The 2020 Iowa Seed Golf Tournament has been postponed. Leadership asks members to donate funds to support seed scholarships.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Iowa Seed Association (ISA) leadership has decided not to hold the 2020 Annual Golf Tournament in June. ISA plans to resume the tournament in June of 2021. As a member of the seed industry, you can make an impact on scholarship at Iowa State University this year. The unfortunate cancellation of our event presents an excellent opportunity for you to help students achieve their dreams.

**Turn Those Green Fees Into Scholarships!**

At the 2020 Iowa Agribusiness Showcase and Conference in February, nine scholarships were given to seven Iowa State University (ISU) College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) students. Five Iowa Seed Association (ISA) Scholarships of $1,000 each were awarded. One of ISA awarded students was selected as the Manjit Misra Outstanding Senior Scholar and received an additional $500 scholarship. The $1,000 Bill Latham Memorial Scholarship and the $1,000 Lisa Shepherd Jenkins Memorial Scholarship were also awarded at the ISA ceremony.

The funds raised from the Iowa Seed Association Golf Tournament help offset costs associated with managing the scholarships and supplement funding when needed. Do you already have money set aside for golfer registration? Put those funds to work as you invest in the future of the industry. Visit iowaseed.org to donate!
The Grow Iowa’s Future with Agribusiness Capital Campaign has reached another milestone and work is ready to begin work on remodeling the Agribusiness Association of Iowa building, which is also the home office for the Iowa Seed Association.

On June 11, 2020, the Iowa Seed offices will be temporarily relocated to a building a few miles away on the east side of Des Moines.

The office phone number, email addresses, and other contact information remains the same. We will continue to receive US Postal Service correspondence at the current Des Moines Street headquarters address.

The only change will be if you are stopping by the Home Office after June 11, be sure to use the address noted below.

**Important Information About the Temporary Office Move**

Continue to send mail, checks, forms, and other correspondence, to:

Iowa Seed Association  
900 Des Moines Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

The estimated time frame for the project is nine months. We are hoping to be back in the newly remodeled building at 900 Des Moines Street in the first quarter of 2021.

If you need to talk to someone in person, or if you are sending a package via UPS or FedEx, our new physical address beginning Jun 11, 2020, will be:

**Iowa Seed Association**  
2425 Delaware Avenue STE A  
Des Moines, Iowa 50317

**Building Remodel Update**

This opportunity to upgrade the Iowa Seed headquarters building and making it a facility that will be better valued by our membership, working partners, and the community has been made possible by the fantastic financial support of many of our members.

To date, commitments of over $2.0 M will fund a significant part of this project and make us more efficient and better able to serve each of you as our members. We thank those contributors for their significant financial support to allow us to move forward with this phase of our Grow Iowa’s Future Capital Campaign.

If your business is interested in taking advantage of the opportunity to invest in the future of agribusiness in Iowa, now is a great time to become a participating member of the campaign. The building is just one of four strategic initiatives of the Grow Iowa’s Future capital campaign. There’s still more to do!

Consider your role in the success of your local community and the importance of agribusiness to Iowa’s economy and well-being. Then give us a call so we can make sure you are recognized for your contributions to making Iowa a great place to live and work because of your part as an investor in Iowa’s Future.

For questions on contributions for the remodeling of the Iowa Seed headquarters contact Joan O’Brien joano@agribiz.org or 515-262-8323.
ASTA ANNOUNCES NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM

The American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) is pleased to recognize its new leadership team and 2020 industry award winners, announced earlier today during the association’s “PLDC Virtual” Annual Meeting. Members of the FY2020-21 ASTA officer team—officially taking office on July 1—are Chair: John Latham, Latham Hi-Tech Seeds, Alexander, IA; First Vice Chair: Brad May, BASF, Research Triangle Park, NC; Second Vice Chair: Jim Schweigert, Gro Alliance, LLC, Cuba City, WI.

The ISA Board of Directors would like to congratulate John Latham, President of his family business, Latham Hi-Tech Seeds, and Past President of ISA, on placement on the ASTA leadership team.

Latham Hi-Tech Seeds has been a long time member of the association. Congratulations John!

ISA LEADERSHIP SENDS LETTER TO GOVERNOR REYNOLDS

In May, the Iowa Seed Association leadership sent a letter to Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds and Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig in regards to farm labor and migrant worker testing. Taking a proactive role, ISA leadership is ensuring that farm laborer’s in Iowa are safe while also ensuring that there is adequate supply of healthy workers for the important tasks of detasseling corn, etc.

It is our understanding is that ASTA is also taking an active role in this as well. As a member, if you feel like there is something that we can do to work with ASTA on this, please reach out. Leadership is continuing to communicate to our member seed companies the importance of following our local state guidelines on this.

The letter states, “On behalf of the Iowa Seed Association (ISA) board of directors, we would like to express our support of our member companies and their workers that will be undertaking corn detasseling work as well as other farm labor this summer amid the challenges of Covid-19.

