



# Iowa Seed News

*A publication of the Iowa Crop Improvement Association*

## IOWA STATE CROPS TEAM PLACES SECOND AT NATIONAL COMPETITION



Front row (L-R): Ryan Schnoes, Jason Haegele, Paul Reicks, Matthew Klein  
Back row (L-R): Jeff Chalstrom, Jared Uhlman, Landon Reis, Wade Kent

The Iowa State University crops team placed second overall at the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) crops contest in Norfolk, Neb. on April 15.

The team of agronomy undergraduates placed first in the agronomic knowledge and lab practical portions of the contest, second in agriculture math, and third in plant and seed identification. Paul Reicks of Lawler earned second place in agronomic knowledge, third in agriculture math and third in the overall individual competition. Jason Haegele of Davenport was first in lab practical, third in agronomic knowledge and fourth individual overall. Ryan Schnoes of Remsen placed ninth in the overall competition. Other team members were Matthew Klein, Remsen; Jeff Chalstrom, Webb; Landon Ries, Ringsted; Wade Kent, Algona; and Jared Uhlman, Adair. Lance Gibson, associate professor of agronomy, coaches the team.

The crops contest consists of a series of written, problem-solving and identification exams. The Iowa Crop Improvement Association monetarily supports the Iowa State University team.

NACTA is a professional society that focuses on promotion and recognition of excellence in teaching agriculture and related areas at the post secondary level in North America. Members of NACTA are from two-year and four-year colleges, public and private and have a common bond of teaching agriculture and related subjects.

## ISU Seed Science Center Offers Workshops

The Iowa State University Seed Science Center is hosting a series of workshops on a variety of topics covering GMO seed testing, seed quality, seed conditioning, and gravity tables. The workshops listed below will be held in the Seed Science Center and most will run from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There will be a break for lunch, however, it is not provided. For more information on any of these workshops contact Connie Sandve at (515) 294-6821 or [csandve@iastate.edu](mailto:csandve@iastate.edu).

### Seed Corn Conditioning

June 20-24, July 25-29, 2005

Includes sessions on seed corn plant design, corn harvesting, drying, shelling and bulk storage, seed corn conditioning, treatment, packaging, and warehousing management, and quality assurance.

### Soybean Conditioning

August 15-18, 2005

August 29-September 1, 2005

This is offered only as a comprehensive workshop. Two hours will be devoted to small grain (wheat and oats) if there is an interest. Includes sessions covering soybean plant design, combine cleaning/preparation, harvesting handling, bulk storage and conditioning, soybean conditioning, and quality assurance.

### Popcorn Conditioning

November 16, 2005

This workshop is designed for food and seed popcorn producers. Production, drying, shelling, storage and conditioning.

### Color Sorting

August 3, 2005

Hands-on training with SATAKE and Sortex color sorters on corn and soybean seeds. Analyze physical and physiologi-

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**From the President's Desk**  
**Mike Bielenberg**

Greetings, I hope that your spring has gone well and your business is headed in the right direction. With all the talk about soybean rust it doesn't appear that there were wholesale changes in Iowa with farmers switching to significantly more corn acres and less beans. Unfortunately, with talk of rust already appearing in the southeast United States we will likely spend a lot of time responding to grower's questions and concerns. I appreciate that the USDA and a number of organizations have put a framework in place to monitor rust's potential spread through the use of sentinel plots for earlier detection. There are a number of organizations that have offered guidance on how to deal with the problem if it should appear in our area.

Normally I stay as far away from politics as possible to avoid arguments. There are, however, a couple of things politically that I did want to mention. The first item was the fact that the Iowa Legislature passed and the Governor signed the "Local Seed Pre-emption" bill. This proactive bill ensures that local counties won't pass laws that make it difficult for us to conduct business by the same methods throughout the state. Some anti-biotechnology groups in the western United States have managed to pass laws in certain counties that make it illegal to grow GMO crops. That can't happen in Iowa due to the passage of this bill.

