvement Association ; Secretary/Treasurer Chet Boruff, AOSCA Chief Executive Officer.

In the United States, AOSCA represents those agencies in each state which have been delegated the authority to certify seed produced in those states. Seed certification verifies the genetic purity, identity, and overall quality of seed to allow for its trade in commercial markets and to provide producers with the assurance that seed is meeting their expectations. International members of AOSCA have also adopted its seed certification standards and requirements to facilitate the movement of seed from country to country. AOSCA member agencies also provide a variety of third party auditing and quality assurance activities to support and promote Identity Preserved (IP), Quality Assurance (QA), and other value added commodity programs.

Dates to Remember

September

- 5 Labor Day, ICIA Office Closed
- 8-9 Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Conference, Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston, Iowa

October

- 20 Approved Conditioner Training, Iowa Crop Improvement Association, Ames, Iowa

November

- 1-2 Iowa Seed Association Annual Convention, Gateway Hotel & Conference Center, Ames, Iowa
- 24-25 ICIA Office Closed, Happy Thanksgiving!
- 30 Integrated Crop Management Conference, Iowa State Center, Ames, Iowa

December

- 1 Integrated Crop Management Conference, Iowa State Center, Ames, Iowa
- 7-9 ASTA Corn & Sorghum and Soybean Seed Research Seed Expo, Hyatt Regency, Chicago, Illinois