



Oregon Seed Association Continues To Grow

Oregon Seed Association Hosts its 46th Annual Mid-Winter Meeting

More than 140 people attended the Oregon Seed Association's (OSA) annual Mid-Winter Meeting at the Salem Conference Center. Guests included keynote speaker Katy Coba, director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture; Jeff Weier, director of technical services for Sprague Pest Solutions; Risa DeMasi, first vice chair of the American Seed Trade Association; and Ron Pence, operations manager, Export & Seed Service for the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Participants of the one-day event discussed legislative priorities for the upcoming session, as well as issues relating to genetically modified crops, national uniformity of seed lab testing standards, and domestic and international concerns.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the award of more than \$8,500 in scholarships to eight Oregon State University students seeking higher education in agriculture with aspirations for a future in the seed industry. Committee chair Nancy Aerni, Turf Merchants, Inc., presented the following scholarships:



OSA/OSU Scholarship – Mitch Evers, Forest Grove, Ore.; Jaimee Brentano, Newberg, Ore.; Levi Graffenberger, Albany, Ore.; Simon Fraher, Olympia, Wash.; and Tanner Holland, Corvallis, Ore.



American Seed Trade Association Scholarship – Chase Cochran, Corvallis, Ore.



William Kent Wiley Jr. Fellowship Scholarship Award – Gabe Flick, Middleton, Idaho; and Andrew Altishin, Corvallis, Ore.

OSA was also honored to have Jim Cramer (right), former director of market access and certification at ODA, attend the Past Presidents Reception and accept a gift and plaque from OSA president Todd Bond. Jim was a tireless advocate for the seed industry. He retired last year to work for Amstad Farms in Sherwood.



A moment of silence was held at the beginning of the day for James W. Jenks Jr., past president and one of the founding members of the Oregon Seed Trade Association.

OSA membership has seen growth in recent years, a trend that continued this year with the addition of three new companies—Bailey Seed & Grain, Saddle Butte Ag Inc. and Vista Seed Partners LLC. This brings OSA's membership total to 103.

Minutes from the Mid-Winter meeting are uploaded to the website at:

<http://www.oregonseed.org/members/members-only/meeting-minutes/>

Join Us for the Summer Convention!

Make plans to join us June 26-28 at the Resort at the Mountain in Welches. Summer convention planning is now underway. This year's convention will focus on family, and we encourage you to bring spouses and children of all ages. We have many activities planned for all age groups, and child care will be available. More information will be presented in April, but if you have any questions, feel free to call me.

If you are interested in sponsoring the Summer Convention, please contact Angie Blacker at 503-685-7555 or blacker@pacwestcom.com.

See you in June!

Angie Blacker
Executive Director



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