The other politically related item I wanted to mention is to make you aware of the Iowa State Agricultural Policy summit in Ames on July 6-8. The purpose of this summit is to start the discussions of what the next Farm Bill should look like. Certainly the way the bill is crafted could impact how you do business. Not only will this summit give you the opportunity to be heard but it might give you early indications of what other groups are thinking so you know what the threats and opportunities are. It will also give you a chance to solicit support for your ideas.

I hope you have a pleasant summer and that Mother Nature treats you kindly.

**Certification Update**  
**Eileen Wuebker**


The 2005 field inspection season is well underway with trainings already completed for our inspectors of small grains, herbicide tolerant soybean, and native species. In June, we are anticipating an increase in applications for corn inspections. We will have our foundation corn and hybrid corn inspectors trained and isolating fields before the end of the month. If you have production of these crops that you need certified or desire a 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspection, please call our office today for more information.

Our soybean inspection program will continue to expand this summer. In addition to traditional certification and Quality Assurance inspections we will offer the following:

- **CystX<sup>®</sup>** – In a joint effort with ACCESS Plant Technology and Indiana Crop Improvement Association, the association offered field inspections services for seed production of CystX<sup>®</sup> soybeans in 2004. This project will continue again this year with ICIA staff making contact to all seed companies in Iowa who have licenses for this technology and assisting them in meeting the quality assurance criteria for this production. Both a full service field inspection component and an audit component will be offered to these companies.
- **Low Linolenic Acid**– In 2004 we initiated a program to verify the production of seed of 3 low linolenic varieties developed by Iowa State University. Our inspections included assurance of varietal purity and that linolenic acid levels were being maintained. Four additional varieties have been added to this program for 2005.
- **Low Saturated Fatty Acid** – Three varieties have been released by the Iowa State University Research Foundation which are low in saturated fatty acids. ICIA will offer an inspection service for seed production to assure varietal purity and saturated fatty acid levels are maintained.
- **IP Grain** – The association has offered customized programs for Identity Preserved soybean grain for many years. Most of these programs are designed to assure that the soybean meets the buyer's requirements for non-GMO grain. This year we will be adding new programs to assist companies that are marketing low linolenic soybeans.

For more information on any of these soybean programs, contact Eileen Wuebker at 515-294-0546.

**Updates Distributed**



Recently the 2005 updates for the blue Iowa Seed Certification Requirements Handbook and the green Approved Conditioner handbooks were distributed. If you did not receive one and would like to, please contact the office.

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## Iowa Crop Performance Test Update

### Alfalfa--Mark Smith

The 2005 growing season got under way with planting at the Ames Agronomy Farm, on April 28<sup>th</sup>. We then planted the variety trial at Nashua on April 29<sup>th</sup>. We finished planting additional trials at Ames between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of May. The commercial and experimental alfalfa entries at both locations were combined into a single test. The Miscellaneous Legumes Grazing Trial was planted on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the ISU Zumwalt Farm just South of Ames.

We planted nine trials this year, I think a new record for us. This consisted of the single Alfalfa Commercial and Experimental Variety Trial at Nashua, the Miscellaneous Legumes Grazing Trial at Zumwalt and the following trials at Ames: Combined Commercial and Experimental Alfalfa, Alfalfa Potato Leaf Hopper, Miscellaneous Legumes, Miscellaneous Grasses, Barenbrug Orchard Grass Trial, Barenbrug Red Clover Trial, Forage Genetics Alfalfa Potato Leaf Hopper Trial.

We now have five contract trials at the Agronomy Farm for Barenbrug Seeds and one from Forage Genetics. Excluding the contract trials, we had 62 paid entries. There were 12 different companies entering this year's trials. These trials have not yet emerged, but with the warmer temps and rain, they should be up and growing very soon.

### Corn and Soybeans--Jim Rouse

Planting is complete for the corn and soybean variety trials. The final corn trial location was planted May 17. The soybean trials were planted between May 9 and the week of May 23.

