



Seedsmen's Sampler

2000 Kimball Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502

Summer 2003

Executive Director's Corner

There's a new face at 109 SW 9th in Topeka. Adrian Polansky has moved from Polansky Seed at Belleville to take up residence in the Kansas Secretary of Agriculture's office. While the seed industry has always enjoyed a cordial relationship with the Department, it will be a nice change to have someone that understands our concerns through his own experience. Now, that doesn't mean that the seed industry can run amok. We'll still need to prove our case if we want to effect change. I think everyone involved in Kansas agriculture looks forward to a Secretary that can be an advocate for agriculture and not just a regulatory official. Let's help Adrian make a difference.

Twice in Kansas City and once in Omaha, the Central States Seed Conference will be held in Manhattan this year. The event will coincide with the K-State's Fall Cereal Conference. You will also have the opportunity to attend the first-ever Kansas Food Industry Roundtable. If you have attended previously, you know the benefit of networking with others in the industry and visiting with experts about what the future holds. Lowell Burchett used to tell me that "your judgement is only as good as your information." These conferences on July 29-31 will be the best place to get that needed information. You should have already received registration information, so send it in. See you in Manhattan!

Daryl Strouts, CAE Executive Director

It's not too late! Mail your CSSC registration form or call the Association office today!

Kansas Food Industry Roundtable: Improving Nutrition from Farm Gate to Food Plate



The Kansas Food Industry Roundtable, a project created through a grant from the Kansas Health and Nutrition Fund to the Kansas Dairy Association, will bring together representatives from the many organizations and companies involved in the food industry in Kansas and identify ways to work together to improve the nutritional quality of the food we provide to consumers.

There are many ways farm producers and those involved in bringing their products from the farm gate to the food plate could work together to provide a more nutritious, wholesome product for consumers. Yet those from the various segments of the food chain rarely communicate or coordinate their efforts, except on an ad hoc basis. Such communication is needed for the identification of consumer desires for food products and nutritional needs, and the sharing of information about the type of commodity product needed for its end food use.

The purposes of this project include opening lines of communication among the various segments of the food industry, identifying specific actions that can be taken, and communicating those to food producers, processors, scientists, educators, and others who have a role in bringing healthy, nutritious food to consumers. The discussion will include representatives from the grain and seed, milling, baking, livestock, grocery, and restaurant industries, as well as others. The Roundtable will identify initiatives for producing more nutritious foods and communicate those initiatives to those who can put them into action.

By bringing together consumers, scientists, farmers, food processors, and food marketers, we hope that by working together, we will be able to provide a more nutritious product that the consumer wants.

The entire Kansas delegation in Washington are Honorary Co-Chairs of this first-ever event that you won't want to miss. For more information, check out www.agresources.com/kfir.htm or look for registration materials in the CSSC information you received in early July. We look forward to seeing you there!



Kansas Biotechnology Information Center Focusing on Biotech in Kansas

Kansans can now get facts on biotechnology and how it affects Kansas through a new center devoted to providing science-based information on biotechnology in Kansas.

During a kickoff event March 20, 2003, Kansas legislators and members from the Kansas Seed Council and Kansas Seed Industry Association were the first to view the Kansas Biotechnology Information Center (KBIC) website, www.ksbiotech.org, and the latest biotechnology information.

KBIC is a project of the Kansas Seed Council in cooperation with the Kansas Food Industry Roundtable.

"Biotechnology is important for a number of reasons, most of all for the benefits it provides to farmers and to the environment,"

Adrian Polansky, Kansas Department of Agriculture Secretary, said.

"Studies have shown that planting biotech crops leads to

Kansas Biotechnology
Information Center
(877)231-8530
www.ksbiotech.org

Kansas Seed Industry Association
2000 Kimball Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502

Information Contacts

Mike Baxa, President
P.O. Box 306, 2729 Main Street
Belleville, KS 66935
(785) 527-2271
fax: (785)527-2335
mike@polanskyseed.com

Daryl Strouts, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
2000 Kimball Ave.
Manhattan, KS 66502
(785)532-6118
fax: (785)532-6551
dskcia@kansas.net

Chris Wilson, Director of Member Services
301 Broadway
Belvue, KS 66407
(785) 456-9705
fax: (785) 456-1654
chris@agresources.com

Officers & Directors

Dan Sharp, 1st Vice President
Sharp Brothers Seed Company

David Hartter, 2nd Vice President
Hartter Feed & Seed, Inc.

Bob Hamel, Director
Star Seed, Inc.

Charles Hamon, Director
Hamon Seed Farms, Inc.

**Steve Ahring, Director
(to and from KCIA)**
DeLange Seed House, Inc.

Darrin DeLange, Past President
DeLange Seed House, Inc.

www.ksseed.org

Upcoming Events

**Central States Seed Conference
KSU Alumni Center
Manhattan, KS July 29-31**

Tuesday

3-5 pm KSIA Board Meeting
5-7 pm Registration

Wednesday

8 am Golf at Colbert Hills
1 pm KCIA Board Meeting
1 pm KS Food Industry Roundtable
5 pm Reception and Registration

Thursday

7:30 am AgriPro Associates Update
9-noon CSSC - General Session
10 am KSU Variety Review Board
11:30 am Fall Cereal Conference Reg.
Noon Lunch - Keynote speaker:
1:30 pm Fall Cereal Conference

**Kansas Food Industry Roundtable
KSU Alumni Center
Manhattan, KS July 30, 1 pm**

increased yields, reduced pesticide use, and less soil disruption," he said.

With current innovations and benefits from biotechnology, it's vital to keep Kansans informed about the safety of biotechnology and genetic, Chris Wilson, KBIC Administrator, said.

"Biotechnology is already having an impact in this country and has tremendous potential to meet food needs around the world, as well bringing about considerable advances in vital medicine in the pharmaceutical industry," she said.

Through its website and hotline, the Center provides up-to-date information and educational materials for consumers, farmers, educators, students, policymakers, and media on the latest in biotechnology and how it affects Kansans and the food supply.

The center provides science-based information on the benefits and risks of biotechnology, Wilson said.

KBIC serves as a source for any Kansan interested or concerned with biotechnology to find answers to their questions. The Center's website is linked to several

entities working on biotechnology innovations and issues.

KBIC's objectives are to provide a credible State source of scientific-based biotechnology information and to increase biotechnology information provided through the media to Kansas consumers.

Kansans can call the KBIC hotline toll free at (877) 231-8530 to obtain information, brochures, or literature.

**Don't forget to send in your
registration for the 2003
Central States Seed Conference
and
Kansas Food Industry
Roundtable,
Manhattan, KS, July 29-31.**