

2010

Nebraska Seed Focus March 2010

Nebraska Crop Improvement Association

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March 2010

Dates & Events

March 15

Form A - Winter Small Grains

March 23

NCIA Board of Directors, North Platte

April 15

Form A - Spring Small Grains

May 15

Form A - Forage Grasses
Form B - Small Grains

May 31

Holiday - Office Closed

June 1

Form A - Dry Edible Beans, Millet
Form B - Forage Grasses
RR Soybean Applications

June 10

Corn Applications

July 1

Form A - Certified Soybeans
Form B - Dry Edible Beans, Millet

July 5

Holiday - Office Closed

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Seed Improvement Conference

The 2010 Nebraska Seed Improvement Conference was held January 11 - 13 at the Ramada Inn in Kearney.

The 2010 Awards Banquet was sponsored by Bayer CropScience - Beemer, Husker Genetics-Ithaca, Oliver Manufacturing Company-Rocky Ford, CO, and Syngenta.

Ruben Wehnes, Darrel Wehnes & Sons, Inland, was honored as the **2009 Premier Seed Grower**. This award is presented annually to a Nebraska seed enterprise for outstanding achievement in certified seed production and marketing.



Wehnes grew up on the family farm near Inland, Nebraska, and started his own farming enterprise in the spring of 1979 before he had graduated from high school. It initially consisted of 320 acres which has grown to 1300 acres of corn, soybeans, wheat, and alfalfa. In 1978 his father Darrel started the seed enterprise with Ruben and his brother, David, and in 1986 they built a new seed conditioning facility.

In 2001 Wehnes took over the seed business and since their beginning they have raised, conditioned, and sold 14 different small grain varieties and 33 different soybean lines. Wehnes has served on the Nebraska Crop Improvement Association Board of Directors from 1996-2001 and served as President in 1998. He also served on the Finance Committee, Chair of the Product and Action sessions, and on the NuPride Committee of Management.

He is also very active in his community serving on the Clay County Extension Board and as President of the Inland Nebraska Community Foundation and is currently serving on the Hastings Wellhead Protection Committee.

The **Distinguished Service Award** was presented to Leon Kriesel, Kriesel Certified Seed, Gurley. This award is presented to acknowledge individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Nebraska agriculture.



Leon Kriesel, owner and operator of Kriesel Certified Seed, can trace his ties to the seed industry to when his parents Fred and Viola Kriesel started the business in 1945. When he finished college in 1976, he began farming in partnership with his parents; and in 1983 he became the sole proprietor. Since that time over 60 varieties of winter wheat, barley, oats, millet, and grass have been produced.

Kriesel has been a member of the Nebraska Crop Improvement Association since 1972, serving on the Board of Directors and ultimately as President in 2004. He is also currently active in the NuPride Genetics Marketing Committee and the Nebraska Seed Trade Association. He is a current member of the Nebraska Wheat Growers Association having previously served on the Board of Directors. He is also on the UNL High Plains Ag Lab Board of Directors having previously served as Chair.

In 2004 Kriesel was inducted into the Nebraska Hall of Agriculture Achievement. Other recent honors have included being recognized as the Omaha World-Herald's Master Conservationist - Panhandle District, UNL Panhandle Service to Agriculture, Nebraska Premier Seed Grower, and Cheyenne County Friend of 4-H.

Correction to Seed Book

There is correction for the 2010 Spring Seed Book. On page 75, Arrow Seed Company, 308-872-6826, should be listed under White Wonder Foxtail Millet. Kriesel Certified Seed should not be listed.

**Nebraska Crop Improvement Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2010**

- The meeting was called to order at 10:37 a.m. by Von Johnson, President.
- It was determined that a quorum of the membership was present.
- **It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.**
- **It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the 2009 annual meeting as presented. Motion carried.**
- Matt Keating gave a preliminary treasurer's report for Arlo Cole. NCIA has a loss of \$25,661.00.
- Jerry Radke presented the Nominating Committee report. Matt Keating is eligible for re-election for State-at-Large. David Fuss, Westco, is running for the State-at-Large position. Joe Thimm, Thimm Farms, is running for the District 1 position. There were no nominations from the floor. **It was moved and seconded to pass a unanimous ballot. Motion carried.**
- It was announced that Jason Beissenherz, Syngenta Crop Protection, will be the NSTA representative to the NCIA Board.
- Reports were given by the recorders of each product action session. No actions were taken in the corn, soybeans, or grass sessions. The small grains and speciality crops session discussed the need for a seed treater in the lab. A motion was made and seconded for the board to go forward with the treater. **It was moved and seconded to recommend the board buy a seed treater for the NCIA lab. Motion carried.**

- Steve Knox gave a management report. Total acres for 2009 is 60,253 which is down. Corn acres are down 79,894 acres and wheat is down 2,687 acres. Two corn companies dropped out of the OECD Accreditation program. Stacks are not being accepted into foreign countries so export is way down. Knox noted we will see a few more lean year. IRM assessments and CCX inspections were done with the AOSCA office. A question was asked regarding the high accounting fees. Knox noted this was due to new filing regulations of the 5500 form for non-profits.
- Steve Knox recognized Von Johnson as the outgoing NCIA president.
- Von Johnson presented Mark Knobel (not present) and Norm Rohlfing with outgoing board member awards.
- Von Johnson asked for old business. There was no old business
- Von Johnson asked for new business. There was no new business.
- The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m..

NCIA Board Reorganizes

At the NCIA annual meeting, Dave Fuss, Westco, Morrill, and Joe Thimm, Thimm Farms, Beatrice, were elected to serve their first term on the board representing State-at-Large and District 1. Matt Keating, State-at-Large, was elected to serve a second term. During their re-organizational meeting, the NCIA Board elected a slate of officers for 2010. Von Johnson, District 3, was re-elected president. Matt Keating, State-at-Large, will again serve as vice-president, and Arlo Cole was again elected as Treasurer. Von Johnson was appointed as Chair of the Committee of Management for NuPride Genetics Network, and Joe Thimm, District 1, was appointed board representative to Nebraska Seed Trade Association Advisory Committee. Jason Beissenherz, Syngenta Crop Protection, will serve as the NSTA representative to the NCIA board. Other Board Members include Doug Broberg, District 2, Jerry Radke, District 4, Rick Koelsch, IANR-UNL, and Mark Lagrimini, Agronomy.