Each year, seed companies hire both local workers and migrant workers from outside the United States to work in their seed corn production fields. We feel that the safety of those workers as well as the local communities that house them is critical. As such, we would like to share with you that the ISA and its members are doing everything we can to follow the guidelines set forth by Iowa Workforce Development and the Iowa Department of Public Health.”

The letter, signed by ISA president, states, “One potential issue that we could use some guidance on is the accessibility of Covid-19 testing for incoming workers. Current plans that we have seen from travel companies call for temperatures to be checked prior to migrant workers coming to Iowa from Mexico. Also, temperatures will be checked upon arrival as well. However, we would like to remove any potential roadblocks that migrant workers might have in getting tested quickly if they develop symptoms while here.”

View full letter online - https://bit.ly/2NnDEYm

EPA ISSUES CANCELLATION AND EXISTING STOCKS ORDER FOR DICAMBA PRODUCTS

The Environmental Protection Agency issued has cancelled the label for Xtendimax with Vapogrip Technology (EPA Reg. No. 524-617), Engenia – (EPA Reg. No. 7969-345), and FeXapan – (EPA Reg. No. 352-913). The cancellation order outlines limited and specific circumstances under which existing stocks of the three affected dicamba products can be used for a limited period of time.

Details of the Order

EPA’s order addresses sale, distribution, and use of existing stocks of the three affected dicamba products. Distribution or sale by any person is generally prohibited except for ensuring proper disposal or return to the registrant.

Growers and commercial applicators may use existing stocks that were in their possession on June 3, 2020, the effective date of the Court decision. Such use must be consistent with the product’s previously-approved label, and may not continue after July 31, 2020.

The cancellation and existing stocks order is consistent with EPA’s standard practice following registration invalidation, and is designed to advance compliance, ensure regulatory certainty, and to prevent the misuse of existing stocks.

The full cancellation order can be found on the EPA website:

EPA Dicamba Cancellation Order

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IDALS DRIVE-UP TESTING

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) has posted opportunities across the state for companies needing their staff to complete commercial pesticide applicator certification. Members with staff who need commercial pesticide applicator certification are encouraged to take full advantage of the drive-up testing option. Session will take place at various locations across the state. Sign up for testing:

https://data.iowaagriculture.gov/pest_signup/

After the Exam: Testers will be provided with exam results via email. Do not call or email the office requesting exam results as it will result in delays.

Exam study manuals can be purchased here: https://iowaagriculture.gov/pesticide-bureau/manuals-and-study-guides-certification

The private exam is available online. Registration is at: https://stateofiowa.seamlesssdocs.com/f/PrivatePesticideExamRegistration

The Self-Service Portal to pay online for your pesticide certification is at (requires completed exams): https://iowaagriculture.force.com/pesticideapplicator/s/login/

More information on testing and training can be found on the Pesticide Bureau website at: https://iowaagriculture.gov/pesticide-bureau
Pesticide applicators in Iowa can now know in near real-time where seed field workers are active. Those registered with the FieldWatch system through the state of Iowa as an applicator now have access to SeedFieldCheck reporting, which shows where field workers are currently active and where seed companies plan to have active workers in the following 24 hours.

The new functionality is integrated into the existing FieldWatch crop and apiary registry. It will help seed companies more effectively communicate the location and presence of seed field workers to pesticide applicators. The information will be available in near real-time allowing seed companies the ability to make edits and update plans quickly and replace the endless circulation of emails and paper or electronic maps to targeted applicators.

With the addition of seed field workers to the FieldWatch system, the state of Iowa has a “one-stop-shop” for applicators to find information about sensitive crops, apiaries, and seed field workers.

SeedFieldCheck is a pilot project launched in the state of Iowa by the Iowa Seed Association, Iowa Agricultural Aviation Association, and FieldWatch®.

ISA encourages all commercial applicators to register with FieldWatch®. Companies and pesticide applicators who are currently registered with FieldWatch® will need to specifically add the SeedFieldCheck capability. This will allow a full report of sensitive crops, apiaries, and active field workers to registered users.

Companies currently participating in reporting field workers include Bayer, Becks, Corteva, Remington Seeds, and Syngenta.

For questions, please contact Joan O’Brien at 515-262-8323 or via email joano@agribiz.org.

View full article - https://bit.ly/2NnwALs

Farming is an essential business operation and activity, often supported with the use of migrant and seasonal farm workers. COVID-19 can spread rapidly in settings with many people living in close proximity, including living facilities for migrant farm workers. Agriculture employers and farm labor contractors who provide housing for migrant workers should implement plans to prevent exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19, care for individuals with COVID-19, and prevent community transmission of the disease. Commitment to strong sanitary protocols will decrease operational impacts.

Who this guidance is for: All agriculture workers and their employers. Farm operations vary across regions of the country. This guidance provides a template of action to protect agriculture workers from coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Agricultural employers can adapt these recommendations to protect workers at their particular work sites or in specific work operations.

Purpose: Agriculture work sites, shared worker housing, and shared worker transportation vehicles present unique challenges for preventing and controlling the spread of COVID-19. Consistent application of specific preparation, prevention, and management measures can help reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.

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Iowa Seed Association Reminders & Events

View upcoming events online
www.iowaseed.org