

# SDSU Seednews

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*Special points of interest:*

- Field Application Due Date Extended Until June 8th
- Inspector’s School Canceled
- SDCIA Board of Directors Meeting June 18-19 Brookings, SD

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## The Myth About Common Oats

By Neal Foster Executive Director SDCIA

Over the past year I have fielded numerous calls/complaints about the use of “common” oats for sale to be used in grain, forage or cover crop plantings. The typical question that I have been asked is “what are common oats”? This term should have gone out of usage a generation ago. It is still used today to refer to a crop where the seed is past the certification stage and should be sold only as grain. With common seed there are no field or seed standards so any and every type of contaminant could be present in the field or harvested crop. Common seed is past the seed certification process it may be one or twenty years since it was purchased as a class of certified seed. Since 2006 every variety of oats that SDSU has released has had Plant Variety Protection and Title V with the neighboring states doing the same. This means that it can only be sold as a class of certified seed by variety name. Once a crop with PVP Title V is beyond the certified class it can only be sold as grain. The owner of the harvested crop can replant it for as many years on his own holdings but the production from that crop can only be sold as grain. Today virtually every oat variety released has PVP with or without Title V. These varieties cannot be sold as “common” seed. So if there are “common” oats in a cover crop mix chances are they are

one of these protected varieties.

With the new testing methods that are in use to determine variety identity it is very easy to find out the variety of common seed. The two most common methods for this determination are electrophoresis and high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). Both tests use the proteins that are intrinsic to each variety. With electrophoresis the sample is migrated across a gel which act like a sieve in sorting the proteins by size. An electrical current moves the proteins across the gel forming a specific banding pattern that is unique to each variety. HPLC works in much the same manner, the proteins are sorted through a column and a computer graph is generated. The peaks and valleys on the graph represent the different proteins for that variety; again these proteins are variety specific. The time required for these tests is a couple of days to a week.

Once we receive a sample where the variety is in question it only takes a couple of days to determine what the variety it actually is. The methods used to determine the actual variety has been used in court cases where the variety has been misrepresented. In South Dakota all oats must be sold by variety name.

## 2018 Inspectors School Canceled

The inspector’s school that is normally held in June has been canceled for 2018. This school is held each year to familiarize the inspectors with any new varieties that have been released since the last school, and to pass out paper work for inspection assignments. This year with the late spring delaying planting of the demonstration plots the heading of small grains would be too late for the inspectors to look at. Because of this the school has been canceled. Inspectors watch your mail for the field inspection forms. If you have any questions please call Dan at 605-688-5909.

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## Foundation Spring Wheat Sales Rebound Oat Sales Remain Strong

By Jack Ingemansen FSSD Manager

The limited supply of Certified spring wheat seed this spring and the higher cash price created an increase in the demand for Foundation spring wheat seed as compared to record low sales in 2017. Lang-MN (2,196 bushels) was the new spring wheat that was widely available to Certified Seed growers in 2018, ranking third in sales. Surpass (2,787) was the top seller, followed by Prevail at 2,214 bushels and several varieties having only a few hundred bushel sold this spring.

Foundation oat sales were 47% higher than 2017 primarily because of increased supply. Saddle, the new SDSU oat variety was allocated and Hayden and Goliath sold out early in the season. Shelby 427 sold out later this spring. Once again sales to out of state Foundation Seed organizations were strong at 25% of the total sales. Goliath was the highest selling variety at 8,931 bushels followed by Hayden (7,596), Saddle (1,662), Shelby 427 (1,222) and Natty at 1,218. Conventional soybean sale were down significantly from previous years.