Our first corn trial was planted April 19. We didn't have any of our corn emerge before the cold spell hit, so we're glad we didn't let the warm weather during the week of April 11 lure us into a potentially bad situation. I know we watched a few days get scratched off the calendar, but we sure didn't miss out on any heat units!

Participation in the corn variety test is similar to last year, but specific numbers are not yet compiled. Soybean participation is down somewhat from previous years, likely due to a change in handling soybean cyst nematode information. This issue will be analyzed over the sum-

mer and will be resolved before next season. As with the corn, specific participation numbers will be available soon.

We feel very fortunate to be this far along considering the adversity we've faced this season. There were 9 full days we were short a crew member due to illness. We also had a malfunction in one of the computers on a corn planter, which essentially sidelined that rig for the rest of the season. Thankfully it happened near the end of planting rather than the beginning. At the same time the computer failed, the tractor developed a serious hydraulic leak. Bad luck continued when our surviving corn planter started acting up. Chasing down the source of this problem cost us a couple good days in the field, too, but we finally got patched up enough to continue planting.

### Small Grains--Ron Skrdla

The 2005 winter wheat variety tests were planted during the last week in September 2004 at Ames (September 23), Crawfordsville (September 21), and Lewis (September 22). Seventeen hard red varieties, two hard white varieties, and four soft red varieties are being tested. Forty winter triticale lines were planted at Ames, Crawfordsville, and Sutherland. A mild winter caused very little winterkill in the winter variety trials and a warm spring has allowed early growth with the plots heading during the next couple of weeks.

The oat and barley variety trials were planted very early this spring following a mild and dry winter. Twenty-five oat varieties and 16 barley varieties are being tested. The oat variety test was planted at five locations including Ames (March 17), Crawfordsville (March 15), Lewis (March 16), Nashua (March 29), and Sutherland (March 29). The barley variety test was planted at Ames, Nashua, and Sutherland at the same time that the oats were planted. The mild weather along with the early planting date has allowed the plots to grow rapidly. There is some burning of the leaf tips due to the freezing temperatures during the first week of May. Otherwise the freeze should not have caused any problems with yields.

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cal qualities of corn and soybean seed samples before and after sorting. Representatives of the two companies will be available to answer your questions.

### Gravity Table

August 9 and August 11, 2005

The Gravity Table workshops focus on the adjustment, operation, and effectiveness of the gravity table for upgrading seed quality. Hands-on training is provided with Heid, Forsberg, Oliver, and LMC gravity tables. The workshops will also focus on troubleshooting topics.

Seed corn and soybeans will be run through each of the gravity tables. Research information on cleaning difficult weeds by a gravity table will be presented. The procedure for analyzing the output of gravity table will be discussed.

### Seed Corn Quality Evaluation

August 23, 2005

### Soybean Quality Evaluation

August 25, 2005

*Last day to register:*

One week prior to workshop

These workshops will offer lectures and laboratory hands-on sessions for both corn and soybean seeds on several topics including seed and seedling morphology, AOSA and ISTA (corn only) standard germination tests using three substrates, extended sand germination tests, and much more.

### GMO Seeding Testing

August 24, 2005

The workshop features a hands-on demonstration of many common protocols used in testing for GMOs. The workshop includes biological tests as well as ELISA and strip tests for herbicide and insect tolerance. A special emphasis will be placed on the new traits.





## ***ICIA OFFICE HOURS CHANGE***

ICIA is now operating under summer hours.  
The office is open  
7:30-11:50 a.m. and 12:30-4:00 p.m.

### **Dates to Remember**

#### **June**

- 1 Early Application Date for field inspection of corn and sorghum
- 1 Early Application Date for field inspection of herbicide tolerant soybean
- 15 Early Application Date for certification of native species fields established between April 1 and May 31

#### **July**

- 6-8 Iowa State Agricultural Policy Summit, Iowa State University, Ames
- 10 Early Application Date for field inspection of soybean
- 26 Iowa Soybean Association Golf Classic, Jester Park, Granger

#### **August**

- 1 Deadline for Declaration of Carry-Over Seed
- 1 Deadline for applications for certification of native species fields established between June 1 and July 15