



Seed

SCOOP

FEBRUARY
2013

Invitation to submit questions on alternative service delivery

There is still a lot of buzz surrounding the 2012 announcement by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency that they are pulling out of seed crop inspections by 2014. Since then, we have been diligently working with other seed industry stakeholders such as the Canadian Seed Institute, Canadian Seed Trade and Canadian Food Inspection Agency to assure that alternative seed inspection services are in place across the country by 2014. This is no small task and many of the details are still undecided. However to inform our membership of the work done so far, we will be dedicating the May issue of our magazine, Seed to Succeed, to alternative service delivery. Seed growers have expressed concern especially in terms of what this might mean for them, their seed farm and seed certification in Canada. We would like to address your concerns and are inviting you to submit questions on alternative service delivery to the CSGA office. CSGA will then answer these questions in print in the May issue of the magazine. Please send your questions to communications@seedgrowers.ca no later than February 28th.

For more information on CFIA's Budget 2012 announcement, please visit: www.seedgrowers.ca/news/current_news/newsASD.asp.

Have you dreamed of visiting Halifax?



Courtesy Destination Halifax/B. WeWhirter

CSGA's 2013 Annual General Meeting (AGM) is taking place in Halifax this summer and you are invited! If you are passionate about seed and the issues we face in our industry, there is no better event to attend to get your voice heard. The CSGA Board of Directors, CSGA Branch Boards, Seed Industry Representatives and seed growers attend the event. The Annual General Meeting will take place in beautiful Halifax, Nova Scotia, July 10th to 12th at the Westin Nova Scotian. Sit by the waterfront, soak up the sea air, enjoy delicious fresh Maritime seafood and specialty wines. For more information on Halifax, visit [www.](http://www.destinationhalifax.com/visitors)

Changes to Circular 6

The official version of Circular 6, the Regulations and Procedures for Pedigreed Seed Crop Production, has been updated on the CSGA website to reflect the regulation changes approved by the CSGA Board of Directors. Effective in 2013, regulation changes have been brought to previous land use requirements for spring and winter wheat and to isolation requirements for buckwheat. We encourage growers to visit the website in order to have the current, official version.

[destinationhalifax.com/visitors](http://www.destinationhalifax.com/visitors). Details on CSGA's business meetings and related kids and spouses program, including registration information, will be released in CSGA's magazine Seed to Succeed hitting mailboxes on May 1st. Details will also be posted to our website as they are finalized in mid-March.

Probation plots

Individual seed growers wishing to produce Select and Foundation plots can obtain CSGA accreditation through the successful production of probation plots. Applicants must first receive written permission from the CSGA and meet CSGA requirements before commencing probation plot production. Before becoming an accredited plot grower, applicants must first complete a three year probation program in plot production and must have first produced pedigreed seed of the crop kind they intend to produce during the probation period in three of the last five years. Applications to Commence Probation Plot Production, Form 154, must be received by March 31st for spring-seeded crops and prior to July 31 for fall-seeded crops. Probation plot growers are encouraged to download the Pedigreed Seed Plot Production Manual from the CSGA website.

Application packages

The office will be sending out hard copy application packages for seed crop inspections to growers who applied for inspection in 2011 and 2012. Application packages will be in the mail in late March. If you haven't received your package by mid-April, please contact the office.

Feedback allows for improvement

The office is conducting a short online survey to gauge the level of satisfaction of our members in relation to the services we provide. We are also interested in knowing the biggest challenges you feel you face in Canada's seed industry. To participate in our survey, copy the following URL in your browser www.surveymonkey.com/s/M55F6HW or visit the CSGA website for a link to the survey.



Looking for seed to plant next year's crop?

Many of you are planning what crops to grow on your land next season and CSGA's national online Pedigreed Seed Locator is the Canadian online resource to help you find the pedigreed seed you are looking for. You can filter search results by province, crop kind and variety name to find growers and seed companies selling the seed variety and seed class you want. New this year, the Pedigreed Seed Locator is offered in a mobile version. Visit www.seedlocator.net to use this free resource.

Passings

We would like to pay tribute to the following members that have recently passed:

Douglas Slater of Truro, Nova Scotia passed away in January. Doug was honored with an Honorary Life Award from the CSGA in 1988 for his extensive involvement in Canadian agriculture and seed industry. Doug was an agronomist with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, supervised 4-H crop clubs, and appointed Cereals Specialist. He was involved with the County Soil and Crop Improvement Association, Secretary of the Atlantic Field Crops Committee, co-authored several farm bulletins and was the Secretary of the CSGA Maritimes Branch for several years.

Fraser Rempel of Nipawin, Saskatchewan passed away in January. Fraser was the General Manager of Newfield Seeds Limited for a number of years, an active member of the Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA) and President of the CSTA in 1971.

Seed Scoop is published by the Canadian Seed Growers' Association in the interest of pedigreed seed production in Canada. Material may be reprinted, however, credit to *Seed Scoop* is appreciated. To join our distribution list, please email communications@seedgrowers.ca.

Questions or Comments? Contact Us.

CSGA is here to help and guide you. Don't hesitate to contact us. Remember the CSGA national office operates in the Eastern Standard Time (EST) zone. Telephone: (613) 236-0497, Fax: (613) 563-7855, Email: seeds@seedgrowers.ca
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8455, Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 3T1
Courier Address: 240 Catherine Street, Suite 202, Ottawa, Ontario, K2P 2G8

Visit www.seedgrowers.ca/contactus/staff.asp for complete contact information for our staff members.