Crop	2018 Sales	2017 Sales	2016 Sales
Spring Wheat	9,320	4,741	13,746
Oats	23,216	15,803	12,509
Conventional Soybeans	300	941	614
Other Crops	20	163	36
Totals	32,856	21,648	26,905

### Computer Program Update

It has been a long time in coming but this summer we will start to implement our new computer program for SDCIA field and seed records. Rather than start from scratch, SDCIA partnered with Wisconsin and Nebraska Crop Improvement Associations to develop a computer program that would fit our needs and keep the cost to a minimum. The new program will be cloud based, which will allow you to access your records from your computer or phone. Field applications will be made on line and field inspection and seed test results will be available on line. Bulk sales certificates will also be completed via the computer system. I hope that this will minimize the amount of paperwork that you handle. As the system is implemented we will hold area meetings to better explain and demonstrate the use and utilization of the program. We will post the future places and dates for these meetings in the newsletter and on the web site.

### New SDCIA Website Coming

By August 2018 the new SDCIA website should be up and running. This site should be very user friendly. It will contain the SDCIA Seed Directory for Winter Wheat and Spring Grains; you will still be mailed a copy but check the site periodically for the latest information. SDCIA Newsletters and other information will also be posted under the tabs. Additionally there are links to our neighboring agencies and their seed directories. The Crop Performance data will be posted as soon as it becomes available. There will also be other information on PVP, Seed Laws and Noxious Weed Seed lists. Hopefully the site will be useful and easy for our growers to use. The address for the new site is: <https://www.sdcorp.org/>.

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## The Grower's Responsibilities

1. Be a member of the South Dakota Crop Improvement Association (SDCIA).
2. Become familiar with the regulations in this handbook for both the General Seed Certification Standards and the specific Field and Seed Standards for the crop being produced.
3. Plant only FOUNDATION or REGISTERED seed of varieties eligible for certification.
4. Plant eligible seed on clean, eligible land, with adequate isolation from other varieties of the same crop.
5. Clean seeding equipment thoroughly.
6. Submit an application for field inspection before the established deadline date.
7. Fill in all required information, and send payment for inspection fees. List the legal description and previous crop (s) on the field for which certification is requested.
8. Submit seed source verification (certification tag or Bulk Transfer Certificate or SDSU Seed Laboratory Testing Report) with application. Where more than one seed lot is used for production of a variety, a tag from each seed lot must be submitted.
9. Prepare seed fields for inspection before the inspector arrives: clearly mark field boundaries, rogue out objectionable weeds and other crop plants, etc.
10. Harvest the mature crop with properly adjusted, thoroughly cleaned equipment and bin in clean, dry, identified storage.
11. Submit a representative sample for identification and pre-germination.
12. After the seed is conditioned, send a representative sample to the certification office for testing. Also write the name of the conditioner/cleaner on the Form C.
13. Label seed lots that meet certification requirements with official certification labels, analysis tags and appropriate plant variety statement as required on protected varieties. Eligible seed sold in bulk must be accompanied by a completed BULK TRANSFER CERTIFICATE.
14. Send a report (Form E) of seed sales and a check to cover the sales fee and or royalty and/or variety development assessments on those varieties requiring such fees to the certification office.

## Certification Division, SDCIA Responsibilities

1. Supply each grower with forms and instructions for making applications for field inspection.
2. Review each application for completeness with special emphasis on land and seed stock eligibility.
3. Make field inspection of all crops at proper time and notify the grower of inspection results.
4. Arrange for testing with the SDSU Seed Laboratory and report the analysis of samples representing conditioned seed lots for germination, purity percentage and freedom from noxious weed seeds.
5. Issue Certificate of Inspection (Form D) final or provisional, certification tags and authorize Bulk Transfer Certificates for seed lots that qualify for certification.
6. Publish and distribute Certified Seed Grower Directories listing field-approved seed.
7. Assist in promoting the use of quality Certified Seed.

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## **Field Application Due Date Extended Until June 8<sup>th</sup>**

Due to the late spring the due date for field applications has been extended until June 8<sup>th</sup>. Applications post marked by this date will not be assessed late fees. No money is due upon submission of applications and you have until the inspector sets foot in the field to cancel with no cost to you. If you have fields that you are considering having inspected but are not sure, go ahead and submit the application and then cancel if needed. This eliminates last minute confusion between the seed grower, inspector and main office.