Nebraska Seed Focus March 2009

Nebraska Crop Improvement Association

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Seed Improvement Conference

The 2009 Nebraska Seed Improvement Conference was held January 12 - 14 at the Ramada Inn in Kearney.

The 2009 Awards Banquet was sponsored by Excell Hybrids, Husker Genetics and Syngenta Seed Care.

Joel Maschmann, Maschmann Mills, Deshler, was honored as the 2008 Premier Seed Grower. This award is presented annually to a Nebraska seed enterprise for outstanding achievement in certified seed production and marketing.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Robert Graybosch. In his current position with the USDA-ARS and as Adjunct Professor in the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture, he is researching the development of new germplasm related to wheat quality traits and virus resistance. Mace HRWW was release this year and is the first wheat that is resistant to Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus.

Bob has been involved with the release of many other wheats besides Mace, including the hard white wheat varieties Nuplains, Arrowsmith, Antelope and Anton and has assisted with the development and release of many of the hard red wheats that many are planting today.

This award is presented to acknowledge individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Nebraska agriculture.

The Quality Achievement - Award of Merit - 2009 was presented to Mycogen Seeds, York. This award is to identify paramount achievements and milestones.

The Mycogen Production Plant certifies a large acreage of hybrid seed corn through the OECD program administered through the NCIA office. The production plant process hybrid seed corn from a large area including the counties of York, Seward, Saline, Butler, Polk, and Fillmore. In 2008 the plant finished a major expansion to provide more drying capacity and storage for their hybrid seed corn production.

NCIA is proud to recognize these award winners and wish to applaud each of them for their exceptional achievements.
The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Mark Knobel, 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 2008 annual meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Arlo Cole presented the preliminary treasurer’s report. It was moved and seconded to accept the report. Motion carried.

Mark Knobel presented the Nominating Committee report. Arlo Cole is eligible for re-election for State-at-Large. David Fuss, Westco, and Jerry Radke, Ag Operations Group, are running for the District 4 position. There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved and seconded that nominations cease. Motion carried. Ballot were distributed.

It was announced that Stan Friesen 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 specialty crops session discussed dry edible bean standards and whether they should be changed to match the standards of Idaho. After discussion it was decided Knox would review further and report to the Board of Directors. It was moved and seconded to approve all reports. Motion carried.

Steve Knox gave a management report. He displayed and reviewed the NCIA web site. 2008 was a record breaking year for NCIA. Both corn and wheat had record high acre totals 98,990 and 27,668. He expects to break more records in 2009. He noted NCIA will be staying in the current space in Plant Sciences Hall. A new Memo of Understanding between UNL and NCIA will be written. Steve Pageler joined the staff in June 2008 as Field Services Supervisor. Nadine Beethe left her position in May 2008. Her duties were reassigned and her position was not filled. NCIA worked on two new programs with AOSCA - LL plot audits and carbon credit audits.

Steve Knox recognized Mark Knobel as the outgoing NCIA president.

Mark Knobel presented Chris Cullan with an outgoing board member award.

Mark Knobel asked for old business. It was asked if any action was taken on the suggestion regarding the Fee Committee discussed last year. Knox reported to the Board at the March meeting and no action was taken. It was suggested to do an update in the newsletter regarding actions taken in Board meetings. Knox also suggested posting them on the web site.

Mark Knobel asked for new business. There was discussion regarding the Kansas Wheat Alliance fees on all Kansas varieties.

Knobel announced election results. Arlo Cole will represent State-at-Large and Jerry Radke will represent District 4.

Mark Knobel adjourned the meeting.

NCIA Board Reorganizes

At the NCIA annual meeting, Jerry Radke of Big Springs was elected to serve his first term on the board representing District 4. Arlo Cole of Plattsmouth, State-at-Large, was elected to serve a second term. During their re-organizational meeting, the NCIA Board elected a new slate of officers for 2009. Von Johnson, District 3, was elected president. Matt Keating, State-at-Large, will 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 Mark Knobel, State-at-Large, was appointed board representative to Nebraska Seed Trade Association Advisory Committee. Stan Friesen, Kaup Seed, will serve as the NSTA representative to the NCIA board. Other Board Members include Doug Broberg, District 2, Norm Rohlfling, District 1, Rick Koelsch, IANR-UNL, and Mark Lagrimini, Agronomy.